

Characteristics of 2011 Kumano River flood deposits on off Kumano submarine slope

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Submarine flood deposits were obtained from off Kumano submarine slope. The flood deposits are characterized by homogeneous brown clay with sharp basal contact and higher bulk density than the hemipelagic mud. Comparison of sediment sequence with the previous report from the same slope indicates the brown clay is the 2011 Kumano River flood origin. There are some differences between the 2011 flood deposits and the 1889 Totsugawa flood deposits at the same site. The Totsugawa flood deposits was composed of thick sand beds with abundant plant debris, but the 2011 flood deposits had no or only a thin (less than a few mm) sand bed. Collapse of natural dams and river mouth bars might be influenced to make such differences.

Keywords: marine sediments, flood, sea bottom environment, hyperpycnal flow