

Observation of water discharge increase from the forested catchments just after the 2011 Tohoku earthquake.

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The tremor with an intensity on the Japanese seven-stage seismic scale was observed at 6- at maximum in Ibaraki prefecture by the 2011 Tohoku earthquake. Forestry and Forest Products Research Institute performs the hydrological observation at 5 watersheds in 3 observation sites named Hitachi-Ohta (Hitachi-Ohta city), Katsura (Shirosato Town) and Tsukuba (Ishioka city) in Ibaraki Prefecture. The water level was observed to increase around 4-10mm just after the earthquake in these all watersheds. Maximum height was observed at 3 ? 6 hours later than earthquake. The snow did not cover at that time. Landslides also did not observed after the earthquake. Thus the water discharge increase was supposed to be caused by tremor of the forest ground.

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