

Holocene uplift along the Pacific coast of eastern Hokkaido

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Hokkaido's Pacific coast near Akkeshi has repeatedly risen in the past 3000 years, most recently in the middle 1600's. Each of the uplift events caused an abrupt stratigraphic change from saltwater bay mud to freshwater marsh peat. The events were first recognized by Sawai and Kashima (1996) and Sawai and Mishio (1998). We extended their findings to outcrops at Akkeshi-ko and nearby Hichirippu. The most recent uplift event may correlate with a large tsunami inferred by Hirakawa and others (1998). The uplift events may help to explain modern subsidence of uplifted Pleistocene terraces near Akkeshi. If the modern subsidence is interseismic (Shimazaki, 1974) and the Holocene uplift events coseismic, the Pleistocene terraces (Okumura, 1996) record residual deformation.