

# Hazard recognition among local officials and residents around Fuji Volcano: Results of questionnaire surveys in 2002-03

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A questionnaire survey was made to clarify how local officials and residents recognize the potential hazard of Fuji Volcano. This study aims to know character of users of the hazard map of Fuji Volcano and to develop a better presentation of the map. We prepared 28 questions of 3 categories: (1) recognition of the volcano, (2) fundamental knowledge of volcanic disasters, and (3) opinions and expectations for the hazard map. We collected replies from 115 officials, who work at disaster-managing departments in local offices of 3 prefectures, 14 cities, 11 towns, and 7 villages. All these local governments are located near Fuji Volcano and can be affected by future eruptions of the volcano. We additionally collected replies to the questions belonging to category 1 from 189 residents (111 university students and other 78 adults), who live near the volcano. Main results are as follows. 91% of the officials and 81-92% of the residents recognize Mt.Fuji as a volcano. 62% of the officials and 74-79% of the residents estimate that the volcano may erupt within 100 years (5% of the officials and 22-29% of the residents are afraid that next eruption may occur within 10 years). Over 80% of the officials and the residents think that the damage of the Fuji eruption should be larger than that in other volcanoes. 70-90% of the officials and the residents have little preparedness for volcanic disasters in their home. 74-77% of the officials and the residents are afraid that the eruption of Fuji Volcano is related to the Great Tokai Earthquake. The officials well understand several subjects in volcanology, such as eastward distribution of ash-falls due to the prevailing westerlies, but do not have enough knowledge about eruptive history, precursors of eruption, and mechanism of each eruptive phenomenon. 95% of the officials replied that hazard maps are effective for disaster management. 73% of the officials agree that hazard maps are also effective for land-use planning. While 55% of the officials think that publishment of hazard maps will not damage tourism, 41% of them are afraid that the publishment may decrease the number of tourists. 85% of the officials agree that hazard maps should include not only risk alerts but also information about benefits of the volcano.