

Searching alarming area in Japan - Seismic Activity Evaluation-

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Japan Meteorological Agency started preliminary evaluation of seismicity anomalies in Japan. We selected some areas on the basis of seismicity or historical big earthquakes. On the area, we evaluate seismic activity by using Time-Space diagram, Accumulate Number diagram, M-T diagram, ETAS, index of seismic activity and b-value. Following anomalies were found out.

1. Off Etorofu ... quiescence of seismicity from 2004.
2. Assumed focal region for off Tokachi earthquake (especially southern area) ... lowering of seismicity from late of 2002.
3. Off Miyagi ... b-value dropped before the Off Miyagi earthquake (M7.2) in 2005.
4. Assumed focal region for Tonankai earthquake (especially southwestern area) ... b-value dropped before the Tokaido earthquake (M7.4) in 2004.
5. Yamazaki Faults ... lowering of b-value from late of 2004.
6. Beppu-Haneyama Faults, Amakusa-Nada, Futagawa-Hinagu Faults and Northern Satsuma ... lowering of seismicity
7. Southern of Ryukyu Trough ... seismicity was low before M6.1 earthquake in 2007. In this area, some cases show preceding quiescence before big earthquakes which are bigger than M5.5.
8. Iriomote Island (especially northern area) ... lowering of seismicity, b-value rising.