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Recent flood history and landform development at the Sen-jugahara flood plain, central Japan

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Objective of this study was to analyze the landform development due to flood events during the last 400 years at the Senjugahara flood plain, Nikko district. Age of several terraced landforms along the Sotoyamasawa river, flowed into the Senjugahara flood plain, was estimated by dendrochronology, radiocarbon dating of buried soils, and historical documents. The strong flood events were occurred in 1662 and 1902, which caused the sediment deposition at almost all area of the Senjugahara flood plain. Since 1902, the landform disturbances have been limited along the Sotoyamasawa river channelway with the deposition and the erosion of sediment. The flood event in 1919, formed a narrow terrace along the channelway, the flood water was spilled due to dam up of channelway by fallen trees and flowed on the surface of the deposit of 1902 to form micro relief such as levee and depression of the present Sen-jugahara flood plain.