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Inferred origin of event sediments observed in dredged depression areas in Lake Nakaumi, Japan

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Lake Nakaumi, which faces the Sea of Japan and lies astride Tottori and Shimane Prefecture, had been dredged since 1968 in order to reclaim land. Several tens centimeters of black colored sludges are sedimented in the dredged hollows where the dredging had dug down 3-15 meters. Previous studies suggest that some specific layers including the event sediments exist in the sludges. In this study, we sampled 80-90 centimeters long cores to make clear the origin of these event sediments. The sediment accumulation rate was estimated based on apparent densities. We compared median diameter values with palaeofloods records and precipitation peaks of surrounding areas such as Yonago, Matsue and Hakuta. As a result, they are strongly related to the records of Yonago. This result gives the possibility that the terrestrial suspended substances caused by flooding flowed into the lake, and that the origin of event sediments were Yonago areas.

Keywords: Lake Nakaumi, dredging, lake sediment, precipitation, flood