

南鳥島周辺 EEZ 内のレアアース泥 -最新研究成果の概観-
REY-rich mud within the Minamitorishima EEZ - A general overview of the latest re-
search results -

加藤 泰浩^{1*}; 藤永 公一郎¹; 中村 謙太郎¹; 安川 和孝¹; 大田 隼一郎¹; 高谷 雄太郎²; 飯島 耕一²;
野崎 達生²; 木村 純一²; 鈴木 勝彦²; 岩森 光²

KATO, Yasuhiro^{1*}; FUJINAGA, Koichiro¹; NAKAMURA, Kentaro¹; YASUKAWA, Kazutaka¹; OHTA, Junichiro¹;
TAKAYA, Yutaro²; IJIMA, Koichi²; NOZAKI, Tatsuo²; KIMURA, Jun-ichi²; SUZUKI, Katsuhiko²;
IWAMORI, Hikaru²

¹ 東京大学工学系研究科, ² 海洋研究開発機構

¹Univ. of Tokyo, ²JAMSTEC

In 2013, we confirmed the presence of rare-earth elements and yttrium (REY)-rich mud containing more than 6,000 ppm of total REY within the Japanese Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) surrounding Minamitorishima Island. Since the discovery of the “extremely REY-rich mud”, we have conducted a variety of approaches such as geochemical analyses, detailed microscopic observations, REY-leaching experiments, application of sub-bottom profiling to the exploration, and statistical analysis of the geochemical data set, towards the exploitation of the new and highly promising REY-resource in the near future. Here we report a general overview of the latest research results on REY-rich mud in the Minamitorishima EEZ.

Keywords: deep-sea mineral resource, REY-rich mud, Minamitorishima Island