

Izu-Oshima Geopark -Monitoring the Collapsed Site of Mudslides Disaster

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In Oct. 2013, there occurred serious damage in Izu-Oshima Island caused by mudslides triggered by the heavy rain of Typhoon No. 26. Local residents had felt nervous on rainy days about muddy water flowed from the bare soil of the slid slope.

In Nov. 2014, Tokyo metropolitan government scattered seeds of greening plants including non-indigenous species such as leguminous plants and Japanese green alder, in order to stabilize the slope. Although it is said that those plants will be covered by local plants, some residents are concerned about their effects on local vegetation.

On Mar. 14, 2015, Izu-Oshima Geopark started monitoring the site, joined by local people, based on the consideration that what important for the community is to live accepting, observing and thinking natural changes as it is. Izu-Oshima Geopark Promoting Committee has conducted survey once 1-2 months on several items such as weather conditions including precipitation, the amount of top soil erosion and the state of revegetation, in cooperation with Tokyo University of Agriculture and Technology, Ministry of the Environment and Civil engineering division of Tokyo Metropolitan Oshima Island Branch Office.

We report the past year observation progress and results as of Mar. 2016 and future issues.

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