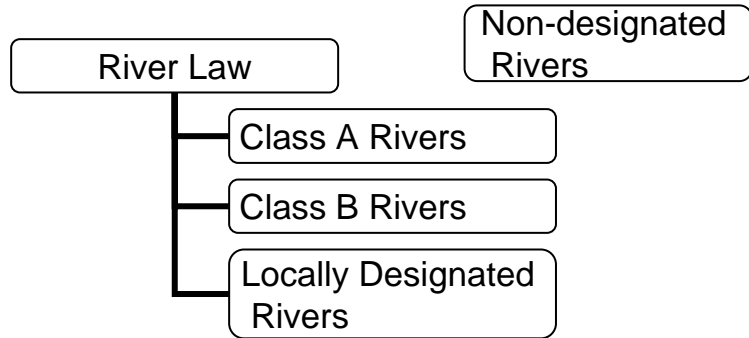
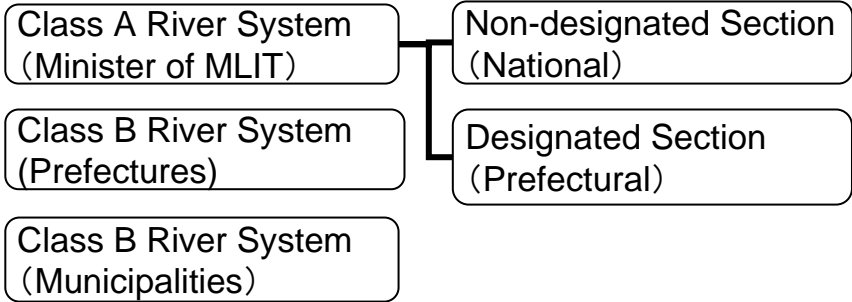


Rivers in Japan

Classification of Rivers



Administrators



Classification of River Administrations

River System		Rivers	Rivers
Class A River Systems (109)		Class A Rivers (13, 991) Managed by Ministers Designated section	Locally Designated Rivers Non-designated Rivers
Class B River Systems (2723)		Class B Rivers (7,084) Locally Designated Non-designated Rivers	Ministry of MLIT Governors of Prefectures Heads of Municipalities Local Governments
Independent River Systems		Locally Designated Non-designated Rivers	Governors of Prefectures Heads of Municipalities Local Governments

Lake Biwa-Yodo River Basin Area

- ◆ Broad area with 6 prefectures (Mie, Shiga, Kyoto, Osaka, Hyogo and Osaka prefectures).
- ◆ Famous for its historical/cultural heritages, which reflect the long and close relationship between water and people.
- ◆ Unique characteristic: harmony between natural environment and urban development



Towards Lake Biwa-Yodo River Basin Renaissance



(1) Background

- ◆ The 3rd World Water Forum was organized in March 2003 in Kyoto, Shiga and Osaka.
- ◆ "Ministerial Declaration - Message from Lake Biwa - Yodo River Basin - "Water" as priority issues - Promotion of Integrated Water Resources Management
- ◆ "Renaissance of Lake Biwa - Yodo River Basin Area" project was chosen as one of the 6th Urban Rebirth Projects in November 2003
- ◆ Establishment of the committee of "Renaissance of Lake Biwa - Yodo River Basin Area" with water-related ministries and local governments in the basin
- ◆ "Renaissance Plan for Lake Biwa-Yodo River Area" in March 2005 for integrated policy implementation in the basin area



From the
3rd World Water Forum
(Kyoto)

(2) Four perspectives: Current situation and challenges in Lake Biwa-Yodo River Basin

(2-1) Natural Environment

Need to conserve/restore the diverse nature of Lake-Biwa Yodo River Basin Area which has been degraded due to intensive use of water.



Largemouth bass

(2-2) Urban Environment

Need to reconstruct the relationship between water and cities, which has been dropped off recently.



Artificial embankment
in Neyagawa River

(2-3) History and Culture

Need to inherit the water cultures, which have been developed through the history as the capitals of Japan.



Kurawanka Ship

(2-4) Cooperation among stakeholders

Need joint efforts by all water stakeholders including citizens, private sectors, governments and communities for addressing the challenges above.

(3) Basic concepts for “Renaissance of Lake Biwa-Yodo River Basin”



◆ There are many challenges which require the joint efforts by all stakeholders in the area including the restorations of the ecosystem network from Lake Biwa to Osaka Bay and waterfront in the city such as Kyoto or Osaka, and the reconstruction of hydrological cycle from the water source in the forest, the inheritance of water cultures.

◆ Collective works centering on Lake Biwa as Mother Lake and Yodo River as Mother River is essential for the realization of the restoration of sustainable environment and the creation of safe and attractive cities/towns in this area.



Conservation of reed bed



Open cafe terrace in the waterfront area



Itasenbara Fish

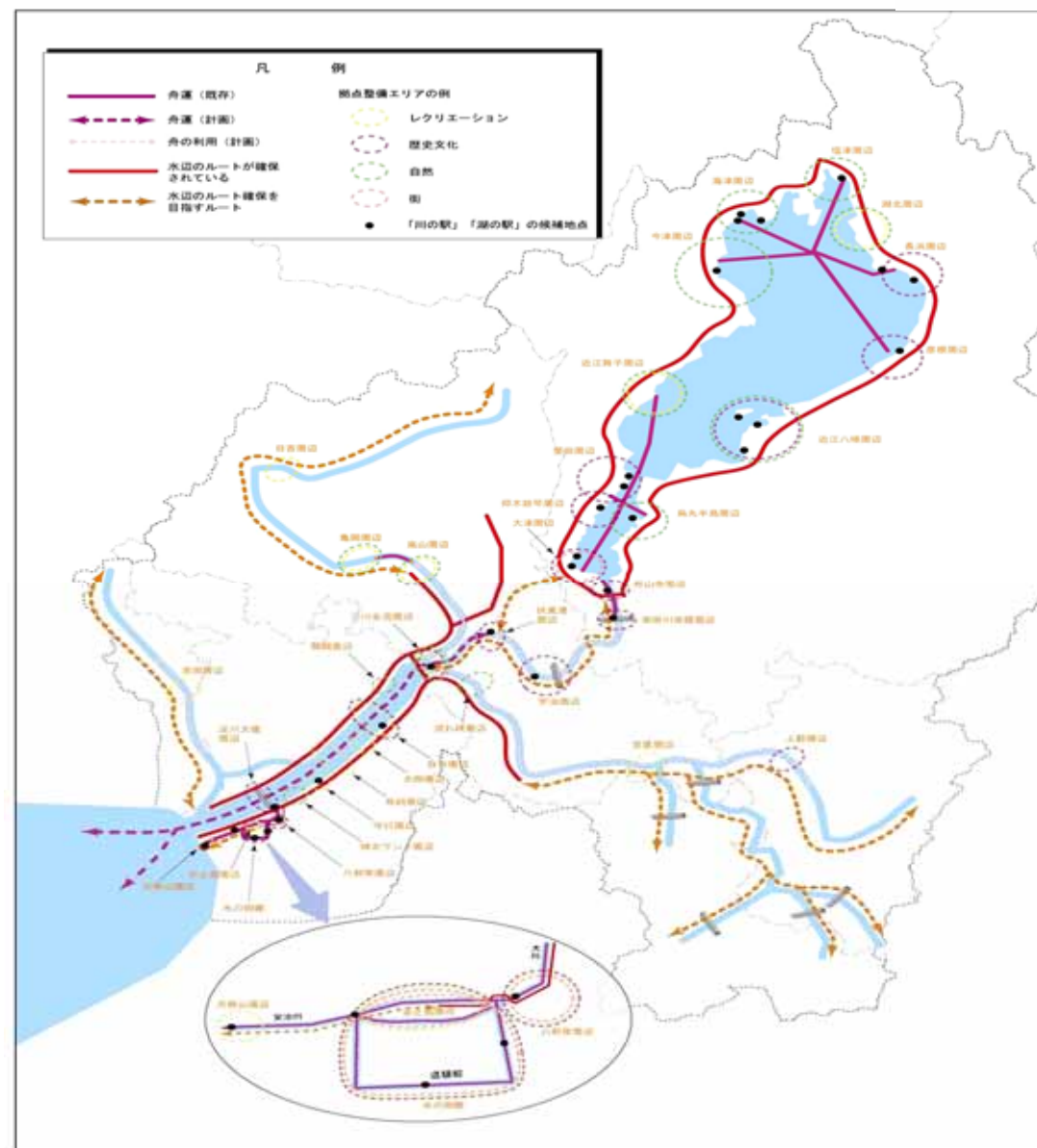


(4) Conference of Promotion for Lake Biwa-Yodo River Basin Area Renaissance

- ◆ Established in April 2005 for the promotion of concrete activities
- ◆ Members include 5 ministries, 6 prefectures and 3 cities
- ◆ 5 Sub committees under the themes of the renaissance plan
 - Waterfront Promenade Network Subcommittee
 - Waterfront Ecosystem Conservation and Restoration Network Subcommittee
 - Waterfront Activity Creation Subcommittee
 - Basin Environmental Restoration Subcommittee
 - IWRM Subcommittee

(4-1) Waterfront Promenade Network

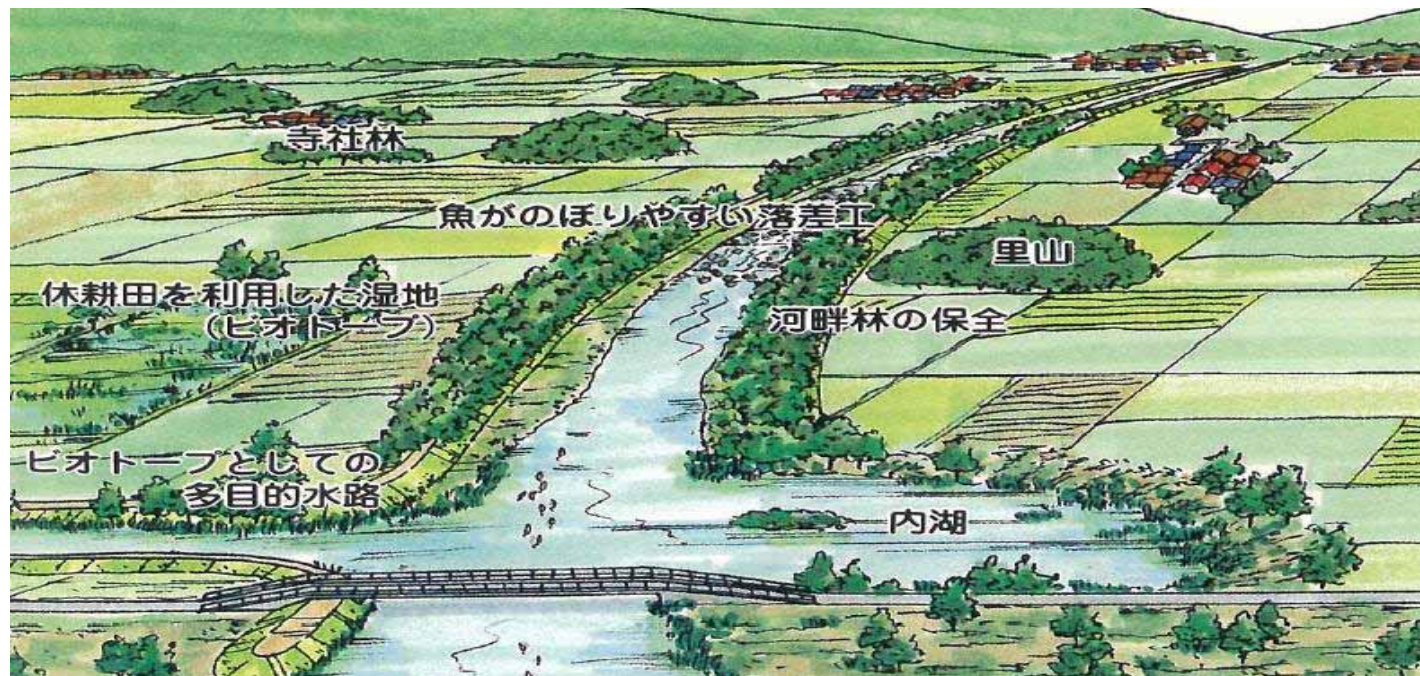
A “waterfront promenade network” will be built connecting the waterfront through boat rides, cycling, and walking along the rivers in the basin as well as Lake Biwa. In preparation, the continuity of pedestrian paths and boat routes will be thoroughly checked, and any interruptions will be strategically removed with careful consideration for the environmental impacts on the riparian zone along with predicted levels of use.



(4-2) Waterfront Ecosystem Conservation and Restoration Network



Conservation and Restoration of diverse ecosystem of Lake Biwa-Yodo River Basin Area bringing the conservation of scarce native species.



Connecting the natural environment in the basin

(4-3) Waterfront Activity Creation

Streams will be restored in the middle of urban areas by bringing water back to dried-up rivers and channels within the basin by using water flexibly or utilizing unused water sources.



(4-4) Basin Environmental Restoration

Forest/agricultural/urban areas will work together in an integrated manner for the realization of sound hydrological cycle with necessary amount of water by conserving and restoring forests/agricultural fields and improving water quality in rivers and lakes.



Forest conservation



Recycling irrigation



(4-5) Integrated water basin management

- ◆ providing the working group in which administrative organizations perform discussion and cooperation each other for constructing proper water basin environment.
- ◆ In this working group, the plan to make an agreement and to control each profit toward integrated water environment management is discussing and coordinating.