

Harmony with natural environment

“Landscape Model Project” has been advanced to construct facilities in harmony with natural environment with cooperation of local communities.



Groups of groundnels in the upper stream of Azusa Main River

Large gabions are used for the bank works along the river channel, which are covered with local river bed materials to keep the works out of sight. Revetment works are landscaped using gabions paying attention to the harmony with surrounding landscape. Bamboo grass is planted on the mounding on the back of the revetment. Trees are left uncut as much as practical to preserve and promote greening of the area.



Transplantation of endangered species a Chinese milk vetch, “Tsumerenge”

In an effort to reduce the impact of the groundsel works upon the local vegetation, an indigenous species, Tsumerenge growing along Matsukawa River was transplanted to the upper stream under the guidance of local specialists. Tsumerenge is designated as an endangered species in the red data book by The Nature Conservation Society of Japan. Kurotsubame Corbicula, also designated as an endangered wild creature in the red data book by Environmental Agency.



● Kamikochi Landscape Model Project

Located in the National Park, Kamikochi is attracting about two million people every year with its beautiful scenery. Special attention is paid to shapes, materials and landscape not to damage rich and beautiful landscape by Sabo facilities. The works are carried out during winter, not in summer

Environmental survey

Kamikochi is known by its rich ecosystem with academically precious plants such as plants including the willow, keshoyanagi, fishes, butterflies and birds.

In addition to adopting environmental-friendly construction methods, surveys on landscape, surrounding water and fish and aquatic organism have been undertaken to find out the impact of Sabo facilities upon the landscape and river ecosystem.

● Matsukawa Landscape Model Project

Matsukawa River, upper stream of Himekawa River, has its water source in Mt. Hakuba and Mt. Karamatsu of Hakuba Mountain Range. Its downstream large alluvial fan is located at the center of Hakubamura resort. Around Hakuba Village there are numerous academically precious plants including alpine plants designated as the special natural monument. Areas around Matsukawa River is a treasure house of nature with rare species of insects like Himegifu butterfly and Aoi dragonfly, and fishes like Iwana (Char) and Yamame trout.



Matsukawa River Groundsel Works

In Matsukawa River groundsel works, chutes, pools and shoals are created imitating a natural stream to preserve environment for various creatures to survive. All the groundnels are provided with fish ways and Kawaragumi goumi, indigenous plants around Matsukawa River was transplanted in shoals and along the riverside. In harmony with nature, this Sabo work aims at the communication between people and nature.