

## Study Group on North Pacific Marine Ecosystems and Maritime Order, Diplomacy and Security

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- Subject
- (1) Research on progressive examples in other countries for improving marine resource management methods (focusing on points of improvement in the individual transfer quota (ITQ) system) while taking into account broad-ranging ecosystem preservation.
  - (2) Survey of changes in the marine ecosystem and their relationship with marine resources
  - (3) Survey of changes in terrestrial ecosystems such as urban sewage policies and land reclamation, and green food system strategies and forestry policies, the habitats of marine resources, and the amounts of those resources
  - (4) Research and consider the functions and status of international institutions (North Pacific Fisheries Commission, the Washington Convention, the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission, etc.), and consider the possibility of establishing an international treaty and international institution (Sea of Japan, Sea of Okhotsk and East China Sea).
  - (5) Comprehensively consider the above from the standpoints of food security, resource distribution and division (migratory pattern fishing grounds and spawning grounds). Consider whether the country of origin principle for anadromous stocks like salmon and sea trout in Article 66 of the U.N. Convention on the Law of the Sea is correct.

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Research  
Background

As global warming has advanced, there has been a marked rise not only in air temperatures but in sea surface temperatures as well in the waters around Japan and in the North and South Pacific. In addition, the wave of urbanization, including urban sewage and land reclamation, and the current conditions of agriculture and forestry are also changing terrestrial ecosystems. Meanwhile, there is a marked northward shift in marine life (or southward in the Southern Hemisphere). Salmon have gone beyond their traditional habitats and have crossed national borders. They are disappearing from places like Japan and the U.S. state of California, where they are now concentrated, and increasing, in Russia and Alaska. This is amplified by Russia hatching and releasing an enormous amount of salmon. This trend is not limited to salmon; it is observed in all marine resources. Given that the capacity of the marine environment in the North Pacific is not without limit, abrupt changes are entirely predictable and they could have an enormous impact on the marine resource volumes of each country. This problem requires multifaceted engagement with marine ecosystem preservation and resource management. Moreover, changes in marine ecosystems and fluctuations in marine resources cannot be dealt with by Japan alone: these are policy issues that must be addressed by the international community by building relationships and crafting measures through multilateral cooperation.

In addressing these issues, it goes without saying that it is essential to take a scholarly approach to grasping current conditions, etc., based on scientific knowledge and build a

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Research Background practical research system to present realistic solutions and to integrate and reflect them in government policy from the perspectives of diplomatic recommendations and food security, and from a comprehensive, overarching viewpoint based on specialized knowledge. Regarding international issues to be tackled from now on, it is the mission of the Kajima Institute of International Peace to specifically identify areas where Japan should lead the new era and to provide guidance for so doing. This research not only relates to environmental sustainability and how resources should be best distributed, which are basic conditions directly connected to Japan's future security and prosperity, but also covers international cooperative frameworks. This is therefore a research area where the Institute can contribute to society by further drawing on its broad knowledge and networks, from diplomacy and security to national land and resource preservation.

Summary of Research Findings At the 13 meetings held between July 30, 2021 and May 27, 2022 (including the special meeting held on March 17, 2022), the group discussed marine resource management, problems in marine ecosystems in terrestrial and ocean areas, the U.N. Convention on the Law of the Sea, the Washington Convention, the Convention on Biological Diversity, the International Convention for the Regulation of Whaling, and regional fisheries management organizations, climate change and marine resources under the impact of global warming (salmon, sea trout, and squid), watershed development, coastal construction

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Summary  
of Research  
Findings

projects, disaster prevention, and coastal environment preservation, and issues and prospects for maritime governance. Moreover, regarding terrestrial areas, wide-ranging discussions were held concerning the processing of urban sewage, green food system strategies, and the present and future of Japan's forests. The group's main focus is marine resources, marine ecosystems, and foreign and security policy. However, in that process, the harmful effects of the lack of the policy and research execution abilities, decision-making structures, and analytical capabilities of government (administration), politics, and research institutions, including the lack of comprehensive thinking, vertically divided organizational structures, and decreasing expertise have been raised at each session. These dysfunctions and lack of decision-making capabilities are also conspicuous in marine products and related areas. We believe, however, that comprehensively considering and presenting measures to address these problems and issues can greatly benefit the execution of Japanese government policy in line with its purpose and appropriate decision-making to this end.

In connection with the question of how to ensure an adequate governance structure in Japan, the group has singled out problems associated with policy execution in the area of marine products, starting with marine resource management, and has made its final proposals to address them. The group is convinced that they will contribute as a model for response measures and has strong expectations for them. Compared with other problems Japan faces, the area of oceans and fisheries is understood to be extremely

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Summary of Research Findings narrow and specialized. However, this is also an area with multifaceted, wide-ranging, and specialized connections from marine product production to distribution, processing, and through to consumption. For this reason, the problems and issues submitted in discussions of this area and the proposed interim recommendations for reforms to address them are considered to serve as a useful, effective, and suggestive model. For the problems Japan faces, the government must take the lead and effectively achieve the purposes and fulfill the functions while expert groups participate in and contribute to the government's intentions and policy decisions. In this sense, the Institute's study groups are nearly the same in sharing this idea. Based on the example of the marine products area, the group sincerely expects that it will contribute to major structural reforms for Japan scheduled by the end of June.

Period April 1, 2019 to May 27, 2022 (scheduled)

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FY2019

Meeting

sequence

number	Date	Main theme
First	April 17, 2019	Study group launched. Discussed study group significance and objectives
Second	May 17, 2019	“Battle for Resources and Food Security Problems Caused by Marine Ecosystem Destruction and Global Warming,” a general overview (Masayuki Komatsu, group leader) “Issues and Future of U.N. Convention on the Law of the Sea, SDGs, and North Pacific Conventions” (Masayuki Komatsu, group leader)
Third	June 14, 2019	Risks Arising from Lack of TAC by Country” (Ayumu Katano, member) “Issues and Future of U.N. Convention on the Law of the Sea, SDGs, North Pacific Conventions” (leader Komatsu) “U.N. Convention on the Law of the Sea and Major High Seas Fishing Conventions for the North Pacific” (Tatsunobu Kawasaki, member)

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 FY2019

Meeting

sequence

number	Date	Main theme
Fourth	July 19, 2019	<p>“Recent Trends in Japan’s Fishing Industry and Fishery Policy Reform” (leader Komatsu)</p> <p>“Resource Trends for Main Fish Types in the North Pacific (Pacific Bluefin Tuna, Chub Mackerel, Pacific Saury, Chum Salmon, Whales)” (member Kawasaki)</p> <p>“Preservation and Use of Salmon Under Climate Change: Sustainable Resource Management,” (Masahide Kaeriyama, Hokkaido University Arctic Research Center, Emeritus Professor, Hokkaido University)</p>
Fifth	September 6, 2019	<p>“Impact of Watershed Development and Coastline Construction on Estuarine Ecosystems,” (Dennis Whigham, Senior Scientist, Smithsonian Environment Research Center)</p>
Sixth	October 25, 2019	<p>“Process Behind Establishment of U.N. Convention on the Law of the Sea and Japan’s Negotiations,” (Isao Sakaguchi, Professor, Faculty of Law, Gakushuin University)</p>

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FY2019

Meeting

sequence

number    Date

Main theme

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“CITES and Marine Resource Management and Issues,”

(Yasuhiro Sanada, Visiting Research Fellow and Visiting Associate Professor, Organization for Regional and Inter-regional Studies, Waseda University)

Seventh    November 29, 2019    “Initiatives to Preserve and Revive Coastal Environments with Considerations for Disaster Prevention: A Case Study of Kesenuma, Miyagi Prefecture,”

(Katsuhide Yokoyama, Professor, Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering, Tokyo Metropolitan University)

Eighth    December 20, 2019    “Issues and Prospects for Marine Governance,”  
(Hiroshi Terashima, former Executive Director, Ocean Policy Research Institute, Sasakawa Peace Foundation)

“BBNJ Convention Proposal and a Rightful Version of U.N. Convention on the Law of the Sea”

(leader Komatsu)

“Delays in Pacific Saury Resource Management”  
(member Kawasaki)



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FY2019

Meeting

sequence

number	Date	Main theme
Ninth	January 31, 2020	“Impact of Global Warming on Marine Resources,” (Yasunori Sakurai, Chair, Hakodate Cephalopod Research Center, Hakodate Research Center for Fisheries and Oceans, Professor Emeritus, Hokkaido University) “Global Trends in Squid Resources and Other Topics” (member Kawasaki)
10th (Web conference)	April 17, 2020	“Governance System Reform and Marine Resource Protection Policy” (Zentaro Kamei, member) “Fisheries Basic Act and Basic Plan for Fisheries, and Basic Act on Ocean Policy and Basic Plan on Ocean Policy” (member Kawasaki) “Governance System, Fisheries Administration, and Problems and Issues in Execution of Fisheries Policy” (leader Komatsu)
11th (Web conference)	May 29, 2020	General debate and planning for next fiscal year

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FY2020

Meeting

sequence

number	Date	Main theme
First Held at The Okura Tokyo	June 26, 2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Consideration and adoption of interim issues for discussion(draft) of Study Group on North Pacific Marine Ecosystem and Maritime Order, Diplomacy and Security in fiscal 2019</li><li>• Consideration of schedule proposal (tentative) for this study group in fiscal 2020 and introduction of group members</li><li>• Disaster Prevention Research and Measures in Netherlands related to Global Warming and Rising Sea Levels: March 2020 Field Report from Study Group Leader Komatsu” (leader Komatsu)</li></ul>
Second (Web conference)	July 31, 2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Presented the study group’s issues for discussion to the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, and Fisheries, politicians, the press, and other parties, and discussed the response (leader Komatsu)</li><li>• “Sustainable Fishery Resource Management with Ecosystem Approach Based on Backcasting” (member Kaeriyama)</li></ul>

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 FY2020

Meeting

sequence

number	Date	Main theme
Second (Web conference)	July 31, 2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• “Overview of Fishery Act Amendment, its Operating Policy, and 2019 White Paper on Fisheries: Marine Ecosystems (member Kawasaki)”</li> <li>• “Forests, Rivers, Oceans, and People: Hirota Bay Marine Ecosystem, Sharp Rise of 5-6 Degrees in Water Temperature, and Impact on Aquaculture” (leader Komatsu)</li> </ul>
Third (Web conference)	August 28, 2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• “Issues in Japan’s Fishery Industry: Regarding the Necessity of Policies Based on a Bird’s-Eye View of Overall Industry,” (Yuichi Sunagawa, President, Goshoku Co.)</li> <li>• “Global Economics and Fishery Resources” (Yasuhiro Takarada, member)</li> <li>• “Reforming Fisheries Research and Education System” (member Kawasaki)</li> <li>• Consideration of “Shared Public Property Law (tentative)” and “Issues and Merits of Implementing Recommendations” (leader Komatsu, member Kawasaki)</li> </ul>

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FY2020

Meeting

sequence

number	Date	Main theme
Fourth (Web conference)	September 25, 2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• “Present and Future of Comprehensive Sediment Management in Watershed and Coastal Areas, and Environment-Fisheries Coordination” (member Yokoyama)</li><li>• “Impact of Rising Seawater Temperatures in Recent Years on Marine and Fishery Resources,” (Keiichi Hasunuma, President, OSTIs Co.)</li><li>• Working group report on “Proposal for a Law Making Ocean and Fishery Resources Shared Public Property and Merits of Implementing Recommendations”</li></ul>
Fifth (Web conference)	October 23, 2020	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Regarding independent research institute for ocean fishery resources<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>(1) “Issues and Prospects for Think Tanks in Japan” (member Kamei)</li><li>(2) “Ocean Fishery-Related Research Institutes Overseas and in Japan” (member Kaeriyama, member Kawasaki, leader Komatsu)</li></ol></li><li>2. Regarding proposed law for shared public property and merits of implementing recommendations (follow-up to previous meeting)</li></ol>

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 FY2020

Meeting

sequence

number	Date	Main theme
Sixth (Web conference)	November 20, 2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• “Current State and Issues of Oyster Aquaculture Industry in Hiroshima Bay,” (Yasushi Hirata, President, Hirata Suisan Technical Consulting)</li> <li>• “Current State of Seto Inland Sea and What It Should Look Like,” (Yuichi Sunagawa, President, Goshoku Co.)</li> <li>• “Opening Ashida River Estuary Weir,” (Yusuke Ota, Fukuyama City Council member)</li> <li>• “Act on Special Measures concerning Conservation of Seto Inland Sea Environment and Trends Since Its Enforcement” (member Kawasaki)</li> <li>• “Proposal on Amending Act on Special Measures concerning Conservation of the Environment of Seto Inland Sea Environment” (leader Komatsu)</li> </ul>

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FY2020

Meeting

sequence

<u>number</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Main theme</u>
Seventh (Web conference)	December 25, 2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• “Initiatives and PICES (Prospects of the North Pacific Marine Science Organization) and Blue Carbon (Carbon Stored in Coastal and Marine Ecosystems),” (Nobuaki Suzuki, Research Director, Research and Technological Guidance Division, Fisheries Agency)</li><li>• “Legislation of Basic Act on Ocean Policy through initiation by Diet Members” (member Terashima)</li></ul> “Explanation of Diet Member-initiated Bill Proposal Process” (member Kawasaki, leader Komatsu)
Eighth	January 22, 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• “Major Differences in Business Ecosystems in U.S. and Japan” (Nobuyuki Hiraizumi, President, Kajima Institute of International Peace)</li><li>• “Comparison of Fishery Agency Organizations in the U.S., Japan, and Australia (member Kawasaki, leader Komatsu)</li></ul>

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 FY2020

Meeting

sequence

number	Date	Main theme
Ninth	February 26, 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• “Current State and Issues of Coastal Preservation,” (Takaya Tanaka, Director, Coastal Division, Water and Disaster Management Bureau, Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism)</li> <li>• “Current State and Future Issues of Implementation of Article 25 (Integrated Management of Coastal Zones) of Basic Act on Ocean Policy” (member Terashima)</li> </ul>
10th	March 26, 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• “Furukawa Wetland Formation and Hirota Bay Revival Project in Rikuzentakata (Including Plan to Build Tunnel Linking Furukawa Swamp and Hirota Bay)” (leader Komatsu)</li> <li>• “North Pacific Salmon and Sea Trout Resources and Resource Decline Dynamics: Sakhalin International Salmon and Sea Trout Conference Report” (member Kaeriyama, leader Komatsu)</li> </ul>

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FY2020

Meeting

sequence

number	Date	Main theme
11th	April 23, 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• “Wise Use of Tidelands, Inlets, and Estuaries” (Masatoshi Matsumasa, Professor, Iwate Medical University)</li><li>• “Current State of Rikuzentakata’s Otomoura Inlet and Fukukawa Swamp” (leader Komatsu)</li></ul>
12th	May 28, 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• “Natural Resources as Public Property (Marine Product Resources and Shared Public Property)” (Daisuke Miura, Professor, Faculty of Law, Kanagawa University)</li><li>• “Release of Treated Water from Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Plant, Warming, and Impact on Marine Ecosystems” (leader Komatsu)</li></ul>
13th	June 25, 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• “Promotion of River Basin Management” (Tomoo Inoue, Director-General, Water and Disaster Management Bureau, Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism)</li><li>• “Regarding 2020 Fishery and Aquaculture Production Volume (preliminary figures)” (member Kawasaki)</li></ul>



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 FY2021  
 Meeting  
 sequence

number	Date	Main theme
First	July 30, 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Consideration of second interim recommendations</li> <li>• Regarding FY2021 study group schedule (draft)</li> <li>• Regarding visit to Japan by Smithsonian Environmental Research Center and Underwood &amp; Associates (leader Komatsu)</li> <li>• Introduction of the FY2020 fisheries white paper (member Kawasaki)</li> </ul>
Second	August 27, 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Adoption of second interim recommendations</li> <li>• “Poor Catches, Warming, and the Future of Fisheries” (Masanori Miyahara, former President, Japan Fisheries Research and Education Agency)</li> </ul>
Third	September 24, 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• “Latest State of Global Marine Resource Management and ITQ” (Ayumu Katano, fisheries analyst)</li> </ul>

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FY2021

Meeting

sequence

number	Date	Main theme
Fourth	October 12, 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• “Green Food Systems Strategies” (Toyohiko Kawai, Councillor [Deputy Director-General for Technological and Environmental Affairs] of the Minister’s Secretariat, Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries)</li><li>• Report on visit to Marine Ecology Research Institute (regarding wind power generation, thermal discharge, and the impact of radioactive materials from nuclear power plants) (leader Komatsu)</li></ul>
Fifth	October 22, 2021	<p>“Handling of the 1st and 2nd interim issues regarding International Whaling Commission, whales and marine ecosystems at the North Pacific Marine Ecosystems Study Group” (leader Komatsu)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• “Relationship Between Cetaceans of Northwest Pacific Ocean and South Pacific Marine Ecosystems” (Dr. Luis Pastene, Institute of Cetacean Research/ Tsutomu Tamura)</li></ul>

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 FY2021  
 Meeting  
 sequence

number	Date	Main theme
Sixth	November 26, 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• “Environmental Measures and Fiscal Issues” (Kazumasa Oguro, Professor, Hosei University)</li> <li>• “Regarding the Environment Budget of the Japanese Government” (member Kawasaki)</li> </ul>
Seventh	December 24, 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• “Wastewater Treatment in Cities” (Ryuji Uematsu, Deputy Director, Sewerage and Wastewater Management Department, Water and Disaster Management Bureau, Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism)</li> </ul>
Eighth	January 21, 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• “Japan’s Forests Past, Present, and Future” (Zentaro Kosaka, Director-General, Private Forest Department, Forestry Agency)</li> </ul>
Ninth	February 25, 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• “Regarding the Convention on Biological Diversity and Other Effective Conservation Measures (OECM)” (provisional title) (Naohisa Okuda, Director-General, Nature Conservation Bureau, Ministry of the Environment)</li> </ul>

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FY2021

Meeting

sequence

number	Date	Main theme
10th	March 25, 2022	• “Research on Swedish Administrative Law—Transition of the Nature Conservation Legal System” (Hisashi Koketsu, Professor, Hosei University Law school)
11th	April 22, 2022	• “Recent Trends of Regional Fisheries Management Organs Etc. Concerning Management of North Pacific Marine Resources” (Yasuhiro Sanada, visiting head researcher and visiting associate professor, Organization for Regional and Inter-regional Studies, Waseda University)
12th	May 27, 2022	• Adoption of final recommendations
Special	March 17, 2022	• “Resurgence of the Seas: Natural Spectacles in Northern Waters” (Hiroumi Tsuruzono, Natural History Programs Department, NHK Enterprises)

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Members	<p><b>Dr. Masayuki Komatsu (Leader)</b>  Visiting Researcher, Kajima Institute of International Peace  Chair/President, Ecosystem Research Institute  Visiting Professor, Asian Growth Institute</p> <p><b>Nobuyuki Hiraizumi</b>  President, Kajima Institute of International Peace  Director, Kajima Corporation  Advisor, Avant Associates, Inc.  Director, The Board Director Training Institute of Japan</p> <p><b>Katsuhide Yokoyama, Ph.D. in Engineering</b>  Professor, Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering,  Tokyo Metropolitan University</p> <p><b>Zentaro Kamei</b>  Senior Fellow, PHP Institute, Inc.  Specially Appointed Professor, Graduate School of Social  Design Studies, Rikkyo University</p> <p><b>Yasuhiro Takarada</b>  Professor, Faculty of Economics, Nanzan University</p> <p><b>Hiroshi Terashima</b>  Adviser, Japan Society of Ocean Policy  Ex-President, Ocean Policy Research Institute, The Sasakawa  Peace Foundation  Ex-Executive Director, Ocean Policy Research Foundation</p> <p><b>Tatsunobu Kawasaki</b>  Former Adviser to The Daily Minato</p>
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Members

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**Yasunori Sakurai**

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Members

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