

Mar 03, 2022

Japan Association for the 2025 World Exposition Chairman, Mr.Tokura
Governor of Osaka Prefecture, Mr.Yoshimura
Mayor of Osaka City, Mr.Matsui
Minister of the Environment, Mr.Yamaguchi
And to the Secretariat, Headquarters for the Promotion of International Expositions, Cabinet Secretariat

Request for the conservation and restoration of biodiversity on Yumeshima for the construction and development of the 2025 Japan International Expo site

In the environmental impact assessment procedures for the venue of the Japan International Exposition, 2025 (hereafter referred to as Osaka-Kansai Expo), Osaka City has stated that, "As a variety of bird species have been identified on Yumeshima, a roadmap should be drawn up by the start of construction, including details and a schedule for the maintenance of the habitat and growth environment of these birds, while listening to the opinions of experts and others, in order to preserve and create a diverse environment, including wetlands, grasslands and sandy beaches. (dated 9 February 2022).

As an organisation involved in the conservation of nature and biodiversity in our country, we strongly request the following for the maintenance of Yumeshima, a habitat for waterbirds such as the least tern, sandpipers and plovers, with the aim of conserving and restoring biodiversity.

1. The land development project in Yumeshima was reviewed, and "Water World", a site development plan for the Osaka-Kansai Expo, was designed to allow shorebirds such as sandpipers and plovers to inhabit even after the expo.

Change the plan to form wetlands and tidal flats instead of building structures.

2. Develop a breeding ground for Little Terns on unused land in Yumeshima.

3. After the Expo, Yumeshima will continue to be used as a place for experiencing nature, such as observing nature and wild birds. In terms of the conservation and use of important wetlands in the Osaka Bay coastal area, aim for Ramsar site, together with Nanko Wild Bird Park.

4. In order to solve these problems concretely and realize them, it is necessary to establish an

open forum as soon as possible with various stakeholders such as related environmental groups and experts.

The Osaka-Kansai Expo aims to contribute to the achievement of the SDGs, and high sustainability and conservation of the natural environment are essential for the construction and operation of the venue. Although Yumeshima is an artificially created environment, it is a habitat for many wild animals, including endangered species. increase.

On the other hand, at the 15th Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity to be held in Kunming, China in 2022, the goal of conserving and protecting more than 30% of the world's land and sea areas by 2030 was set. A post-2020 framework, including a '30 by 30', is expected to be voted on. The conservation and restoration of Yumeshima's natural environment, which we are requesting, will also contribute to this new international framework. In addition, positioning Yumeshima as an important base of the remaining wetland ecosystem network in the coastal area of Osaka Bay, and conservation and restoration efforts aimed at registering wetlands under the Ramsar Convention are important. It can be a legacy of the Osaka-Kansai Expo to be transmitted to the world.

In light of these circumstances, I hope that the Osaka City/Osaka Prefecture and the Expo Association will positively consider the above requests, and that the Ministry of the

Environment and the Cabinet Secretariat's Headquarters for the Promotion of International Expositions will support them.

Nature Conservation Society of Japan Charman
Akira Kameyama

WWF Japan Charman
Takejiro Sueyoshi

Wild Bird Society of Japan Charman
Koichi Endo