

"World Exposition 2025: Draft Environmental Impact Statement from Citizen's Perspective (Biodiversity)
[Summary]

Public Interest Incorporated Association, Nature Conservation Society of Osaka / Workshop for Sustainable Community

In addition to releasing the "Document on Primary Environmental Impact Consideration and Scoping Documents by Citizens" (August 2019), we have conducted field surveys over the past two years and published the "Yumeshima Living Things Photo Album," a record of these surveys. Through this survey, we found that (1) reaffirming the value of Yumeshima as a "biodiversity hotspot", (2) the habitats of these creatures are being threatened daily by landfill work, and (3) Development of the Expo site could cause irreparable damage to the biodiversity. Particularly urgent needs for conservation measures are as follows.

Table 1. Important species in Yumeshima and the impacts by Expo.

Scientific name	Red list category			Habitat	Impact		Appendix
	IUCN	MOE	Osaka		Reclamation	Building facilities	
Birds							
<i>Tadorna tadorna</i>		VU		Tidal flat	✓	✓	>100 individuals
<i>Anas falcata</i>	NT			Pond	✓	✓	
<i>Aythya ferina</i>	VU			Pond	✓	✓	>5000 individuals (Ramsar site criterion 6)]
<i>Egretta intermedia</i>		NT		Marsh	✓	✓	
<i>Vanellus vanellus</i>			NT	Marsh	✓	✓	
<i>Vanellus cinereus</i>			NT	Short grassland		✓	
<i>Pluvialis squatarola</i>			VU	Tidal flat/Marsh	✓	✓	
<i>Charadrius dubius</i>			NT	Marsh/Gravel land		✓	Breeding
<i>Charadrius alexandrinus</i>		VU	VU	Marsh/Gravel land		✓	Breeding
<i>Charadrius mongolus</i>			VU	Tidal flat/Marsh	✓	✓	
<i>Himantopus himantopus</i>		VU		Tidal flat/Marsh	✓	✓	Breeding
<i>Gallinago gallinago</i>			NT	Marsh/Paddy	✓	✓	
<i>Limosa limosa</i>			NT	Tidal flat/Marsh	✓	✓	
<i>Limosa lapponica</i>	NT	VU	VU	Tidal flat/Marsh	✓	✓	
<i>Numenius phaeopus</i>			NT	Tidal flat/River	✓	✓	
<i>Tringa erythropus</i>		VU	VU	Tidal flat/Marsh	✓	✓	
<i>Numenius madagascariensis</i>	EN	VU	NT	Tidal flat/Marsh	✓	✓	
<i>Tringa totanus</i>			NT	Tidal flat/Marsh	✓	✓	
<i>Tringa nebularia</i>			VU	Tidal flat/Marsh	✓	✓	
<i>Tringa glareola</i>			VU	Tidal flat/Marsh	✓	✓	
<i>Heteroscelus brevipes</i>			NT	Tidal flat/Marsh	✓	✓	
<i>Xenus cinereus</i>			VU	Tidal flat/Marsh	✓	✓	
<i>Actitis hypoleucos</i>			NT	Tidal flat/River	✓	✓	
<i>Calidris ruficollis</i>			NT	Tidal flat/Marsh	✓	✓	
<i>Calidris alpina</i>		NT		Tidal flat/Coast	✓	✓	
<i>Larus saundersi</i>	VU	VU	NT	Tidal flat/Coast	✓	✓	
<i>Sterna albifrons</i>		VU	CR+E N	Gravel lan		✓	Breeding
<i>Pandion haliaetus</i>		NT		Coast/Lake	✓	✓	

<i>Circus spilonotus</i>	EN	CR+E N	Reed bed	✓	
<i>Falco peregrinus</i>	VU		Cliff	✓	
<i>Alauda arvensis</i>		NT	Short grassland	✓	Likely breeding
<i>Cisticola juncidis</i>		NT	Tall grassland	✓	Likely breeding
Plants					
<i>Potamogeton panormitanus</i>	VU		Pond	✓	✓
<i>Hibiscus hamabo</i>		EX	Coast/Lake		✓
<i>Potamogeton pectinatus</i>	NT		Pond/Stream	✓	✓
<i>Ruppia maritima</i>		EX	Brackish water	✓	✓
<i>Cladium chinense</i>		VU	Coast		✓
<i>Calystegia soldanella</i>			Sands		✓
<i>Lysimachia mauritiana</i>			Coast		✓
<i>Tetragonia tetragonioides</i>			Sands		✓
<i>Aster tripolium</i>	NT		Brackish marsh		✓
<i>Setaria viridis</i>			Coast		✓

In addition, a wide variety of other organisms were observed. The conservation of these organisms is essential for the natural regeneration of Osaka Bay.

Biodiversity is the foundation of the SDGs, and all parties involved need to work together to make the Expo a place where "Designing Future Society for Our Lives" including these organisms in order to achieve the basic objective of the Expo: a society that achieves the SDGs.

We make the following recommendations on how the Expo should be planned.

(1) Avoidance: Cancel the event on Yumeshima and consider a less environmentally damaging location and method of holding the event (e.g., setting up an online venue). 1) Avoidance (2) Suspend the reclamation work and prioritize conservation measures.

(2) Downsizing and relocation in Yumeshima: If (1) is impossible to achieve the above, the venue should be reduced in size and relocated to an IR site that has not yet been commercialized.

(3) Do not take easy compensatory measures: Secure alternative sites and transplantation should be carefully considered based on scientific evidence. If, instead of (1), the Expo is to be held on Yumeshima in accordance with (2) and (3), an environmentally conscious plan for withdrawal and natural regeneration after the end of the event, and a target for securing biodiversity by 2030 should be formulated and monitored.

We are ready to cooperate with you in organizing a "Nature-friendly World Exposition" by providing research data, participating in the consideration of alternatives, and collaborating in monitoring.