Construction of the Conservation system of the remains of Volcano Disaster in the National Park
- Case of the action in Toya-Usu UNESCO Global Geopark -

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In Toya-Usu Geopark we have many geosites. Especially, remains of volcano disaster caused by Mt.Usu eruptions are important geosites. After 1977-78 eruption, we began disaster prevention education for the next eruption in this area by cooperation with government and academic and citizen. After 2000 eruption, we started up “Eco-museum plan”. In this plan, we advanced conservation and utilization remains of volcano disaster include topography like craters and faults created by 2000 eruption. In 2008, this area was authorized as one of the first Global Geopark in Japan. After that Toya-Usu Geopark is used for education of volcanic disaster.

But we can’t observe important geosites enough caused the plant grew thick. And because many geosite are in the special protection area within Shikotsu-Toya National Park, it is difficult to manage these sites appropriately. This was a big problem for Toya-Usu Geopark.

So Toya-Usu Geopark council and the Ministry of the Environment Hokkaido office continued examining this problem. And we established conference to examine about conservation and utilization geosites in the Shikotsu-Toya National Park. In this conference, we compiled a basic plan about conservation and utilization in this area. And we divided the area for purpose to conserve vegetation or to conserve the topography and the geological sites.

This action will become one means to solve the trouble of many Japanese Geoparks having a similar problem.

Keywords: Geoconservation, Disaster prevention, Cooperation among Relevant organs

