Geological, anthropogenic and tidal effects for stream water chemistry of the Yoshinogawa river systems in the Shikoku region

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We determined the elemental compositions of stream water of the Yoshinogawa river systems in the Shikoku region. The main stream water, except for samples around the mouth, were enriched in Ca²⁺ and HCO₃⁻. The tributaries on the right side of the Yoshinogawa river were enriched in Ca²⁺ and HCO₃⁻ and Ca²⁺, Mg²⁺ and HCO₃⁻. The river water were rich in Mg²⁺ and Si in Sonosegawa, indicating that these ionic compositions are derived mainly from geological inputs from the weathering of green schist in Sanbagawa Belt. On the other hand, the tributaries on the left side of the Yoshinogawa river were rich in Ca²⁺, HCO₃⁻ and SO₄⁻²⁻. The rates of SO₄⁻²⁻ and NO₃⁻ in anions and the concentrations of Al, P, and Si were higher in Imagirigawa and Kyuyoshinogawa than those of the other tributaries. This ionic composition is largely attributable to anthropogenic effect.

The main stream and tributaries around the mouth were enrich in Na⁺and Cl⁻. Tidal effect was shown in this area. Na⁺and Cl⁻ concentrations of tributaries in the center of Tokushima city were higher than those of main stream of the Yoshinogawa river. This result shows that tributaries in the center of Tokushima city are more influenced by tide than main stream. Tamiyagawa, located at the farthest site from the mouth in the center of Tokushima city, had high EC and P, SO_4^{2-} and NO_3^{-} concentrations. This result is largely attributable to anthropogenic effect due to sewage treatment system.

Keywords: Yoshinogawa river, ionic composition, tidal effect