

Activity Report of the Snow Country Geoparks Forum 2017 in Yuzawa Geopark

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Yuzawa Geopark is in a heavy snowfall area. We can not to go to Geological site in winter because of the heavy snow. The best part of Geopark is to feel the earth with five senses. The heavy snow disturbs the activity of Geopark. However, this is also a resource for tourism in limited time and area. The Snow Country Geoparks Forum was held to discuss how to increase the number of tourist in winter since 2016. In order to utilize snow as a resource, it is necessary to develop some sightseeing programs in winter, and build capacity to conduct the programs. We invited two speakers to talk about how to plan and to public geotours, and about risk management in geotours in winter. At the workshops in the forum, the participants discussed about the above theme. We obtained honest feedback by the participants at excursions of the forum. It is necessary to be prepared to walk on the snow, to help people who are unfamiliar with the snow, and to develop an emergency plan on the snow road. We should research what kind of people feel worthy of the snow, and how to convey the information to them. In this presentation, we will report the forum and discuss the tourism in winter.

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