

Nogawa River

A guide to observing creatures of the Nogawa River basin

There are various life forms such as fishes, birds, insects and flowers in Nogawa river and Hake-no-mori forests.

These pictures describe some of the various creatures that can be seen along the watersides, underwaters and in the forests of the river basin.



Observing aquatic lives

Underwater of the river, many creatures such as Loach, Japanese Rice Fish, Carp, Amur Catfish, Lake Prawn, and Soft-shelled Turtle can be seen. In spring-fed spots of that, you can see Lefua echigonia swimming and Japanese Freshwater Crab crawling in their cold clean streams.

Observing wild birds

Common Kingfisher, Nogawa's symbol can be seen frequently by the river. Other birds such as ducks and herons also can be watched along that. In Hake-no-mori forests,

Northern Goshawk and Ural Owl sometimes occur.



Observing insects **************

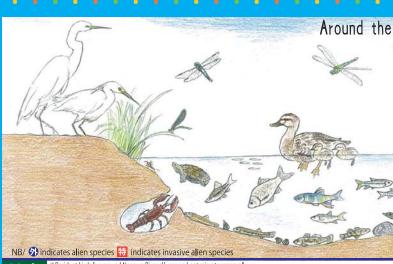
In Hake-no-mori forests, beetles, stag beetles and butterflies can be seen.

You can also see various of dragonflies flying in the daytime, and Japanese fireflies glowing in the night by the river.



Along Nogawa River, Southern Cattail Cumbungi and Common reed grass grow wild. Branched bur reed and Japanese Sweet Flag grow around the springs. In Hake-no-mori forests, wild flowers such as Red Heart Liliv and Soft Windflower grow among Sawtooth oak and other oak trees.





Birds **Green-winged Teal** Little Grebe Winter visitor • 37.5 cm

Spot-billed Duck

Resident • 60.5 cm



Yellow-tipped bill. Mothers often are with chicks from May to August.

Smallest in the ducks. Males have maroon heads and green patches around eyes.





Smaller than the ducks Dive frequently to catch small fish and insects.



Black bill, yellow feet. Drive fish out of muddy bottom with feet and catch with bill.

Insects

Ebony Jewelwing



Prefer the clean and gentle streams. Males' abdomens are green and glistening

March Bluetail

Apr. ~ Sep. • 30 ~ 35 mm



Common Skimmer

Mav ~ Nov. • 47 ~ 61 mm



Sections 8 and 9 of the abdomen of males are light blue. Two types of Females with two different called light blue in two different "Mugiwara-Tonho" Seen around the waterside. Seen around the waterside. Wide wings and reddish brown in the control of the control

Wandering Glider lun ~ Oct • 44 ~ 54 mm



Fish Riverbottom fish Japanese Striped Loach



Prefer muddy riverbeds. With a elongated body, 10 whiskers.

· About 10 cm

Prefer gravel riverbeds. Line of black dots run on both body sides. 6 whiskers and a square tail fin.



With spots on a body and fins, 2 whiskers, and a long-sharp mouth. Prefer gravel riverbeds.

Dark Chub · About 15 cm

Similar to Pale Chub, but front edge of a dorsal fin is red. Indigo lines on both body sides.

With a small dorsal fin, and 4 whiskers (2 of which are very long). Nocturnal.

Tamoroko · About8 cm

Blurry lines on both body sides, and

Lefua echigonia · About 6 cm

Prefer cold spring waters. A short, thick body and a flat head, and 8 whiskers.

Swimming fish Japanese Rice Fish



Big eyes, and a long wide anal fin.

Stone Moroko · About 8 cm



Mouth is pointed and faces up. Noticeable black lines on both body sides

Around the upstream waterside pring-fed area There are many springs upstream of Nogawa River. The volume of its water is less than that of downstream, and its depth is shallow. Because of cold and clear waters from springs, the creatures that prefer its conditions can be seen a lot in the upstream. **Descriptions of waterside creatures**



The black bill in summer turns to yellow in winter. Right side is a Little Egret in the picture.

Grey Heron



Largest heron in Japan. Semi-nocturnal and often rest

Night Heron



Nocturnal, stay still during the day. Fly to feeding grounds in

Common Kingfisher



Called "waterside gems". Dive into the water to catch

Great Cormorant



Dive for fish to eat. Got soaked after diving, spread

Common Moorhen



Yellow-green legs with long toes. Vigilant, and often hide into waterside grasses.

Common Sandpiper



Wagging tail, Walk along watersides and catch aquatic insects etc

Common Snipe

Stick long bill into muddy grounds and catch insects and

Lesser Emperor

Mav ~ Oct. • 65 ~ 84 mm



Males' abdomen joint are blue colors and females' are

Golden-ringed Dragonfly Jun. ~ Oct. • 82 ~ 114 m



Largest dragonflys in Japan. The larvae live in spring

Autumn Darter



to mountains in summer and

Banded Darter



Japanese Firefly ~ Jul. • 15



Eating freshwater snails, Larvae (Pic.R) grow up in spring waters June is a emergence season, and adults glow for breeding.

Crustaceans

Plants



No bearded seeds called 'nogi " at ears tips.

· About 5 cm

Lake Prawn

Common Reed Grass

· Bloom Aug. ~ Sep. · Perennial



Growing on riverbanks. About 2 to 3 meters high

Branched Bur-reed

Growing along the streams from springs of Nogawa River. Japanese Freshwater Crab

Goby · About 10 cm

Two dorsal fins, and a black dot on trailing edge of first dorsal fin.

Japanese Silver Crucian Carp

No whiskers. The first spine of a dorsal fin

Amur Minnow

Black lines on both body sides

Black tail base, similar to Goby. No black dots on both dorsal fins.

Carp ⋅ 40 ~ 80 cm

Floating Goby · About 8 cm Freshwater Goby · About 6 cm





Green and pink patterns on both body



Prefer more stagnate and deeper waters than crucian carp habitats. 4 whiskers.



With red coloration around eyes Covered by mucus, body surface is slimy. Blue lines run on both body sides

Pale Chub · About 15 cm

sides. An anal fin extends backwards



An adipose fin between dorsal and tail fins. Eat diatoms on stones in riverbeds



4

Corbicula fluminea · About 2 cm

resistant to dirty waters

Sinistral shell.

Live in the submerged grasses at waters' edges.

Clear streaks.

About 3 cm

Thiaridal Snail

Resembling "Masijimi" clam in Japan(corbicula leana), but with

a deep purple inner surface. Lurk in sand. Not suited to eat much.

Live around the foot of large stones in river pools.

Known as bait

Prefer relatively

for Japanese

Omnivorous and resistant to dirty waters. Amphibians

Red Swamp Crayfish

♠ About 10 cm

Rare in Nogawa River. Main

habitats are spring-fed areas

Japanese Common Toad

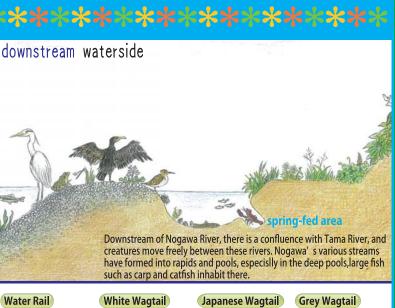
Japanese Tree Frog Release poisor from skin surface to · About 3 cm protect from

Often lay eggs in paddy fields. Japanese Brown Frog American Bullfrog



12 ~ 20 cm

creatures greedily. Voice is similar to





· Resident · 21 cm



Echinochloa crus-galli var. echinata

Bloom Aug. ~ Oct. • Annual

Aquatic insects

Water Strider



Japanese Sweet Flag

Bloom Apr. ~ May • Perennial

White eyebrows on a black face. Call a guttural voice "jiji-jiji".

· Resident · 20 cm



Behave the same as White Wagtail. Underparts are yellow.

Bur Cucumber

· Bloom Aug. ~ Sep. · Annual

Oriental Turtle Dove





Fierce despite little- bird appearance. Catch animals such as lizards and insects,etc. Call a voice "de-de-poppo" Always act alone or two.

Hawfinch

Winter visitor • 18 cm



Often act alone in bushes. Appear Short tail and thick beak at the edges of bushes or on tree Crack hard seeds and eat Crack hard seeds and eat the inside with powerful beak

Barn Swallow

Summer visitor • 17 cr

Call a clear voice "kaah-kaah". Often make a mess of garbage

areas for food

Jungle Crow

low altitude, it will rain. Often

Northern Goshawk

Calling a harsh voice "gaa-gaa", bow head at the same time.

Carrion Crow

Around the



Roosting on the trees near rivers or in large parks, hunt small or medium-sized birds, sometimes prey large-sized.

Pressing brown spiked seedpods, the seeds rush out Japanese Mitten Crab

Occur in waterside grassland. Very vigilant, and run into bushes immediately.

Southern Cattail Cumbungi

Bloom lun ∼ lul • Perennial



· Shell-width 7 or Feature hairy claws. Metrocoris histrio

spring-fed areas.

Reptiles

Feature a soft

muddy bottoms

shell Prefer

Soft-shelled Turtle

Agabus



Using hind limbs with brush-like hairs, swim well.

• About 15mm Seem to be four legged, but have short forelimbs, total six.

Water Scorpion

Baetis nymph

Tips of ears have hairs. Growing Growing in clusters in spring-fed Growing thick on riverbeds. in the watersides and wetlands.



Catch preys with sickle-like forelimbs and suck body fluids.

About 10mm

Build nests with small stones. Prefer clean waters.

(Bank nymph)

Stenopsyche marmorata nymph



· About 40mm Build nests by combining various sized stones with strings. stones under water.

$15 \sim 20 \text{ cm}$

Birds

Bull-headed Shrike

Black-faced Bunting

Winter visitor • 16 cm

Japanese Grass Lizard

branches in early spring.

Reptiles



Often bask in the sun on river

Japanese Rat Snake



Japanese largest snake. No poison, but thoughtless grabbing causes being bitten.

Insects

Large Cuckoo Wasp Jun. ~ Oct. • 12 ~ 20 mm



Beautiful blue-green and purple colored. Lay eggs in the nests of other wasps

Common Grass Yellow

Mar. ~ Nov • 20 ~ 25 mm



Overwinter in adult state. Since begin to act in early spring, noticeable in solitary fields.

Indian Fritillary

Apr. ~ Dec. • 30 ~ 40 mm



Females have black forewings. Larvae feed on violets.

Anthoharis Scolymus

Mar. ~ May • 20 ~ 30 mm



Camouflage patterns on under side of wings. Males' forewings have yellow tips.

Larvae feed on grasses and sedges, and adults gather in tree saps.

Small Copper

Jun. ~ Sep. • 15 ~ 18 mm



Japanese Dock. Adults fly just like leaping up among grasses.

Chinese Bushbrown

May ~ Sep. • 20 ~ 26 mm



Chinese Pond Turtle



smell, called in Japan "Kusa-game means "smelly turtle".

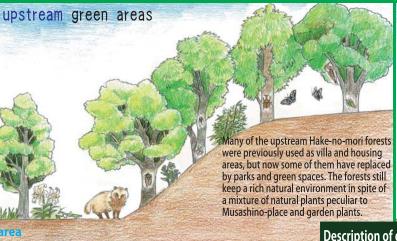


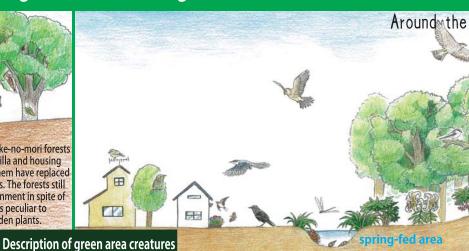
Often sunbathe on stones

Red-eared Slider



❖❖❖❖❖ Creatures live in the green areas of Nogawa River ❖❖❖❖❖❖❖❖❖❖





Azure-winged Magpie

A type of crow. With a long tail, a black head and beautiful blue

Brown-eared Bulbul · Resident · 27.5 cm



Call a big voice "piyo-piyo". Often appear amomg the trees alongside streets.

Gray Starling



In autumn and winter, often make big flocks and fly to

Great Tit



Look like wearing a tie, from throat to belly. Males have thicker ties than females'

Japanese White-eye



Noticeable white eye-ring. Suck nectar from blossoms

Oriental Greenfinch



Flock to feed on rapeseeds, etc. While flying, the yellow parts of wings stand out.

Japanese Pygmy Woodpecker



Smallest Japanese woodpecker. Peck into dead Large woodpecker endemic to Japan. Peck into live trees and trees and make nests





Often Hovering in the sky to look for preys on the grounds.

Ural Owl



full use of keen hearing, hunt

Hestina Persimilis Japonica

Plants



Carolina Horsenettle



Vines can be used as materials Many sharp thorns and poisonous Japanese name "Yugesho" is named for making baskets, and so on whole body. Harmful grass.

Rose Evening Primrose



Narrow-leaved Vetch



turn to black after getting ripe

Corydalis Incisa

· Bloom Apr. ~ Sep. · Perennial

Grow in shade places

Jewel Beetle

Ladies' Tresses

Japanese Green Woodpecker

moist sunny

Short-tailed Blue



With protrusions like a swallow tail on rearwings.
Prefer legume grasslands.









Hackberry. Overwinter under

fallen leaves in larva state

Common Bluebottle(left side), Asian Swallowtail(center), Old World Swallowtail(right coner). After sudden shower in summer days, air temperature rises, and swallowtails come to suck water.

Chinese Peacock Apr. ~ Sep. • 45 ~ 70 mm



upper-rearwings. In spring, visit azalea flowers, etc.

Old World Swallowtail







one on back, not a juvenile

Oriental Longheaded Locust





A female often carries smaller

Japanese Giant Mantis

Aug. ~ Nov. • 70 ~ 95 mm





Rice Grasshopper

Aug. ~ Nov. • 33 ~ 44 mm



Live in rice-field areas. Black lines on both body sides

Large Brown Cicada





Brown mottled patterns on

Emma Field Cricket

~ Nov. • 26 ~ 34 mm



Japanese largest cricket.

Meimuna opalifera

iul. ~ Oct. • 40 ~ 47 mm



Adults appear from July. Emerging more head for autumn, buzzings increase at the same time.

For brilliant color, Likened to gem. Occur rarely in Hake-no -mori forests.

Asian Lady Beetle Seven-spotted Lady Beetle

~ Nov. • 4.7 ~ 8.2 mm • Mar



Rubbing wings together, make a sound "koro-koro". Patches on back vary in size, in color or in number individually.



7 spots on back.Natural enemy of Aphid.





Long antannae on head and light yellow spots on back.

Beetle

Jun. ∼ Aug. • 32 ∼ 53 mm



other oak trees for sap



Little Stag Beetle

~ Sep. • 17 ∼ 54 mm



Hide in foot of trees and in soil during the day. Begin to act Often rest high in trees. during the day. Begin to act after dark.



Beautiful adult. Suck necter from Also called "Ushi-zura-higenaga" nuts or fruits , including Jolcham weevil, means cow-face like. Swarm Oak, and Japanese Snowbell.

Sawtooth Stag Beetle

• Jun. ∼ Sep. • 39 ∼ 71 mm





Dextral shell. Most have clear lines on shells.

Mammals

Japanese Raccoon Dog



Mainly active at night. Omnivore and eat just about anything.