

Tree Trust – Get involved!

Concept of the Tree Trust Movement

The Japanese government and the local government of Aichi prefecture are promoting the construction of the Shitara dam in the upstream of the Toyo River (the Kansa River). It is an unprecedented plan because the total reservoir storage (98 million m³) with the unspecified capacity of 60 million m³. Water is sufficient and the dam will hardly be useful for flood protection. Why are huge sums of tax money going to be spent on the construction of the dam? The government says “There is little water in rivers because too much water was used in past developments. We should reserve water in a dam to provide water when it is scarce.” The government also expresses this is “an environment-friendly way of constructing a dam to maintain the proper function of water flowing.”

The construction of the Shitara dam will affect territories of mountain hawk-eagles and destroy the limpid stream of the Kansa River which is a famous spot for fishing ayu and trout. The Kansa River is also a habitat of many wild lives including endangered species such as crested kingfishers, brown dippers, kajika frogs, nekogigi (stumpy bagrid catfish) and kajika. It is easy to imagine that the dead river will damage the sea (the Mikawa Bay).

Shitara has to pay a price; 120 houses are going to be sunk under the water or to be relocated and many residents are worried about landslides and earthquakes caused by the dam construction. We started the tree trust movement to stop the ‘wag-the dog’ construction of the Shitara dam and to protect rich nature of watersheds of the Kansa / Toyo River and leave it to our descendants.

Buy a tree and express “No dams destroying the nature.”

Kazuo Ichino

Civil Organization against the Shitara-dam Construction



The upper stream of the Toyo River to be sunk into the dam



We welcome civil organizations which accept the concept of our tree trust movement and support us by advertising this movement. Please e-mail our office (okumiya@xj.commuja.jp) if you can link the web site of our organization from yours. We will put the name of your organization our web site.