

Revised Plan for Mt. Yuwandake National Wildlife Protection Area (Excerpt)

November 1, 2005

The Ministry of the Environment

1. Guidelines

(1) Name of the National Wildlife Protection Area

Mt. Yuwandake National Wildlife Protection Area

(2) Area comprising the National Wildlife Protection Area

As shown in the figure 5-1-3 in the nomination documents

(3) Duration as the National Wildlife Protection Area

From November 1, 2005 to October 31, 2025 (20 years)

(4) Guidelines concerning protection in the National Wildlife Protection Area

(i) Designation category for the National Wildlife Protection Area

Habitat for threatened wildlife

(ii) Purpose for designation as the National Wildlife Protection Area

Amami-Oshima Island lies 300 km south of Sata Cape, Kagoshima Prefecture. Measuring 719 km² in area, Amami-Oshima Island is, after Okinawa Island, the second largest of the Nansei Islands. The Mt. Yuwandake Wildlife Protection Area lies in a central mountainous area at altitudes of 230 m to 694 m, centering on Mt. Yuwandake, the island's highest peak. The central mountainous area is dominated by evergreen broad-leaved forest, including *Castanopsis sieboldii*, *Quercus miyagii*, *Machilus thunbergii*, and *Distylium racemosum*. The island is known to have been isolated from the continent relatively early, some 1 million to 1.5 million years ago.

Reflecting the island's natural environment and geological history, several birds listed in the *Threatened Wildlife of Japan - Red Data Book 2nd ed. - Volume 2, Aves* (edited by the Ministry of the Environment) have been confirmed to live here, including the Amami thrush (*Zoothera dauma major*; CR), the Amami woodcock (*Scolopax mira*; EN), the white-backed woodpecker (*Dendrocopos leucotos owstoni*; EN), the

Japanese pygmy woodpecker (*Dendrocopos kizuki amamii*; VU), the ashy minivet (*Pericrocotus divaricatus*; VU), the Ryukyu robin (*Luscinia komadori*; VU), and the Amami jay (*Garrulus lidthi*; VU). Mammals included in the *Threatened Wildlife of Japan - Red Data Book 2nd ed. - Volume 1, Mammalia* (edited by the Ministry of the Environment) have also been confirmed to live on the island, including the Yanbaru whiskered bat (*Myotis yanbarensis*; CR), the Amami rabbit (*Pentalagus furnessi*; EN), the Ryukyu long-haired rat (*Diplothrix legata*; EN), and the Ryukyu tube-nosed bat (*Murina ryukyuna*; EN).

This area serves as habitat and feeding grounds for various wildlife species, including the threatened species. For this reason, it is recognized as a protected area for threatened wildlife habitat and designated a National Wildlife Protection Area, as defined under Article 28 (1) of the Wildlife Protection and Proper Hunting Act, for the purpose of protecting threatened wildlife species.

Management policies

- Gather information on the status of wildlife in the area concerned, based on bird and mammal monitoring surveys.
- Prevent the population impact of road kills through on-site patrols and coordinated action with local governments, relevant organizations, and local residents, including efforts to raise public awareness.

2. Reason for update

The current population and distribution status of species including the Amami rabbit, Amami woodcock, Amami thrush, white-backed woodpecker, Amami jay, and Ryukyu robin merit continuing protection. (All are National Endangered Species, as defined under the Act on Conservation of Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora.)

3. The land (by land-use) and water surface area of the National Wildlife Protection Area

Total area: 320 ha

Breakdown

A. Breakdown according to land-use type

Forest: 318 ha

Agricultural land: 2 ha Amami Forest Polis

Water surface: - ha

Other: - ha