

**Minutes of the 4th Nature Conservation Review Committee Meeting Focusing on Birds of Prey
and Forests Concerning New Test Course Development by Honda Motor**

1	Date and Time
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15:30 ~ 18:00 August 8, 2007 Wednesday

2	Venue
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Hotel New Itaya Meeting room

3	Attendees
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5 committee members:

Chair, Tatsuhiro Ohkubo —— Professor of Faculty of Agriculture, Utsunomiya University

Member, Koichi Endo —— Assistant District Leader of Tochigi Branch of the Wild Bird
Society of Japan

Member, Kazumi Suemoto —— Researcher, Natural History Research

Member, Mitsutake Hayashi —— Chief Researcher, Tochigi Prefectural Museum

Member, Takashi Matsuda —— Vice President, Nature Conservation Group of Ujiie

18 organizing members

4	Agenda
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1 Confirmation of the minutes of the 3rd meeting

2 New R&D Center: Report/discussion on the Environment Conservation Plan

3 New Test Course: Report/discussion on the results of site inspection and the Environment
Conservation Policy

4 Wide area inspection: Report/discussion on the results of site inspection and the
Environment Conservation Action Policy

5 Other

(1) Website

(2) Schedule for the next review meeting

Agenda

1 Confirmation of the minutes of the 3rd meeting

The organizer reported on the minutes of the 3rd meeting. Members exchanged views as follows:

- Members requested that the expression used in the wide area inspection be reviewed later.
(Item 3 on page 2 of the summary of the minutes in the document 1-1)
→ The organizer acknowledged the above. The audiotape will be checked.

2 New R&D Center: Report/discussion on the Environment Conservation Plan

The organizer reported on the Environment Conservation Plan for the R&D Center and the current status. Members exchanged views as follows:

- The Environment Conservation Plan which was submitted to the prefectural office should be elaborated before actually implemented. Further elaboration of the plan is important and should be mentioned in the plan document.
→ The organizer acknowledged the above, which will be explicitly mentioned in the plan.
- Since the marsh is provided as compensation for the R&D center, priority is given to creating a habitat for plants and animals which would be lost when R&D center is constructed. Animals and plants whose habitation has not been confirmed in the site, such as fireflies, should not be migrated to the marsh in the first place. Doing so would compromise the integrity of the preservation plan that has selected the species to be preserved on a step-by-step basis.
→ The organizer acknowledged the above. The plants and animals which currently inhabit the site will be dealt with. The treatment of fireflies, whose habitation in the test course site has been confirmed, will be investigated by the organizer.
- The *kinbuna* goldfish (*Carassius auratus*) was selected as a species to be preserved. However it is not certain whether efforts have been made so far to preserve this species in Tochigi Prefecture either. Their preservation involves some difficult-to-implement technical matters such as creation of the habitat environment and protection from foreign fish. The matter should be dealt assuredly.
→ The organizer will consider the matter from various viewpoints and, therefore,

welcomes any input.

3 New Test Course: Report/discussion on the results of the site inspection, and on the Environment Conservation Policy

The organizer reported on the results of inspection of the new Test Course and the Environment Conservation Policy. Members exchanged views as follows:

- Protection of environment during excavation and construction is a matter of course. But what will be done afterwards is more important. The woods that have survived excavation, the biotope which will be developed after excavation and the wide area for preservation need to be controlled in an appropriate manner. The conservation plan is expected to be carried out factoring in the system to control these things appropriately.
 - The organizer stated that this issue would be fully studied and discussed.
- When will the test course Environment Conservation Plan be studied in detail?
 - The organizer said that this issue will be sorted out by the next meeting in October and discussed at the meeting.
- Some habitats of amphibians and fish would be completely lost. Even if their habitat is created somewhere else as compensation, preserving their habitat environment will be a difficult task unless their indigenous population is present. Transfer of their population from the current habitat needs to be investigated.
 - The organizer said that the species, whether they need to be migrated or not, will be explicitly mentioned in the preliminary document. The timing of their migration will be studied for each species at the most suitable time by next spring.

4 Wide area inspection: Report/discussion on the results of site inspection and the Environment Conservation Action Policy

The organizer reported on the results of inspection of the wide area, and on the Environment Conservation Action Policy. Members exchanged views as follows:

- By when and how will an action policy draft be made?
 - The organizer said that nothing was firm yet and that the matter will be placed under discussion.

- Is it necessary to narrow down the areas of focus?
 - The organizer said that it would be necessary and that the means and details of preservation would be studied and then mentioned in the preliminary document.