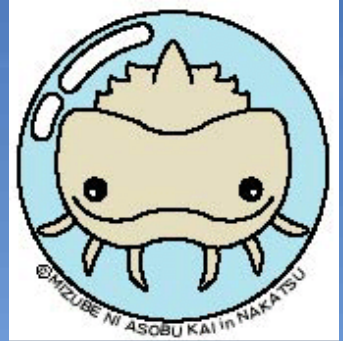


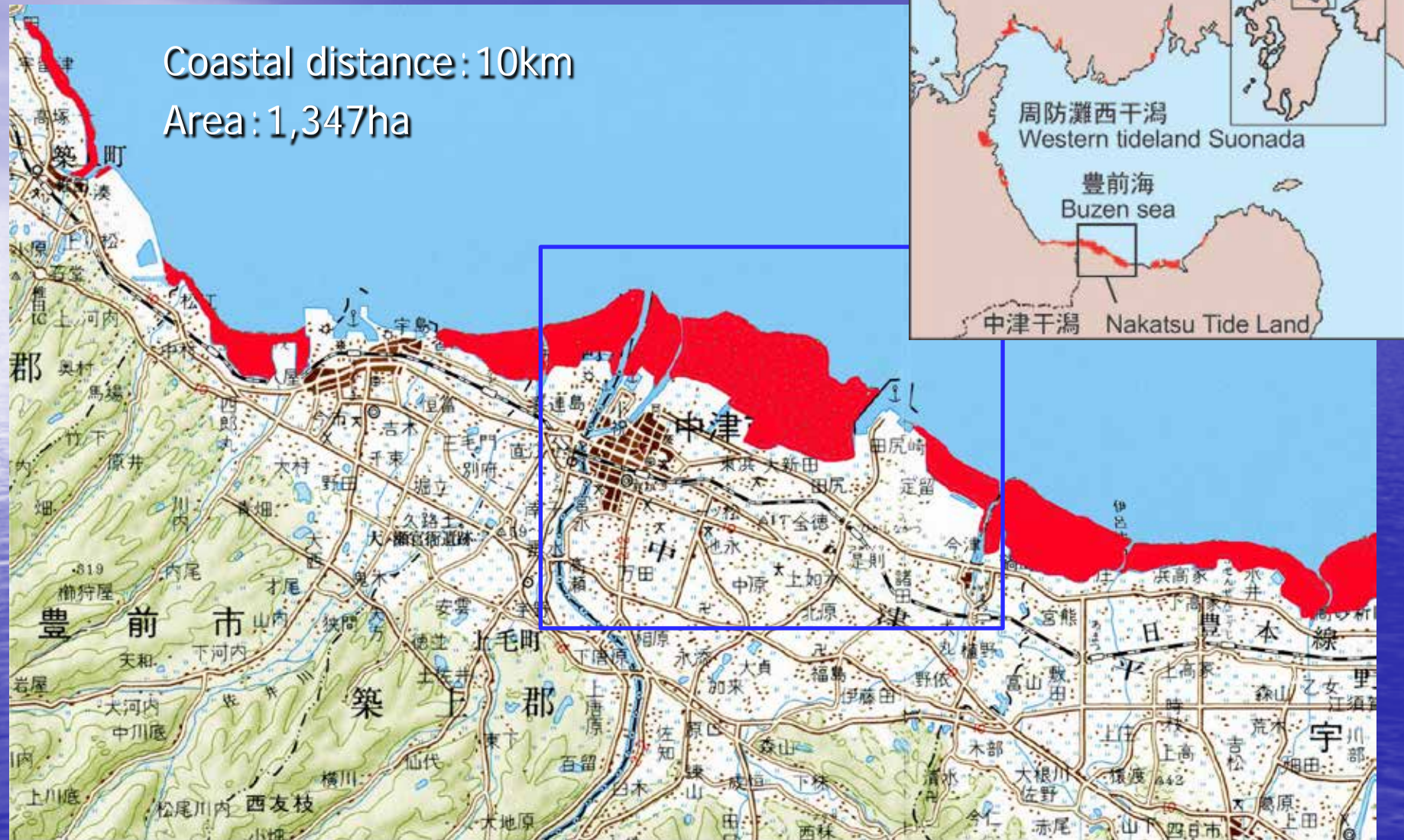
# A NWCA Activities in the Nakatsu Tidal Flat



**NPO Nakatsu Waterfront Conservation Association**



# The Nakatsu Tidal Flat



The Nakatsu Tidal Flat is a part of an extensive tidal flat which expands from Buzen City in Fukuoka prefecture to the Kunisaki peninsular in Oita prefecture. At the lowest tide, it extends up to three kilometers off the coast and is one of the best preserved, largest, and richest tidal flats in Japan.



# Biodiversity

The Nakatsu Tidal Flat has the rich environment which we have been losing over Japan, and various kinds of creatures inhabit there. The Nakatsu Tidal Flat is the place in where the biodiversity exists.

Through our researches, we found that about 35% of the creatures identified in the Nakatsu Tidal Flat are rare species.



# Horseshoe crab



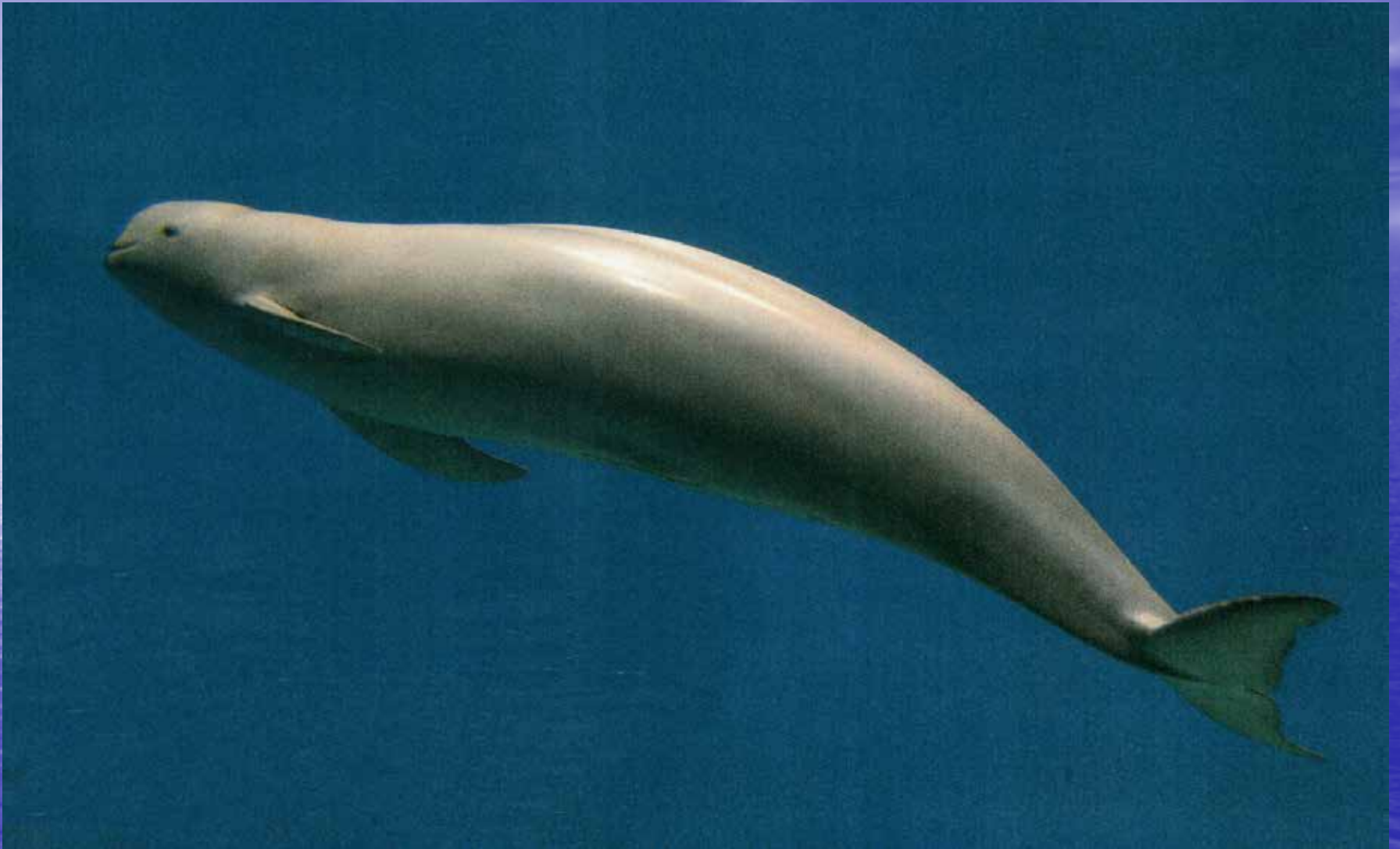




"Aogisu" *Sillago parvisquamis*



Saunders' gull



Finless Porpoise

Photo by UMITAMAGO



# The Monitoring

Monitoring the tidal flat is our main activity and usually the local citizens, especially children, join our monitoring. For most of them, the muddy tidal flat is a brand new world so at first they are hesitant to step into it. However, after a few minutes they find themselves having fun in such a lively field with lots of creatures. The tidal flat is full of excitement that you can't experience in your daily life.





# The promotion activities

We organize environmental learning activities all over northern Kyushu to let people know about the Nakatsu Tidal Flat and the sea. Horseshores are the most popular creatures in the tidal flat, but you can find many more amazing creatures there.







# Learning programs about rivers and forests

We offer some programs for learning that mountains, rivers and the sea are closely connected in nature.





# The survey and research



Our research team consists of civic volunteers. Twelve years have passed since we started our survey and research of the Nakatsu Tidal Flat under the guidance of professional biologists and engineers of coastal engineering. Thanks to the team, several unknown creatures have been discovered and this made the Nakatsu Tidal Flat famous all over Japan.



# The marine litter

We believe that just picking up the litter is not good enough to conserve the sea and for this reason we began to both clean and research the marine litter. We organize these activities four times a year. Through those, we hope that people will become more aware of the sea's dire situation and reconsider the way they live.





# The historical research

We have realized that there are few historical records of fishing and classic events or customs related to the sea and the beach in Nakatsu city. For that reason, we have been gathering information from the elders. Photos, stories, and materials such as hand-made fishing tackle from the local citizens are important documents to pass down to the next generation.





## The cooperation with the local fishermen

It is the local fishermen who know about the sea the most, and so in order to learn from them we began to join in their fishing activities. We try to give local citizens the opportunity to experience it, too. Knowing about the Nakatsu inshore fishery is a key to promote its conservation.



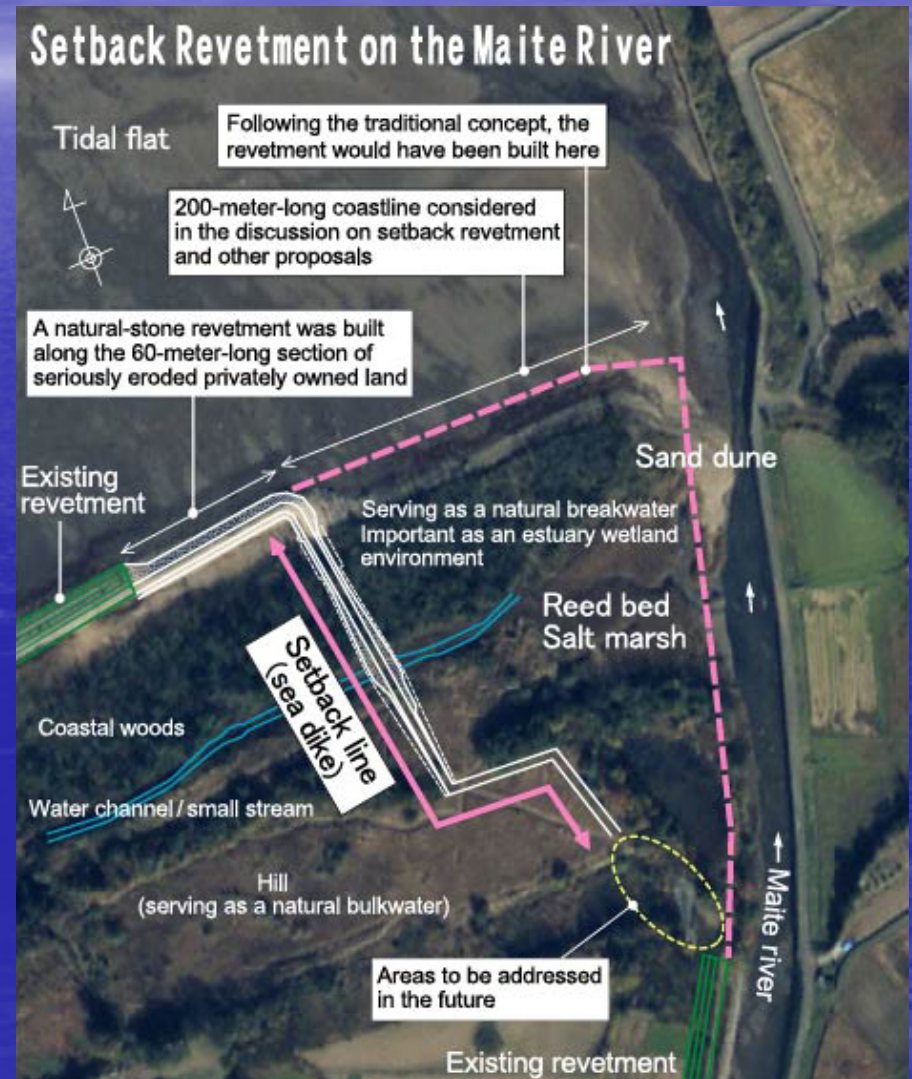


# A museum on the web; The NWCA Museum

We created a museum named 'The Nakatsu Waterfront Conservation Association Museum' on the web as a place to send and share the information we have gathered. Another way we share information is through newsletters which we publish and mail four times a year.



# Providing assistance and proposals to environmental projects







Thank you.