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ONLINE ISSN: 1882-4897 PRINT ISSN: 0021-5104

Japanese Journal of Limnology (Rikusuigaku Zasshi)

Vol. 67 (2006), No. 2 pp.113-121

[PDF (560K)] [References]

Horizontal distribution and natural resource of seagrass in brackish Lake Obuchi, Aomori Prefecture, Japan

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(Received December 10, 2005) (Accepted April 17, 2006)

Abstract

The horizontal distribution and quantity of natural resources of seagrass (*Zostera marina* and *Zostera japonica*) in brackish Lake Obuchi, located in the center of the Shimokita Peninsula in Aomori Prefecture, were observed by image analysis of an aerial photograph and aqualung diving from June 2004 to April 2005. Distributed water depth of *Zostera marina* and *Zostera japonica* were approximately 1-1.5 m and < 0.5 m, respectively. Total area of seagrass in the lake was approximately 0.08 km², which the corresponding area to 2 % of the surface area of the lake. Maximum and minimum values of total quantity of natural resources (a leaf and root parts) of seagrass in the lake were showed approximately 72 t (June) and 22 t (April), respectively. The total quantity of natural resources of seagrass in this work was approximately similar to that of approximately 30-40 years ago.

Key Words: <u>brackish Lake Obuchi</u>, <u>seagrass</u>, <u>Zostera marina</u>, <u>Zostera japonica</u>, <u>horizontal distribution</u>, <u>natural resource</u>

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To cite this article:

Shinji UEDA, Yuki CHIKUCHI and Kunio KONDO (2006): Horizontal distribution and natural resource of seagrass in brackish Lake Obuchi, Aomori Prefecture, Japan . Japanese Journal of Limnology (Rikusuigaku Zasshi), 67: 113-121 .

doi:10.3739/rikusui.67.113 JOI JST.JSTAGE/rikusui/67.113

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