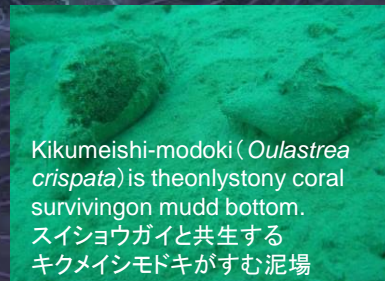


Henoko, Oura bay coral reef destruction for Futenma Base Relocation facilities



海の中に広がる草はら、海草藻場とそこにくらす貝



Kikumeishi-modoki (*Oulastrea crispata*) is the only stony coral surviving on muddy bottom. スイショウガイと共生するキクメイシモドキがすむ泥場



ハマサンゴの丘



テリビシのアオサンゴ群集 Blue Corals



日本でみられる6種すべてのクマノミもくらすしています。

● The new plan was to construct a military airport (U.S. Base) with two runways in a V-shape in Henoko and Oura Bays. Biodiversity-rich coral communities, sea grass beds, mangrove, tidal flat, muddy areas, sandy areas developed.

In 2012, the ODB (Okinawa Defense Bureau) released a Final Environmental Impact Statement (Final EIS), concluding that the FRF (the Futenma Replacement Facility) will have no significant impacts on the environment. The EIA has been heavily criticized by scientists, EIA experts, NGOs, and citizens.

In December 2013, Okinawa Governor Hirokazu Nakaima approved the permit for reclamation of the waters of Henoko and Oura Bay for the construction of the FRF.

On July 1, 2014, the ODB started the 'pre-survey' for the construction. So called 'pre-construction survey' already give damages to the environments.

A colony of blue coral was discovered only in 2007 (and in 2008 placed on the IUCN's "Red," or critically endangered, list).

There are continuing discoveries of new species, and the first recorded findings of certain species in Japan. Research in multiple fields has continued to discover new species, and to find the first appearance of certain species in Japan. Crustaceans: a mere 10-day survey (2008–2009) found 496 species of decapod crustaceans in 61 families and 241 genera, including at least 36 undescribed species and 25 species found in Japan for the first time (Fujita et al., 2009).

The construction process would require 21 million cubic metres of fill, of which 17 million cubic metres would be sea sand. That means a staggering 3.4 million dump truck loads of sand, more than 12 times the current volume of sand extracted in a year from throughout Okinawa. That alone, would mean significant damage to Okinawa's fragile land and sea environment.

Civic and international organizations protest the implausibility of the region's largest military base being imposed on an environment whose extraordinary biodiversity is only slowly being understood, and court actions challenging the project on environmental grounds are underway in both the US and Japan. It is as if the Grand Canyon were to be designated a military base, or in Australia, Kakadu.



Base bad news for dugong

OKINAWA, JAPAN | Land reclamation for a new U.S. Marine Corps air base may sound the death knell for the tiny population of Okinawa dugong, considered by Japan's environment ministry to be critically endangered. The base threatens two of the



region's remaining major beds of seagrass, which dugong depend on, says the Nature Conservation Society of Japan (NACS-J), which has petitioned U.S. Ambassador to Japan Caroline Kennedy for permission to conduct a survey. Worldwide, dugong populations have been decimated by hunting, habitat loss due to coastal development, and fishing by-catching. At most 10 of the marine mammals remain in Japan's southernmost prefecture, according to NACS-J. The controversy over the new base is just the latest twist in a protracted dispute over the U.S. military presence on Okinawa. <http://scim.ag/Okinawadugong>

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