

Promote Biodiversity Preservation Activities

■ Policies and Strategies

The Furukawa Company Group regards biodiversity protection as a key management issue. Based on our Biodiversity Action Guidelines established in 2012, we have been continuously evaluating the impact of our business activities on ecosystems and taking measures to minimize that impact.

 [Biodiversity Action Guidelines](#)

■ Metrics and Targets

FY2023 targets:

- Promote environmental protection through ongoing greening activities, forest management, etc.
- Promote ecosystem restoration activities on Company-owned land, former mine sites, etc.

FY2023 results:

- Held discussions with local forest owners' cooperatives about forest management
- Held Ashio Cherry Tree-Planting Drive and Furukawa-no-mori Tree-Planting Drive
- Continued firefly restoration activities in the Kune and Ashio areas
- Took steps to have property certified as a "Nationally Certified Sustainability Managed Natural Site" by the 30by30 Alliance

■ Initiatives

Activities Related to 30by30

At each of our production sites, we monitor surrounding areas and focus on various activities, such as site greening, protection of local rare species, and restoration of plants and animals through reforestation efforts. In addition, we collaborate with local forest owners' cooperatives to engage in various activities aimed at the healthy growth of Company-owned forests.

Rather than using introduced species, we select native species of local origin for our greening activities.

In the Matsuki Valley (Ashio-machi, Nikko City, Tochigi Prefecture), the formerly abundant nature is coming back. In the Ashio area, which includes the Matsuki Valley, investigations have revealed that the ecological pyramid is being reshaped, with birds of prey at the top, followed by mammals (such as Asian black bears and Japanese serows), birds, amphibians, and reptiles.

As a concrete initiative for ecosystem preservation, we have designated the site of our former Ashio Copper Mine (Ashio-machi, Nikko City, Tochigi Prefecture) as an area for proactive biodiversity activities. There, we are engaging in tree planting and ecosystem restoration and are taking action to be certified as a "Nationally Certified Sustainability Managed Natural Site" as we work to achieve the 30by30*1 goal.

Going forward, we will carry on with greening efforts not only in the Ashio area but also at Company-owned properties throughout Japan, furthering activities for the restoration and recovery of abundant ecosystems.

*1 30by30: A global goal aimed at halting and reversing biodiversity loss to achieve a "nature positive" outcome by 2030. The goal is to effectively conserve more than 30% of the earth's land and ocean areas as healthy ecosystems by 2030.



Former Ashio Copper Mine Site (Nikko, Tochigi Prefecture)

12th Ashio Cherry Tree-Planting Drive and Seventh Furukawa no-mori Tree-Planting Drive Held

The Furukawa Company Group formed the Ashio Cherry Tree-Planting Drive, which aims to plant 1,000 cherry tree saplings on Company-owned land in Ashio-machi (Nikko City, Tochigi Prefecture) as part of its own greening activities. Since the first event in March 2009, we have held tree-planting drives every year. In April 2024, we held our 12th tree-planting event, which was attended by 73 people, including Group employees and their families. This year, we planted 60 Somei-Yoshino cherry trees, bringing the total number of trees planted to date to 660. The amount of CO₂ absorbed by 660 cherry trees is approximately 33 t-CO₂/year, which is equivalent to that exhaled by roughly 90 people annually.

Also in April 2024, we held the seventh Furukawa-no-mori Tree-Planting Drive (organized by the Tochigi Furukawa Association*2) on Company-owned land in the Matsuki area of Ashio-machi. A total of 78 members from 19 Tochigi Furukawa Association member companies participated, planting 40 Somei-Yoshino cherry trees.

We will continue hosting both events in the future.

*2 Organization of companies in the Furukawa Company Group in Tochigi Prefecture



12th Ashio Cherry Tree-Planting Drive, held in April 2024



Ashio Cherry Tree-Planting Drive

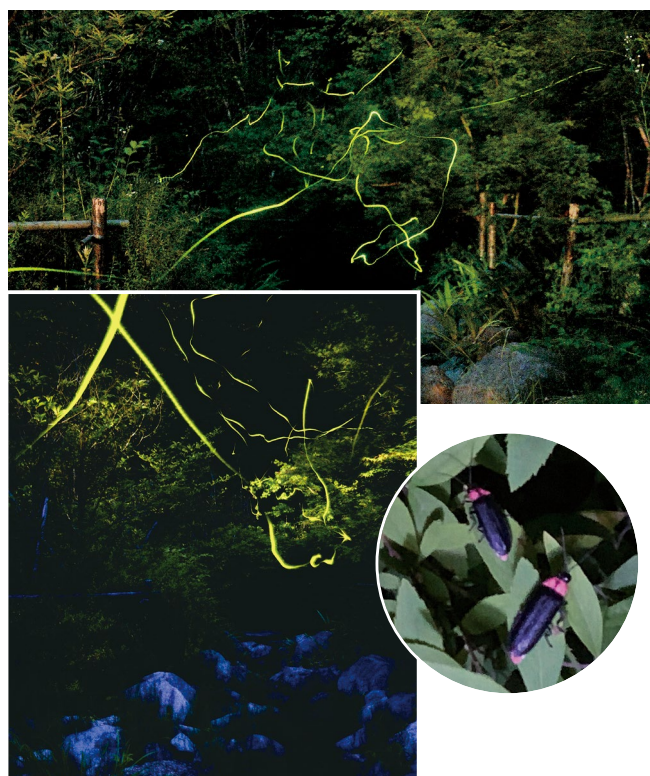
Firefly Restoration Activities

Fireflies are organisms that reflect environmental conditions, with their presence considered a sign of a healthy water environment. It is said that *Genji-Botaru* (*Luciola cruciata*) used to dance wildly at the former Kune Mine (Hamamatsu City, Shizuoka Prefecture), which, along with the Ashio Copper Mine once supported the copper-producing operations of Furukawa Co., Ltd. With the aim of restoring an environment where fireflies can live sustainably and leave it to the next generation, our Environmental & Safety Management Department has continued restoration activities at the former mine sites. As a result, the fireflies can now be seen dancing from late June to early July each year.

The Department also works with the Ashio Office to protect and restore other natural environment in the Ashio area, which is a habitat for such familiar creatures as fireflies, dragonflies, and beetles.

In fiscal 2021, we began firefly restoration activities at the former Ashio Copper Mine site (Nikko City, Tochigi Prefecture), and in fiscal 2022 we were able to confirm the existence of active fireflies. In fiscal 2024, many fireflies were seen flying around, attracting local residents who came to enjoy the viewing.

We will continue striving to restore the rich ecosystem and focus on preserving and regenerating environments where fireflies can flourish throughout their lives.



Light-trails of fireflies swarming around the biotope (on Company-owned property in Nikko City)

Continuous Mountain and Forest Management (Company-Owned Mountain Forestland)

Mountain forestland owned by the Company, totaling approximately 2,200 hectares nationwide, contributes to protection of biodiversity, securing water resources, and so on.

We carry out mountain and forest management in collaboration with local forest owners' cooperatives, systematically thinning, clearing undergrowth, trimming branches, and so on, for the sound development of the mountain forestland.

We are also engaged in discussions with the local forest owners' cooperative on the Onuma Mountain Forest (Toyone-mura, Kitashitara-gun, Aichi Prefecture) related to logging and new planting.

At the Kune Mountain Forest (Tenryu-ku, Hamamatsu City, Shizuoka Prefecture), we have a forest management contract with the local forest owners' cooperative to maintain and manage the forest.

In the Onuma Mountain Forest, there is an enormous Japanese horse chestnut tree (root circumference 15.3 m; diameter at breast height 7.48 m; height 32.5 m; branch length 46 m; estimated age of more than 500 years) that we have been carefully safeguarding for many years. In April 2008, the tree was designated a natural monument of Toyone-mura, Aichi Prefecture, and in July 2022, it was newly selected to be a designated cultural property (natural monument) of Aichi Prefecture.

In addition, we are continuously maintaining a Company-owned mountain forestland in the Ashio area of Nikko City, Tochigi Prefecture, and have started looking to create a policy for sustainable forest use with a focus on carbon neutrality.



Mountain forestland in Ashio-machi

Business Initiatives

As part of our efforts to reduce the environmental impact of business activities, we are taking specific measures, such as switching to LED lighting, introducing energy-efficient equipment, and installing new solar power systems to cut CO₂ emissions. We are also taking steps to conserve water resources by reusing water and reducing overall consumption. Furthermore, we are reviewing production processes and updating pollution control equipment to minimize the release of hazardous substances into the atmosphere and public waterways.

We also manufacture and sell various products that help protect the environment. These include chemical products, such as inorganic coagulants for water treatment (polyferric sulfate aqueous solution for sewage purification and aluminum sulfate for water supply purification).