

ひ ぼら こ
桧原湖

Lake Hibara



目の前にあるこの桧原湖は、誕生してから百数十年の新しい湖です。
1888(明治21)年7月15日に、水蒸気爆発による噴火で、磐梯火
山の山体の一つである小磐梯が崩壊し、岩のかたまりが北側に流
れ下りました。これを岩なだれ(岩屑なだれ)と言います。当時、磐
梯山の北側には多くの川や沢が流れていました(図1)が、岩なだれ
がこれらをせき止め、桧原湖をはじめとする300余りの湖沼が誕
生しました(図2)。

The lake here in front of you, Lake Hibara, is a new lake that was formed over 100 years ago. On July 15, 1888 (Meiji 21), Kobandai, one of the peaks of Mt. Bandai, erupted due to a phreatic explosion that caused the body of the mountain to collapse and flow down the north side. This collapse is known as a debris avalanche. At the time of the explosion, there were many rivers and streams flowing down the north side of Mt. Bandai (see Figure 1). However, the damming of these rivers and streams by the debris avalanche created approximately 300 lakes and marshes, including Lake Hibara (see Figure 2).



(図1) 北海道地図提供 (Figure 1)



(図2) 北海道地図提供 (Figure 2)

湖は一瞬にできたのではなく、少しずつ水位を増していったことが、
この噴火から1週間後の右下の写真からもわかります。この写真は
現在の雄子沢周辺で撮影されたもので、手前の山は京ヶ森です。

湖の手前側には多くの小島を見ることができますが、これらは
その時の噴火でできた流れ山という地形です。流れ山とは、崩壊
した山体のふもとに岩なだれが流れ下って堆積してできたもの
で、丸い小山のような形をしています。流れ山は、これらの小島
だけではなく、磐梯山の北側に数百ほど存在していますが、多く
は木々に覆われているため、ここから見つけることは難しいで
しょう。1950(昭和25)年、この美しい景観により磐梯山周辺地域
は国立公園の指定を受けました。

From this photo (shown on the right side of this panel) taken one week after the eruption, one can see that the lake was not created in a single instant; rather, the water surface elevation gradually increased over time. The photo was taken in the vicinity of what is presently the Oshizawa. The mountain in the foreground is Mt. Kyōgamori. Many small islands can be seen on this side of lake. These islands are actually geographical features known as flow mound, and were created by the eruption. Flow mounds are small rounded hills formed by a debris avalanche that flows down and accumulates at the foot of a collapsed mountain. These flow mounds can be found not only in the lake as these small islands, but also on the foot of Mt. Bandai. Hundreds of them still exist on the north side of the mountain. However, they are difficult to locate since many have been covered up by trees. Owing to the area's beautiful landscapes, it was designated as a national park in 1950 (Shōwa 25).



雄子沢周辺▲ (around Oshizawa) 遠藤陸郎撮影

