

Special Feature | Work for Biodiversity



NOF's initiatives to protect biodiversity

Our fundamental view

The NOF Group places great importance on proactively working to protect and restore biodiversity. To this end, we have adopted the following policies.

- In order to minimize the impact of our business activities on biodiversity, we conduct environmental impact assessments, identify risks, and implement countermeasures.
- We require our employees to comply with international guidelines, laws, and regulations related to biodiversity protection and to work for environmental conservation.
- We assess supply chain risks that may cause biodiversity loss and promote sustainable procurement through cooperation with our suppliers.
- We provide educational programs to raise environmental awareness and educate employees and relevant people on the importance of biodiversity protection.
- We cooperate with local communities to participate in local ecosystem protection activities and biodiversity restoration projects.

Through these initiatives, we will contribute to ensuring biodiversity and realize a more sustainable future.

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In addition to “forest planting” through creation of green areas alongside roads as well as thinning and pruning company-owned forests, we are implementing plans that contribute to biodiversity at our sites across Japan through protection activities mainly for endangered species, extermination of invasive non-native plants, and donation activities.

All plants



Recycling of plastic waste

Company-wide



Going paperless

Amagasaki



Introduction of alternative methods to animal testing in the evaluation of cosmetics materials (animal welfare)



Participation in “Amagasaki Forest Central Green Space Forest Planting” volunteer activities

Aichi



Taketo community tree planting festival (seedling purchase and sponsorship)



Weeding of the Designated Invasive Alien Species “lanceleaf tickseed”

Oita



Modal shifting

Bibai



Activities to protect Japanese swamp lantern clusters (HOKKAIDO NOF CORPORATION)

Kawagoe



Solar panels (NIGK Corporation)

Head Office



Donations aimed at protecting the global environment (WWF, Green Fund, Keidanren Nature Conservation Fund)



Use of FSC-certified paper



Green procurement



RSPO membership, participation in the Japan Business and Biodiversity Partnership, endorsement of the Keidanren Initiative for Biodiversity Conservation, participation in JaSPON and JaIME

Kawasaki



Purchase of electricity certified to come from non-fossil fuel sources



Food waste reduction (functional foods)



Modal shift, joint deliveries



Participation in the Kawasaki City Green Office Promotion Council Creation of rooftop greenery, green walls, and greenery on our grounds



Participation in the Forest Restoration Partner System (NOF METAL COATINGS ASIA PACIFIC CO., LTD.)

Spotlight on conservation initiatives

Participation in “Amagasaki Forest Central Green Space Forest Planting” volunteer activities (from 2017)

In fiscal 2022, a total of seven employees from the Amagasaki Plant participated in the “Amagasaki Forest Central Green Space Forest Planting,” one of the initiatives of the “Amagasaki 21st Century Forest Project” promoted by Hyogo Prefecture. Working together with general volunteers and the secretariat, the employees worked hard on tree planting and weeding. In addition to learning about the process of reforestation and the importance of biodiversity, they also experienced the satisfaction of nurturing rich natural forests.

Amagasaki



Participation in the Forest Restoration Partner System under the Kanagawa Forest Restoration 50-Year Project



NOF METAL COATINGS ASIA PACIFIC CO., LTD.

The Kanagawa Forest Restoration 50-Year Project is an initiative to revitalize forests measuring about 95,000 hectares, or about 40% of the prefecture's land, from the prefecture's Mount Oyama and Hakone mountains to forest land in satoyama areas and urban areas. The objective is to prevent the devastation and erosion caused by lack of care and to pass on the rich blessings of the forests to the next generation. NOF METAL COATINGS supports forest maintenance on an area of about 10 hectares (equivalent to about two Tokyo Domes). The forest areas absorb about 247 tons of CO₂ over 5 years. In addition, it has been decided to name a portion of the forest designated by the prefecture as “NOF METAL COATINGS Forest.” Going forward, as a partner company, we will conduct events for forest maintenance, nature observation, and more. The forest will be used as a place to promote health and deepen friendship with employees and their families, thereby contributing to the protection of nature and environmental preservation.

Weeding of specified invasive non-native plants

The perennial plant “lanceleaf tickseed,” a member of the Asteraceae family native to North America, was introduced from overseas as an ornamental and greening plant. However, in 2006 it was designated as a “Designated Invasive Alien Species” under the Act on the Prevention of Adverse Ecological Impacts Caused by Designated Invasive Alien Species because of its strong reproductive capacity and potential to seriously impact the ecosystem in Japan. Cultivation, transport, sale, and release into the wild are prohibited. Local governments throughout Japan are calling for extermination of lanceleaf tickseed through their websites and other means. At our Aichi Works, lanceleaf tickseed grows in various parts of the grounds, and has increased dramatically in recent years. Therefore, the entire plant is conducting extermination activities.

Activities to protect Japanese swamp lantern clusters



The Japanese swamp lantern, which is known in Japan from the children’s song “A Memory from Summer,” is an alpine plant that grows near water. On the grounds of the HOKKAIDO NOF CORPORATION Head Office plant (Bibai City, Hokkaido), which covers an area of about 43 hectares, or 9.2 times the size of the Tokyo Dome, there is a wetland where Japanese swamp lantern clusters grow as the sun filters through the trees. Surrounded by Japanese white birch and other trees and water, this rich ecosystem is carefully protected with the continuous observation of employees.



Head Office Use of FSC-certified paper

FSC certification is an international system that certifies “responsible forest management” for the purpose of sustainable forest utilization and conservation. NOF uses FSC-certified paper for its Integrated Report, notice of General Meeting of Shareholders, company profile, and internal newsletters, and cooperates in activities to protect forests.