B 裏磐梯湖沼群エリア

五色沼

Goshiki-numa Area

五色沼湖沼群は、桧原湖南岸から東に延びる3.6㎞の自然探勝路のまわりに点在する大小30余りの湖沼からなります。この探勝路では10数個の沼を観察できます。この湖沼群は、桧原湖などの湖と同じく、1888（明治21）年の噴火の際生じた岩なだれによるせき止めで誕生しました。

これらの沼の多くは、磐梯山の火口付近にある銅沼に端を発する地下水を水源としております。従って火山活動によって生じる硫化水素が多量に溶け込んでいる水により、水質が酸性となっている沼もいくつかあります。また、桧原湖からの水や磐梯山の深層地下水などが混入している湖沼もあり、沼ごとに異なる多様な水質となっています。

五色沼湖沼群は、その水質や生育植物により大きく4つに区分されます。ひとつは水質の酸性が強い銅沼系で、水の色が青く透明度が高い湖沼である、るり沼・青沼・弁天沼のグループです。湖底にウカミカマゴケなどのコケ類のマットが大きく発達しているのが、これらの湖沼の特徴です。

残りの湖沼は五色沼系と呼ばれ、生育する水草の種類により、赤沼グループ、毘沙門沼・竜沼・みどろ沼グループ、弥六沼・父沼・母沼・柳沼グループに分けられます。ここ毘沙門沼は五色沼最大の湖沼です。

The Goshiki-numa area of lakes and marshes is a group of over 30 various sized lakes and marshes dotting the area around the nature sightseeing trail extending from the southern bank of Lake Hibara, and stretching 3.6 kilometers to the east. Upwards of 10 ponds can be seen along this trail. This group of lakes and marshes were formed as a result of the damming action of the sediment which was displaced during the landslide which occurred as a result of the eruption of Mt. Bandai in 1888 (Meiji 21).

The water source for the majority of these swamps is the ground water which is issued from the edge of Akanuma—a swamp near the eruption crater. As a result of volcanic activity, a large amount of hydrogen sulfide is mixed in with the water, making the pH balance of several of the ponds and swamps acidic. In addition, there are some lakes and ponds comprised of a mix of water from both Lake Hibara and the groundwater of Mt. Bandai, giving each pond a different quality of water.

According to the water quality and the plant life found therein, this area of lakes and ponds can be divided into four sections. One group is composed of bodies of water containing a highly acidic pH balance such as Akanuma, and also those bodies of water whose color is blue and that possess a high level of transparency such as: Rurinuma, Aonuma, and Benten-numa. The special feature of these lakes and ponds is the different types of moss (such as *Drepanocladus fluitans*) found on their floors. The remaining lakes and ponds are split into either the Akanuma Group, Bishamonnuma-Tatsunuma-Midoronuma Group Group, or the Yarokunuma-Chichinuma-Hahanuma-Yanaginuma Group. Of the lakes and ponds in this area,Bishamon-numa is the biggest.

磐梯山ジオパーク協議会
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