

Publication of Toya Caldera and Usu Volcano Global Geopark Guide Series

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Toya Caldera was formed about 110 thousand years ago as source of large-scale pyroclastic flow. Nakajima volcano was grown at the center of the caldera about 50 thousand years ago. Ancestral Usu stratovolcano was born 20 thousand years ago at the southern rim of the caldera. Sector collapse occurred about 7 thousand years ago. Volcanic activity of Usu volcano resumed in 1663. Since then, at least 9 explosive eruption occurred with growth of lava domes and discharge of pyroclastic flows.

In August 2009, Toya Caldera and Usu Volcano Geopark was designated as a member of Global Geopark Network. Major attractions of this geopark are landforms to learn a dynamic Earth process especially related to volcanism as well as hazardous volcanic phenomena.

We are the authors and technical editors of Toya Caldera and Usu Volcano Global Geopark Guide Series. Since 2009, this series has been published by Toya Caldera and Usu Volcano Global Geopark Council as official guidebooks. Japanese version consisting of 8 volumes has completed in 2013. Each volume is 32 pages handy booklet including full-color photographs and explanation texts of each geosites. Volume 0 provide a brief introduction of the entire geopark. Volume 1 through 7 give detailed explanation of geosites and geopoints. Publication of English version has started since 2011, and currently 3 volumes are available. Listed price is 200 yen plus sales tax each. These guidebooks are on sale at major exhibition facilities in the geopark as well as some hotels. Also available at some retail shops within the geopark.