

MONITORING AT THE NAGARAGAWA ESTUARY BARRAGE

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From the viewpoint of an administrative organization, this report briefly describes the monitoring that has been continued for ten years from 1995 to 2004 for the management of the Nagaragawa Estuary Barrage, including the environmental studies conducted by MOC and WARDEC (1995) before the barrage construction. The monitoring has been conducted by the Ministry of Construction (now the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure and Transport) and Water Resources Development Public Corporation (now Japan Water Agency) while the estuary barrage is in operation. 1995

MOC and WARDEC (1995–1999) performed the post-construction monitoring under the guidance of the Nagaragawa Estuary Barrage Monitoring Committee and its successor, the Chubu Region Dam Management Follow-up Committee (Dam Subcommittee). Monitoring results are published in the form of annual reports. The monitoring covers major categories such as fauna and water-edge flora including DO, BOD, salt content, water temperature, chlorophyll-a, bottom sediment, fish species, benthic fish species, shellfish species, reed fields, animals and water-edge plants.

MLIT and JWA (2004) summarized the monitoring for 10 years after the Nagara Estuary Barrage entered into operation. The Nagaragawa Estuary Barrage has contributed to flood damage mitigation and water utilization functions effectively. The environment influenced by barrage operation can be deemed to have stabilized and we experienced no severe adverse influence on conservation of environment. It has been decided, therefore, that in the coming years, most of the information on the special monitoring items including the conditions of reeds should be collected through surveys designed to collect basic river environment information, which will be beneficial for other rivers. It has also been decided to conduct deliberations at the committee level, instead of at the working group level (at the barrage working group formed in the Follow-up Committee), as with matters related to other in-service dams.

Monitoring results are being reflected in the management of the lower reaches of the Nagara River. The Ministry of Construction (now the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure and Transport) and Water Resources Development Public Corporation (now Japan Water Agency) decided to continue the monitoring in 2005. A new series of follow-up

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monitoring is already underway under the guidance of the Chubu Region Dam Management Follow-up Committee.

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