

## Ogasawara Islands World Natural Heritage Scientific Council Meeting, FY2017 Summary of Results (Advice from the Scientific Council)

The following advice was given to the management authorities in the meeting of the Ogasawara Islands World Natural Heritage Scientific Council for the Fiscal Year 2017, which was held on 26 December 2017.

### Agenda Item 1: Addressing the Decision of the World Heritage Committee

#### (1) Request (a): Efforts to address invasive alien species

- Measures to address feral goats on Chichijima Island should be systematically implemented, aiming at their eradication. The anticipated increase of alien plants, which may occur in the process of their implementation, should be adaptively managed in cooperation with related bodies. The explanation should be given to villagers before implementation. The Scientific Council is to set out principles for vegetation restoration.
- Measures to address rats on the Mukojima Island Group should be implemented, after explanation is given to villagers, in accordance with the recommendations of the investigation committee for measures against rats.

#### (2) Request (b): Environmental impact assessment

- The implementation of “rigorous prior environmental impact assessment” should be clearly mentioned in the revised management plan, corresponding to the wording of the decision of the World Heritage Committee.

#### (3) Recommendations from (a) through (d)

- The Scientific Council received reports from the management authorities without giving particular advice.

### Agenda Item 2: Consideration of the revision of the management plan and the action plan

#### (1) Draft of the revised management plan

- The measures to handle with soil attached to seedlings should be defined in the “management measures” section, so that concrete measures can be implemented as soon as possible in a manner compatible with the protection of agriculture.
- Strategies for the whole island should be added to the drafted “strategies for each island” as the basis for long-term goals of each island.
- After the revised management plan is completed, the secretariat including the Scientific Council should make efforts for awareness raising and dissemination.

#### (2) Draft of the revised action plan

- In considering the goals for each project, the secretariat should ensure their consistency with other relevant advisory committees.

### Other Matters:

- It is necessary to start discussing the issues about the use of drones on the Ogasawara Islands, including the need for developing guidelines.
- The timing and frequency of the Scientific Council meetings should be reviewed, so that it is possible to reflect the results of the discussion at the meetings in the design of the projects to be implemented in the following fiscal year.