



日本のネットワーク参加地の印象

- from the eyes of
a foreign photographer -

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読み 市川智子

1. Kushiro-shitsugen

釧路湿原

- I came to Kushiro by the EAAFP MOP. It was my first time visiting Hokkaido. There was a thick snow, we saw 7 meters walls on the roadside. Snow fell down from trees.
- It was my first sighting of Red-crowned Cranes. First time taking photos in snow, but I didn't feel that cold. Maybe because there was no wind. In Incheon where I lived that time, there was not much snow but very windy all the time.
- However, my friend from Thailand was freezing, since he didn't have enough clothing.
- Luckily it was very warm in the small visitor centre, and a ranger kindly explained us about the site.



2. Akkeshi-ko and Bekambeushi-shitsugen 厚岸湖・別寒辺牛湿原

- It was my first time seeing a Stella's Sea Eagle, a majestic bird on the tree with a blue sky.
- The view from the visitor centre was so broad, it was a unique view I have never seen, with a combination of water, marsh, snow, and trees.
- We tried to drop at Kiritappu-shitsugen, but the snowfall was so heavy preventing us to see front when driving – we stopped at a safe area for a while, then gave up the visit.

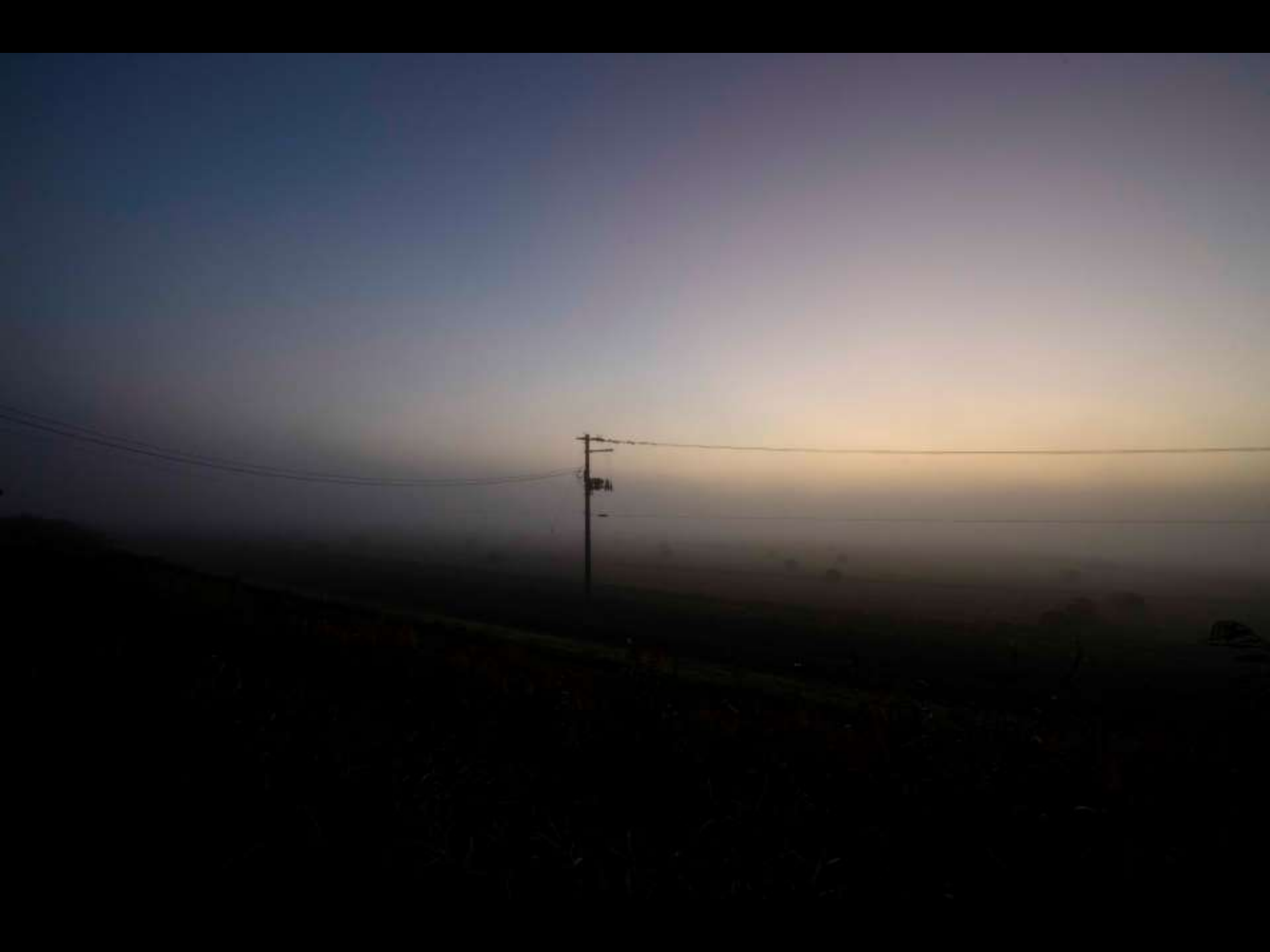


3. Kabukuri-numa

燕栗沼

- It was not my first time seeing geese. But it was very impressing to see commuting geese flying out from this tranquil-looking pond.
- In the mist, I heard continuous calls of geese and swans. Then there was a thundering sound for a while, and suddenly I saw a large flock of flying geese came out of the mist, with the sunlight.
- Actually the noise was the sound of the first flight of the geese.
- The view of the surrounding paddy field was very beautiful with the cheese shaped straw rolls.







4. Yatsu-higata 谷津干潟

- I go to Yatsuhigata to see my favourite shorebirds. I purchase annual passport every year and I am not sure how many times I have visited here.
- Another point is that we can observe ducks so close. The small freshwater pond is a great place to observe their interesting actions.
- The visitor centre has a cosy café. It is important for people like me visiting from far.



5. Fujimae-higata

藤前干潟

- I often saw raptors here. Ospreys are on the poles in the tidal flat, and there are Peregrine Falcons in the sky when looking up the buildings around.
- I have joined several EE programmes, listening to student rangers' presentations, watching a musical, and making Christmas ornaments with garbage collected at the shore.
- I am very glad that this place was not reclaimed with garbage, allowing me to meet the people here.



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7. Higashiyoka-higata 東よか干潟

- I have seen many Black-faced Spoonbills at the Namdong Reservoir, a breeding site which was just in front of my apartment in Korea.
- In early spring, still feeling like in winter, I used to help local teacher Ms. Nam, by bringing branches to the nesting island, and gathered rubbish in the reservoir.
- Then, the BFS arrive. Students enjoy Welcome party and Birthday party. In fall, they migrate and disappear.
- In Higashiyoka-higata, I found a BFS with a leg tag of E92 from Namdong Reservoir. I felt like I met a friend from long ago.







8. Arao-higata 荒尾干潟

- Nori-seaweed represents Arao-higata. I couldn't stop eating nori that a young nori fisherman brought to a nomi-kai. The flavour was so clear, and the body was so crispy. People were laughing at me but I felt it more tasty than sake for me.
- Maybe that persuaded me to take shorebirds photos with ships, nori-facilities, or fishermen in Arao-higata.





8. Kumagawa Estuary

球磨川河口

- I met a local volunteer, who conducts conservation actions here including survey and EE for decades. His story was not pushy, but his sincerity was clear.
- The sunset was just like his atmosphere. There were BFS, ducks, gulls, shorebirds, herons, and raptors... various species. Palms reminds me of my home country.
- Ships passing, religious structure in the sandbar... here also I see people's life. All from upper to downstream makes this beautiful estuary.



9. Izumi

出水:

- In Izumi, there were so many cranes that I was unsure how to take photographs of them.
- On that day, people said that the cranes were trying to go back to the direction of Korea.
- It seemed that they should wait for the exact moment. Circle up to the sky, then come back. Again go up like drawing a circle, then are they looking for a wind?
- All the cranes came back on that day.



10. Tokyo-Port Wildbird Park

東京港野鳥公園

- This is the nearest FNS from my house. I often go especially when I am not confident what to do.
- At the ground floor of the visitor centre, I can see crabs and mudskippers face to face.
- Always there are common faces, maybe the volunteers or regular customers, discussing about birds and what they see, with welcoming atmosphere.
- In addition to the water areas where we can see ducks and shorebirds, there is a Satoyama area in this FNS.
- I can see volunteers maintaining and families enjoying in the area when events.





Thank you 😊