

News Release

11 March, 2014
Nuclear Regulation Authority, Japan

The Nuclear Regulation Authority (NRA) has conducted **monitoring of air dose rates** by means of helicopter continuously after the accident at Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Station. This News Release highlights air dose rate maps of Fukushima Prefecture and its neighboring prefectures, and shows how the distribution of air dose rates reduced.

1. Objective

Monitoring of air dose rates has been conducted by the Nuclear Regulation Authority (NRA) based on “Comprehensive Radiation Monitoring Plan (<http://radioactivity.nsr.go.jp/en/contents/8000/7758/view.html>)” by means of helicopter continuously after the accident at Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Station for the purpose of figuring out the distribution of air dose rates.

2. Method

(a) Area to be monitored

The area to be monitored is Fukushima Prefecture, Miyagi Prefecture, the southern part of Iwate Prefecture, the eastern part of Yamagata Prefecture, Ibaraki Prefecture, Gunma Prefecture, Tochigi Prefecture, the northern part of Chiba Prefecture and the eastern part of Saitama Prefecture.

(b) Time to be monitored

The monitoring of air dose rates started on 6 April 2011 and has been conducted continuously. The latest monitoring was conducted in the period from 3 September to 19 November 2013.

(c) Measurement

- Gamma ray was detected every one second in a row, using NaI scintillators installed in helicopters which fly approximately 300 m above the ground surface.
- The detected values were converted into air dose rates at 1 m high from the ground surface at the time of 19 November 2013.

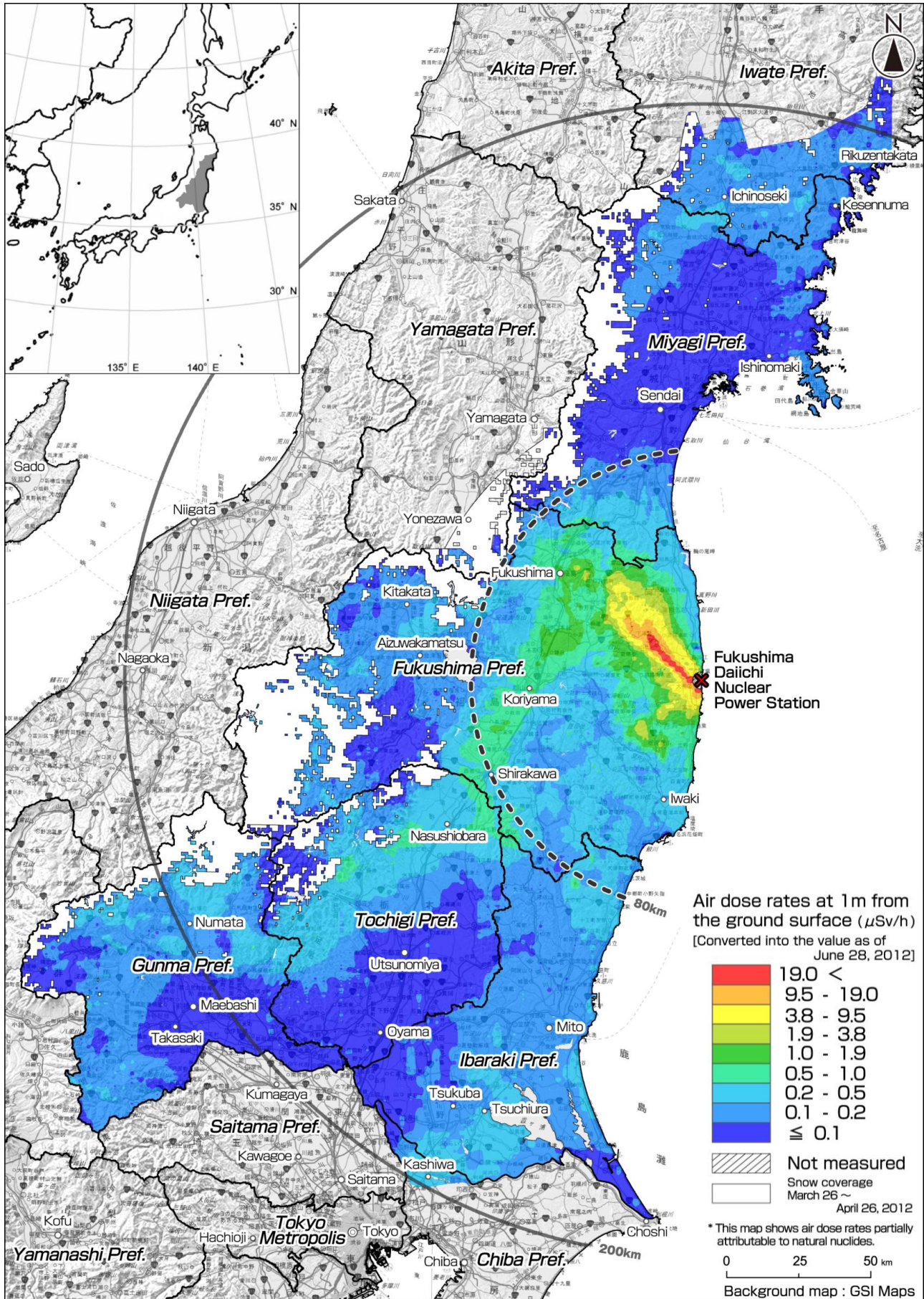
3. Results

- Typical maps of air dose rates are shown in the Attachments 1 to 3, which were developed 15 months later (as of 28 June 2012), 21 months later (as of 28 December 2012) and 32 months later (as of 19 November 2013) after the accident at Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Station. And the following URL of the NRA website leads to a special report “Monitoring air dose rates from a series of aircraft surveys 30 months after the Fukushima Daiichi NPS accident”:
http://www.nsr.go.jp/english/library/data/special-report_0114.pdf
- These maps indicate the distribution of air dose rates reduced more than we had estimated.

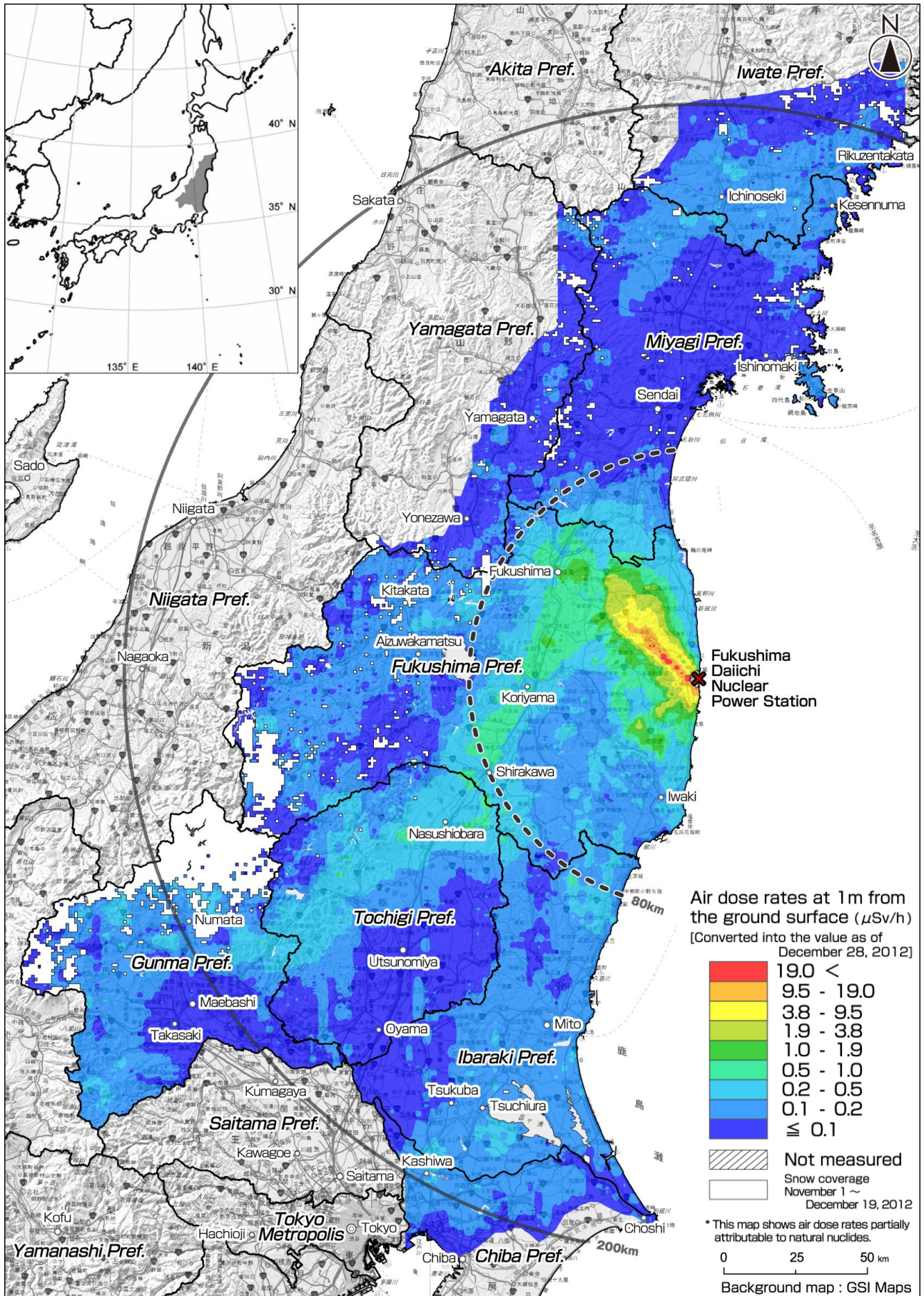
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Air dose rate map - 15 months later (as of 28 June 2012)



Air dose rate map - 21 months later (as of 28 December 2012)



Air dose rate map - 32 months later (as of 19 November 2013)

