

## Ibeshibetsu River

### Overview

In the Ainu language, Ibeshibetsu means “abundant food source river”. The Ibeshibetsu River is the largest of the rivers that flow into Lake Akan, connecting Lake Panketo to the northern section of Akan.

The remains of old trees lay fallen in the clear waters of the river, and water grass can be seen swaying with the current. Shellfish and small fish can be seen on the riverbed, and during the spawning period in autumn, white-spotted char and kokanee salmon can be seen swimming upstream to lay their eggs. The Ibeshibetsu River provides a glimpse into the world of the rivers of Hokkaido.

### Activities

The government and the Maeda Ippoen Foundation is responsible for the conservation of the surrounding roads and forests. In order to preserve the natural environment, the general public is usually prohibited from entering this area. There are special tours and nature observation events available which offer access to this unspoilt primeval river.