

### **Connection to Nature in Minamisanriku**

Life in the town of Minamisanriku is sustained by nature's bounty and inextricably tied to the natural cycles and intricate synergies of ocean, rivers, forests, and towns.

The water cycle is a good example. Ample rainfall soaks the Minamisanriku soil and nourishes its dense forests. The water then flows out in streams and rivers, providing irrigation for crops and carrying nutrients into Shizugawa Bay.

The meeting of the warm waters of the Japan Current (Kuroshio Current) with the cold waters of the Kurile Current (Oyashio Current) likewise makes the waters of Minamisanriku's ria coast a nutrient-rich environment for plankton, which in turn feed a wide variety of other marine life. This is why the region is home to some of Japan's most bountiful fisheries.

The people of Minamisanriku strive to live in harmony with the world around them, and their community has flourished because of it. Discover the local way of life and natural diversity of the region.