# River information system, Flood Forecasting and Early Warning

Slides are from:

Kanto Regional Development Bureau,

Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism (MLIT)

And Foundation of Rver and Basin Integrated Communication (FRICS)

# What is "Flood Forecasting and Warning?"

#### Flood Forecasting and Warning is ...

- -Information for disaster prevention that alerts local communities and residents to protect them from disasters such as floods.
- -Information utilized for decision makings prior to local flood fighting activities, municipalities' evacuation guidance (evacuation advisory and evacuation order) for local residents and residents' self-protective measures (evacuation etc.)
- -Information mainly includes status of rainfall in a river basin and water level of a river.

#### **Types of Flood Forecasts and Warnings**

(1) Flood Forecast

Article 10 and 11 of Flood Fighting Act

Purpose

A flood forecast is jointly announced by MLIT (or prefecture) and Japan Meteorological Agency (JMA) when there is a risk of river flooding due to heavy rain.

The forecast contains critical information needed for agile and appropriate flood fighting activities to protect areas from damage caused by flooding and for self-protection measures conducted by local residents.



Announced as 'XX River Flood Forecast'

(2) Flood Fighting Alarm

Article 16 of the Flood Fighting Act

Purpose

A flood fighting alarm issued by MLIT or prefectures is sent to related organizations in order to provide flood fighting corps with instructions such as stand-by, preparation and operation.

2 Types of flood forecasts

Flood forecast
jointly announced by
MLIT (Prefecture) and JMA
[For designated rivers]

Among the large rivers specified by MLIT (or Prefecture) and JMA for flood forecasting, the designated rivers, a forecast is announced for one(s) that has a risk of severe damage caused by flooding.

# Flood forecast announced by JMA

The JMA's local office sends a forecast to the specific area(s).

The announcement is specifically targeting small/ medium rivers that are not included in the designated rivers for flood forecasting.

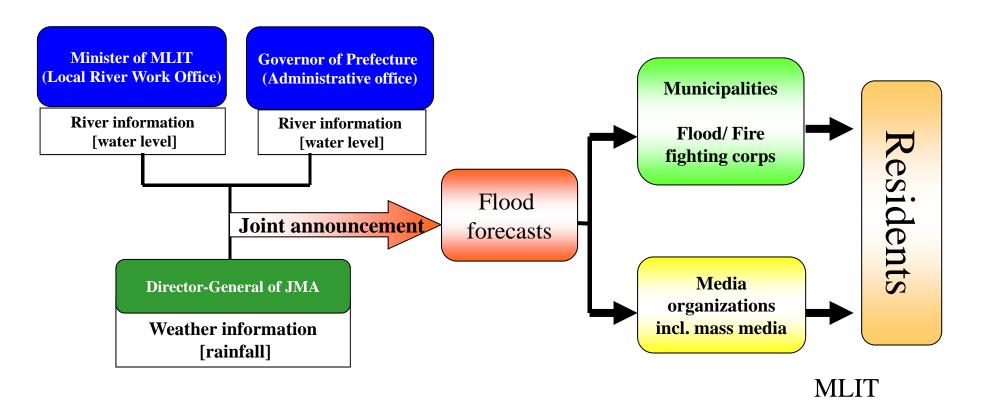
#### **Legal system for Flood Forecasts**

• Article 10 Clause 2 of the Flood Fighting Act

★A flood forecast issued by Prefectural Governor is based on Article 11 Clause 1 of Flood Fighting Act.

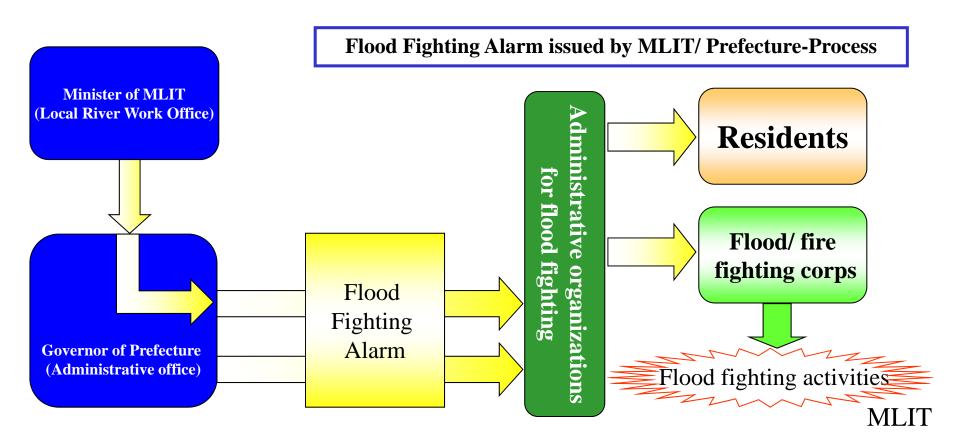
When there is flood or danger of flood concerning a river which runs through areas of two or more prefectures or a river with a wide basin area designated as rivers which may cause serious damage to the national economy in case of a flood, the Minister of Land, Infrastructure and Transport shall, in cooperation with the Director-General of the JMA, inform the status of the river to the governors of the relevant prefectures, specifying the water level or flow amount in case of danger of flood, and water level or water amount or the estimated flooded area and the water depth after a flood, and shall disseminate such information to the public, asking for cooperation of mass media, if necessary.

#### Flood forecasts announced by MLIT/ Prefecture -Process



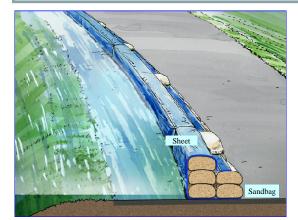
#### **Legal system for Flood Fighting Alarm**

- Article 16 Clause 1, 2 and 3 of Flood Fighting Act
- 1. <u>Minister of Land, Infrastructure and Transport</u> shall issue <u>a flood fighting alarm</u> for rivers, lakes or coasts that were specified and recognized as risks which may cause serious damage to the national economy due to a flood or high tides, and Prefectural Governor shall issue <u>a flood fighting alarm</u> for rivers, lakes or coasts that are not included in the above rivers, lakes or coasts but were specified and recognized as risks, which may cause significant damage due to a flood or high tides.
- 2. When issuing a flood fighting alarm in accordance with the previous clause, <u>Minister of Land, Infrastructure and Transport</u> shall immediately inform related Prefectural Governor(s) of the contents of the alarm.
- 3. When issuing a flood fighting alarm in accordance with Clause 1 or receiving a alarm in accordance with the previous clause, <u>Prefectural Governor</u> shall immediately <u>inform related administrative organizations for flood fighting or other flood related organizations of the alarm received/issued in accordance with the prefecture's flood fighting plan.</u>



#### Flood-fighting activities

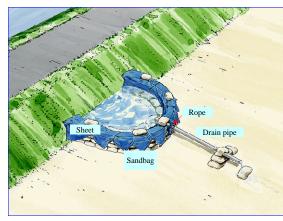
In order to protect human life and assets and to minimize damage when a flood occurs, flood-fighting groups and firefighters use a variety of technologies and conduct flood-fighting activities mainly near to the river in question.



Completion drawing of the improved sandbag piling method (2)



Completion drawing of the sheet covering method



Completion drawing of the hooping method

#### What are the flood-fighting activities?

- Who conduct the activities? The answer is a flood-fighting group that is formed when the fire department does not have enough power.
- Flood prevention means disaster reducing activities for self-defense conducted by local residents, and they form flood- and fire-fighting groups.
  - The total number of fighters participated in the activities from June to in 2010 was about 71,000.

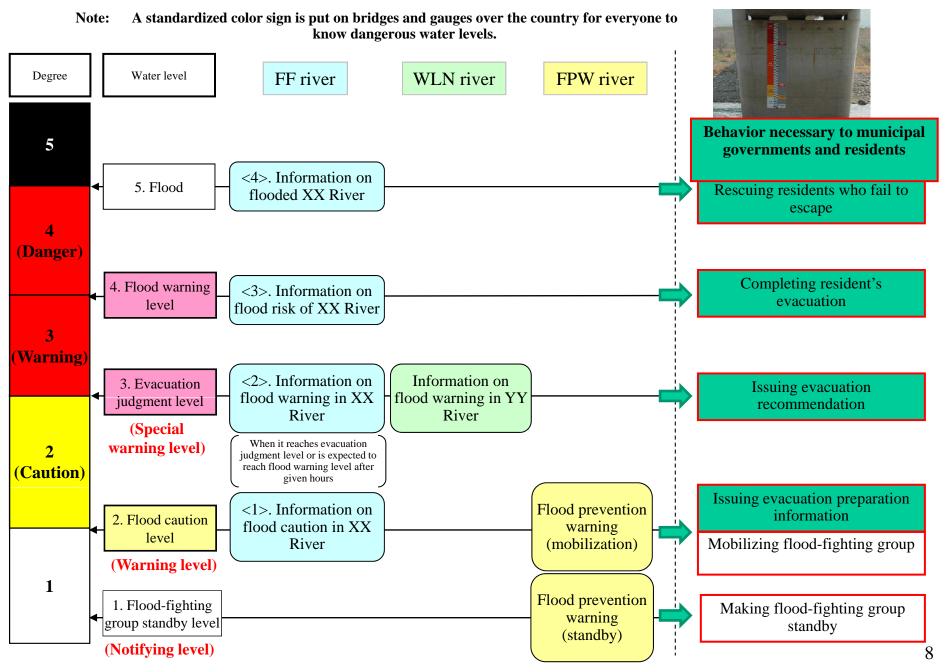
(As of April 1, 2011)

Number of firefighters: 871,279 Number of flood-fighters: 14,921

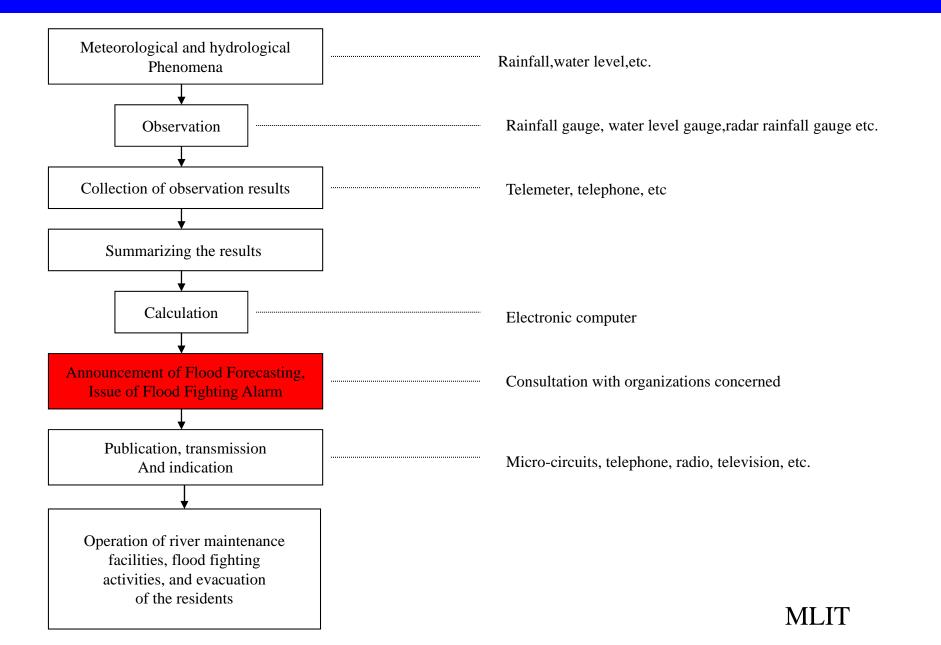
## **Terminology Related to Flood Forecasts/ Warnings**

Terms used in flood forecasts/ warnings	Descriptions
5. Design High Water Level (計画高水位)	Standard water level for river embankment design and the highest water level that the embankment can bear.
4.Flood Danger Water Level (氾濫危険水位)	Water level with risks of serious disasters due to flooding etc.
3.Evacuation Alert Water Level (避難判断水位)	Referential water level for resident evacuation. It gives an indication for an evacuation decision made by a municipal governor.
2.Flood Watch Water Level (氾濫注意水位)	Exceeding this level may result in disasters such as embankment collapse, scouring and leakage.  Related flood fighting corps are mobilized to guard their river.
1.Stand-by Water Level for flood Fighting Corps (水防団待機水位)	Water level suggesting flood response teams for preparation. Related flood fighting corps are on stand-by and start to prepare for flood fighting activities.

# River Information and Behavior Necessary to Municipal Governments and Residents

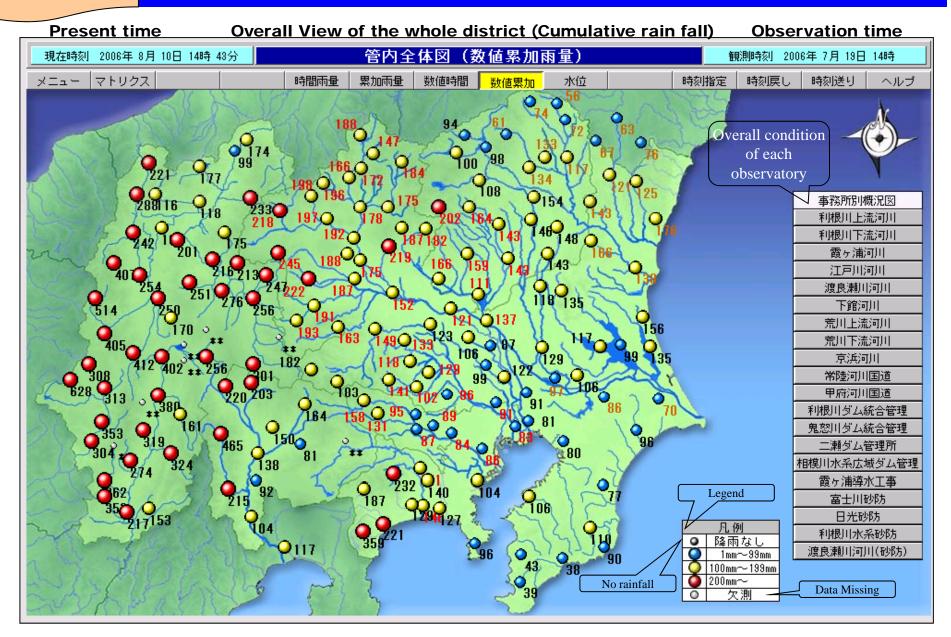


#### 2.8 Flow Chart of Flood of Forecasting and Warning Service



Arrangement of results observed

#### **Rainfall Distribution Map**

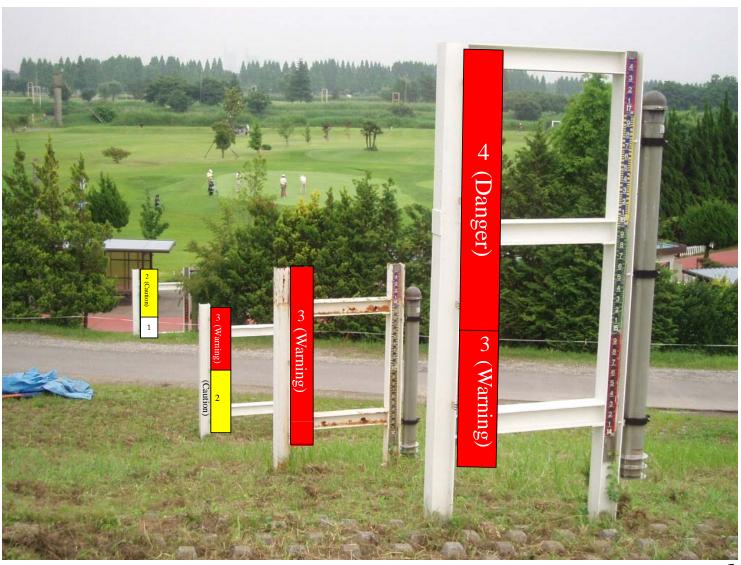


Arrangement of results observed

### **Rainfall Chart**

田東地陸智内																	
野部所名		>	30分			準値	□気象庁	□自治	体 🔽	テレ流域					_		
水系名   利根     利根     利根     利根     万度     東京     東京     和田     西土     田土	観測所名		_		_		_										
現内名   現窓     現窓     現窓     現窓     現窓     我     我     我     我     日本     日本	読み	かわき	また	かね	ეს	U.f	րեյ	ひのはら つるかわ		かわ	ふたかけ		すずりじま		ますとみ		
情報   998.00   634.00   600.00   363.00   200.0   720.00   447.00   105.	水系名	利根	911	利相	킨다	利村	킨다	多摩川 鶴野		J/I	相模川		富士川		富士川		
新木県日光市大字川俊  括木県日光市大字川俊  野木川日光市大字川俊  東京都四十大蔵町  東京都四十大蔵町  日東川 田河川 田河川 田河川 田河川 田河川 田河川 田河川 田河川 田河川 田河	河川名	鬼窓	94	鬼窓	2J1	男服	g)i	秋川 鶴見川		JH .	中津川		雨畑川		塩川		
管理区分   国河	標高	998.0	10m	634.	00m	600.	00m	363,00m		82.00m		720.00m		447.0	Om	1065.00m	
新性   現態な人能管   現態な人能管   現態な人能管   京美利    京美利    和様水系女人   甲的利・園芝   甲的利・園芝   甲利の雨芝   日本の雨芝   日	所在地	栃木県田光で	大字川俣	栃木県日光	市大字川治	栃木県日光	市大字川治	東京都西多	辛那檜原村	東京都町田市大蔵町18		神奈川県愛甲郡清川村		山梨県南巨摩郡早川町		山梨県北杜市須玉町小	
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野東館   中間野皇   野皇   中間野皇   田野皇   日間野皇   日間		鬼怒ダム	統管	鬼怒ダ	ム統管	鬼怒ダ	ム統管			京浜	可川	相模水	<u> </u>	甲府河川	国道	甲府河川	国道
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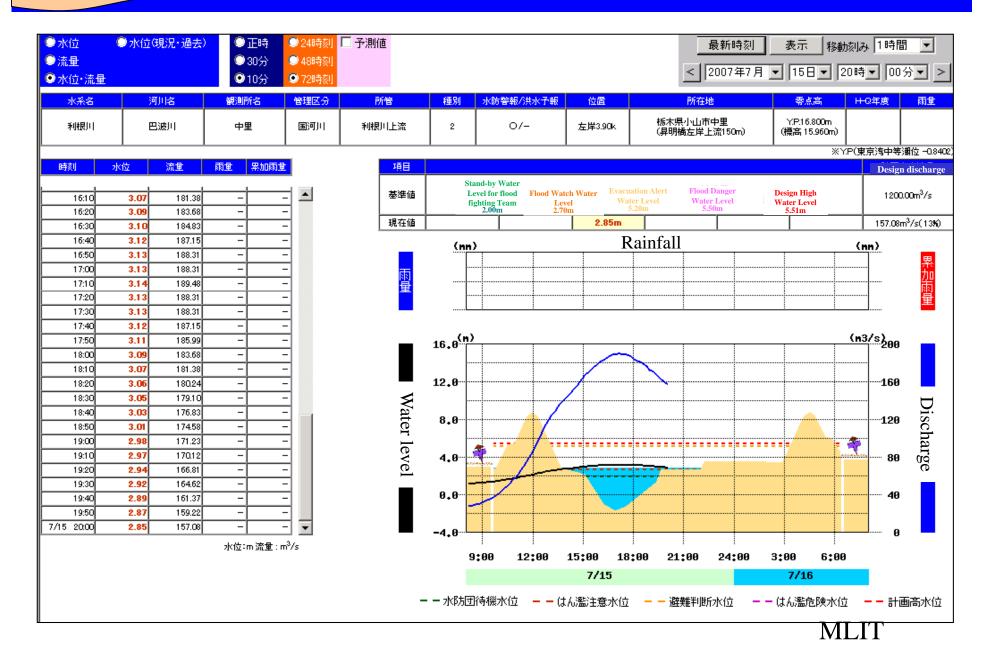
#### **Water Level Observation (Usual Water Meter)**



MLIT

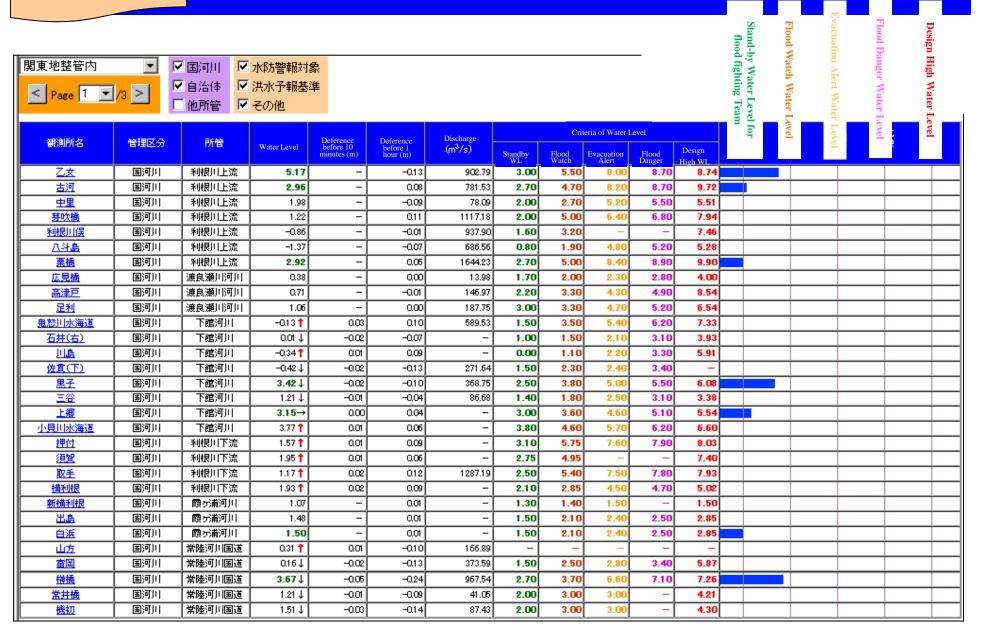
**Arrangement of results observed** 

# Stage-discharge Curve (Hydrograph)



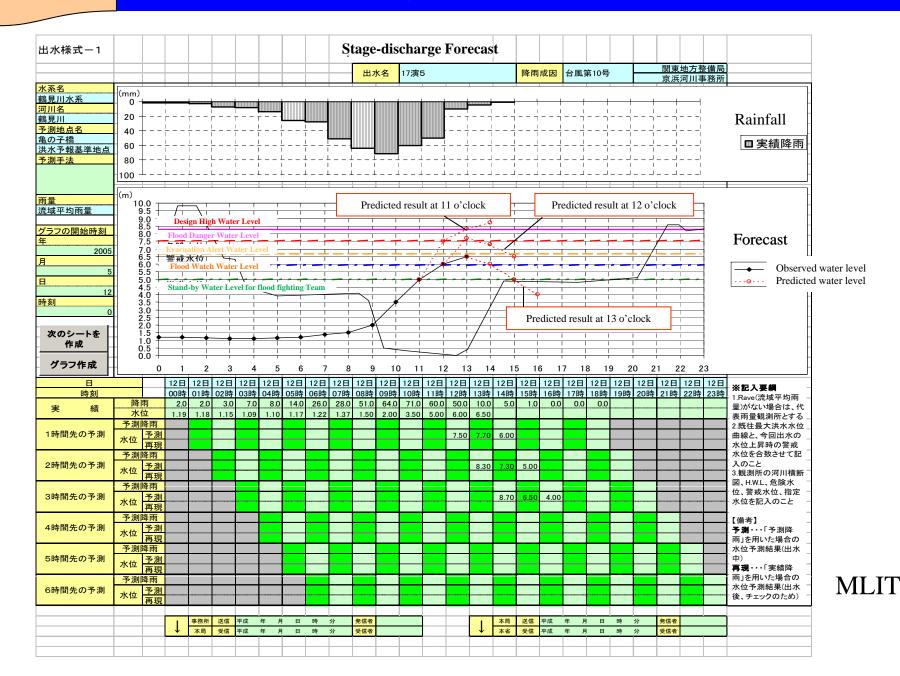
Arrangement of results observed

#### **Water Level Chart**



**Flood estimation** 

#### Forecasting of water level

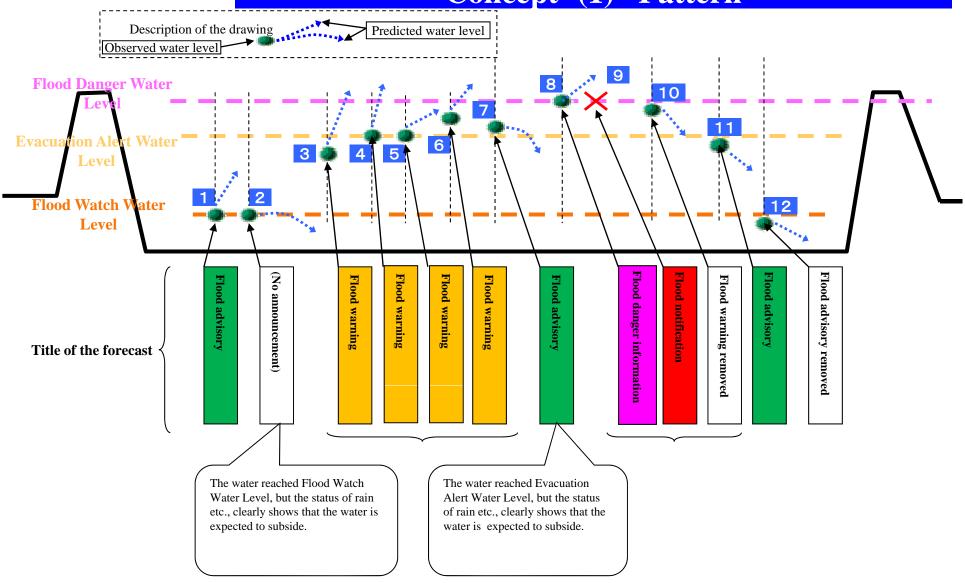


# **Types of Flood Forecasts/ Warnings**

(1) Flo	ood Forecasts	Joint announcement by MLIT and JMA					
XX	<1> Flood caution/advisory	Issued for urging caution when the water reaches Flood Watch Water Level and is expected to increase above the level.					
XX River Flood Forecast	<2> Flood warning	Issued for urging more vigilance when the water reaches Evacuation Alert Water Level and is expected to reach Flood Danger Water level.					
od Fore	<3> Flood danger information	Issued when the water reaches Flood Danger Water Level.					
cast	<4> Flood notification	Issued when a flood occurs.					
(2) Flo	ood Fighting Alarm	Announcement by MLIT/ Prefecture					
	1 "Stand-by"	When a flood or increase of the water level is expected, a warning is issued to request flood fighting corps to be on stand-by for action.					
	2 "Preparation"	Sharing of flood fighting-related information, gathering flood defense equipment and securing transmission/ transportation as well as issuing a warning that requests flood fighting corps to prepare for operation.					
	3 "Operation"	When the water level is expected to increase beyond Flood Watch Water Level, a warning is issued to request flood fighting corps to act.					

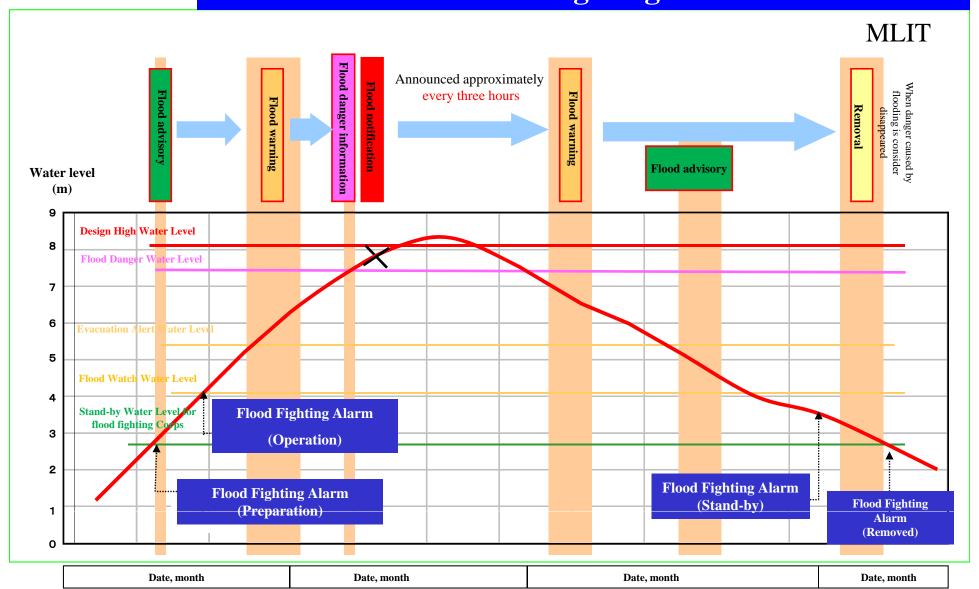
**Announcement of flood forecasts/ warnings** 

# **Announcement of Flood Forecasts** 'Concept' (1) –Pattern-

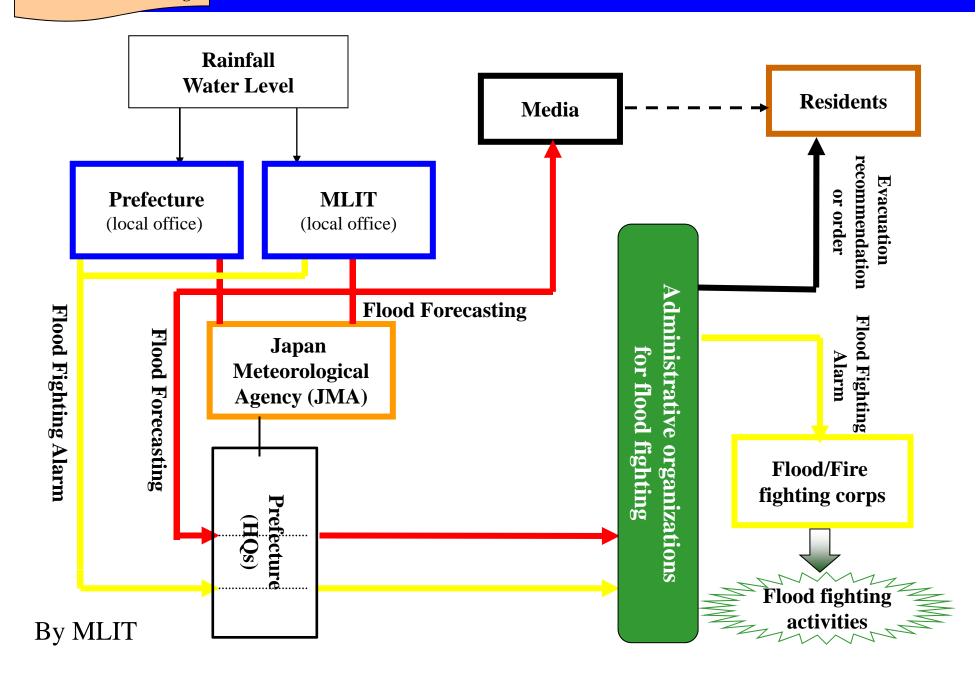


Announcement of flood forecasts/ warnings

# Announcement of Flood Forecasts/ Warnings 'Concept' (2) –Relationship between Flood Forecast and Flood Fighting Alarm-



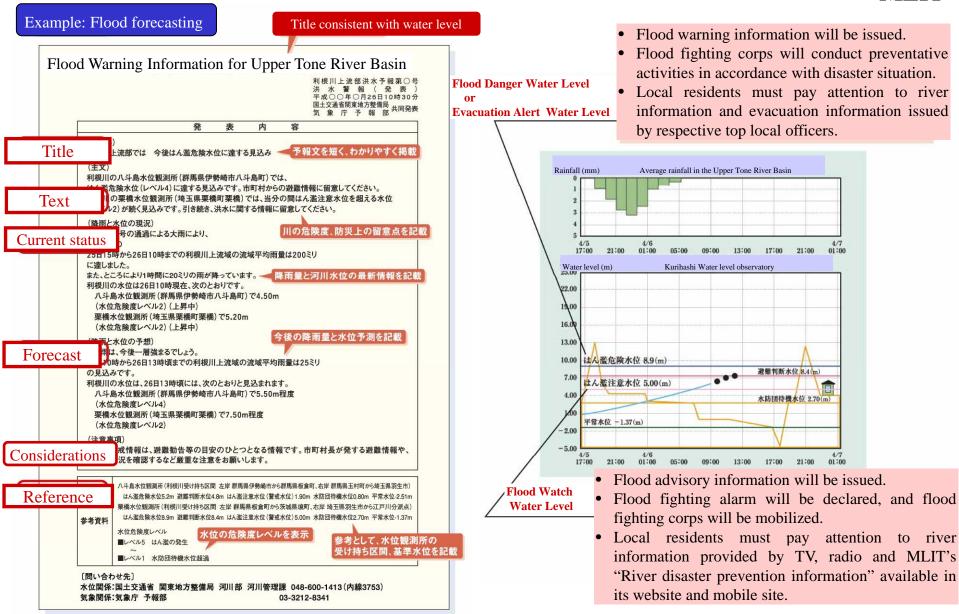
#### Flow of Announcement of Flood Forecasting/Warning



Announcement of flood forecasts/ warnings

#### **Example**; Flood Forecasting

#### **MLIT**



# **Example: Flood Fighting Alarm**

Flood fighting alarm
Instruction
'Operation'

**Current status** 

**Forecast** 

Instruction

Status of flood fighting alarm by district

		Flood	l Fighting A	larm				
Issued by		one River Offic	_	-				
		ry of Land, Inf		Transportatio	n			
		1:30 Septemb	er, 7th, 2007					
ъ:		21	<b>T</b>					
River		Observatory	Instruction	on I	No.issued			
Tone river		XX	Operation	on	X			
[Current status]								
	of xx Basin	is 200.2mm as o	of 1am on 7th.					
		servatory is 1.8		on 7th.				
		ached Flood W						
4-1 Water l	level of xx ir	ncreases by 60cm	m per hour.					
[Forecast]								
	evel of xx is	expected to rea	ch around 2.72r	n at 4am on 7th				
[Instruction]								
9 Flood fi	ighting corp	s are now reque	sted to operate.					
[Refence material]	YY Obcom	atory [vv town	vy oity vy prof	ectural				
	ax Observent height(*.		aa city, xx prei	ecture]				
	th Water Le							
	,	evel (5.20m)						
		evel (1.90m)						
		for flood fightin	g corps (0.80m	)				
Status of flood	fighting alom	n issued by Un	nor Tono Divor (	Office				
		I .	1	I				
District/ Info	. type	Stand-by	Preparation	Operation	Removed			
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**MLIT** 

Thank you for your attention