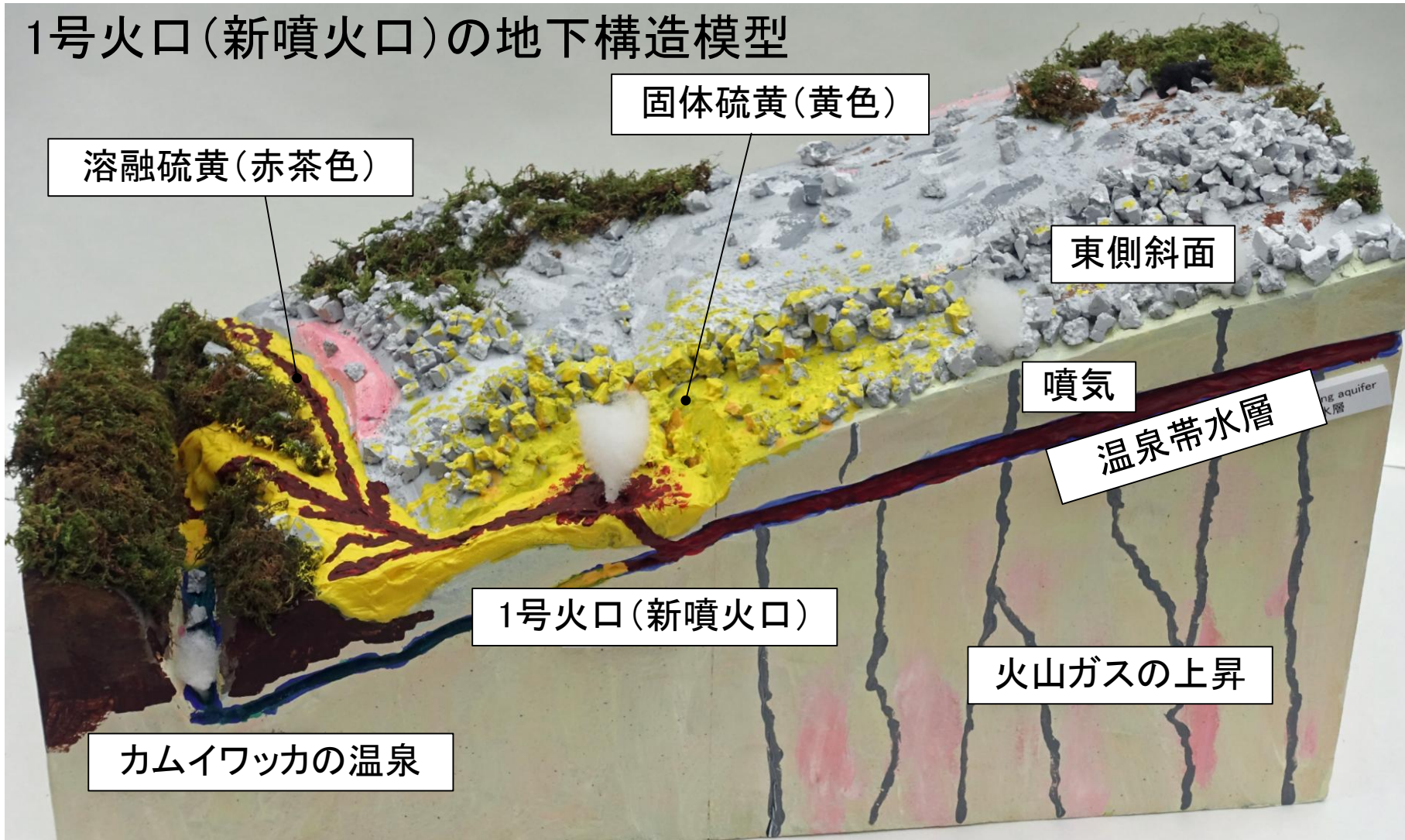


魅惑のカムイワッカと硫黄山

知床硫黄山は大量の溶融硫黄を噴出する世界で唯一の火山です。最後に噴火をしたのは、1936年のことです。現在「新噴火口」と呼ばれている1号火口から116,523トンもの溶融硫黄が噴出し、カムイワッカ川に流れ込んで谷を埋め尽くしました。その後、硫黄は火薬などの原料としてほとんど採掘されてしまいましたが、現在でも新噴火口付近では、岩の隙間や表面にわずかな硫黄を見ることができます。

硫黄山とカムイワッカ周辺は、皆月家や日本特殊鉱業株式会社によって硫黄鉱山として開発されました。また強制労働により、多くの人々が命をおとしました。硫黄山登山口から新噴火口までの登山道は、鉱山時代に作られた古い歴史のある道です。今でも索道（鉱山用ロープウェイ）などの施設の遺構を見ることができます。

セセキ温泉まほろばの湯は、草木に埋もれながらこんこんとお湯が湧き出しています。



溶融硫黄噴火のしくみ

火山活動の中心は、1号火口ではなく火口の東側の斜面（模型の右半分）にあります。東側斜面地下の温泉帯水層の中で、硫化水素と二酸化硫黄（亜硫酸ガス）の反応によって硫黄が作られます。120℃以上で溶融した硫黄は、何かのきっかけで帯水層の流れ、1号火口から噴出します。



現在の1号火口（新噴火口）

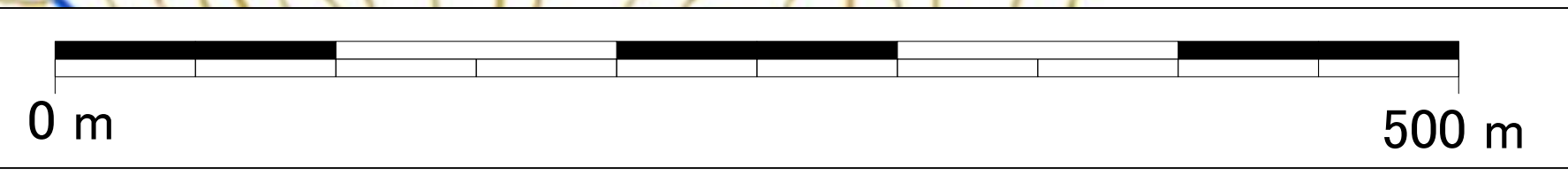
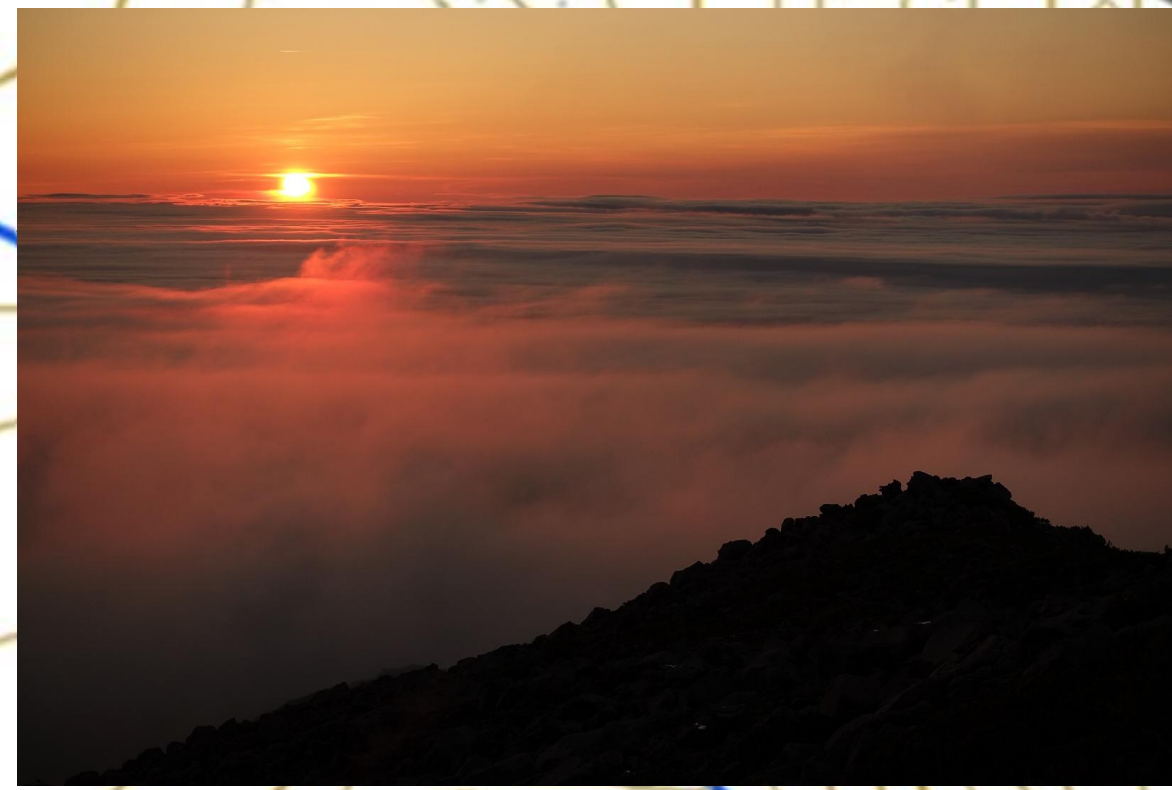
1936年当時の1号火口

新噴火口（1号火口）：大量の溶融硫黄を噴出する火口。噴気孔から噴出する火山ガスの温度は90℃を超えます。また、火口の中や西側火口壁付近に鉱山時代の石垣を見ることができます。

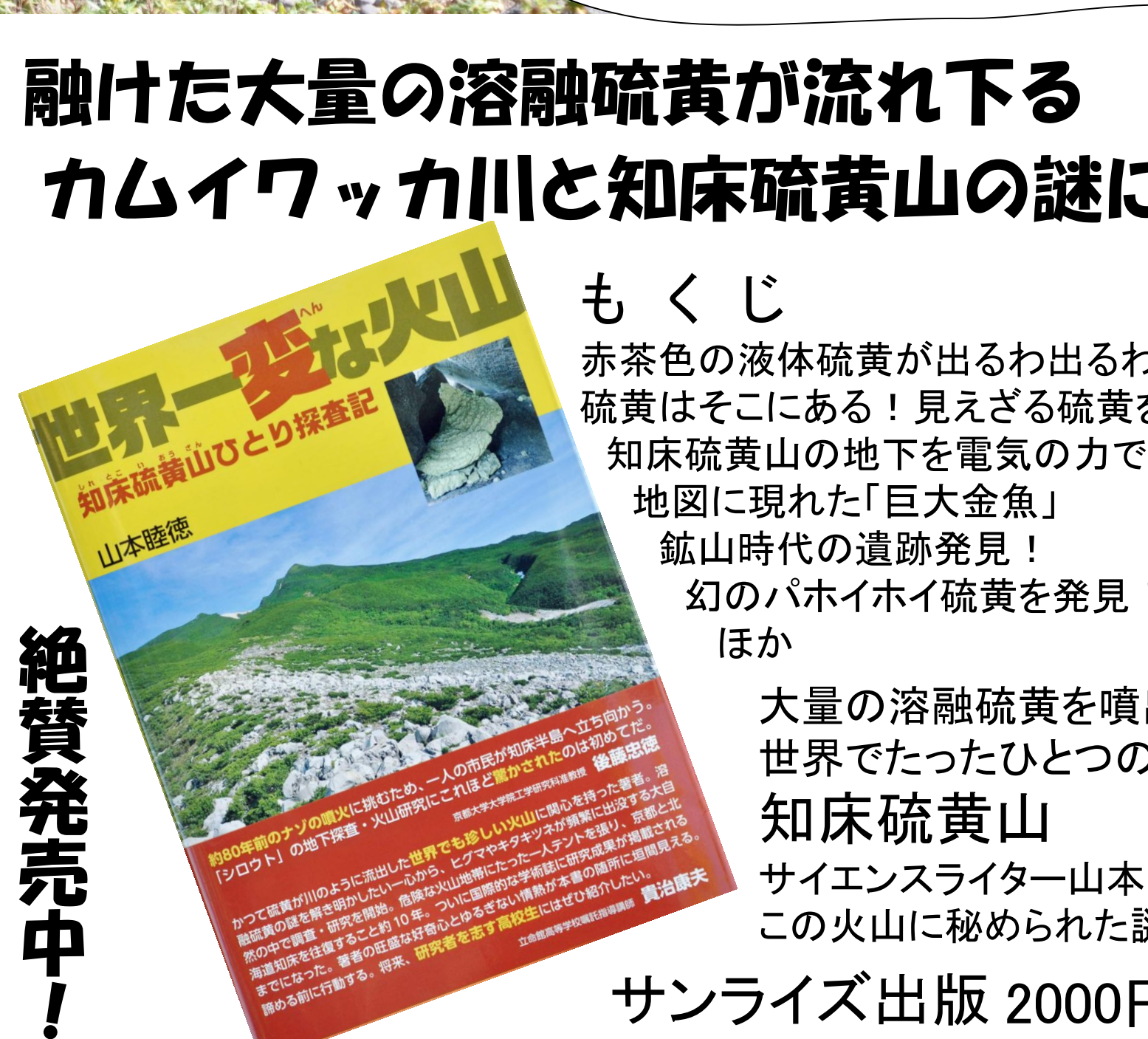
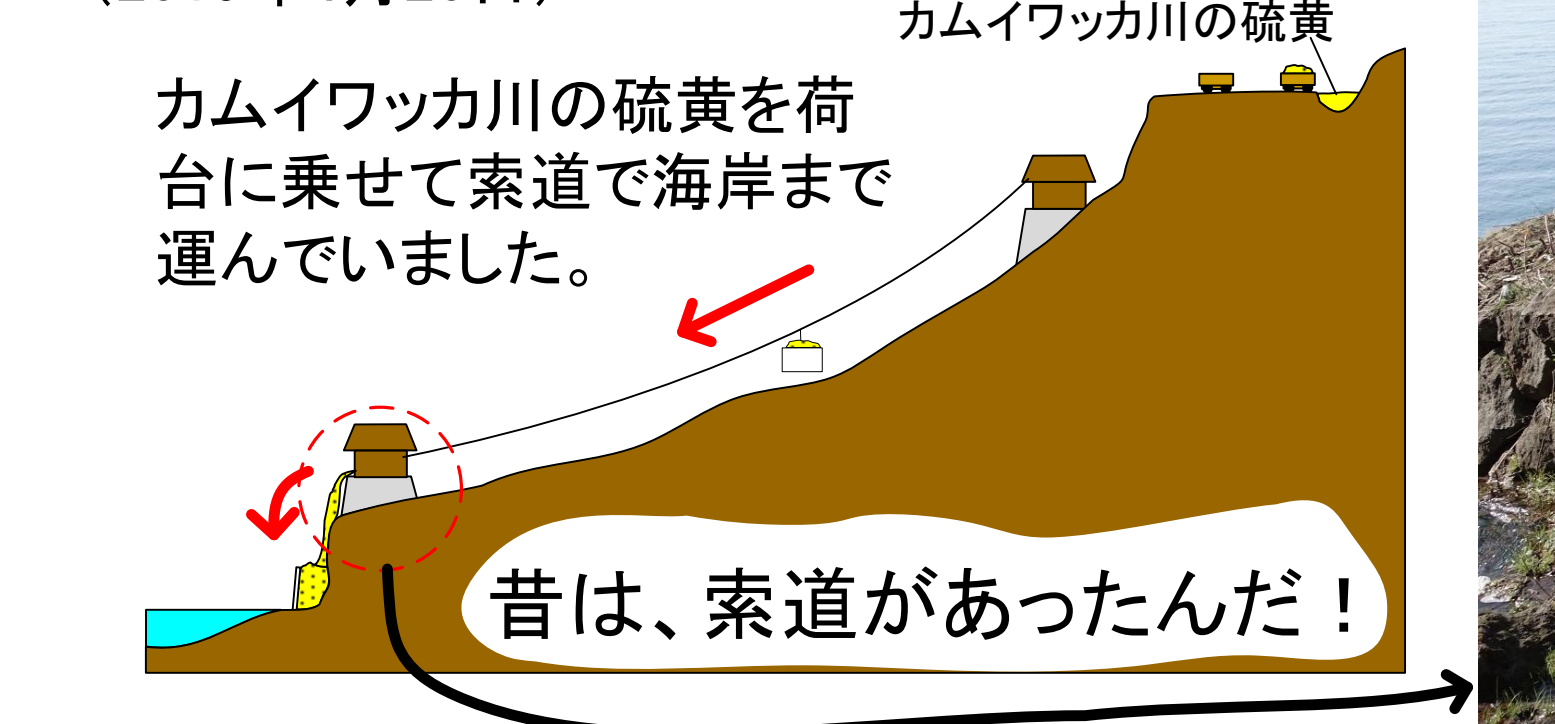
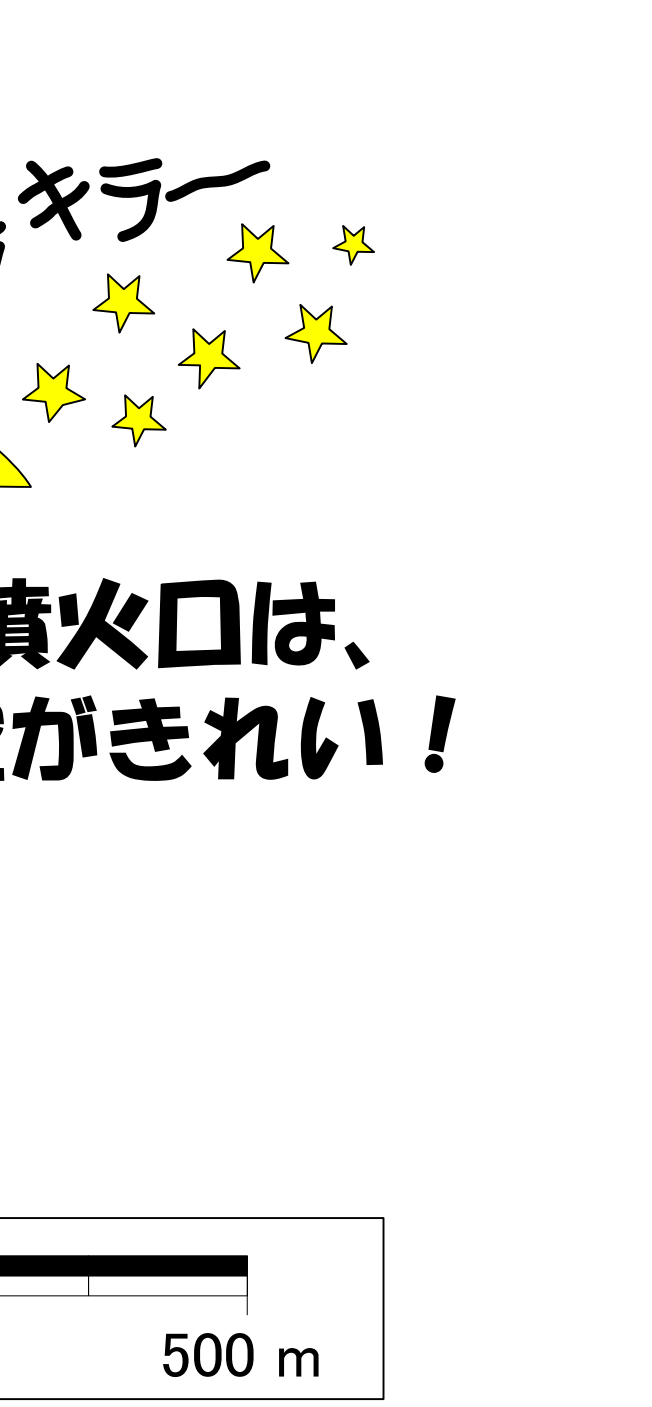
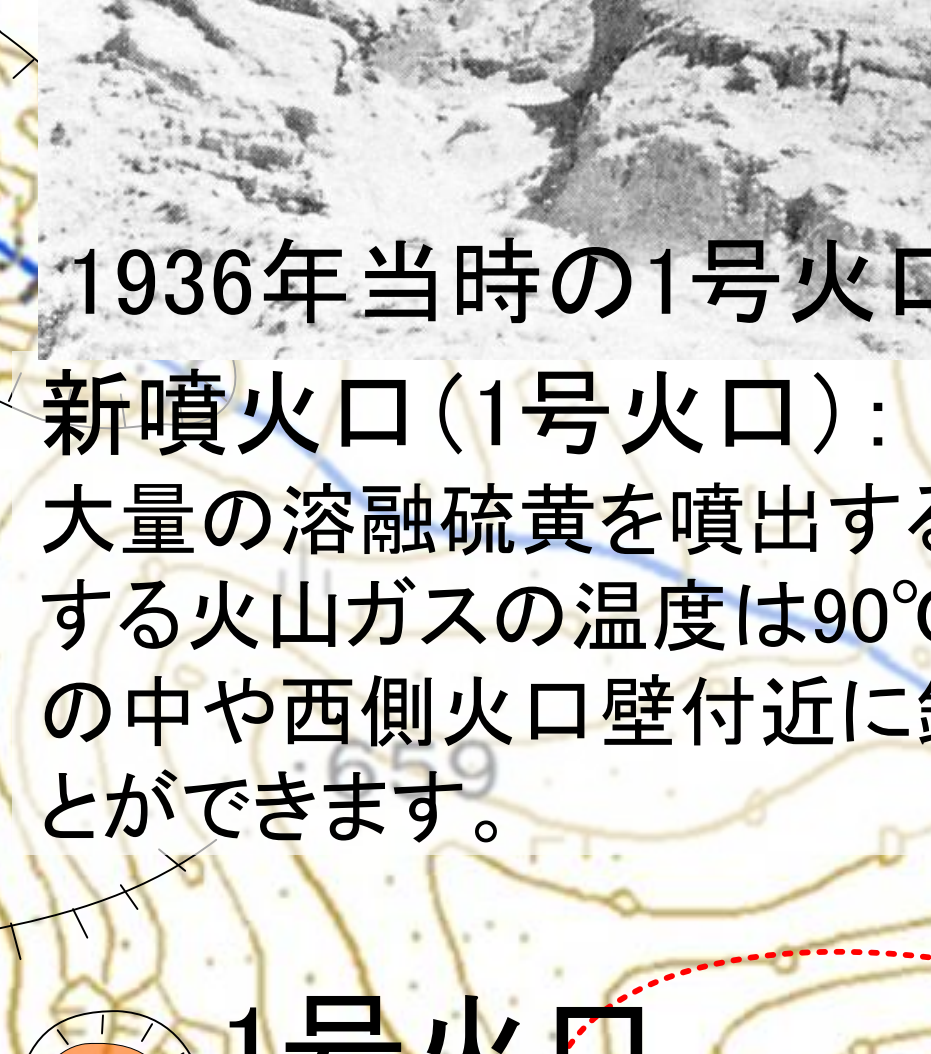
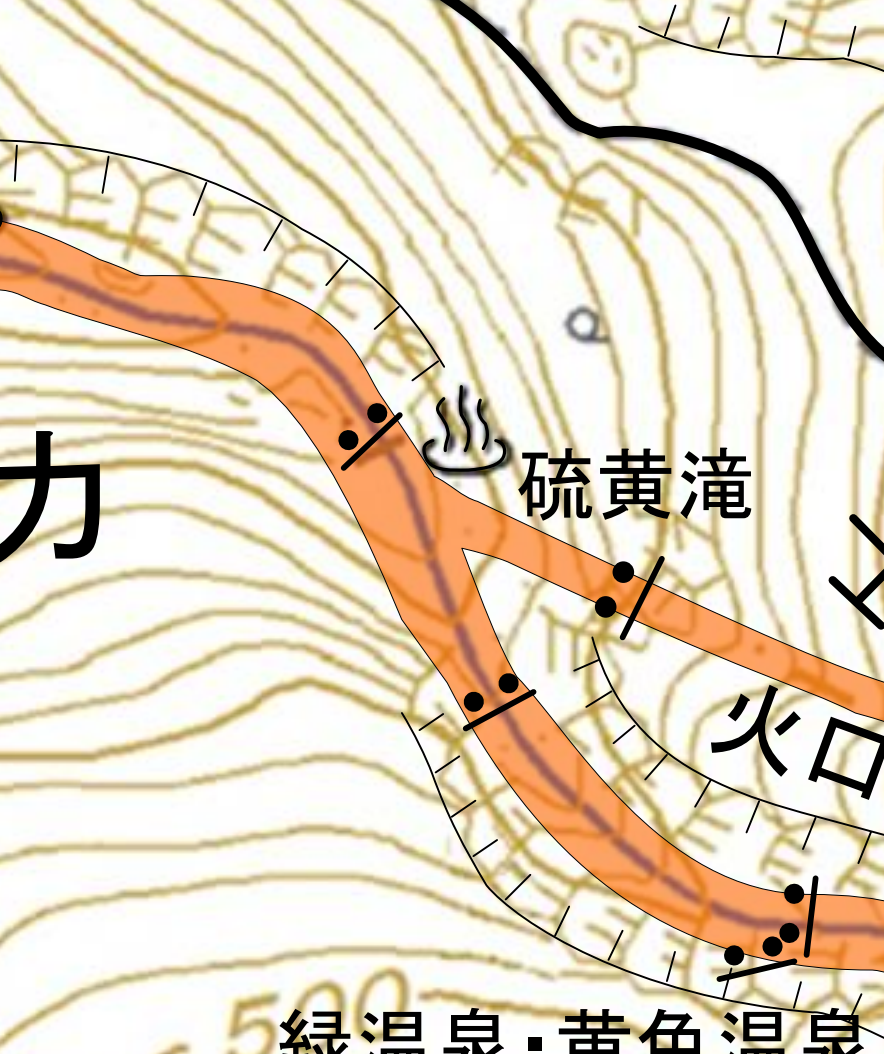
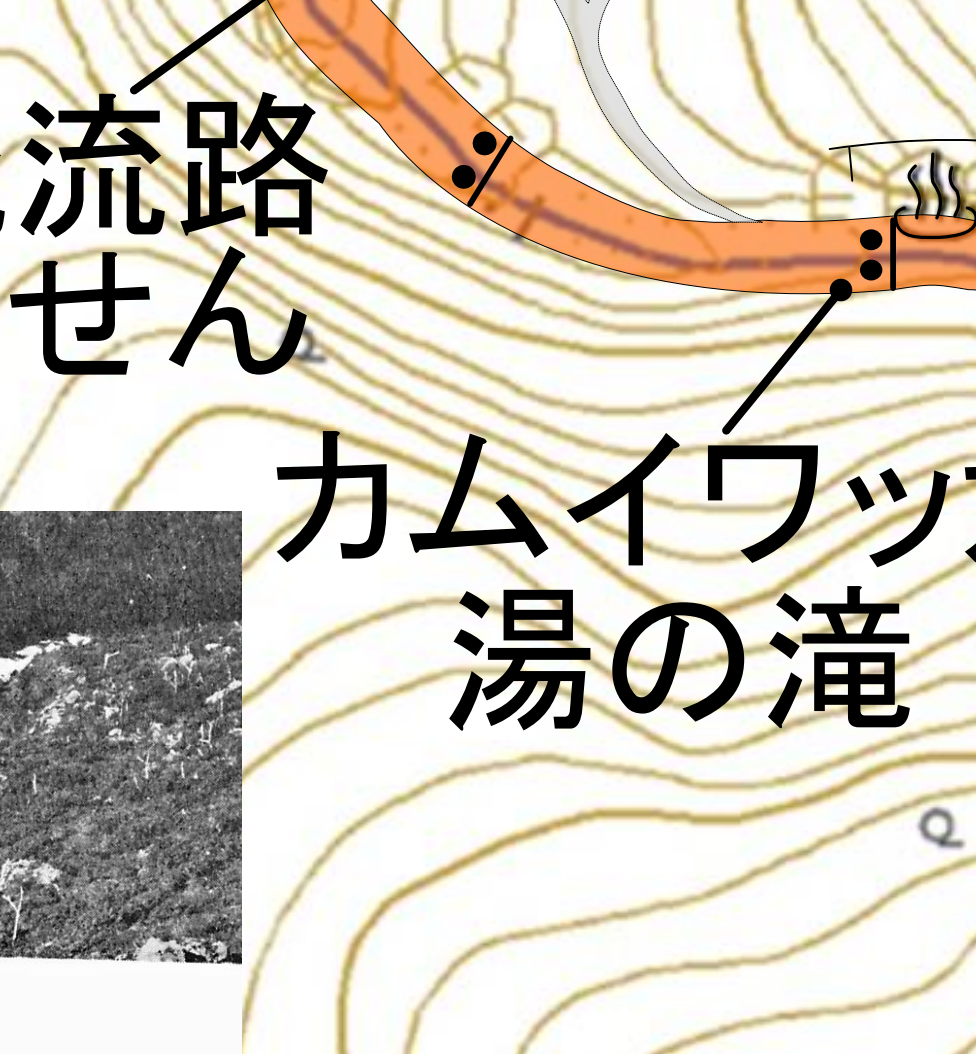
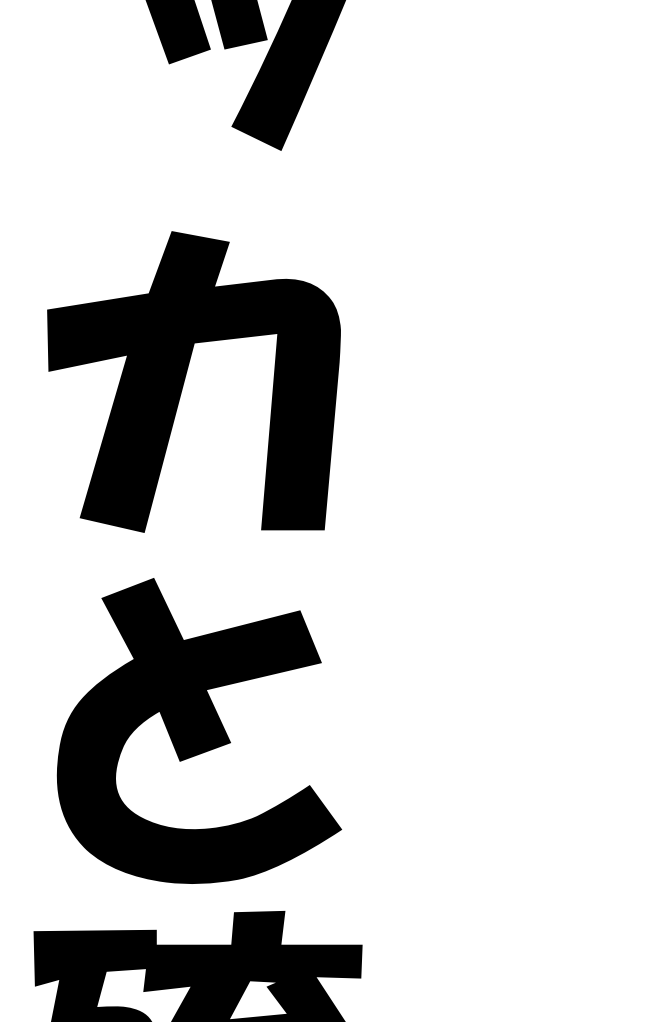
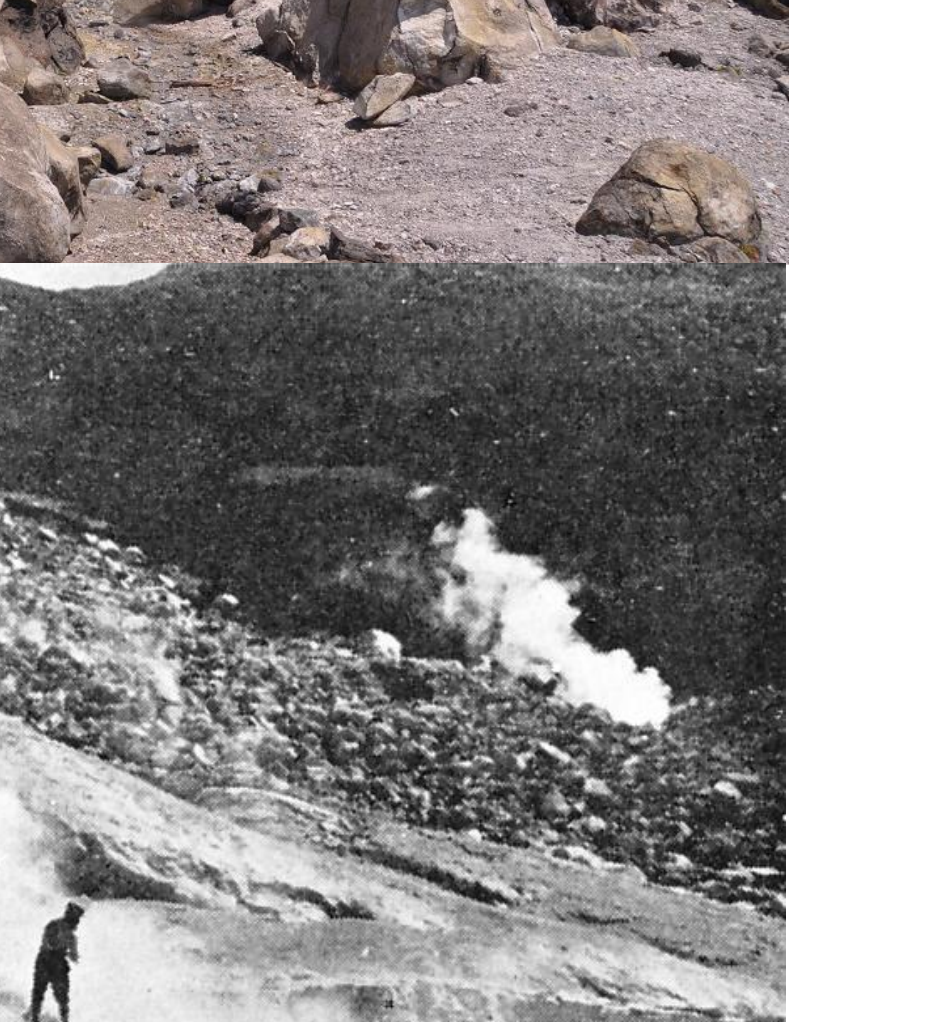
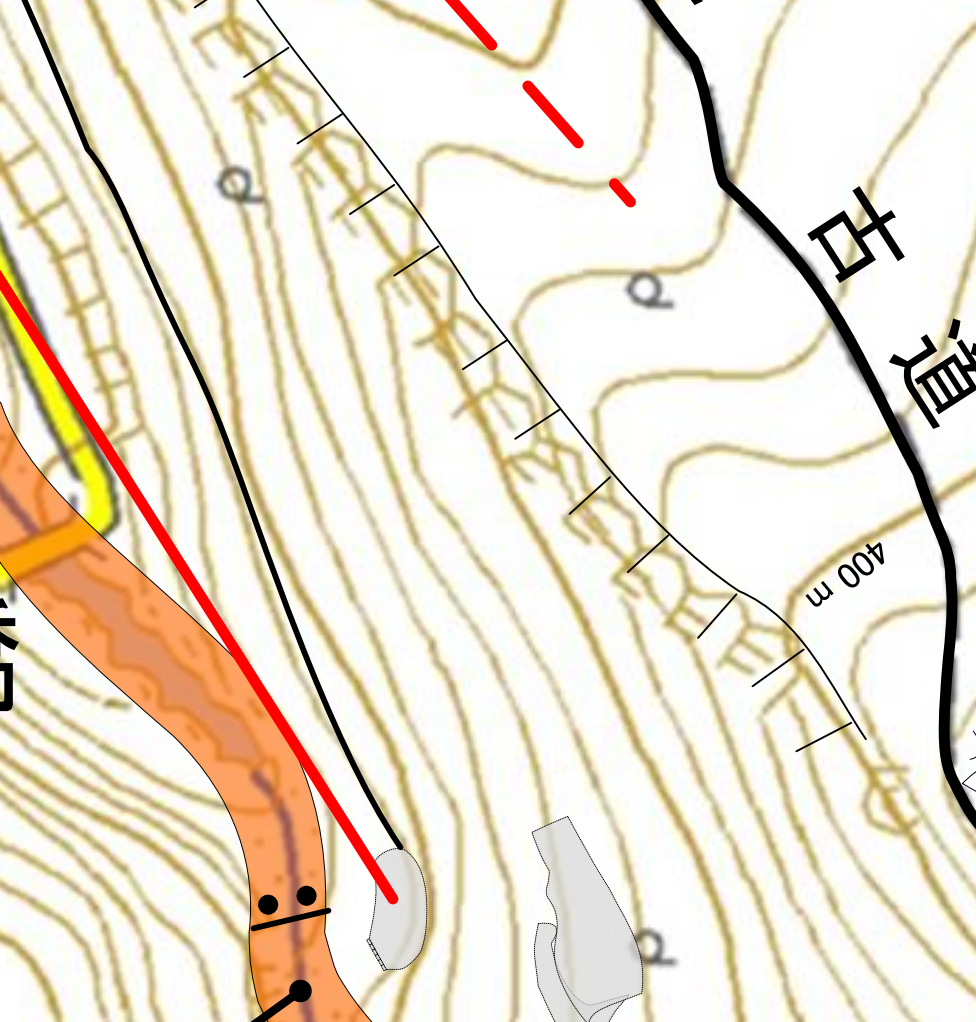
この辺の地下で硫黄が生成しています。



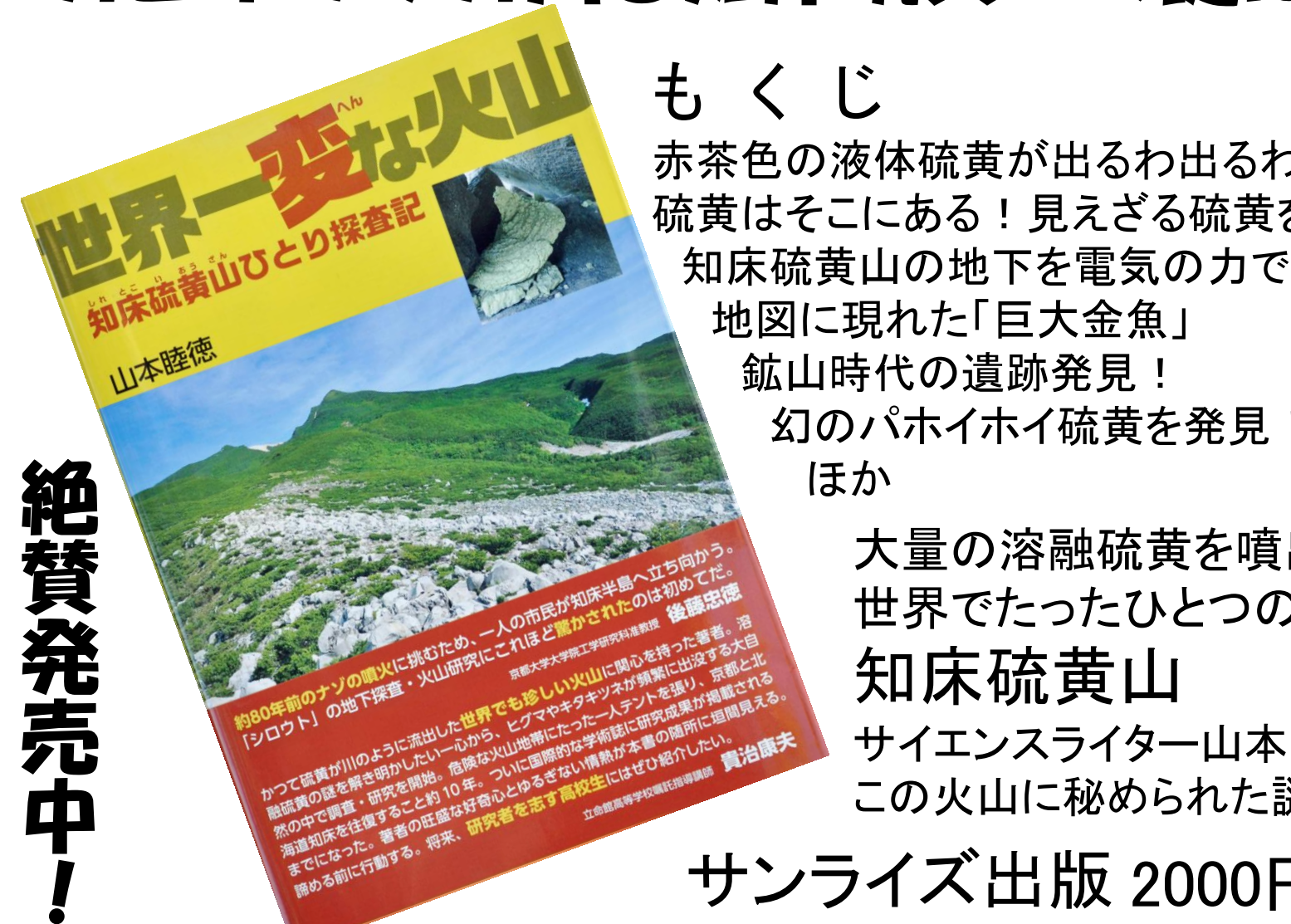
ここから見る夕日は幻想的！



硫黄山登山口を通りすぎ、車道沿いに120mほど進みます。そこから左の笹の茂みに入っていくと鉱山時代の道があります。かつてはこの道を多くの鉱夫が硫黄を担いで行き来した歴史ある道です。知床硫黄鉱山の歴史を踏みしめて、タイムスリップしよう。



絶賛発売中！

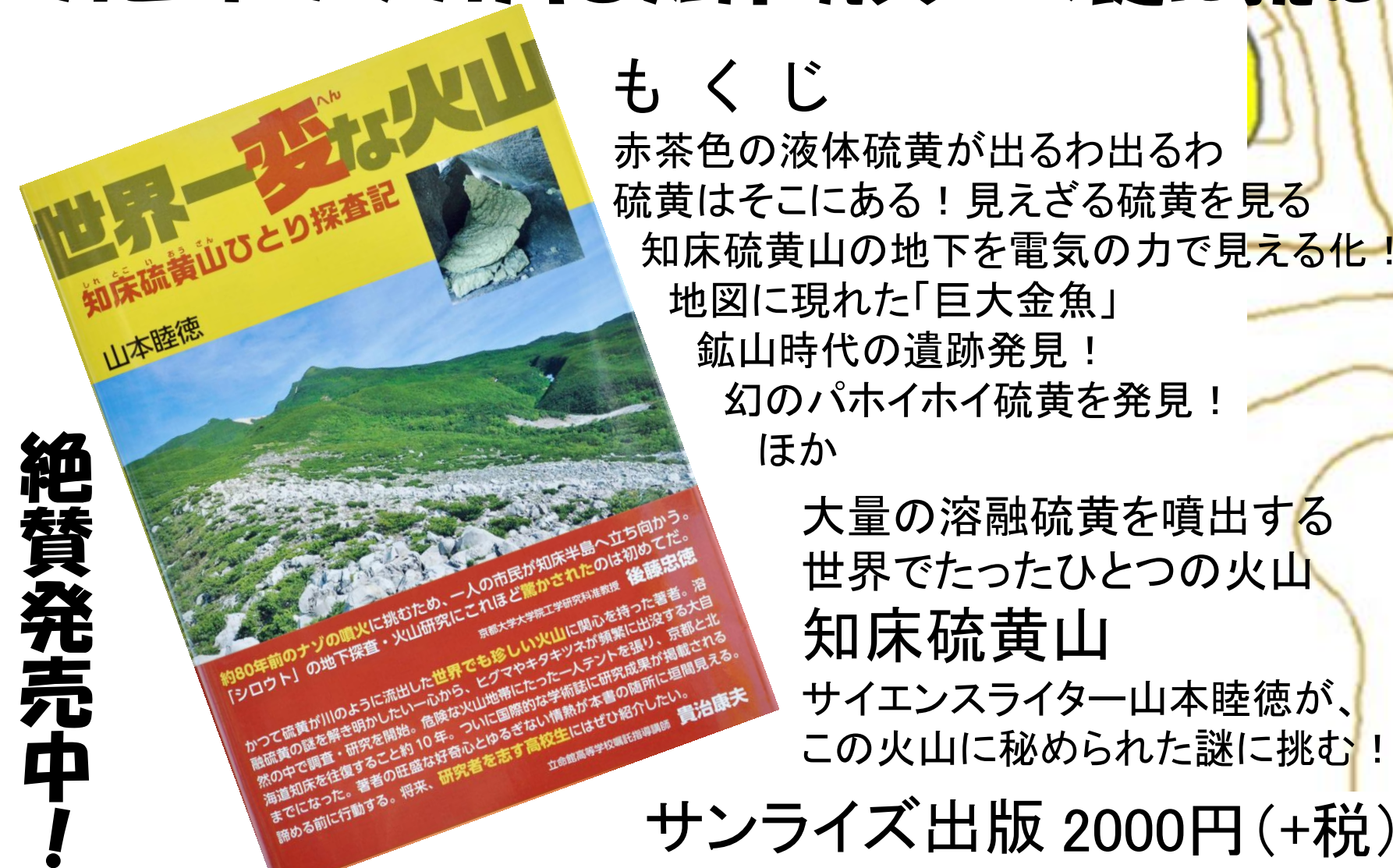


世界一変な火山展

2019年4月20日～9月23日 8:00～17:30
北海道斜里町
知床自然センターで開催
知床硫黄山
溶融硫黄噴火の謎
・80年前、カムイワッカ川は大量の硫黄で埋まっていた
・溶融硫黄噴火とはどのような噴火だったのか？
・溶融硫黄噴火のしくみ
・知床硫黄山の調査に活躍した意外な道具たち
どれも、これも驚きの連続！



融けた大量の溶融硫黄が流れ下るカムイワッカ川と知床硫黄山の謎に挑む！



1936年
1936年当時、カムイワッカ川は、大量の硫黄で埋まっていた。

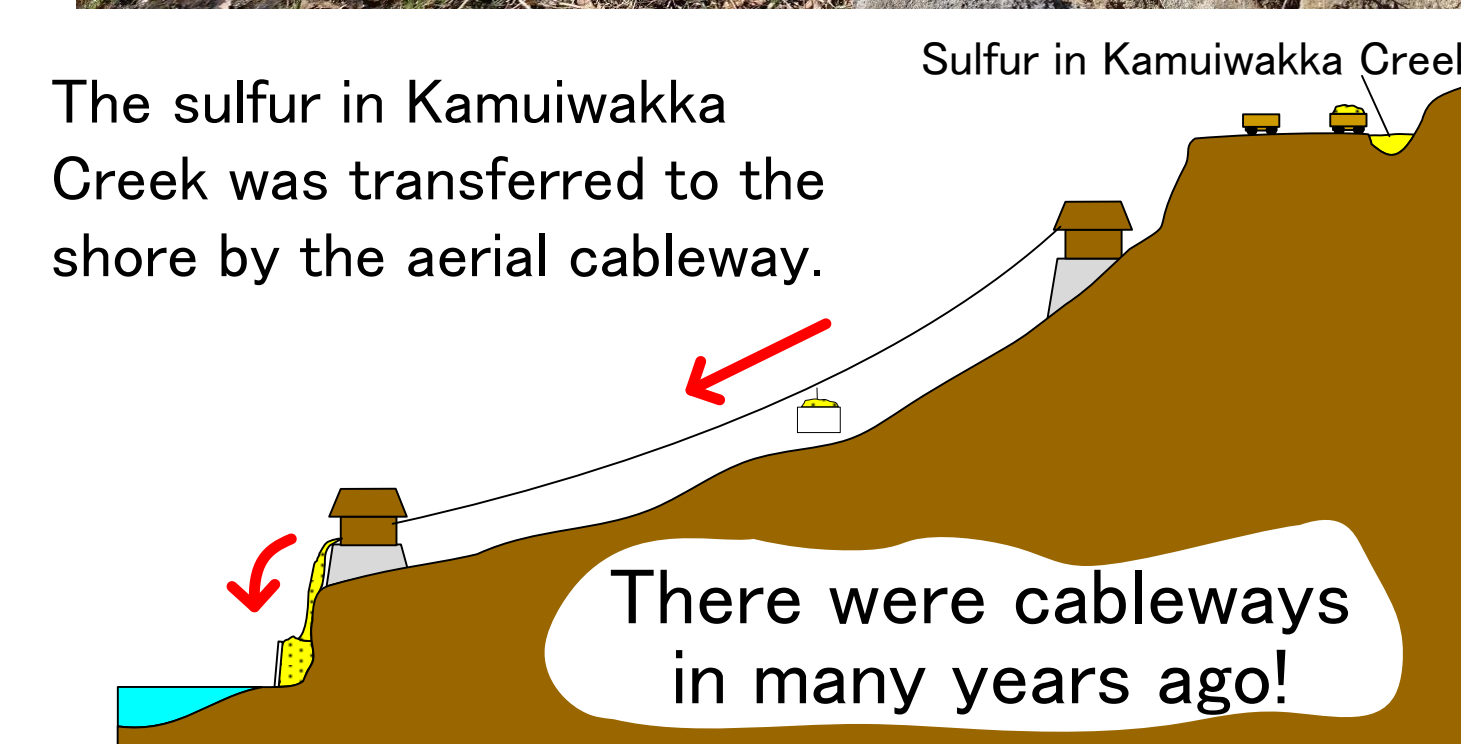
現在

The Fascinating Kamuiwakka and Shiretokoiozan Volcano

Ruin of mining facilities in the grass



This rock wall was an end of aerial cableway. The sulfur collected at the Kamuiwakka Creek was transferred to here by the cableway. And the sulfur was dropped to the shore.



Excellent view of the sea shore from the ruin of cableway station 2. The Kamuiwakka Falls can be seen.



The World-Weirdest Volcano Exhibition

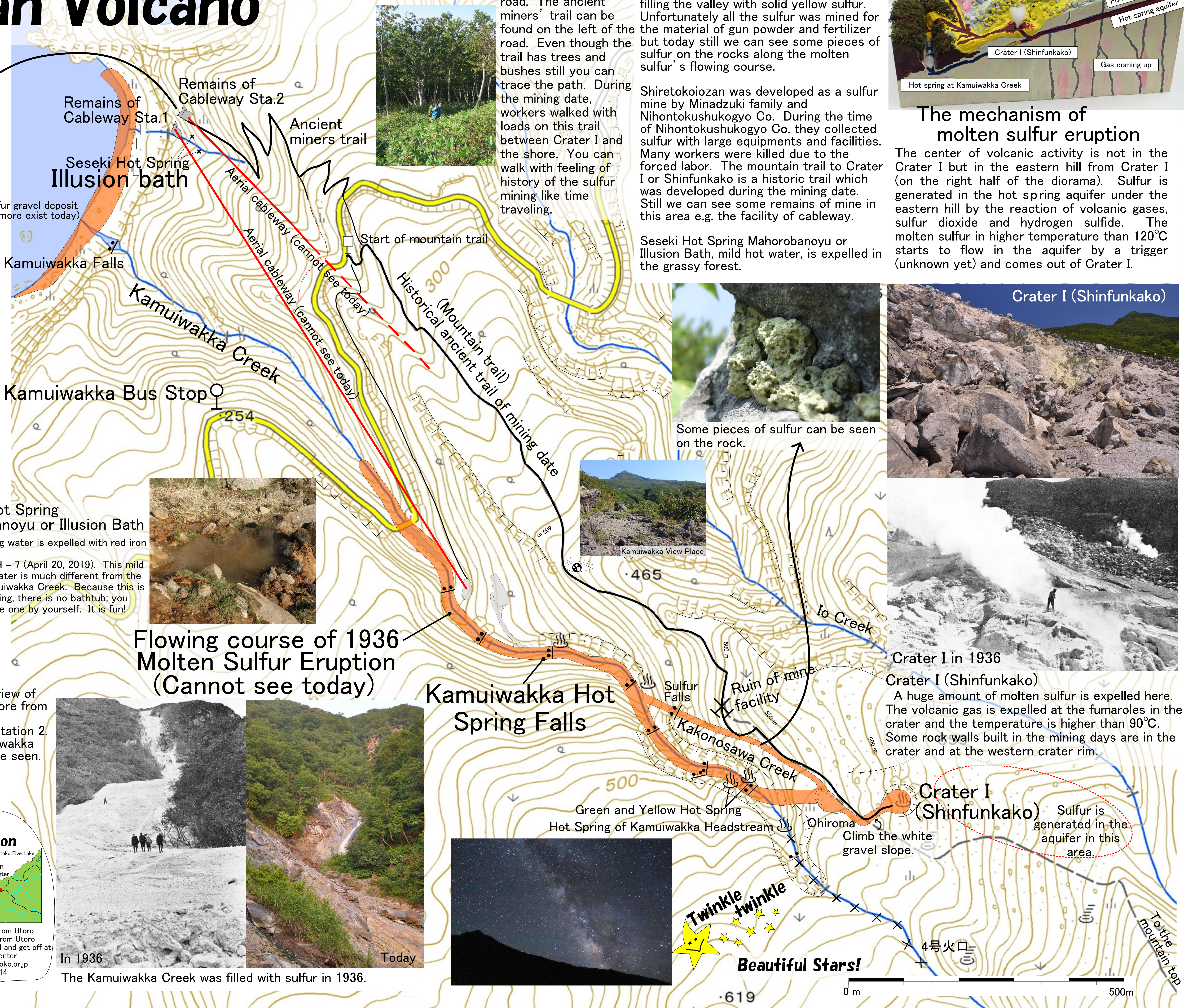
April 20 to Sept. 23, 2019
8:00 am to 5:30 pm
At Shiretoko Nature Center
Shari Town, Hokkaido

The World only Molten Sulfur Eruption at Shiretokoiozan Volcano
•The Kamuiwakka Creek was fully buried in a huge amount of sulfur 80 years ago
•What is the molten sulfur eruption like?
•The mechanism of molten sulfur eruption
•Amazing tools which were used for researching the Shiretokoiozan

Many new findings!



10 minutes by car from Utoro
10 minutes by bus from Utoro
Onsen Bus Terminal and get off at Shiretoko Nature Center
http://center.shiretoko.or.jp
Phone: 0152-24-2114

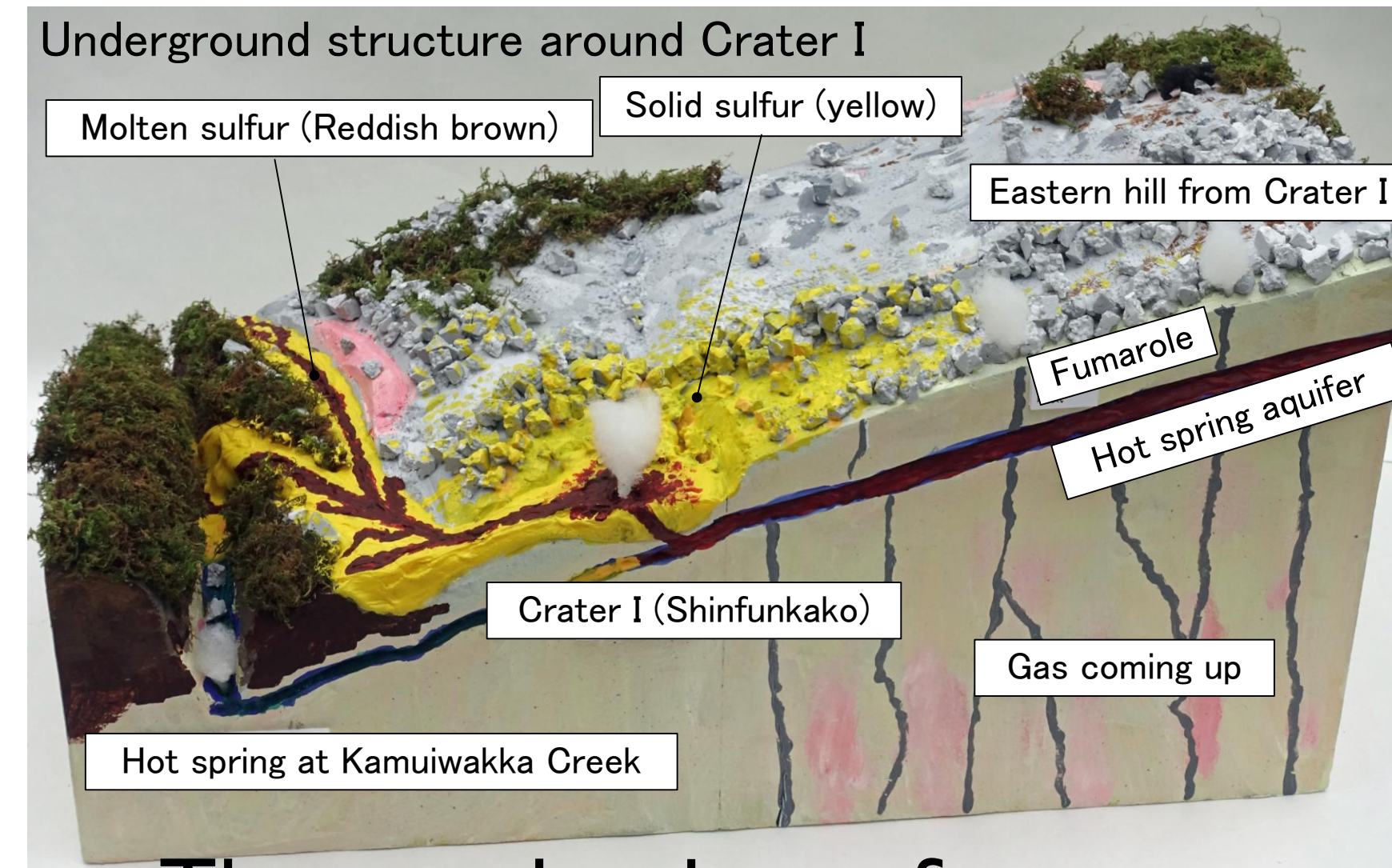


Just pass the entrance of mountain trail to Shiretokoiozan and continue to walk for 120m along the vehicle road. The ancient miners' trail can be found on the left of the road. Even though the trail has trees and bushes still you can trace the path. During the mining date, workers walked with loads on this trail between Crater I and the shore. You can walk with feeling of history of the sulfur mining like time traveling.

Shiretokoiozan is the only volcano which erupts a huge amount of molten sulfur. The last eruption was 1936. 116,523 tons of molten sulfur was expelled at Crater I (today it is called "Shinfunkako") and flowed into the Kamuiwakka Creek while filling the valley with solid yellow sulfur. Unfortunately all the sulfur was mined for the material of gun powder and fertilizer but today still we can see some pieces of sulfur on the rocks along the molten sulfur's flowing course.

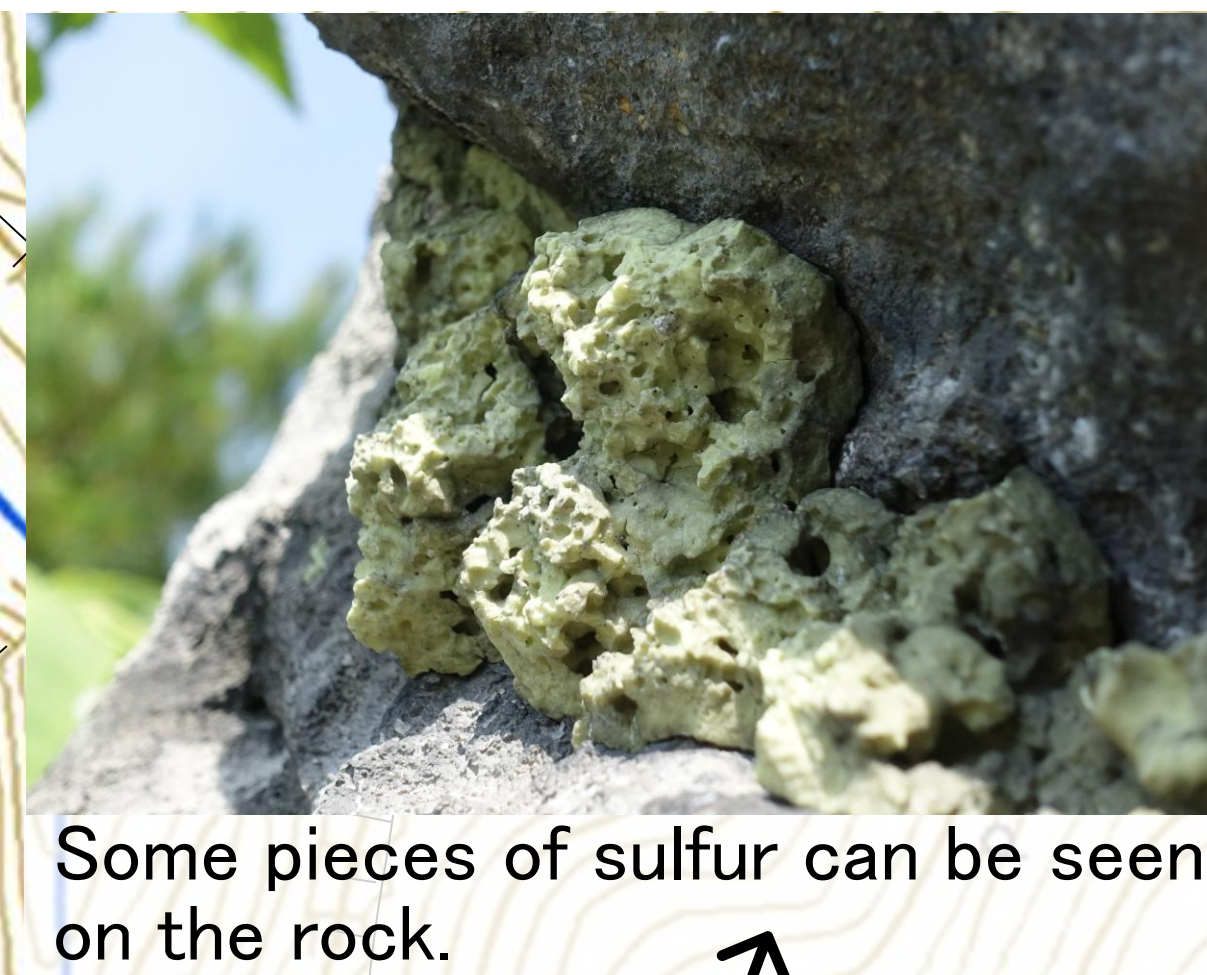
Shiretokoiozan was developed as a sulfur mine by Minadzuki family and Nihontokushukogyo Co. During the time of Nihontokushukogyo Co. they collected sulfur with large equipments and facilities. Many workers were killed due to the forced labor. The mountain trail to Crater I or Shinfunkako is a historic trail which was developed during the mining date. Still we can see some remains of mine in this area e.g. the facility of cableway.

Seseki Hot Spring Mahorobanoyu or Illusion Bath, mild hot water, is expelled in the grassy forest.



The mechanism of molten sulfur eruption

The center of volcanic activity is not in the Crater I but in the eastern hill from Crater I (on the right half of the diorama). Sulfur is generated in the hot spring aquifer under the eastern hill by the reaction of volcanic gases, sulfur dioxide and hydrogen sulfide. The molten sulfur in higher temperature than 120°C starts to flow in the aquifer by a trigger (unknown yet) and comes out of Crater I.

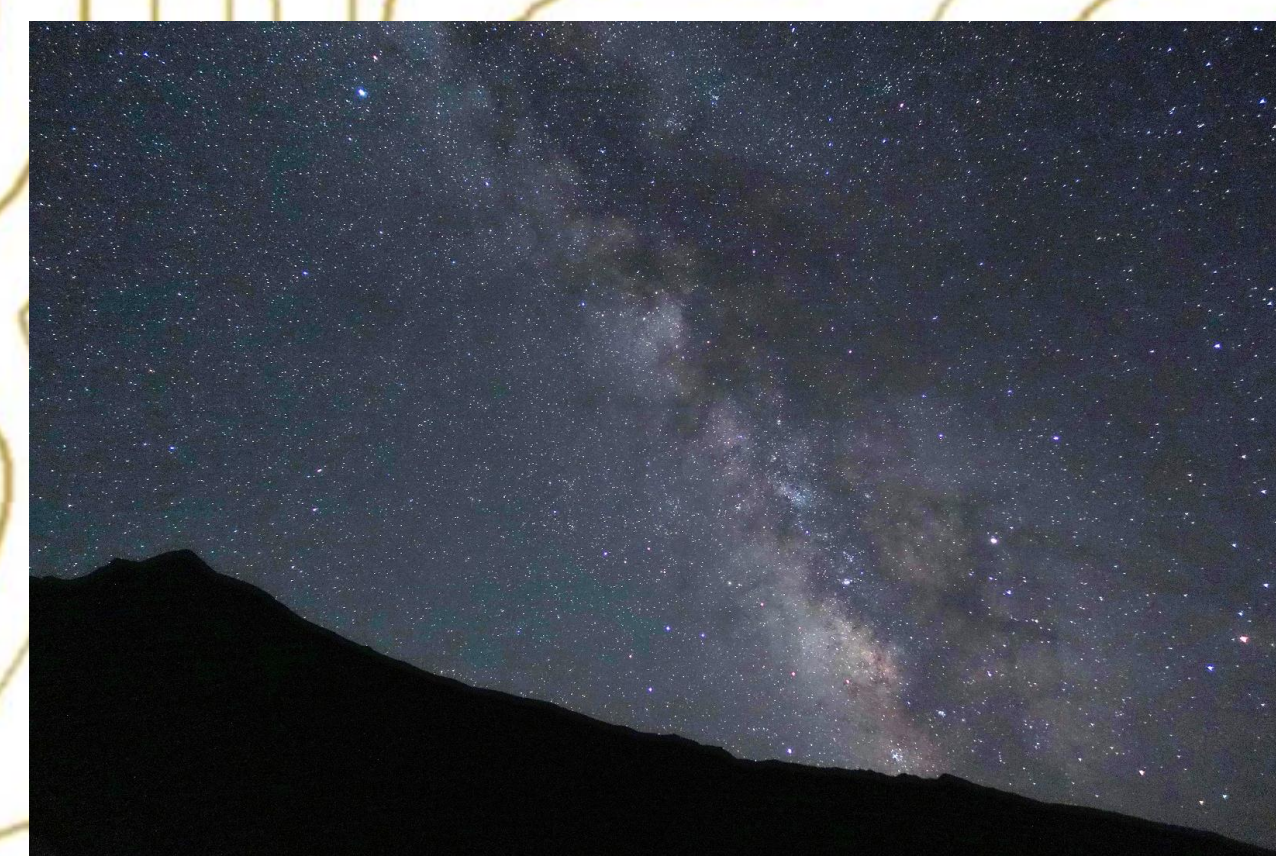


Crater I (Shinfunkako)
A huge amount of molten sulfur is expelled here. The volcanic gas is expelled at the fumaroles in the crater and the temperature is higher than 90°C. Some rock walls built in the mining days are in the crater and at the western crater rim.

Kamuiwakka Hot Spring Falls



The Kamuiwakka Creek was filled with sulfur in 1936.



0 m 500m