

The Reborned River

The ecology of Dan-Shui River



Introduction

Taipei, the capital of Taiwan, also our home sweet home. At first glance, it just a busy city, there are none of fascinating scenery around here. But in fact, the ecology of Taipei wouldn't be after other large city in Asia, even the world. Because there are lots of different topography, hills, mountains, basins etc. The biggest river is Dan-Shui River, Dan-Shui River has a good environment for creatures. So it has diversification of living creatures.

Chapter 1 Geography



Dan-Shui River is started from Shiue Shan. Trough Hsinchu, Tauyuan and Taipei, it go into the sea at Sharon beach and Wazihwei.

Dan-Shui River

There are three tributaries of Dan-Shui River. There are Keelung River, Dahan River, and Xindian River.

Changes in the History

In the old ages, maybe Dan-Shui River isn't like what we see now.

At the ancient times, Xilung, Taoyuan, Hsienchu had a lot of orogeny events. Taipei was still a normal plain. Then, Taipei get lower and became a huge lake at the northern Taiwan. It kept there for a long time. At last, a part around Taipei dropped down, water gets out trough the gap. Taipei Basin finally formed, and the rest water became a river, Dan-Shui River.

Tributaries --- Keelung River



Riverside Park

Government of Taipei started a project, straightened the river. The project was successful, and it solve the problem of the unstable river.

Keelung River is 80 kilometers long. From Pingshi to Guando. There is a dam at there are two upstream, calls Xinshan Dam and Xishi Dam.

The river becomes curved at Zongshan district, and causes terrible flood every summer.

Tributaries --- Xindian River



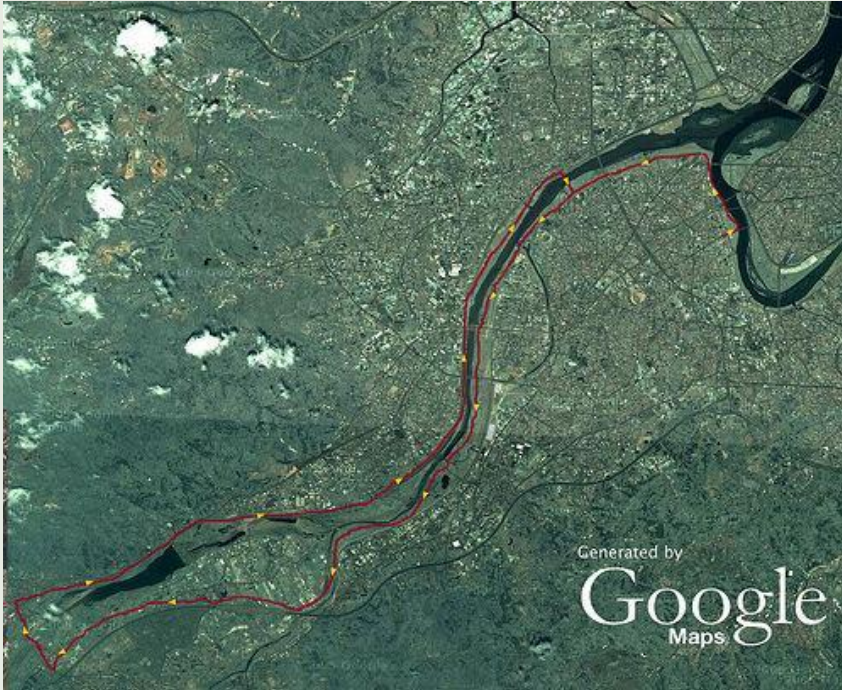
Xindian River



Feitsui Dam

Xindian River is about 81.5 kilometers long. Its main tributary is the Beishi River. And it finally merging with the Dahan River and feeding into the Tamsui River. The Feitsui Dam spans the river southeast of Taipei.

Tributaries-Tahan River



The Dahan River is a river in Taiwan. It flows through New Taipei City, Taoyuan County, and Hsinchu County for 135 kilometers. It is dammed in Taoyuan County by the Shimen Dam, which forms Shimen.

Chapter 2 Plants



Dan-Shui River has a large height different from the highest 3,000 meters to 500 meters. Belonging to the wet and hot weather, so there are countless plants besides the river bank. And it also constructed a rich environment.

Wetlands --- Guandu



Guandu wetland

It is famous with different birds at different times

The mean annual temperature Guandu is about 22 C . And the year's total rainfall is about 2071 mm. Guandu has various kinds of creature such as fiddler crabs and the most famous one, Kandelia candel .

Wetlands --- Wazihwei



Mangroves



Walkway

Wazihwei is a wetland at the end of the Dan-Shui River. According to that, there are lots of mangroves there. Mangroves are a special kind of plant, viviparous plants. There are also a lot of bushes there. It is a rich environment.

Chapter 3 Animals



Because the spot witch river goes into the sea has fresh water and salt water together, it bred lots of different animal. The wetlands also produce a place for migratory birds to take a rest. It is a wonderful land of animals.

Reptiles



Snakes and crabs are the reptiles around Dan-Shai River bank. On the wetland, fiddler crabs had a lot of space. Their big chela become their sign. Cobras and bungarus are live next to Dan-Shui River, they may bite people.

Amphibians



Several amphibians around Dan-Shui River .

Embankment makes habitat be isolated and reduce the diversity.

It will cause negative impact on the distribution of species of amphibians and it will make the animals get less and less.

Now people start to change, hope we will see a clean river in the near future.

Birds



There are about 143 kinds of birds around Dan-Shui River. Most of them take the animal in Dan-shui River as their food. Some of them are migratory birds. But their living space was getting dirtier and dirtier for a period of time. Now we are going on saving the habitats.

Fishes



A few years ago, Dan-Shui River had been cleaned by the government of Taipei. The project saved the nearly broken environment from the water pollution. Because of that, Dan-Shui River is getting cleaner and cleaner now. Fishes which disappeared before now come back again.

Conclusion

In the past Dan-Shui River is very clean but several years ago people started to pollute the river, that caused a lot of problems. Creatures died because of the pollution. Only a few creatures survived from the disaster. Now people are trying to heal the river. Now we are in a half-finished situation, we are still working. Hope we can recover the habitat of Dan-Shui River.