

1. Background to temporary entry to the restricted area

The 20km-radius area from the Fukushima Daiichi NPP was designated as an evacuation order area and the government requested the residents not to enter the area. On April 21, 2011, the Director-General of the Nuclear Emergency Response Headquarters (the Prime Minister) issued an order to the heads of the municipalities of the evacuation order area that the 20km-radius area from the Fukushima NPP be designated as a restricted area where people except personnel involved in the emergency response such as police officers, fire defense and Self-Defense Forces, etc. are not allowed to enter or are ordered to leave.

Most of the residents within the 20km-radius area had to flee their homes shortly after the nuclear accident without their necessary belongings. For this reason, they strongly requested the public authorities for a temporary return to their homes. Following the request, the temporary entry project started. It was led mainly by the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry.

Four temporary entry rounds (from the first round in May 2011 till the fourth round in May 2013) were implemented.

2. Overview of the temporary entry project

(1) Area

The 20km-radius area of the Fukushima NPP excluding the 3km-radius area, area with high air dose rate and area presumed to be dangerous due to the damage by the tsunami.

Cities, towns and villages included in this project: Tamura, Minamisoma, Naraha, Tomioka, Okuma, Futaba, Namie and Katsurao.

(2) Measures for safety

To ensure the safety of the participants, they were required to act as follows:

- One person per family allowed to enter the area. Travel by a chartered bus in a group to enter the area. (From the 2nd round, the participants were allowed to enter the area by their own personal cars with fellow passengers.)
- Before entering the restricted area, wear protective gear and take a personal dosimeter and a portable wireless device.
- After returning to the entry point, make sure to undergo body contamination screening.
- Belongings allowed to take out: minimum necessary belongings (the volume that would fit into one plastic bag or so) such as wallets and bank passbooks. Allowed to stay at home for up to two hours. (During the 1st round period, there was another entry only to take their private cars out of the area.)

(3) Entry points

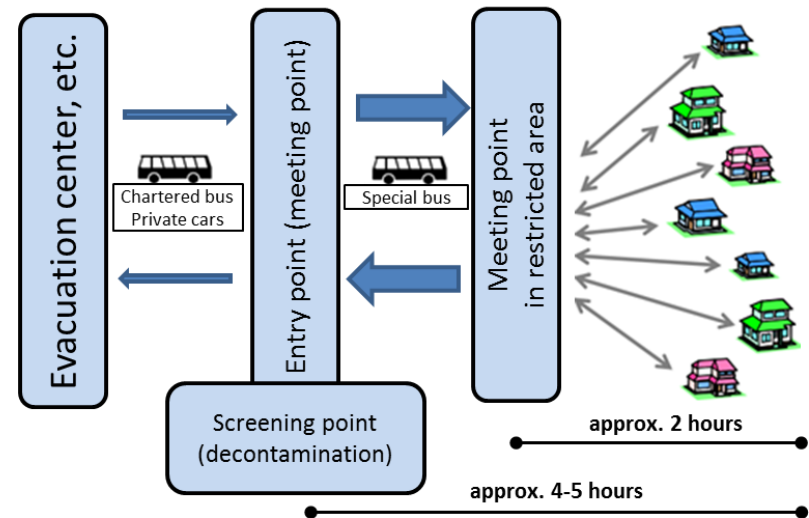
The entry points were set at the following four points which are within the 20km-30km radius from the Fukushima NPP.

- Minamisoma Bajikoen
- Kodo Gymnasium in Tamura
- Sports Center in Kawauchi
- Hirono Central Gymnasium
(From the 3rd round, the point was changed to Road Station Naraha.)

Residents meeting at an entry point



Diagram for temporary entry



Source: Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry website



A masked special bus from/to an entry point

(4) Actual temporary entries

Four rounds were implemented.

- 1st Round
 - ✓ Period: May 10 - September 7, 2011 (Special temporary entry to take private cars out of the area: June 1 - September 9)
 - ✓ Person allowed to participate in the entry: One person per family. Children under age 15 and people with difficulties in walking due to old age or illness were not allowed to participate in the entry.
 - ✓ Belongings allowed to take out: Minimum necessary belongings in the volume that fitted into a plastic bag with 70cm x 70cm or so. Pet animals, livestock and foods were not allowed to take out of the area.
 - ✓ Transportation: (i) Gather at an entry point designated for each municipality; (ii) From the entry point, travel to the next point in the restricted area by a chartered special bus as a community group; (iii) From the meeting point in the restricted area, walk to each home; (iv) Return to the meeting point in two hours; (v) Travel back to the entry point by a chartered special bus.
- 2nd Round
 - ✓ Period: September 19 – December 24, 2011
 - ✓ Transportation: Chartered bus or private cars
 - ✓ Number of people allowed to participated in the entry by private car: two people or more or up to car's quota for safety reasons. Duration: within four hours between leaving and returning to the entry point (within five hours for Futaba and Okuma)
 - ✓ Belongings allowed for participants to take out by car: as much as loadable into a car, except for pet animals, livestock and foods. (Protection of dogs and cats was separately responded by public authorities.)
 - ✓ Belongings volume allowed for participants entering by bus to take out: as much as each participant could hold and loadable on the bus .
- 3rd Round
 - ✓ Period: January 29 – April 22, 2012
 - ✓ Changes from the 2nd round:
 - A drive-through style entry at the entry points was adopted. Entry permission card was sent to the residents in advance from the municipalities. No need for the residents to get out of the car at the entry points. Only their identification was checked.
 - Residents were allowed to be accompanied by moving vendors and building repair vendors.
- 4th Round
 - ✓ Period: May 19 – July 15, 2013

Source: Website of the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry
 Website of the Nuclear Regulation Authority
 Photo: Japanese Red Cross Society

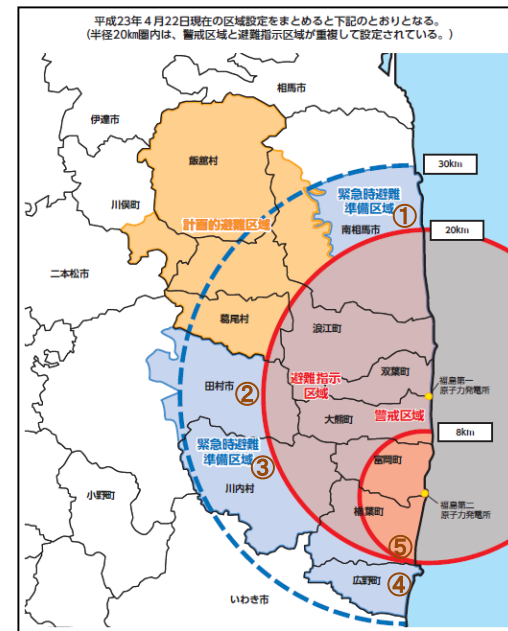


Residents taking screening at an entry point



Screening of a private car

Entry points



- 1 Minamisoma Bajikoen
- 2 Kodo Gymnasium in Tamura
- 3 Sports Center in Kawauchi
- 4 Hirono Central Gymnasium
(1st and 2nd rounds)
- 5 Road Station Naraha
(3rd and 4th rounds)