

A Fukushima Azuma Baseball Stadium



(March 12, 2019)

Near the Azuma Baseball Stadium is a multipurpose space where containers of decontaminated soil from throughout the city are piled high.

B Fukushima's Okuma-machi: Designated



(March, 2019)

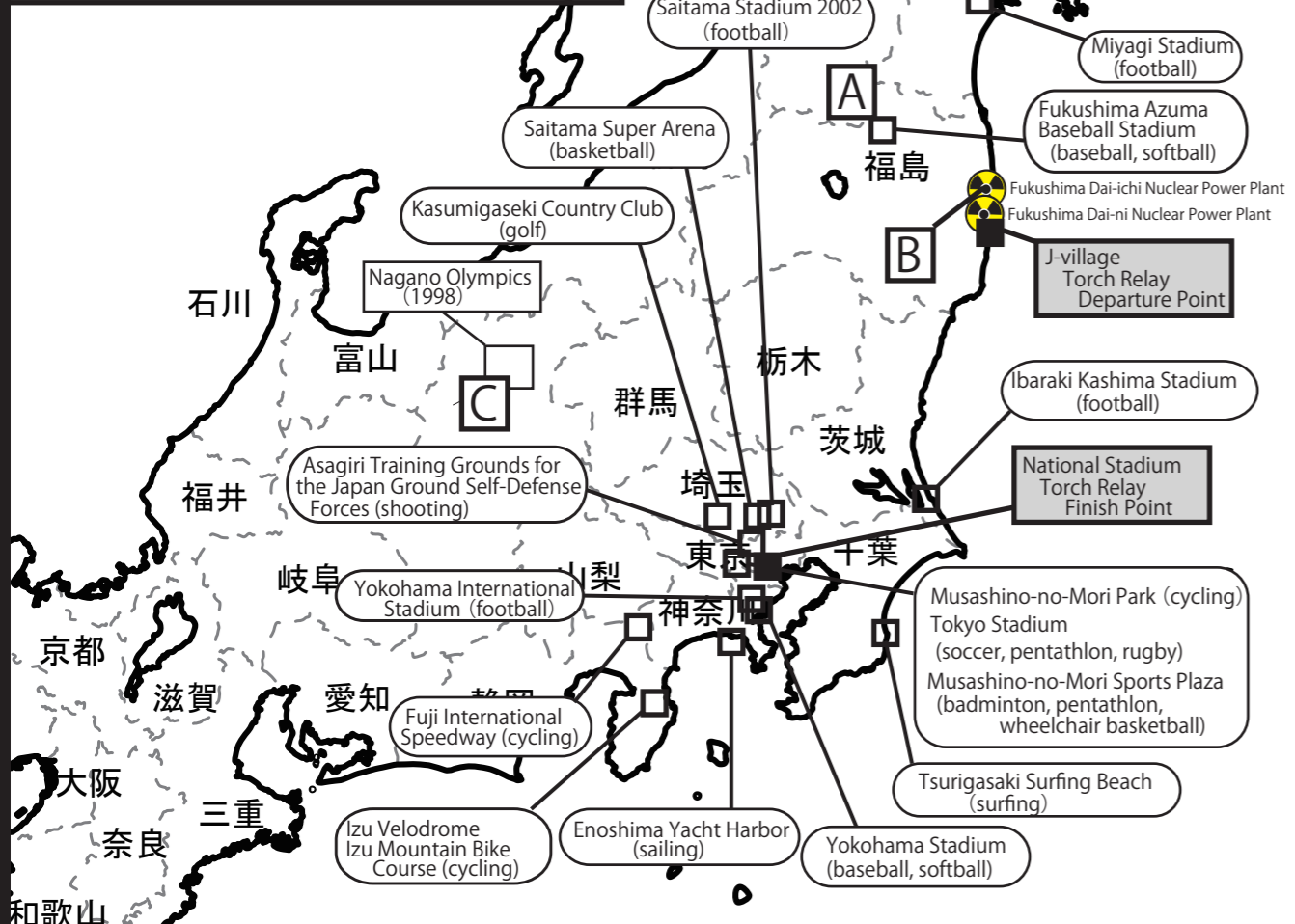
Roads leading to residents' homes have all been blocked by barricades.

C Nagano Olympics



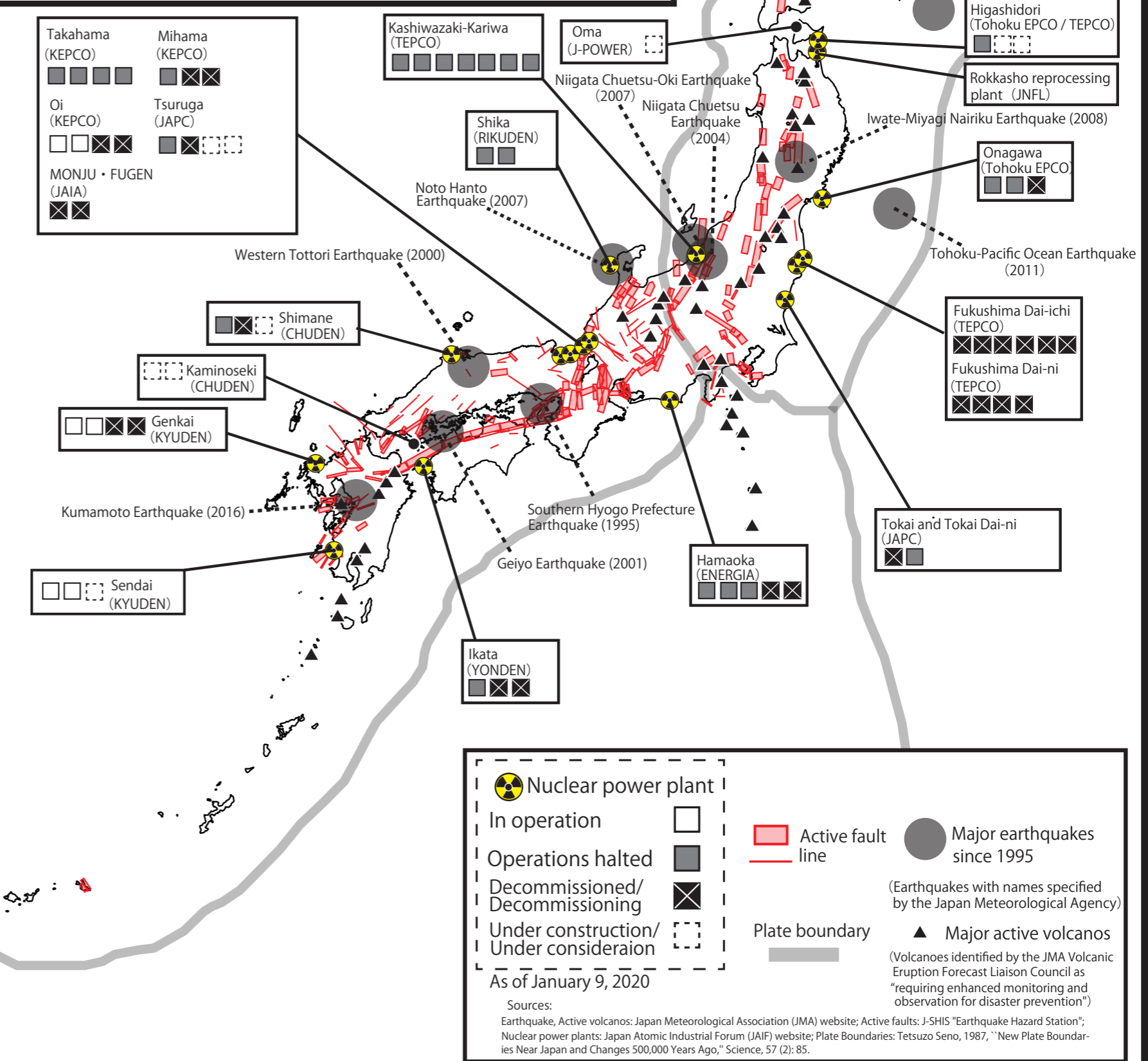
(February, 2017)

Nagano, which hosted the 1998 Winter Olympics at great ecological and public cost, has been strapped with debt for the last 20 years. The Hakuba Jump Arena is empty even during ski season.



Nuclear impacts and the 2020 Olympics

J-Village, located just 20km from the site of TEPCO's 2011 nuclear accident at Fukushima Dai-ichi Nuclear Power Plant, has been designated as the departure point for the Tokyo 2020 Olympic torch relay to Tokyo's New National Stadium under a banner of a "Recovery Olympics". The Japanese government has been trying to cut aid to evacuees by 2020, although 32,769 people still stay in shelters outside Fukushima prefecture and 9,323 in prefectural shelters (2019 Reconstruction Agency announcement) where their day-to-day lives remain insecure and complicated by stress and psychological trauma from radiation exposure. This year officials tried to remove 80% of Fukushima's 3000 radiation monitoring posts installed across the prefecture after the 2011 accident, but abandoned the plan following strong local opposition. It bears remembering that the nuclear emergency declaration has not yet been lifted. Prospects for completing cleanup operations at the site of the 2011 Level 7 nuclear accident, measuring higher than any in history, are poor; moreover, serious problems of radiation exposure are increasingly affecting workers at the clean-up site. Prime Minister Abe continues to disregard the gravity of the situation. Moreover, in the interest of increasing exports in nuclear power technology, he has been using the Olympic Games as a platform for conveying to the world that Japan's "nuclear power plants are safe", and "reconstruction has ended".



As of January 9, 2020

Sources:
 Earthquake, Active volcanos: Japan Meteorological Association (JMA) website; Active faults: J-SHIS "Earthquake Hazard Station";
 Nuclear power plants: Japan Atomic Industrial Forum (JAIF) website; Plate Boundaries: Tetsuzo Seno, 1987, "New Plate Boundaries Near Japan and Changes 500,000 Years Ago," Science, 57 (2): 85.