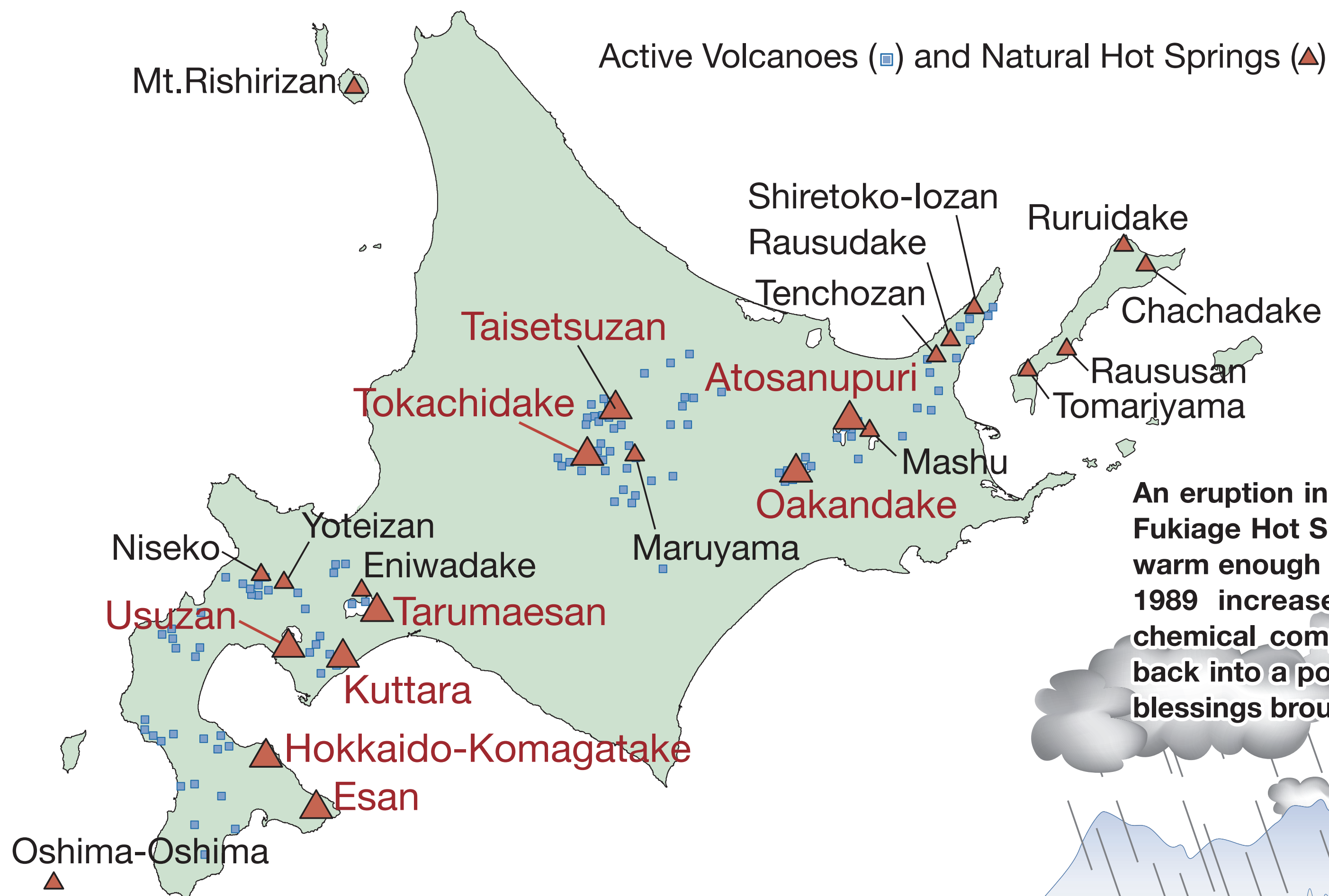


Abundant Blessings Brought by Volcanoes

In locations with active volcanoes, it is thought that there are hot magma chambers for many kilometers underground. Precipitation seeps underground where it is heated by the magma, causing it to emerge from the earth through cracks and faults. In Hokkaido, such volcanically active areas are home to many natural hot springs.

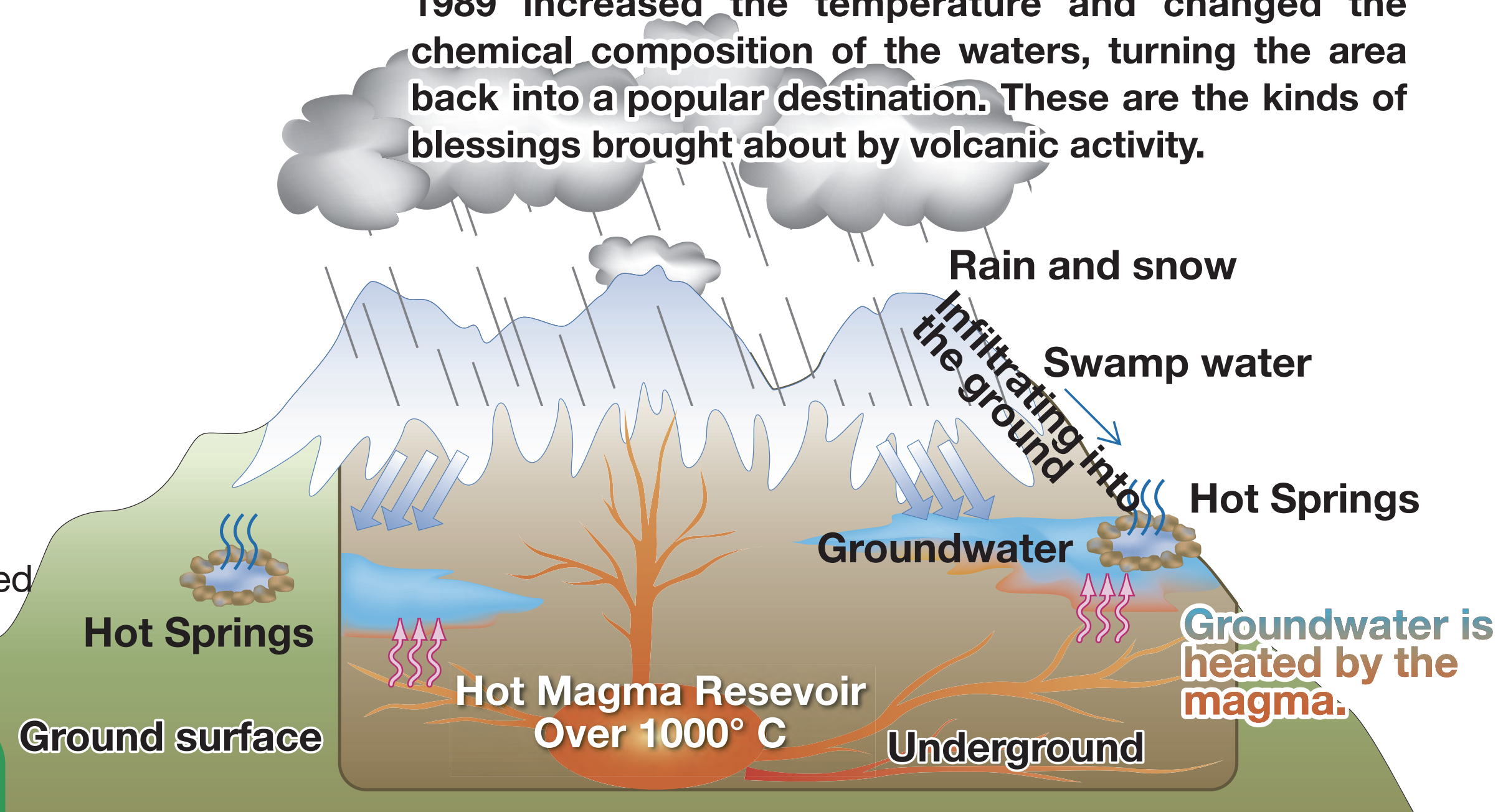


The larger ▲s indicate volcanoes where monitoring and observation systems for disaster prevention need to be improved



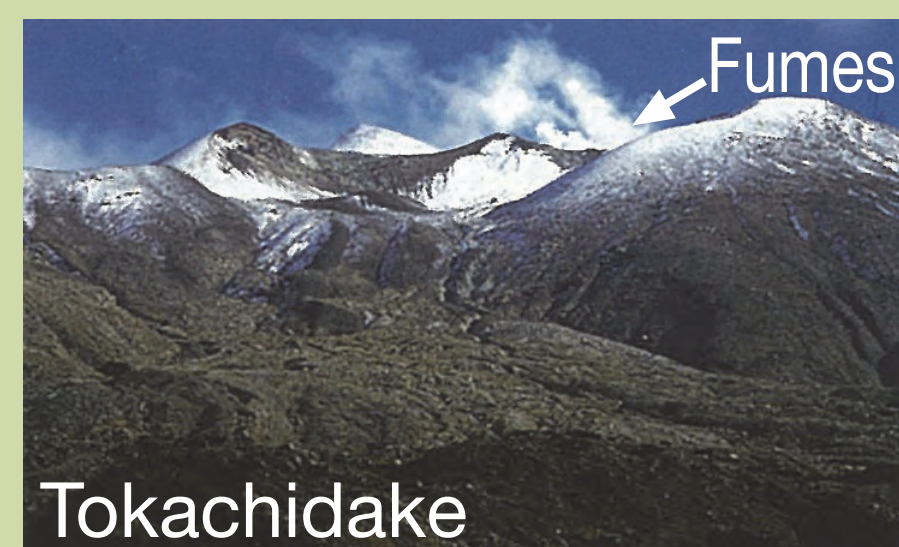
Fukiage Open-Air Hot Springs
Kamifurano Tokachidake Tourist Association

An eruption in 1962 cooled the waters of Mt. Tokachi's Fukiage Hot Springs so much that they were no longer warm enough for bathing. Then, eruptions from 1988 to 1989 increased the temperature and changed the chemical composition of the waters, turning the area back into a popular destination. These are the kinds of blessings brought about by volcanic activity.



Hokkaido's Active Volcanoes

Hokkaido is home to many active volcanoes. If you include the 11 on the prefecture's northern islands, there are 31 in total. Volcanic activity experts from the CCPVE (Coordinating Committee for Prediction of Volcanic Eruption) have specified 50 active volcanoes in Japan where there is possibility of eruption leading to disaster in the next century, indicating that further monitoring and observation systems for disaster prevention need to be improved at these locations. Of these, nine are in Hokkaido. (current as of 2018)



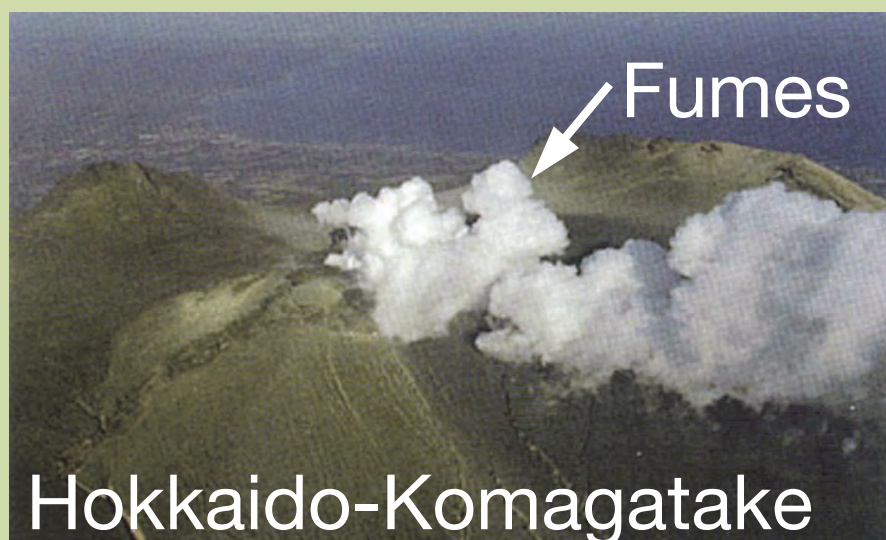
Tokachidake



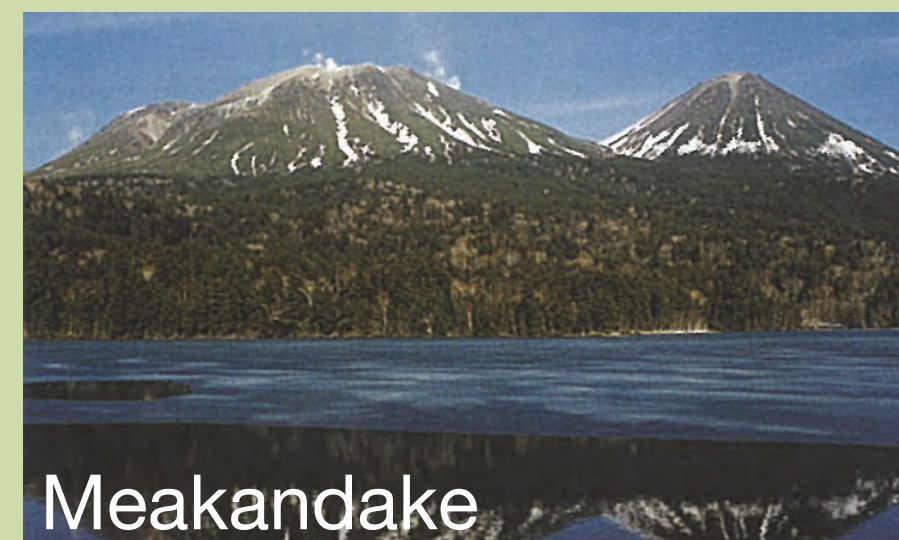
Usuzan



Tarumaesan



Hokkaido-Komagatake



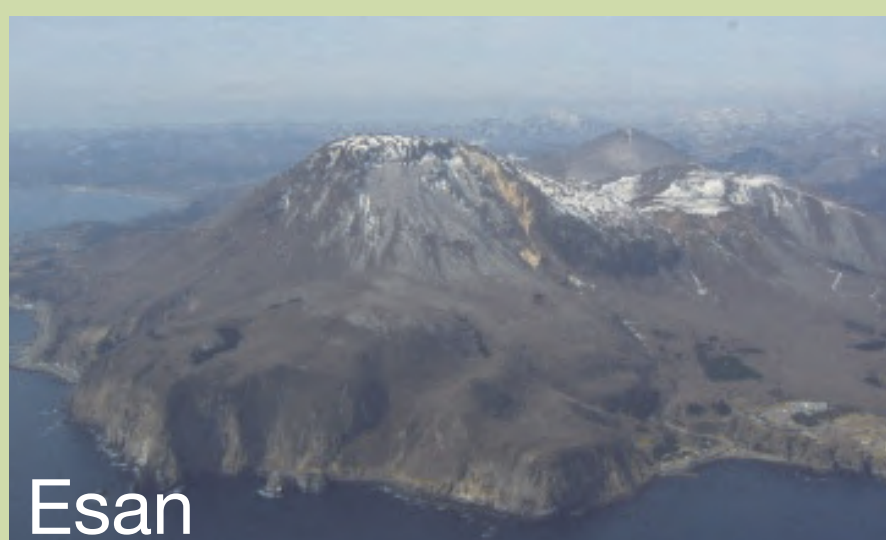
Meakandake



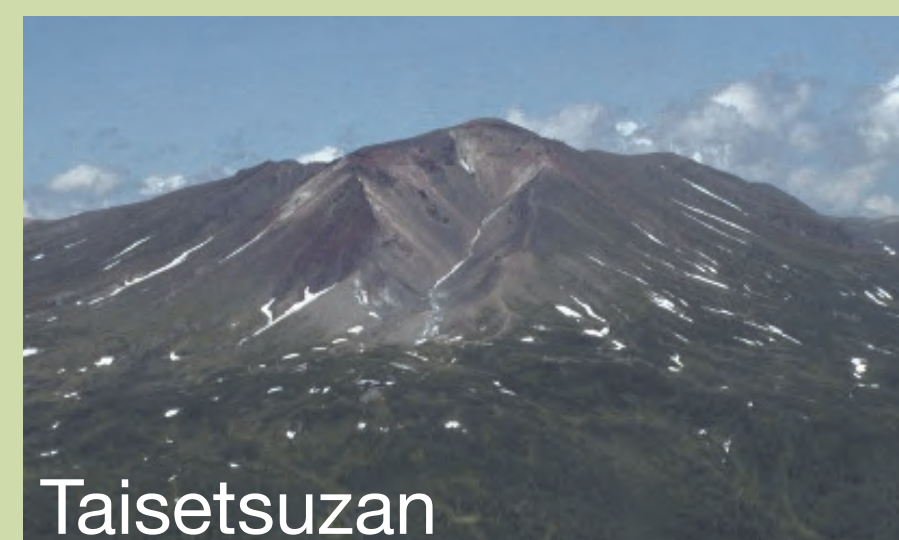
Atosanupuri



Kuttara



Esan



Taisetsuzan