

Enjoy the ocean safely !

In the last five years, 58 people, including foreigners, have been involved in swimming-related accidents in Hokkaido. Let's familiarize ourselves with the dangers of the ocean and the measures to prevent accidents so we can all enjoy the ocean safely.

Based on the website of the First Regional Coast Guard Headquarters (As of June 2026)

Know the dangers of the ocean!

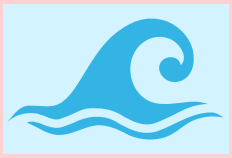
Rip Currents

Rip currents pull away from the shore and are not easily seen. They are strong and can quickly sweep you out to the open ocean. Swimming parallel to (alongside) the shoreline can help you get out of the current.



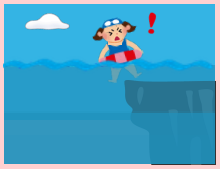
Wind and Waves

Wind and waves can change at anytime. You may be suddenly hit by a large wave and drown, or strong winds may flip over inflatable float toys, etc. or carry them far away.



Ocean Floor

When in the ocean, it is difficult to see the ocean floor. You could injure yourself on stones or rocks (wearing water shoes can help prevent accidents). The ocean floor can suddenly become very deep, which can lead to drowning if you are not paying attention.



Dangerous Creatures

There are poisonous creatures in the ocean, such as jellyfish and stingrays. You might get stung and panic, so if you see one, keep your distance and don't touch it!



Prevent swimming-related accidents!

Use designated swimming areas!

Over the past five years, 12 people have died swimming in non-designated swimming areas in Hokkaido. Please use designated swimming areas with lifeguards or other safety personnel.



Stop careless and reckless behavior!

Do not enter the ocean if you are feeling unwell. Before you go into the water, make sure to stretch properly. Reckless behavior is the cause of many fatal accidents. Protect yourself by wearing a life jacket, etc.



Don't go swimming in bad weather!

Check the weather forecast in advance! The weather is prone to change, so check the latest forecast for stronger winds and whitecaps.



Call 118
for ocean related accidents and incidents



Check information about marine safety here!

Water Safety Guide

https://www6.kaiho.mlit.go.jp/watersafety/

www.hiecc.or.jp/soudan support@hiecc.or.jp TEL: 011-200-9595 FAX: 011-221-7845