

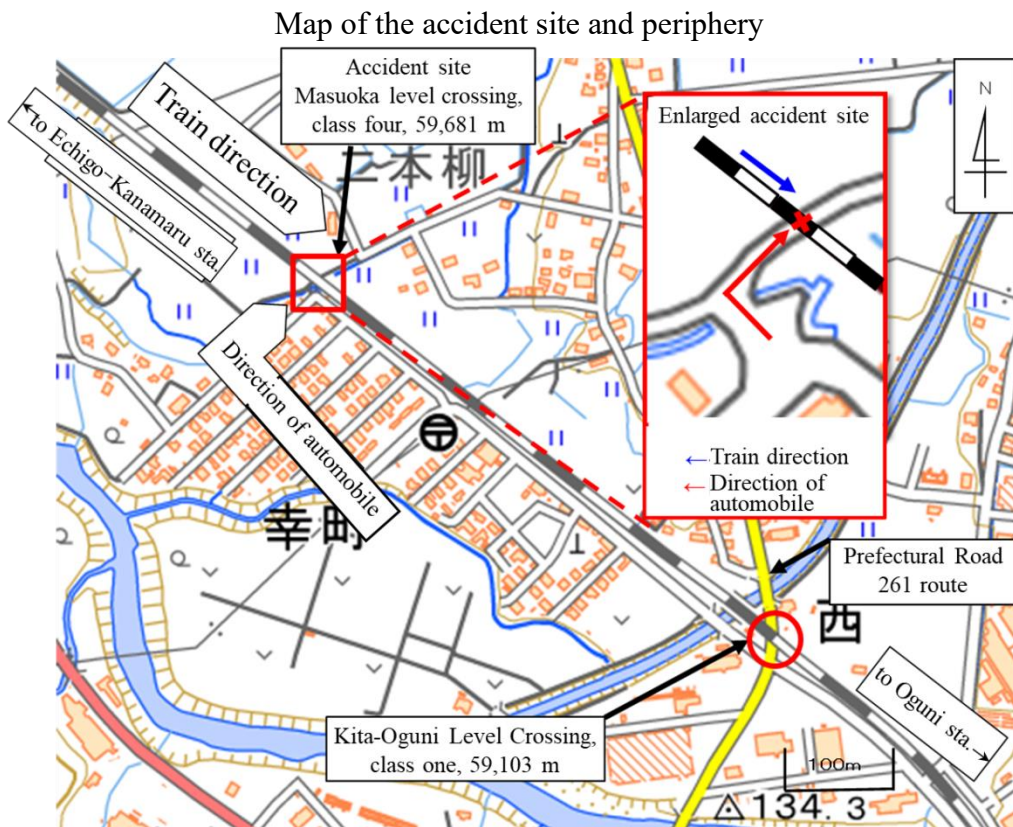
"The accident with fatality caused by the collision of train and light motor vehicle occurred in the Class four level crossing"

Railway operator : East Japan Railway Co. Ltd.
 Accident type : Level crossing accident
 Date and time : About 14:07, May 16, 2021
 Location : Masuoka Level Crossing, Class four level crossing without crossing gate nor road warning device, at around 59,681 m from Yonezawa station, between Echigo-Kanamaru station and Oguni station, single track, Yonesaka Line, Oguni Town, Nishi-Okitama County, Yamagata Prefecture

<SUMMARY>

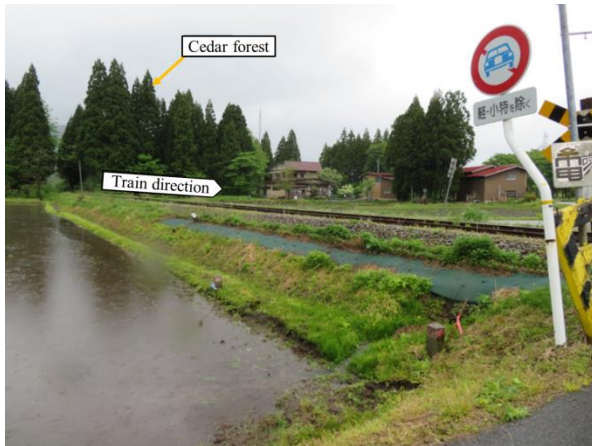
On Sunday, May 16, 2021, while the inbound 1130D train, started from Sakamachi station bound for Yonezawa station, Yonesaka Line of East Japan Railway Co., Ltd., was running between Echigo-Kanamaru station and Oguni station at the velocity of about 52 km/h, the driver of the train noticed the light motor vehicle entering Masuoka Level Crossing, Class four level crossing, so that applied the emergency brake immediately, but the train collided with the light motor vehicle.

The driver of the light motor vehicle was dead in this accident.

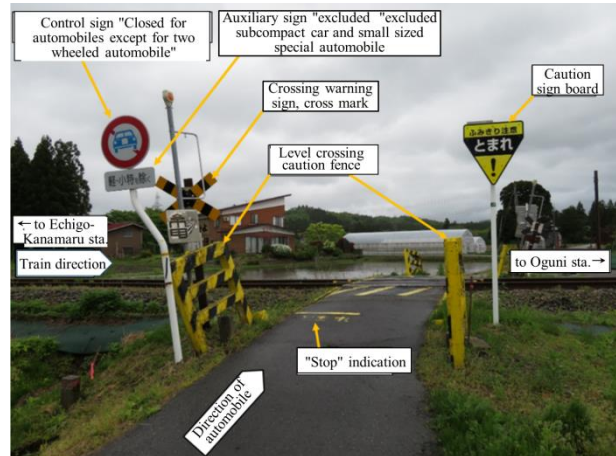


* This figure was made using the Geographical Institute Map, Electrical Country Web, of the Geospatial Information Authority of Japan

Sighted status of trains viewed from the entered side of the light motor vehicle



Status of the Masuoka Level Crossing



<PROBABLE CAUSES>

It is certain that this accident was caused by the collision of the train and the light motor vehicle which entered Masuoka Level Crossing, the Class four level crossing where the crossing gate and road warning device were not equipped, in the status that the train was approaching to the level crossing.

It could not be revealed the details of the reason why the light motor vehicle entered the level crossing in the status that the train was approaching because the driver of the light motor vehicle was dead, although, it is likely that the driver of the light motor vehicle did not notice the approaching train.

<MATTERS EXPECTED TO PREVENT RECURRENCE>

The Class four level crossings, where crossing gate and road warning device are not equipped, shall be abolished or install the level crossing protection devices. This accident occurred in the situation that the railway company had been approaching to Oguni Town for the abolishment. Based on these situations, it is necessary for the relevant parties, such as the railway company, Oguni Town and the local residents, etc., to promote the consensus-building by the discussions for the abolishment or the installation of level crossing protection device of Masuoka Level Crossing, and implement the measures for the safety, in order to improve the safety of Masuoka Level Crossing.

In addition, it is important to encourage the improvement of consciousness for safety and the understandings on the traffic laws and regulations of the users of level crossing, such as the faithful practice of the once stop just before the level crossing, etc., against the users of Masuoka Level Crossing by the enlightening activities till the above measures are taken.

[Details can be obtained by the railway accident investigation report in the home page of the Japan Transport Safety Board, i.e., http://www.mlit.go.jp/jtsb](http://www.mlit.go.jp/jtsb)