



Teshio River, the second largest river in Hokkaido, originates on Mt. Teshiodake and flows north through the center of the city before emptying into the Sea of Japan. In addition to being home to a wide variety of aquatic life, the river also brings an abundance of nature and water resources to the river basin.

A variety of freshwater fish can be found in the Teshio River. These include migratory fish that travel back and forth between the river and ocean. Salmon, trout, and other similar fish head to the nutrient-rich ocean after hatching to grow before returning to the river to spawn. The presence of migratory fish brings a sense that, despite its location far from the ocean, Shibetsu is still connected to the ocean through the Teshio River.



Through linearization, the Teshio River that once meandered along as it flowed, has left behind lakes and marshes known as oxbow lakes and horseshoe lakes along a portion of those curves. Within the city, these lakes can be found in the Hinata district of Tayoro-cho as well as in Minamishibetsu-cho and serve as a place for many waterfowl to rest their wings during the spring and fall. One of these horseshoe lakes was also used to create the pond in Tsukumo Suigo Park to provide a place of relaxation and refreshment for citizens that evoked images of the river's former course.

