

Long-Distance Transoceanic Rafting Communities  
on Tsunami Marine Debris

東日本大震災による津波とともに漂着瓦礫がもたらした  
海洋無脊椎動物の越境移動について

TUMSAT, Shinagawa Campus  
May 18, 2017

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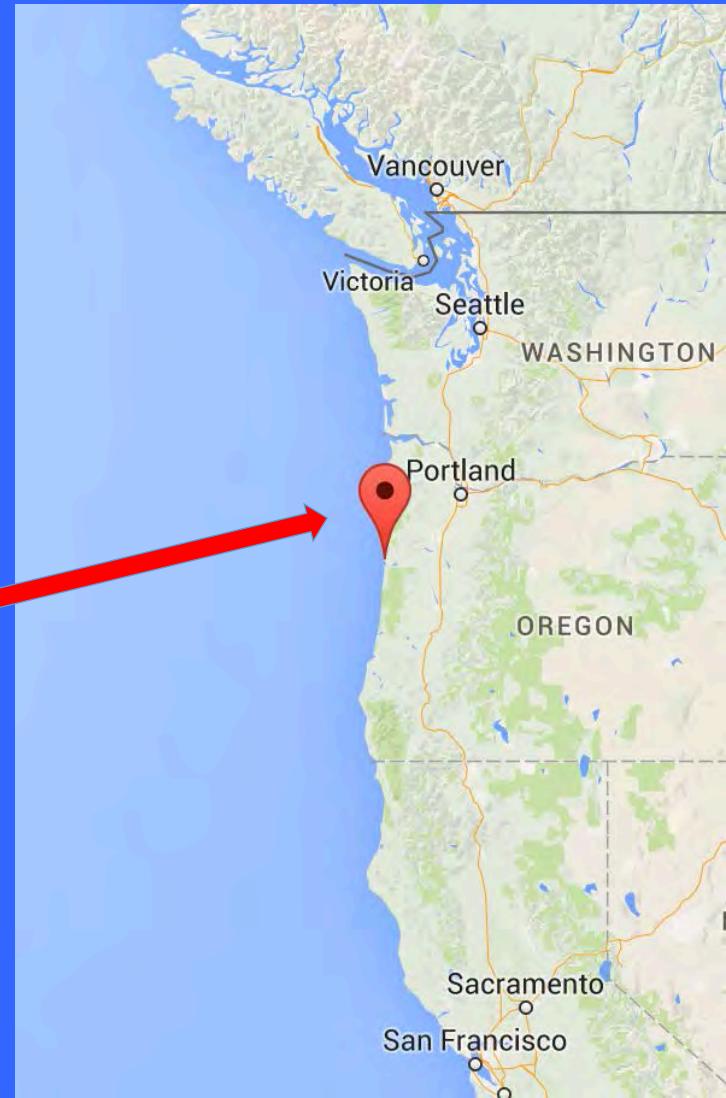
Gregory Ruiz

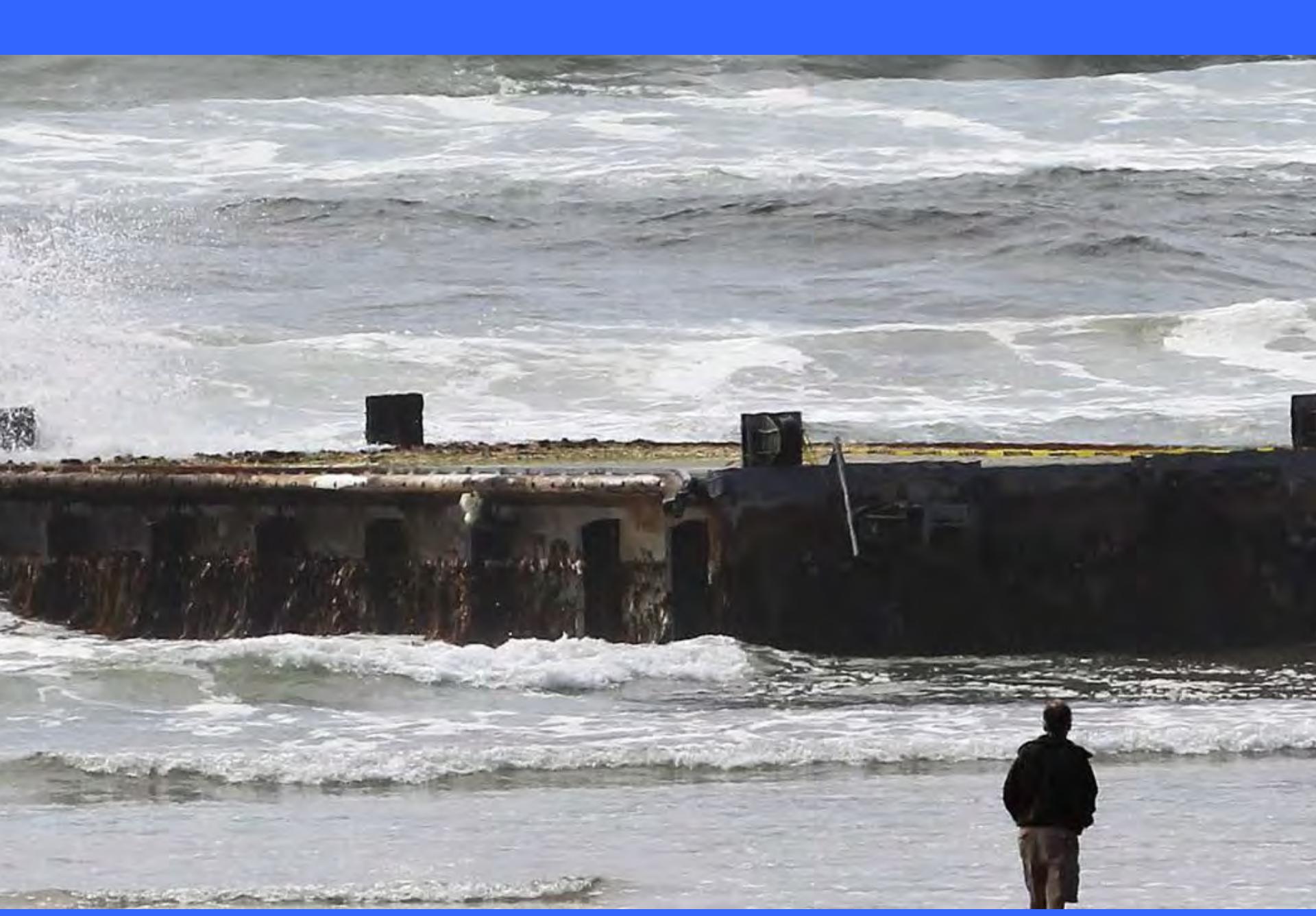
Smithsonian Environmental Research Center



# Our first “meeting” (encounter) in North America with Japanese Tsunami Marine Debris (JTMD): **June 5, 2012, in Oregon**

- On the morning of Tuesday,  
**June 5, 2012**
- 451 days (14.5 months) after  
March 11, 2011 .....
- Morning beach walkers reported  
that a “large dock” had floated  
ashore just north of,  
**Newport, Oregon**

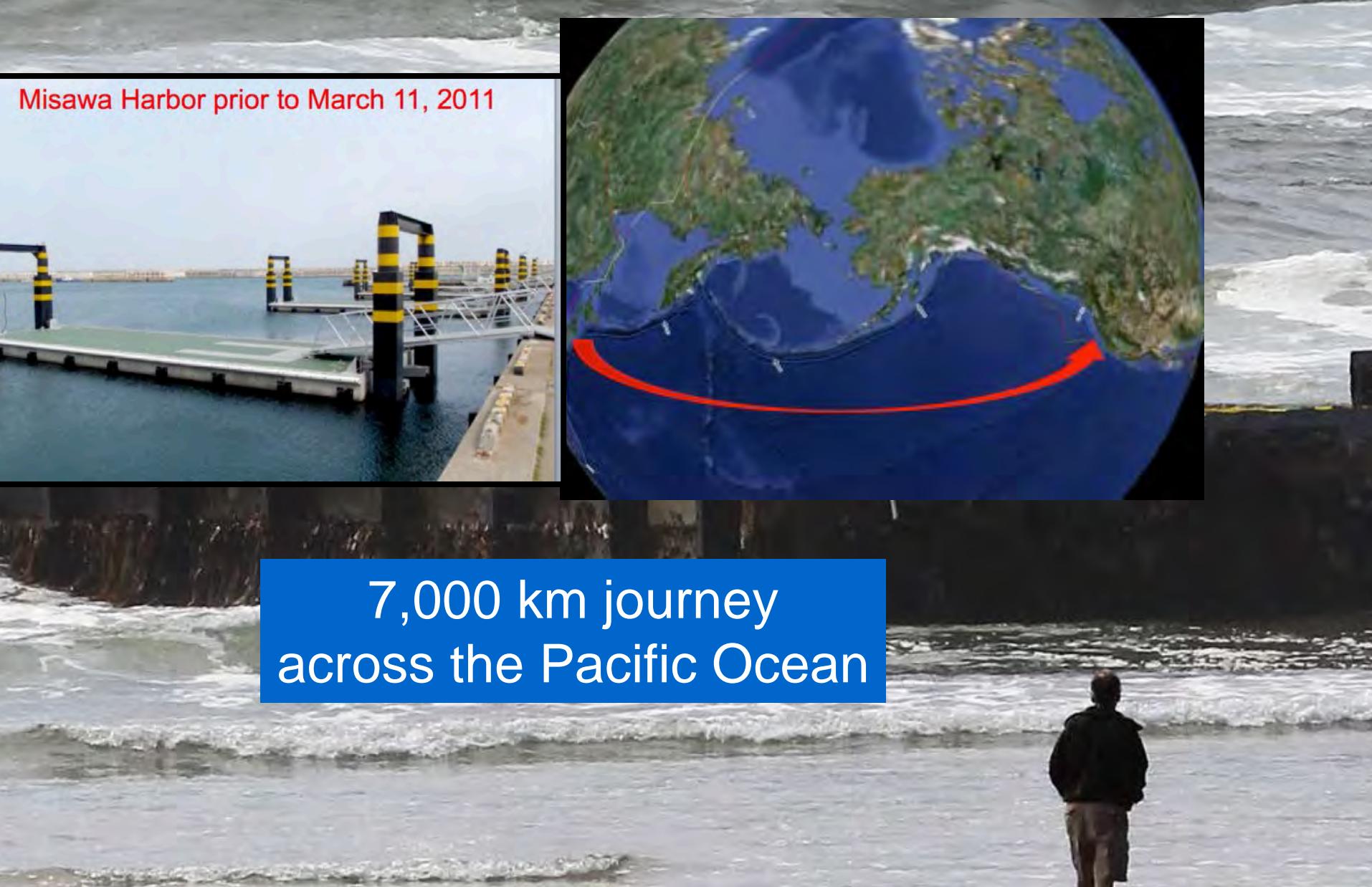




# Port of Misawa, built 2008

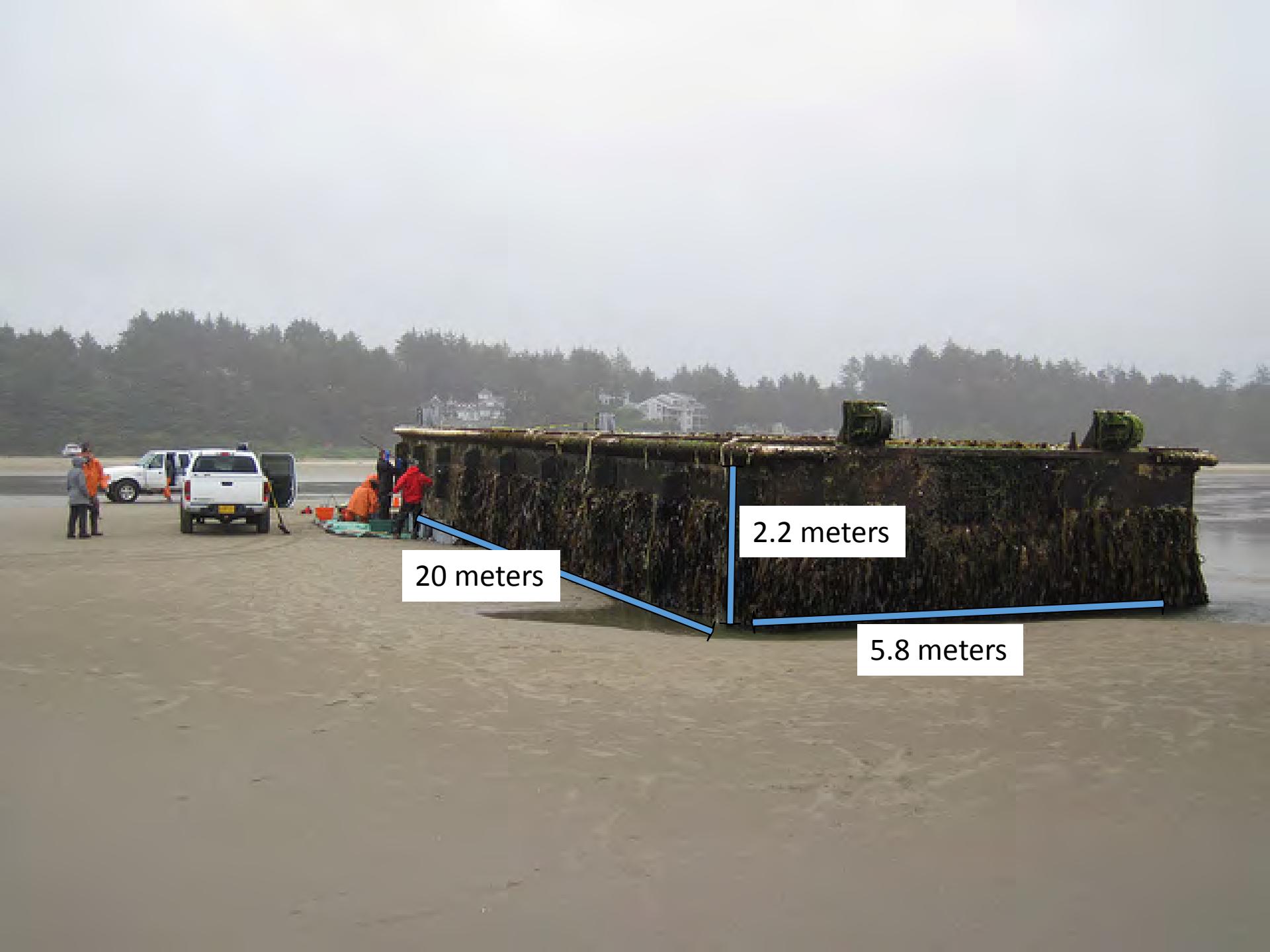


AP



Misawa Harbor prior to March 11, 2011

7,000 km journey  
across the Pacific Ocean



20 meters

2.2 meters

5.8 meters

Mediterranean mussel  
*Mytilus galloprovincialis*

Wakame  
*Undaria pinnatifida*





Inside the dock: Seastar *Asterias amurensis*

# Examples of coastal organisms on “Misawa 1”: Landed Agate Beach, Oregon, June 4, 2012

Sea urchin  
*Temnotrema sculptum*



Sea cucumber  
*Havelockia versicolor*



Seastar  
*Asterias amurensis*



Shore crab  
*Hemigrapsus*



*Semibalanus cariosus*



*Megabalanus rosa*

## ECHINODERMS



Sea squirt  
*Styela*



Jingle shell  
*Anomia Cytaeum (chinensis)*



Chiton  
*Mopalia seta*



Snail  
*Mitrella moleculina*

Mussels:  
*Mytilus galloprovincialis*,  
*M. coruscus*, *M. trossulus*, *Musculus cupreus*



## MOLLUSKS (12 species)

128 species arrived  
on Misawa 1

Limpets:  
*Lottia sp.*;  
*Nipponacmea habei*

Sea anemone  
*Metridium senile*



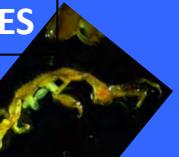
Polynoidae



Syllidae

## POLYCHAETE WORMS (28 species)

## BARNACLES



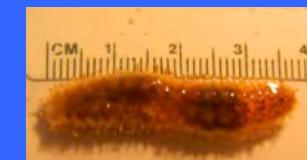
*Jassa marmorata*,  
*Ampithoe valida*,  
*Caprella spp.*

## AMPHIPODS



## BRYOZOANS:

*Tricellaria*,  
*Cryptosula spp.*,  
*Watersipora*



# On the Misawa Ark:

## WANTED DEAD OR ALIVE!

### THE NORTHERN PACIFIC SEASTAR *Asterias amurensis*



Help Protect Port Phillip Bay  
Eleven-armed seastars & Northern Pacific Seastars  
can be difficult to tell apart.  
You can help by returning your Native Seastars to the water.



- Usually has 11 arms
- Tips of arms not up!
- All native seastars are protected under the Victorian Fisheries Act 1995

- A single arm from a Northern Pacific Seastar returned to the water can grow back into a full body.

Seastar  
*Asterias amurensis*

## WATCH FOR THE INVASIVE KELP *UNDARIA PINNATIFIDA (WAKAME)*

This brown seaweed, native to Asia, has spread around the world to Australia, New Zealand, Europe, South America and California's harbors!

Its blade is thin, deeply lobed, and has a prominent midrib. It can be 1-6' long. There are tiny dots - tufts of hairs- scattered on the surface of the blade.



## Seaweed *Undaria pinnatifida*

The reproductive structure develops below the blade, just above the holdfast. It is deeply folded and frilled; it looks like ribbon candy or a pinecone.



If you find *Undaria*, take a picture and contact:

## Wanted dead, not alive INVADING SPECIES

Asian shore crab *Hemigrapsus sanguineus*



Aliases: Japanese shore crab, Pacific shore crab

## DESCRIPTION

Native to the western North Pacific Ocean, this crab ship ballast from Carolina. (35mm) across, w. Grows in on native

## Shore Crab *Hemigrapsus sanguineus*

Clawed and considered aggressive. Could displace existing crab population. May outcompete lobsters, mussels and crabs. Report crab sightings here.

## *Caprella mutica*

spiny red Caprellid amphipod, skeleton shrimp

## GUIDE TO MARINE INVADERS IN THE GULF OF MAINE



## PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION

- Slender crustacean with a skeletal appearance, long robust antennae and large claws
- Distinct ridges of small spines visible on the main body segments that begin at base of neck where the clawed forelegs join the body
- Found at all sizes, but full-grown males reach over 2" (5+ cm) in length, nearly twice as long as adult females
- Males have much longer neck segments and larger claws than females
- Body is often mottled red in color, particularly on full-grown adults
- Highly mobile, animated in appearance, seen "waving" back and forth on substrate, often in large groups; attached to substrate using small posterior legs

*Caprella mutica*, mature male (top) and female (bottom)



## Skeleton Shrimp *Caprella mutica*

on docks, pilings and ropes, as well as on many living substrates, particularly hydroids and macroalgae

Over the **next five years**, many objects with  
Japanese marine invertebrates and algae  
landed in  
North America and the Hawaiian Islands



## Japanese Colleagues Contributing to JTMD Biodiversity Research

<b>Takuma Haga</b>	National Museum	Bivalve mollusks
<b>Toshio Furota</b>	Toho University	General invertebrates
<b>Gyo Itani</b>	Kochi University	Crabs
<b>Hiroshi Kajihara</b>	Hokkaido University	Ribbon worms (Nemertea)
<b>Eijiroh Nishi</b>	Yokohoma Nat'l University	Marine worms
<b>Teruaki Nishikawa</b>	Nagoya University	Peanut worms (Sipuncula)
<b>Atsushi Nishimoto</b>	Nat'l Res. Inst. Fish. Sci	Shipworms (Teredinidae)
<b>Michio Otani</b>	Osaka Museum	Barnacles (Cirripedia) and general invertebrates
<b>Ichiro Takeuchi</b>	Ehime University	Caprellids (Amphipods)
<b>Hayato Tanaka</b>	Hiroshima University	Ostracods

# Examples of some of the most common Japanese species arriving in North America and Hawaii on tsunami rafts



*Mytilus galloprovincialis*  
Mediterranean Mussel



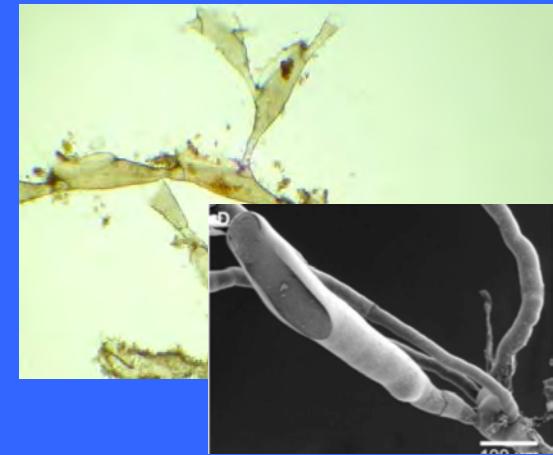
*Megabalanus rosa*  
Rosy Barnacle



*Jassa marmorata*  
Fouling Amphipod



*Ianiropsis serricaudis*  
Isopod crustacean



*Scruparia ambigua*  
Bryozoan  
("Moss animal")

# Japanese Seastars (Asteroidea)



*Asterias amurensis*

JTMD-BF: floating pier  
from Misawa, Japan  
Landed in Oregon



*Aphelasterias japonica*

JTMD-BF: Horsfall Skiff  
The "Third" Thriving  
(第三隆昌丸 [Dai-San-Ryu-Sho-Maru])  
Landed in Oregon



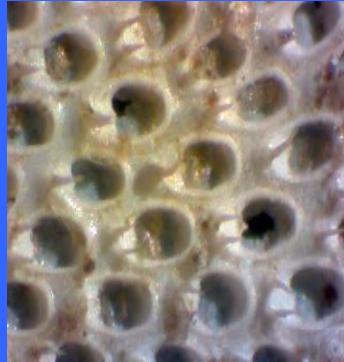
*Patiria pectinifera*

JTMD-BF : Carter Lake Skiff  
Landed in Oregon

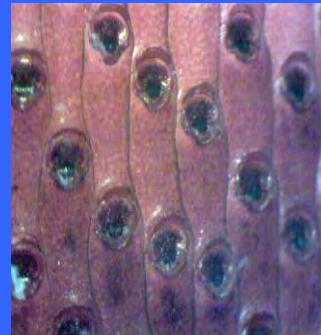


# Bryozoan Biofouling

## Japanese Species



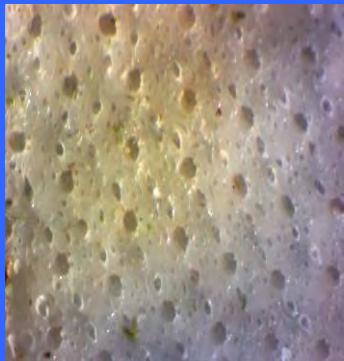
*Arbocuspis bellula*



*Watersipora sp.*



*Lichenopora  
radiata*



*Exochella sp.*



*Filicrisia sp.*



*Aetea truncata*  
... and many others

## Oceanic Species



*Jellyella eburnea*



*Jellyella tuberculata*

# Long Beach, Washington: March 22, 2013



Most vessels from Tohoku floated across the ocean  
upside down (bottom up)  
**but the *Sai-shou Maru* floated upright**



Lived in an aquarium until February 2016

*Oplegnathus fasciatus*  
“Barred knifejaw”

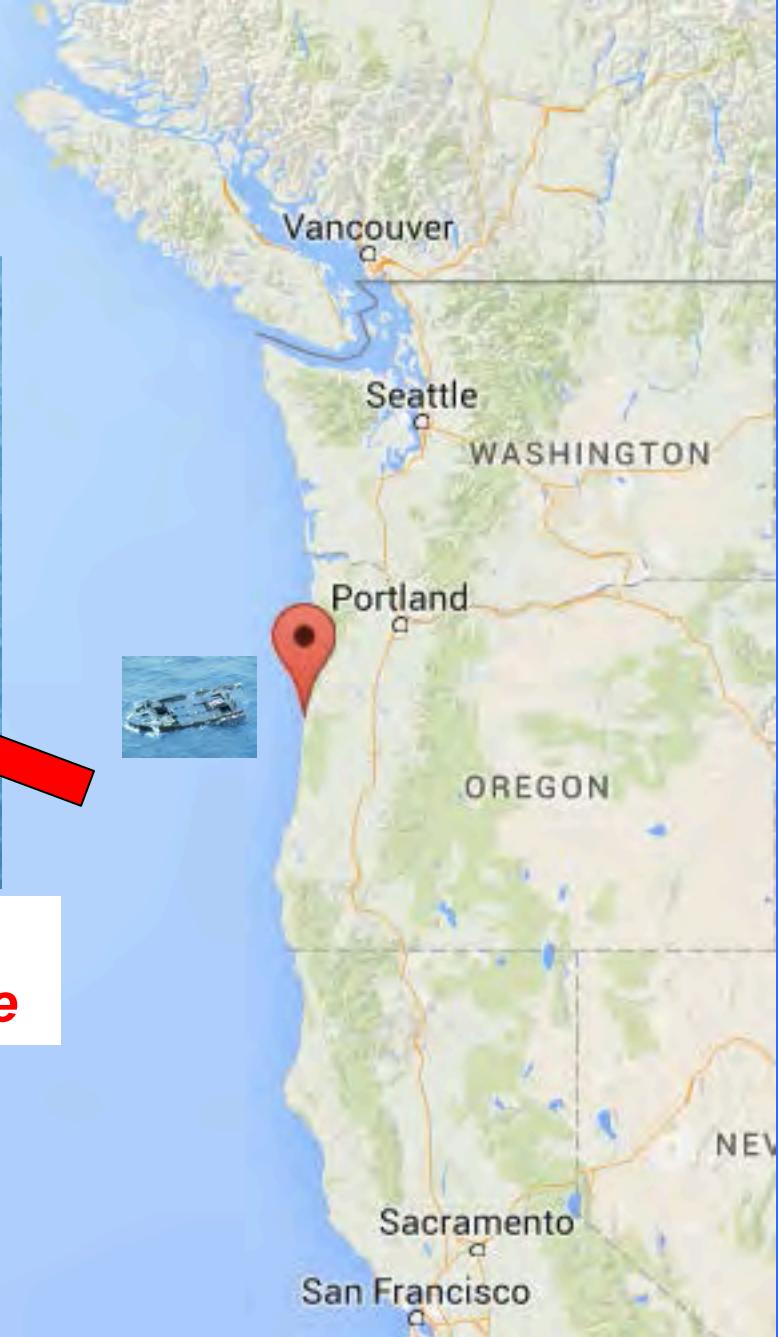
(“Striped beakperch”  
“Striped beakfish”, “False parrotfish”)

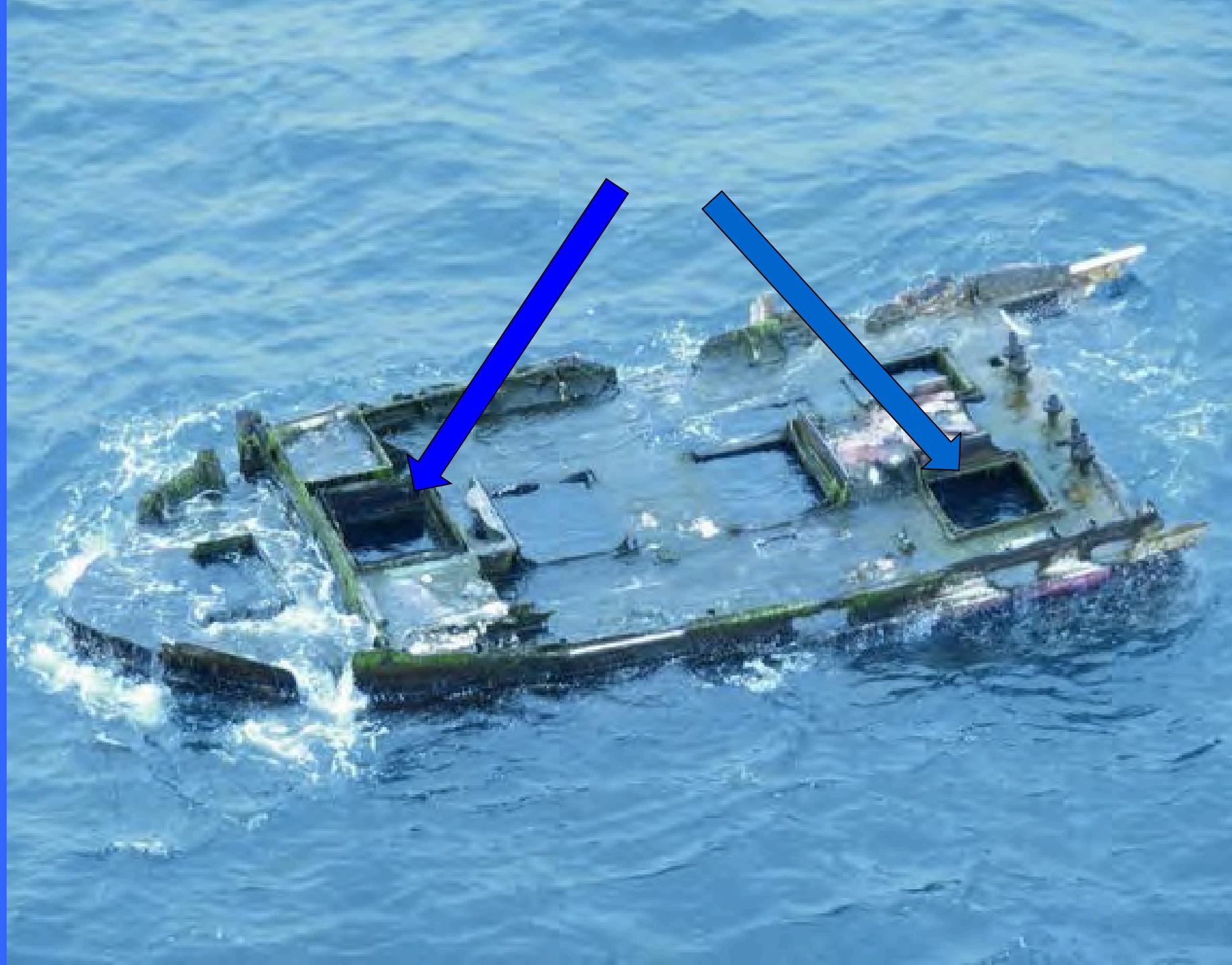


April 9, 2015



*Front half of a  
vessel likely from Iwate Prefecture*





*Seriola lalandi*  
“Yellowtail amber jack”  
(Western Pacific)

