

Long-Distance Transoceanic Rafting Communities  
on Tsunami Marine Debris

東日本大震災による津波にともなう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

Tohoku University, Sendai  
May 19, 2017

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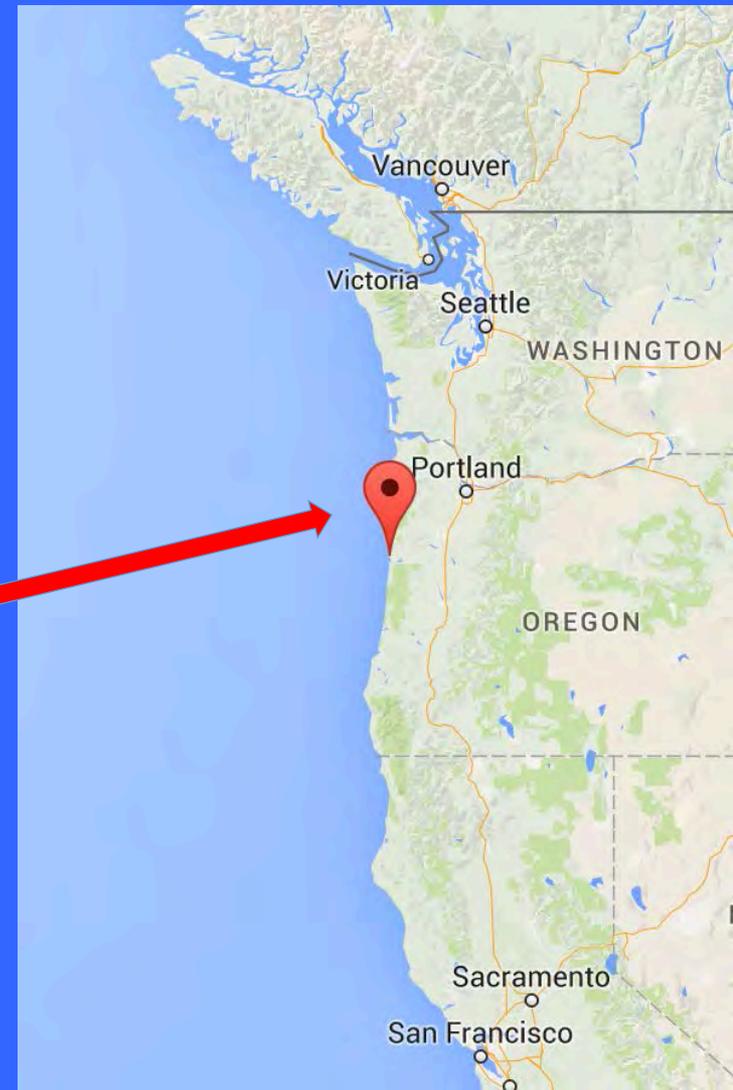
Gregory Ruiz

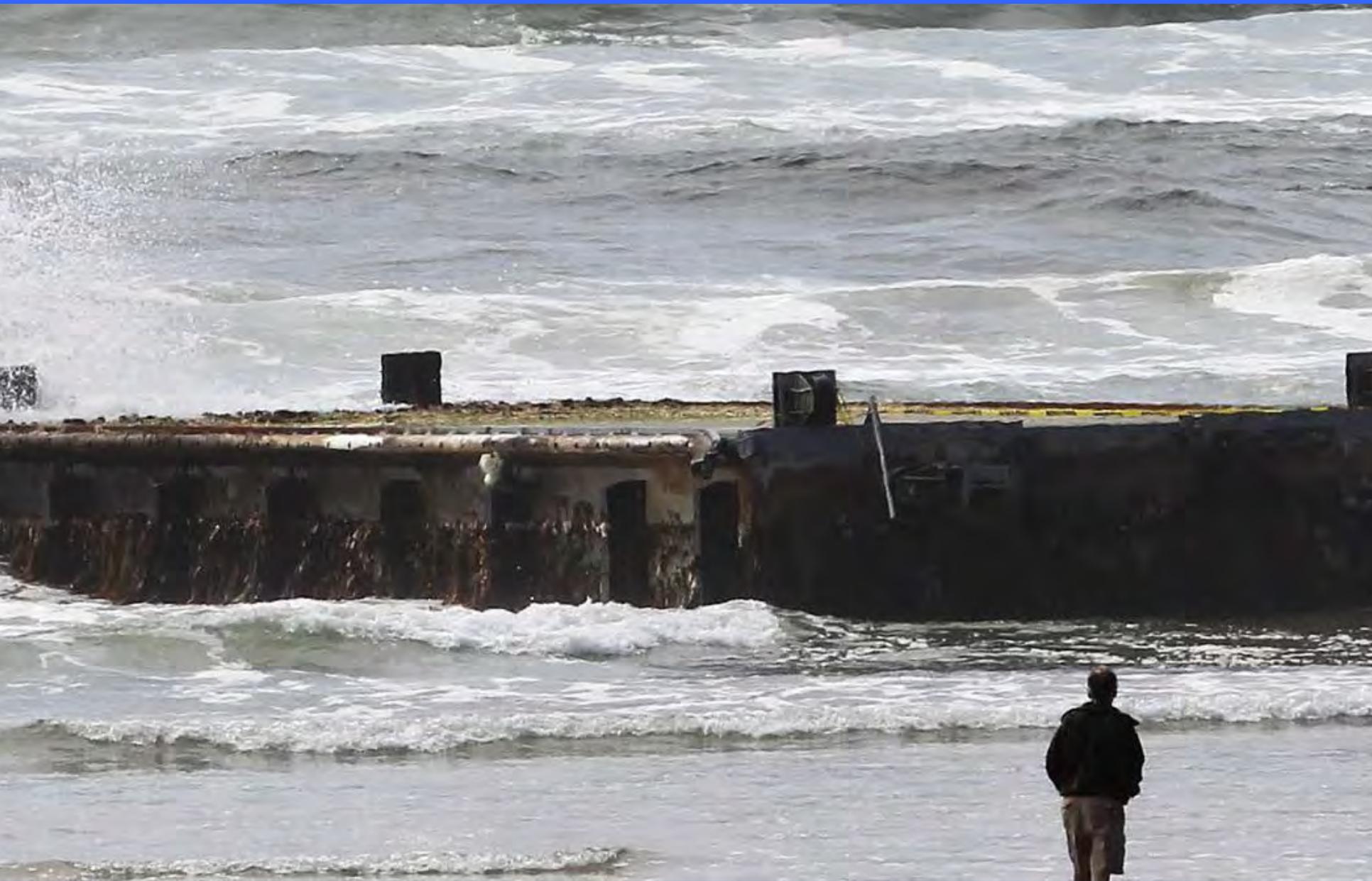
Smithsonian Environmental Research Center



# 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

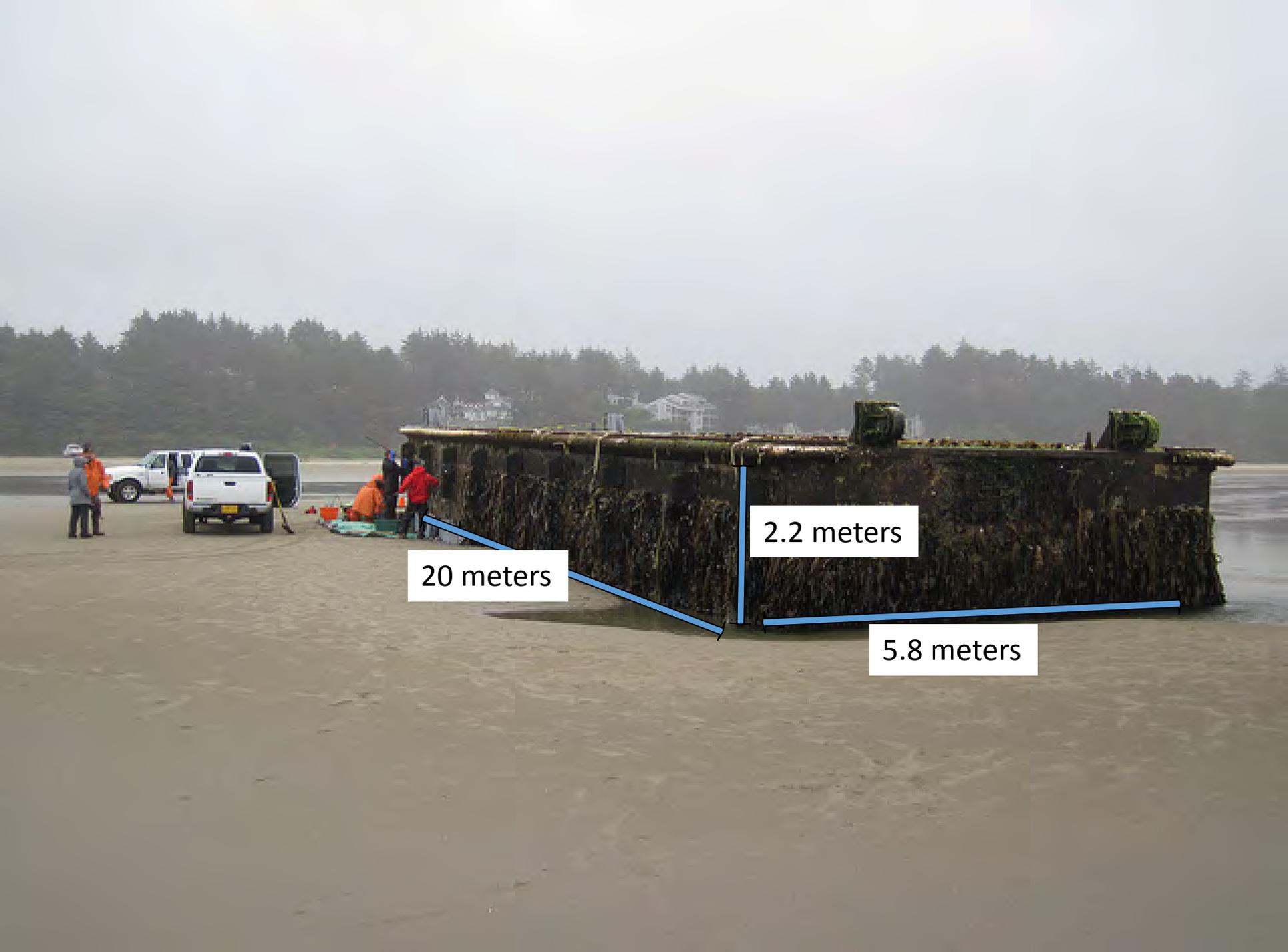




Misawa Harbor prior to March 11, 2011



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**

**BARNACLES**



Sea squirts  
*Styela*



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

**AMPHIPODS**



Jingle shell  
*Anomia  
Cytaeum  
(chinensis)*

**BRYOZOANS:**

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



**125 species arrived  
on Misawa 1**

Chiton  
*Mopalia  
seta*



Snail  
*Mitrella  
moleculina*

Hi...

**MUSSELS:**

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



**MOLLUSKS  
(12 species)**

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



Sea anemone  
*Metridium  
senile*



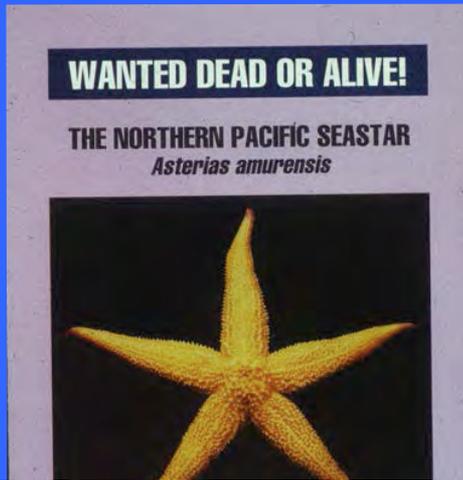
Polynoidae



Syllidae

**POLYCHAETE WORMS  
(28 species)**

# On the Misawa Ark:



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.

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:

Seaweed  
*Undaria pinnatifida*

**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 North Carolina. (35mm) across, brown. Grows in on native

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

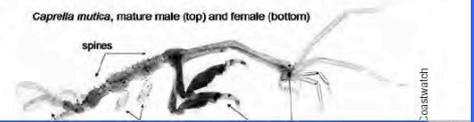
Shore Crab  
*Hemigrapsus sanguineus*

**GUIDE TO MARINE INVADERS IN THE GULF OF MAINE**  
***Caprella mutica***  
spiny red Caprellid amphipod, skeleton shrimp



Skeleton Shrimp  
*Caprella mutica*

- 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



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)<br>and general invertebrates |
| <b>Ichiro Takeuchi</b>   | Ehime University           | Caprellids (Amphipods)                              |
| <b>Hayato Tanaka</b>     | Hiroshima University       | Ostracods   |

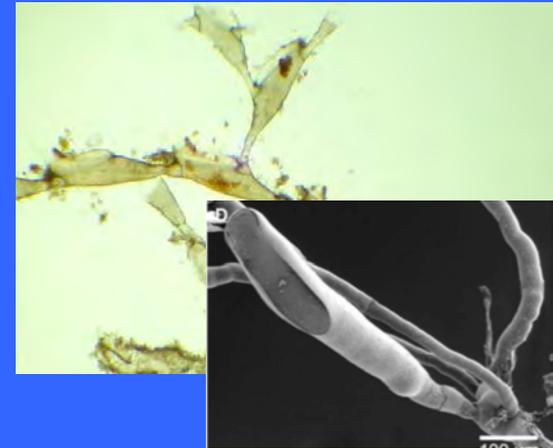
Examples of some of the most common Japanese species arriving in North America and Hawaii on tsunami rafts



*Mytilus galloprovincialis*  
Mediterranean Mussel



*Megabalanus rosa*  
Rosy Barnacle



*Scruparia ambigua*  
Bryozoan  
("Moss animal")



*Jassa marmorata*  
Fouling Amphipod



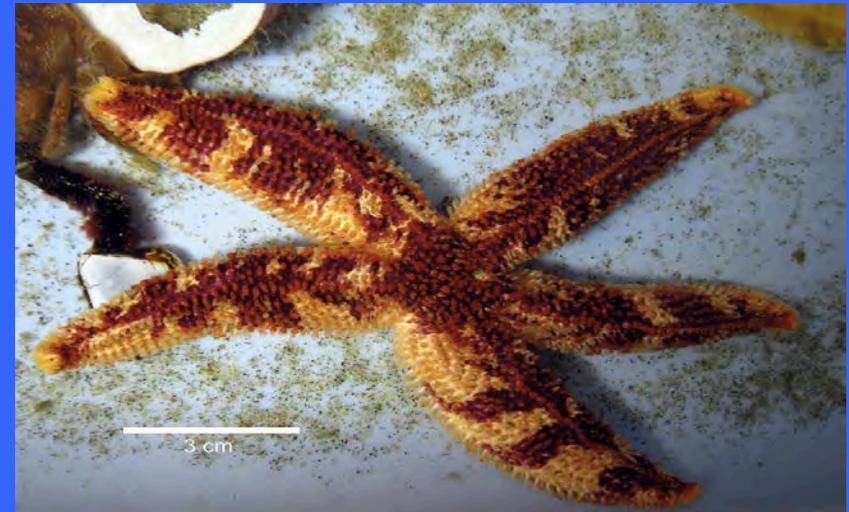
*Ianiropsis serricaudis*  
Isopod crustacean

# 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



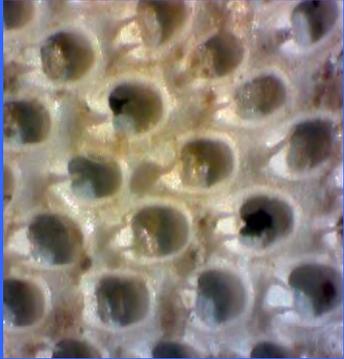
*Patiria pectinifera*

JTMD-BF: Carter Lake Skiff  
Landed in Oregon

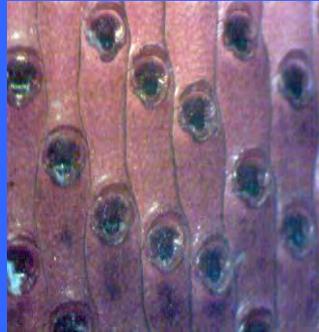


# Bryozoan Biofouling

## Japanese Species



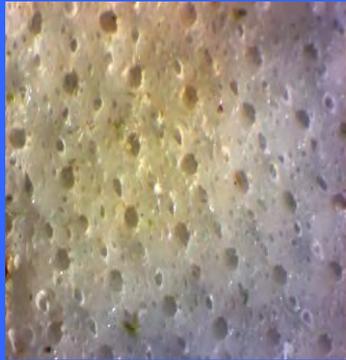
*Arbocuspis bellula*



*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



wet well

*Sai-shou Maru*  
(abalone and sea urchin fishing boat)

a "tide pool" had formed  
in the wet well

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”)

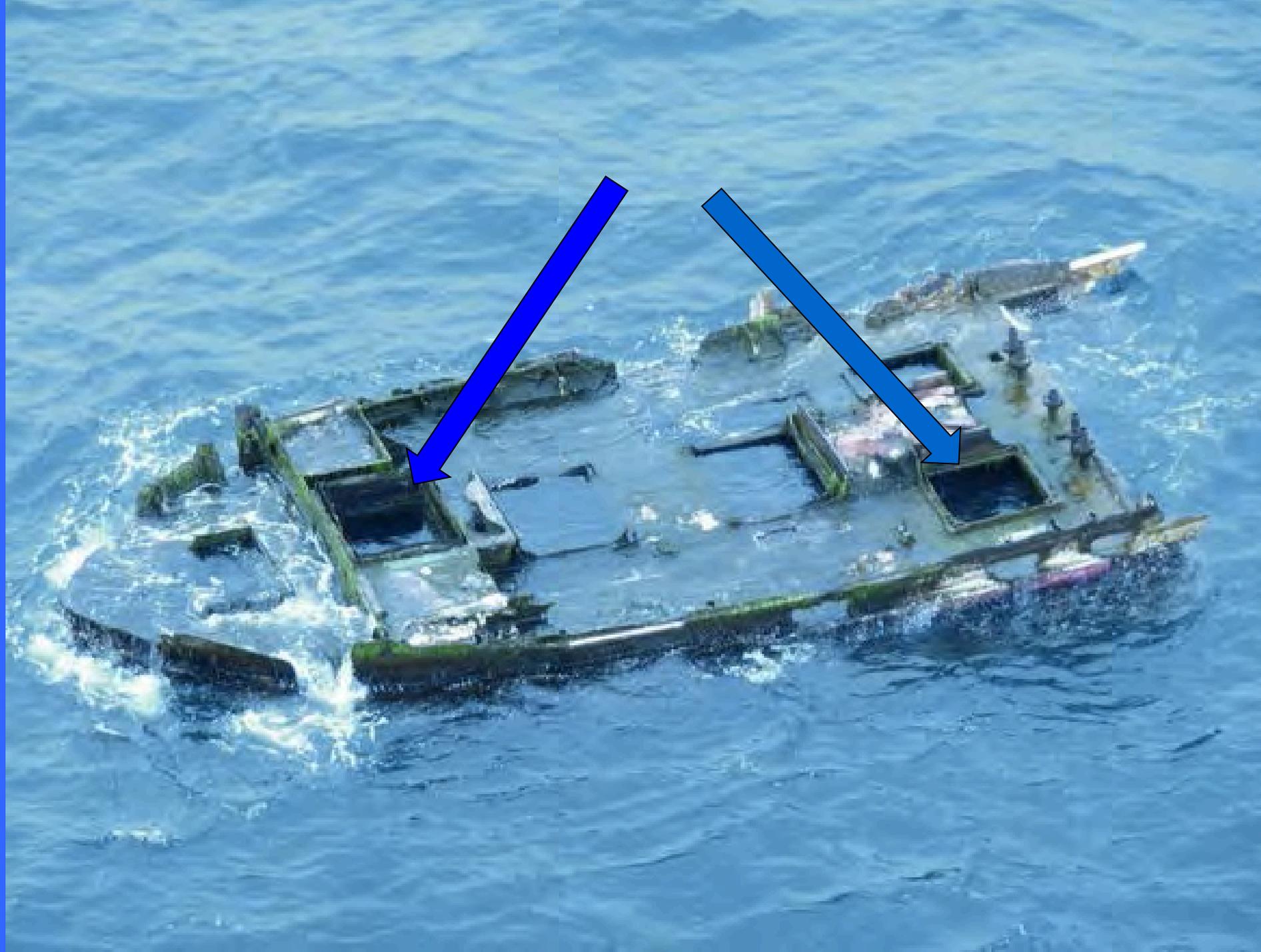


April 9, 2015



***Front half of a vessel likely from Iwate Prefecture***





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

