# Detection & Shoreline Monitoring

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# **NOAA Marine Debris Program**

Established in **2006** by the United States Congress as the federal lead for marine debris

## **5 Program Pillars:**

Research, Removal, Prevention, Emergency Response, and Regional Coordination

## **Mission:**

To investigate and prevent the adverse impacts of marine debris

## Vision:

The global ocean and its coasts free from the impacts of marine debris



Photo: US Navy

**Estimated 5 million tons of debris** 

70% of debris sank

**1.5 million tons remained afloat** 



How will tsunami debris impact the West Coast of North America?



# Early Sightings

#### **Debris Types:**

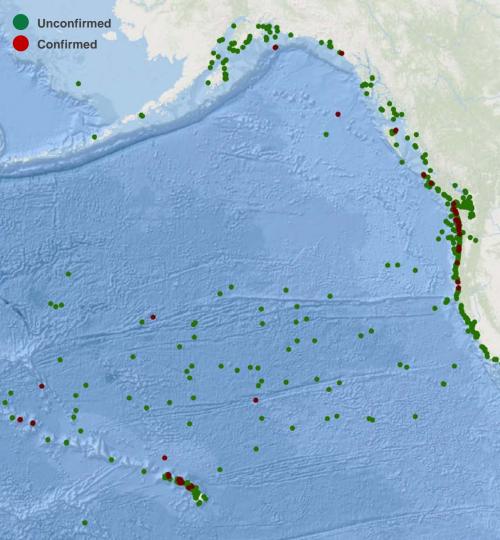
- Floating patches
- Wood, construction materials
- Large debris
- Vessels
- Misawa docks

Photos: NOAA, US Navy, US Coast Guard, National Parks Service, Oregon Dept. of Parks and Recreation









# Opportunistic Detection

- Existing volunteer and state partners
- Marine Debris Tracker smartphone app
- Debris email reporting

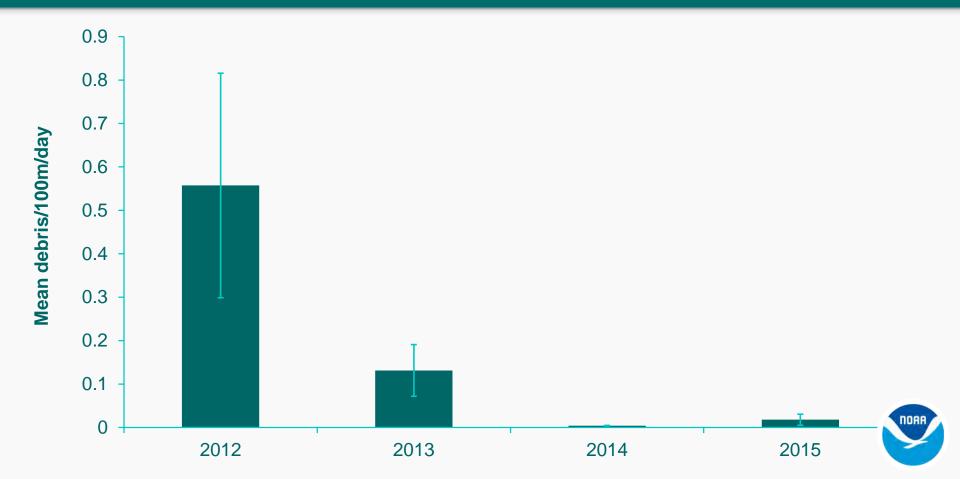


# Targeted Detection

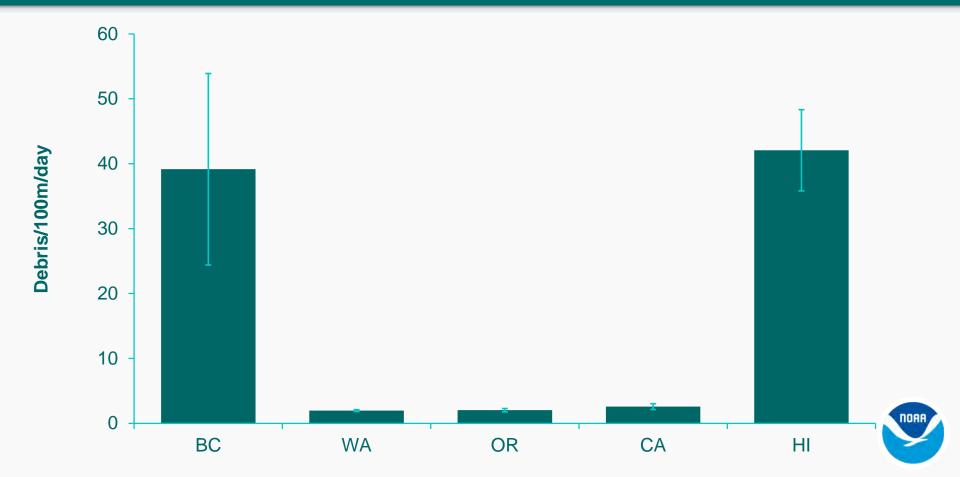
- Satellite
  - Regular monitoring
    of 7 sites
- Aerial Surveys



## Shoreline debris in Alaska



## Shoreline debris across the West Coast



# Removal

- NOAA distributed initial funding to each impacted state
- Further support from Government of Japan
- Funds used for:
  - Volunteer cleanups
  - Large scale removal
  - Tipping fees
  - Garbage bins
- Majority of removal in Alaska

Photo: Gulf of Alaska Keeper



### Gulf of Alaska Keeper

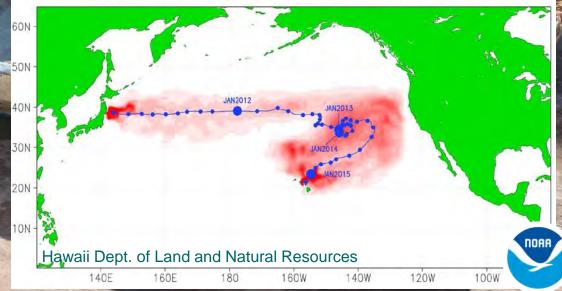
- Removed ~50 tons of debris
- Ranged from small items and foam, to large bulky items
- Shipped to Seattle, Washington, USA for disposal
- Not all confirmed tsunami debris

#### The Daini Katsu Maru

- Found in O'ahu, Hawaii, USA
- Returned on a Japanese training vessel
- Included in a memorial display

#### Oahu Boat 1.5% 2011-03-11 - 2015-04-22

the ship



## Football

- Found on Middleton Island, Alaska, USA
- Returned to student with help from the Japan Consulate



#### Motorcycle

• Found in Haida Gwaii, British Columbia, Canada

TURE JAPAN

- Located owner through license plate
- Featured at the Harley-Davidson Museum in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, USA

PLEASE DO NOT TOUCH

Photo: TOMODACH

#### The Kamome

- Found in Crescent City, California, USA
- Students in Crescent City restored and returned the Kamome
- Adapted into a children's book
- Displayed at the Tokyo National Museum

THE EXTRAORDINARY VOYAGE OF KAMOME A Tsunami Boat Comes Home

いつまでもともだちでいようね

高田高胶

Written by Lori Dengler and Amya Miller, Designed and Illustrated by Amy

Willing Marin

# ありがとう Thank You

Nancy Wallace, Director NOAA Marine Debris Program

