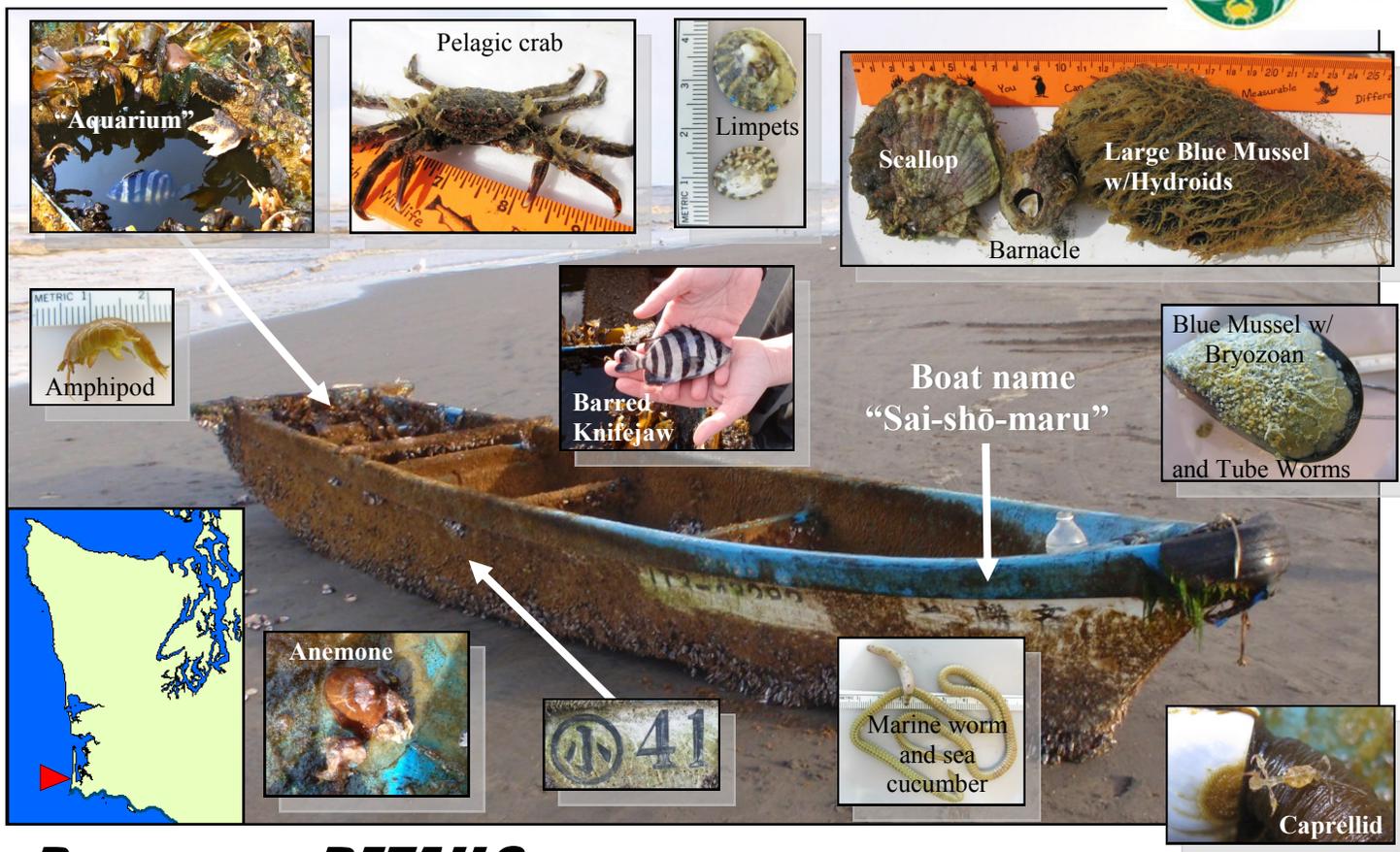


JTMD RESPONSE



Response DETAILS:

Summary:

Date Reported: **March 22, 2013**

Debris: **Fiberglass Boat**

Identification #: **IT3 - 43282**

Estimated Time at Sea: **>2 years (376 days)**

Japanese Tsunami Debris Confirmation: **Yes**

Washington State Location: **Long Beach**

Size: **6.2 m x 1.1 m**

Sample Collection: **Pleus, Kauffmann, & Haring (WDFW)**

Beach Removal: **City of Long Beach**

Number Species: **Estimated 30-50**

Five living Barred Knifejaws (*Oplegnathus fasciatus*), a species of fish native to Japan, Korea, and China, were found in the open well of a 6.2 meter (20 foot) long boat when it washed ashore upright with an "aquarium" of water inside, which is rare. The name of the boat is in Japanese characters and has been translated as "Sai-shō-maru." The boat has been confirmed as debris from the March 2011 Great East Japan Earthquake and resulting tsunami. Four of the fish were preserved for age, stomach content, reproductive status, and genetic analysis by scientists at Oregon State University. This will help scientists know how long the fish have been with the boat. One live fish was donated to the Seaside Aquarium in Seaside, OR, where it is being held in quarantine and appears to be thriving – another leg in an otherwise already incredible journey. In addition to the fish, initial identification indicates many of the species off this boat have not been previously seen on any other tsunami debris washing ashore in North America including Japanese species of sea cucumbers, scallops, and small crustaceans - all alive and appearing healthy after 2 years drifting across the North Pacific.