

JTMD RESPONSE



Response Details:

Summary:

Date Reported:	May 20, 2015
Debris:	Fish Attraction Device Buoy & Other Debris Payao Fishing Coop, Ja- pan
Identification #:	Pending
Estimated Time at Sea:	Unlikely JTMD
Japanese Tsunami Debris Confirmation:	Second Beach Lat 47.8812; Long -124.6108
Washington State Location:	~6.0 m x 1.0 m (buoy)
Size:	Pleus & Franco (WDFW)
Sample Collection:	N/A
Beach Removal:	Unknown
Number Non-Native Coastal Species types:	

This large yellow buoy was first reported by Sandra Kint on May 20th while hiking on Second Beach a few miles south of La Push, on the northern Washington coast. WDFW invasive species staff inspected the buoy on May 22nd and found open sea species such as gooseneck barnacles, but no obvious coastal marine species. Samples were taken and sent to taxonomists for additional analysis. Markings on the buoy have subsequently been translated to identify this as a likely fish attraction device (FAD) owned by the Payao Fishing Cooperative of Naha, Okinawa Japan. Ropes and remnants of netting wrapped around the base support this theory. We are attempting to contact the cooperative to determine when/where the buoy was last positioned before being lost. Based on this information, the buoy is currently considered unlikely to be debris from the March 2011 Great East Japan Earthquake and resulting tsunami. During investigation of the buoy, WDFW staff found several other possible JTMD objects including a green pallet and a black fishing buoy with coastal species attached. Samples were collected and also sent to taxonomists for species identification.