

September 17, 2013

Local Area Research of Great East Japan Earthquake Related Marine Driftage

Press Release

JEAN (Japan environmental Action Network) to head research for Great East Japan earthquake and tsunami related marine driftage in British Columbia, Canada and Washington State of the U.S. This research is conducted by JEAN who is coordinator of Japan's ICC (International Coastal Cleanup), and is supported by the Japanese Ministry of Environment (MoE). Please inform relevant organizations/ media outlets about this event.

1. Objective

- To prepare for the arrival of large volume tsunami and earthquake related marine driftage, conduct a follow-up survey trip to North America utilizing the relationship built during the visit to the state of Oregon in 2012 for the same research purpose.
- Conduct local area research by dispatching members of Japanese NGOs concurrently with the ICC effort held every September.
- Focus research on the coastal areas of British Columbia, Canada where the research team could not visit last year.
- Build relations and collaborate with Canada and U.S based NGOs to receive information on possible large tsunami driftage arrival with the aim of informing the Japanese people with up-to-date tsunami disaster related environmental problems/ news.

2. Content

1. Inspect the beaches and look for driftage materials that may be from the 2011 earthquake and tsunami.
2. Inspect and compare the amount and variety of driftage collected in 2011 with ones collected between 2012 and this year.
3. Conduct hearing meetings with NGOs, state government officials, Japanese-Canadian groups involved on the status and issues concerning tsunami driftage.
4. Discuss and come up with measures among the NGOs of Canada U.S and Japan on how to effectively and swiftly handle the driftage problem collaboratively.
5. Collection of tsunami driftage with collaboration and support from local NGOs.

3. Schedule and location:

As stated in the separate document.

Possible press coverage locations and hours (Must obtain an approval from the indigenous community to access research area in Washington state, US):

- Hearing meeting at Ucluelet, BC, Canada in the afternoon of September 25th (local time)
- Coastal cleanup at Ucluelet of September 26th (local time)

*Please secure your own transportation when coming to the above locations.

4. Research supporter in British Columbia, Canada:

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Japan research members:

Name	Organization	Location
Kazumichi Sato	Chairman of Non-Profit Organization Partnership Office, Yamagata	Canada
Tetsuhiro Nagayama	Representative of KIDS NOW JAPAN	Canada
Shigeru Fujieda	Professor at Faculty of Fisheries of Kagoshima University	Canada and US
Katsuyuki Sugimori	Non-Profit Organization The Oceanic Wildlife Society	Canada
Junichiro Noguchi	Technical Official of Office of Marine Environment, Water Environment Division at Ministry of the Environment (MoE)	Canada and US
Hiroshi Kaneko	Representative Director of Japan Environmental Action Network (JEAN)	Canada
Azusa Kojima	Secretary and Director of JEAN	Canada and US
Rima Hosoyamada	International liasion of JEAN	Canada and US

Research Schedule as of September --, 2013

Date	Schedule
Tuesday, September 24 th	Depart Japan (Narita) at 16:00 on AC004 → Arrive in Vancouver, Canada at 08:50 15:00- Meet with ICC members for information exchange at Vancouver Aquarium Stay in Vancouver
Wednesday, September 25th	Leave for Ucluelet 15:00- Meeting with Ucluelet researchers at Ucluelet Staty in Ucluelet
Thursday, September 26th	08:00- Marine driftage research in Ucluelet 13:30- Research in Pacific Rim National Park Reserve and other locations Stay in Ucluelet
Friday, September 27th	08:00- Beach research in Ucluelet, then return to Vancouver 18:00(approx.)-Arrive in Vancouver Stay in Vancouver
Saturday, September 28th	Hearing meeting and or participate in beach cleanup effort (TBD) Stay in Vancouver ----- US research team leaves for Washington (Shigeru Fujieda, Junichiro Noguchi, Azusa Kojima and Rima Hosoyamada)
Sunday, September 29 th	< Remaining research members > Return to Japan at 12:10 on AC003 → Arrive in Japan (Narita) at 14:20 on September 30th US research team leaves Seattle for La Push or Forks to conduct beach surveys in these areas
Monday, September 30th	US research in Washington state Continue beach surveying in La Push area Back to Seattle
Tuesday, October 1st	Return to Japan Seattle→Vancouver Depart Vancouver at 11:50 on AC003 → Arrive in Japan (Narita) at 14:20 on October 2nd

