

Inter Japan Efforts for Awareness Raising

Two forums were held in Sendai and Tokyo to officially report the outcomes of the investigations and related activities. They were held for the Japanese NGOs, the private organizations and other groups involved in marine environment conservation, including the debris management, in the hope that the outcomes will be fully taken advantage by these attendees.

III-1. Domestic Conference; Tokyo Forum

The details of Tokyo Forum are as follows;

(1) Time, Date and Venue

Time & Date :13:30-16:30, Friday, March 15, 2013

Venue: #2 TKP Star Conference Room,

1-8-6 Horinaka Building, Yotsuya, Shinjuku, Tokyo

(2) Title and Hosts:

Title ; "Tsunami Generated Marine Debris and its Management with Overviews on
Ocean Litters ~Japan - US NGO Joint Investigation Review ~"

Hosted by ; Environmental Restoration and Conservation Agency of Japan

Operated by ; JEAN, General Incorporated Association

In Cooperation with; Sasagawa Peace Foundation, Ocean Conservancy

(3) Contents

13:00 Registration

13:30 Opening by Environmental Restoration and Conservation Agency,
Independent Administrative Institutions

13:35 About the Forum by JEAN

13:40 On site investigation and the outcome

1 Overview of Investigation Results

by Shigeru Fujieda, Professor, Kagoshima University

2 Further Findings from Hawaii Investigation

by Kosaku Yokoyama, Chair, OWS

3 Further Findings from Oregon Investigation,

by Rika Yamamoto, Emergency Response Manager,
Peace Wind Japan

14:15 Commentaries from ICC Coordinators and other representatives

1. From Hawaii by Chris Woolaway

2. From Oregon by Briana Goodwin

3. From Alaska by Patrick Chandler and Christopher Pallister

15:00 Intermission; DVD showing; On site investigation video

15:15 General Ocean Debris Issues by JEAN

15:35 Additional Commentaries by Nicholas Mallos, Ocean Conservancy

15:45 Questions and Answers

16:30 Closing by JEAN

✕conference dismissed 10 min. later than scheduled.

(4) Other

Poster session was in the lobby regarding the on site investigation and general marine debris problems

(5) Participants

In total, 65 people attended. The groups and organizations, besides individual participants, that attended were as follows (except the press, in the order of registration);

- The Sasagawa Peace Foundation
- Pasco Co.,Ltd.
- Castle International Co., Ltd
- Toyo Construction Co.,Ltd.
- Mitsui & Co.,Ltd.
- Japan Sea born Art Association
- Tokyu Agency Inc.
- Ocean Family Marine Nature Experience Center, NPO
- The Ocean Wildlife Society, NPO
- KIDS NOW, NPO
- International Institute of environment Japan(IIEJ)
- Amway Japan LLC.
- Peace Winds Japan
- Tottori University of Environmental Studies
- Umimori Jimukyoku
- World Oceans Day Japan(WODL), NPO
- Eco Publishing Ltd.
- Lake Blue
- The Japan Society of Naval Architects and Ocean Engineers
- Asahi Advertising Inc.
- Kinki Nippon Tourist Co. Ltd.
- Northwest Pacific Action Plan(NOWPAP) Regional Coordinating Unit(RCU)
- Okinawa Ocean Culture & Environment Action Network
- Japan NUS Co.,Ltd.
- OSEAN
- Environmental Management Bureau, Ministry of Environment
- The Chief Cabinet Marine Policy Head Quarters
- Gulf of Alaska Keeper Japan Office
- Bio Island Network

- Earth Works Society
- Center for Research and Promotion of Japan Islands
- Kanagawa Prefectural Fisheries Technology Center

III-2. Domestic Conference; Sendai Forum

The details of Sendai Forum are as follows;

(1) Time, Date, and Venue

Time & Date : 14:00-17:00, Sunday, March 17

* AM: US NGO delegation visited Tsunami hit areas

Venue: 6th Floor Gallery, El Park Sendai

141 Building, 4-11-1 Ichibancho, Sendai, Aobaku, Miyagi

(2) Title and Hosts:

Title ; "Tsunami Generated Marine Debris and its Management with Overviews
on Ocean Litters ~Japan - US NGO Joint Investigation Review ~"

Hosted by ; Environmental Restoration and Conservation Agency of Japan

Operated by ; JEAN, General Incorporated Association

Supported by ; Ministry of Environment

In Cooperation with ; Sasagawa Peace Foundation, Ocean Conservancy, KIDS NOW

(3) Contents

13:30 Registration Starts

14:05 Opening

by Environmental Restoration and Conservation Agency,
Independent Administrative Institutions

14:05 About the Forum by JEAN

14:10 On site investigation and the outcome

1 Overview of Investigation Results

by Shigeru Fujieda, Professor, Kagoshima University

2 Further Findings from Hawaii Investigation

by Kzaumichi Sato, Chair, NPO Partnership Office

3 Further Findings from Oregon Investigation

by Tetsuhiro Nagayama, Chair, KIDS NOW

14:45 Commentaries from ICC Coordinators and other representatives

1 From Hawaii by Chris Woolaway

2 From Oregon by Briana Goodwin

3 From Alaska by Patrick Chandler and Christopher Pallister

15:30 Intermission; DVD showing; On site investigation video

15:45 General Ocean Debris Issues by JEAN

16:05 Additional Commentaries by Nicholas Mallos, Ocean Conservancy

16:15 Questions and Answers; Opening speech Mr. Ito, Cleanup Gamo,

17:00 Closing by JEAN

※conference dismissed 15 min. later than scheduled.

(4)Other

Poster session was in the lobby regarding the on site investigation and general marine debris problems

(5)Participants

In total, 158 people attended. The groups and organizations, besides individual participants, that attended were as follows (except the press, in the order of registration);

- Michinoku Sonpo Club
- East Japan Earth Quake Hit Area Creation Center, NPO
- Aomori Sanpchi Fishery Arrangement Head Office
- Aomori Prefectural Agricultural Bureau Fishery Division
- Mutsu City
- Sanyo Girls' Junior High School
- Sendai Environmental Web Site Tamakisan Headquarter
- Kesennuma Rebuilding Association
- Sapporo Breweries Ltd. Tohoku Branch
- Rokugo Shichigo Cominet Head Office
- Funbaro Higasshi Nihon Project
- Sendai City Fire Department
- Miyagi Counter Disaster Volunteer Center
- Environmental Management Bureau, Ministry of Environment
- Honorary Consulate-General of the Republic of Fiji
- Clean up Gamou
- ALPS Electric Co.,Ltd.
- Fujitsu Ltd.

III-3. Japan Forum Meeting Minutes

The following comments were collected at the two inter Japan forums at Tokyo and Sendai. Additions to the investigation results from the delegation.

The investigation brought about the opportunities for both parties to share the information and exchange ideas.

Debris problems had existed long before the disaster, and the seriousness of the matter has been recognized deeply.

Some people in the disaster stricken area are blaming themselves too much for the Tsunami debris problems. However, not so many US citizen feel that way. Rather, such debris could naturally flew from the neighbors in the North Pacific. These comments may as well be delivered to Japanese citizens.

Not only the disaster North American debris management at the west coasts, also, these findings should well be known among Japanese people as the issue itself is would not get dried for discussion.

About Alaska

In the state of Alaska, the coastlines are longer than those of other states, and only few roads have been ready to the shores. The official state road runs only half of the other states in number.

The cleanup activities are grouped into two; one is nearby the residential areas, while the remote clean up requires the helicopters and boats to travel afar for the activity.

Alaskan debris problems, remote cleanup is taking an important part, but theit requires financial back up and has security problems.

For 7 years, by the helicopter shots, the debris data has been collected. However, for the disaster debris, not yet state budget yet has been allotted particularly to the disaster debris.

Styrofoam are of high impacts as the amount is large that prevents smooth transportation and disposals.

The population of the State of Alaska is facilitated with the disposal site only enough to serve 720,000 people. For the large amount of drifted litters, they are taken to Seattle since state's disposal capacity is limited.

The state of Alaska is grateful that many people in Japan are concerned with the disaster debris from Japan. The people understand what happened to people at the Great East Japan Earthquakes.

The driftage increased as much as 80 to 100 times compared to before the earthquake.

As the Styrofoam fragments are found in the rivers where the wild salmon inhabit and the swamps in the state, the concern for environmental destruction increased.

The collected large sea farming buoys were given to oyster farms on Prince Williams Island for recycling.

Alaskan State Government has not yet allotted budget for the debris management. The activities so far have been supported by the federal government. The pollution consolatory money from Japan may be the largest amount.

The voices about disaster debris have given impacts to Alaskan citizens as to raise the awareness on the other end.

The broadcasted news about the marine debris from disaster also moved Japanese government.

From the US NGO Staff Members

Regarding the disaster marine debris issue, taken up by JEAN , and their visits to the U.S. have given a start of taking counteraction against the debris problems by the US government.

Same has happened to NOAA and Hawaii State government. That has made them strive for the problem.

In the State of Oregon, the beaches are well maintained because of the constant cleanups by the volunteers. However, some remote beaches are not, with a lot of driftage.

At present, 15 workshops have taken place throughout the state's 15 beaches. At the end of this series of workshops, all the Oregon areas will have been covered and be ready for the marine debris management. After the disaster of Japan, the volunteer workers increased in number.

The highest number of disaster marine debris have been adrift to the state of Alaska. What we have been collecting is in a form of broken objects, but truly these are the pieces of their daily life, the tragic memories, and the path of somebody's whole life. We would like to let the people in my country know much about this.

Visiting Japan enabled me to view the problem as a whole, not only by my brain but at my heart. Seeing the disaster stricken beaches, areas and meeting people there, were all very precious moments for me.

I was so impressed at the effort of the people even though they have been through such a big disaster.

Such conversation has brought us the ties across the wide ocean.

The disaster debris are only a part of whole sea litter pollution issue.

We might as well tackle the marine debris problem going through the hardships of the Tsumani and earthquake.

We would appreciate the Japan effort for the pre and post disaster experience, in terms of preparation and how to deal it afterwards. This should get known to everybody in the U.S.

The governmental consolatory money for pollution has been used for the large debris treatment such as removing of the drifted floating pier from Japan washed to Washington State.

From Forum Participants

The recognition toward debris "as life-memory items" is a very warm thought for us.

The ICC global net work enables us to be on the " same page" as this let us share the feeling, the working principles, and the feed back after the activities.

Marine debris problems are the issues reflecting our society, just down sized.

The marine debris is truly derived from humans. The suggestion lies in is that we need to look back our lifestyles.

We very much would like the international marine debris summit in the disaster area.

Returning of Drifted Objects

The treatment of the drifted objects should be more and more careful to identify the source and the original owner.

In the Lions Club Oregon, the fund raising activities have started for the efforts to return these drifted objects. Probably, there is a room for cooperation with the Miyagi local Lions Club.

In Japan, with the ties of JEAN, KIDS NOW and others, we would like to advance the project for the returning of the memorial objects.