The Governor's Task Force on Japanese Tsunami Marine Debris (JTMD) is scheduled for Nov. 14 from 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m., at Anderson Readiness Center, located at 3225 State Street, Salem, Ore.

State, federal, and local leaders will discuss plans for the 1.5 million tons of debris that washed out to sea following the 2011 Japan Tsunami, some of which has already arrived on the Oregon coast.

On March 11, 2011, a devastating 9.0 earthquake and resulting tsunami struck Japan. The disaster claimed nearly 16,000 lives, injured 6,000, and destroyed or damaged countless buildings. As a result of the disaster, thousands of tons of debris washed into the Pacific Ocean and has been reaching the United States over the last couple of years. One of the largest pieces of debris, a 55 foot long concrete dock, arrived on Agate Beach in Newport, Ore. on June 5, 2012.

The Governor's Task Force on JTMD, chaired by Dave Stuckey, Director for the Oregon Office of Emergency Management, was formed in June, 2012 to formulate a plan to deal with the debris coming ashore in Oregon. The JTMD Task Force meeting is one of several which have been held over the last couple of years, and are aimed at addressing important elements of debris clean up.

Scheduled presenters include representatives from Gov. John Kitzhaber's Office, Oregon Department of Parks and Recreation, Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, Oregon State University, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, and the Surfrider Foundation.

Media is welcome to attend.

Contact Info:
Kim Lippert
Public Information Officer
Oregon Emergency Management
(503) 580-6874