Radiocesium in the swash zones off the coast of the Japan Sea

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Radiocesium concentrations were measured in seawater and sediment samples collected in the swash zones in Ishikawa and Niigata prefectures, off the coast of Japan Sea opposite to the side where TEPCO Fukushima daiichi Nuclear Power Plant (FDNPP) is located in September 2016 and August 2017, five to six years after the accident. Cs-134 in the seawater samples was detected, suggesting the intrusion of FDNPP-derived radiocesium in both swash zones. FDNPP-derived radiocesium was appeared to be transported by the Tsushima Warm Current. In the surface sediments only ¹³⁷Cs was detected during the sampling period. We could not find out the presence of the FDNPP-derived radiocesium in the corresponding sediment on the swash zones; however, detected radiocesium in those sediments was assumed to be influenced by ¹³⁷Cs of FDNPP-derived radiocesium little for Ishikawa area and some for Niigata area.

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