



Oregon State Police Bulletin

Officer Safety

Military Marine Markers



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MARINE PHOSPHOROUS MARKERS

Recently, there has been an increase in the number of these found along the Oregon Coast line.

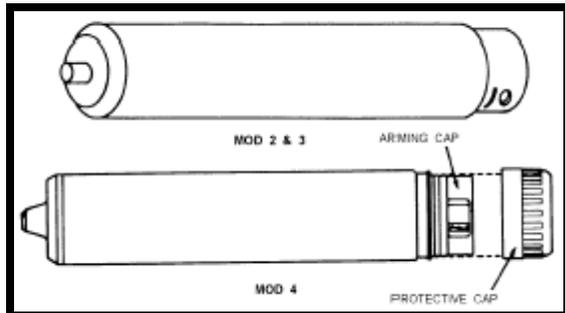
These can be EXTREMELY DANGEROUS. If a marking device is encountered, DO NOT TOUCH, secure the area for 100 feet in every direction and call the Oregon State Police Explosives Unit or the 142nd Air Force EOD out of Portland.

- There are several different varieties, most are about 3" x 18" and are unfinished aluminum. There will be markings on them which read, in effect, the identifier numbers and hazards.

- If the markings are worn off by handling, abrasive sand, etc., identification can be very difficult.

- Still contains white phosphorous, or red phosphorous. (Even after they have appeared to have been expended)

- After rolling around in the ocean, the seals are generally compromised and can rupture. If the casing is ruptured, the contents can spontaneously ignite and cause very severe injuries and/or death.



Mark 25 Markers (Modifications 2, 3 and 4)
Approximately 3" diameter and 18" long

WP does not extinguish easily, it spontaneously burns in contact with air, and burns at approximately 5000 degrees Fahrenheit.

WP is particularly dangerous to exposed people because white or red phosphorus continues to burn unless deprived of oxygen or until it is completely consumed.

When the Marker functions, the smoke/flame is ejected out the nose. Avoid this area if at all possible. Even a fully functioned (expended) marker can still have Red or White Phosphorus residue that can ignite/smoke/burn once it dries out and is exposed to the air.

If a marking device is encountered DO NOT TOUCH IT, secure the area for 100 feet in every direction, and call Military EOD or the Oregon State Police Command Centers (1-800-452-7888). Request immediate contact from an Explosives Unit Hazardous Device Technician.

Ref: Wikipedia, ORDATA II & Explosive Ordnance Disposal 142 CES/CED