# RDA Committee Meeting

Wednesday, July 8, 2020  
**WebEx**

Call to Order: 9:05

Attendees: Geoff Baran (Ecology), Tami Neilson (Ecology), Don Noviello (WDFW), Lance Wollwage (DAHP), Mark Toy (DOH), Jessica Logan (PARKS), Shayne Cothern (DNR), Marla Steinhoff (NOAA), Natalie Swan (Yakama Nation), Sherrie Duncan (Yakama Nation), Valerie Chu (public)

Approval of Minutes: Motion to postpone approval of June 10, 2020 meeting minutes until August 12, 2020. Motion passed.

Adjournment: 9:58

## Minutes

### New Business

#### Preassessment Screenings

##### ERTS# 695887 Tug *Pacific Falcon* diesel spill into Elliott Bay

* Geoff summarized the incident:  
  On January 23, 2020, the Tug *Pacific Falcon* was receiving diesel fuel when a valve was left open, allowing the fuel tank to overfill. Diesel fuel spilled from a vent, onto the deck, and overboard into pre-boomed containment. An estimated 70 gallons of fuel spilled into Elliott Bay, and 62 gallons was recovered within the first 24-hours.
* Preassessment Screening:
  + Are the damages quantifiable at a reasonable cost? 6 no.
  + Is restoration or enhancement technically feasible? 6 no.
  + Compensation schedule authorized to calculate damages.

##### ERTS# 696035 Singh home heating oil tank spill into Swan Creek

* Geoff summarized the incident:  
  Ecology responded to a strong diesel odor and mystery sheen in Swan Creek. Over the next few days, Ecology responders tracked the oil to a rental home with a leaking underground home heating oil tank. An estimated 32 gallons of home heating oil was lost to groundwater, and eventually Swan Creek. None of the oil was recovered within the first 24-hours.
* Preassessment Screening:
  + Are the damages quantifiable at a reasonable cost? 6 no.
  + Is restoration or enhancement technically feasible? 6 no.
  + Compensation schedule authorized to calculate damages.

##### ERTS# 696856 F/V *Cape Lazo* diesel fuel spill into Squalicum Harbor

* Geoff summarized the incident:  
  On March 1, 2020, the 65' F/V *Cape Lazo* sank and spilled diesel fuel into Squalicum Harbor. Ecology and the USCG responded, and hired contractors to plug the tanks and defuel the vessel. An estimated 75 gallons of fuel was removed from the vessel, and at least 25 gallons of fuel spilled into the harbor. Ecology is currently waiting on a cleanup report from the contractor to estimate the volume of spilled oil that was recovered from the water within the first 24-hours.
* Preassessment Screening:
  + Are the damages quantifiable at a reasonable cost? 6 no.
  + Is restoration or enhancement technically feasible? 6 no.
  + Compensation schedule authorized to calculate damages.

##### ERTS# 697167 United States Army Corps of Engineers Bonneville Dam hydraulic oil spill into the Columbia River

* Geoff summarized the incident:  
  On March 15, 2020, Bonneville Dam staff detected loss of pressure in their hydraulic gate system. Staff discovered hydraulic oil spilled into a fish unit, which is open on the bottom directly into the Columbia River. Based on hydraulic oil level readings, as much as 500 gallons of diesel fuel spilled to the fish unit. Dam staff disabled the gate unit, and cleaned up the spill.
* Preassessment Screening:
  + Are the damages quantifiable at a reasonable cost? 6 no.
  + Is restoration or enhancement technically feasible? 6 no.
  + Compensation schedule authorized to calculate damages.

### No Old Business

#### None.

### Announcements

* Don Noviello updated the committee on the status of the Penn Cove Shellfish Restoration Project. In 2012, the F/V Deep Sea caught fire and sank in Penn Cove, spilling diesel fuel into the environment. WDFW led an economic assessment of the monetary damages to shellfish harvesting in the area, and proposed a $97,000 project restoring native shellfish beds. 420 bags of native oyster seed was planted in Penn Cove and is growing well. An additional 420 bags will be planted this year.
* Valerie Chu asked about the current status of the 2019 Olympia Brewery Spill. Tami Neilson briefed our agency executive department on the enforcement recommendation. RDA process will begin once that is ready.
* Valerie Chu asked about how COVID has impacted state oil spill case frequency. Geoff Baran said that number of large oil spills that are brought to the RDA Committee has gone down. Tami Neilson interjected that oil and hazmat spill call frequency has remained consistent through the pandemic.