# RDA Committee Meeting

Wednesday, January 13, 2021  
**WebEx**

Call to Order: 9:03

Attendees: Geoff Baran (Ecology), Don Noviello (WDFW), Lance Wollwage (DAHP), Mark Toy (DOH), Shayne Cothern (DNR), Marla Steinhoff (NOAA), Natalie Swan (Yakama Nation), Valerie Chu (US-FWS)

Approval of Minutes: Motion to approve meeting minutes for the December 9, 2020. Motion passed.

Adjournment: 9:42

## Minutes

### New Business

#### Preassessment Screenings

##### ERTS# 701836 Bison Transport

* Geoff summarized the incident:  
  On November 12, 2020, a semi-truck and trailer travelling eastbound on Highway 2 near milepost 98 when the truck veered off the road duty to icy conditions and went into the Wenatchee River. According to the driver, the two 110 gallon saddle tanks and the 35 gallon refrigeration tank were each 3/4 full at the spill, about 191 gallons potentially spilled. After the truck was removed from the river, about 23 gallons was recovered from all three tanks, leaving 168 gallons of diesel fuel lost to the Wenatchee River. Due to high flows, none of the oil was recovered within the first 24 hours of the spill.
* Preassessment Screening:
  + Are the damages quantifiable at a reasonable cost? 5 no.
  + Is restoration or enhancement technically feasible? 5 no.
  + Compensation schedule authorized to calculate damages.

##### ERTS# 701912 Tyee Marina

* Geoff summarized the incident:  
  On November 16, 2020, a crane barge owned by the Tyee Marina sank and spilled an estimated 10 gallons of diesel fuel and 15 gallons of hydraulic oil into Commencement Bay. The cause of the spill is unknown, however marina staff suspect that the crane arm was improperly secured, causing the barge to list and flood the barge during low tide, causing it to sink. This is the third time this crane barge has sunk. The Tyee Marina hired Captain Vic's Marine Services to salvage the equipment. The crane barge was successfully raised on the evening of November 20, 2020. None of the oil was recovered from the water in the first 24 hours of the spill.
* Preassessment Screening:
  + Are the damages quantifiable at a reasonable cost? 5 no.
  + Is restoration or enhancement technically feasible? 5 no.
  + Compensation schedule authorized to calculate damages.

##### ERTS# 702345 USACE John Day Dam

* Geoff summarized the incident:  
  On December 8, 2020, the United States Army Corps of Engineers reported an oil sheen in the locks of the John Day Dam in the Columbia River. Further investigation by the Army Corps revealed that the spill came from a pinhole leak in a turbine guide bearing sump. The Army Corps estimates 63 gallons of turbine oil spilled as a result of the bearing failure. None of the oil was recovered within the first 24 hours of the spill.
* Preassessment Screening:
  + Are the damages quantifiable at a reasonable cost? 5 no.
  + Is restoration or enhancement technically feasible? 5 no.
  + Compensation schedule authorized to calculate damages.

##### ERTS# 702418 Tug *Ruth*

* Geoff summarized the incident:  
  On December 12, 2020, the Tug Ruth, owned by Advanced American Construction, was working at the Port of Kalama when a ramp on a nearby barge broke loose and fell on the tug. The ramp submerged the starboard side of the tug, sinking it, and spilling an as-yet-to-be-determined volume of lube oil to spill into the Columbia River. Advanced American staff boomed a large portion of the marina and used absorbent material to recover oil around the marina. Advanced American mobilized a crane barge to the spill location, lifted the vessel and dewatered the tug into the boomed area.
* Preassessment Screening:
  + Are the damages quantifiable at a reasonable cost? 5 no.
  + Is restoration or enhancement technically feasible? 5 no.
  + Compensation schedule authorized to calculate damages.

### Old Business

None

### Announcements

* Geoff announced the Spills Program 2021 Coastal Protection Fund Grant. This grant funds local, on-the-ground environmental projects to restore or enhance resources impacted by oil spills. Applications will be accepted starting on January 27, 2021. Expect more communication about this project next week.
* Geoff also announced that Matt Bissell, former NOAA Corps SSC, has joined Ecology Spills Program as the Plan Review and Development Supervisor.