# RDA Committee Meeting

Wednesday, July 14, 2021  
**WebEx**

Call to Order: 9:02 am

Attendees: Geoff Baran (Ecology), Don Noviello (WDFW), Mark Toy (DOH), Natalie Swan (Yakama Nation), Rob Whitlam (DAHP), Shayne Cothern (DNR), Tami Neilson (Ecology), Valerie Chu (US-FWS)

Approval of Minutes: Geoff moved to approve meeting minutes for the June 9, 2021 RDA Committee Meeting. Motion passed.

Adjournment: 9:46 am

## Minutes

### New Business

#### Preassessment Screenings

##### ERTS# 706269 F/V Let’s Go

* Geoff summarized the incident:  
  On Sunday, April 18, 2021, Ecology was notified of a 2,400 square foot sheen at Squalicum Harbor around the F/V Let's Go. Responders were unable to directly link the sheen to the fishing vessel, but did observe dishwashing detergent being used on the sheen.

On Wednesday, April 21, another oil spill was reported from the F/V Let's Go. Ecology responded again and met the captain at the vessel. Fuel was accumulating in the bilge, activating the bilge pump and spilling diesel fuel into Bellingham Bay. Port staff recovered an estimated 25 gallons of diesel fuel in sorbents, 20 gallons during the initial 24-hours of the spill. Based the recovery figures, Ecology estimates that as much as 13 gallons evaporated, and 2 gallons naturally dispersed into the water column over the course of the response. This resulted in a total estimated spill to water volume of 40 gallons.

Shayne asked what impact the use of dispersants will have on the total spill volume. Geoff noted that the current spill volume was estimated using oil recovery figures. Any oil dropped into the water column with soap would lower the recovery volume, resulting in an under estimate.

Don mentioned that the committee has voted on the damage assessment method without all incident details finalized.

Tami said that Ecology is taking a look at enforcement on the unauthorized use of dispersants.

* 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

* Open Case Update: 7/13/2021 Derelict Vessel Sinking into Boundary Bay
  + Geoff summarized the incident. Port of Bellingham was attempting to tow a derelict vessel from Blaine to Bellingham for removal. The vessel sank off Cherry Point, spilling up to 200 gallons of fuel.
  + Due to a breakdown in the notification process, the initial trustee report was delayed.
  + The USCG requested an ICS-232 from NOAA, and sought WA state input directly, which continued a trend in directly e-mailing individuals.
  + Don identified that next time immediate contact is needed from the trustee pager, WDFW will ring the duty pager.
  + Shayne asked for more information about the towing plan for the operation. Geoff will follow up.

### Announcements

* Dale Jensen, the Spills Program Manager is retiring in August. The recruitment for his replacement is ongoing, with a closing date of July 21, 2021. Interviews for the NRDA Specialist position are at the end of this week.
* Next meeting: Wednesday, August 11, 2021 at 9:00am via WebEx.