# RDA Committee Meeting

Wednesday, October 13, 2021  
**WebEx**

Call to Order: 9:02 am

Attendees: Geoff Baran (Ecology), Brendan Vander (Northwest Carriers LLC), Don Noviello (WDFW), Jess Logan (Parks), Josh Weide (Ecology), Leo Pruneda (Northwest Carriers LLC), Mark Toy (DOH), Natalie Swan (Yakama Nation), Navoa (public), Rob Whitlam (DAHP), Shayne Cothern (DNR), Tami Neilson (Ecology), Siti Steele (public), Lisa Stutzman (public)

Approval of Minutes: Motion to approve meeting minutes for the September 8, 2021 RDA Committee Meeting passed.

Adjournment: 9:55 am

## Minutes

### New Business

#### Preassessment Screenings

##### ERTS# 708842 Mercer Slough

* Geoff summarized the incident:  
  On August 20, 2021, Washington State Patrol, King County Dispatch, notified Ecology of a multi-vehicle accident on Interstate 90 at an interchange approaching Interstate 405. The interchange was elevated over the Mercer Slough which is in Bellevue just east of Mercer Island. Diesel fuel from an involved semi-truck spilled to the roadway and into the slough. Responders estimated that approximately 100 gallons of automotive fluids, including 90 gallons of diesel fuel, had drained to the wetland adjacent to the slough via a highway expansion joint. NRCES/US Ecology was hired to perform the cleanup and used a vacuum truck to remove the impacted wetland soils. Cleanup operations were completed on August 21, 2021.
* Brendan Vander added that the driver, Bruce Bode, fueled up in North Bend, transited to Sumner, and was returning to Othello at the time of the spill. Mr. Vander estimates that the truck used 13 gallons of fuel between refueling and the incident. He also stated that they normally don’t fuel up to 100% full, and that about 150 gallons was likely the highest volume of fuel aboard. He also noted that he is willing to provide a declaration of the max fuel, or establish a pattern of practice for fueling.
* Brendan offered to show the committee dash cam footage from the accident, but Geoff declined. While important for assigning liability, the footage does not provide additional information to the scope and scale of the environmental impacts for this spill.
* Brendan also asked how Ecology will assign liability for the spill. Geoff informed him that the NRDA, enforcement and any cost recovery will be issued to a singular responsible party. Tami Neilson described Ecology’s investigation process, and that we are still evaluating the liability for this case.
* 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# 703932 P/C Louis

* Geoff summarized the incident:  
  Staff at the West Bay Marina reported that the P/C *Louis*, a 45' pleasure craft, partially sank while moored in a covered dock. Recent heavy snow weighed down the roof of the boat house, pushing the dock into the water, submerging the vessel and causing it to sink. West Bay Marina hired a local salvage company to refloat the vessel, and an estimated 45 gallons of gasoline spilled before the vessel was raised. None of the oil was recovered in the first 24 hours of the spill.
* Josh Weide also provided his first-hand account of the response.
* 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# 708535 P/C Hobo

* Geoff summarized the incident:  
  On August 7, 2021, the 41-foot, wooden-hulled, P/C *Hobo* grounded on a submerged portion of the North Jetty of the Columbia River entrance near Ilwaco. The vessel began flooding, and despite attempted assistance from USCG patrol boats, the vessel had to be grounded on Waikiki Beach at Cape Disappointment State Park to prevent it from sinking. The vessel was significantly damaged in the surf overnight, loosing most of its diesel fuel, and was subsequently dismantled on the beach. Of the estimated 170 gallons of diesel aboard at the time to the grounding, only about 17 gallons was recovered the next day from its fuel tanks with the remaining 153 lost to the beach and water.
* 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.

### Old Business

* + None.

### Announcements

* Josh Weide has accepted the position of NRDA Specialist. Josh is continuing in his current capacity as an Ecology spill responder for the next few months until the response team is fully trained. In the meantime, Josh will be attending RDA committee meetings as his availability allows.
* Next meeting: Wednesday, November 10, 2021 at 9:00am via WebEx.