



Meeting Minutes

Resource Damage Assessment Committee (RDA) Committee Meeting

Wednesday, November 9, 2022

Zoom

Call to Order: 9:03 AM

Approval of Minutes: Mark Toy recommended minor changes. Motion to approve amended meeting minutes for the October 12, 2022 RDA Committee Meeting passed.

Adjournment: 9:47 AM

Attendees

Entity	Representative
RDA Committee, Chair Washington State Department of Ecology	Geoff Baran
RDA Committee Washington State Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation	Rob Whitlam
RDA Committee Washington State Department of Health	Mark Toy
RDA Committee Washington State Department of Natural Resources	Shayne Cothern
RDA Committee Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission	Jessica Logan
Makah Tribe	Natalie Lowell
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration	Marla Steinhoff
Nez Perce Tribe	Jordan Pentzer
United States Fish and Wildlife Service	Michael Carlson
United States Fish and Wildlife Service	Valerie Chu
Washington State Department of Ecology	Josh Weide
Washington State Department of Ecology	Tami Neilson
Washington State Office of the Attorney General	Julian Beattie
Yakama Nation	Natalie Swan

Minutes

I. New Business

A. Preassessment Screenings

1. ERTS# 716940 F/V Aleutian Isle

- Incident Summary:

On August 13, 2022, the 58' F/V Aleutian Isle was seine fishing off the western shore of San Juan Island when it suddenly began sinking. The crew was able to escape to

safety, while the vessel sank to a depth of over 100 feet in Haro Strait. An estimated 2000 gallons of diesel fuel was aboard at the time of the sinking. Over the next 40 days, the vessel owner, the USCG, Ecology, San Juan County DEM, and the Swinomish Tribe worked to remove the vessel from the bottom. Diesel odors and oil sheen were observed along the western shoreline, and the vessel continued to intermittently sheen throughout the response as it slid along the seafloor to depths of over 200 feet. Due to the extreme depth of the vessel, divers from Global Diving were limited to brief operational windows of calm currents. On September 15, Global successfully attached cables to the vessel, and on September 17 the vessel was successfully raised to the surface using a crane barge. On September 19, the vessel was hauled alongside the crane barge to shallower waters near Mitchell Bay for defueling. An estimated 400 gallons of diesel fuel was removed from the vessel. On September 21, the vessel was successfully raised from the water and secured to the deck of a barge for transit to Seattle for final disposition.

- Geoff informed the committee that Ecology, WDFW and US-FWS met to discuss methods for assessing marine bird injury from the spill. Based on the field data available from this incident, WDFW and US-FWS determined that a full injury study would not be achievable at a reasonable cost.
- 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.

2. [ERTS# 717868 F/V Orca](#)

- Incident Summary:

On September 24, 2022, around 11:00, the 47-foot F/V Orca sank at its moorage at the Port Angeles Boat Haven Marina. Staff from the Boat Haven notified the National Response Center of the incident, and Ecology and the USCG responded. The USCG hired NRC/US Ecology to defuel the vessel and cleanup the spilled oil. On September 25, 2022, US Ecology recovered an estimated 76 gallons of diesel fuel from the water. Over the course of the response, an estimated 33 gallons of diesel fuel would have evaporated, resulting in a total estimated spill volume of 109 gallons. The boat haven marina hired Global Diving and Salvage to raise the vessel. By October 14, 2022, the vessel was safely out of the water at the Boat Haven Marina.
- 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.

3. [ERTS# 718462 USACE Little Goose Dam](#)

- Incident Summary:

On October 24, 2022, the United States Army Corps of Engineers reported an estimated 600 gallons of turbine oil leaked into the Snake River over the course of three months. Army Corps staff suspected a leak while adding oil the turbine. Upon

draining the turbine chamber, turbine oil was observed leaking from the nose cone. Based on the rate of release, the US Army Corps suspects as much as 600 gallons was released over the last three months. Upon discovering the spill, environmental staff from the Army Corps searched for downstream impacts and did not observe any oil sheen between the Little Goose Dam and the Lower Monumental Dam. The leaking turbine has been taken offline until further notice as the investigation continues. 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.

II. Old Business

None.

III. Announcements

- Next meeting: Wednesday, December 14, 2022 at 9:00am via Zoom.
- RDA Committee Meetings will be a hybrid virtual and in-person meeting starting in 2023. Meeting schedule and room locations to be announced at December meeting.