# ecylogo-horiz-color.pngMeeting Minutes

**Resource Damage Assessment Committee (RDA)  
Committee Meeting**

Wednesday, April 12, 2023  
**Zoom and Ecology HQ Room R0A-32**

Call to Order: 9:04 AM

Introduction and Agenda Review

Approval of Minutes: 9:11

* Motion to approve meeting minutes for the March 8, 2023, RDA Committee Meeting passed.

Adjournment: 10:00 AM

## Attendees

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Entity | Representative |
| RDA Committee, Chair Washington State Department of Ecology | Geoff Baran |
| RDA Committee, Executive Director Washington State Department of Ecology | Josh Weide |
| RDA Committee Washington State Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation | Lance Wollwage |
| RDA Committee Washington State Department of Health | Mark Toy |
| RDA Committee  Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife | Don Noviello |
| RDA Committee Washington State Department of Natural Resources | Shayne Cothern |
| Yakima Nation Fisheries | Natalie Swan |
| Washington Department of Ecology | Krystal Rodriguez |
| NOAA Office of Response and Restoration | Marla Steinhoff |
| Washington State Parks | Jess Logan |
| Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife | Travis Washburn |

## Minutes

### New Business

#### Preassessment Screenings:

##### ERTS #720141 Washington Compost Semi-Truck Diesel Spill

* Incident Summary:  
  On the morning of January 12, 2023, the driver of a private vehicle hydroplaned and struck the saddle tank of a Washington Compost semitruck on NB I-5, MP 169. An estimated 70 gallons of diesel was released from the semi's tank with an estimated 50 gallons into a storm drain, creating a sheen on Lake Union after it flowed through the drainage system and an outfall operated by WSDOT. Washington Compost service crew members placed and monitored absorbent boom and pads at the outfall until there was no further observations of sheen.
* No additional comments received.
* 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 #720275 P/C *Sea Otter* Sinking and Diesel Spill

* Incident Summary:  
  On January 18, 2023, City of Tacoma employees were investigating a large rainbow sheen in Commencement Bay and discovered the P/C SEA OTTER sunk at Brown's Point Marina due to an unknown cause. The vessel owner’s insurance contracted Global Diving and Salvage, who attempted to remove the on-board fuel, but found that the owner had installed fiberglass over the fuel fill ports and did not cut new holes for the ports. As fuel was unable to be removed, it continued to release from the tank vents. Ecology responders deployed sorbent material around the vessel as it could not be raised by Global until the following day. The vessel was raised on January 19 and removed from the water on January 20. Global weighed the contaminated sorbents and Ecology determined the total estimated volume spilled to be 55 gallons, with an estimated 52 gallons recovered by sorbents in the first 24 hours.
* Don asked about the extent of the impact to Commencement Bay. Geoff confirmed that following the observation of the initial sheen, the majority of impacts were contained to the marina and the vessel’s slip by absorbent boom.
* 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 #720788 Mejia Rental Truck Spill

* Incident Summary:  
  On February 11, 2023, the driver of a 26' Enterprise rental box truck crashed through a guardrail and struck a large tree along the bank of Portage Creek. All engine fluids and 25-50 gallons of diesel were released. An unknown quantity of oil products reached the creek, which is fortunately stagnant at this location. Dick's Towing removed the truck and performed initial cleanup of the roadway while US Ecology responded for cleanup. An estimated 5 gallons of oil were recovered in the first 24 hours.
* No additional comments received.
* 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.

### Other Business

#### Open Case Updates:

* ERTS # 721597: Seattle Boat Company Boat Storage Facility Fire
  + Estimated 3,000 gallons fuel potential between 60 vessels lost to fire.
  + No sheen observed, unknown if fuel burned off or covered by firefighting foam.
  + Shayne asked if sediment samples were taken. Geoff noted that we would look into it, but that soil samples were not likely taken.
  + Don pointed out that there were no reports of dead fish following the incident.
* ERTS # 721564: Core-Mark Diesel Spill Spokane
  + Semi-truck accident resulting in an estimated 200 gallons of diesel oil spilled to roadway and into a storm drain system to a retention pond which empties into Latah Creek.
  + No sheen observed in Latah Creek.
* ERTS #722001: F/V *Kodiak Enterprise* Vessel Fire
  + Unified Command established, ongoing incident at time of the RDA meeting.
  + Suspected damage to deck crane resulting in a release of hydraulic oil causing a light sheen. Vessel is surrounded by three levels of hard boom.
  + Continued community air monitoring, specifically in Browns Point and Dash Point areas. Emergency release valves of freon tanks on vessel allowed for a slow release until tanks were empty. Freon was not picked up by monitors.

### Announcements

* Coastal Protection Fund Grant now open for applications!
  + Application deadline: May 4, 2023
* Ecology in initial stages of automating damages calculation and will be working with fellow committee member agencies to compile data and resources.
* Next meeting: Wednesday, May 10, 2023 at 9:00am via Zoom and in person at Ecology HQ in room R0A-32.
* RDA Committee Meetings will continue to be a hybrid virtually and in-person in 2023. Meeting schedule and room locations will be posted online.