



Meeting Minutes

Resource Damage Assessment Committee (RDA) Committee Meeting

Wednesday, August 14, 2024

Microsoft Teams and Ecology HQ Room R1S-16

Call to Order: 9:06 AM

Introduction and Agenda Review

Approval of Minutes:

- o Motion to approve meeting minutes for the July 10, 2024, RDA Committee Meeting passed.

Attendees

Entity	Representative
RDA Committee, Chair Washington State Department of Ecology	Geoff Baran
RDA Committee, Chair Washington State Department of Ecology	Josh Weide
RDA Committee Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife	Elijah Gordon
RDA Committee Washington State Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation	Rob Whitlam
RDA Committee Washington State Department of Natural Resources	Shayne Cothorn
RDA Committee Washington State Parks	Matt Niles
Washington State Attorney General’s Office	Julian Beattie
Washington State Department of Ecology	Tami Neilson

Minutes

I. New Business

Preassessment Screenings:

1. ERTS #730921 28’ Sea Ray Capsized off Lopez Island

- Incident Summary:
A 28' Sea Ray was transiting near Iceberg Point, offshore of Lopez Island, when high winds and waves pushed the vessel onto the rocks. Approximately 70 gallons of fuel were aboard when the vessel ran aground. The unsecured vessel drifted to Flint Beach, where responders were able to anchor it in place. The vessel owner hired TowBoat US to monitor the vessel and evaluate recovery options. A sheen was observed near the vessel, however poor weather prevented responders from recovering any fuel. The unrecovered fuel is presumed lost to the environment.
- 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 #731997 Long Towing Diesel Spill, Auburn

- Incident Summary:

A passenger vehicle collided with a tow truck from Long Towing, causing the tow truck to veer off the road and into a retention pond. Local police, fire departments, and public works responded to extract the tow truck from the water. Ecology responders deployed sorbent pads. An estimated 35 gallons of diesel fuel and hydraulic oil spilled to the pond. Long Towing hired Clean Harbors to complete the cleanup. Ecology responders observed amphibians in the pond and collected four deceased tadpoles for analysis.
- Shayne wondered if Fish and Wildlife agreed that the cost for an in-depth assessment would not be reasonable.
- Eli confirmed that they had a discussion and determined that an assessment would not be cost-effective.
- 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. Other Business

Open Case Updates:

- ERTS #716940 FV Aleutian Isle Sinking and Oil Spill, San Juan Island – 8/13/2022
 - The responsible party, Matthew Johnston, was wondering about the possibility of performing a restoration project in lieu of paying damages. One such project he proposed was removing derelict fishing gear. Mr. Johnston requested any other project ideas or input from the RDA committee.
 - Shayne: The NW Straits Foundation would be a good agency to check with for proposed projects. Also, the tricky part is how to work with insurance and what agencies can perform contracted work.
 - Geoff: That is a good point that we will take to the responsible party's attorney.
- ERTS #727283 Olympic Pipeline Gasoline Spill, Conway – 12/10/2023
 - Ecology is waiting for budget updates and is still validating the list of project proposals. Updates will be provided soon.

III. Announcements

- NRDA Rule Update, Initial Meeting: August 19, 2024
 - Please review the statute and think about what updates might be needed.
- Next meeting: Wednesday, September 11, 2024 at 9:00 am via **Microsoft Teams** and in person at Ecology HQ, **Room R1S-16**.

Adjournment: 9:26 AM