# ecylogo-horiz-color.pngMeeting Minutes

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

Wednesday, March 12, 2025  
**Microsoft Teams and Ecology HQ Room R0A-36**

Call to Order: 9:02 AM

Introduction and Agenda Review

## 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 | Eli Gordon |
| RDA Committee Washington State Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation | Rob Whitlam |
| RDA Committee  Washington State Department of Natural Resources | Shayne Cothern |
| RDA Committee  Washington State Parks | Matt Niles |
| RDA Committee  Washington State Department of Health | Merita Trohimovich |
| Yakama Nation Fisheries | Natalie Swan |
| Emergency Response Training Solutions representing Schneider National | Cynthia Bruce Devlin |
| Schneider National Environmental Health and Safety | Mathew Hogan |
| American Waterways Operators | Lillie Wightman |
| Schneider National Environmental Administrator | Derek Townsend |
| Corporate Council for Schneider National | Bethany Wilson |
| Washington Attorney General’s Office | Julian Beattie |
| Washington State Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation | Jessica Stone |
| Washington State Department of Ecology | Rob Walls |
| Washington State Department of Ecology | Greg Dunbar |
| Washington State Department of Ecology | Eddie Czebator |
| Washington State Department of Ecology | Laurie Wood |

## Minutes

### New Business

#### Preassessment Screenings

##### ERTS #733991 Schneider Trucking Diesel Spill to Capitol Lake

* Incident Summary:

On 9/25/2024, Ecology received a report from WSP of a diesel spill to Capitol Lake from a wrecked semi-truck owned by Schneider National Trucking. The incident occurred when the truck jackknifed while driving on NB I-5 at the Hwy 101 interchange, resulting in a ruptured saddle tank and release of approximately 100 gallons of diesel to an estimated 100 feet of roadway. An estimated 50 gallons of diesel flowed into two storm drain catch basins which outfall to Capitol Lake, creating a 50-foot by 100-foot sheen. Ecology responders deployed sorbent sweep, pads, and boom in an attempt to contain the spill to Capitol Lake. Schneider National hired Clean Harbors for cleanup of the roadway, storm drain and to maintain and replace sorbents as needed. On September 28, Clean Harbors also performed skimmer operations. On October 4, sorbents were removed, resulting in a site total of 16 55-gallon drums containing contaminated sorbents.

*Bethany:* The reported response actions are accurate.

*Cynthia:* Confirmed that the amount of sorbent materials collected were accurate. The collection of sorbent materials occurred over multiple days following the incident.

A more accurate evaluation of the total spill will be available in a final report. The total volume spilled will be adjusted to around 80 gallons based on the miles driven by the driver after his last fueling.

*Geoff:* Our current estimate is based on what our responders observed at the time. Noted that no wildlife impacts were observed.

*Greg:* Confirmed no observations of harm to wildlife during response to the incident.

* 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 #735788 Oaks Transportation Diesel Spill to Wetland

* Incident Summary:  
  On December 17, 2024, Ecology received a report from WSP that a semi-truck hauling onions wrecked and rolled-over due to excessive speed for the weight of the load. The semi-truck came to rest on its side blocking the roadway with the front of the tractor in a ditch between the highway and raised railroad tracks. The saddle tank was ruptured and up to 250 gallons of diesel had released to soil. Ecology responded on December 18 and documented diesel product in the ditch, which leads directly to a storm drain. Ecology applied sorbent boom in an attempt to collect as much diesel as possible before it reached the drain. The responsible party informed Ecology on December 19 that they hired a cleanup contractor and Ecology attempted to assist coordinating cleanup efforts with WSDOT. On December 31, WSDOT reported to Ecology that no cleanup had been performed, prompting Ecology to respond to the site again. While the cleanup contractor had covered the site with plastic, Ecology documented that rain and snow had caused the diesel to migrate into the drain, which leads to a nearby wetland area. The contractor returned to the site on January 3 to continue remediation. Ecology continues to investigate the potential amount that impacted the wetland and if there were any impacts downstream to the Columbia River.
* 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 #736474 P/C *Quality Time* Fire, Sinking, and Spill to Drayton Harbor

* Incident Summary:

On the evening of January 18, 2025, Blaine PD reported a potential spill from a vessel on fire at the Semiahmoo Marina, which soon sank in its slip. The cause of the fire on the 34-foot recreational vessel *Quality Time* was determined to be most likely an electrical failure associated with the shore power connection, but extensive fire damage prevented any conclusive findings. The vessel owner estimated that the two fuel tanks were 2/3 to 3/4 full containing about 130 gallons of diesel on board at the time. The marina deployed sorbent boom around neighboring slips, but non-recoverable sheen was observed throughout the marina by Ecology responders the following morning. Ecology and a representative of the Lummi Nation deployed hard boom around the vessel from a nearby Ecology trailer, along with additional sorbent materials. The US Coast Guard also responded and conducted a drone flight, showing that some sheen had exited the marina. The owner of the vessel hired Global Diving & Salvage to remove pollution, raise the vessel, and replace sorbent materials. A duck carcass was recovered at a nearby dock, but it did not appear to be oiled. Global Diving successfully floated the vessel and towed it to a trailer at Blaine Marina on January 20. Global Diving calculated the removal of an estimated 100-125 gallons of diesel from the water using sorbent materials and an additional 40 gallons of oil-water mix from the fuel tanks. Global Diving also recovered debris that had drifted throughout the marina.

*Rob Walls:* The owner did a good job taking the lead and getting people hired, despite living in B.C. and having to get across the border. The dead duck did not appear oiled and after consulting with WDFW, Ecology decided to not hire a wildlife rehabilitation contractor.

* 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.

### Other Business

#### Approval of Minutes

* Motion to approve meeting minutes for the February 12, 2025, RDA Committee Motion passed at 9:42 AM.

#### Open Case Updates

* ERTS #727283 Olympic Pipeline Gasoline Spill, Conway – 12/10/2023
  + The Trustees for this incident sent a restoration proposal to BP for their review last Friday, March 7.

### Announcements

* The Spills Coastal Protection Grant will begin accepting applications for restoration projects on April 8. The Steering Committee will be meeting after the conclusion of this RDA Committee meeting.
* Next meeting: Wednesday, April 9, 2025 at 9:00 am via **Microsoft Teams** and in person at Ecology HQ, **Room R0A-36**.

Adjournment: 9:45 AM