

PREASSESSMENT SCREENING OIL SPILL REPORT FORM

Date of Incident: March 4, 2022

Potential Liable Party: Ernie Henken

Product Spilled: Diesel Low Sulphur (ULSD)

Spill Source: Recreational Vessel

Oil Spill Size Estimate: 25 gallons

Water Body Affected: Salish Sea

Ecology Region: NWRO

County: Whatcom

Nearest City: Ferndale

Location of Spill: 4094 Sucia Dr, Ferndale

Cause: Fire - Unknown Cause

Ecology Responder: Madeline Fritzen

Incident Summary: On March 4, 2022, a 45-foot recreational vessel caught fire due to unknown reasons, releasing an estimated 25 gallons of diesel to a channel of the Salish Sea. The vessel was secured to a private dock on Sandy Point as it burned and sank. Ecology Spill Responders noted that diesel was actively spilling and placed absorbent boom around the vessel while a nearby Phillips 66 Refinery Response Team was hired to place hard boom across the channel on either side of the vessel along with more absorbent boom. USCG worked with the responsible party to hire US Ecology and Crux Diving. US Ecology placed additional hard boom around the vessel and along the shoreline, where they also conducted shoreline assessments. Crux Diving assessed the vessel's condition and confirmed that the fuel tanks were completely compromised during the fire and did not contain any diesel. An unknown amount of fuel may have burned off in the fire. The responsible party states that the vessel contained 50 gallons of diesel on board at the time and an estimated 20 gallons had been recovered during the response using absorbent boom and sweep. US Ecology, USCG, and the Dept. of Ecology continued to monitor the vessel through salvage and raising operations on March 9. On March 10, the vessel was towed to the Sandy Point Boat Ramp and removed from the water for disposal in Ferndale.