

PREASSESSMENT SCREENING OIL SPILL REPORT FORM

ERTS# 730846

Date of Incident: 05/14/2024

Potential Liable Party: Liv Skaar

Product Spilled: Diesel/Marine Gas Oil

Spill Source: *NORTH AMERICAN* (Fishing Vessel)

Oil Spill Size Estimate: 2,150 Gallons

Water Body Affected: Salmon Bay

Ecology Region: NWRO

County: King

Nearest City: Seattle

Location of Spill: Seattle

Cause: Sinking/Loss of Vessel

Ecology Responder: Andy Quast

Incident Summary: On May 14, 2024, Ecology responded to the sunken fishing vessel *North American* in the Lake Washington Ship Canal east of the Ballard Bridge. The US Coast Guard reported that the vessel contained an estimated 23,500 gallons of diesel with a maximum tank capacity of 31,000 gallons. In addition, the vessel also contained a reported 400 gallons of lube oil and 200 gallons of "slop." The USCG initially contracted Global Diving and Salvage to plug the vessel tanks and recover oil. The vessel owner and their insurance later took over the contract. Global Diving placed two layers of hard boom around the vessel and applied absorbents and a disc skimmer. The boom successfully contained the majority of the spilled oil, although an unknown amount was able to escape containment due to passing vessel wake. Over two days of operation, the skimmer and absorbents were able to recover an estimated 2,148 gallons of oils from the water's surface (not accounting for an unknown amount of diesel that likely evaporated during that time). Global Diving also plugged all release points and successfully recovered around 24,000 gallons of diesel directly from the tanks. On June 19, the *North American* was raised without further incident or spill. Global Diving was able to remove an additional 6,000 gallons of oily water from the engine room. The investigation is currently underway into the cause of the sinking as well as what percentage of oil to water Global Diving pumped from the vessel.