

## PREASSESSMENT SCREENING OIL SPILL REPORT FORM

**ERTS#** 733984

**Date of Incident:** 09/25/2024

**Potential Liable Party:** John Simons

**Product Spilled:** Diesel/Marine Gas Oil

**Spill Source:** *Pacific Bay* (Fishing Vessel)

**Oil Spill Size Estimate:** 30 Gallons

**Water Body Affected:** Willapa Bay

**Ecology Region:** SWRO

**County:** Pacific

**Nearest City:** Oysterville

**Location of Spill:** Near Oysterville

**Cause:** Judgment

**Ecology Responder:** Chelsea Krimme

**Incident Summary:** On September 25, 2024, Ecology received a report from US Coast Guard of a grounded vessel in Willapa Bay. The F/V *Pacific Bay* was returning from the Pacific Ocean to refuel when it started to take on water. After the crew was unsuccessful with pumping the vessel out, they ran it aground on a sandbar in the bay. USCG Search and Rescue extricated the crew and placed a tracking device on the vessel. No spill was observed at the time of the rescue. The following day, it was evident that the vessel had started breaking apart as pieces of it were washing ashore on Shoalwater Bay Tribal land, State Parks property, and the Willapa National Wildlife Refuge. The main wreckage of the vessel was also located by USCG helicopter on a sand bar at low tide on the 26th. The captain of the *Pacific Bay* reported that the vessel contained approximately 30 gallons of diesel when the vessel became grounded. All 30 gallons are assumed to have been released to the bay, although no sheen nor oiled shorelines were observed. USCG issued the vessel owner a written order to clean debris from shorelines surrounding Willapa Bay. The owner worked with the Shoalwater Bay Tribe to continue conducting beach surveys into the middle of October until no further debris was found.