

PREASSESSMENT SCREENING OIL SPILL REPORT FORM

ERTS# 734309

Date of Incident: 10/10/2024

Potential Liable Party: Aaron F. Goodge / William J. Caracciolo

/ Product Spilled: Gasoline

Spill Source: Maya Claire (Recreational Vessel)

Oil Spill Size Estimate: 37 Gallons

Water Body Affected: Puget Sound

Ecology Region: NWRO

County: Kitsap

Nearest City: Bremerton

Location of Spill: Port of Brownsville

Cause: Inadequate Maintenance, Sabotage/Suspected Illegal Activity

Ecology Responder: Robert Walls

Incident Summary: On October 10, 2024, Ecology received a report from the Port of Brownsville of a partially submerged 33-foot pleasure craft moored on the outside of their outer floating pier. The vessel was discovered two weeks prior without any contact by the owner and had been left secured in hopes that the owner would return. The cause of the sinking was unknown and a surrounding sheen was present. Without any action by the vessel's unknown owner, the Port of Brownsville hired Kitsap Towing to raise and remove the vessel, which by that time, was also found on DNR's derelict vessel removal list. Kitsap Towing removed the vessel, which continued to produce sheen, on the afternoon of October 11. Based on observations of the sheen over two days, as well as environmental variables, Ecology estimates that around 37 gallons of gasoline spilled to Puget Sound.

The US Coast Guard was able to locate the registered owner of the Maya Claire. However, the register owner claimed to have sold the vessel years prior. Ecology also located a potential owner attempting to sell the Maya Claire on Facebook. William J. "Bill" Caracciolo claimed that the vessel had been abandoned with him and he was trying to sell it. Kitsap County Sheriff Marine Patrol confirmed that Bill received multiple "Notice[s] of Intent to Obtain Custody" after the vessel, along with another, were anchored on WDNR-administered state lands for excessive periods of

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time. Following the notices, Bill reportedly always moved the vessels. The Kitsap County Sheriff also confirmed interacting with Bill after he had moored the Maya Claire at the Port of Brownsville and suggested that he make arrangements for moorage with the Port manager.