

PREASSESSMENT SCREENING OIL SPILL REPORT FORM

ERTS# 734730

Date of Incident: 10/31/2024

Potential Liable Party: Move Right Trucking Company

Product Spilled: Diesel Low Sulphur

Spill Source: Commercial Truck

Oil Spill Size Estimate: 202 Gallons

Water Body Affected: Wetland

Ecology Region: NWRO

County: Whatcom

Nearest City: Bellingham

Location of Spill: Bellingham

Cause: Other - Human Error

Ecology Responder: Madeline Fritzen

Incident Summary: On October 31, 2024, a semi-truck owned by Move Right Trucking struck a deer causing it to jackknife and overturn into a roadside ditch and wetland. The truck's fuel tank ruptured and spilled an estimated 202 gallons of diesel to the water of the heavily vegetated wetland. Ecology responded and contracted Republic Services to perform a site assessment and to clean up diesel with absorbent materials. In addition, the trucking company filed a claim with their insurance, who contracted with BAI Environmental to assist with the cleanup using a vac-truck. Crews placed absorbent boom around the perimeter of the impacted area. Luckily, the wetland contained stagnant water, so the footprint of impact remained the same, but dense shrubbery resulted in challenges during recovery operations. Contractors constructed temporary walkways and used small skiffs to prevent diesel from submerging into the muddy embankment and subsurface sediment due to foot traffic. Crews deployed over 500 feet of absorbent sweep and used a fire nozzle and pump to direct the diesel into the sweep. After consultation with WDFW, crews trimmed oiled vegetation by hand and did not remove any woody debris larger than four inches in diameter or six feet in length. Contractors continue to monitor and replace absorbent sweep as needed.