

PREASSESSMENT SCREENING OIL SPILL REPORT FORM

ERTS#	736886
Date of Incident:	02/10/2025
Potential Liable Party:	Tacoma Public Utilities
Product Spilled:	Mineral Oil/Transformer Oil
Spill Source:	Tacoma Public Utilities (Power Generation Utility)
Oil Spill Size Estimate:	249 Gallons
Water Body Affected:	Thea Foss Waterway
Ecology Region:	SWRO
County:	Pierce
Nearest City:	Tacoma
Location of Spill:	Tacoma
Cause:	Mechanical Failure
Ecology Responder:	Courtney Serad
Incident Summary:	<p>On February 10, 2025, City of Tacoma staff reported the release of non-PCB mineral oil from a failed transformer at the Tacoma Central shopping center. The total spill from the transformer was 249 gallons, based on the amount of oil left in the transformer and its capacity. The spill impacted a private storm drain and sheen was not observed in the city's stormwater system at the time. However, the following day, rainbow sheen was observed flowing from the twin 96-inch pipes which outlet to the Thea Foss Waterway. Tacoma Public Utilities contracted NRC for cleanup and both containment and sorbent boom were deployed spanning the waterway. Sample analysis confirmed that the oil in the Thea Foss was non-PCB mineral oil. Tacoma cleaned the entire downstream stormwater line. NRC provided skimming operations and Tacoma staff continued to observe sheen on the waterway inside the boom until the first week of March. Boom was removed on March 5th.</p>