

PREASSESSMENT SCREENING OIL SPILL REPORT FORM

ERTS# 740446

Date of Incident: 07/30/2025

Potential Liable Party: Western Towboat

Product Spilled: Diesel/Marine Gas Oil

Spill Source: *Western Ranger* (Tug)

Oil Spill Size Estimate: 45 Gallons

Water Body Affected: Lake Washington Ship Canal

Ecology Region: NWRO

County: King

Nearest City: Seattle

Location of Spill: Western Towboat

Cause: Other - Human Error

Ecology Responder: Amanda Howe

Incident Summary: On July 30, 2025, a tanker truck was transferring fuel to the Tug *Western Ranger* at the Western Towboat Company's facility on the Lake Washington Ship Canal. Western Towboat personnel were monitoring the transfer with the person in charge (PIC) monitoring the port and starboard sight glasses in the engine room and another employee at the bow tank monitoring with a stick. Approximately 30 minutes into the transfer, the PIC left the engine room and noticed an overflowing vent bag and immediately shut down the transfer. The *Western Ranger* had previously fueled in Alaska with un-dyed diesel, resulting in the misreading of the nearly clear diesel in the sight glass and the assumption that the tanks were empty. 50 to 55 gallons of diesel had overflowed the starboard tank onto the deck with an estimated 45 gallons spilling to Lake Washington Ship Canal. The tug was not pre-boomed prior to the fuel transfer and Western Towboat staff applied sorbent pads and sweep.