

PREASSESSMENT SCREENING OIL SPILL REPORT FORM

ERTS#	740528
Date of Incident:	08/03/2025
Potential Liable Party:	Faber Construction
Product Spilled:	Diesel Low Sulphur (Ulsd)
Spill Source:	Padden Creek Interurban Trail Improvement (Construction Site)
Oil Spill Size Estimate:	676 Gallons
Water Body Affected:	Padden Creek
Ecology Region:	NWRO
County:	Whatcom
Nearest City:	Bellingham
Location of Spill:	Bellingham
Cause:	Mechanical Failure
Ecology Responder:	Madeline Fritzen
Incident Summary:	On August 3, 2025, a concerned member of the public reported a diesel fuel sheen in Padden Creek in Bellingham. Later that evening, Faber Construction reported that they had a diesel spill at a construction site under the 12th Street Bridge - the Padden Creek Fish Passage Improvement Project. The spill was caused by a faulty fuel line on a rented pump, which resulted in an estimated 344 gallons of diesel spraying beyond secondary containment and into the creek. The fuel line was repaired, and GrayMar Environmental Services began to perform emergency cleanup operations, including placing and collecting boom in several locations along the creek. Focus Wildlife collected and confirmed the death of five fish and one crayfish from the creek. A new fuel line break on the same pump caused an additional release of an estimated 332 gallons of diesel on August 7, adding up to a total of 676 gallons spilled to Padden Creek. The pump was replaced along with the addition of an enhanced secondary containment and monitoring. GrayMar continued to replace sorbents and removed contaminated soil. Ecology's Toxics Cleanup Program is evaluating the need for further remediation and long-term cleanup.