



STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY

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October 29, 2015

To: RDA Committee members and alternates; interested parties
From: Dale Davis, RDA Committee Executive Director
Re: November 12, 2015 RDA Committee Regular Meeting

The RDA Committee will hold its next meeting on Thursday, November 12, 2015 at 9:00 a.m. in room **1S-16/17** at the Department of Ecology's headquarters building in Lacey, Washington. A meeting agenda and minutes from the October 14, 2015 regular meeting are enclosed for your review.

There is one oil spill pre-assessment screening scheduled for this meeting; the 10/18/15 Raj Sharma spill into Mercer Slough. The committee will be updated on the 8/18/15 Winlock fire, spill, and fish kill, and will be updated on the status of the RDAs for the Foss Maritime Port Madison, Conoco-Phillips Dalco Passage, *F/V Deep Sea*, *F/V Titan*, Gardner-Fields, and Sulphur Creek spills. Please call me at 407-6972 or e-mail at dale.davis@ecy.wa.gov if you have any questions or agenda items to add.

Enclosures: Agenda
Spill Report Sheet

RESOURCE DAMAGE ASSESSMENT COMMITTEE - REGULAR MEETING

Department of Ecology
300 Desmond Drive, Lacey, WA

Thursday November 12, 2015

9:00 a.m.

[Room 1S-16/17](#)

Agenda

I. New Business

A. Preassessment Screenings

1. Raj Sharma, October 18, 2015 spill into the Mercer Slough

II. Old Business

A. Committee update on the status of the RDAs for the 10/14/04 Dalco Passage spill, the 12/30/03 Foss Maritime spill, the 5/13/12 *F/V Deep Sea* spill, the 12/5/14 *F/V Titan* spill, the 2/8/15 Gardner-Fields spill, and the 3/1/15 Sulphur Creek spill.

B. Committee update on the status the 8/18/15 Winlock fire, spill, and fish kill.

DRAFT MINUTES

October 14, 2015, REGULAR MEETING OF THE RDA COMMITTEE Held at the Department of Ecology Headquarters: Lacey, WA

ATTENDANCE:

Andy Carlson, WA Department of Fish and Wildlife, 360-902-2530
Shayne Cothorn, WA Department of Natural Resources, 360-902-1064
Alison Meyers, WA Department of Ecology, 360-407-7114
Deborah Petersen, WA State Parks and Recreation Commission, 360-902-8634
Mark Toy, WA Department of Health, 360-236-3321
Rob Whitlam, WA Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation, 360-586-3080

The Resource Damage Assessment (RDA) Committee held a regular meeting on Wednesday, October 14, 2015 at the Department of Ecology headquarters building in Lacey, Washington. Alison Meyers called the meeting to order at 8:58 a.m. Andy Carlson, WA Department of Fish and Wildlife, was introduced to everyone. The minutes were approved as written for the September 9, 2015 RDA Committee meeting. Everyone was informed that the next RDA Committee meeting will be held, Thursday, November 12, 2015 at 9:00 a.m. in ROA-09 due to the Veteran's Day holiday on Wednesday.

I. New Business

1. **Rock Island Dam, September 1, 2015 spill into the Columbia River**
2. **P/C Nicole Leeann, September 1, 2015 spill into the La Push Marina**
3. **P/C Tango, September 2, 2015 spill into Sinclair Inlet**

1. **Rock Island Dam, September 1, 2015 spill into the Columbia River.**

Alison Meyers described the incident. Chelan County PUD reported that they lost about 176 gallons of turbine oil to the Columbia River from the trunnion seal of Unit-6 at their Rock Island Dam. They determined that the oil was lost over about a two month period based on the amount of oil they had added to the system that could not be accounted for. None was recovered.

The RDA Committee proceeded to vote on the following PAS questions:

1. Are the damages quantifiable at a reasonable cost? Results: Yes=0 No=6
2. Is restoration or enhancement technically feasible? Results: Yes=0 No=6
3. Has the potential liable party (PLP) proposed restoration/enhancement projects/studies that are sufficient to adequately compensate the people of the state for public resource damages? No, no PLP representative attended the meeting and no proposal was submitted.

2. P/C Nicole Leeann, September 1, 2015 spill into the La Push Marina.

Alison Meyers described the incident. The vessel sank at the dock in the La Push Marina. The USCG hired Global Diving & Salvage to recover any oil spilled or remaining in the vessel; no gasoline was recovered and only about one gallon of lube oil was recovered in absorbent pads. About 10 gallons of oily water was recovered from various tanks and compartments within the vessel. The vessel was eventually patched and re-floated. It appeared that a log next to the vessel damaged a plank during a wind storm and eventually allowed enough water to infiltrate to cause it to sink. A general contributing factor was the lack of proper maintenance and upkeep of the vessel. The vessel was posted in coordination with DNR so it may have been removed by now.

The RDA Committee proceeded to vote on the following PAS questions:

1. Are the damages quantifiable at a reasonable cost? Results: Yes=0 No=6
2. Is restoration or enhancement technically feasible? Results: Yes=0 No=6
3. Has the potential liable party (PLP) proposed restoration/enhancement projects/studies that are sufficient to adequately compensate the people of the state for public resource damages? No, no PLP representative attended the meeting and no proposal was submitted.

3. P/C Tango, September 2, 2015 spill into Sinclair Inlet.

Alison Meyers described the incident. The vessel sank in the marina for unknown reasons. Someone reported smelling diesel at about 3:00 a.m. and called it in. No marina staff were available so someone living on an adjacent boat was able to access the equipment trailer and eventually deploy some boom, but by that time the oil had spread throughout much of Sinclair Inlet. The USCG hired Global Diving & Salvage to further contain and recover the oil. The owner claimed that only about 50 gallons of fuel was on the vessel, but it was clearly much more than that. Global recovered 619 gallons from the water and another 30 gallons from the tanks. An over-flight at noon documented extensive oil outside containment; throughout the marina and adjacent marinas, as well as a large patch in the middle of Sinclair Inlet. The volume of oil outside of containment was estimated at about 100 gallons with evaporation estimated at 33 gallons.

The RDA Committee proceeded to vote on the following PAS questions:

1. Are the damages quantifiable at a reasonable cost? Results: Yes=0 No=6
2. Is restoration or enhancement technically feasible? Results: Yes=0 No=6
3. Has the potential liable party (PLP) proposed restoration/enhancement projects/studies that are sufficient to adequately compensate the people of the state for public resource damages? No, no PLP representative attended the meeting and no proposal was submitted.

II. Old Business

1. There was no new information for the Foss Maritime spill (12/30/2003) RDA.
2. Dalco Passage spill (10/14/2004) update – WA Department of Ecology Spills Program Communications Manager Lisa Copeland visited the restoration site and met with the restoration manager on Friday, September 11, 2015. Restoration is ongoing, but sections that are complete appear successful. A press release with pictures will be released in the near future.

3. Sulphur Creek spill (3/1/2015) update – At the September 9, 2015 RDA committee meeting, the Yakama Nation asked for a postponement of the RDA process for the Sulphur Creek spill at least until March of 2016, so they can do their due diligence. The committee decided that they wanted to ask Allyson Bazan, the RDA AAG, to see if she has any concerns about the postponement before voting. Allyson was also to contact the responsible party representative to find out if they have any concerns about the postponement. Allyson Bazan confirmed that the AG office has no concerns about postponement and contacted the responsible party representative to determine if they have any concerns. The responsible party representative requested we send a letter to the responsible party memorializing the dates of the postponement and copying the Yakama Nation with the deadlines. In a vote of six to zero, the committee agreed to delay the Sulphur Creek RDA until June 2016, which is effectively three months after the March 2016 assessment start date provided by the Yakama Nation. The committee also agreed that this decision should be memorialized in a letter to the representative party with the Yakama Nation copied.
Allyson Bazan also informed the responsible party representative that sufficient documentation exists to justify basing the damage assessment using the Compensation Schedule on a Category I wetland. The responsible party representative requested this documentation and WA Department of Ecology has asked the responsible party or their representative to submit a public records request for this documentation.
4. Winlock warehouse fire, oil spill, and fish kill (8/18/2015) update – A meeting has been scheduled with WA Department of Ecology, WA Department of Fish and Wildlife, US Fish and Wildlife Service, and National Oceanic and Atmospheric Association National Marine Fisheries Service for Thursday, October 29, 2015 to discuss the path forward for the RDA.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:45 a.m.

PREASSESSMENT SCREENING OIL SPILL REPORT FORM

Date of Incident: October 18, 2015

Potentially Liable Party: Raj Sharma

Product Spilled: Diesel fuel

Spill Source: Semi-truck fuel tanks

Oil Spill Size Estimate: Still under investigation

Water Body Affected: Mercer Slough

Ecology Region: NWRO

County: King

Nearest City: Bellevue

Location of Spill: I-405 north bound at Exit 13

Cause: Vehicle accident

Ecology Responder: Andrew Quast

Field Report: A semi-truck owned and operated by Mr. Raj Sharma was involved in a vehicle accident on I-405 near exit 13 that resulted in extensive damage to the truck. Initial reports said that 240 gallons of fuel was released, but the actual amount is still under investigation. Most of the spilled fuel likely was contained in soil at the accident site, but some went into a catch basin. A vac truck was used to remove fuel from the catch basin and it was initially thought that none of the fuel had gone to surface water, but the next day, diesel fuel was found downstream. The amount recovered has not been reported yet, but it was estimated at about 20 gallons by the Spill Responders. Accounting for evaporation, the spill volume to water is over 25 gallons.