



Washington Department of Natural Resources

**Derelict Vessel Removal Program
RBAW Annual Meeting Presentation
November 2023**



DVRP Legislative updates

- Removal of the Hero - the proposed capital budget request will provide approximately \$3 million for the removal of a large vessel in Pacific County that has been deteriorating for 4 years in an important shellfish growing area because of a lack of funding to conduct the removal. **Received the funds and removed the vessel in 2022!**
- Pilot vessel recycling program in Port Townsend – this request will provide \$100K for a pilot vessel recycling program in Port Townsend, resulting in new opportunities to recycle vessel materials instead of paying for costly disposal in landfills.
 - ~~10~~ 7 vessels so far **Completed! We removed over 11 tons of vessels with 100% recycled!**

HB 1700 watercraft excise tax

- Passed and became law in June of 2022
- The legislature approved the program for a transfer from the watercraft excise tax starting the second half of 2021-2023 biennium!



DVRP program deliverables 21-23 and 23-25 biennium's: as of November 18, 2023

21-23 budget was ~\$10M: \$2.5M normal, \$3M Hero, \$4.6M WET

Number of vessels DVRP paid to remove: **319** (prior best 123)

The *Hero* was removed, and the river was dredged - \$3M

23-25 budget is \$10.3M plus \$1.3M from Northwest Straights Commission

The DVRP currently has ~**118** more underway

NWSC vessels: completed 10 and working on the next 10

Vessel Turn-in Program has removed or is working to remove 34

Increased staff to 5 soon to be 6

Large vessel – *Pacific Producer*, Tacoma, Thea Foss Waterway, 170'

Sinking on a superfund cap, messy property and lease issues, owner walked away with 7 liens on the vessel worth ~\$1M estimated deconstruction cost \$10M +-30%

Spent or allocated \$4M so far



Current number on
the Vessels of
Concern list: 287



Rash of Large vessels

JF18-006 *Cairdeas* with Washington Registration # WN 9282 JE. Currently illegally on the Boy Scout Camp Parsons dock.



SN23-030: "USCG 83527": This vessel was being used as a towing resource for Bernhard's growing fleet. Unfortunately, this vessel ended up sinking in Port Townsend Bay near Irondale beach Sep 2023.



JF23-007: *Western Challenger* is a 1942, 130ft minesweeper turned fish processor that was towed in by his retired USCG 83527 in July 2023 and moored it to the unauthorized buoy that the *Cairdeas* was moored to.



JF23-011: Wooden Tug, possible name Patricia. This vessel is near Irondale and according to an Ecology report



Rash of Large vessels - continued

CZ22-001: Notes from Ecology - On June 28, 2022 a 110 foot wooden WW2 sub-chaser vessel sunk in the Columbia River near Willow Grove, Longview.



PI23-016: The U.S. Coast Guard had removed fuel, oil, and hazardous materials (hazmat) from the 170ft fishing vessel 'Pacific Producer,'



Other vessels to potentially consider:

KI14-004 Crest 100+ft

KI16-006 Vigorous 95ft

KI23-027 Coast Angel 100+ft

KI10-005 Onondegá 140ft

Interesting enough... all at Ballard Oil



Other Program Updates

- Custody process has changed
- Recycling vessels – DTG
- Staff changes along with program structure changes
- Possible Website changes
- Updating our guidebook
- Helping Oregon on their ADV workgroup



One final note about the Law Enforcement Grant

We are still compiling the data, but it looks as though it was working.



Thank you

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