

## PREASSESSMENT SCREENING OIL SPILL REPORT FORM

**ERTS#** 710394

**Date of Incident:** 11/04/2021

**Potential Liable Party:** Bergerson Construction Inc., Deep River Landing LLC, Wahkiakum County Public Works/Puget Island Ferry

**Product Spilled:** Bunker Oil/HFO

**Spill Source:** Old steel barge, former ferry terminal float/pontoon

**Oil Spill Size Estimate:** At least 37 gallons

**Water Body Affected:** Deep River

**Ecology Region:** SWRO

**County:** Wahkiakum

**Nearest City:** Roseburg

**Location of Spill:** Private Shoreline near Waranka Rd

**Cause:** Equipment/System Design, Improper Equipment Use, Inadequate Maintenance

**Ecology Responder:** Alison Meyers

**Incident Summary:** On Thursday, November 4, 2021, at 12:54 a citizen who lives along Waranka Road in Wahkiakum County, Washington, reported a metal barge that appeared to be leaking a sticky oil that smelled of tar into the nearby Deep River. Wahkiakum County, the United States Coast Guard, and the Department of Ecology responded and found a steel barge measuring about 14 feet wide by 40 feet long that was sheening. Since the party responsible for the barge was unknown, the USCG federalized the oil spill to fund the response and hired Clean Harbors for the cleanup.

On Sunday, November 7, 2021, divers placed heavy plastic under the hull of the holed barge to limit the tidal ingress and egress of water and limiting further oil escapement. On December 14, 2021, the barge was floated off the bank and pushed into a floating containment. On December 15, 2021, the barge and floating containment were taken downstream to a public boat launch on the Deep River. The barge was removed from the water, the oil was removed, and the barge was dismantled. An estimated 3,231 gallons of oil were recovered from the barge, and an estimated 36 gallons of oil leaked to the Deep River. Subsequent information was obtained from a retired employee of Wahkiakum County Public Works, indicating that bunker-C oil was put in the barge by either the builders of the barge or Puget Island Ferry employees in early 1962 to help the barge sit deeper into the water.