

# Kitsap County Derelict & Abandoned Vessel Removal Program

Meeting #6



December 10, 2024

# Facilitators

**Brittany Gordon**

*Natural Resources Coordinator*

[bgordon@kitsap.gov](mailto:bgordon@kitsap.gov)

**Kirvie Mesebeluu-Yobech**

*Environmental Programs Planning Supervisor*

[kyobech@kitsap.gov](mailto:kyobech@kitsap.gov)

**Daria Etchings**

*Outreach Technician*

[Detchings@kitsap.gov](mailto:Detchings@kitsap.gov)



# Housekeeping

- Zoom attendees
  - Mute microphone when not speaking to minimize noise
  - Send message to Daria if you have Zoom issues
  - Use raise hand function to speak
  - Turn on video when possible
- In-Person attendees
  - Turn name tag vertical to speak

**Wi-Fi: Community Wi-Fi**

**Password: Beaky.Buzzard.1942!**

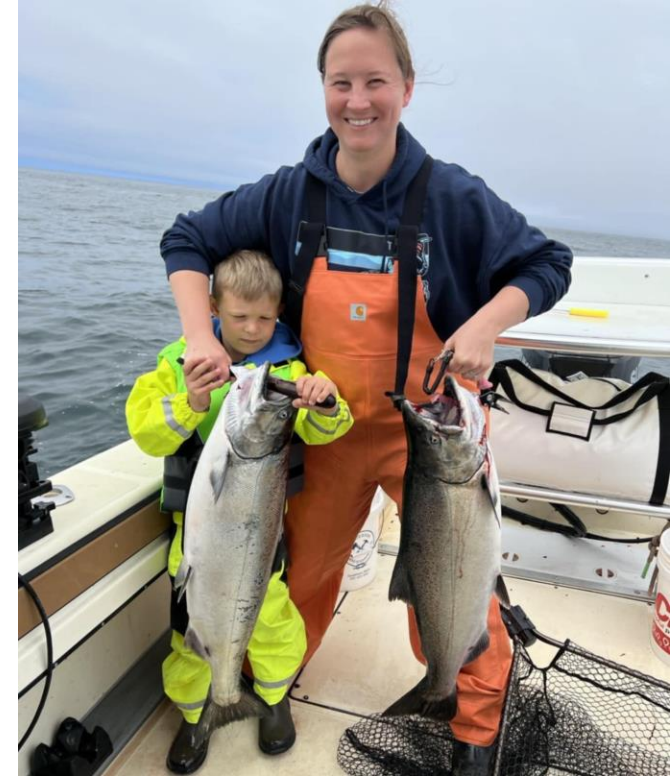


# Review Agenda

1:00 PM	Introductions, updates, review agenda	Kirvie
1:10 PM	Liberty Bay & Apple Tree Cove Vessel Updates	Kirvie
1:15 PM	VTIP Event Update	Brittany/Daria
1:20 PM	Focus Group Recruitment Update	Brittany
1:25 PM	2024 Kitsap County ADV Program Recap	Brittany
1:55 PM	2024 Opportunity for Feedback	All
2:25	Group Photo	Amy
2:30 PM	Wrap Up and Adjourn	Kirvie

# Round Table - Welcome and Introductions

- Name
- Agency
- Recent highlight or update on your work (optional)





An aerial photograph of a large body of water, likely a bay or harbor, with several small boats scattered across the surface. In the background, there are rolling hills and mountains under a clear sky. The water is a deep blue-grey color.

# **Removal of Sunken Vessel on Private Tidelands**

Case Study in Liberty Bay

Kirvie Mesebeluu-Yobech

# Project Update

- Request for Bids
  - Used Department of Enterprise Services contract #16122
  - Request for Bid sent out December 2 to all vetted vendors
  - Closes December 13, 2024 at 4:30PM

WORK REQUEST STATEWIDE CONTRACT 16122 VESSEL REMOVAL, DISPOSAL OR SALVAGE SERVICES FOR DERELICT VESSELS	
Purchaser Requesting Work:	Purchaser Fill In
Purchaser Work Request No.	Purchaser Fill In
Purchaser Location:	Purchaser Fill In
Purchaser Contact Name:	Purchaser Fill In
Purchaser Phone No.:	Purchaser Fill In
Purchaser Email:	Purchaser Fill In
Purchaser Billing Address:	Purchaser Fill In
Purchaser Billing Email:	Purchaser Fill In
Check which Category Applies	<div><input type="checkbox"/> Category A – Low Risk Removals</div> <div><input type="checkbox"/> Category B – Low Risk Removals, up to 35'</div> <div><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Category C – Higher Risk Removals</div> <div><input type="checkbox"/> Category D – Salvage</div> <div><input type="checkbox"/> Category E – Ship Deconstruction</div>

# Category C: Higher Risk Removals

- Soft grounding or patch & float vessels 35' to 100' in length.
- With or without the **associated disposal of sunken vessels** and **may include hazardous-material**, diving, marine towing, land towing or specialized equipment; **more complicated marine debris removal**, remove of deteriorated floating structures, docks, etc.



# Permit Required for Removal

- Hydraulic Project Approval (HPA) Permit from Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife
- Could use Department of Natural Resources (DNR) blanket HPA if removal method is covered
- OR may need new HPA for specific removal needs

# Adrift Vessel reported in Apple Tree Cove, Kingston

- Report made on November 17
- 24-foot sailing vessel adrift in front of private beach
- Private resident called 911 and notified authorities
- Kitsap Fire showed up, inspected, removed hazardous materials, secured vessel on private dock (per US Coast Guard instructions)
- Notified Sherriff's Office (P240175160)
  - Reports of vessel break-ins

# Adrift Vessel reported in Apple Tree Cove, Kingston

- Contacted DNR, Commissioners Office, DCD
- DNR worked with Port of Kingston to remove the vessel from private dock
- Vessel is at Port of Kingston
- DNR will work to remove the vessel

**THANK YOU! Port of Kingston (TJ Quandt) and DNR Derelict &  
Abandoned Vessel Removal Program staff (Jerry Farmer)**



# Vessel Turn-In Program (VTIP) Event Update

- Kitsap County met with DNR VTIP Program in November and expressed desire to host a VTIP Event
  - DNR funding is essentially allocated for 2025
  - Requested consideration for 2026 (likely spring)
- Follow-up meeting with DNR in January plus monthly focus group meetings



The graphic features a background image of a body of water with several sailboats. Overlaid on the right side is a circular diagram with three segments, each containing an icon and a question. The top segment has a thumbs-down icon and asks 'Is your boat in poor condition?'. The middle segment has a measuring tape icon and asks 'If your vessel is over 45' it will be assessed case by case, based on environmental threat.' The bottom segment has a Washington state seal icon and asks 'Are you a WA resident?'. Above the diagram is a green box with the text 'Vessel Turn-in Program' and '360-902-BOAT (2628)'. Below the diagram is a red box with the text 'Has your Dream Boat become a Nightmare?'. At the bottom of the graphic is a list of bullet points and a website URL.

 **Vessel Turn-in Program**  
360-902-BOAT (2628)

**Has your Dream Boat become a Nightmare?**

 Is your boat in poor condition?

 If your vessel is over 45' it will be assessed case by case, based on environmental threat.

 Are you a WA resident?

➤ The Vessel Turn In Program (VTIP) is managed by the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) to help prevent boats from becoming derelict or abandoned and to keep pollution out of our marine habitats.

➤ If you would like to dispose of your old boat legally but do not have the financial resources to do so, you can see if you qualify by reviewing the Eligibility Criteria, or go to our website to learn more:

<http://www.dnr.wa.gov/programs-and-services/aquatics/derelict-vessels/vessel-turn-program>

# Vessel Turn-In Program (VTIP) Event Update

- Event readiness is critical
  - Needs:
    - Boat deconstruction facility with NPDES permit
    - Haul-out facility (optional; no deepwater ports in Kitsap. Port Townsend or Everett options)
    - 2-3 scrap yard bins for deconstruction
    - Battery recycling and blackwater treatment are helpful.
    - Government entity or port district preferred- DNR can contract directly
    - Need to gauge need/interest from marinas and ports

## Skagit County Vessel Turn-In Recycling Day



**Port of Skagit**  
**End of July 2024**  
You will be notified of date and location after you have been pre-approved



**WHAT IS IT ABOUT?**  
It's a **FREE** Vessel Turn-In event hosted by the Skagit Marine Resources Committee, Swinomish Indian Tribal Community, Skagit County, Port of Skagit, La Conner Maritime Services, Northwest Straits Commission, and Washington Department of Natural Resources (DNR). The Vessel Turn-In Program (VTIP) is managed by the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) to help prevent boats from becoming derelict or abandoned and to keep pollution out of our marine habitats.

**WHO CAN PARTICIPATE?**  
Participation is open to anyone who is a WA resident and has proof of ownership or the legal authority to dispose of the vessel.

**HOW DO I REGISTER?**  
1. Fill out DNR's Vessel Turn-In application (see link at right) and get pre-approved **BEFORE** June 24th, 2024.  
2. Email your completed application and photos of your vessel to: [dvtp@dnr.wa.gov](mailto:dvtp@dnr.wa.gov), include "Skagit Vessel Turn-In Event" in the subject line.  
3. Prior approval is required for this event. Space will be limited and filled in the order applications are received and approved. We will accept vessels 34 ft or less in length. Vessels 35 ft or larger will be reviewed on a case by case basis. If you cannot drop off your vessel at the specified location, you are encouraged to apply and if approved, transport can be coordinated or DNR can add you to the list and coordinate alternative vessel turn-in options.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION**  
Call 360-902-BOAT (2628) or Email: [dvtp@dnr.wa.gov](mailto:dvtp@dnr.wa.gov). Swinomish Tribal members in need of assistance can reach out to Catey Ritchie by email: [critchie@swinomish.nsn.us](mailto:critchie@swinomish.nsn.us) or phone: 360-708-3120.

**REGISTER TODAY!**  
Download the Vessel Turn-In Program (VTIP) application:  
[www.dnr.wa.gov/publications/lacr\\_vtip\\_application\\_2023.pdf](http://www.dnr.wa.gov/publications/lacr_vtip_application_2023.pdf)

**SCAN ME** 

**Vessel Turn-In Program (VTIP)**  
website: [bit.ly/3qhmG5e](http://bit.ly/3qhmG5e)

**PARTNERS AND FUNDING**



THIS EVENT WAS FUNDED BY THE UNITED STATES FEDERAL GOVERNMENT THROUGH A GRANT AWARDED FROM NOAA, U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, FOR ENVIRONMENT, PROTECTION, CONSERVATION, AND RECREATION. THE UNITED STATES AND DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE DO NOT WARRANT OR REPRESENT THE RESULTS OF THIS EVENT OR THE RESULTS OF COMMERCE.



# VTIP Marina Interest

- Identified and contacted 18 marinas to inquire about interest in a VTIP event in Kitsap County
- Inquiry:
  - Are you interested in participating in a VTIP event?
  - Do you know of other parties who might be interested?
  - How many vessels do you think would be good candidates?
- Responses:
  - 3 marinas responded all interested in helping
  - Port of Brownsville stated 13 derelict vessels and a potential 5 vessels from customers
- Discussion/Feedback?

Marina Name	Location
Eagledale Moorings Marina	Bainbridge
Winslow Wharf Marina	Bainbridge
Harbour Marina	Bainbridge
Bainbridge Island Marina	Bainbridge
Eagle Harbor Marina	Bainbridge
Bremerton Marina (Port of Bremerton)	Bremerton
Bridgeview Marina (Port Orchard Railway Marina)	Bremerton
Port of Brownsville	Bremerton
Keyport Marina	Keyport
Port of Kingston	Kingston
Madrona - Sinclair Marina	Port Orchard
Kitsap Marina	Port Orchard
Port Orchard Marina (Port of Bremerton)	Port Orchard
Port Orchard Railway Marina	Port Orchard
Yachtfish Marine	Port Orchard
Port of Poulsbo	Poulsbo
Liberty Bay Marina	Poulsbo
Olympic View Marina	Seabeck
Port of Silverdale	Silverdale

Marinas with returned responses are highlighted in green.



# Focus Group Recruitment

- **Tracking Database**

This focus group will develop the tracking database for derelict vessels to be used primarily by Authorized Public Entities, potentially with a public-facing portion as well.

Brittany Gordon, Jonathan Raine, Daria Etchings, Trey Holden, Jason Hedstrom, Robyn Daly, Michael Moore(?)

- **Vessel Turn-In Program (VTIP) Event**

This focus group will coordinate a VTIP event in partnership with DNR to prevent high risk boats from becoming abandoned & derelict

Brittany Gordon, Daria Etchings, Troy Wood(?)

# Focus Group Recruitment

- **Public & Partner Resources**

- This focus group will develop resources such as informational brochures, decision trees, flow charts, and standard operating procedures for our partners and the public (to be shared on the Kitsap County ADV Webpage)
- Brittany Gordon, Daria Etchings, Ellen Ross-Cardoso

- **Legislative/Policy/Enforcement**

- This focus group will examine barriers at the legislative/policy and enforcement levels, identify any needed changes to legislation/policy, and develop resources for enforcement agencies. This group may also address funding through these means.
- Brittany Gordon, James Weaver, TJ Quandt, Trey Holden, Tim Schermetzler(?), Tami Griffey(?), Troy Wood(?)

An aerial photograph of a large body of water, likely a bay or harbor, with numerous small boats scattered across the surface. The background features a range of forested hills under a clear sky. The text "Kitsap County" and "Abandoned & Derelict Vessel Program" is overlaid in a purple serif font.

# Kitsap County Abandoned & Derelict Vessel Program

2024 Recap



# Building Partnerships

- Recruited over 50 representatives from ports, law enforcement, state & federal agencies, cities, private organizations, and more to our Technical Advisory Committee.
- Hosted six in-person TAC meetings

## Charting our Course

- Developed Program Charter
- Launched ADV Program Webpage

**Purpose:** Develop a local derelict and abandoned vessel removal program that builds upon the Washington Department of Natural Resources' (DNR) existing Derelict Vessel Removal Program to serve Kitsap County (County) and the cities, tribal jurisdictions, port districts, and residents within the County.



# Outlining the Current Process

## Ports:

Use processes in RCW  
53.08.320 and RCW 79.100

Port decides if vessel goes  
to auction or demolition.

Use DNR templates to  
post vessel and notify  
owner

Waiting period

Bid for demolition

Gather bills and send a  
final statement to vessel  
owner to try and collect  
payment

If not collected, submit  
to DNR for  
reimbursement

**Additional Notes:** To dispose of a vessel or to auction a vessel - Ports decide this on their own, no formal process for making that decision. May ask, is the vessel seaworthy? Port of Bremerton has seaworthy defined in their rules and regs but not every port does. DNR suggests considering if the vessel operates as intended in "seaworthy" definition.

## Virtual group:

Ports, Law Enforcement, and Kitsap Public Health District

- Vessels on private tidelands use Vessel Turn In Program (VTIP).
- Have DNR take ownership if on public waterways.

Vessel reported

Verify vessel location (on  
private or public tidelands)

Verify vessel ownership

Contact last registered owner  
and post vessel

Impound vessel after 15 days

Owner has 30 days to appeal

Agency has ability to auction or  
demolish (RCW 79.100)

If not purchased during auction,  
demolish or solicit contractor  
bids for disposal

Vessel removed

Submit for reimbursement

- Poulsbo uses state enterprise bid process for disposal/demolition
- Bainbridge Island obtain 3 bids before removal/repurpose (does not auction vessels)
- Kingston Marina - after 2 months of no moorage payment, provide notice, wait 90 days before going to auction (RCW 53.08.320)

# Current Process Clarifications from DNR

## What is the Custody Process (79.100)?

1. Is it **Abandoned** or **Derelict** as defined by RCW 79.100.010?
2. Contact DNR and ask for a bookmark!
3. Post the vessel
4. Post to the DNR website "Notice of Intent to Gain Custody"
5. Send the last known owner a letter stating your intent to gain custody within **5 days**
  - Owners are responsible for all costs incurred

Custody = ~15 days

Appeals deadline = 30 days after custody

- RCW 79.100.040(3)(b) emergency temporary possession
  - Must contact USCG or DNR prior to taking.
  - Must follow custody process after making the vessel safe.



WASHINGTON STATE DEPARTMENT OF  
**NATURAL RESOURCES**

[dnr.wa.gov](http://dnr.wa.gov)

[August 2024 Presentation Link](#)



# Identifying Challenges & Barriers



Complex Process  
**Enforcement**  
**Risk**  
Education/Outreach  
Funding  
Lack of Coordination

# Brainstorming Solutions

**Education/Outreach**

**Reduce auctioning boats**

**Improve resources for APEs**

**Registration/License Fees**

**Fund Marine Law Enforcement Units**

**Options to fund up-front costs**

**Improve coordination with USCG & Navy**

**Training/Resources**

**Tracking Database**

**Vessel Turn-In Event**

**Find Dock for KSO**

**Grants  
Prevention**

**Consider Civil Penalties**

**Refine private tideland process**

**Designate "safe haven" docks for USCG**



# Sharing Information

## Washington Department of Natural Resources

### Derelict Vessel Removal Program Legislative Capitol Budget ask 2025 October 2024



dnr.wa.gov

## Removal of Sunken Vessel on Private Tidelands

Case Study in Liberty Bay

Kirvie Mesebeluu-Yobech  
November 13, 2024



### How to Dispose of an Abandoned or Derelict Boat

Questions?  
Visit Our Website:  
[dnr.wa.gov/derelict-vessels](https://dnr.wa.gov/derelict-vessels)



#### IF THE BOAT IS NOT YOURS

You can do one of the following:

- **Call your local law enforcement, file a report, and ask them to ticket the owner for illegal dumping and/or trespassing.** See if the officer can track down the owner by searching the registration number (WN #). Law enforcement can then ask them to remove the boat from your property.
- **If you do not find the last registered owner,** some counties will issue a "Junk Vehicle Affidavit" which will permit you to dispose of the boat without a title.
- **You can also take the boat to the dump yourself,** but you will need to follow the Lost and Found Property Laws under RCW 63.21 to gain legal custody. Call your local landfill for their requirements before taking the boat.
- **If you do not have a trailer to haul the boat,** contact a local tow or vessel transport company.
- **If the boat is in good enough condition,** and after you have gained legal possession of it by following RCW 63.21.010 you may then keep or sell it.

SEE WAC 308-93-275 AND RCW 46.55.230 FOR DETAILED INFORMATION.

#### IF YOU OWN THE BOAT

- **If you have the title to the vessel,** you can take it directly to a landfill, or rent a dumpster and dismantle the boat yourself after draining and disposing of any hazardous materials properly. Engines and trailers can be recycled at a metal recycler.
- **If you lost the title,** contact a Department of Licensing (DOL) agent and ask for an "Affidavit in Lieu of Title" to be used for the purpose of disposing the vessel.
- **Vessels on the water that are too big for a trailer,** contact your local boatyard to haul out and dispose of for you. Or you can have a boat transportation company take it to the landfill.

#### PRIVATE MOORAGE FACILITIES

**If you are a private moorage facility, follow RCW 88.26 to gain custody.** As a private moorage facility, you are required by law RCW 88.26.030 to obtain insurance coverage. You may also seek a contract with local government for the removal of vessels, see RCW 79.100.130.

#### Vessel Turn-In Program (VTIP)

If you are unable to dispose of your boat and do not have the financial means to do so, you may qualify for the VTIP. Go to DNR's website, review the Eligibility Criteria form, and fill out the application.

 [dnr.wa.gov/programs-and-services/aquatics/derelict-vessels/vessel-turn-program](https://dnr.wa.gov/programs-and-services/aquatics/derelict-vessels/vessel-turn-program)

SEE RCW 79.100.160 FOR DETAILED INFORMATION

[https://www.dnr.wa.gov/publications/aqr\\_dv\\_disposalcard\\_private.pdf](https://www.dnr.wa.gov/publications/aqr_dv_disposalcard_private.pdf)

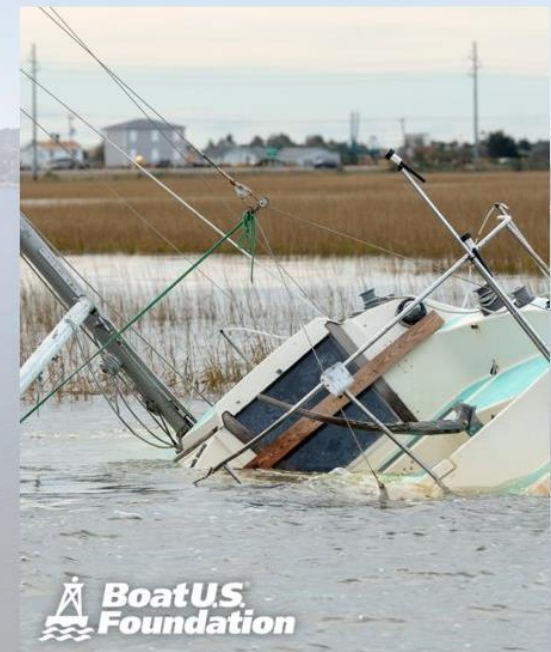
DERELICT VESSEL REMOVAL PROGRAM  
AND VESSEL TURN-IN PROGRAM  
360-902-BOAT (2628)



## Updates from BoatUS

### National ADV Database Survey:

<https://www.getfeedback.com/r/XEex9lC0>



 **BoatUS  
Foundation**



# Creating Focus Groups

## Tracking Database

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## Vessel Turn-In Program (VTIP) Event

\*This focus group will coordinate a VTIP event in partnership with DNR to prevent high risk boats from becoming abandoned & derelict

## Public & Partner Resources

\*This focus group will develop resources such as informational brochures, decision trees, flow charts, and standard operating procedures for our partners and the public (to be shared on the Kitsap County ADV Webpage)

## Legislative/Policy/Enforcement

\*This focus group will examine barriers at the legislative/policy and enforcement levels, identify any needed changes to legislation/policy, and develop resources for enforcement agencies. This group may also address funding through these means.

# Feedback for 2024

## **Activity:**

Please walk around the room and use the poster boards to provide feedback.

**Connections-** Please share one or more connections made or relationships built in 2024 through this program.

**Positive Feedback-** Please share something you enjoyed or learned during this process

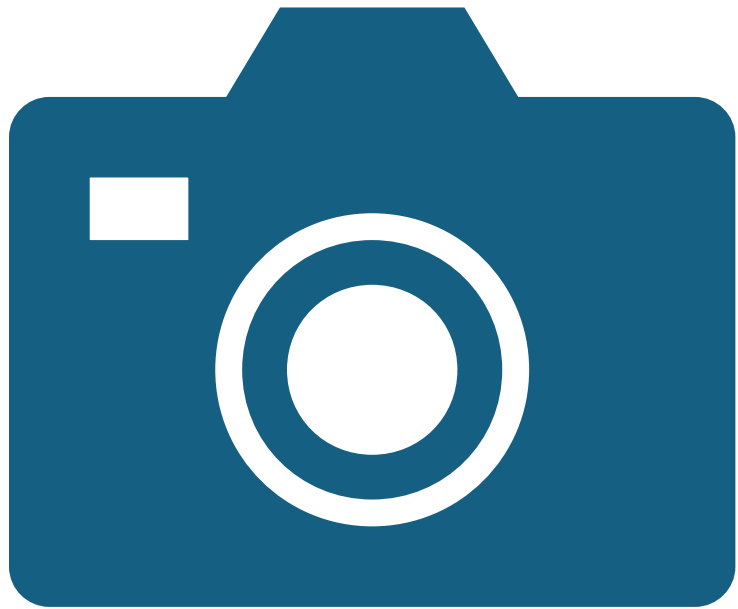
**Constructive Feedback-** Please share something that can be done better or improved upon in 2025.

# 2025 Meeting Plan

## 2025 Meeting Schedule

- Quarterly TAG meetings- in person/hybrid- Kitsap County Commissioners' Chambers
  - March 12, 2025
  - June 11, 2025
  - September 10, 2025
  - December 10, 2025
- Focus Group meetings- primarily virtual (unless in-person specifically needed)
  - Frequency as-needed, anticipated to be monthly for each group.





Time for a Group  
Photo!

# Thank you!

## **Program Webpage:**

<https://www.kitsap.gov/dcd/Pages/Derelict-Vessel-Removal-Program.aspx>

## **Project Manager:**

Brittany Gordon, [bgordon@kitsap.gov](mailto:bgordon@kitsap.gov), 360-801-6240