

Project Charter

Updated December 2024

Project Name: Kitsap County Derelict and Abandoned Vessel Removal Program

Project Term: June 1, 2024 – December 31, 2026

Introduction: This Project Charter is a high-level document that outlines the purpose and intent of the Kitsap County Derelict and Abandoned Vessel Removal Program. This charter is a living document that will be adapted and updated to meet the needs of the Technical Advisory Committee and project team over time.

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.

Problem:

The shoreline and nearshore areas of Kitsap County contribute to the health and wellbeing of residents and visitors alike; however, abandoned and derelict vessels frequently mark that shoreline and marine waters and pose hazards for boaters and anglers while negatively impacting water quality and habitat.

Derelict and abandoned vessels impact marine habitat, such as the marine bed and submerged aquatic vegetation, by grounding out and dragging anchors along the seabed. Water quality contamination from spills and leaching associated with these vessels impacts fish, including salmon and other species of conservation need, and the quality of shellfish harvested by local tribes and recreational harvesters.

While resources currently exist for prevention and removal of derelict and abandoned vessels through the Washington State Department of Natural Resources, enforcement and implementation at the local level remains challenging. Barriers identified in early scoping include, but are not limited to, tracking challenges as vessels move across jurisdiction boundaries, a need for prevention and better public outreach, limited resources for ports and marinas to dispose of vessels, limited resources for vessels on private tidelands, and a need for improved ordinances/legislation at the local and state levels.

Aim:

- Assemble a technical advisory committee consisting of derelict and abandoned vessel removal partners and interested parties within Kitsap County.
- Identify and develop tools and mechanisms to improve coordination between law enforcement agencies, Ports, transit agencies, local jurisdictions, and state and federal agencies related to derelict & abandoned vessel prevention, tracking, and removal.
- Identify barriers to implementing DNR's existing derelict & abandoned vessel program locally and develop actions and strategies to address barriers.
- Develop outreach materials and resources for program partners and the public to prevent and remove derelict & abandoned vessels.
- Implement the program locally with ongoing adaptive management to improve the program over time

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Deliverables:

- Derelict and Abandoned Vessel Removal Program housed within the appropriate office or department in Kitsap County.
- A staff position (or a portion of a full-time position) within the appropriate Kitsap County office or department to manage the program long term.
- Tool (such as a mapping application) for tracking the movement and status of derelict vessels across jurisdictions.
- Program webpage to communicate important information and provide resources to local jurisdictions and the public.
- Advisory committee of member jurisdictions, law enforcement, ports, marinas, and agencies with regular meetings to develop, implement, and adaptively manage the program.
- Policy recommendations or model ordinance for state and local jurisdictions, as appropriate.

Project Scope Includes:

The project scope includes providing resources, education, and outreach to prevent vessels from becoming derelict and abandoned, including vessel turn in program resources for vessel owners. The scope also includes the process beginning when a derelict or abandoned vessel is identified and reported. The project scope ends when all documentation and forms are submitted, and the authorized agency is reimbursed for vessel removal.

- Project staff will facilitate monthly or bi-monthly meetings of the Technical Advisory Committee between June 2024 and December 2026 (approximately 20 meetings total) to develop the local Derelict & Abandoned Vessel Removal Program.
- Technical Advisory Group will identify barriers to identifying, tracking, and removing abandoned and derelict vessels and develop and implement actions and strategies to address those barriers.
- Project staff will develop and maintain resources to help partners implement the program locally.
- Project staff will facilitate public outreach and host stakeholder trainings to improve local implementation of DNR's existing derelict & abandoned vessel removal program and to prevent vessels from becoming derelict and abandoned.

Project Scope Does Not Include:

- Removal of vessels will continue under jurisdiction of law enforcement agencies, Ports, and transit authorities through DNR's existing Derelict & Abandoned Vessel Removal program.
- Reimbursement of derelict & abandoned vessel costs will continue to be through DNR's existing program.

Project Partners Expectations:

- Monthly or bi-monthly technical advisory committee meetings hosted and facilitated by Kitsap County (approximately 20 meetings expected from 2024-2026). Meeting materials will be provided, including agendas, past meeting notes/summaries, presentations, and informational materials.
- Definitions of "abandoned and derelict vessels" in the program will match definitions in RCW 79.100 used by the Washington State Department of Natural Resources.

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- Program webpage to be kept up to date with meeting materials, links to resources, training opportunities, and other information.
- Once developed, vessel tracking database to be kept current and accessible for law enforcement agencies, Ports, jurisdictions, and transit authorities.

Project Leads/Facilitators: Brittany Gordon, Kirvie Mesebeluu-Yobech

Kitsap County Derelict & Abandoned Vessel Program Technical Advisory Committee		
*Note: This Committee membership is subject to change throughout program development.		
Entity	Name	Title
Bainbridge Island Police	Jon Bingham	Lead Marine Officer
Bremerton Police	Rodney Rauback	Sergeant
City of Bremerton	Karin Olson	Code Enforcement Specialist
City of Port Orchard	Alan Iwashita	Deputy Chief
City of Port Orchard	Andrew Brandon	Deputy Chief
City of Port Orchard	Denis Ryan	Public Works Director
City of Port Orchard	Matt Brown	Chief of Police
City of Port Orchard	Nick Bond	Community Development
City of Port orchard	Trey Holden	Sargeant- Marine Patrol Unit
CSD Law	Tim Schermetzler	Attorney for WA Public Ports Association
DNR	Troy Wood	Derelict Vessel Removal Program Manager
Kitsap County HEART Team	Carl Borg	Kitsap Homeless and Housing Manager
Kitsap County Sheriff	Ryan McGovern	Deputy Sheriff
Kitsap County Sheriff	Brad Trout	Deputy Sheriff (retiring December 2024)
Kitsap County Sheriff	Jason Hedstrom	Sergeant
Kitsap County Sheriff	Wilson Sapp	Lieutenant- Marine Patrol
Kitsap County DCD	Jonathan Raine	Technology and GIS Analyst
Kitsap County DCD	Scott Diener	Manager, Planning & Environmental Programs
Kitsap County DCD	Tami Griffey	Construction Inspector / Code Compliance
Kitsap County Parks	Irene Weber	Natural Resource Supervisor
Kitsap County Public Works	Caitlin Newman	Program Supervisor
Kitsap County Public Works	Amelia Rohwein	Clean Water Kitsap Program Coordinator
Kitsap Public Health	Thomas Jury	Environmental Health Specialist
Kitsap Public Health	Steven Brown	Program manager, stormwater & hazardous waste
Kitsap Transit	Ray Scott	Marine Services director
Port of Allyn	Travis Merrill	Executive Director
Port of Bremerton	Gary Anderson	Commissioner
Port of Bremerton	James Weaver	Marine Facilities Director

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Port of Bremerton	Kathy Garcia	Marina Operations Manager
Port of Brownsville	Robyn Dally	Port manager
Port of Illahee	Jim Aho	Commissioner
Port of Keyport	Don McCracken	Commissioner
Port of Keyport	Ellen Ross-Cardoso	Commissioner
Port of Keyport	Lena Hunt	Commissioner
Port of Kingston	TJ Quandt	Director of Operations and Real Estate
Port of Kingston	Torey Grandt	Maintenance Manager
Port of Manchester	James Strode	President
Port of Manchester	Bob Ballard	Commissioner
Port of Poulsbo	Carol Tripp	Port Manager
Port of Poulsbo	Daryll Trask	Maintenance Manager
Port of Poulsbo	Jamie Green	Commissioner
Port of Poulsbo	Mark Singer	Commissioner
Port of Poulsbo	Tom Rose	Commissioner
Port of Silverdale	Caleb Reese	Commissioner
Port of Silverdale	Ed Scholfield	Commissioner
Port of Waterman	Jeff Reynolds	Commissioner
Poulsbo Police	Shawn Ziemann	Sergeant
Snohomish County	Elisa Dawson	Senior Planner- Marine Resources
Suquamish Tribe	Steve Todd	Biologist
Suquamish Police	Ryan George	Suquamish Police
USCG	Jeffrey Zappen	Waterways Management Specialist
US Navy- PSNS	Pending	PSNS Port Operations
WA State Department of Ecology	Evan Dobrowski	Stormwater Inspector and Compliance Specialist
WDFW Enforcement	Eric Anderson	Captain, Aquatic Invasive Species, Dive Team
WDFW Enforcement	Ken Balazs	Sergeant
WDFW Enforcement	Patrick Murray	Fish & Wildlife Police Officer
WDFW- Habitat Program	Adam Samara	Area Habitat Biologist
WDFW Habitat Program	Lindsay Wourms	Assistant Regional Habitat Program Manager
West Sound Partners for Ecosystem Recovery (WSPER)	Renee Johnson	WSPER Coordinator