

## VESSEL TURN-IN PROGRAM

### Helping prevent boats from becoming derelict

Has your dream boat become a nightmare? You might be eligible for DNR's Vessel Turn-in Program (VTIP). DNR can help approved owners dispose of their vessels safely and legally, and may even cover the costs.

#### To participate in the program, you must:

- ▶ Meet the VTIP Eligibility Criteria requirements.
- ▶ Submit an application with photos.
- ▶ Remove personal belongings from the boat.
- ▶ Meet a DNR representative at the vessel for an evaluation.

Email: [dvrp@dnr.wa.gov](mailto:dvrp@dnr.wa.gov) or Phone: 360-902-BOAT (2628)



#### Report an abandoned or derelict vessel

**Derelict Vessel Removal Program**  
(not a 24-hour line, Non-Response Agency)  
360-902-2628 or Email: [dvrp@dnr.wa.gov](mailto:dvrp@dnr.wa.gov)  
[www.dnr.wa.gov/vessel-reporting](http://www.dnr.wa.gov/vessel-reporting)



#### Report oil spills (24-hour response)

US National Response Center  
800-424-8802

Washington Department of Ecology  
800-OILS-911 or 800-258-5990

#### Report emergencies

If the vessel is in an emergency, call 911 or the US Coast Guard (USCG) on Channel 16 VHF-FM

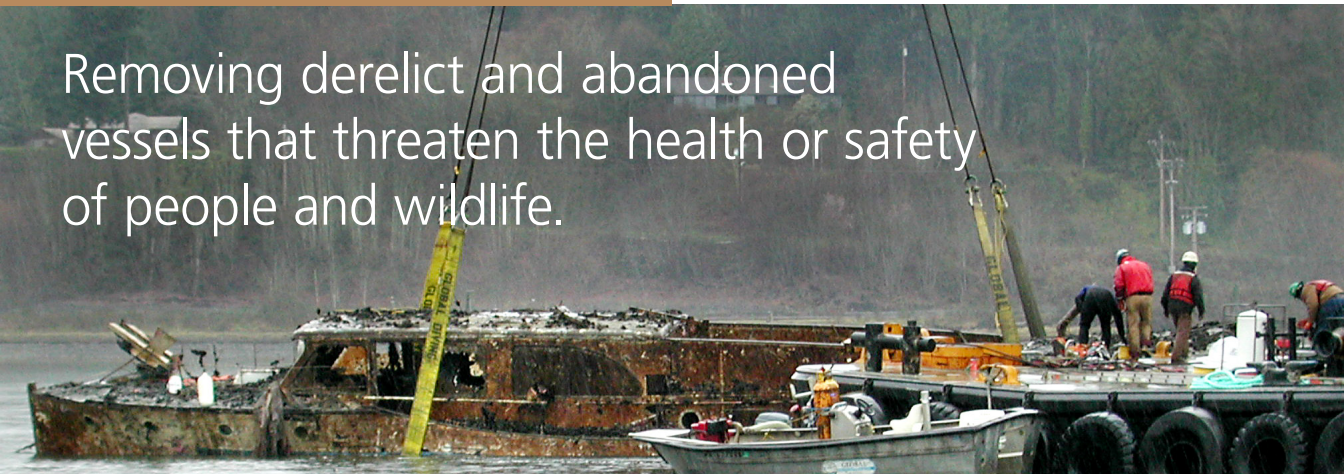
#### US Coast Guard 24-hour emergency

206-217-6001 (Puget Sound to Neah Bay to Bellingham)  
503-861-2242 (Columbia River and SW Washington)



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Removing derelict and abandoned vessels that threaten the health or safety of people and wildlife.

## Derelict Vessel Removal Program

Removing vessels that pose threats to the health and safety of Washington's waters



An increasing number of recreational and commercial vessels are found abandoned or in such disrepair that they are a danger to human safety and the environment.

As steward of the state's 2.6 million acres of aquatic lands, the state Department of Natural Resources (DNR) manages the Derelict Vessel Removal Program (DVRP). DNR removes and disposes of derelict vessels, offers expertise to help other authorized public entities with removal efforts, and reimburses them up to 90% of removal and disposal costs.

COVER PHOTO BY NICK JIO. TOP PHOTO BY MICHAEL RECHNER

### What damage can a derelict or abandoned vessel cause?

- ▶ More than an eyesore—pollution associated with vessels poses a risk to people and the environment.
- ▶ Contamination is mainly caused by fuel spills (gas or diesel).
- ▶ Drifting, beached, broken-up or sunken vessels can threaten human safety
- ▶ Be a navigational hazard—impact on aquatic habitats.

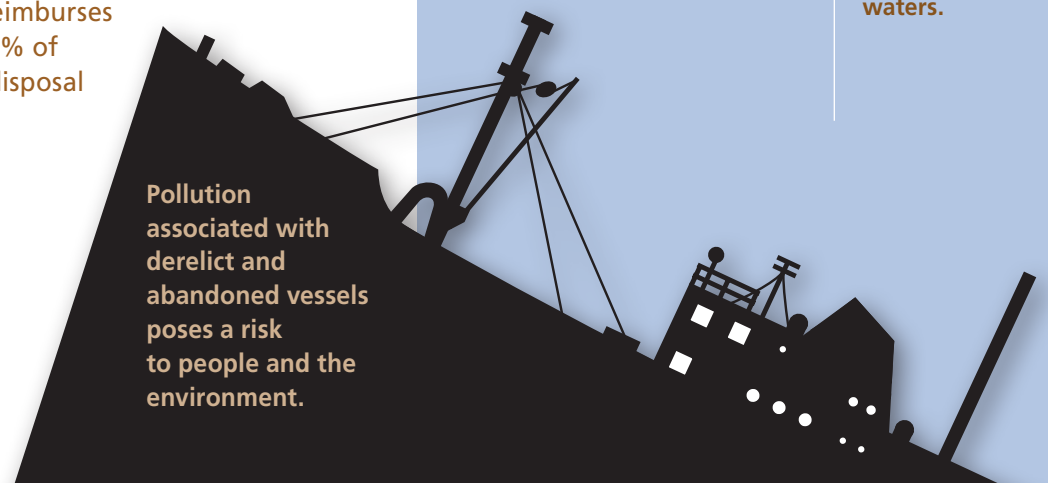
▲ The 'Holiday' was the first vessel removed under the program. Posing a significant threat to navigation, it was removed from lower Budd Inlet by DNR in 2003.

**The Derelict Vessel Removal Program (DVRP) is committed to protecting the environment, ecosystems, and all aquatic life in our state's waters.**

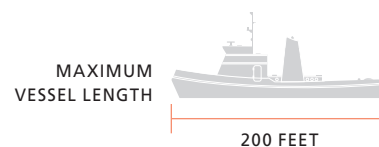
Pollution associated with derelict and abandoned vessels poses a risk to people and the environment.




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Drifting, beached, broken-up or sunken vessels can threaten human safety and navigation, and have an impact on aquatic habitats.



 Unmarked exposed portions of sunken boats can be navigation hazards

Derelict vessels may contain large quantities of oil or other toxic substances. If leaked they can injure or kill marine mammals, waterfowl and other aquatic life; and contaminate aquatic lands, nearby shorelines, and water quality.

Vessels that settle on the bottom can disrupt the aquatic environment, scouring or crushing sensitive habitats like eelgrass or kelp beds.

**What can authorized agencies do?**

Authorized public entities take steps to address the derelict or abandoned vessel problem on aquatic lands in their jurisdiction:

- ▶ Send the reporting form to the Derelict Vessel Removal Program to establish the vessel status and receive priority ranking.
- ▶ Send pre-custody letters to owners of the vessel.
- ▶ Follow Derelict Vessels Act notice requirements.
- ▶ Remove and dispose of vessels.
- ▶ Seek from the vessel owner reimbursement of costs.
- ▶ Apply to the DVRP for up to 90 percent of the associated removal and disposal costs.

If an authorized agency is unable or unwilling to undertake removal, it may ask DNR to take the lead.

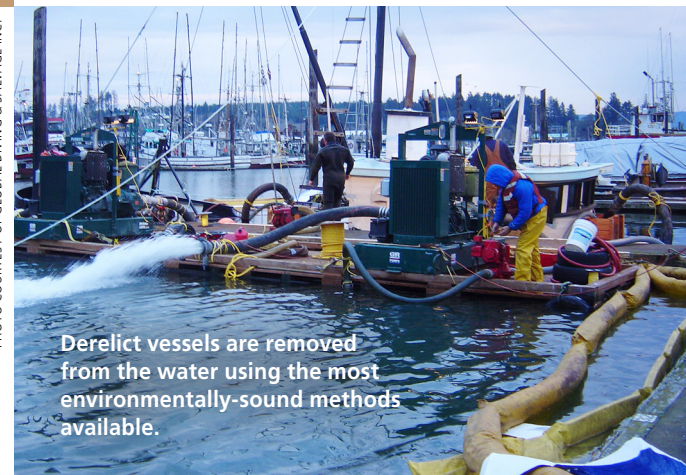
Anti-fouling paints and other toxic coatings slough off the vessel and mix with sediments in the area. They can contaminate the organisms that feed larger fish and wildlife, and enter the food web that feeds people, too.

**What is the DNR's Derelict Vessel Removal Program?**

The Derelict Vessel Removal Program has three main responsibilities associated with removing vessels up to 200 feet long.

- 1 **Remove and dispose of derelict or abandoned vessels found in Washington State's waters.**
- 2 **Manage program operations**
  - ▶ Reimburse authorized public entities up to 90 percent of the cost of vessel removal and disposal.
  - ▶ Manage the Derelict Vessel Removal Account
  - ▶ Provide guidance and assistance to authorized public entities and the public.
- 3 **Maintain the derelict vessel inventory database**

PHOTO COURTESY OF GLOBAL DIVING & SALVAGE, INC.



Derelict vessels are removed from the water using the most environmentally-sound methods available.

**What are the derelict vessel removal priorities?**

In order to protect the health of people, marine and fresh water ecosystems, priority for derelict vessel removal account funds is given to removing derelict vessels that are in danger of sinking, breaking up, blocking navigation channels, or that present environmental risks.

**Where does program funding come from?**

\$3 of the annual recreational vessel registration fee, \$5 of the vessel visitor permit fee and commercial vessels pay a \$1/ft fee.

The state's Derelict Vessel Laws are in Revised Code of Washington (RCW) 79.100.

Program information, guidelines and documents are available at:

[www.dnr.wa.gov/derelict-vessels](http://www.dnr.wa.gov/derelict-vessels)

**Who is authorized to remove vessels?**

Authorized Public Entities:

- ▶ Port Districts
- ▶ City, town or county with jurisdiction over aquatic lands
- ▶ Metropolitan Park Districts
- ▶ Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW)
- ▶ Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission

Private Moorage Facilities refer to RCW 88.26