

Vessel Turn-In Program

Helping prevent boats from becoming derelict

Has your dream boat become a nightmare? If you own a boat that's in poor condition or no longer functions but is not legally derelict or abandoned, you might be eligible for DNR's Vessel Turn-in Program (VTIP)

In 2014, DNR instituted the Vessel Turn-in Program to prevent boats from becoming derelict or abandoned and potentially harming water quality and/or threatening public safety. DNR will help owners dispose of their vessels safely and legally, and may even cover the costs.


To participate in the program, you must:

- ▶ Meet the requirements on the VTIP Eligibility Criteria checklist.
- ▶ Submit an application to the Department of Natural Resources.
- ▶ Remove personal belongings from the boat.
- ▶ Meet a DNR representative at the vessel for an evaluation (DNR staff will schedule this evaluation after the application is received).

If you want to dispose of your boat safely and legally but don't have the resources, you may qualify for the Vessel Turn-in Program, managed by the Washington State Department of Natural Resources (DNR) at:

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

Emergency contacts

 If you see a potential derelict or abandoned vessel, please report it to DNR at:

Derelict Vessel Removal Program (State)
360-902-1574 or email: dvrp@dnr.wa.gov

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)

USCG will be involved for search and rescue and pollution events.



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 waterways

In addition to vigorous use of commercial navigation through much of the state, the people of Washington have embraced recreation that involves sailboats and powerboats. However, an increasing number of recreational and commercial vessels are found abandoned or in such disrepair that they are in danger of sinking. In response to this growing problem, the 2002 State Legislature authorized many public agencies to remove and dispose of abandoned and derelict vessels.

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 agencies with removal efforts, and reimburses them most of the vessel removal and disposal costs.

COVER PHOTO COURTESY OF BLACKWATER MARINE. TOP PHOTO BY MICHAEL RECHNER

What damage can a derelict or abandoned vessel cause?

Derelict and abandoned vessels are more than an eyesore. They can be real threats. Pollution associated with vessels poses a risk to people and the environment. Contamination is mainly caused by fuel spills (gas or diesel), which occur when a vessel sinks or breaks up.

Drifting, beached, broken-up or sunken vessels can threaten human safety, be a navigational hazard and have an 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.

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WASHINGTON STATE DEPARTMENT OF
Natural Resources



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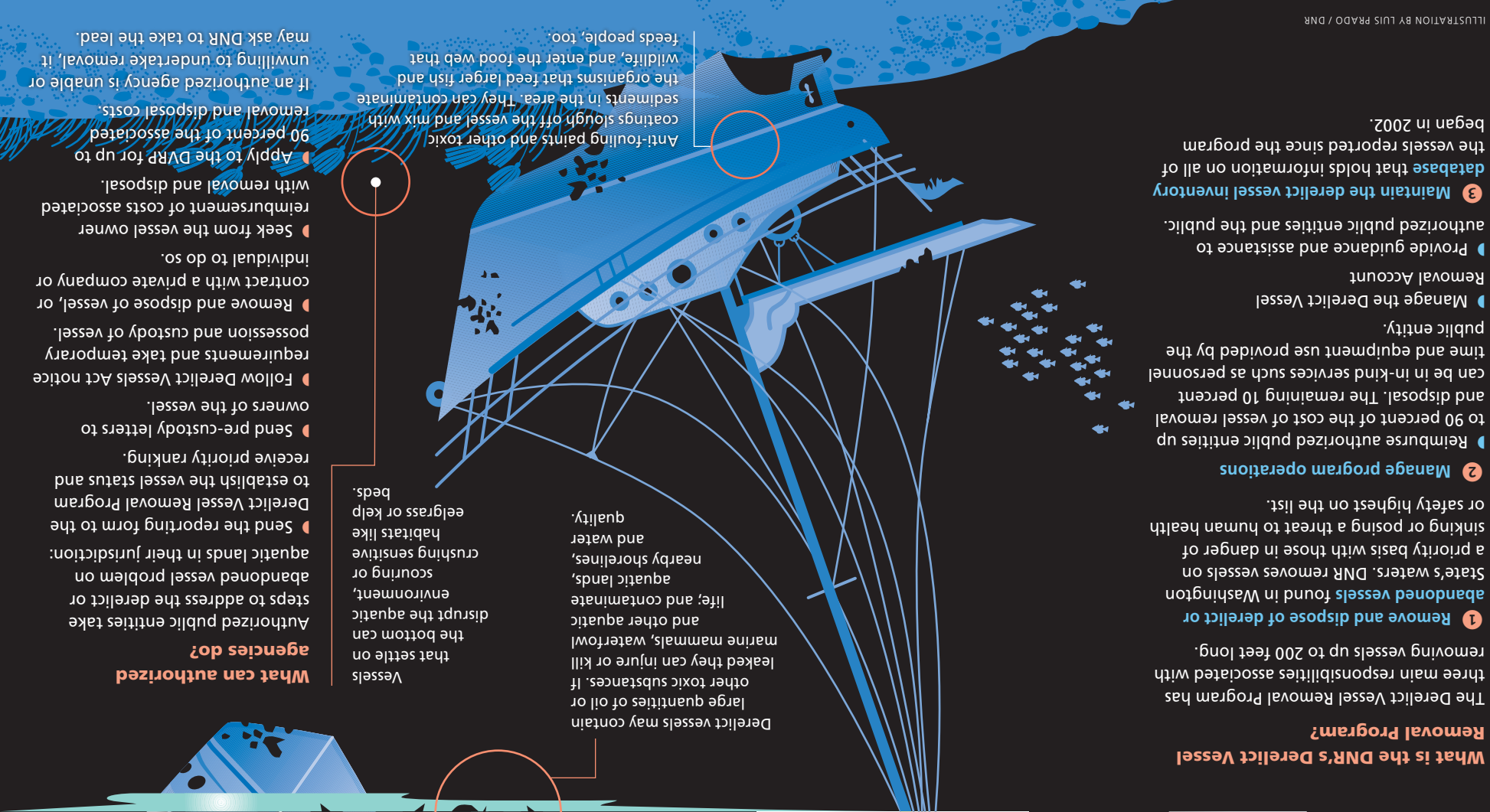
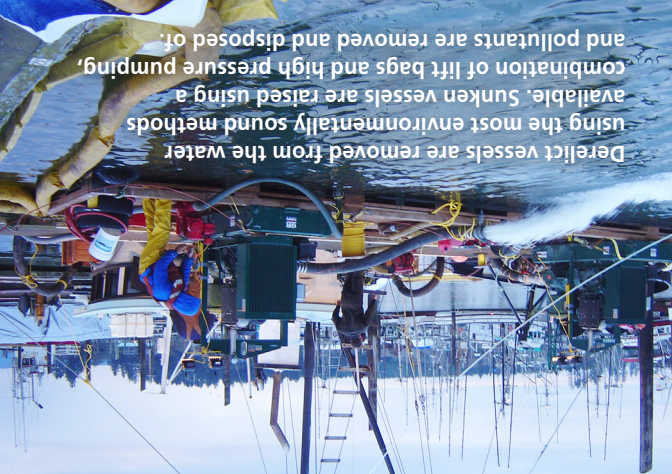


ILLUSTRATION BY LUIS PRADO / DNR



PHOTO COURTESY OF GLOBAL DIVING & SALVAGE INC.



What are the derelict vessel removal priorities?

In order to protect the health of people, marine and fresh water ecosystems and wildlife, 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. The program addresses vessels of 200 feet or less. Priority is assigned to the vessel based on criteria that classify the degree of threat.

Where does program funding come from?

\$3 of the annual recreational vessel registration fee and \$5 of the vessel visitor permit fee provide most of the program's funding. Starting in 2015, some commercial vessels pay a \$1/ft fee that also funds the state's Derelict Vessel Laws are in Revised Code of Washington (RCW) 79.100.

derelictvessels.

Also linked are the Derelict Vessel Inventory, and program funding account balance.

- Metropolitan Park Districts
- State Parks and Recreation Commission
- State Department of Fish and Wildlife
- City, town or county with ownership, management or jurisdiction over aquatic lands
- Port Districts
- DNR or other public agencies:

Who is authorized to remove vessels?

Derelict vessels may be removed by Washington DNR or other public agencies: