



**STATE OF WASHINGTON**  
**DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY**

PO Box 47600, Olympia, WA 98504-7600 • 360-407-6000

December 26, 2024

United States Department of Commerce  
National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration  
ATTN: Emily Newman  
Office of Response & Restoration  
325 E. Gaines Street, Suite 100  
Tallahassee, FL 32301

Re: Coastal Zone Management Federal Consistency Decision for NOAA Marine Debris Program (MDP) Grants - Squaxin Island, Puget Sound, Squaxin Island, Washington

Dear Emily Newman:

On November 15, 2024, the National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) submitted a Consistency Determination with the Washington State Coastal Zone Management Program (CZMP). Ecology issued a 21-day public notice on November 27, 2024, and received no comments.

NOAA's Marine Debris Program will be providing a grant to the Washington Department of Natural Resources (DNR) to remove up to eight abandoned and derelict vessels (ADVs) from Tribal land on Squaxin Island in Puget Sound. The goal of the proposed work is to benefit the coastal zone by removing marine debris that poses ongoing and potential threats to sensitive natural resources.

Some of the ADVs are located away from the shoreline and deep into lagoons, making access difficult. Washington DNR will conduct site investigations, possibly including a drone survey, to collect additional information on vessel location and condition, habitat impacts, and possible removal methods. Exact removal methods have not been determined but may include helicopter or crane barge lift for transport and deconstruction offsite or cutting the vessel for land transport by hand to load onto vessels. Debris will be recycled to the maximum extent possible, and any remaining pieces will be disposed of in a landfill. Removal efforts are anticipated to begin pending finalization of environmental compliance requirements and will conclude in the summer of 2025. Additionally, Washington DNR will expand their Vessel Turn-in Program to cover all of western Washington to prevent future instances of vessel

abandonment. Best management practices will be implemented to avoid and minimize impacts to sensitive habitats and protected resources during debris removal.

Pursuant to Section 307(c)(3) of the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972 as amended, Ecology concurs with NOAA’s determination that providing funding for the proposed work is consistent with Washington’s CZMP. Ecology’s concurrence is for the general release of funding by NOAA only. If the proposed activity requires the federal funding recipient to obtain a federal permit or license subject to 15 CFR Part 930 Subpart D of the federal consistency regulations, that action requires a separate CZM federal consistency decision from Ecology for the action to be completed under Subpart D.

If you have any questions regarding Ecology’s decision, please contact Teresa Pucylowski at [teressa.pucylowski@ecy.wa.gov](mailto:teressa.pucylowski@ecy.wa.gov).

## Your right to appeal

You have a right to appeal this decision to the Pollution Control Hearings Board (PCHB) within 30 days of the date of receipt. The appeal process is governed by Chapter 43.21B RCW and Chapter 371-08 WAC. “Date of receipt” is defined in RCW 43.21B.001(2).

To appeal, you must do all of the following within 30 days of the date of receipt of this decision:

- File your notice of appeal and a copy of this decision with the PCHB (see filing information below). “Filing” means actual receipt by the PCHB during regular business hours as defined in WAC 371-08-305 and -335. “Notice of appeal” is defined in WAC 371-08-340.
- Serve a copy of your notice of appeal and this decision on the Department of Ecology by mail, in person, or by email (see addresses below).

You must also comply with other applicable requirements in Chapter 43.21B RCW and Chapter 371-08 WAC.

## Address and Location Information

### Filing with the PCHB

For the most current information regarding filing with the PCHB, visit: <https://eluh.wa.gov/> or call: 360-664-9160.

### Service on Ecology

#### Street Addresses:

Department of Ecology

NOAA Marine Debris Program (MDP) Grants – Squaxin Island  
Aquatics ID No. 144986  
December 26, 2024  
Page 3 of 3

Attn: Appeals Processing Desk  
300 Desmond Drive SE  
Lacey, WA 98503

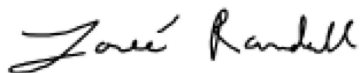
**Mailing Addresses:**

Department of Ecology  
Attn: Appeals Processing Desk  
PO Box 47608  
Olympia, WA 98504-7608

**E-Mail Address:**

[ecologyappeals@ecy.wa.gov](mailto:ecologyappeals@ecy.wa.gov)

Sincerely,



Loree' Randall, Section Manager  
Aquatic Permitting & Protection Section  
Shorelands and Environmental Assistance Program

Sent via e-mail: [emily.d.newman@noaa.gov](mailto:emily.d.newman@noaa.gov)

E-cc: Teresa Pucylowski, Ecology  
[fedconsistency@ecy.wa.gov](mailto:fedconsistency@ecy.wa.gov)