Abandoned & Derelict Vessels

A Global Issue





State of Oregon Department of Environmental Quality



Abandoned and Derelict Vessels

* ORS 830.908 defines an abandoned boat as:

"a vessel that has been left without authorization on public or private land, the waters of this state, or any other water."

* ORS 830.908 defines a derelict vessel as:

"(a) Sunk or in imminent danger of sinking;

(b) Obstructing a waterway;

(c) Endangering life or property; or

(d) In such dilapidated condition that it is in danger of becoming a significant environmental hazard as evidenced by repeated and documented instances of leaking fuel, sewage or other pollutants."

ADV's: A Complicated Issue

- * Threat to navigation
- * Environmental Concerns
- * Nuisance
- * Housing Concerns
- Disposal and Logistics
- Legal Process
- * Insurance
- * Funding
- * Jurisdiction
- * Agency Coordination



Agency Roles

- * Oregon State Marine Board
- * Department of State Lands
- * Department of Environmental Quality
- * United States Coast Guard
- * Other Local, Federal, and State Agencies













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Social Components



Upland Issues





Number of ADVs 2005-2019



Recreational ADVs



Commercial ADVs





Environmental Concerns





Additional Environmental Concerns





Cost varies but increases significantly if vessel sinks: Average cost afloat recreational ADVs = \$3,200 Average cost sunken recreational ADVs = \$5,000

Commercial vessel costs is too difficult to know, but is significantly higher than recreational

<u>Current Funding:</u> OSMB: \$150,000 per biennium DSL: \$35,000 per biennium Staff time, resources, DOJ fees, Sheriff costs, etc. all add up

Prevention and Awareness

- Key to ADV's to minimize impacts to environment, the public and reduce the financial impact.
- Coordination between agencies, states, ports, marina owners, and other private partners
- Get the public involved and gather support



Efforts to Date

- * Derelict Vessel Task Force
 - * Tracking and Inventory
 - Agency Coordination
- * Transient Boat Work Group
 - * Engage/educate boat owners
 - * Working with non-profit for alternative housing
 - Vessel Turn in program
- * Derelict and Abandoned Commercial Vessel Task Force
 - * Work with marinas and ports
 - Research funding and preventative strategies
- * Pacific States/B.C. Oil Spill Task Force
 - * Focus on blue ribbon model program

Next Steps

- * Issue is not going away
- * Issue does not belong to one agency
- * DEQ, OSMB, and DSL are all on a regional work group to help create a blue ribbon model ADV program
- * Funding is needed to address this issue
- * Legislative direction may be necessary in the future