



Indian Creek oil spill update



What's currently happening?

Crews continue working across impacted areas and focused on the upper half mile of Indian Creek near the location of the accident. This section of the creek is harder to access and contains dense vegetation and debris where fuel has collected.

Current operations include:

- Agitating the creek bed, including sparging with air and water to release fuel trapped beneath rocks and debris.
- Removing contaminated soil from along the slope of the roadway where the truck entered the creek.
- Flushing sections of the shoreline of the creek with water to release fuel so it can be collected with sorbent materials.
- Wildlife monitoring and water sampling are ongoing.



Crews work in Indian Creek near bridge, using a vac truck to remove fuel.

What happened?

A dual-trailer tanker truck went off U.S. Highway 101 between milepost 237 and 238, and overturned into Clallam County's Indian Creek on Friday, July 18. Approximately 2,798 gallons of gasoline and 172 gallons of diesel were released from the tanker.

How we're responding

Since the incident, response crews have been working under a Unified Command that includes the Washington Department of Ecology, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Lower Elwha Klallam Tribe, Clallam County Sheriff's Office and the responsible party, PetroCard. This shared leadership approach brings together partners at the Tribal, local, state, federal and industry level to make decisions together with shared responsibility and coordination, all working toward a common purpose – to respond effectively, protect public health and the environment, and support the needs of the affected area.

Next steps

Fuel recovery and cleanup operations will continue over the coming days as crews focus on removing fuel from less accessible areas. Teams will continue sampling water and soil and evaluating the surrounding habitat and wildlife.

A Natural Resource Damage Assessment (NRDA) is now underway. This collaborative effort involves state, Tribal, and federal partners working together to assess how the spill

affected public resources, such as fish, wildlife, water, habitat, and recreational areas like boat launches or hiking trails. It will help determine the extent of impacts and identify restoration projects or financial compensation to return natural resources to their pre-spill condition.

What will residents see in the coming days?

Residents in the area will likely continue to see response activity along Indian Creek. This includes vector trucks, crews replacing oil absorbing materials, and environmental teams conducting water sampling and shoreline assessments. The public is asked to stay out of impacted areas to avoid interfering with ongoing cleanup work and ensure everyone's safety.

What can you do?

To protect yourself and others during this response, we recommend the following guidance:

- Do not enter the water or fish where you can see oil sheen.
- Do not eat fish that is oiled or smells like petroleum products or chemicals.
- Do not touch or eat dead fish or wildlife.

Claims Info

If you believe you or your property has been affected by the spill, a claims line has been set up. You can contact 360-660-1071 or email indiancreekinquiries@petrocard.com

Who makes up this incident team?

It's normal to see cleanup crews working along the spill site. These crews often come from specialized contractor teams, such as Republic Services, who are brought in to support the



Ecology and Lower Elwha Klallam Tribe leadership discussing cleanup operations.

response. The overall effort is being led by a Unified Command made up of:

- Environmental Protection Agency
- Lower Elwha Klallam Tribe
- Washington Department of Ecology
- Clallam County Sheriff's Office
- PetroCard

Other agencies and organizations include, Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, Clallam 2 Fire-Rescue, Focus Wildlife, and Republic Services.

Want more information?

We continue to monitor how this incident has impacted fish, wildlife, and the environment.

- If you see any wildlife or fish covered in oil, please report it to 1-800-22-BIRDS (1-800-222-4737).
- If you see oil sheen in the water, please report it to the Washington Department of Ecology's Spill Response Program at 1-800-OILS 911 (1-800-645-7911).
- Visit ecology.wa.gov/Indian-Creek-Spill
- Email Liaison@ecy.wa.gov with questions or concerns.



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