

Richard Christie

I was quite surprised to see no reference made to the Department of Natural Resources. Here is the first paragraph from the DNR website regarding derelict vessels....

"Derelict or abandoned vessels put public safety and the health of our marine and fresh waters at risk. DNR's Derelict Vessel Removal Program is the state's key mechanism for addressing the problem of derelict or abandoned vessels in Washington's waters, and has been cited as a model for other jurisdictions seeking to deal with the problem of sunken or neglected watercraft.

There are currently four(4) derelict sailboats in Drayton Harbor. The owner of the 4 sailboats lives on one with his pets. Just question where the human and pet waste is being disposed of!?! The DNR, Semiahmoo Marina, Harbor Master, Whatcom County Sheriff Marine Unit and the Department of Ecology are aware of this situation. Unfortunately, DNR funding and resulting enforcement is severely lacking to effectively manage the ever increasing count of derelict vessels in our state. Drayton Harbor has become a dumping ground for these vessels.

You can test for toxins, water quality, inspect the shorelines, marinas, creeks and runoff areas, but please look at whats floating in the water. Public safety, health and water quality must certainly be examined with derelict vessels. No risk assessment was included in this study. Please coordinate with the DNR, City of Blaine and Whatcom County. Thank you