The boats no one wanted

Guardian Marine International got earmarks to sell four boats to the Navy and Coast Guard and gave tens of thousands in campaign contributions.

**JUNE 1998 - DECEMBER 1999**

Guardian Marine International founder Richard Martinson starts giving to campaigns of Congressman Norm Dicks and Brian Baird.

Dicks and Baird insert a $4 million earmark in the defense bill to force the Navy to buy one Guardian Marine boat.

**MARCH 2000 - OCTOBER 2001**

Guardian Marine’s founder gives $4,000 to Dicks’ and Baird’s campaigns.

Dicks, Baird and Sen. Patty Murray champion earmarks to force the Navy to buy a second Guardian Marine boat and the U.S. Coast Guard to buy one.

**JANUARY - DECEMBER 2002**

Executives of Guardian Marine and two subcontractors give $16,000 in campaign donations, including $3,000 to Murray.

**JANUARY - DECEMBER 2003**

Boat builders donate $22,000 to congressional campaigns.

The Coast Guard tests its boat and later concludes it can’t use it.

**JUNE 2004**

Navy transfers boat to the University of Washington before it’s even built. Researchers there later decide they can’t use it.

**JANUARY - DECEMBER 2005**

Boat is transferred to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration in Seattle. The Navy still has two of the boats.

**2006**

Navy transfers boat to the University of Washington before it’s even built. Researchers there later decide they can’t use it.

**2007**

The Coast Guard gives its boat to sheriff’s office in Oakland, Calif.

**Sources:** Seattle Times interviews, public records, Federal Election Commission