

**ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION**  
**Division of Spill Prevention and Response**  
**Prevention and Emergency Response Program**

**SITUATION REPORT**  
**As of 1:00 PM on March 12, 2010**

**INCIDENT NAME:** Princess Kathleen

**SITREP #:** 3

**SPILL NUMBER:** 10119904701

**LEDGER CODE:** 14284160

**TIME/DATE OF SPILL:** The SS *Princess Kathleen* grounded and sank off Point Lena on September 7, 1952.

**TIME/DATE OF SITUATION REPORT:** 2:40 PM on March 12, 2010

**TIME/DATE OF THE NEXT REPORT:** As the situation warrants

**TYPE/AMOUNT OF PRODUCT SPILLED:** The total volume of number 6 bunker oil onboard the vessel at the time of sinking is unknown. The volume of bunker and other oils that remains on the ship is currently unknown.

**LOCATION:** Point Lena, Favorite Channel, north of Juneau, Alaska.

**CAUSE OF SPILL:** The vessel grounded on Point Lena and suffered damage to the forward-most section of the bow. As the tide came back in, the vessel flooded from the stern and slid off the point. The vessel now sits at an angle on its port side at a depth ranging from 52 feet at the bow to 134 feet at the stern. Recently, increases in the frequency of sheen being reported in the area were investigated and traced to the *Princess Kathleen*, possibly indicating a change in the vessel's condition.

**POTENTIAL RESPONSIBLE PARTY (PRP):** Undetermined

**RESPONSE ACTION:**

NOTE: To clarify current and future situation reports the term Phase will be replaced with the actual name of the operation, e.g. ROV Assessment and Dive Assessment.

Southeast Alaska Lighterage (SEAL) completed installation of a four-point anchoring system and on March 10, 2010 a barge being used as a dive platform moored at Point Lena. The dive platform will remain anchored above the *Princess Kathleen* for the remainder of the operations.

Improved weather conditions allowed divers to access the *Princess Kathleen* for the first time on the afternoon of Thursday, March 11. Divers were able to conduct non-intrusive visual and ultrasound assessments of the vessel for approximately 4 hours. Heavy snow and wind prevented the divers from returning to the vessel on March 12. All crew and equipment are on standby, ready to continue the Dive Assessment when weather permits.

The Southeast Alaska Petroleum Response Organization (SEAPRO) is under contract with the USCG for oil spill planning and response. The SEAPRO oil spill response vessel *Neka Bay*, pre-positioned in Auke Bay on March 11, will be used to deploy and maintain boom and, in the unlikely event of a large release of bunker oil, will be able to respond immediately. Once weather permits, the *Neka Bay* will deploy boom along the northern, up-wind, side of dive operations to contain any oil discharged during the dive assessment; boom cannot be placed completely around the vessel without affecting the safety of dive operations. No intrusive dive operations will occur until the boom is in place. The diving yesterday, March 11, was non-intrusive visual inspection and ultrasound.

The ADEC and the USCG loaded three containers with response equipment on March 11 for pre-placement at Amalga Harbor; the containers should be in place by Monday, March 15. This pre-placement will allow for rapid

deployment of exclusion boom around critical habitat identified by State and federal resource agencies in the unlikely event of a large release of bunker oil. The response material will remain in pre-placement status during the operations. Additional response equipment, including two response containers in Auke Bay, is also available for response.

Global Diving & Salvage is developing a dimensional graphic of the Princess Kathleen in her current state. The graphic will assist Global Diving & Salvage during the fuel volume estimation process.

**SOURCE CONTROL:** None at this time.

**RESOURCES AFFECTED:** There have been no reports of recent impacts to wildlife or the shoreline.

**FUTURE PLANS AND RECOMMENDATIONS:** Once weather improves, the Dive Assessment will continue. It is estimated the Dive Assessment will take approximately a week to complete. The operation's schedule is tentative and may change due to weather delays.

**WEATHER:** Today: Heavy snow with winds from the southeast at 20 knots decreasing to 15 knots in the afternoon. Tomorrow: Mostly cloudy with a chance of rain or snow in the afternoon. Southeast winds 30 knots.

**UNIFIED COMMAND AND PERSONNEL:**

Incident Commander:  
F.O.S.C. : Capt. Melissa Bert, USCG  
S.O.S.C. : Scot W. Tiernan, ADEC

**FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION CONTACT:** Scot W. Tiernan, ADEC, (907) 465-5378  
Photographs and other spill information are available for viewing on the Unified Command website:  
[www.dec.state.ak.us/spar/princesskathleen](http://www.dec.state.ak.us/spar/princesskathleen)

**AGENCY/STAKEHOLDER NOTIFICATION LIST**

This sitrep has been distributed to the following agencies and stakeholders. The situation report was also distributed to the various agency staff listed on the standard distribution list. The receiving agencies listed in the standard distribution list includes: Governor's office, Senator Begich's office, ADF&G, ADNR, SECC, EPA, DOI, NMFS, USFWS, and USFS.

Agency/ Stakeholders	Name	Sent Via	Additional Info	Telephone	Fax
Senate Dist. B	Senator Dennis Egan	Fax	session	465-4947	465-2108
House Dist. 3	Representative Beth Kerttula	Fax	session	465-4766	465-4748
House Dist. 4	Representative Cathy Munoz	Fax	session	465-3744	465-2273
USCG (Sector Juneau)	Lt. Latarsha McQueen	Email	Latarsha.s.mcqueen@uscg.mil	463-2835	463-2445
USCG (Sector Juneau)	Cdr. Matt Jones	Email	Matt.n.jones@uscg.mil	463-2452	
USCG (Sector Juneau)	Cdr. Kurt Clarke	Email	Kurt.a.clarke@uscg.mil	463-2475	
USCG (Sector Juneau)	Capt. Melissa Bert	Email	Melissa.bert@uscg.mil	463-2836	
USCG (Sector Juneau)	MSTC James Highfill	Email	James.L.Highfill@uscg.mil	463-2461	
USCG (Sector Juneau)	Chief Dana Warr	Email	Dana.L.Warr@uscg.mil		
USCG (Sector Juneau)	Lt Eric Eggen	Email	Richard.E.Eggen@uscg.mil		
USDA Forest Service - Juneau Ranger District	District Ranger Pete Griffin	Email	pgriffin@fs.fed.us	789-6244	586-8808
USDA Forest Service - Tongass Env. Engineer	Michele Marie Parker	Email	mmparker@fs.fed.us	772-5850	772-5896

USDA Forest Service - Admiralty Island National Monument	District RangerMarti Marshall	Email	mymarshall01@fs.fed.us	789-6202	
NMFS	Jon Kurland	Email	Jon.kurland@noaa.gov	586-7638	586-7358
ADF&G	Joe Hitselberger	Email	joe.hitselberger@alaska.gov	465-4346	465-4759
Douglas Indian Association	President Frank Miyasoto	Fax		364-2916	364-2917
City and Borough of Juneau	Manager Bruce Botelho	E-mail	city_clerk@ci.juneau.ak.us	586-5240	586-5385



ADEC and USCG responders move response equipment into shipping containers for pre-positioning at Amalga Harbor.