

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

SITUATION REPORT
As of 10:00 AM on March 23, 2010

INCIDENT NAME: Princess Kathleen

SITREP #: 6

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: 2:00 PM on March 23, 2010

TIME/DATE OF THE NEXT REPORT: 2:00 PM on March 26, 2010

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 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: On March 20, 2010, Global Diving & Salvage, Inc. (Global) determined the position of both starboard and port bottom tanks. Global estimates a distance of 8 to 9 feet between the sea floor and the keel of the vessel along the length of the port side bottom tanks. This distance will allow divers to access all six bottom tanks from the outside of the vessel. Divers cleared marine growth from the bottom tanks to prepare for drilling to determine fuel levels.

Global was able to penetrate into the boiler room in hopes of gaining access to the port wing tanks. Unfortunately, the boiler room was found to have substantial silting that restricted access to the wing tanks. Alternative methods of accessing the port wing tanks are being investigated.

Dive assessment operations were halted March 21 and 22 due to the weather. High winds and sea conditions required all vessels involved in the assessment to seek shelter. The dive assessment will resume when weather conditions moderate.

SOURCE CONTROL: None at this time.

RESOURCES AFFECTED: There have been no reports of impacts to wildlife or the shoreline. The *Princess Kathleen* is of historic significance and is listed as a historic shipwreck by the State of Alaska Office of History and Archeology.

FUTURE PLANS AND RECOMMENDATIONS: Global will continue to measure fuel levels in the bottom tanks. Once complete, an engineering firm will use the information supplied by Global divers and historic ship

plans to present the Unified Command with current fuel volume estimates. Plans for gaining access to the port wing tanks are in development and will be presented to the Unified Command for approval.

WEATHER: Today: Small Craft Advisory through the night. Snow and rain. North winds 25 knots. Seas 5 feet. Tomorrow: Rain. North winds 15 knots. Seas 3 feet.

UNIFIED COMMAND AND PERSONNEL:

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 or the JIC officers at 463-2065.

Photographs and other spill information are available for viewing on the Unified Command website: 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)	Capt. Melissa Bert	Email	Melissa.bert@uscg.mil	463-2836	
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)	MSTC James Highfill	Email	James.L.Highfill@uscg.mil	463-2461	
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 Ranger Marti Marshall	Email	mmmarshall01@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	Doug Dobyns, Environmental Planner	Email	DougDobyns@yahoo.com	364-2916	364-2917
Central Council Tlingit and Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska	L. Knight	E-mail	LKnight@ccthita.org		
City and Borough of Juneau	Manager Bruce Botelho	E-mail	city_clerk@ci.juneau.ak.us	586-5240	586-5385

SEAPRO	Dave Owings	Email	Dave@seapro.org		
SEAPRO	Cheryl Fultz	Email	Cheryl@seapro.org		



Photo by Global Diving & Salvage, Inc

Diver entering the water for penetration dive.