

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

**SITUATION REPORT**  
**As of 10:00 AM on May 21, 2010**

**INCIDENT NAME:** Princess Kathleen

**SITREP #:** 23

**SPILL NUMBER:** 10119904701

**LEDGER CODE:** 14284160

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

**TIME/DATE OF SITUATION REPORT:** 2:00 PM on May 21, 2010

**TIME/DATE OF THE NEXT REPORT:** 2:00 PM on May 25, 2010

**TYPE/AMOUNT OF PRODUCT SPILLED:** The total volume of number 6 bunker oil and other oils onboard the vessel at the time of sinking is 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. Recent 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:** Global Diving and Salvage (Global) continued fuel pumping operations on the port wing tanks. Global has successfully completed fuel removal from 12 of the 14 fuel tanks, and work continues today on the thirteenth tank. The total volume of oil recovered to date is approximately 86,000 gallons. The volume reported includes a percentage of water; the actual volume of fuel recovered will not be known until the product is measured at the disposal and recycling center.

The *Princess Kathleen* carried other petroleum products in addition to bunker oil. Estimates based on ship plans suggest a capacity of approximately 2,500 gallons of other petroleum material.

On May 18, 2010, Global drilled exploratory holes into the upper corner of the fan room (a space in between the starboard wing tanks), the engine room, and the after-engine space to determine if they contained trapped bunker oil or other petroleum products. A variety of petroleum products were found in all of the locations. Additional petroleum products were found when the after-boiler room space was drilled on May 19. Global has removed an estimated 35,584 gallons of oil and contaminated water from these spaces. A large percentage of the liquid is water; the exact volume of petroleum product recovered will be measured at the completion of the project.

Active booming operations are ongoing to contain the sheen produced by the *Princess Kathleen*. The Southeast Alaska Petroleum Resource Organization (SEAPRO) is adjusting the boom as needed to ensure maximum containment and recovery of any visible sheen.

**SOURCE CONTROL:** Global has installed temporary patches over the exposed starboard portholes to prevent oil trapped within the vessel from escaping. Global has plugged fuel tank vent pipes to prevent the loss of bunker oil during fuel removal operations. Global crews identified and patched several rivets that were leaking oil. In addition

to the estimated 86,000 gallons of fuel removed from fuel tanks to date, an estimated 35,584 gallons of oil and contaminated water have been removed from spaces surrounding the starboard fuel tanks.

**RESOURCES AFFECTED:** Shoreline Cleanup Assessment Technique (SCAT) teams are conducting surveys to monitor impacts to sensitive areas. SCAT teams will continue monitoring the shoreline to determine if any impacts are occurring during the fuel removal and cleanup operations.

On May 12, strong winds caused damage to the containment boom on site and allowed some sheen and oil contamination to travel north towards Tee Harbor. SCAT teams conducted a survey along this beach on May 18, to determine the extent of impact. The beach was found to have a tar-like residue on approximately one to five percent of the total beach area.

SEAPRO is equipped and authorized to conduct wildlife hazing as necessary. The Unified Command and NOAA have developed a communication plan to report marine mammals observed in the vicinity. 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:** Fuel pumping operations will continue on the port wing tanks. Global plans to penetrate the after-engine space to access eight service fuel tanks. Historic ship plans document these service tanks to hold petroleum products like turbine oil, lamp oil and lube oil.

**WEATHER:** Today: South winds increasing to 15 knots in the afternoon. Seas 3 feet. Tomorrow: South winds 15 knots with 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:** Sarah Moore, ADEC, (907) 465-5239 or JIC at 463-2065.

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, ADNDR, 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 -	Michele Marie Parker	Email	mmparker@fs.fed.us	772-5850	772-5896

<b>Agency/ Stakeholders</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Sent Via</b>	<b>Additional Info</b>	<b>Telephone</b>	<b>Fax</b>
Tongass Env. Engineer					
USDA Forest Service - Admiralty Island National Monument	District RangerMarti Marshall	Email	mmmarshall01@fs.fed.us	789-6202	
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