

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

**SITUATION REPORT**

**INCIDENT NAME:** M/V *Morning Cedar* Adrift Incident    **SITREP #:** 2

**SPILL NUMBER:** 11259930901

**LEDGER CODE:** 143202260

**TIME/DATE OF SPILL:** This is a potential spill. At 9:01 AM on December 5, 2011, the United States Coast Guard (USCG) reported to the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation (ADEC) that the M/V *Morning Cedar* was adrift 10 miles north of Tanaga Island. The crew of the vessel reported the loss of steering to the USCG at 9:29 AM on December 5, 2011.

**TIME/DATE OF SITUATION REPORT:** 3:00 PM on December 7, 2011

**TIME/DATE OF THE NEXT REPORT:** 3:00 PM on December 8, 2011

**TYPE/AMOUNT OF PRODUCT SPILLED:** No spill has occurred. The M/V *Morning Cedar* is a 656-ft, Singapore-registered vessel with 23 crew members aboard. The USCG reports that the vessel's cargo is packaged lumber and that there are 227,143 gallons of bunker C oil and 60,295 gallons of diesel on board.

**LOCATION:** The M/V *Morning Cedar* is currently drifting 23.7 nautical miles North of Tanaga Island. As of 1:00 PM, the vessel's position was 52 23.080N 178 17.120W. Tanaga Island is located more than 1,200 miles southwest of Anchorage.

**CAUSE OF SPILL:** This is a potential spill. The crew of the M/V *Morning Cedar* reported to the USCG that there was some type of steering casualty and that the crew was not able to make repairs while they were underway.

**POTENTIAL RESPONSIBLE PARTY (PRP):** The ship is operated by Wallenius Marine Singapore and the owner of the vessel is Eukor Car Carriers Seoul, South Korea.

**RESPONSE ACTION:** The USCG Cutter *Sherman* arrived at the M/V *Morning Cedar* location at 6:30 PM. Two boarding teams were placed onboard the M/V *Morning Cedar* to determine if the USCG could provide assistance with the repair of the rudder system. Upon completion the Coast Guard boarding it was determined that USCG boarding teams could not provide immediate assistance to repair the rudder. It was reported that the rudder is swinging back and forth and that the vessels crew is currently fabricating a ring to place around the rudder post. Multiple pins will be used to secure the rudder in place.

The USCG HH-60 Jayhawk helicopter and crew remain at Adak to provide assistance. If needed, the USCG is staged to transport the Emergency Towing System which is staged at Adak to the M/V *Morning Cedar* by the safest way possible. Information about the Emergency Towing System in Adak can be found at:  
<http://dec.alaska.gov/spar/perp/ets/index.htm>

Three steering gear technical engineers who are familiar with the M/V *Morning Cedar*'s rudder system are flying into Anchorage this evening. Tomorrow morning they will take a charter flight to Adak and then will be transported by the USCG to the M/V *Morning Cedar* to assist with repairs to the rudder system.

The Crowley Tug *Guardsman* has been contracted to respond to the incident. Crowley estimates that the Tug *Guardsman* will depart Seattle at 4:00 PM Pacific time. Estimated transit time to the M/V *Morning Cedar* from Seattle is 9 days. The Tug *Guardsman* is an Invader class tug, 127 ft long with 7,200 horsepower. The tug's towing equipment consists of a Markey TDSW 36C double drum towing machine outfitted with 3,000(ft) of 2.75(in) wire on each drum. Her emergency towing gear consists of 450 ft of 7 inch Spectra SK-75.

USCG Sector Anchorage has contacted the Pacific Strike Team and has placed responders on standby.

O'Brien's Response Management has been contacted by the vessel's representative in Anchorage and has been placed on standby in the event additional incident management is needed.

**SOURCE CONTROL:** There has been no release. The crew on board the M/V *Morning Cedar* is attempting to make repairs to the steering system.

**RESOURCES AFFECTED:** The coastline of Tanaga Island are primarily comprised of exposed rocky outcrops and cliffs shoreward of exposed wave-cut platforms. The shorelines at the head of the bays are comprised of medium-grained and coarse-grained gravel beaches.

Steller sea lion haulouts are present near Bumpy Point and Falls Point. Water around Tanaga Island are designated Steller sea lion critical habitat. Steller sea lions are listed on the Endangered Species list and may require consultation with National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) & National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS). Sea otters are also present around the island. Sea otters are part of the Endangered Species-listed SW Sea Otter population. Waters around Tanaga Island are also designated critical habitat for the SW Sea otter population. A Section 7 consultation with the United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) maybe warranted.

Resident waterfowl may include Common Eiders, Harlequin Duck, Glaucous-winged gulls, Cormorants, Pigeon guillemot, Tufted puffins, and Black oystercatchers.

Anadromous streams support pink and coho salmon and Dolly Varden. These anadromous streams will not have adults present, but rearing juveniles may be present near the mouth of the streams. Essential Fish Habitat is present around the islands. Atka Mackerel, Pacific cod, and halibut are known in the area. Atka Mackerel spawn on rocky substrates in relatively shallow waters. Eggs develop into planktonic larvae in the winter months and move to the surface. These fish are an important prey base for Steller sea lions.

Uplands of Tanaga Island are included in the Alaska Maritime National Wildlife Refuge. Tidelands and submerged lands are managed by the Alaska Department of Natural Resources. During World War II, there was a military presence on Tanaga Island. Remnants of the military presence may be present in the area of any potential grounding and spill.

**FUTURE PLANS AND RECOMMENDATIONS:** The USCG HH 60 Jayhawk helicopter will remain in Adak to assist if needed. The Cutter *Sherman* will stand by and assist the M/V *Morning Cedar* until repairs are made to the steering system or until a tug boat can arrive to tow the M/V *Morning Cedar* to a safe place of refuge where permanent repairs to the steering system can be made.

Three steering gear technical engineers who are familiar with the vessel's rudder system are due to arrive at Adak tomorrow afternoon to assist with repairs to the rudder.

The Crowley Tug *Guardman* is due to depart Seattle at 4:00 PM Pacific time today.

**WEATHER:** Western Aleutians Adak to Kiska; Gale warning through Thursday. Today: Northwest winds 25 knots, seas 10 ft., rain showers. Tonight: Northwest wind 25 knots, seas 14 ft. Thursday: Southwest wind 20 knots, seas 13 ft. rain. Thursday night South winds, seas 12 ft.

**UNIFIED COMMAND AND PERSONNEL:**

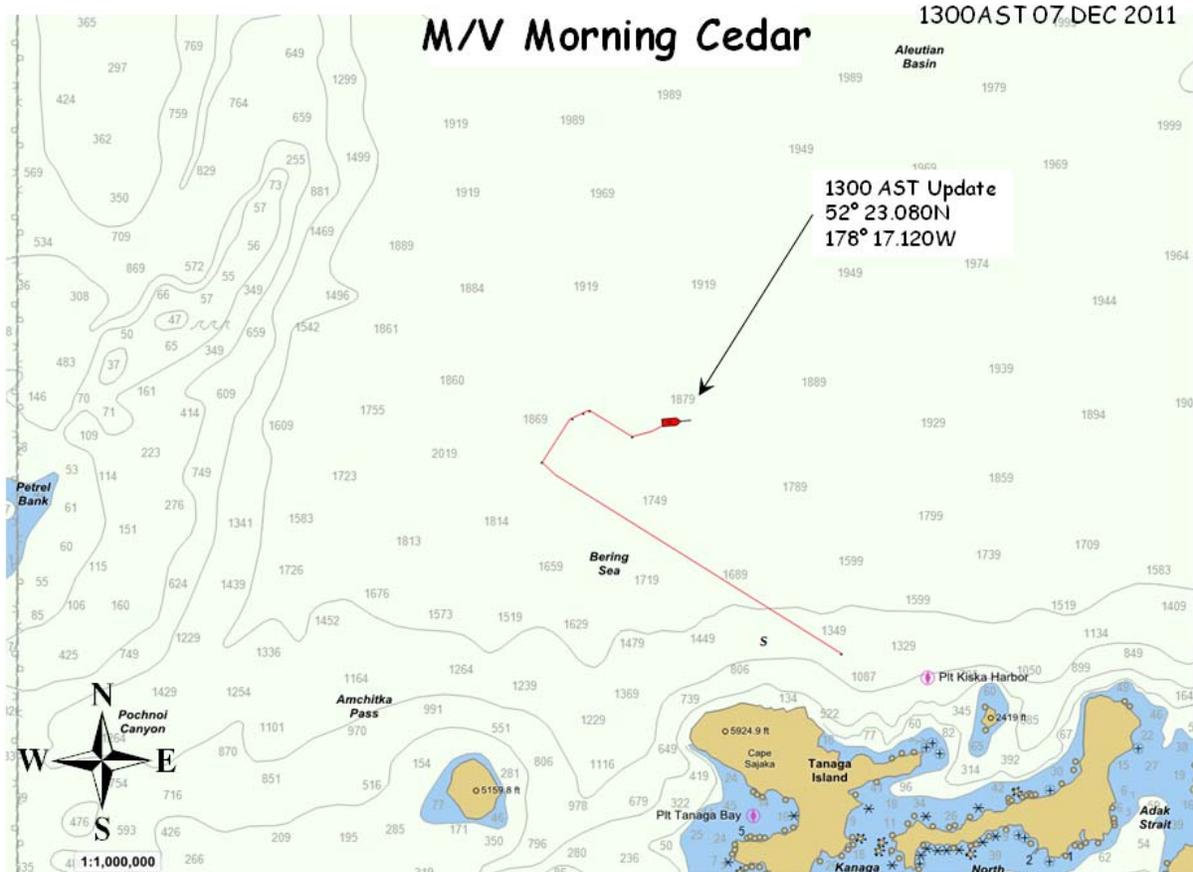
Incident Commander:	Gilbert Cabrea, Vessel Master
F.O.S.C.:	Captain Jason Fosdick, USCG
S.O.S.C.:	Steve Russell, ADEC

**FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION CONTACT:** Steve Russell, ADEC, (907) 262-3401

## AGENCY/STAKEHOLDER NOTIFICATION LIST

This situation report was distributed to the agencies listed on the standard distribution list and includes: governor's office, Senator Begich's office, SECC, DOI, NMFS, and USFWS. This situation report was also distributed to the following agencies and stakeholders:

AGENCY / STAKEHOLDER	NAME	SENT VIA	ADDITIONAL INFORMATION	TELEPHONE	FAX
Keesal, Young, & Logan	Doug Davis	Email	<a href="mailto:doug.davis@kyl.com">doug.davis@kyl.com</a>	279-6969	279-4239
ADNR	Clark Cox	Email	<a href="mailto:clark.cox@alaska.gov">clark.cox@alaska.gov</a>	269-8565	269-8913
ADF&G	Brad Dunker	Email	<a href="mailto:Bradley.dunker@alaska.gov">Bradley.dunker@alaska.gov</a>	267-2541	267-2499
USCG Sector Anchorage	USCG Anchorage Office	Fax		271-6700	271-6751
EPA	Robert Whittier	Fax	<a href="mailto:Whittier.robert@epa.gov">Whittier.robert@epa.gov</a>	271-3616	271-3424
Adak Port of Operations	Port Director	Fax		592-0185	592-0184
City of Adak		Fax		592-4513	592-4262
City of Atka		Fax		839-2233	839-2234
Native Village of Atka		Fax		839-2229	839-2269
Aleutian Pribilof Islands Association	Community Services Department	Fax		276-2700	279-4351
Aleut Corporation/ Anchorage Office		Fax		561-4300	563-4328
Dutch Harbor Port Director	Alvin Osterback	Fax		581-1254	584-2519
Unalaska, Mayors Office	Shirley Marquardt	Fax		581-1251	581-1417 581-4469
AK Maritime Wildlife Refuge	Steven Delehanty	Email/Fax	<a href="mailto:steve_delehanty@fws.gov">steve_delehanty@fws.gov</a>	226-4627	235-7783
<b>House 37/Dillingham</b>	Bryce Edgmon	Fax	Anchorage 5/16 - 1/09 Juneau 1/10 - 5/15	269-0275 465-4451	269-0274 465-3445
<b>Senate S/Bethel</b>	Lyman Hoffman	Fax	Juneau	465-4453	465-4523



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