



ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION
Division of Spill Prevention and Response
Prevention Preparedness and Response Program
SITUATION REPORT (SITREP)



CHANGES FROM PREVIOUS SITREPS ARE DENOTED IN RED

F/V *Masonic* Grounding Spanish Islands

SITREP #: 2

SPILL #: 19119912701

TIME/DATE OF DISTRIBUTION: 3:00 p.m. on **May 13, 2019.**

POTENTIAL RESPONSIBLE PARTY (PRP): William Lewis

INCIDENT LOCATION: Approximately 24 nautical miles southeast of Port Alexander in the Spanish Islands at 55°97.0279'N, 134°12.3056'W.

TIME/DATE OF INCIDENT: 2:30 a.m. on May 7, 2019.

HOW/WHEN INCIDENT WAS DISCOVERED AND REPORTED: The United States Coast Guard (USCG) was notified by the potential responsible party (PRP) after the vessel grounded early Tuesday morning.

TYPE/AMOUNT OF POTENTIAL PRODUCT SPILLED: The PRP estimates that there is 2,000 gallons of diesel and 150 gallons of lubricant oils onboard. **A release was observed by personnel on shore and also through drone photos. At this time, the quantity of the release is unknown.**

CAUSE OF INCIDENT: The cause of the grounding is unknown.

SOURCE CONTROL: **Source control has not been achieved.**

RESPONSE ACTION: **On May 7, 2019 the Unified Command (UC), consisting of members from ADEC, USCG, and the Responsible Party, was established.** An overflight conducted by the USCG Air Station Sitka on May 7, 2019 provided photos depicting the placement of the vessel. No discharge was observed. On May 8th, 2019 Hanson Maritime sent out a forward team to secure pollutants, plug fuel vents, and assess the condition of the vessel. **One fuel vent in the engine room was not accessible due to safety concerns. The Unified Command approved communications, operations, and lightering plans on May 9, 2019. Furthermore, on May 9, the USCG Air Station Sitka was able to conduct an overflight to assess the condition of the vessel. The tug *Salvation* and landing craft *Lite Weight*, were activated and underway to Port Alexander on May 10, 2019. Hanson Maritime sent out a forward team on the morning of May 10 by charter boat to assess the condition of the F/V *Masonic* and prepare for pollutant removal. Upon arrival the response crew observed a sheen and significant structural deterioration of the vessel. Rough weather conditions prevented Hanson's response crew from reaching the incident location on May 11, 2019. Response vessels, *Lite Weight* and the Tug *Salvation*, made it to the incident location on May 12, 2019 to begin lightering operations. However, the unstable condition of the deteriorated vessel and sea state caused the response operations to cease. No pollutants were removed from the vessel and containment boom was not deployed. However, personnel were able to go ashore, take pictures, and obtain a status update of the vessel. As of May 13, the Alaska Department of Natural Resources (DNR) has become actively involved in**

removal of the vessel as the landowner of the tidelands. The high energy associated with the weather and sea states provide conditions for the rapid deterioration of released fuel.

RESOURCES AT RISK OR AFFECTED: The Spanish Islands are within the Tongass National Forest Wilderness Area and are managed by the United States Forest Service (USFS). Marine mammals, including humpback whales, sea otters, Steller sea lions (listed and non-listed), Dall's porpoises, Harbor porpoises, Gray whales, Orcas, and Minke whales may occur in this area. Harbor seals and their pups are of concern, as they are known to reside in this general area. This area is within the Outer Islands Marine Important Bird Area for the Rhinoceros Auklet. Pelagic Cormorants, Harlequin ducks, and other waterfowl and seabirds are also known to occupy this area. This area is an Essential Fish Habitat (EFH) for three Skate species, Alaska plaice, Arrowtooth Flounder, Atka mackerel, sculpin, several Rockfish and sole stocks, Kamchatka flounder, Octopus, Pacific Cod, Pacific Ocean Perch, Pollock, Sablefish, and all five species of Pacific Salmon. No impacts to wildlife have been observed.

FUTURE PLANS AND RECOMMENDATIONS: The recovery efforts are moving towards salvage based on the deterioration of the vessel and safety concerns. However, there is focus on inventorying the remaining pollution sources and mitigating any further releases.

WEATHER: Today: Variable winds around 5 knots or less. Partly sunny with highs of 48°F. Seas 2 to 3 feet. Tuesday: ENE winds 5 to 10 knots. Chance of rain with highs around 50°F. Seas 3 feet. Wednesday: SE winds around 15 feet. Chance of rain with highs around 50°F. Seas 4 to 5 feet. Thursday: E wind 10 knots, switching to SE in the morning. Mostly sunny with highs around 49°F. Seas 4 to 5 feet. Friday: ENE 5 to 10 knots. Mostly cloudy with highs around 49°F. Seas 2 feet.

UNIFIED COMMAND AND PERSONNEL:

Incident Commander: Robert Alverson, Fishing Vessel Owners Association

SOSC: David Pikul, ADEC

FOSC: MST1 Ken Farah, USCG

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

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION CONTACT: Curtis Kiesel, SOSCR, ADEC (907) 465-5367

<http://dec.alaska.gov/spar/ppr/spill-information/response/2019/06-masonic-grounding/>

AGENCY/STAKEHOLDER NOTIFICATION LIST: This situation report was distributed to the agencies listed on the standard distribution list, which includes the governor's office, State Emergency Operations Center, U.S. Department of the Interior, National Marine Fisheries Service, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and other state agencies. Below is an addition to the original stakeholder distribution list which can be found on SITREP #1.

AGENCY	NAME	SENT VIA	ADDITIONAL INFORMATION	TELEPHONE	FAX
Fishing Vessel Owners Association	Robert Alverson	Email	roberta@fvoa.org		
NOAA	Catherine Berg	Email	Catherine.berg@noaa.gov		
NOAA	David Gann	Email	David.gann@noaa.gov		
U.S. Fish and Wildlife	Angela Matz	Email	Angela_matz@fws.gov		

Service					
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service	USFWS Spill Reporting	Email	fwsakspillresponse@fws.gov		
U.S. Forest Service	Gary Sonnenberg	Email	gsonnenberg@usda.gov		
Blomquist Marine Surveyors, Inc.	Richard Blomquist	Email	bmsshipwreck@msn.com		



The F/V Masonic as seen from an overflight. May 9, 2019. Photo: USCG Air Station Sitka.



Drone photo of the F/V Masonic and associated sheen. May 10, 2019. Photo: Hanson Maritime.



The F/V *Masonic* at low tide. The stern and decks have experienced significant damage over the past few days. May 12, 2019. Photo: *Hanson Maritime*.



The F/V *Masonic* grounded on the Spanish Islands approximately 80 miles south of Sitka in Southeast Alaska. May 8, 2019. Map Credit: *ESRI*.