

Notes

Place of Refuge

18 November 2003

1000 hours

PWSRCAC Conference Room

Meeting called by: Working group
Type of meeting: Working group
Facilitator: NA
Note taker: Rhonda Arvidson
Timekeeper: NA

Attendees: Tom Colby, Alaska Tanker Company, Rick Dunn, SeaRiver, Latarsha McQueen, USCG, Cathy Huot, USCG, Frosty Leonard, Crowley, Tex Edwards, POVTS, Dan Gilson, PWSRCAC, Rhonda Arvidson, PWSRCAC

Agenda topics Locate potential area's of refuge in PWS based solely on geographic requirements for vessels.

Locate area's a vessel would physically be able to use as a place of refuge. Group

Discussion: The group met to locate places of refuge in PWS based solely on the criteria of could/would you consider placing a vessel here, taking only geography and weather into consideration. This is to be the starting point for identifying places of refuge. The group acknowledges that this is only the very first step and there will be many other considerations examined before a vessel is sent to a location. The idea of starting with geographical/ weather considerations was a logical way to reduce the information gathering to a manageable level. If a ship will not fit in an area it would not be considered as a place of refuge.

Unfortunately no one from SWAPA was available to attend the meeting. We greatly value their input so therefore Rhonda Arvidson sent an email to SWAPA letting them know we would be available at anytime to go to the pilot house to discuss this with any pilot that wishes to be involved.

Conclusions: Place of refuge needs to be 30 fathoms deep or less. Nothing in the South West area of PWS is viable due to weather and rocks. *Port Etches* has moorings in place. *Outside Bay*, in the Naked Island group has moorings but not enough swing room for most tankers. Tankers would need to use a combination of mooring and anchors. *Sheep Bay* could possibly work- need to consult SWAPA pilots on this. *Stockdale* is too rocky. *Whittier, Chenega and Tatitlek* ferry docks. *Valdez* container dock. *Jack Bay* has potential, however there is not very much swing room there and there is no infrastructure. Also, the vessel would have to go far into the bay to reach 30 fathoms. *Knight Island area* is too rocky, too deep and weather is not good. *Two Moon Bay* is an option.

Action items:	Person responsible:	Deadline:
Consult Bruce Painter for the maximum size of a vessel to be at Port Etches	RA	
Where does the COTP get the legal authority to decide where to send a ship in need of a place of refuge?	USCG	
Follow up with SWAPA Pilots for their input	RA	
What is the process to become an official place/port of refuge	RA /DG/TC	

Special notes:

Next meeting date was not set yet. Staff will follow up with above action items as well as begin to gather the required information. Working group will be kept involved via email. Next meeting will be set as necessary.