



U.S. Department of  
Homeland Security  
United States  
Coast Guard



Alaska Department of  
**Environmental  
Conservation**



**Unified Command: M/V Selendang Ayu Grounding**

## Fact Sheet – Unalaska Bay Water Quality Sampling Program

### Background

- The program's goal is to collect information relative to potential oil contamination, such as tar balls or dissolved phase oil, in waters that could impact fishery resources through direct oiling of the seafood or by impacting the transportation and/or processing of seafood products.
- The sampling program objectives include:
  - Detect the presence of tar balls or dissolved phase oil in the areas of Unalaska Bay, Akutan Pass, or other known transit areas utilized by the Bering Sea *opilio* fleet and in the Unalaska Bay Tanner crab fishery area;
  - Determine whether there is a risk of contamination of the catch by tar balls or dissolved phase oil in the salt water circulation systems of the fishing fleet or the processing operations in the Dutch Harbor/Unalaska area;
  - Determine the maximum distance from shore that oil is present.
- This information will be used to ensure that seafood taken in or transported through these waters meets the State of Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation Division of Environmental Health's zero tolerance policy criteria for seafood quality.

### Sampling Methods Include

- Towing a fine mesh screen at approximately 6-9 foot depth through the sample areas at approximately 3 knots;
- Taking whole water samples at various depths for laboratory testing to detect dissolved oil; and
- Taking live crab and fish for detailed inspection using normal State quality standards and methods.

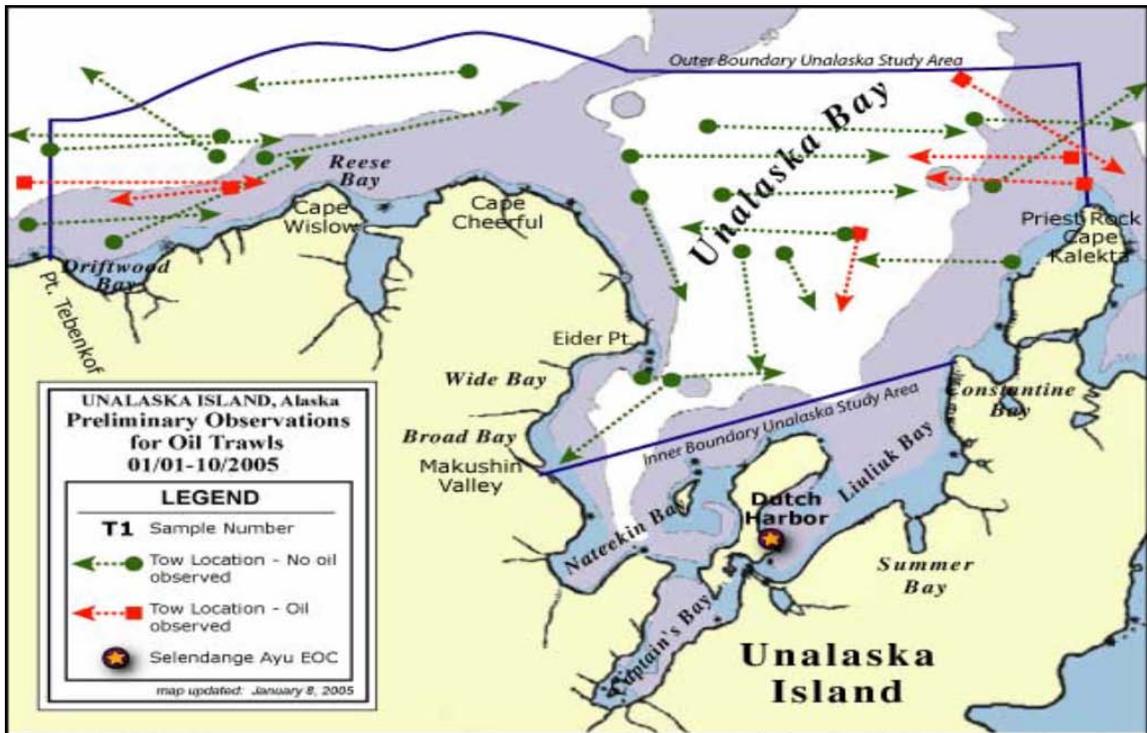
### Results to Date

- Five sample surveys out of 24 completed on January 7-10 showed small traces of contamination in the form of dime-sized or smaller tar balls with traces of soybean husks and/or trace oil found in tow nets during the tows completed in the areas of Driftwood Bay, Cape Cheerful, Priest Rock and Unalaska Bay.
- Eight water samples taken on January 5 between Driftwood Bay and Priest Rock (including in Unalaska Bay) showed no oil contamination (either solids or dissolved phase oil) and water quality met State standards.
- Seafood inspections met all State standards and crab pots showed no contamination.

The Unified Command will update fact sheets and post on the website sampling results as information becomes available.

### Maps

# Composite of Tow Net Observations 1/1/05 to 1/10/05

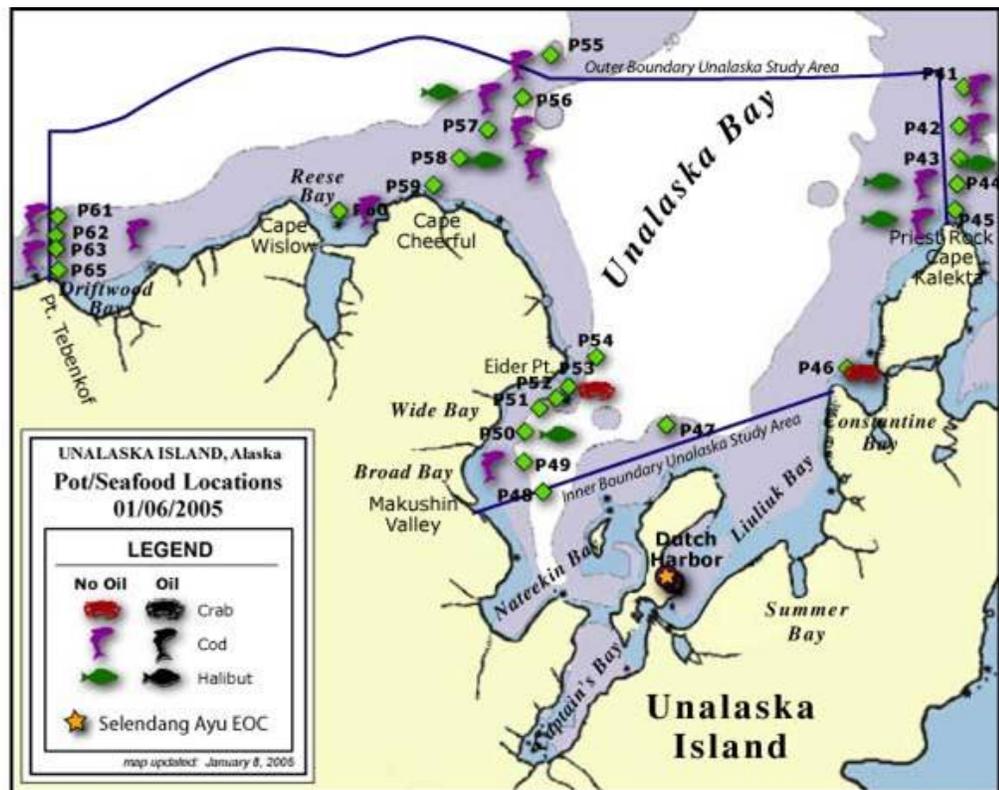


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Selendange Ayu Oil Spill - Unalaska Fishing District  
Water and Seafood Quality Sampling Plan

***Red tows indicate oil encountered***

# Seafood Safety Inspection and Crab Pot Oiling Survey, 1/6/05

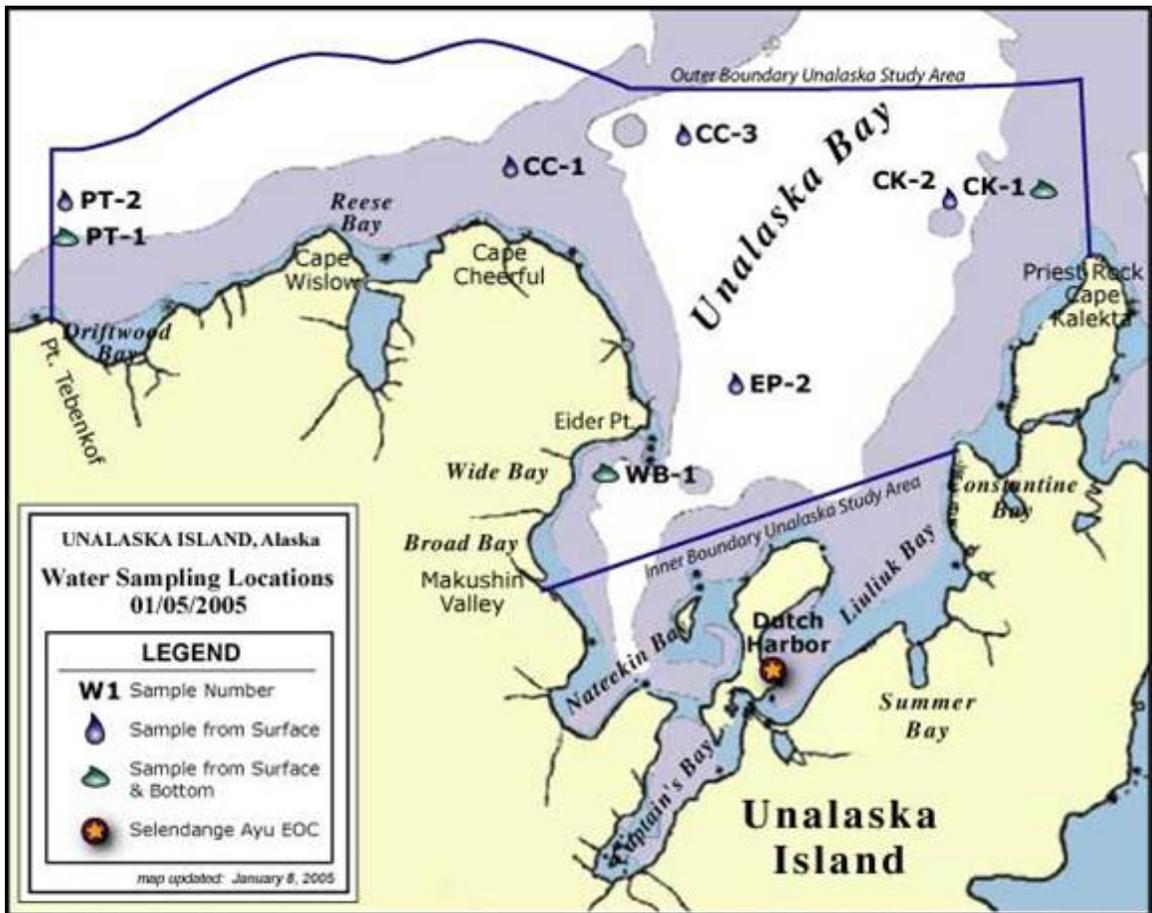


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***No oil observed; all seafood passed inspection***

# Whole Water Sampling, 1/05/05



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***No oil contamination; Water Quality Met State Standards***