

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

SITUATION REPORT

INCIDENT NAME: *F/V Westward* Grounding

SITREP #: 5

SPILL NUMBER: 08119904801

LEDGER CODE: 14250260

TIME/DATE OF SPILL: 1:47 AM February 17, 2008

TIME/DATE OF SITUATION REPORT: 3:00 PM February 22, 2008

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

TYPE/AMOUNT OF PRODUCT SPILLED: There has not been an estimate of the amount of product discharged at this time. The vessel's owner reported that the vessel was carrying 4,000 gallons of diesel fuel in six tanks at the time of the grounding. The owner reported that the vessel also has the capacity to carry 150 gallons of lube oil and 150 gallons of hydraulic oil. The owner has clarified the total number of oil tanks onboard the vessel as six fuel tanks, two hydraulic oil tanks and a day tank which is located in the vessel's engine room. The owner was not able to confirm the exact amounts of fuel, lube and hydraulic oil the vessel had onboard at the time of the grounding.

LOCATION: The vessel grounded and sank against the shore near Pt. Ildefonso on west side of Prince of Wales Island. The casualty site is approximately 6 miles northwest of Klawock, Alaska and 65 miles northwest of Ketchikan, Alaska.

CAUSE OF SPILL: The vessel grounded and sank.

POTENTIAL RESPONSIBLE PARTY (PRP): *F/V Westward* LLC, 10000 Juniper Hollow Lane, Prineville, OR 97754.

RESPONSE ACTION: The vessel remains grounded and boomed off along the shoreline of Prince of Wales Island. The vessel is almost completely submerged at high tide. The 20-inch ADEC boom originally used to encircle the vessel was replaced with 40-inch Ro-Boom on the afternoon of February 21. The 20-inch ADEC boom replaced by the Ro-Boom was re-deployed to 11 Mile Creek to provide additional protection during the on-going operations.

On the evening of February 21 approximately 45 tons of the herring cargo were transferred to the *F/V Confidence* via their on-board fish pump. The US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) determined the herring cargo was contaminated and could not be disposed of in federal waters without the issuance of an Ocean Dumping Permit. Vincent Maritime began exploring other options for the disposal of the herring including land disposal at the Klawock/Craig landfill however, community leaders were not in favor of this use of the landfill.

The ADEC and US Coast Guard Field Representative team conducted organoleptic testing of the herring and determined the fish were not contaminated with oil. In consultation with the NOAA Scientific Support Coordinator and the EPA, it was agreed the herring were not contaminated with petroleum products and that offshore disposal could proceed as originally planned without the need for a permit.

The attending marine surveyor conducted an examination of the *F/V Westward* at low tide this morning. A light sheen was reported in the forepeak area but there is no evidence of oil in the engine room at this time. There is a quantity of debris floating inside the boomed area surrounding the vessel.

The removal of herring from the water and shoreline in the vicinity of the *F/V Westward* was completed yesterday. These fish will be added to those removed from the *F/V Westward's* hold for disposal outside of State waters.

SOURCE CONTROL: All fuel tank vents were plugged to prevent the discharge of oil. All currently recoverable oil has been removed from the vessel. There remains a potential for the discharge of oil or oily mixtures from the vessel's bilge and the day tank in the engine room.

RESOURCES AFFECTED: The marine waters in the vicinity of Klawock, Alaska have been impacted. To date there have been no reports of oil impacts to wildlife or the shoreline as a result of the casualty.

FUTURE PLANS AND RECOMMENDATIONS: The ADEC Field Representative will conduct a beach survey by foot the afternoon of February 22. He will be looking for any evidence of oil impacts to the shoreline and for any herring that may require removal. An ADF&G biologist from the Craig office will conduct a wildlife survey to determine the types and numbers of bird in the area of the vessel. If the Craig ADF&G biologists are unavailable or unable to perform the survey, the ADEC Field Representative will do so.

The herring disposal operation will continue until all herring have been properly disposed. For health and safety reasons, ADEC has a "zero tolerance" policy toward contamination of food processed in Alaska. In line with this policy, at the completion of the disposal operation the *F/V Confidence* will be decontaminated, inspected by ADEC Environmental Health personnel and issued a certification of being free of oil contamination for return to fishing operations.

The ADEC and USCG Field Representatives will demobilize to Ketchikan at the completion of the herring disposal operations. They will return to the scene when salvage plans are approved and salvage begins and will remain on scene until it is confirmed that all oil and hazardous materials have been removed from the vessel.

The Coast Guard continues working with the vessel's owner on salvage and lightering plans. ADEC continues to monitor the situation and provide information to other State and federal agencies. The Coast Guard will continue its casualty and pollution investigations.

WEATHER: Current weather is cloudy, winds from the northwest at 15 MPH and temperatures in the low 40's.

UNIFIED COMMAND AND PERSONNEL:

Incident Commander: Mike Popa, The Meredith Management Group, Inc.
F.O.S.C.: Capt. Mark Guillory, USCG
S.O.S.C.: Bob Mattson ADEC
Field S.O.S.C.: Robert Fultz

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION CONTACT: Scot W. Tiernan at 907-465-5378. Photographs and other spill information will be made available for viewing at <http://www.dec.State.ak.us/spar/perp/index.htm>

AGENCY/STAKEHOLDER NOTIFICATION LIST

This sitrep has been distributed via email to the Governor's office, ADF&G, ADNR, SECC, USEPA, USDOJ, NMFS, USFWS, and USFS in addition to the following.

Agency	Name	Sent Via	Additional Info	Telephone	Fax
F/V Westward LLC	Jay Barnett	Email	vincentmaritime@hotmail.com		
Senate Dist. C	Senator Al Kookesh	Fax	session	465-3473	465-2827
House Dist. 5	Representative Bill Thomas	Fax	session	465-3732	465-2652

USCG (MSD Ketchikan)	LT Jason Boyer	Email	jason.a.boyer@uscg.mil	225-4496	225-4499
USCG (MSD Ketchikan)	MSTC Steve Natale	Email	steven.j.natale@uscg.mil		
USCG (MSD Ketchikan)	MST1 Jeff Wenciker	Email	jeffrey.s.wenciker@uscg.mil		
USCG (Sector Juneau)	Lt. Chris Williammee	Email	Christopher.J.Williammee@uscg.mil	463-2835	463-2445
USCG (Sector Juneau)	Cdr. Scott Bornemann		Scott.W.Bornemann@uscg.mil	463-2452	
USCG (Sector Juneau)	Cdr. Scott Lemasters		Scott.B.Lemasters@uscg.mil	463-2475	
USCG (Sector Juneau)	Capt. Mark Guillory	Email	mark.guillory@uscg.mil	463-2836	
USDA Forest Service - Tongass Env. Engineer	Michele Marie Parker	Email	mmparker@fs.fed.us	772-5850	772-5895
Acting Forest Service Ranger - Craig	Dennis Benson		dbenson@fs.fed.us		
NMFS	Jon Kurland	Email	Jon.kurland@noaa.gov	586-7638	586-7358
ADF&G	Tom Schumacher	Email	tom.schumacher@alaska.gov	465-4346	
ADF&G (Habitat) Craig / POW	Mark Minnillo	Email	mark.minnillo@alaska.gov	826-2560	
Craig Community Association	President Millie Stevens	Fax		826-3996	826-3997
Klawock Cooperative Association	President Webster Demmert, III	Fax		755-2265	755-8800
City of Craig	Mayor Dennis Watson	fax		826-3275	826-3278
City of Klawock	Mayor Donald Marvin	E-mail	dmarvin@cityofklawock.com	755-2261	755-2403
SEAPRO	Dave Owings	Email	dave@seapro.org	225-7002	247-1117