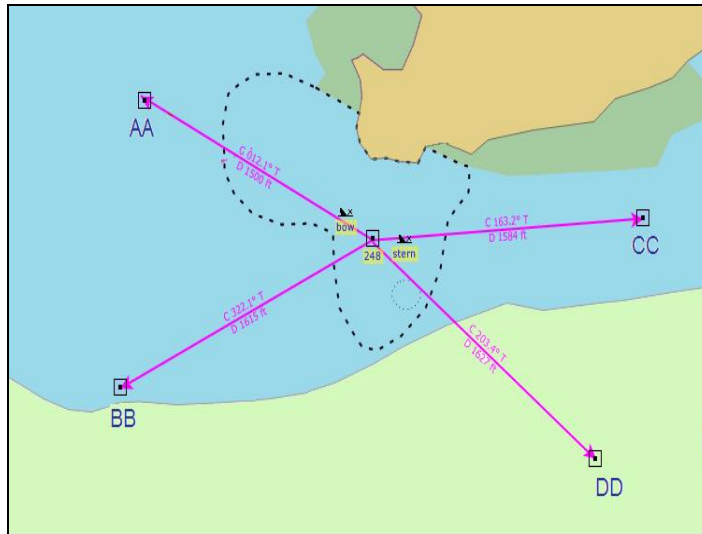




AK  
Department of  
Environmental  
Conservation

April 21, 2010

# Princess Kathleen Oil Removal Operations



*Not approved for navigation*

Background: The U.S. Coast Guard and State of Alaska have partnered together in the removal of oil from the wreck of the Princess Kathleen. A Safety Zone has been established for the operations and is being broadcast on VHF channel 16 every two hours.

For the safety of divers and crew supporting Princess Kathleen Operations, the U.S. Coast Guard is asking boaters to stay clear of all mooring lines and anchor buoys near operations at Lena Point.

The buoys will be marked and lit during night time operations. Anchor buoys are located in the below areas approximately 700 yards of Lena Point.

AA= 58\*23.931N 134\*46.715W  
 BB=58\*23.905N 134\*47.121W  
 CC=58\*23.445N 134\*46.665W  
 DD=58\*23.448N 134\*47. 015W

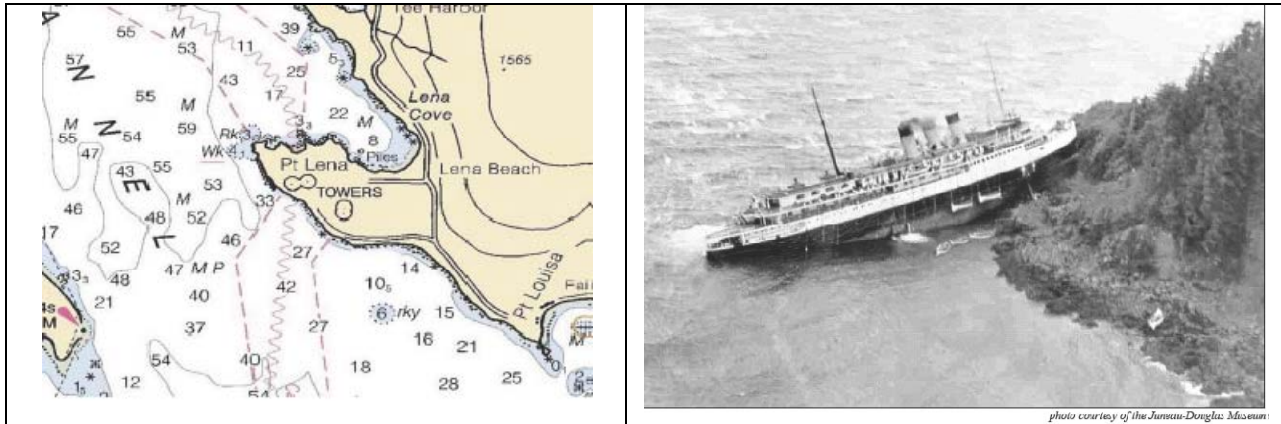
Please exercise caution when transiting the area as cables and lines may be partially submerged and result in a hazard to navigation.

*For any questions about the Safety Zone you can contact  
 Joint Information Center: (907) 463-2890*

April 21, 2010

# Princess Kathleen Oil Removal Operations

The 369-foot Princess Kathleen, a Canadian Pacific Railroad vessel built in 1925, grounded and sank near Lena Point in 1952 carrying an estimated 155,000 gallons of fuel. The Princess Kathleen now rests on a slope in 80 to 140 feet of water and continues to periodically cause small unrecoverable oil sheens in the area.

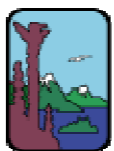


The U.S. Coast Guard and the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation continue their efforts to remove oil from the vessel using contracted specialized equipment and experienced deep water salvage divers. These efforts are expected to continue through April and May.

- What can you expect to see? Barges and boats will be anchored off Lena Point. They will serve as a platform for divers and as recovery containers for the oil pumped from the Princess Kathleen fuel tanks and compartments.
- Normal operations will likely produce some light rainbow or silvery colored oily sheen in the vicinity of the vessel. Rainbow and silver sheen are caused by very, very small quantities of oil – drops that can be measured in milliliters. However, oil spill response vessels will be deploying oil containment boom as a precautionary measure.
- Will there be any nighttime operations? Oil in the fuel oil tanks is dense, viscous, and must be heated in order to pump. Because hot water must be constantly circulated through the Princess Kathleen tanks, operations must continue around the clock.
- Why is the USCG and ADEC deciding to address this situation now if it has been a chronic pollution source for many years? In the past six months, the USCG has received an increase in reports of oil sheen in the Point Lena area. Inspection shows that rivets in the hull are failing and this will result in increased leakage. Also, the technology now exists which allows for an unobtrusive assessment of the shipwreck.

The Coast Guard and State of Alaska have put in place numerous measures to ensure the safety of the operation and continued protection of Alaskan waters. Check out the website for more details....

[www.DEC.state.ak.us/spar/princesskathleen](http://www.DEC.state.ak.us/spar/princesskathleen)



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