

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

**SITUATION REPORT**  
**As of 10:00 AM on April 6, 2010**

**INCIDENT NAME:** Princess Kathleen

**SITREP #:** 10

**SPILL NUMBER:** 10119904701

**LEDGER CODE:** 14284160

**TIME/DATE OF SPILL:** The *SS Princess Kathleen* grounded and sank off Point Lena on September 7, 1952.

**TIME/DATE OF SITUATION REPORT:** 2:00 PM on April 6, 2010

**TIME/DATE OF THE NEXT REPORT:** 2:00 PM on April 9, 2010

**TYPE/AMOUNT OF PRODUCT SPILLED:** The total volume of number 6 bunker oil onboard the vessel at the time of sinking is unknown. The volume of bunker and other oils that remains on the ship is currently unknown.

**LOCATION:** Point Lena, Favorite Channel, north of Juneau, Alaska.

**CAUSE OF SPILL:** The vessel grounded on Point Lena and suffered damage to the forward-most section of the bow. As the tide came in, the vessel flooded from the stern and slid off the point. The vessel now sits at an angle on its port side at a depth ranging from 52 feet at the bow to 134 feet at the stern. Recently, increases in the frequency of sheen being reported in the area were investigated and traced to the *Princess Kathleen*, possibly indicating a change in the vessel's condition.

**POTENTIAL RESPONSIBLE PARTY (PRP):** Undetermined

**RESPONSE ACTION:** On April 2, 2010, Global Diving & Salvage Inc. (Global) completed installing patches over the starboard portholes. The portholes, a significant source of the historical oil discharges, were patched to prevent further discharges and to address concerns that air discharged by the divers might displace oil trapped in the vessel's ceilings, allowing the oil to escape out of the open portholes. In addition to patching the portholes, Global divers fabricated and installed a patch over a breach in one of the starboard double-bottom tanks. Once the remaining four port wing tanks are assessed and trapped oil is removed, the patches will be removed in order to return the vessel to its pre-assessment state.

Global divers drilled in to the coffer dams, located at the bow and stern end of the double bottom tanks, to check for the presence of oil. No oil was discovered in the coffer dams. Cofferdams are empty spaces used to separate other types of tanks on ships. On the *Princess Kathleen* they separate a water tank from the fuel oil tank at the bow and the fuel oil tank from the area under the engine room at the stern of the vessel.

Global continues the fabrication and installation of landing plates. These landing plates, which are attached to the hull with bolts and are fitted with a piece of pipe and a flanged valve. The landing plates will be fitted with a hot tap machine which will bore a hole through the hull. Specialized heating and pumping equipment will be connected and the tank defueled (please see the photos on page 3). The landing plates will be fitted with blind flanges, which will be tack welded in place once defueling is complete.

Divers continue to make penetration dives into the cargo deck to obtain additional measurements necessary to ascertain the positions of the port wing tanks and silt load on the port side shell which is blocking access to the port wing tanks.

**SOURCE CONTROL:** None at this time. Global has installed temporary patches over the exposed starboard portholes to prevent oil trapped within the vessel from escaping.

**RESOURCES AFFECTED:** There have been no reports of impacts to wildlife or the shoreline. The *Princess Kathleen* is of historic significance and is listed as a historic shipwreck by the State of Alaska Office of History and Archeology.

**FUTURE PLANS AND RECOMMENDATIONS:** Global will continue assessment work on the port wing tanks now that an access route has been identified within the vessel.

Fuel removal will commence once Foss's barge and other necessary equipment are onsite. The barge is expected to arrive the afternoon of April 6.

**WEATHER:** Today: Rain with south winds increasing to 20 knots. Seas building to 4 feet. Tomorrow: North winds 15 knots. Seas 3 feet. Snow occasionally limiting visibility to 1 mile.

**UNIFIED COMMAND AND PERSONNEL:**

F.O.S.C. : Capt. Melissa Bert, USCG  
S.O.S.C. : Scot W. Tiernan, ADEC

**FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION CONTACT:** Scot W. Tiernan, ADEC, (907) 465-5378 or JIC officers at 463-2065.

Photographs and other spill information are available for viewing on the Unified Command website: [www.dec.state.ak.us/spar/princesskathleen](http://www.dec.state.ak.us/spar/princesskathleen)

**AGENCY/STAKEHOLDER NOTIFICATION LIST**

This sitrep has been distributed to the following agencies and stakeholders. The situation report was also distributed to the various agency staff listed on the standard distribution list. The receiving agencies listed in the standard distribution list includes: Governor's office, Senator Begich's office, ADF&G, ADNDR, SECC, EPA, DOI, NMFS, USFWS, and USFS.

Agency/ Stakeholders	Name	Sent Via	Additional Info	Telephone	Fax
Senate Dist. B	Senator Dennis Egan	Fax	session	465-4947	465-2108
House Dist. 3	Representative Beth Kerttula	Fax	session	465-4766	465-4748
House Dist. 4	Representative Cathy Munoz	Fax	session	465-3744	465-2273
USCG (Sector Juneau)	Capt. Melissa Bert	Email	Melissa.bert@uscg.mil	463-2836	
USCG (Sector Juneau)	Lt. Latarsha McQueen	Email	Latarsha.s.mcqueen@uscg.mil	463-2835	463-2445
USCG (Sector Juneau)	Cdr. Matt Jones	Email	Matt.n.jones@uscg.mil	463-2452	
USCG (Sector Juneau)	Cdr. Kurt Clarke	Email	Kurt.a.clarke@uscg.mil	463-2475	
USCG (Sector Juneau)	MSTC James Highfill	Email	James.L.Highfill@uscg.mil	463-2461	
USDA Forest Service - Juneau Ranger District	District Ranger Pete Griffin	Email	pgriffin@fs.fed.us	789-6244	586-8808
USDA Forest Service - Tongass Env. Engineer	Michele Marie Parker	Email	mmparker@fs.fed.us	772-5850	772-5896
USDA Forest Service - Admiralty Island National Monument	District Ranger Marti Marshall	Email	mymarshall01@fs.fed.us	789-6202	
NMFS	Jon Kurland	Email	Jon.kurland@noaa.gov	586-7638	586-7358

Agency/ Stakeholders	Name	Sent Via	Additional Info	Telephone	Fax
ADF&G	Joe Hitselberger	Email	Joe.Hitselberger@alaska.gov	465-4346	465-4759
Douglas Indian Association	Doug Dobyys, Environmental Planner	Email	DougDobyys@yahoo.com	364-2916	364-2917
Central Council Tlingit and Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska	L. Knight	E-mail	LKnight@ccthita.org		
City and Borough of Juneau	Mayor Bruce Botelho	E-mail	city_clerk@ci.juneau.ak.us	586-5240	586-5385
SEAPRO	Dave Owings	Email	Dave@seapro.org		
SEAPRO	Cheryl Fultz	Email	Cheryl@seapro.org		



Photo by Global Diving & Salvage, Inc

Left: Landing plates ready for installation.

Right: Diver installing landing plates to the hull.



Photo by Global Diving & Salvage, Inc