

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

Sitka Sound

CHANGES FROM PREVIOUS SITREPS ARE DENOTED IN RED

## F/V Eyak Grounding

SITREP #2

SPILL #: 15-11-99-019-01

TIME/DATE OF DISTRIBUTION: 2:00 p.m. January 28, 2015

POTENTIAL RESPONSIBLE PARTY (PRP): M/V Eyak, LLC

INCIDENT LOCATION: Near Calligan Island in southern Sitka Sound approximately 15 miles SSW from Sitka.

TIME/DATE OF SPILL: 4:00 p.m. January 27, 2015

**HOW AND WHEN THE SPILL WAS DISCOVERED:** The F/V *Eyak* grounded and sank early on the morning of January 19, 2015. The vessel owner reported the incident to the Department on January 19 at 10:57 a.m.

**TYPE/AMOUNT OF PRODUCT SPILLED:** A small sheen was observed inside the containment boom around the F/V *Eyak* after it was repositioned on January 27. According to the vessel owner, there are approximately 700 gallons of diesel and gasoline onboard and an unknown quantity of hydraulic oil.

CAUSE OF SPILL: The cause of the grounding is currently unknown and is being investigated by the USCG.

**SOURCE CONTROL:** Two of the four fuel tank vents were capped by the vessel owner before it sank.

**RESPONSE ACTION:** Bad weather immediately following the grounding hampered initial response and salvage operations. The vessel owner and his insurance companies hired Southeast Alaska Lighterage (SEAL) as Salvage Master and Southeast Alaska Petroleum Response Organization (SEAPRO) to respond to the pollution threat. Daily overflights since the grounding have shown the vessel has not moved and showed no evidence of pollution until sheen was noted while the vessel was being moved. A dive survey conducted on January 22 confirmed that two of the fuel tank vents were plugged. The two remaining unplugged vents were inaccessible to the divers on January 22 because of the vessel's angle, but these two tanks were plugged during salvage operations on January 28, see below.

The Tug *Marauder* arrived on scene the morning of January 27 with a barge containing dive equipment and a crane for use during salvage operations. SEAPRO removed the boom surrounding the sunken vessel, so SEAL could secure 4 lift bags to the F/V Eyak and reposition the vessel 200 yards east of its previous location. The lift bags were inflated, and the vessel was successfully repositioned into deeper waters to shelter it from increasing winds. SEAPRO redeployed its boom in a U-configuration down current from the F/V Eyak and salvage barge as a precautionary measure. On January 25, SEAPRO deployed 500 feet of exclusion boom to protect Crane Cove,

an environmentally sensitive area near the vessel. SEAPRO repositioned 900 additional feet of boom near the salvage site from north of Calligan Island.

The salvage barge is currently alongside the F/V Eyak and crews are currently rigging the sunken vessel in preparation to conduct repairs and salvage operations. ADEC and USCG personnel are onsite to oversee response and salvage operations.

**RESOURCES AFFECTED:** After the F/V *Eyak* was repositioned on January 27, a small sheen was observed inside the containment boom. However there were no reports of impacted wildlife or resources.

**FUTURE PLANS AND RECOMMENDATIONS:** Salvage and repair operations will continue on-site, including patching and repairing the hull. Once the vessel is repaired, it will be rolled upright and refloated. The remaining fuel and other petroleum products will be removed from the vessel onto isolation tanks on the barge. The vessel owner plans to tow the F/V *Eyak* to Sitka.

**WEATHER:** Today: Rainy; low 40s°F; southeast winds 20 to 25 knots, variable gusts. Tomorrow: Rain in the morning, then isolated showers; high 46°F; south southwest winds 15 to 20 knots becoming southeast 5 to 10 knots. Friday: Sunny; high 46°F; northeast winds 10 to 25 knots.

## UNIFIED COMMAND AND PERSONNEL:

Incident Commander: SOSC: FOSCr: Field SOSC: David Castle Sarah Moore, ADEC CWO Mike Wortman, USCG MSD Sitka Bob Mattson, ADEC

## TIME/DATE OF THE NEXT REPORT DISTRIBUTION: 2:00 p.m. January 30, 2015



The salvage team begins towing the F/V *Eyak* to protected waters in Sitka Sound, January 27, 2015. (Photo/ADEC)

**FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION CONTACT**: Sarah Moore, ADEC State On-Scene Coordinator, at (907) 465-5239

http://dec.alaska.gov/spar/perp/response/sum\_fy15/150119101/150119101\_index.htm

## AGENCY/STAKEHOLDER NOTIFICATION LIST:

Please refer to the first sitrep distributed January 26, 2015 for the agency/stakeholder notification list. The link to the first sitrep can be found in the **Additional Information** box above.