Kodiak GRS K-9



Currents, Tides & Winds: Offshore currents and tides in the Tugidak Passage are described as very strong with freakish tidal currents and rips. Tide rips in the middle of the passage are extremely dangerous to small boats.

Wildlife Considerations: All of Tugidak Island is a Critical Habitat Area for shorebirds. The island has five salmon streams and pacific herring in Tugidak lagoon. Approximately 79 species of birds have been documented on the island, although concentrations and seasonal occupancy rates are unknown. Wintering Emperor geese; Steller's and king eiders, brant in spring migration. Bald eagles. Historically largest harbor seal rookery in world (currently an index monitoring site.) Beach berm (north side of lagoon) and area of booms (beach end) are harbor seal haulout areas. Sea otters occasional.

Risk Factors: No large quantities of oil products are stored on the island. Tugidak is vulnerable to offshore oil spills as witnessed by the impact of the 1989 Exxon Valdez spill.

Human Use: Human use is limited but includes wildlife research, recreation use and limited recreational mining.

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EQUIPMENT RECOMMENDED		NEAREST EQUIPMENT (Akhiok)	
		City Hall (907)836-2229	
QUANTITY	DESCRIPTION	QUANTITY	DESCRIPTION
600'	8" x 10" Boom	2000'	8" x 10" Containment boom
20	40 lb boom anchors	800'	17" x 19" Sorbent pads (3M)
10	Sorbent sweep bundles	20	Sorbent sweep bundles
1200'	Parker snare on rope	100'	Parker snare on rope
4	Tow bridles	8	Tow bridles
2 (min)	Class 5 or higher vessels	24	Heavy duty bags
		2	Wringers
		2	Overpack drums
			No anchors
Refer to Kodiak Subarea Contingency Plan			
for additional regional equipment lists.			

Tugidak Island

Latitude/Longitude: N 56° 34' 7" / W 154° 28' 8"

Location: Trinity Islands east of Sitkinak Island with the lagoon entrance facing northeast. NOAA Chart No. 16580, USGS Trinity Island B-2, C-2 Quad.

Response Objective: Prevent oil from entering the lagoon.

Shoreline Characteristics: Tidal flats and dunes with exposed shoreline.

Site Access: Floatplane access would be most feasible at high tide in the lagoon or a nearby lake. Vessels of opportunity could also be used to transport gear to the island from vessels anchored offshore. Wheeled aircraft access may be possible at low tide in the southwest portion of the lagoon and other beaches. There are several potential helicopter landing areas nearby. Direct air distance from Sitkinak Island landing strip to lagoon entrance is 12.5 miles.

Staging Area: Due to the sensitive nature of the Tugidak Island ecosystem, the airstrip on Sitkinak Island will be used for equipment staging. Fixed wing aircraft or civilian or U.S. Coast Guard helicopters will be used to transport personnel and equipment to Sitkinak Island from the city of Kodiak.

AS THE CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE EMERGENCY ALLOW:

A. Response Strategy:

1. Maximize on-water recovery in the off shore-near shore environment.

2. Use vessels of opportunity to deploy 6, 100' sections of boom as shown in the photo to deflect oil to recovery locations on the beach. Seal the boom to shore using sorbents.

3. Deploy 2, 600' lengths of Parker snare on rope across the lagoon entrance to capture free floating oil.

4. Initiate wildlife hazing as necessary.

5. Be aware of changes in tides, winds and currents.

B. Response Considerations:

Before deploying equipment at Tugidak, a spill survey should be conducted in cooperation with ADEC and a ADF&G Title 16 Special Area Permit is needed to implement these protection strategies.

C. Historic Properties Considerations:

FOSC Historic Properties Specialist should INSPECT site prior to operations.

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