

2004 Non-hazardous Waste (Garbage) Offloading in Alaska

Alaska Statute (AS) 46.03.475(e)(1) requires owners/operators of commercial passenger vessels¹ to submit a nonhazardous solid waste offloading and disposal (garbage) plan to the Department of Environmental Conservation (ADEC) prior to operating in Alaska's marine waters. As established by regulation (18 AAC 69.035), the garbage plan must describe the policies and procedures for offloading non-hazardous solid waste in Alaska or disposing such waste into Alaska marine waters. The plan, which is due annually by March 1 for the upcoming season, must also provide estimates of the amount of garbage that will be offloaded and disposed in Alaska's waters. After the season is completed, any deviations from the plan must be submitted to the ADEC by November 15 of each year. Some owners/operators also submit optional information on garbage offloaded or discharged outside Alaska (i.e., in Canada, Washington or California). Tables 1 and 2 summarize garbage offloading data submitted to the ADEC during the 2004 season. Ships that visited Alaska but are not in this table did not offload any garbage in Alaska this season.

Table 1: Large Ship 2004 Nonhazardous waste (Garbage) offload summary

	2004 Large Ship Offloads in Alaska (Required Information)*							Offloads Outside of Alaska (Information not Required)	
		Garbage	Recyclables						
Operator	Vessel	Wet/Dry Garbage	Plastic	Cardboard	Glass	Paper	Misc.	Wet/Dry Garbage	Recycled
Princess	Regal Princess	4 m ³	--	--	--	--	18 m ³	--	--
	Sun Princess	60 m ³	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
	Coral Princess	30 m ³	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
	Diamond Princess	--	--	--	--	--	--	535 m ³	188 m ³
	Sapphire Princess	--	--	--	--	--	--	871 m ³	245 m ³
Holland America	Oosterdam	30 m ³	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
	Ryndam	10 m ³	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
	Statendam	10 m ³	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Royal Caribbean	Vision of the Seas	--	--	--	--	--	45 m ³	--	--
	Radiance of the Seas	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	29,222 kg
Celebrity Cruise	Summit	533 m ³	--	--	--	--	--	63 m ³	40,515 kg
	Infinity	--	--	--	--	--	--	280 Kgs	--
	Mercury	457 m ³	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Norwegian Cruise Line	Norwegian Spirit	562 m ³	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Silver Seas Cruise	Silver Shadow**	152 m ³	139 m ³	--	--	--	--	150 m ³	372 m ³
Carnival Cruise	Carnival Spirit	700 m ³	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Crystal Cruise	Crystal Harmony	347 m ³	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Radisson	Seven Seas Mariner	152 m ³	553 m ³	--	--	--	--	--	--

Large ship offloads

Princess Cruise Lines

Princess indicated in its pre-season plan that their ships would not offload garbage in Alaska. However, Regal, Coral, and Sun Princess did offload some garbage in Juneau in order to maintain proper operation of the ships and reported this in their post-season deviation report. The Diamond and Sapphire Princess voluntarily reported some data on garbage and recyclables offloaded outside Alaska.

Holland America Line

Holland America indicated in its pre-season plan that their ships would not offload garbage in Alaska. However, the Oosterdam, Ryndam, and Statendam all offloaded garbage in Juneau one time this season and reported this in their post-season deviation report.

¹ As defined in Alaska Statute (AS) 46.03.490(2)

Royal Caribbean International & Celebrity Cruises

Royal Caribbean indicated in its preseason plan that none of their ships would offload garbage in Alaska but included some garbage offloaded outside Alaska. Post season deviation reports submitted stated that no garbage was offloaded in Alaska except for Vision of the Seas reported recyclables offloaded in Alaska and bilge water.

Celebrity indicated in its preseason plan that the Infinity and the Mercury would not offload any garbage in Alaska. The post season report included deviations from the garbage plan. Mercury did offload some waste in Alaska during the season. The preseason plan stated that the Summit would offload garbage and blackwater in Alaska as needed, and the figures in Table 2 are the actual volumes offloaded during the 2004 season reported in their post season deviation report.

Norwegian Cruise Line

Norwegian indicated in its preseason plan that their ships would not offload garbage in Alaska. However, the Norwegian Spirit did offload garbage in Alaska, as reported in their deviation report and included in Table 2.

Cruise lines companies operating only one vessel during the 2004 season

Radisson Seven Seas Cruises, Crystal Cruises, Silver Seas Cruise Lines and Carnival Cruise Lines each operated only one ship in Alaska. These four vessels did offload garbage in Alaska, and the figures in Table 2 are from their post-season deviation reports.

Table 2: Small Ship 2004 Nonhazardous waste (Garbage) offload summary

	2004 Small Ship Offloads in Alaska (Required Information)							Offloads Outside of Alaska (Information not Required)	
		Garbage	Recyclables						
Operator	Vessel	Wet/Dry Garbage	Plastic	Cardboard	Glass	Paper	Misc.	Wet/Dry Garbage	Recycled
Cruise West	Spirit of 98	153 m ³	--	5 m ³	2 m ³	--	--	--	--
	Spirit of Alaska	138 m ³	--	2 m ³	1 m ³	--	--	--	--
	Spirit of Columbia	229 m ³	--	3 m ³	3 m ³	--	--	--	--
	Spirit of Discovery	153 m ³	--	3 m ³	2 m ³	--	--	--	--
	Spirit of Endeavor	153 m ³	--	7 m ³	2 m ³	--	--	--	--
	Spirit of Oceanus	191 m ³	--	8 m ³	3 m ³	--	--	--	--
Glacier Bay Cruise	Adventurer & Discoverer	13 m ³	19 m ³	--	1 m ³	7 m ³	--	--	--
Lindblad Expeditions	Sea Bird	163 m ³	4.92 m ³	--	18 m ³	27 m ³	--	--	--
	Sea Lion	196 m ³	7 m ³	--	14 m ³	31 m ³	--	--	--
New World Ship	Clipper Odyssey	95 m ³	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
	Yorktown Clipper	653 m ³	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Alaska Marine Highway	Alaska Marine Highway Ferries	5,887 m ³	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
America West Steamboat Co	Empress of the North	3,480 m ³	--	15 m ³	15 m ³	--	--	--	--

Small ship offloads

All Lines

The garbage information in Table 1 for vessels operated by Cruise West, Glacier Bay Cruises, New World Ship Management and the Alaska Marine Highway System are estimates taken from each operator's preseason plans and corrected in their deviation reports. The figures for Lindblad Expeditions are from actual garbage logs included in their post-season report correcting pre-season estimates. Garbage logs submittals are not required under state statute but we appreciate Lindblad's detailed submittal.

Table 3 shows the amount in metric tons² of garbage and recyclables offloaded by commercial passenger vessels and state ferries in Alaska ports.

Table 3: Amount of solid waste offloaded by cruise ships and state ferries in Alaska ports in 2004

Port	Amount of Garbage offloaded
Juneau	7,595 m ³
Ketchikan	2,416 m ³
Unspecified*	1,560 m ³
Skagway	160 m ³
Sitka	158 m ³
Dutch Harbor	85 m ³
Petersburg	12 m ³
Nome	10 m ³
Total	11,996 m³

*Unspecified includes disposal amounts reported by Cruise West. Ships are not required by regulation to report the amount disposed of at EACH port but the total needs to be included in their garbage plan. ADEC assumes the majority of the waste was offloaded in Juneau since Juneau is a frequent embarking/disembarking port.

The state ferries offload year-round in Juneau (3527 m³) and Ketchikan (2360 m³). The disposal amounts are included in Tables 2 and 3.

International agreements translate to Federal Law

Ships offload garbage according to the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from ships at sea treaty signed in 1973 and amended in 1978 (MARPOL 73/78)³. Nations that signed the treaty promulgated their own laws and regulations to enforce the treaty provisions. In the United States, US Federal Law 33 U.S.C. §§ 1901 and regulations 33 CFR 151.66-151.73 implementing MARPOL 73/78 prohibit the disposal of plastics or any garbage containing plastics into U.S. navigable waters, and allow disposal of non-plastic garbage into navigable waters as described in the placard⁴ below.



² A metric ton is one cubic meter, or 2205 pounds.

³ More information can be found on the federal Environmental Protection Agency website, <http://www.epa.gov/OWOW/OCPCD/marpol.html> or at <http://www.imo.org/home.asp>

⁴ 33 CFR 151.59 requires the owners of vessels 26' in length and above to place this placard on board the vessel.