



ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION
Division of Spill Prevention and Response
Prevention Preparedness and Response Program
SITUATION REPORT (SITREP)

F/V Haida Lady Fuel Release Cobb Island



SITREP #: 1

SPILL #: 21119905701

DATE/TIME OF DISTRIBUTION: March 1, 2021, at 5:15 p.m.

POTENTIAL RESPONSIBLE PARTY (PRP): Charles Skultka

INCIDENT LOCATION: West of Cobb Island, Eastern Channel, Sitka, AK (Lat/Long 57° 0.814 N 135° 17.816 W)

DATE/TIME OF SPILL: February 26, 2021, at 1:30 p.m.

HOW/WHEN SPILL WAS DISCOVERED AND REPORTED: The National Response Center received a report on February 26, 2021 at 1:55 p.m. of a sheen caused by a sunken vessel near Eastern Channel of Sitka Sound. The United States Coast Guard (USCG) Air Station Sitka conducted an overflight and reported that the *F/V Haida Lady* (AK607368) sunk west of Cobb Island in Eastern Channel near Sitka at 3:20 p.m. During the overflight the vessel was found port side down in 6-18 feet of water with a sheen observed.

TYPE/AMOUNT OF PRODUCT SPILLED: The vessel owner reported 1,500 gallons of diesel fuel and 55 gallons of hydraulic oil onboard at the time of sinking.

CAUSE OF SPILL: Cause of the release is due to the fuel escaping from the sunken vessel.

Source Control: Hard boom has been placed around the vessel and worksite. Absorbents have been applied and continue to be managed within the hard boom to collect any recoverable fuel oil. The vessel has been repositioned so that fuel vents are above waterline to prevent further discharge.

RESPONSE ACTION: USCG federalized the incident response and has contracted Hanson Maritime Company (Hanson) to mitigate the pollution impact from the vessel. Hanson deployed containment boom around the vessel and worksite on February 27, 2021 and began stabilization of the vessel and removal of the seine nets to access the fuel tanks onboard. Hanson repositioned the vessel to allow access to the fuel fill ports and vents. Due to inclement weather and sea state, vessel stabilization efforts continued throughout the weekend. As weather condition have improved today, removal of pollutants is currently underway.

RESOURCES AT RISK OR AFFECTED: The area near Eastern Channel includes the Tongass National Forest and Haida lands. National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) scientific support provided a summary of resources at risk. Endangered species include Western DPS Steller sea lions, threatened species include Humpback whales (Mexico DPS). In addition to listed species mentioned above, harbor seals, killer whales and gray whales may be present. Sea otters may be present in moderate densities. Any birds observed within the sheen will be reported to the US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS). There may be commercial fishing vessel

traffic related to crab or other open fisheries. Nearby geographic response strategies include Pirate Cove, Sandy Cove, Silver Bay and Indian River.

FUTURE PLANS AND RECOMMENDATIONS: Hanson will continue to work on stabilizing the vessel to a state where fuel and hydraulic oil removal can safely occur without increasing the risk of release. Oiled debris and fishing nets will be removed to prevent an entanglement hazard for wildlife.

WEATHER: As of 5:00 p.m. on March 1, 2021 it is 36°F. Skies are cloudy with a 100% chance of precipitation. Rain showers before midnight, then rain and snow showers. New snow accumulation of less than a half inch possible. South wind 15 to 20 kt. Seas 2ft. Small craft advisory through tomorrow. Next tide is to -0.5 ft. low at 8:22 p.m.

UNIFIED COMMAND AND PERSONNEL:

SOSC: Curtis Kiesel, ADEC
FOSCR: MST 2 Allysia Helton, USCG

DATE/TIME OF THE NEXT REPORT DISTRIBUTION: As the situation warrants.

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION CONTACT: Curtis Kiesel, SOSC, ADEC (907) 465-5367

[\[https://dec.alaska.gov/spar/ppr/spill-information/response/\]](https://dec.alaska.gov/spar/ppr/spill-information/response/)



Figure 1. Vessel condition on February 26, 2021 as seen from USCG overflight.
Courtesy of USCG.

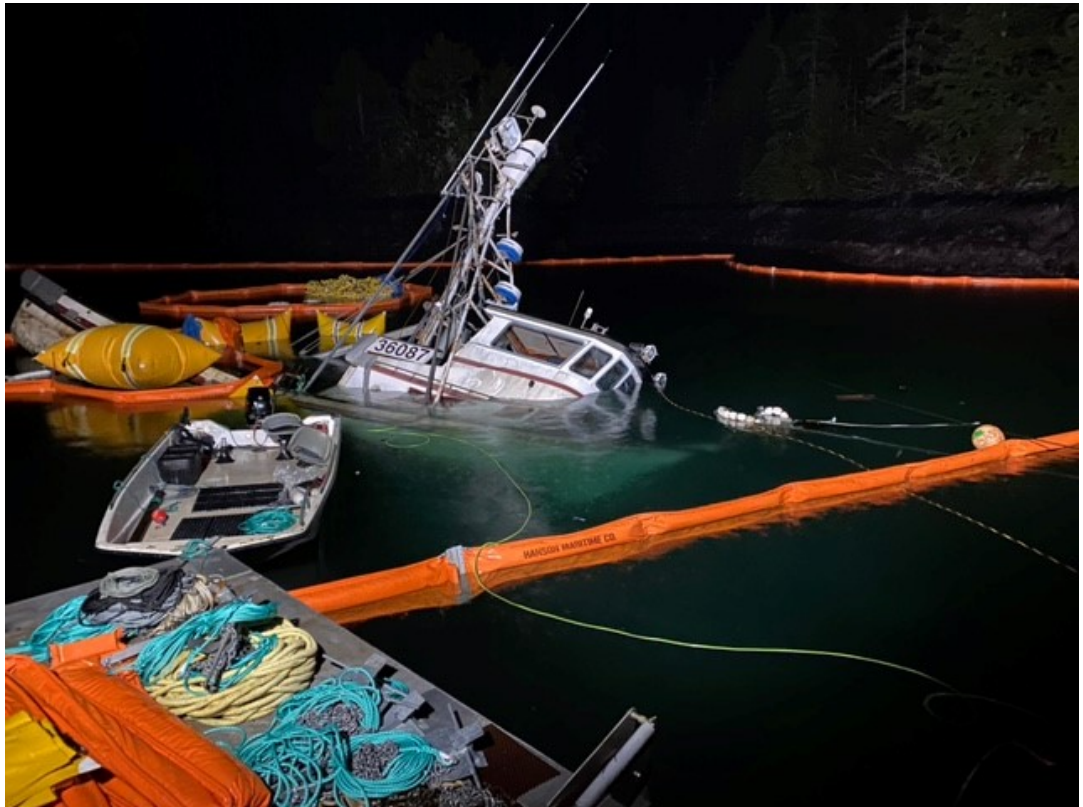


Figure 2. Vessel condition on February 27, 2021. Courtesy of Hanson Maritime Company.

AGENCY/STAKEHOLDER NOTIFICATION LIST: This situation report was distributed to the agencies listed on the standard distribution list, which includes the governor’s office, State Emergency Operations Center, U.S. Department of the Interior, National Marine Fisheries Service, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and other state agencies. This situation report was also distributed to the following agencies and stakeholders:

AGENCY	NAME	SENT VIA	ADDITIONAL INFORMATION	TELEPHONE	FAX
Senate R	Senator Bert Stedman	Email	senator.bert.stedman@akleg.gov Juneau (1/18-4/15) Ketchikan (4/20-1/15)	465-3873 225-8088	465-3922 225-0713
House 35	Representative Jonathan Kreiss-Tomkins	Email	representative.jonathan.kreiss-tomkins@akleg.gov Juneau (1/18-4/15) Sitka (4/20-1/15)	465-3732 747-4665	465-2652
Sitka Tribe of Alaska	Jeff Feldpausch	Email	jeff.feldpausch@sitkatriben-sn.gov	747-3207	747-4915
Sitka Tribe of Alaska	Helen Dangle	Email	helen.dangle@sitka-nsn.gov	747-7168	
ADF&G Southeast	Greg Albrecht	Email	dfg.hab.infodou@alaska.gov	465-6384	
ADF&G Southeast	Kate Kanouse	Email	kate.kanouse@alaska.gov	465-4290	
ADNR SE Region	Patty Burns	Email	patty.burns@alaska.gov	465-3014	

ADNR SE Region	Aaron Timian	Email	aaron.timian@alaska.gov	465-3513	
USCG (Sector JNU)	CDR Byron Hayes	Email	byron.h.hayes@uscg.mil	463-2475	
USCG (Sector JNU)	LCDR Jon Dale	Email	jonathan.dale@uscg.mil	463-2469	
USCG (MSD Sitka)	MST1 Brian Wereda	Email	brian.m.wereda@uscg.mil	966-5480	966-5457
USCG (MSD Sitka)	MST2 Allysia Helton	Email	allysia.r.helton@uscg.mil	966-5481	966-5457
US EPA	Bob Whittier	Email	whittier.robert@epa.gov	271-3616	271-3424
USFS Tongass Environmental Engineer	Michele Marie Parker	Email	michele.parker@usda.gov	518-1079	
USFS Sitka District Ranger	Perry Edwards	Email	james.edwards@usda.gov	747-4220	
Sitka Municipal Administrator	John Leach	Email	administrator@cityofsitka.org	747-1812	747-7403
Southeast Alaska Tribal Ocean Research (SEATOR)		Email	seator@sitkatriben-sn.gov	966-9650	
NOAA	Catherine Berg	Email	catherine.berg@noaa.gov	529-9157	
NOAA NWS Juneau	Juneau all-staff	Email	juneau.weather@noaa.gov	790-6800	
Fish and Wildlife Service		Email	fwsakspillresponse@fws.gov		