

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

SITUATION REPORT

INCIDENT NAME: M/V *Pegasus* Sinking

SITREP #: 2

SPILL NUMBER: 07119920501

LEDGER CODE: 14240260

TIME/DATE OF SPILL: The potential responsible party (PRP) reported that the vessel sank at approximately 11:30 AM, July 24, 2007. Both members of the vessel's crew were recovered from the vessel without injury.

TIME/DATE OF SITUATION REPORT: 11:00 AM, July 26, 2007

TIME/DATE OF THE NEXT REPORT: 12:00 PM, July 27, 2007

TYPE/AMOUNT OF PRODUCT SPILLED: There was a small quantity of oil discharged immediately after the vessel sank, but the amount and type of product spilled is unknown at this time. The PRP reported that there was 1200 gallons of diesel fuel on board the vessel as well as unknown quantities of lubricating and hydraulic oils. There was also a front-end loader on the vessel that was reported to contain 26 gallons of diesel fuel and 36.7 gallons of hydraulic and lube oil. Two containers containing explosives also aboard the vessel floated free and were recovered on July 25, 2007.

LOCATION: The vessel sank off Sunshine Cove on the east side of Lynn Canal. Sunshine Cove is 28 miles northwest of Juneau.

CAUSE OF SPILL: The cause of the sinking is under investigation by the US Coast Guard.

POTENTIAL RESPONSIBLE PARTY (PRP): Mitch Falk, Gumption Leasing LLC.

RESPONSE ACTION: The tug *Togiak* with a crane barge transported the explosive containers to the Kensington mine facility at Comet, 17 miles north of Sunshine Cove.

An ADEC Field SOSC departed for the site at approximately 12:00 noon July 25, 2007, stopping to pick up additional containment boom from the ADEC conex at Auke Bay as requested by the PRP.

At 1:15 a meeting was held on scene with the PRP, ADEC and the U. S. Coast Guard on the proposed salvage plan. The salvage plan was acceptable to all parties and approved. Salvage gear including lift bags and pumps were assembled at staging area with the final equipment arriving at 4:15 PM. The equipment was loaded onto the PRP's support vessel, *David V*, and arrived at the casualty site shortly after 5:00 PM when ADEC and U. S. Coast Guard personnel boarded the vessel to observe operations. During the initial approach to the sunken vessel, a small amount of unrecoverable sheen was noted inside the boomed area.

Divers entered the water to begin attaching lift bags to the vessel just after 6:00 PM.

The tug and crane barge returned from Comet, anchored along side the *Pegasus*, rigged the barge's deck crane for lifting and began the salvage operation at 9:40 PM.

Due to approaching darkness, responders decided to move the *Pegasus* closer to shore on the incoming tide to reduce the chance of the vessel from sinking in deep water. This movement was completed, boom was re-established around the vessel and operations were completed for the night at approximately 11:30 PM. Light, unrecoverable sheen was noted on the waters of Sunshine Cove outside the boom after the movement of the vessel. As of yesterday evening, the *Pegasus* remains partially sunk in Sunshine Cove.

SOURCE CONTROL: The vessels fuel vents were plugged at approximately 6:30 PM on July 24, 2007.

RESOURCES AFFECTED: The waters and shoreline of Lynn Canal have been impacted by the spill. The ADEC and U. S. Coast Guard joint response team noted small amounts of oil along the shoreline of Sunshine Cove on July 24, 2006, released during the sinking of the vessel. Sheen was also noted in the vicinity of the *Pegasus* during salvage operations. Sensitive resources in the area include anadromous streams, marine mammals and sea birds. There are no reports of impacts to birds or other wildlife in the area. A commercial gillnet fishery open just south of the site has not been impacted to date and is scheduled to close today at noon and reopen on Sunday, July 29, 2007. The State of Alaska has a zero tolerance policy of no oil on seafood products to protect the integrity, quality and reputation of Alaska seafood. If a vessel or nets are observed in an oil slick, State Environmental Health Seafood Inspectors will examine the vessel's catch or gear to ensure the seafood products are safe to eat and free of oil contamination.

FUTURE PLANS AND RECOMMENDATIONS:

Salvage of the *M/V Pegasus* is scheduled to resume at 10:00 AM today, July 26. The ADEC Field SOSC and U. S. Coast Guard responders will continue to monitor the salvage effort.

The U. S. Coast Guard and ADEC will form an integrated command post and incident management team if necessary.

WEATHER: Current weather is cloudy with light rain. Temperatures will rise to the 60's by early afternoon. Winds are southeast at 5 to 15 mph.

UNIFIED COMMAND AND PERSONNEL:

Incident Commander: Mitch Falk (PRP)
 F.O.S.C.: Capt. Mark Guillory, USCG
 S.O.S.C.: Bob Mattson, ADEC
 Field S.O.S.C.: Scot Tiernan, ADEC

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION CONTACT: Les Leatherberry at 465-5346. Photographs and other spill information will be made available for viewing at <http://www.dec.state.ak.us/spar/perp/index.htm>

AGENCY/STAKEHOLDER NOTIFICATION LIST

This sitrep has been distributed via email to the Governor's office, ADF&G, ADNR, SECC, USEPA, USDOJ, NMFS, USFWS, and USFS in addition to the following.

Agency	Name	Sent Via	Additional Info	Telephone	Fax
Gumption Leasing	Mitch Falk	Hand delivery			
Senate Dist. B	Senator Kim Elton	Email	Senator_Kim_Elton@legis.state.ak.us	465-4947	465-2108
Senate Dist. C	Senator Al Kookesh	Email	Senator_Albert_Kookesh@legis.state.ak.us	465-3473	465-2827
House Dist. 3	Representative Beth Kerttula	Email	Rep_Beth_Kerttula@legis.state.ak.us	465-4766	465-4748
House Dist. 4	Representative Andrea Doll	Email	Rep_Andrea_Doll@legis.state.ak.us	465-3744	465-2273
House Dist. 5	Representative Bill Thomas	Email	Rep_Bill_Thomas@legis.state.ak.us	465-3732	465-2652
SEAPRO	Cheryl Fultz	Email	Cheryl@seapro.org	225-7002	225-1119
USCG (Sector Juneau)	Lt. Chris Williammee	Email	Christopher.J.Williammee@uscg.mil	463-2470	463-2445
Douglas Indian Association	President	Email	kdunlap-dia@gsi.net	364-2916	364-2917
USDA Forest Service - Tongass Env. Engineer	Michele Marie Parker	Email	mmparker@fs.fed.us	772-5850	772-5895