F/V Evening Star Sinking

SITREP # 6 & Final

SPILL #: 12119921501

LEDGER CODE: 14327360

TIME/DATA OF DISTRIBUTION: 1:00 p.m. August 17, 2012

POTENTIAL RESPONSIBLE PARTY (PRP): Kenneth Phippen

INCIDENT LOCATION: Slocum Arm, approximately 43 nautical miles north of Sitka, Alaska.

TIME/DATA OF SPILL: 6:00 a.m. August 2, 2012

TYPE/AMOUNT OF PRODUCT SPILLED: At the time of sinking the vessel was reported to have 1,000 gallons of diesel fuel on board. The engine room holds approximately 25 gallons of lube oil and a hydraulic oil tank with a capacity of 160 gallons. ADEC believes that the vessel released the majority of the fuel that remained onboard when it sank to the depth of 390 feet on August 10, 2012.

CAUSE OF SPILL: The F/V Evening Star capsized and sank while seine fishing for salmon in Slocum Arm. The cause of the sinking is unknown at this time.

SOURCE CONTROL: ADEC believes the majority of the fuel on board the vessel has been released. No further source control actions will be undertaken.

RESPONSE ACTION: The responsible party’s insurance company deemed the vessel to be unsalvageable. The F/V Evening Star remains on a ledge at a depth of 390 feet, above a further drop off to a depth of 600 feet.

Global personnel deployed a remotely operated vehicle to examine the anchor and the net to determine if the net could be removed. A rock was found wedged between the flukes of the anchor and the entangled net. It was decided that the safest option for dealing with the seine net was to cut the stern anchor loose from the M/V Glacier and let the anchor sink the net to the seafloor. After this operation was completed a depth sounder reading estimated the net to be at a safe distance of 220 feet below the surface of the water.

The crew of the M/V Glacier and SEAPRO responders recovered the spill containment boom that was deployed to protect salmon streams in the area.

RESOURCES AFFECTED: Marine waters of Slocum Arm. On August 2, 2012 the Alaska Department of Fish and Game announced an emergency closure for the salmon purse seine fishery of Slocum Arm. The closure was
issued to prevent harvesting fish in areas with possible oil contamination. At this time no impacts to fish or wildlife have been reported.

FUTURE PLANS AND RECOMMENDATIONS:  No further actions are required at this time.

WEATHER:  Today: Southeast winds increasing to 20 knots in the afternoon; seas 4 feet building to 6 feet in the afternoon. Tonight: South wind 15 knots diminishing late; seas 6 feet. Tomorrow: Southwest winds 1 knots; seas 6 feet.

UNIFIED COMMAND AND PERSONNEL:

Incident Commander:  Richard Shaw, Bowditch Marine Inc.
SOSC:  Scot Tiernan, ADEC
FOSC:  Capt. Scott Bornemann, USCG

TIME/DATE OF THE NEXT REPORT DISTRIBUTION:  This is the final report.

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION CONTACT:  Crystal Smith, ADEC (907) 465-5346
http://dec.alaska.gov/spar/perp/response/sr_active.htm

AGENCY/STAKEHOLDER NOTIFICATION LIST:
Please refer to the first sitrep distributed August 7, 2012 for the agency/stakeholder notification list. The link to the first sitrep can be found in the Additional Information box above.

The seine net entangled on the stern anchor and rock wedged between the anchor’s flukes.

The seine net wrapped around the F/V Evening Star at a depth of 390 feet.

Photos are courtesy of Global Diving and Salvage.