CHANGES FROM PREVIOUS SITREPS ARE DENOTED IN RED

F/V Mirage Grounding

SITREP #: 3

SPILL #: 14119911101

TIME/DATE OF DISTRIBUTION: 2:00 p.m. April 25, 2014

POTENTIAL RESPONSIBLE PARTY (PRP): Joe Smatlan, owner of the F/V Mirage

INCIDENT LOCATION: Low Island, approximately 10 nautical miles west of Sitka (N57 00.60, W135 36.82)

TIME/DATE OF SPILL: No spill has been reported. The F/V Mirage grounded on Low Island at approximately 7:00 p.m. on April 20, 2014.

HOW AND WHEN THE SPILL WAS DISCOVERED: The vessel grounding was reported to the Coast Guard at 3:46 a.m. on April 21, 2014, by the vessel crew. The two crew members on board at the time of the grounding were able to disembark and walk to the Coast Guard helicopter. ADEC was notified of the grounding at 8:30 a.m. on April 22.

TYPE/AMOUNT OF PRODUCT SPILLED: No spill has occurred. The vessel master estimates 1,000-1,500 gallons of diesel fuel, less than 25 gallons of hydraulic oil, and approximately 10 gallons of lube oil were on board the vessel when it grounded. The F/V Mirage has five 600-gallon diesel tanks, for a total vessel capacity of 3,000 gallons.

CAUSE OF SPILL: No spill has occurred.

SOURCE CONTROL: Vessel crew members plugged accessible fuel vents before leaving the F/V Mirage.

RESPONSE ACTION: Global Diving and Salvage (Global) has been contracted by the vessel owner and insurance companies to defuel and salvage the vessel. The vessel was secured to the beach, where it remains stable on its port side. Defueling operations removed 900 gallons of diesel from the F/V Mirage yesterday. Global estimates 250 gallons of diesel fuel still on board the vessel and will complete defueling operations today.

RESOURCES AFFECTED: Harbor seals and sea otters are reported in the water around Low Island. Global will continue to monitor wildlife near Low Island and will design operations to limit impact to marine mammals in the area. Saint Lazaria Island National Wildlife Refuge is about 4 nautical miles southwest of Low Island.

FUTURE PLANS AND RECOMMENDATIONS: Global has submitted a salvage plan for Coast Guard and ADEC approval. Weather and tug availability permitting, the salvage crew will attempt to refloat and free the F/V Mirage over the weekend. Global is planning to mobilize two tow systems, including ADEC’s Emergency Tow
System, for possible use. As soon as the tug is able to free the F/V Mirage divers will assess it for damage and conduct repairs to make it safe for transit for more permanent repairs.

WEATHER: Today: Northwest winds 15 knots diminishing in the morning, and then becoming south in the afternoon, seas 7 feet; west swells. Tonight: Southeast winds increasing to 25 knots late, seas 8 feet. Tomorrow: East wind 30 knots diminishing to 25 knots in the afternoon, seas 13 feet.

UNIFIED COMMAND AND PERSONNEL:
  Incident Commander: F/V Mirage
  SOSC: Sarah Moore, ADEC
  FOSC: Scott Bornemann, USCG

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

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION CONTACT:
Sarah Moore, State On-Scene Coordinator, ADEC (907) 465-5239
http://dec.alaska.gov/spar/perp/response/sr_active.htm

F/V Mirage first helicopter sling load on April 24.
Photo: Andrew Lawrence, Global Diving & Salvage

AGENCY/STAKEHOLDER NOTIFICATION LIST:
Please refer to the first sitrep distributed April 23, 2014 for the agency/stakeholder notification list. The link to the first sitrep can be found in the Additional Information box above.