

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

SITUATION REPORT

INCIDENT NAME: M/V Lituya Grounding

SITREP #: 1

SPILL NUMBER: 09119903001

LEDGER CODE: Requested

TIME/DATE OF SPILL: The United States Coast Guard (USCG) received a report that the M/V Lituya was floating free at 12:51am on January 30, 2009. The vessel was reported aground at 2:00am on January 30, 2009. The USCG reported the incident to ADEC at 2:10am.

TIME/DATE OF SITUATION REPORT: 12:00pm on January 30, 2009

TIME/DATE OF THE NEXT REPORT: 5:00pm on January 30, 2009

TYPE/AMOUNT OF PRODUCT SPILLED: The amount of product spilled is unknown at this time. The vessel is carrying 7,000 gallons of diesel fuel with an additional, unknown quantity of hydraulic and lube oils.

LOCATION: Scrub Island in Port Chester near Metlakatla, Alaska. The location of the vessel is: N55° 08.44' W131° 43.11'.

CAUSE OF SPILL: High winds caused the State ferry Lituya to part its 3 wires and mooring line at the Alaska Marine Highway Systems terminal in Metlakatla. The vessel was blown approximately 1.2km to the North and grounded on Scrub Island. There were no passengers or crew onboard the vessel at the time of the incident.

POTENTIAL RESPONSIBLE PARTY (PRP): State of Alaska, Department of Transportation, Alaska Marine Highway System.

RESPONSE ACTION: A Unified Command was established with representatives from ADEC, the USCG, DOT, and the oil spill response team SEAPRO. The captain of the M/V Lituya, Capt. Booth, arrived on scene via a private boat at 5:00am and reported that the stern was aground but no fuel was leaking from the vessel. Capt. Booth reported visible damage to the vessel and closed all watertight hatches before departing.

The tug Muzon arrived on scene at 7:24am and remained onsite to provide communications and situation updates until a USCG vessel arrived. The USCG vessels Anthony Petit and vessel 47260 arrived on site at approximately 7:40am. Two USCG marine investigators boarded the M/V Lituya and conducted an initial vessel assessment. The keel coolers were breach and leaking antifreeze. The vessel hull has sustained heavy insets, damage to the plating, and broken welds but the internal hull has not been breached.

The tug Ethan B and SEAPRO's Oil Spill Response Barge (OSRB) 2 arrived on site at 8:45am and immediately deployed a single layer of boom around the vessel. Booming operations were completed by 9:35am. Strong winds and high seas are causing sheen to entrain under the boom.

SOURCE CONTROL: There is no indication of damage to the fuel tanks at this time. Sheen was reported near the vessel at 7:40am, on scene investigators believe it was leaking from a fuel vent because of the vessel's list. The sheen continued throughout morning operations.

The salvage crew developed a lightering plan which was approved by unified command at 10:40am. Lightering operations will commence as soon as it is safe to do so.

RESOURCES AFFECTED: None reported at this time.

FUTURE PLANS AND RECOMMENDATIONS: A salvage plan is being developed and will be submitted to the Unified Command for approval. Attempts to re-float the vessel will occur at approximately 2:30pm, January 30, 2009, the next high tide, with concurrence of the Unified Command.

WEATHER: Winds 10knotts from the south, seas calm. Visibility 8 miles.

UNIFIED COMMAND AND PERSONNEL:

Incident Commander: Deputy Commissioner Jim Beedle, AMHS
 F.O.S.C.: Cdr. Scott Bornemann, USCG
 S.O.S.C.: Scot W. Tiernan, ADEC
 Field S.O.S.C.: Bob Fultz, ADEC

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION CONTACT: Scot W. Tiernan, ADEC SOSC, 907-465-5378

Photographs and other spill information are available for viewing at:

<http://www.state.ak.us/dec/spar/perp/index.htm>

AGENCY/STAKEHOLDER NOTIFICATION LIST

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

Agency	Name	Sent Via	Additional Info	Telephone	Fax
State of Alaska DOT-PF	Roger Wetherell	E-mail	Roger.wetherell@alaska.gov		
State of Alaska DOT	Jim Beedle	E-mail	Jim.beedle@alaska.gov		
Senate Dist. A	Senator Bert Stedman	E-mail	senator_bert_stedman@legis.state.ak.us	465-3873	465-3922
Senate Dist. C	Senator Al Kookesh	Fax	session	465-3473	465-2827
House Dist. 1	Representative Kyle Johansen	Fax	session	465-3424	465-3793 225-8546
House Dist. 5	Representative Bill Thomas	Fax	session	465-3732	465-2652
USCG (MSD Ketchikan)	LT Jason Boyer	Email	jason.a.boyer@uscg.mil	225-4496	225-4499
USCG (MSD Ketchikan)	MSTC Steve Natale	Email	steven.j.natale@uscg.mil		
USCG (MSD Ketchikan)	MST1 Jeff Wenciker	Email	jeffrey.s.wenciker@uscg.mil		
USCG (Sector Juneau)	Lt. Chris Williammee	Email	Christopher.J.Williammee@uscg.mil	463-2835	463-2445
USCG (Sector Juneau)	Cdr. Scott Bornemann		Scott.W.Bornemann@uscg.mil	463-2452	
USCG (Sector Juneau)	Cdr. Scott Lemasters		Scott.B.Lemasters@uscg.mil	463-2475	
USDA Forest Service	District Ranger	Email	jbaldwin01@fs.fed.us	945-3631 723-3192	
USDA Forest Service - Tongass Env. Engineer	Michele Marie Parker	Email	mmparker@fs.fed.us	772-5850	772-5895
NMFS	Jon Kurland	Email	Jon.kurland@noaa.gov	586-7638	586-7358
ADF&G	Tom Schumacher	Email	tom.schumacher@alaska.gov	465-4346	
ADF&G Ketchikan	Scott Walker		scott.walker@Alaska.gov	225-5195	
Ketchikan Indian Corporation	General Manager Georgianna Zimmerle	Fax		225-5158	228-5224

Organized Village of Saxman	President Lee Wallace	Fax		247-2502	247-2504
City of Ketchikan	Mayor Bob Weinstein	E-mail	mayor@city.ketchikan.ak.us	225-3111	225-5075
City of Saxman	Mayor Charles Denny	E-mail	cityadmin@kpunet.net; cityclerksaxman@kpunet.net	225-4166	225-6450
Ketchikan Gateway Borough	Manager Dan Bockhorst	E-mail	mgr@borough.ketchikan.ak.us	228-6625	247-6625
SEAPRO	Dave Owings	Email	dave@seapro.org	225-7002	247-1117



Photo by: USCG. Rudder and propeller of the M/V Lituya grounded on Scrub Island, Port Chester, Alaska, on January 30, 2009.



Photo by USCG. AMHS M/V Lituya grounded on Scrub Island.

