

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

**SITUATION REPORT**

**INCIDENT NAME:** M/V *Golden Seas* Incident

**SITREP #:** 2

**SPILL NUMBER:** 10259933701

**LEDGER CODE:** 14307260

**TIME/DATE OF SPILL:** At 8:05 AM on December 3, 2010, the US Coast Guard (USCG) reported to ADEC that the vessel *Golden Seas* was adrift north of Adak Island. The crew of the vessel reported the loss of power to the USCG at 12:15 AM on December 3, 2010.

**TIME/DATE OF SITUATION REPORT:** 08:00 AM on December 4, 2010

**TIME/DATE OF THE NEXT REPORT:** 5:00 PM on December 4, 2010

**TYPE/AMOUNT OF PRODUCT SPILLED:** This is a potential spill incident. The *Golden Seas* is a 738-foot-long Liberian-registered Panamax bulk carrier with 20 crew members aboard. The USCG reported on December 3 that the vessel's cargo is rapeseed (used to make canola oil) and that it may have up to 520,440 gallons of heavy fuel oil, 11,748 gallons of diesel fuel, and 10,000 gallons of lube oil on board.

**LOCATION:** As of 6:00 AM on December 4, the vessel was at 52° 58.96' latitude, 174° 22.28' longitude, approximately 39 miles northwest of Atka Island in the Aleutian Islands. Atka Island is roughly 50 miles east of Adak Island and approximately 1,100 air miles southwest of Anchorage. The village of Atka is located on the east side of Atka Island. Adak and Atka Islands are in the Hawaii-Aleutian time zone, one hour earlier than Anchorage.

**CAUSE OF SPILL:** No spill has occurred. The crew of the *Golden Seas* reported to the USCG that the turbocharger on the ship's single propulsion engine had failed and was not repairable at sea. Initially, the engine was not able to turn the ship's propeller with sufficient power for the vessel to hold its position or make headway in the severe weather it faced, and the vessel drifted with wind and seas toward the northwest shore of Atka Island. When the weather abated around 4:00 PM Alaska time on December 3, the vessel was able to begin moving slowly to the northeast. It is no longer on a shoreward trajectory, but it remains at risk of once again going adrift due to weather or additional loss of power.

**POTENTIAL RESPONSIBLE PARTY (PRP):** The ship is operated by Allseas Marine, SA, based in Voula, Greece.

**RESPONSE ACTION:** The ocean-going tug *Tor Viking* departed Dutch Harbor at approximately 5:00 PM December 3 to rendezvous with the *Golden Seas*. The plan is for the *Tor Viking* to tie into the *Golden Seas* with a 10-inch-diameter line and tow it to harbor facilities at Adak. The estimated rendezvous time is 3:00 PM today, December 4. A second emergency towing package with a 10-inch line was transported yesterday by USCG C-130 airplane from Kodiak to Adak to be placed aboard the tug *Double Eagle*, which is expected to depart mid-day today to meet the *Golden Seas*. (For more information about the emergency towing packages staged in the Aleutians, please see [www.dec.state.ak.us/spar/perp/aiets/home.htm](http://www.dec.state.ak.us/spar/perp/aiets/home.htm).) The spill response vessel *Nanuq* remains on standby at Dutch Harbor.

The USCG cutter *Alex Haley*, which also has towing capability, is still en route to the *Golden Seas* from the eastern Aleutians. Two USCG HH60 helicopters landed at Adak on the evening of December 3 and are on standby to provide additional assistance. Members of the USCG Pacific Strike Team are also standing by to respond to a spill if necessary.

The PRP has contracted companies to conduct lightering and salvage operations in case the *Golden Seas* runs aground or is otherwise disabled.

**SOURCE CONTROL:** There has been no discharge.

**RESOURCES AFFECTED:** Land areas that may currently be vulnerable to a potential spill include the north shores of Atka, Amlia and Seguam Islands. The area includes critical habitat for the southwest Alaska population of northern sea otters and Steller sea lion protection areas. Waterfowl wintering in the area include spectacled and Steller's eiders, emperor geese, several species of sea ducks, and other sea birds. Lands on the islands are Native-owned or part of the Alaska Maritime National Wildlife Refuge.

Fisheries in the area include mackerel, cod, halibut, and walleye pollock. Anadromous streams are present on the islands. Residents of Atka and Adak use nearshore areas for subsistence hunting and fishing.

**FUTURE PLANS AND RECOMMENDATIONS:** The UC continues to monitor the vessel's progress and is planning the logistics for transporting response resources and personnel to Adak in the event of a spill. The UC is studying whether to direct the vessel to Adak or Dutch Harbor or a nearer place of refuge once the tow is in place. The UC will be working with the natural resource trustees to determine the preferred place of refuge given the operational considerations once the tow vessel has rendezvoused with the *Golden Seas*.

**WEATHER:** Today: wind from the northwest at 40 knots, seas 27 feet, scattered snow showers, high temperatures in the upper 30s °F. Tonight: wind northwest at 25 knots, seas 23 feet, partly cloudy, low in the low 30s °F. Sunday: wind northwest 20 knots changing to north 30 knots Sunday night, seas 15 to 20 feet, temperatures in the 30s °F. Monday through Wednesday: wind northwest 25 knots changing to north 30 knots, seas 9 to 13 feet, temperatures around 40° F.

**UNIFIED COMMAND AND PERSONNEL:**

Incident Commander: Jeremy W. Michels, The O'Brien's Group (representing the PRP)  
F.O.S.C.: Captain Jason Fosdick, USCG  
S.O.S.C.: Gary Folley, ADEC

**FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION CONTACT:** Dale Gardner, ADEC, (907) 269-7682 or (907) 440-9137

Photographs and other incident information are available for viewing at:

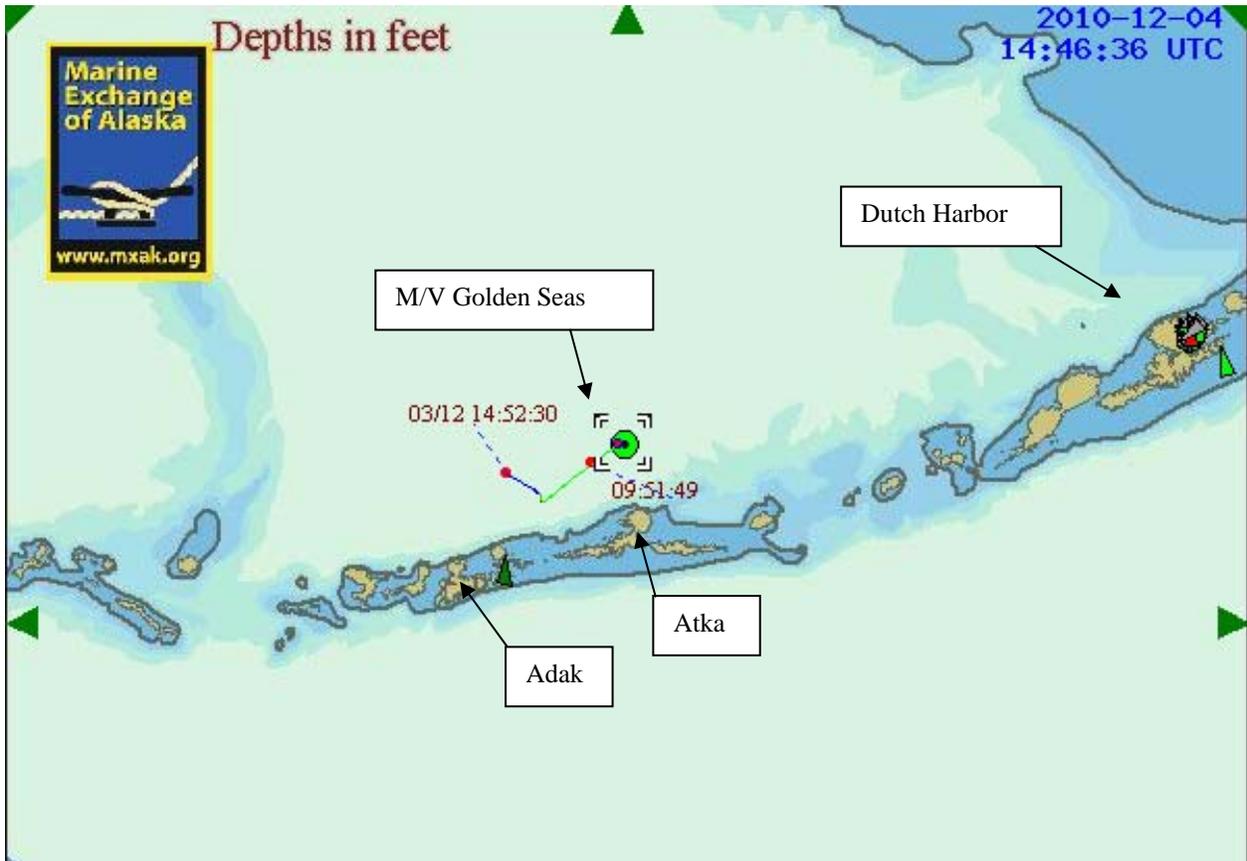
<http://www.dec.state.ak.us/spar/goldenseas>

## **AGENCY/STAKEHOLDER NOTIFICATION LIST**

This sitrep has been distributed to the following agencies and stakeholders. This situation report was also distributed to the various agency staff listed on the standard distribution list. The receiving agencies listed in the standard distribution list includes: Governor's office, Senator Begich's office, ADF&G, ADN, SECC, EPA, DOI, NMFS, and USFWS.

AGENCY/STAKEHOLDER	NAME	SENT VIA	ADDITIONAL INFORMATION	TELEPHONE	FAX
USCG Sector Anchorage	USCG Anchorage Office	Fax		271-6700	271-6751
EPA	Matt Carr	Fax		271-3616	271-6340
Adak Port of Operations	Port Director	Fax		592-0185	592-0184
City of Adak		Fax		592-4513	592-4262
Native Village of Atka		Fax		839-2229	839-2269
Aleutian Pribilof Islands Association	Community Services Department	Fax		276-2700	279-4351
Aleut Corporation/ Anchorage Office		Fax		561-4300	563-4328
Dutch Harbor Port Director	Alvin Osterback	Fax		581-1254	584-2519

Unalaska, Mayors Office	Shirley Marquardt	Fax		581-1251	581-1417 581-4469
House 37/Dillingham	Bryce Edgmon	Fax	Anchorage 5/16 - 1/09 Juneau 1/10 - 5/15	269-0275 465-4451	269-0274 465-3445
Senate S/Bethel	Lyman Hoffman	Fax	Bethel/Juneau	465-4453	465-4523



The course of the Golden Seas between approximately 6:00 AM Dec 3 and 5:45 AM Dec 4. After drifting southeast, the vessel was able to make way to the northeast under its own power.