

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 #: 3

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: 8:00 PM on December 4, 2010

TIME/DATE OF THE NEXT REPORT: 10:00 AM on December 5, 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 IFO 380 bunker fuel, 11,748 gallons of diesel fuel, and 10,000 gallons of lube oil on board.

LOCATION: As of 6:40 PM on December 4, the vessel was at 53° 8.197 N latitude, 174° 36.201 W longitude, approximately 40 miles north 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. 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 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 Unified Command (UC), after consulting with marine pilots and local officials in Adak and Unalaska/Dutch Harbor, determined that of the two locations, Unalaska/Dutch Harbor offered the most favorable sites for anchoring the *Golden Seas* for repairs. Potential anchoring sites have been identified in Unalaska Bay and Captains Bay. As part of the process for selecting a place of refuge for the vessel, the UC also consulted with local tribes and Native corporations, potentially affected landowners, and federal and State resource trustees.

The tug *Tor Viking II* (erroneously identified in previous sitreps as the *Tor Viking*) rendezvoused with the *Golden Seas* at approximately 5:30 PM. The tug *Tor Viking II* is currently making attempts to launch the 10-inch diameter tow line to the *Golden Seas*. If the tow line connection is successful, the *Golden Seas* will be towed to Dutch Harbor. In the tow configuration, the vessels are estimated to be capable of making a speed of 5 to 8 knots and are expected to arrive at Unalaska Bay on the evening of Monday, December 6.

With the decision to tow the vessel to Dutch Harbor, mobilization of the second emergency towing package from Adak aboard the *Double Eagle* was cancelled. The towing package will be returned to its permanent staging location in Kodiak.

The USCG cutter *Alex Haley* is estimated to meet up with the *Golden Seas* and the *Tor Viking II* at early morning on December 5. Two USCG HH60 helicopters are standing by at Dutch Harbor to provide assistance, if necessary. The USCG C-130 airplane flew over the *Golden Seas* and *Tor Viking II* at approximately 5:15 PM on the evening of December 4 and collected photographs of the vessels before returning to Kodiak.

SOURCE CONTROL: There has been no discharge.

RESOURCES AFFECTED: Land along the *Golden Seas*' route to Unalaska/Dutch Harbor that may be vulnerable to a potential spill includes the north shores of islands from Amlia Island to Unalaska Island, including Seguam Island, the Islands of Four Mountains, and Umnak Island. The area contains 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 mostly either part of the Alaska Maritime National Wildlife Refuge or Native-owned.

Open commercial fisheries in the area include pacific cod and other groundfish and opilio crab. Anadromous streams are present on the islands, though commercial salmon fishing in the area is closed. Island residents (communities include Atka, Nikolski, and Unalaska/Dutch Harbor) may use onshore and nearshore areas for subsistence hunting and fishing.

FUTURE PLANS AND RECOMMENDATIONS: The UC continues to monitor the vessel's progress.

WEATHER: Shortly before 3:00 PM today, the *Tor Viking II*, approximately 30 miles east of the *Golden Seas*, reported wind from the northwest at 45 knots and seas 42 to 48 feet. Forecast for tonight and Sunday: wind northwest at 40 knots, seas 26 feet, temperatures around 30 °F. Sunday night: wind north at 40 knots, seas 20 feet, snow showers, lows in the mid-30s °F. Monday through Wednesday: wind north at 30 to 35 knots, seas 9 to 16 feet, temperatures in the mid-30s °F; in Unalaska Bay, wind north at 25-30 knots, seas 7 to 13 feet.

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:

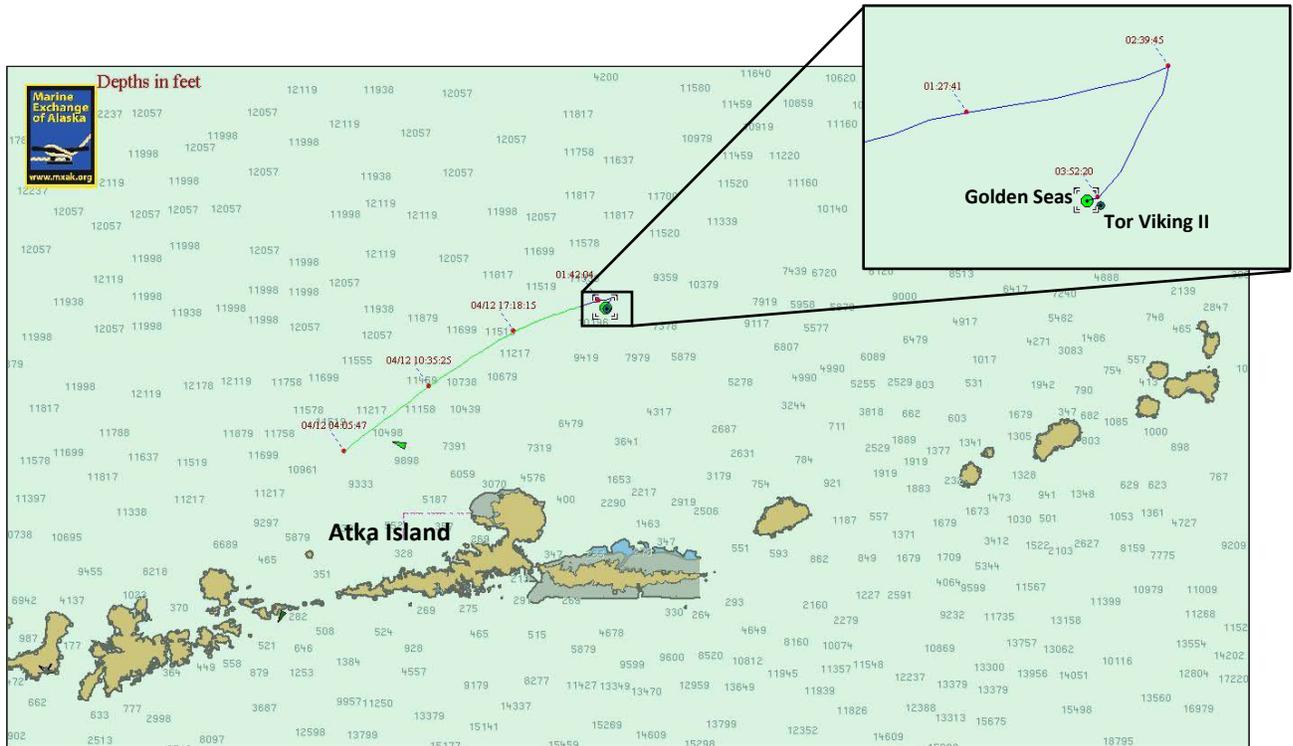
<http://www.dec.state.ak.us/spar/goldenseas>

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, ADNR, 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

AGENCY/STAKEHOLDER	NAME	SENT VIA	ADDITIONAL INFORMATION	TELEPHONE	FAX
Dutch Harbor Port Director	John Day, acting	Fax		581-1254	584-2519
Unalaska, Mayors Office	Shirley Marquardt	Fax		581-1251	581-1417 581-4469
Qawalangin Tribe of Unalaska		Fax		581-2920	581-3644
Ounalashka Corporation		Fax		581-1276	581-1496
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



Location of the *Golden Seas* and *Tor Viking II* as of 7:00 PM, December 4, 2010.