

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

**SITUATION REPORT**

**INCIDENT NAME:** M/V *Cougar Ace*

**SITREP #:** 8

**SPILL NUMBER:** 06259920501

**LEDGER CODE:** 14212360

**TIME/DATE OF INCIDENT:** The M/V *Cougar Ace* had been adrift since approximately 11:00 PM on, July 23, 2006, when the crew attempted to adjust ballast and the vessel keeled over onto its port side. The tug *Emma Foss* took the *Cougar Ace* in tow on July 31, 2006 at 11:00 PM. The U.S. Coast Guard (USCG) reported the vessel's status to ADEC at 8:00 AM on July 24, 2006.

**TIME/DATE OF SITUATION REPORT:** 12:00 PM August 16, 2006. This and subsequent situation reports are being distributed to disseminate information on the vessel's status, incident management and salvage plans for the vessel.

**TIME/DATE OF THE NEXT REPORT:** Upon planned departure from Unalaska.

**TYPE/AMOUNT OF PRODUCT SPILLED:** A small sheen of what appeared to be lubricating oil was stopped from the vessel's bow thruster area on August 2, 2006. The vessel is carrying a reported 142,184 gallons of Intermediate Fuel Oil (IFO) 380 and 34,182 gallons of Marine Diesel Oil (MDO) as estimated by the PRP. Former estimates did not account for fuel remaining in tanks prior to bunkering. The vessel is reported to be carrying approximately 4,813 vehicles as cargo. An undetermined amount of lubricant and transmission fluids spilled from the vehicles onto the cargo decks while the vessel was heeled over.

**LOCATION:** The vessel location as of August 16, 2006 is at *Icicle Seafoods* mooring bouy located in Wide Bay, Unalaska Bay at 53-57.2 N, 166.36.7 W.

**CAUSE OF SPILL:** The cause of sheen from the bow thruster area has not been determined. All efforts are being made to salvage the vessel prior to further incident.

**POTENTIAL RESPONSIBLE PARTY (PRP):** Mitsui OSK Lines, Tokyo, Japan.

**RESPONSE ACTIONS:** On Sunday, August 13, 2006 the ballasting of tank #4S was completed and free water on # 9 deck port side, was pumped over the side.

On Tuesday, August 15, 2006, the USCG Marine Safety Detachment (MSD) in Dutch Harbor reported that the *Cougar Ace* list is currently at 12 degrees and vessel stable. The owners, Mitsui OSK Lines, and Titan are conducting soundings of all tanks to verify the vessel stability in order for Titan, the contracted salvor, to return operation of the vessel to Mitsui OSK Lines.

The vessel's emergency generator is on line and the service generator is being considered for placing back on line once Titan releases the ship back to the owners. The owners plan to clean transmission fluid and lubricants from all the car decks and containerize the recovered fluids for proper disposal. MSD personnel reported that most decks suffered vehicle damage and all vehicles must be re-secured. MSD also reported the water, sewage systems, fire main and low pressure CO2 systems are inoperable and will be evaluated for repairs by the owner.

The Tugs *Sea Victory* and *Gladiator* remain standing by *Cougar Ace* on scene in Wide Bay with the *Makushin Bay*, *Kashega Barge* and the M/V *Redeemer* in port.

The salvage crew has boarded the *Cougar Ace* and recovered and organized all salvage equipment back onboard the *Makushin Bay* and *Redeemer*. This equipment will be kept on stand by at the dock for demobilization back to Titan's warehouse in Florida.

**SOURCE CONTROL:** None at this time.

**RESOURCES AFFECTED:** Marine waters. No oiled wildlife has been observed.

**FUTURE PLANS AND RECOMMENDATIONS:** Maintain secure mooring lines of vessel to bouys. Complete inspection of vessel and conduct final stability calculations. Clean all cargo decks. Draft towing plan being reviewed by USCG for expected departure from Unalaska. Continue to update Unalaska city council daily.

**WEATHER:** Today: NW Winds 15 KT, Seas 4 FT, Patchy Fog. Tomorrow: Variable winds 10 KT, Seas 2 FT.

**UNIFIED COMMAND AND PERSONNEL**

F.O.S.C: Capt. Mark DeVries (USCG)  
S.O.S.C: John Brown (ADEC)  
R.P.I.C: Theo Camlin (O'Brien's Group)

**FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION CONTACT:**

ADEC: Frank Wesser (907) 269-3062 and cell: (907) 244-4206.

USCG: Anc. – Sara Francis (907) 343-3175 or (907) 271-2660.

Photographs and other spill information are available for viewing at the following Unified Command website: <http://www.dec.state.ak.us/spar/cougarace>

**AGENCY/STAKEHOLDER NOTIFICATION LIST**

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

AGENCY	NAME	Sent Via		Telephone	Facsimile
USCG-Sector Anchorage	Captain DeVries	Fax		271-6700	271-6751
USEPA	Matt Carr	Fax		271-3616	271-3424
OTHER	NAME	Sent Via	Session/Interim	Telephone	Facsimile
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
Aleut Regional Native Cooperation/ Anc office		Fax		561-4300	563-4328
DH Port Director	Alvin Osterback	Fax		581-1254	581-2519
Unalaska Mayor	Shirley Marquardt	Fax		581-1251	581-1417
House 38/Unalaska	Carl Moses	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
Ounalashka Corporation	CEO Wendy Svarny- Hawthorne	Fax		581-1276	581-1496
Quawalangin Tribal Council	Sharon Svarny-Livingston	Fax		581-2920	581-3644