

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

SITUATION REPORT
As of 9:00 AM on December 19, 2011

INCIDENT NAME: Tug *Nathan E Stewart* and Fuel Barge **SITREP #:** 1

SPILL NUMBER: 11119935001

LEDGER CODE: 14321060

TIME/DATE OF SPILL: This is a potential spill. At 2:40 PM on December 18, 2011, the United State Coast Guard (USCG) reported to the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation (ADEC) that the Tug *Nathan E Stewart* and Barge *DBL-55*, an articulated tug/barge system, were adrift 20 miles west of Cape Fairweather. The crew of the vessel reported a loss of power to the starboard engine to the USCG at 1:00 PM.

TIME/DATE OF SITUATION REPORT: 12:00 PM on December 19, 2011

TIME/DATE OF THE NEXT REPORT: 12:00 PM on December 20, 2011

TYPE/AMOUNT OF PRODUCT SPILLED: No spill has occurred at this time. The Tug *Nathan E Stewart* is a 95 foot commercial tug with six crew members aboard. The tug was towing the Barge *DBL-55*, a 300foot fuel barge, en route to Skagway. The tug has 45,000 gallons of diesel and 500 gallons of lube oil. The cargo on board the fuel barge is reported to be 2.2 million gallons of diesel fuel, 1028 gallons of aviation fuel and 700 gallons of other petroleum products.

LOCATION: The Tug *Nathan E Stewart* is currently 22 nautical miles offshore of Cape Fairweather and is moving southeast at 2.1 knots towards Cape Spencer under its own power.

CAUSE OF SPILL: This is a potential spill. The crew of the Tug *Nathan E Stewart* reported to the USCG that a series of 30 foot seas washed over the vessel and water entered the engine air intakes. Power was lost in both the starboard and port engine. The starboard engine remains non-operational, but partial power has been restored to the port engine. The power in the port engine was not enough to fully navigate the vessels during the severe weather on December 18. At 10:56 PM on December 18 the weather improved enough to allow the tug and barge to transit southeast under their own power.

POTENTIAL RESPONSIBLE PARTY (PRP): K-Sea Transportation

RESPONSE ACTION: The Tug *Le Cheval Rouge* arrived on-scene at 2:46 AM this morning and is currently alongside the *Nathan E Stewart*. An assessment of the situation was to take place at daylight to determine the best arrangement for towing the stricken vessels to a safe port. The *Le Cheval Rouge* has two options for bringing the tug and barge to port: one is to have the tug tie off alongside the barge for towing; the second option has the tug using a tow line on the fuel barge. If neither of those options prove feasible, the *Le Cheval Rouge* will use the State's emergency towing system (ETS) to tow the disabled tug/barge combination to port.

The USCG Cutter *Maple* departed Sitka at 6:30 PM on December 18, 2011 and has arrived on-scene. It is staged approximately five nautical miles north of the *Nathan E Stewart* and *Le Cheval Rouge*. The *Maple* is ready to assist if necessary.

SOURCE CONTROL: There has been no release.

RESOURCES AFFECTED: There were no reported resources affected.

FUTURE PLANS AND RECOMMENDATIONS: USCG Air Station Sitka is on standby and will sling load and transport the ETS to the Tug *Le Cheval Rouge* if necessary.

The Tug *Altair*, owned by K-Sea Transportation, is en route from Seattle and intends on relieving the *Le Cheval Rouge*. The *Altair* will tow the *Nathan E Stewart* and barge to Ketchikan to offload the petroleum products. The *Nathan E Stewart* will then be transported to Seattle for repairs.

A representative from K-Sea Transportation is currently traveling to Juneau and is estimated to arrive at 9:30 AM this morning. Four Pacific Strike Team members are on standby.

WEATHER: Today – Winds out of the southwest at 15 knots switching to the north in the afternoon with seas of 19 feet and western swells. Tonight – Winds out of the northwest increasing to 25 knots late. Seas 17 feet with western swells. Tomorrow – Winds west at 25 knot and seas 16 feet.

UNIFIED COMMAND AND PERSONNEL:

Incident Commander:

F.O.S.C.: Capt. Scott Bornemann, USCG
S.O.S.C.: Scot W. Tiernan, ADEC

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

As more spill information and photographs become available they will be posted at:
<http://www.state.ak.us/dec/spar/perp/index.htm>

AGENCY/STAKEHOLDER NOTIFICATION LIST

This situation report was distributed to the agencies listed on the standard distribution list and includes: Governor's office, Senator Begich's office, SECC, DOI, NMFS, and USFWS. This situation report was also distributed to the following agencies and stakeholders:

Agency	Name	Sent Via	Additional Info	Telephone	Fax
K-Sea Transportation	Clark Jennison				
Senate Dist. C	Senator Al Kookesh	Fax	session	465-3473	465-2827
House Dist. 5	Representative Bill Thomas	Fax	session	465-3732; 766-3581	465-2652; 766-3592
USCG (Sector Juneau)	Lt. Ryan Erickson	Email	ryan.r.erickson@uscg.mil	463-2835	463-2445
USCG (Sector Juneau)	Cdr. Matt Jones	Email	Matt.n.jones@uscg.mil	463-2452	
USCG (Sector Juneau)	Cdr. Kurt Clarke	Email	Kurt.a.clarke@uscg.mil	463-2475	
USCG (Sector Juneau)	Capt. Scott Bornemann	Email	Scott.w.bornemann@uscg.mil	463-2836	
USCG (Sector Juneau)	MSTC James Highfill	Email	James.L.Highfill@uscg.mil	463-2461	
USDA Forest Service - Tongass Env. Engineer	Env. Engineer Michele Marie Parker	Email	mmparker@fs.fed.us	772-5850	772-5896
USDA Forest Service - Yakutat Ranger District	District Ranger Lee Benson	Email	labenson@fs.fed.us	784-3359	784-3457
NMFS	Jon Kurland	Email	Jon.kurland@noaa.gov	586-7638	586-7358
ADF&G	Joe Hitselberger	Email	joe.hitselberger@alaska.gov	465-4346	465-4759
Yakutat Tlingit Tribe	President Victoria Demmert	Fax		784-3238	784-3595
SEAPRO	General Manager Dave Owings	Email	dave@seapro.org	225-7002	247-1117
ADNR	Doug Sanvik	Email	Doug.sanvik@alaska.gov	465-3513	

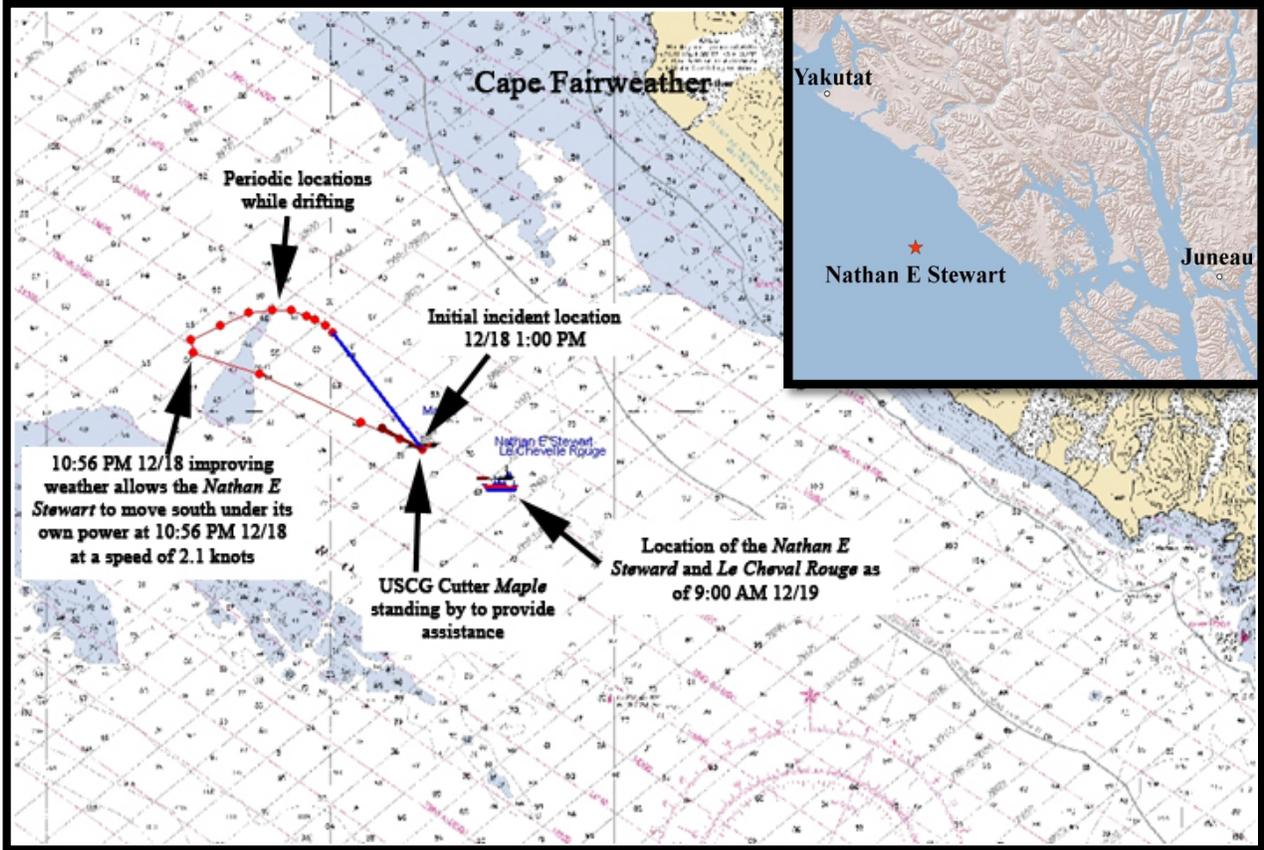


Chart with the location of the Tug *Nathan E Stewart*, Barge *DBL-55*, USCG Cutter *Maple* and Tug *Le Cheval Rouge*.



Photo of the Tug *Nathan E Stewart*.