



Spill Update

Songa Hua Elliott Bay Spill

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – March 1, 2007

Contact:

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Spill Status Report as of 10:00 a.m.

Date of spill: February 28, 2007

Location: Approximately one-half mile south of Pier 91 in Elliott Bay, Seattle, Wash.

Type of oil: Intermediate Fuel Oil (powers large marine engines)

Amount of oil: All figures are preliminary estimates: 168 gallons total released onto the ship's deck, at least 42 of which spilled into the water.

Responsible Party: Bulk carrier Songa Hua

Cause or source of the spill: Cause under investigation. Fuel spilled from Songa Hua's starboard tank vent during refueling from a fuel barge. The barge crew immediately stopped the fuel transfer and later deployed 2,000 feet of containment boom.

Vessels involved:

- Songa Hua, a Marshall Islands-flagged bulk carrier anchored off Terminal 86, awaiting a load of grain. Home port: Majuro, Marshall Islands.
- Tug Alyssa and a fuel barge, both from Olympic Tug and Barge, delivering fuel to the Songa Hua.

Spill Response Equipment Status

The following is a listing of the equipment and resources that are being used in responding to the Songa Hua spill.

Response vessels deployed: Various small workboats.

Response personnel: 16 in the field, eight at command post.

Status of oil slick: Most of the oil was carried by wind into the Smith Cove area, between the Elliott Bay Marina bulkhead and Pier 91. Skimmers collected oil in this area until no more could be recovered from the surface on Feb. 28.

Affected facilities cleanup:

- Eastern reach of Elliott Bay Marina bulkhead: Crews are tending pom-pom boom, which catches oil released from the rip-rap (boulders) by rising tides. Crews also may wipe down the rip-rap.
- Pier 91 pilings: Workers are wiping down the pilings with oil-absorbent pads.
- Songa Hua hull: Workers are wiping down the area where the oil overflowed and ran down the side of the hull.

Oiled birds and animals: None reported

Injuries: None reported

Organizations involved: U.S. Coast Guard, Washington Department of Ecology, Washington State Maritime Cooperative, Port of Seattle, King County Sheriff's Office, Washington Department of Fish & Wildlife; Ship owner's representative.

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