

**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 #:** 4

**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:** 1:00 PM on December 5, 2010

**TIME/DATE OF THE NEXT REPORT:** 1:00 PM on December 6, 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 451,561 gallons of IFO 380 bunker fuel, 11,780 gallons of diesel fuel, and 10,000 gallons of lube oil on board.

**LOCATION:** As of 12:00 PM on December 5, the vessel was at 52° 13.520 N latitude, 170° 45.760 W longitude, approximately 25 miles south of Yunaska Island in the Aleutian Islands.

**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. The vessel is currently under tow by the Tug *Tor Viking II* and is headed for Dutch Harbor.

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

**RESPONSE ACTION:** Shortly after 8:00 PM on December 4, the crew of the tug *Tor Viking II* successfully deployed the State of Alaska Emergency Towing System (ETS) and attached the towline to the *Golden Seas*. The Unified Command (UC) noted the skill of the *Tor Viking II* crew in successfully deploying the ETS under conditions of darkness and extreme seas and weather conditions.

Both vessels are now currently underway enroute to Dutch Harbor. The vessels transited through Amukta Pass (between Seguam and Amukta Islands) at approximately 9:00 AM and are currently south of the Aleutian chain. A southern route to Dutch Harbor was chosen to provide the vessels a lee protection from the high winds and large seas continuing to be generated by the storm in the Bering Sea. The new route will take the vessels to the southern entrance of Unimak Pass where they will transit through the pass and approach Dutch Harbor from the northeast.

The Coast Guard Cutter *Alex Haley* joined the vessels at 11:30 PM on December 4 at a location just north of Seguam Island and escorted the vessels through Amutka Pass. The UC released the cutter from its escort duties at 11:30 AM, December 5, but the ship will remain in the general vicinity of the *Golden Seas* as it performs normal patrol duties on its return to Dutch Harbor.

In the tow configuration, the vessels are traveling at speeds of seven to nine knots, depending on sea conditions, with an expected arrival at Dutch Harbor sometime on Tuesday, December 7.

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

**RESOURCES AFFECTED:** The southern shoreline along the Aleutian chain (the length of the *Golden Seas*' route to Dutch Harbor) may be vulnerable to a potential spill. This includes the southern shoreline of Yunaska Island, the Islands of Four Mountains, Umnak Island, the Krenitzin Islands, and the southern and eastern sections of Unalaska 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 and maintains radio contact.

**WEATHER:** Forecast for today, tonight and Monday: Today: Gale warning, wind northwest at 35 knots, seas 24 feet, temperatures in the mid 30s °F. Tonight: wind north at 30 knots, seas 15 feet, snow showers, lows in the lower 30s °F. Monday: wind north at 25 knots, seas 11 feet, temperatures in the mid 30s °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

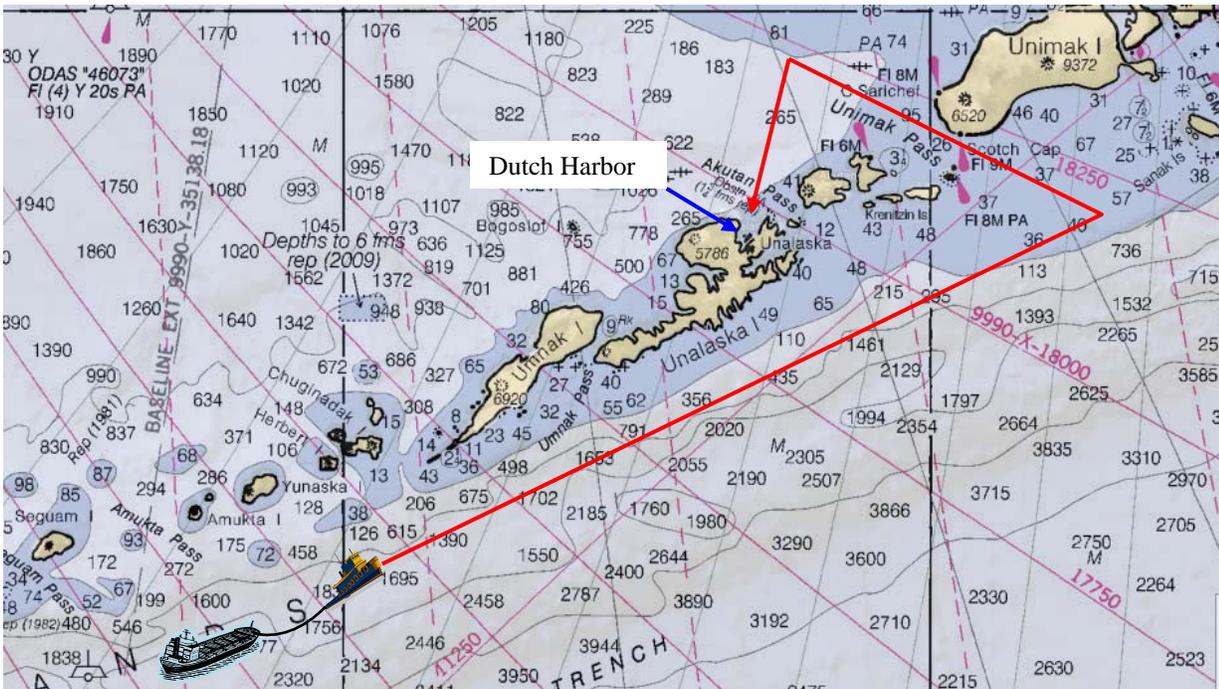
**Photographs and other incident information are available for viewing at:**

<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, ADNDR, 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 Assn	Community Services Dept	Fax		276-2700	279-4351
Aleut Corporation/Anchorage Office		Fax		561-4300	563-4328
Dutch Harbor Port Director	John Day, acting	Fax		581-1254	584-2519
Unalaska, Mayor's 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
<b>House 37/Dillingham</b>	Bryce Edgmon	Fax	Anchorage 5/16 - 1/09	269-0275	269-0274
<b>Senate S/Bethel</b>	Lyman Hoffman	Fax	Bethel/Juneau	465-4453	465-4523



Location of the Golden Seas and Tor Viking II and vessel routing to Dutch Harbor  
(as of 12:00 PM, December 5, 2010)