

Overview of Non Crude Petroleum Tankship, Tank barge and Spot Charter Vessels that may transit the Aleutian Islands

Petroleum transport vessels that operate in Alaskan waters that are regulated by the Department of Environmental Conservation (Department) under oil discharge prevention laws and regulations.

The authority giving the Department jurisdiction for regulation of these vessels and activities is provided in Title 46 of the Alaska Statutes, and Article 18 Chapter 75 of the Alaska Administrative Code.

These regulatory requirements divide vessels into categories by risk and type of petroleum that is transported. These categories are crude oil, non crude oil, and non tank vessels that operate within the waters of the State as defined in AS 46. 04.900 (30).

Any vessel falling into one or more of these vessel categories is required to have a State of Alaska Oil Discharge Prevention and Contingency Plan (ODPCP). The ODPCP or Plan is a document that demonstrates the ability to respond to a discharge and perform clean-up operations in accordance with the requirements of 18 AAC 75.425, or 18 AAC 75. 426.

In addition each holder of an ODPCP must provide proof of financial responsibility to the Department in accordance with AS 46.04.040 and AS 04.055 to respond in damages.

ODPCP Components

An oil discharge prevention and contingency plan must usable as a working plan for oil discharge prevention, control, containment, cleanup, and disposal. A plan must contain enough information, analyses, supporting data, and documentation to demonstrate the plan holder's ability to meet the requirements of AS 46.04.030 and 18 AAC 75.400 –18 AAC 75.495.

1. Response Action plan must include must include the immediate steps a plan holder will implement in the event of a discharge.
2. Prevention Plan Prevention Plan: The prevention plan must include a detailed description of all oil discharge prevention measures and policies employed at the facility, vessel, or operation in place to prevent a discharge.

3. Supplemental Information: The supplemental information section must provide background and verification information, for vessel routes, vessel operational procedures, oil volumes, vessel plans, and any other information the Department requires.
4. Best Available Technology Best Available Technology Review must describe best possible means to stop a discharge at its source. In addition the review must describe the means for prompt detection of a discharge, and barge recovery in the event of a lost tow. The review must describe the best communications process for the region(s) of operation. In addition the review compares other known or in use technologies for evaluation and suitability.
5. Response Planning Standard Response Planning Standard (RPS) is a calculation of is a percentage of a vessels cargo capacity that must be recovered within a designated time frame. The RPS determines the amount and type of response resources that must be provide by the plan holder to support an adequate response in the event of a discharge.

The Plan Approval Process for Vessels Transporting Petroleum

1. Submit an application and copy of the proposed ODPCP for initial review.
2. Distribute the ODPCP to coastal management zones, city managers, village councils and interested parties for their review and comment in all regions of intended operation.
3. Publish intent of ODPCP operations in applicable news papers
4. Review comments and resolve any discrepancies in the applicants ODPCP.
5. Approve ODPCP for 5 years with any limitations required by the Department.

Crude Oil Transporters

There are no known operators that have an approved ODPCP transporting crude oil in the Aleutian region.

Non Crude Petroleum Carriers

To date there are eight (8) *non crude* tank barge operators in Western Alaska that have an approved ODCPC.

Of these eight (8) operators five (5) have been approved for operations in the Aleutians and other regions within Alaska. These operators may deliver *aviation fuels, diesels, and gasoline in various grades* to the Aleutians and other Alaskan Ports as the market demands. Crowley Petroleum Services has a fleet of five (5) Articulating Tug Barge (ATB) units that can deliver about 156,000 bbls. (6,552,000 gallons) of the various grades of petroleum products per voyage

to Western Alaska ports and may use Unimak Pass. However, to date these ATB units are not operating in Alaska.

The remaining three (3) operators limit their areas of operation to the Interior and Western Alaska, or South East regions due to market demands, vessel type or limitations imposed by small barge size.

Presently there are two spot charter operators that operate non crude tank ships in the Aleutians. They are Crowley and Delta Western. These operators deliver cargo's of diesel, gasoline and aviation fuel of various grades as the market dictates.

Spot charter vessels and their voyage plans are approved on a case by case basis for ODPCPC holders that have made provisions for spot charter operations. *There are no ODPCP holders operating in the Aleutians Islands, other than Aleut Enterprises that have a tank ship of any kind approved in an ODPCP.*

Aleut Enterprises LLC is limited to Adak Island only for spot charter vessel operations. This plan also has one very small tank vessel that may operate anywhere in the Aleutians. The maximum capacity of this vessel is 15, 121 bbls or approximately 635,000 gallons. Presently this vessel is a government support vessel and does not deliver product to any port.

Non-Tank Vessels

To date there are approximately 300 Non tank vessels covered by an ODPCP. This number may change from day to day as operators close an ODPCP or add an ODPCP. This group of vessels is diverse and includes ferries, freight vessels, LNG carriers, cruise ships, large fishing vessels and fish processing vessels over 400 Gross tons that operate in Alaskan waters.

Information Links

ADEC Marine Vessels Website:

<http://www.test.dec.state.ak.us/spar/ipp/marine-vessels/>

Alaska Statutes:

<http://www.legis.state.ak.us/cgi-bin/folioisa.dll/stattx05>

Alaska Annotated Code:

<http://www.legis.state.ak.us/cgi-bin/folioisa.dll/aac>