



13th Coast Guard District Public Affairs
U.S. Coast Guard

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**United States
Coast Guard**

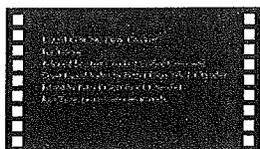


Multimedia Release

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Contact: 13th District Public Affairs
(206) 220-7237

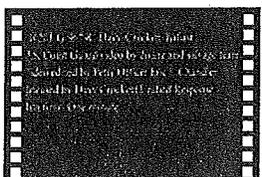
Multimedia Release: Update 7 - USCG, Wash. DOE, Ore. DEQ move forward with removal of the Davy Crockett

Video of Feb. 3rd, 2011



(Left click to play, right click to save)

PORTLAND, Ore. - The Davy Crockett, a converted 431-foot flat deck barge, released an estimated 70-gallons of oil during a commercial salvage on Jan. 27, 2011. On Feb. 3, 2011, ballasting operations began after a week of planning by the Coast Guard, Washington Department of Ecology and Oregon Department of Environmental Quality. The stern was lowered a total of 17-feet in order to safely inspect the remaining compartments. U.S. Coast Guard photo by Petty Officer 2nd Class Eric J. Chandler.



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Photo of Feb. 3rd, 2011



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PORTLAND, Ore. – Debris are cleared from the flat deck barge Davy Crockett in this time lapse video covering a 12 hour period of Feb. 10th, 2011. The Davy Crockett, a converted Navy liberty ship built in 1942 began leaking oil into the Columbia River (Ore. Wash. Border) during a civilian scrap and salvage operation conducted by its owner. U.S. Coast Guard video by Petty Officer 2nd Class Eric J. Chandler.

PORTLAND, Ore. – Adm. Robert Papp, Commandant of the Coast Guard, authorized Coast Guard Sector Columbia River to remove/destroy the barge Davy Crockett from its current location near Camas, Wash., Wednesday.

In the authorization memorandum, Adm. Papp stated that “destruction of this vessel is appropriate to mitigate the threat of continued discharge of oil, oil water mixtures, and hazardous substances into the waterway.”

“With the Commandant’s authorization in hand, the unified command will work swiftly and diligently to develop and implement a removal and destruction plan for the Davy Crockett,” said Capt. Daniel LeBlanc, Coast Guard Incident Commander and Federal On-Scene Coordinator’s Representative for the Davy Crockett Unified Response. “Safety and environmental protection measures will remain paramount throughout all operations as we move forward to remove the vessel from the Columbia River.”

The Davy Crockett, a converted Navy liberty ship built in 1942, began leaking oil into the Columbia River (Ore. Wash. Border) as a result of a scrapping operation conducted by its owner. The Wash. Dept. of Ecology and Coast Guard received reports of a light sheen and determined the source to be the Davy Crockett.

Immediate response actions were taken and the Davy Crockett Unified Response was formed, staffed by the Coast Guard, Wash. Dept. of Ecology and Ore. Dept. of Environmental Quality, using the National Incident Management System.

In order to stabilize the vessel, which had been structurally compromised during the civilian scrapping operation, ballasting operations were undertaken and completed on Feb. 4, 2011. Following ballasting, operations concentrated on surface and underwater debris removal in order to gain access to vessel tanks and spaces to patch holes and prevent oil from escaping into the river. In addition, extensive sampling operations ensued to identify substances remaining within the vessel and determine any impact to the waters both surrounding and downriver from the vessel.

As of 7 A.M. Thursday, the total debris recovered was 194,710 pounds consisting primarily of metal scrap. Debris removal is necessary to allow divers clear and safe access to repair critical portions of the vessel for environmental protection and stability for future removal actions. In addition, the total oily water recovered is 5,701 gallons; oily water refers to any quantity of oil and/or an oily/water mixture recovered from the Davy Crockett.

Thus far, \$3.4 million has been obligated to the response from the Oil Spill Liability Trust Fund (OSLTF). The Coast Guard's National Pollution Funds Center (NPFC) manages distribution of the OSLTF. The NPFC was created to implement Title I of the Oil Pollution Act, which addressed issues associated with preventing, responding to, and funding clean up operations for oil spills and/or significant threats of oil pollution.

The Davy Crockett is currently anchored and stabilized near Camas, Wash., approximately four miles upriver from the Interstate 205 Bridge. A light sheen can be seen around the vessel intermittently, but is well contained by oil containment boom and is dissipating naturally.

The Wash. Dept. of Ecology is maintaining a website with daily updated numbers and information on the Davy Crockett Unified Response, accessible by the below link.

<http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/spills/incidents/DavyCrockett/DavyCrockett.html>.

The Coast Guard will release significant operational updates at the District 13 Public Affairs Website, accessible by the below link.

<https://www.piersystem.com/go/doc/21/473415/>

For further information please use the below points of contact.

For Coast Guard, contact Lt. j.g. Charles Taylor, Marine Safety Unit Portland's Public Affairs Officer, at (503) 240-2551.

For Wash. Dept. of Ecology, contact Ms. Kim Schmanke, Public Information Officer, at (360) 791-9830.

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