

## *Salerosa (2017)*

Location: Oak Bay, BC  
Case number: 120-809-C1

### **The Incident**

On February 6, 2017, the Canadian Coast Guard (CCG) was notified that the *Salerosa*, a 45-foot sailboat of ferro-cement construction was sinking at its moorings in Oak Bay Marina. The vessel did not appear to be registered. CCG contacted the owner who apparently lacked the knowledge and funds to respond adequately.

CCG contracted C-Tow Marine Assistance Ltd to assess the situation. C-Tow reported that the vessel had sunk completely and was upwelling oil pollution. Booms were deployed. On February 7, 2017, two CCG Environmental Response (ER) personnel attended the scene. Significant sheening was observed in the marina and twelve sections of heavily saturated sorbent boom were replaced. CCG resolved to remove the vessel from the marine environment, and Heavy Metal Marine Ltd was contracted to this end.

Weather and equipment constraints delayed the raising of the vessel to February 11, 2017, and CCG monitored the situation in the intervening days. On February 10, fifteen sections of saturated sorbent boom were replaced. On February 11, 2017, the raising operation was conducted, with Heavy Metal Marine engaging divers, a barge, crane, and tug. The vessel was placed on a barge and towed to a facility at Bamberton. Two CCG ER personnel monitored this operation.

CCG engaged Building Sea Marine Ltd to survey the vessel at Bamberton on February 20, 2017 while it lay on a Heavy Metal Marine barge. The survey report describes several holes in the vessel's hull. The interior was in a bad condition, with diesel fouling throughout. The surveyor concluded that the fuel tanks (100 gallons capacity in total) had been leaking but was unable to determine their remaining contents due to the angle at which the vessel was lying on the barge. After the survey, CCG opted to have the vessel deconstructed by Heavy Metal Marine.

### **The Claim**

On February 1, 2019, the CCG, on behalf of the Department of Fisheries and Oceans (DFO/CCG), filed a claim with the Administrator for costs and expenses incurred in the amount of \$62,673.20, pursuant to section 103 of the *Marine Liability Act*.

The Administrator determined that the claim was admissible under Part 7 of the Act.

### **Assessment and Offer**

In February 2019, the Office of the Administrator contacted CCG, requesting further information and documentation, which was not provided. As of March 31, 2019, the claim was still under assessment.

## **Status**

The file remains open.