

Sea C Strider (2015)

Location: Gorge Waterway, Victoria, BC

Case number: 120-731-C1

The Incident

On December 27, 2015, the Canadian Coast Guard (CCG) was notified of a sunken vessel, the *Sea C Strider*, causing oil pollution damage in the Gorge Waterway, Victoria, B.C.

Due to the continued release of pollutants, the unknown amount of diesel fuel and lube oils aboard, and the fact that the deteriorated wooden vessel was, in and of itself, an oil pollution source, the CCG had the vessel removed from the water.

The Claim

On November 21, 2017, CCG on behalf of the Department of Fisheries and Oceans (DFO/CCG) filed a claim with the Administrator in the amount of \$35,972.56 pursuant to the *Marine Liability Act*.

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

Assessment and Offer

On December 7, 2017, after investigation and assessment of the claim, the Administrator made an offer to CCG for the entirely established amount of \$35,972.56, plus interest, pursuant to section 105 of the Act. The Administrator found that the *Sea C Strider* was a severely deteriorated wooden vessel in which both oil and water were impregnated, and that permanently removing the vessel from the marine environment constituted the most reasonable course of action to prevent further oil pollution damage.

On December 15, 2017, the offer was accepted by CCG. On December 20, 2017, the Administrator directed payment of \$38,133.87 (which includes \$2,161.31 in accrued interest) to DFO/CCG.

Recovery Action

Reasonable search and investigation efforts were made by the Office of the Administrator in order to locate the owner of the vessel but without any success, as the owner has apparently left the Jurisdiction. Given the aforementioned results, and taking into account the approaching time bar, the Administrator decided to stop all recovery actions and to close the file.

Status

The file was closed on December 13, 2018.