

## **Seamee II (2017)**

Location: Cattermole Slough, Squamish, B.C.

Case number: 120-737-C1

### **The Incident**

On March 4, 2017, the Canadian Coast Guard (CCG) became aware that the *Seamee II*, an 11-metre wooden hull pleasure craft in the vicinity of the Squamish Cattermole Slough, was partially submerged and discharging pollution. It was estimated that diesel fuel and lube oil was leaking at a rate of 0.1 litres per hour. Absorbent pads had been placed inside the boat where most of the pollutants were contained.

On March 7, 2017, CCG personnel arrived on site with a Pollution Response Vessel, which was launched and proceeded to the sunken *Seamee II*. After the assessment, considering the oil soaked flotsam and contaminated timbers, it was decided that the most appropriate action was to raise the boat and remove it from the marine environment.

A tugboat operator working in the area was contracted to salvage the *Seamee II*, bring it to a port of refuge and deconstruct the wreck. Meanwhile, to prevent further leakage of oil, the CCG personnel placed a containment boom around the boat and put more absorbent pads inside.

On March 10, 2017, the salvage operation was initiated by the contractor. The recovery and removal of the sunken boat by a crane-equipped barge was completed in about three hours. Later that day, the salvage tug departed the area with the *Seamee II* on its barge and proceeded to a port of refuge to permit deconstruction of the vessel.

### **The Claim**

On January 2, 2018, the Administrator received a claim from CCG on behalf of the Department of Fisheries and Oceans (DFO/CCG) for costs and expenses in the amount of \$10,184.69, made pursuant to the *Marine Liability Act*.

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

### **Assessment and Offer**

On January 25, 2018, after investigation and assessment of the claim, the Administrator made an offer to CCG for the established amount of \$10,184.69 plus interest, pursuant to section 105 of the Act.

On January 29, 2018, the offer was accepted by CCG. On January 31, 2018, the Administrator directed that the amount of \$10,469.30 (which includes interest in the amount of \$284.61) be drawn from the Fund to the credit of DFO/CCG.

### **Recovery Action**

On October 26, 2018, a demand letter was sent to the shipowner but the letter bounced back. Further, a search was conducted in order to locate the owner but turned up no useful results.

On recommendation of counsel, given that all reasonable steps have been taken to recover payments of compensation from the owner of the ship, the Administrator decided to stop the recovery action and to close the file.

**Status**

The file was closed on January 17, 2019.