

EMERGENCY VESSEL DISPOSAL GUIDELINES

For Alien Migrant Interdiction Operations Vessels

PURPOSE AND OBJECTIVES. The goal for this Emergency Vessel Disposal Guidelines/ Protocol is to promote effective response to situations where immediate movement and disposal of vessels posing a substantial threat to the marine environment within the Guam Captain of the Port (COTP) Zone occurs. The key objective of these guidelines is to develop pre-approval between Federal and local agencies within the Territory of Guam (Coast Guard; EPA; National Park Service; Fish & Wildlife Service; U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (ACOE); U.S. Marshal and Civil Defense) and within the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands-CNMI (Coast Guard; Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ); Office of Emergency Management (EMO); Coastal Resource Management Office (CRM); Port of Saipan; Fish & Wildlife Service; U.S. Marshal and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (ACOE).

The Emergency Vessel Disposal Checklist, page 2, will be used to determine if emergent conditions exist, if emergency disposal is necessary and if necessary the appropriate place and route to dispose of the vessel.

LEGAL AUTHORITY

A. This document covers Ocean Dumping of Vessels, covered under the category “emergency conditions.” This pre-approved policy satisfies the need for the Responsible Party (RP) or emergency responders to fulfill the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) requirements under 40 C.F.R. 229.3(1).

B. Under 40 C.F.R. 229. 3, “The Coast Guard and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, shall determine if the vessel’s situation is deemed emergent in nature.” Under 33 CFR 165, “The Coast Guard shall direct the movement of vessels through the ports or waters of the Zone when determined by the Captain of the Port.”

Action Guidance.

A. This protocol will be used:

- 1) To determine when **vessel damage, bad weather conditions, night-time performance limitations, and pollution mitigation concerns** warrant it unfeasible to delay vessel removal and disposal operations;
- 2) To annotate at which EPA dump site disposal will take place; and
- 3) To determine which route will be utilized to get to the disposal site.

B. Route to the nearest emergency disposal site shall be charted to avoid transit:

- 1) Through established shipping lanes,
- 2) Through a designated marine sanctuary,
- 3) Through a dredged material disposal site, or
- 4) Through a location where it may present a hazard to commercial trawling or national defense.
- 5) Through established fishing grounds.

C. If seaworthiness is in question proceed to head straight out to sea to 1000 fathoms then head toward disposal site.

The RP or lead emergency response agency shall report the exact coordinates of the disposal of the vessel to the National Ocean Survey, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, 6010 Executive Boulevard, Rockville, Maryland 20852 so the location can be marked on appropriate navigational charts.

EMERGENCY VESSEL DISPOSAL CHECKLIST

RISK VESSEL POSES IN PRESENT LOCATION (LOW/MEDIUM/HIGH)

1. POTENTIAL RISK OF OIL BEING SPILLED ON THE REEF: _____
2. POTENTIAL RISK OF HAZARDOUS MATERIAL BEING RELEASED INTO THE REEF: _____
3. POTENTIAL RISK OF OIL/HAZMAT BEING DRIVEN DOWN INTO THE REEF BY THE SURF:

4. POTENTIAL RISK OF MECHANICAL DAMAGE TO REEF AS VESSEL WORKS ON THE REEF: _____
5. POTENTIAL RISK OF MECHANICAL DAMAGE TO THE REEF WHEN VESSEL BREAKS UP AND THE PIECES MOVE ALONG THE REEF: _____
6. POTENTIAL HAZARD AS ATTRACTION FOR SWIMMERS: _____
7. POTENTIAL DAMAGE TO CULTURAL RESOURCES ALONG SHORELINE (I.E. GUN EMPLACEMENTS, BUNKERS, AND CONCRETE MONUMENTS) _____
8. POTENTIAL RISK TO RECREATIONAL RESOURCES (I.E. WALKWAYS, PICNIC SITES, ETC.) _____

RISK OF EMERGENCY REMOVAL OF VESSEL

1. POTENTIAL FOR ADDITIONAL DAMAGE TO THE REEF AS THE VESSEL IS PULLED OFF THE REEF: _____
2. POTENTIAL FOR ADDITIONAL DAMAGE TO THE VESSEL WITH A RESULTING RELEASE OF OIL OR HAZMAT: _____
3. POTENTIAL FOR VESSEL TO SINK ENROUTE TO APPROVED DISPOSAL SITE: _____

PROCEDURE

- A. OBTAIN PERMISSION OF OWNER TO CONDUCT EMERGENCY DISPOSAL OF THE VESSEL
- B. OBTAIN WRITTEN CONCURRENCE FROM THE DIRECTOR, OR A PERSON SO DESIGNATED BY HIM, FOR THE AREA COMMITTEE CO-CHAIR (GUAM –EPA, CNMI EMO) BY COMPLETING THE ATTACHED “EMERGENCY VESSEL DISPOSAL GUIDELINES”

EMERGENCY VESSEL DISPOSAL INFORMATION

The following vessel information is required upon receiving notification of an emergency vessel operations incident. This information will be used to conduct notifications and to make decisions regarding emergency disposal vice regular vessel disposal as defined in 40 C.F.R. 229.

TIME OF REPORT: _____ PERSON/VESSEL REPORTING: _____

DESCRIPTION OF DISTRESS VESSEL: _____ - _____

VESSEL NAME: _____ FLAG: _____

OFFICIAL NUMBER: _____ CALL SIGN: _____

LENGTH: _____ GROSS TONS: _____

OWNER: _____

_____ TELEPHONE: _____

OPERATOR: _____

_____ TELEPHONE: _____

AGENT: _____

_____ TELEPHONE: _____

POSITION/LOCATION OF EMERGENCY: _____

NATURE OF THE EMERGENCY: _____

DATE/TIME OF POSITION: _____

DRAFTS BEFORE GROUNDING: FWD: _____ MIDSHIP: _____ AFT: _____

DRAFTS AFTER GROUNDING: FWD: _____ MIDSHIP: _____ AFT: _____

CARGO ONBOARD

TYPE: _____

AMOUNT: _____ LOCATION: _____

ANY HAZARDOUS MATERIAL? _____

EXTENT OF DAMAGE: _____

IS VESSEL TAKING ON WATER/LEAKING CARGO? YES _____ NO _____

IF SO, AT WHAT RATE? _____

PERSONNEL INJURIES? _____

PERSONNEL ONBOARD: _____

PRESENT WEATHER CONDITIONS

WIND: _____ SEAS: _____ CURRENT: _____

SKIES: _____ VISIBILITY: _____

NEXT HIGH TIDE: _____ RADIO FREQ. CAPABILITY: _____

DESTINATION ENROUTE/DATE & TIME OF DEPARTURE/DEPARTURE POINT: _____

FUEL ONBOARD: _____

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CARGO ONBOARD

TYPE: _____

AMOUNT: _____ LOCATION: _____

ANY HAZARDOUS MATERIAL? _____

EXTENT OF DAMAGE: _____

IS VESSEL TAKING ON WATER/LEAKING CARGO? YES _____ NO _____

IF SO, AT WHAT RATE? _____

PERSONNEL INJURIES? _____

PERSONNEL ONBOARD: _____

PRESENT WEATHER CONDITIONS

WIND: _____ SEAS: _____ CURRENT: _____

SKIES: _____ VISIBILITY: _____

NEXT HIGH TIDE: _____ RADIO FREQ. CAPABILITY: _____

DESTINATION ENROUTE/DATE & TIME OF DEPARTURE/DEPARTURE POINT: _____

FUEL ONBOARD: _____

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