

SARSAT Weekly Rescues Report for period 27 April to 3 May 2012.

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)
Search and Rescue Satellite Aided Tracking System Rescues,
Twelve.

Incident 1:

Beacon ID - ADCE0222ED41C01

On 29 April 2012 at 1802 UTC the COSPAS-SARSAT system detected a 406 MHz EPIRB at 34 29.1N 75 41.4W, 158 NM southeast of Raleigh, NC. The Pleasure Craft Fish Tales suffered complete electrical failure and the crew of four manually activated the vessel's EPIRB. Coast Guard District 5 Norfolk, (CGD05) received the unlocated alert, and contacted the vessel's owner who confirmed that Fish Tales was not in port. CGD05 made radio call outs for the Fish Tales, which were answered by a Good Samaritan vessel in visual contact with Fish Tales. The Good Samaritan provided CGD05 with their position via sat phone and CGD05 dispatched CG 47211 a 47 foot motor life boat. CG47211 located the Fish Tales, towed it into Beaufort inlet and transferred the tow to Sea Tow, which towed it into port.

4 SARSAT RESCUES

Incident 2:

Beacon ID - 2DCE617928FFBFF

On 1 May 2012 at 2008 UTC the COSPAS-SARSAT system detected a 406 MHz PLB at 33 59.8N 76 57.8W, 45 NM east-southeast of Wilmington, NC. The Pleasure craft Will-O-Be radioed the Coast Guard Sector North Carolina Command Center, when one of their divers did not return at the expected time. The 60 year old male diver had been under 25 minutes longer than planned. Sector North Carolina Command Center issued an Urgent Marine Information Broadcast and contacted Coast Guard District 5 Norfolk (CGD5) RCC, to brief them on the situation. While on the phone with the Sector North Carolina, CGD5 received the PLB alert from SARSAT. CGD5 passed the SARSAT coordinates to Sector North Carolina Command Center, who then forwarded them on to the Will-O-Be. The Will-O-Be used the SARSAT coordinates to locate and rescue the lost diver. No further assistance was required.

1 SARSAT RESCUE

Incident 3:

Beacon ID - 2DCC363242FFBFF

On 30 April 2012 at 1811 UTC the COSPAS-SARSAT system detected a 406 MHz EPIRB at 24 01.4N 75 16.1W 125, NM southeast of Nassau, Bahamas. The sailing vessel Tell Tales ran aground and the two people on board abandoned ship into the vessel's life raft. Before abandoning the Tell Tales, the crew made a MAYDAY and activated the vessel's EPIRB, which they took with them onto their life raft. Coast Guard District 5 Norfolk (CGD5) received the unlocated SARSAT alert. CGD5 learned that Tell Tales was en route to the Bahamas from the vessel's emergency contacts. CGD5 requested Coast Guard District 7, Miami, (CGD7) be included in the case, and briefed CGD7 on the distress details. Not long after CGD7 became involved in the case, the Bahamas Air Sea Rescue Association (BASRA) contacted CGD7 and requested their assistance. CGD7 correlated the SARSAT alert with the MAYDAY call and provided BASRA with SARSAT coordinates, as they became available. BASRA launched an aircraft to the SARSAT location. The BASRA aircraft located the Tell Tales life raft, and vectored the Good Samaritan vessel, Jouix D Duex to the life raft's position. The Jouix D Duex rescued the crew of the Tell Tales, and no further assistance was required.

2 SARSAT RESCUES

Incident 4:

Beacon ID - 2DCE54A13AFFBFF

On 3 May 2012 at 0000 UTC the COSPAS-SARSAT system detected a 406 MHz PLB at 70 39.9 N 155 31.0 W, approximately 43 NM southeast of Barrow, AK. Two snow machines carrying two people in each vehicle became disabled. They activated the PLB and the Alaska Rescue Coordination Center (AKRCC) received an alert from SARSAT. AKRCC contacted North Slope Borough (NSB) and relayed the distress and coordinates. NSB contacted the nearby village, Point Barrow, and a volunteer responded. The volunteer went to the SARSAT position in a snow machine and rescues all four people in distress. No injuries were reported.

4 SARSAT RESCUES

Incident 5:

Beacon ID - 2DCE65C782FFBFF

On 3 May 2012 at 1318 UTC the COSPAS-SARSAT system detected a 406 MHz PLB at 29 13.3N 103 14.8W, in Big Bend National Park approximately, 170 NM southwest of Odessa, TX. The owner of the PLB activated her beacon after becoming ill while hiking. The Air Force Rescue Coordination Center (AFRCC) received the alert and contacted an individual listed on the registration. The individual reported to AFRCC that the solo hiker was hiking at Big Bend National Park. The individual then called the National Park Service Center as a precaution. AFRCC contacted the National Park Service Center and were informed they had already been notified by the individual and they were working the case. AFRCC provided the SARSAT coordinates to help locate the hiker. The National Park Service Center located the hiker and released her to park service medics for further medical attention.

1 SARSAT RESCUE

Total number of rescues for FY 12: 138

Total number of rescues for the calendar year 2012: 81

Significance: The SARSAT system protects life and property in support of the nation's commerce and transportation systems. (Steve Roark 301-817-3896)