

## *K-Sea T/B DBL 152 Incident*

### **Summary of Long-Term Monitoring Results: 18-20 APRIL 2006**

- This event focused on confirming the perimeter with VSORS-Light drags and confirming previous results at the 4 higher-concentration oil patch monitoring locations using the drop camera and VSORS-Light trawls. VSORS-Light trawls were also performed at locations previously surveyed to determine short-term changes in submerged oil distribution.
- Results of VSORS-Light trawls are as follows:
  - Southern Array - no oil was observed along the inner ring transects.
  - Eastern Array - no oil was observed along two transects (Q55-N53 & N53-L55) where very light oil was observed during the previous LTM event (31 MAR). Very light oil (trace amounts) was observed between L55-J57; no oil was observed in this location previously; however, the amount of oil observed is consistent with the potential for small amounts of oil to exist in close proximity to the capsized location.
  - Northern Array - two additional east-west transects (C69-C75 & E63-E75) were added north of previous transects to address concerns by the USCG that the search area is far enough ahead of the leading edge of moving oil. No oil was observed along C69-C75. One segment of very light oil was observed along the E63-E75 transect from E71-E73. This area was previously unsurveyed. No oil was again observed along a transect from G59-G73 and from H67-H71. Moderate oiling at I67-I69 during the previous event had decreased to very light. Heavy oiling in the vicinity of J66-J68 during the last event had decreased to moderate. These results could be interpreted to reflect dissipation of heavier oil through time and with west-northwestward movement, or they could be indicative of short-term spatial variability in the distribution of submerged oil.
  - Western Array - two additional north-south transects (E73-Q73 & C75-Q75) were added west of the previous transects, again to address USCG concerns identified above. No oil was observed on the outermost transect located 10 nm west of the former barge location. Segments of very light oil were intermixed with no oil along the next transect inward 9 nm west of the barge site, with a segment of very light oiling at the southern end of the transect. A resurvey of transects from G71-P71 indicated a decrease in oiling since the last event from light to very light at the northern end of the transect (G71-J71) and from very light to no oil at N71-P71. Light oil previously observed at I69-K69 decreased to very light.
- The 4 oil mat monitoring locations were surveyed with both the drop camera and VSORS-Light. VSORS-Light results indicated moderate oil at the location closest to the barge site (EE2a), decreasing to light oil at the next location to the WNW (SS-01), and further decreasing to very light at the two more distant locations (ZA2 & SS-02). Though visibility was still poor, the drop camera, mounted 6 inches above the bottom, was able to clearly view the seafloor. Three camera drops were performed at each oil mat monitoring location (12 drops total). Two very small oil droplets were observed on different camera drops at location EE2a closest to the barge location. This helps confirm the ability to "see" oil visually using the drop camera. No oil was observed with the drop camera at any of the three other monitoring targets.