



DEPARTMENT OF
ECOLOGY
State of Washington

Aleutian Isle Response Overview

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October 13, 2022

Purpose

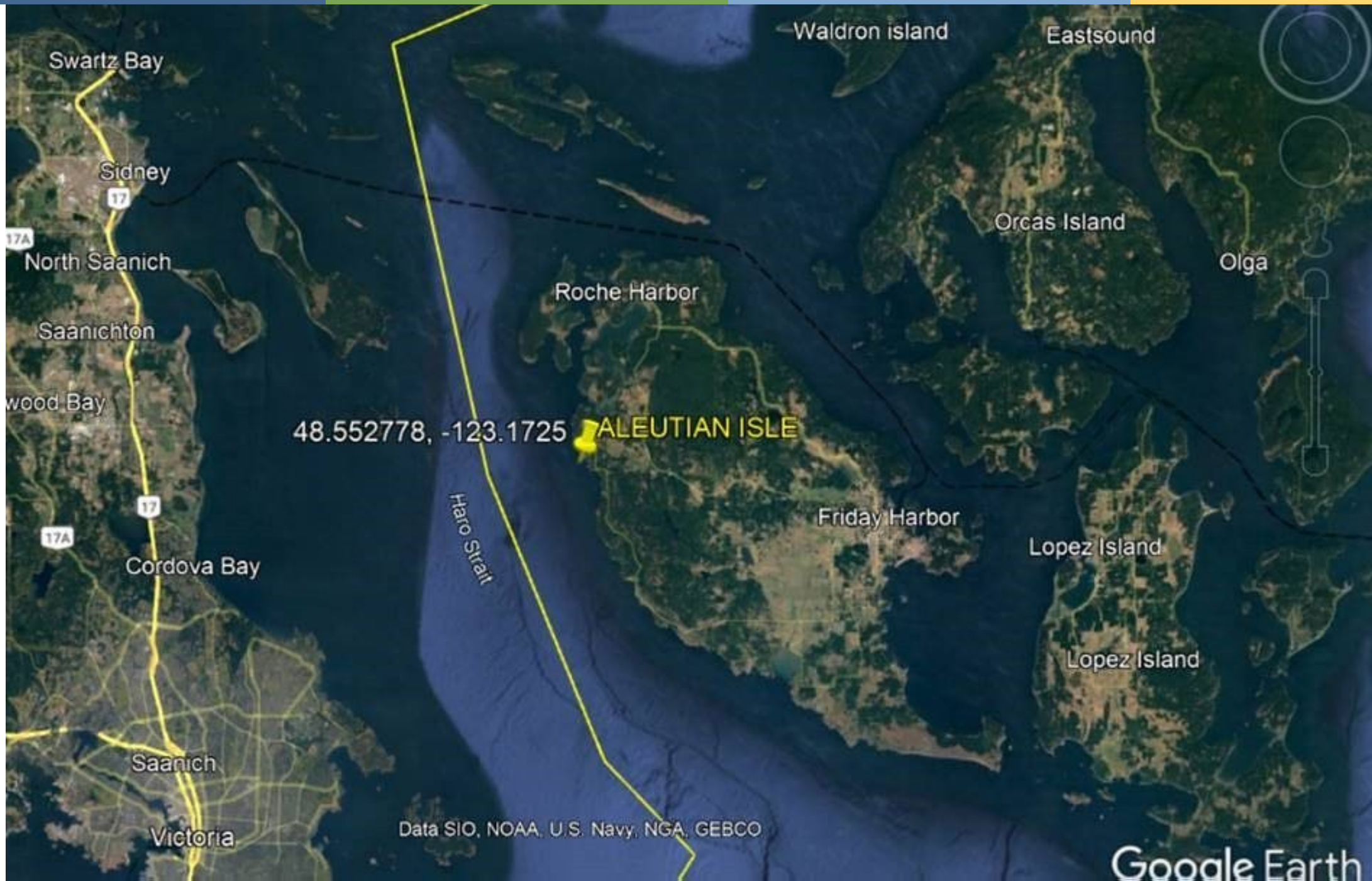
- Provide an overview of the incident, response partners, and timeline

Disclaimer

- This was a complex response, with many participants
- Debriefs and lessons learned are still being compiled
- This presentation is not comprehensive, and does not provide conclusions from Ecology's participation in the response

Incident overview

- **Saturday, August 13, 2022**
 - Aleutian Isle, 49' fishing vessel, sank off the west coast of San Juan Island
 - USCG initially responded as a search and rescue
 - All persons on board rescued by a boat in the area
 - Diesel began escaping from the vessel
 - USCG, Ecology, San Juan County, Swinomish Tribe, and vessel owners formed Unified Command
 - Approximately 2,500 gallons diesel reported on board
 - Vessel initially in approximately 100' of water



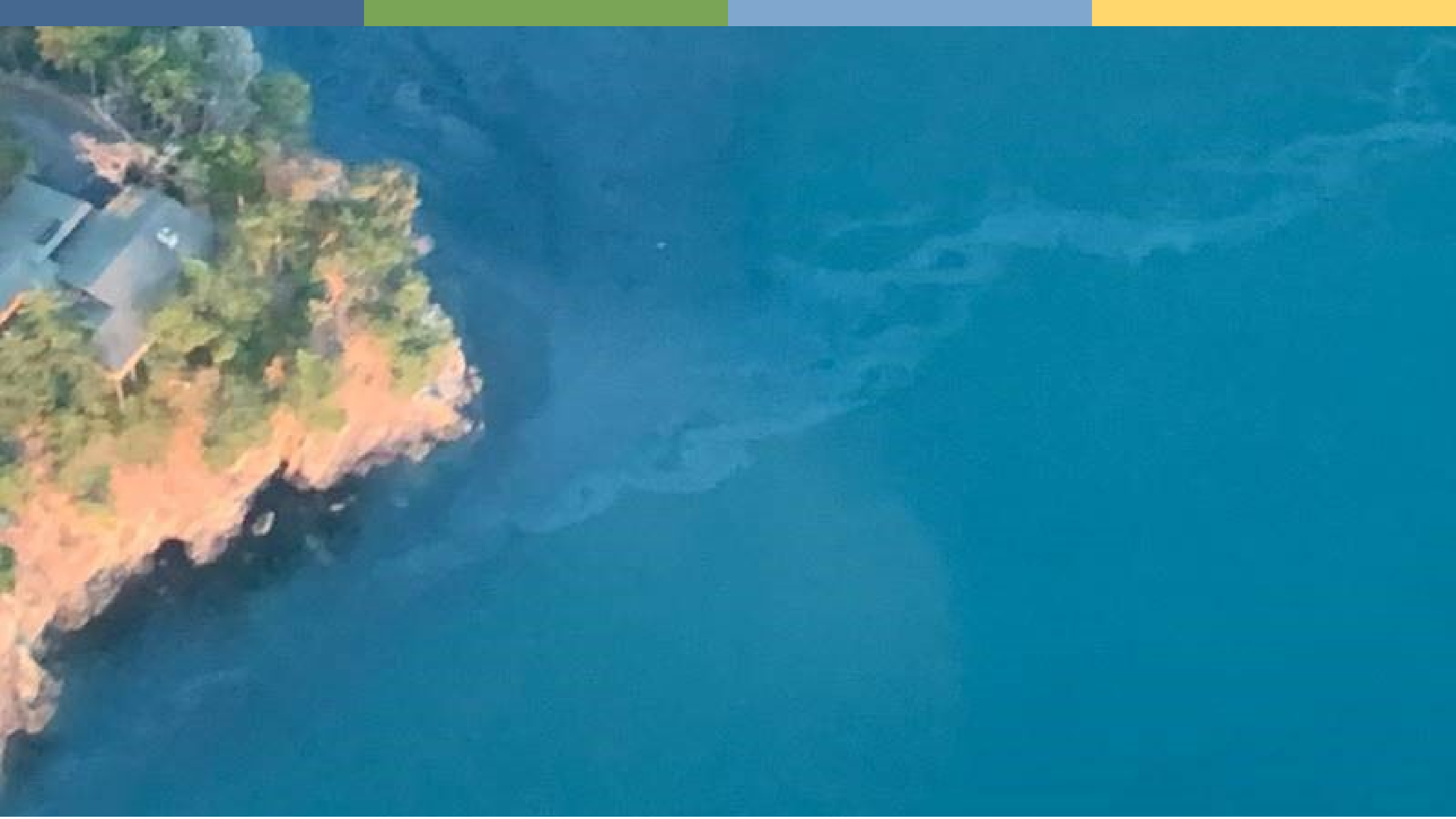
48.552778, -123.1725 **ALEUTIAN ISLE**

Data SIO, NOAA, U.S. Navy, NGA, GEBCO

Google Earth

Timeline: August 2022

- **August 13:** Vessel sank
- **August 14:** USCG and Ecology overflights, whale monitoring begins, Unified Command sharing information with Canada, response contractors on scene
- **August 15:** Community air monitoring network deployed, vessel safety zone established, Geographic Response Plans deployed, vessel now at 200' depth
- **August 16:** USCG cutter and divers begin removing net, NOAA organized practice of whale deterrence measures with volunteers, Unified Command and Canadian agencies continued to track SRKW, 3,800' of boom deployed













Timeline: August 2022

- August 17-21: ROV assessments of the vessel, removal of nets, additional boom deployed, planning for removal of vessel, specialized dive equipment ordered
- August 22: Barge and crane transit from Seattle to the incident site
- August 26: US and Canadian partners conduct a transboundary whale deterrents drill; participants included NOAA, Wild Orca, Whale Museum, Fisheries and Oceans Canada



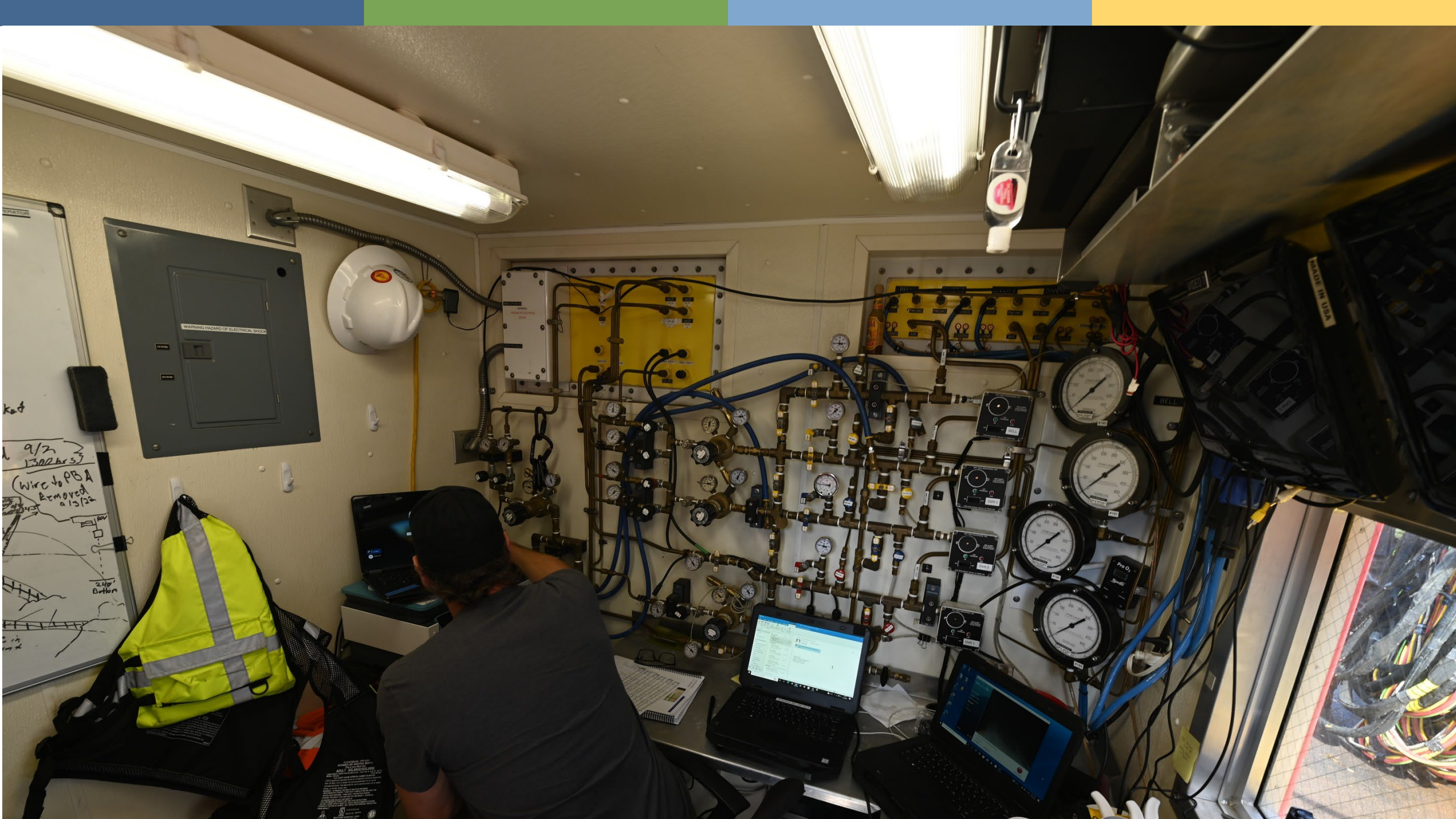
Timeline: August - September 2022

- August 31: Mixed gas dive operations begin, divers begin cutting away nets and securing fuel vents and oil system valves
- September 2: Divers secure all valves and vents
- September 4: Divers complete cutting away nets, begin rigging vessel for lift
- September 16: Rigging complete, wildlife crews initiate bird deterrence strategies
- September 17: Vessel raised to surface







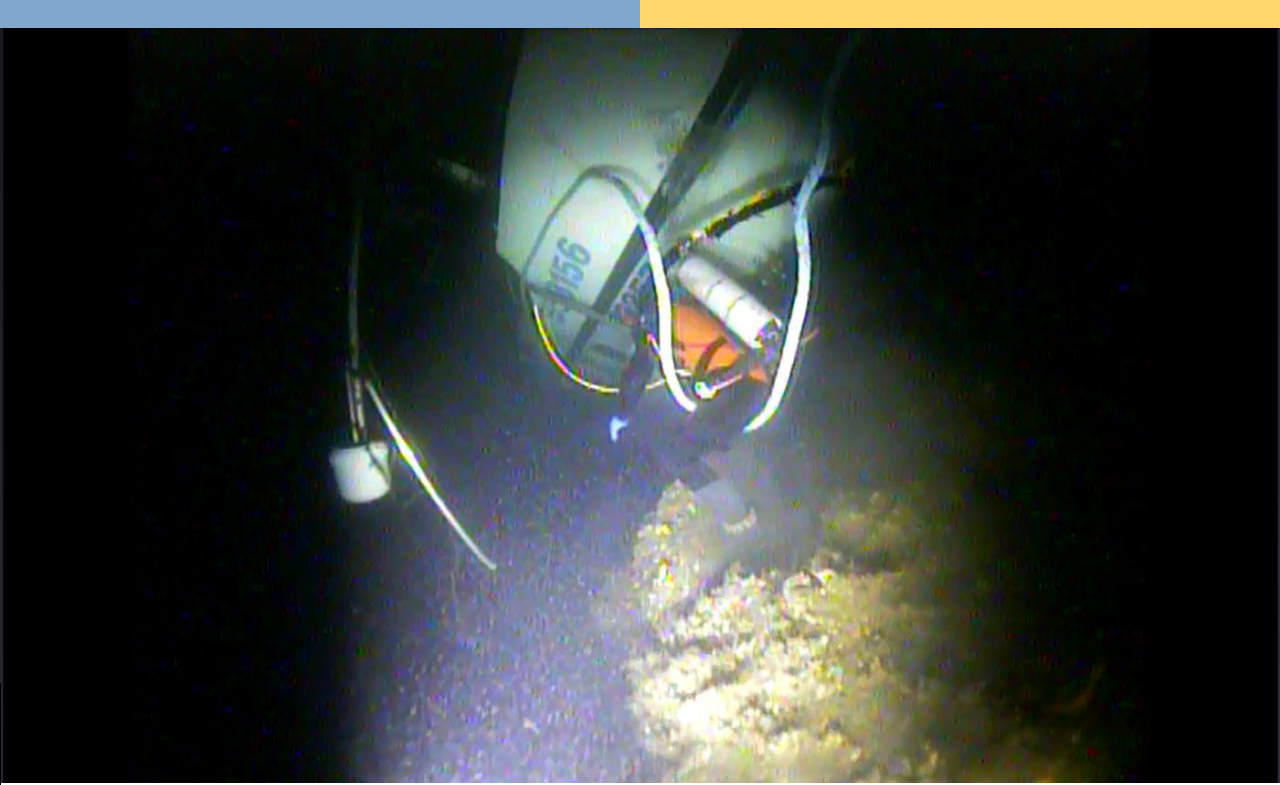
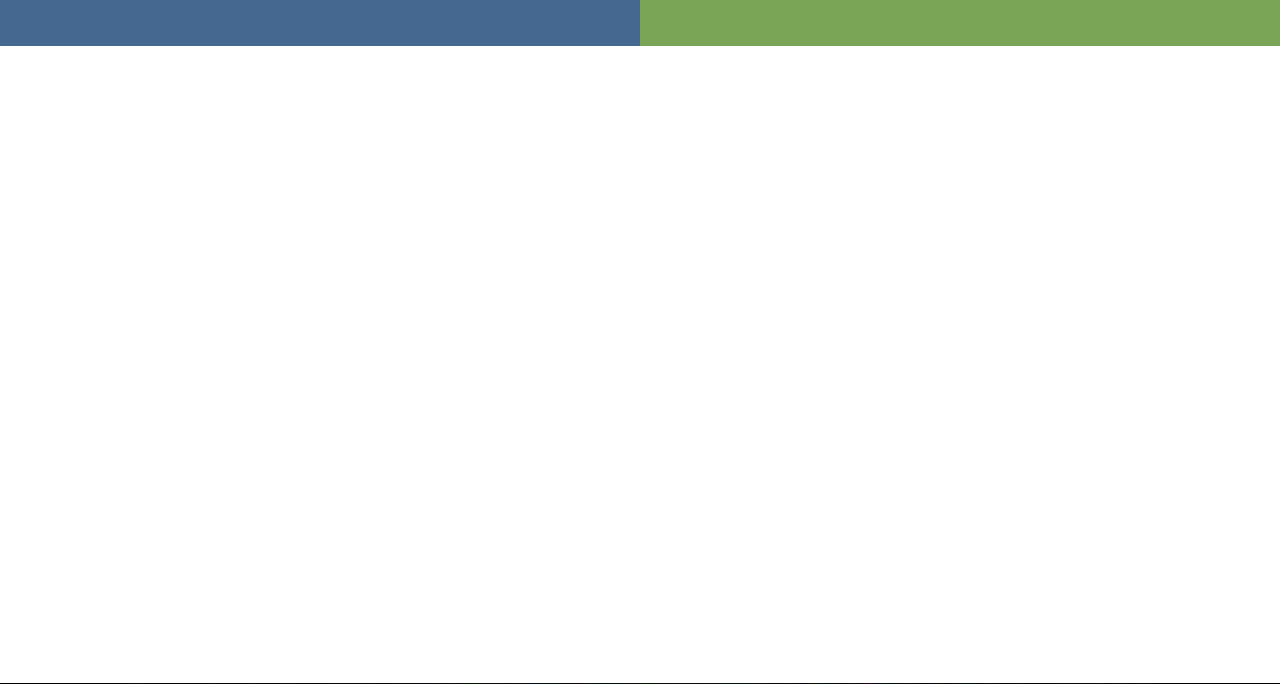


9/2
(300 hrs)
Wire to PBA
Removed a152
240/200

WARNING HAZARD OF ELECTRICAL SHOCK

BELL

Pro O₂



Timeline: September 2022

- September 18: Vessel partially dewatered
- September 19: Vessel secured to side of barge for transit
- September 20: Barge and vessel moved to Mitchell Bay, defueled
- September 21: Vessel re-rigged and lifted onto barge
- September 22: Unified Command determines vessel is no longer a threat to environment, responders, wildlife teams, and shoreline assessment teams continue operations
- September 29: Shoreline assessment teams demobilize







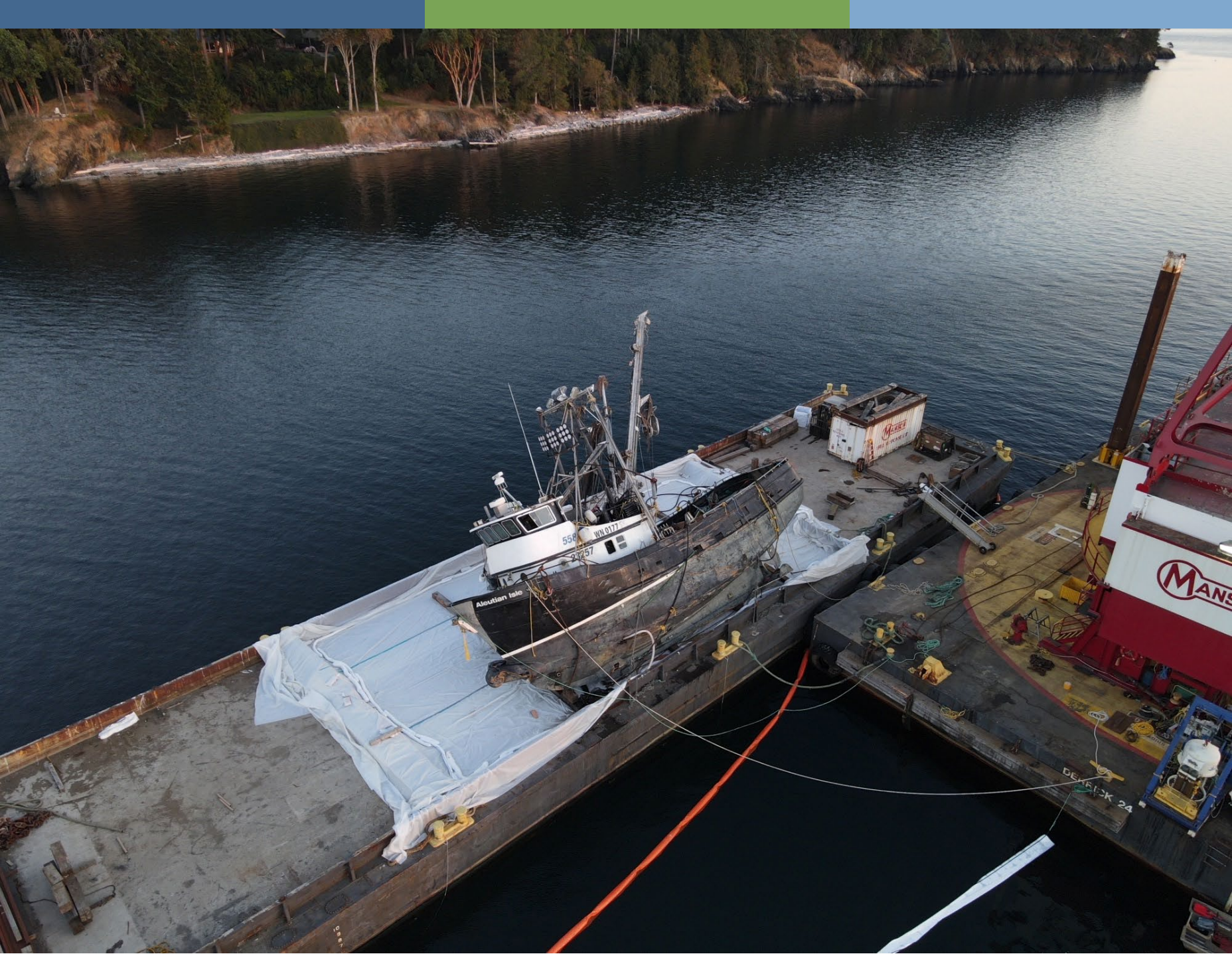












Examples of Transboundary Coordination

- Transport Canada
- Canadian Coast Guard
- Department of Fisheries and Oceans
- Nav Canada

Questions?

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