

Abandoned and Derelict Vessels

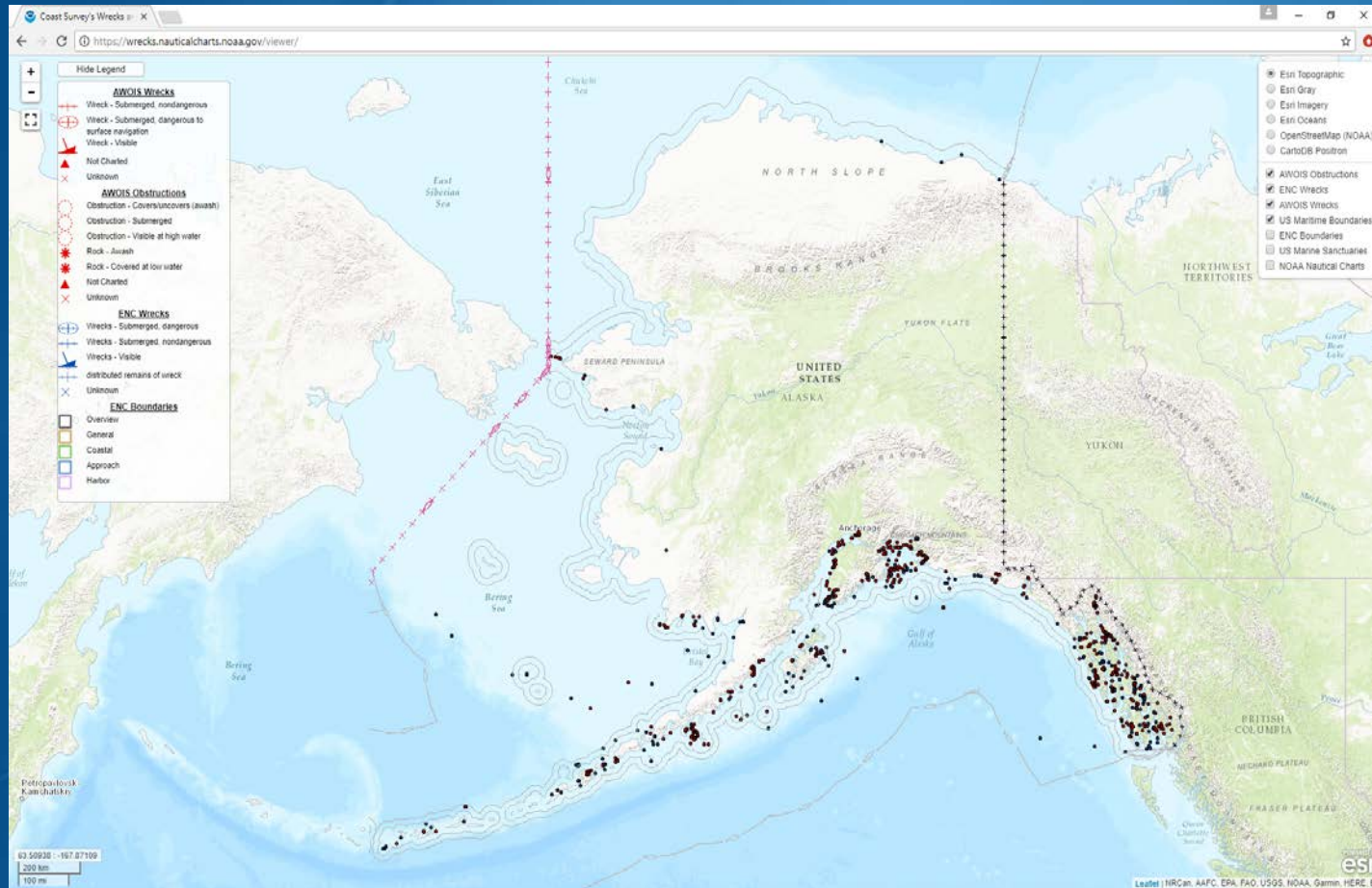


What is an Abandoned and Derelict Vessel (ADV)?



- “Abandoned vessel”
 - A vessel that has been left unattended for a continuous period of more than 30 days and is in waters of the state or on public property, or is on private property without authorization of the owner of the property.
- “Derelict Vessel” unattended more than 24 hours, and
 - is sunk or in immediate danger of sinking, is obstructing a waterway, or endangering life or property.
 - has been moored or otherwise left on state or public property contrary to law, or on private property without authorization.

Statewide Issue



Screenshot from National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Wreck and Obstruction Database, taken September 5, 2017

Why do we care?

- Pollution threat
 - Fuel, engine oil, paint, batteries, oiled fish, chemicals, residual
- Navigational Hazard
 - Collision, Obstruction
- Destruction of marine and coastal habitat
 - Entangle and endanger marine life
 - Become marine debris
 - Damage the coastal environment by moving from wave action and storms
 - Disrupt fisheries
- Trespass



How did we get here?

- Miles and miles of coastline
- Aging Fleet
 - By 2025, the Alaska fleet will include roughly 3,100 vessels between 28' and 59' that are more than 45 years old...the Alaska fleet also includes 75 passenger vessels, tugs, and barges over 50 years old..." *McDowell Group, Trends and Opportunities in Alaska Maritime Industrial Support Sector (2014)*
- Lack of options
 - Disposal requirements
 - Remote location

Collaborative Approach

- Abandoned Derelict Vessels Taskforce is made up of state, federal, municipal and private partners.



<https://alaskacleanharbors.squarespace.com/derelict-vessels/>

Potential Solutions

- Try to change Alaska Statutes
 - Enable Alaska Department of Natural Resources to levy fines
 - Require insurance for vessels over a certain size
 - Create a Derelict Vessel Program
 - Require titles or registration for boats in Alaska
- Legislative action
 - Senate Bill 92 *Vessels: Registration/Titles; Derelicts introduced* on March 10, 2017 but not passed.



What can you do?

- Support new legislation
 - To aid in the identification, removal, and responsible disposal of ADV, and provide a financial mechanism to achieve these actions
- Report Abandoned and Derelict Vessels
 - Abandoned and Derelict Vessels Task Force developed a reporting form with a preliminary field assessment matrix for all users (public, vessels, etc.)

Questions?