



City of Homer

Port / Harbor

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Memorandum 10-142

11/15/10

TO: Walt Wrede, Homer City Council

FROM: Bryan Hawkins, Port and Harbor Director/Harbormaster

RE: Derelict Vessels

Due to a focused effort from Port and City staff along with the excellent support of our City attorneys, we have made great strides in the task of removing some of our high profile derelict/nuisance vessels from the Port and Harbor facilities over the past two years. There is not a "one size fits all" approach to handling derelicts. Each vessel has its own issues and required "outside the box" problem solving. Our ultimate goal is to remove the nuisance/derelict vessels from the Port and Harbor, thus reducing liability and creating space for working vessels.

The following is a list of the vessels' length overall, history and their current status:

96' steel tug, current status: changed ownership September 2010 and is currently being refit for sea duty. The new owner plans to put her back into service in the spring of 2011.

167' steel floating processor warehoused in the harbor for over 15 years. The ownership changed hands four times while she lay at berth on system 5. Current status: Changed ownership and was removed from Homer harbor on November 2, 2011. The new owner signed an agreement that stated the vessel could only return to the Port and harbor upon written consent from the harbormaster

130' steel catcher processor abandoned to the harbor. Current status: Changed ownership and was removed from the harbor October of 2009 the same agreement was made with the new owner as with the 167' vessel above.

110' A WWII era wood salmon tender that came back to the harbor in August of 2009 with some serious damage and after just two hours in the harbor her bilge alarms signaled that she was in trouble. Staff breathed a sigh of relieve when she departed the harbor under new ownership a few months later. Current status, changed ownership and was removed from the harbor October of 2009.

450' steel deck cargo barge that was abandoned on our beach six years ago. Current status: Changed ownership and the new owners (Peninsula Scrap and Salvage) invested the time, equipment, expertise and manpower to break the barge down in place and process it into a steel scrap marketable product. This large recycling project turned into a revenue source for the Harbor Enterprise by way of uplands lease (chip pad) for product storage, wharfage (when scrap shipped), and dockage at the Deep Water Dock.

152' WWII era steel fish processor, this vessel bounced around Kachemak Bay for 10 years between Homer Harbor, Jakolof Bay and Seldovia Harbor. Current status: Peninsula Scrap took over ownership of the vessel in July of 2010 and broke it down in three weeks for the scrap steel market. She was loaded out across

Homer's Deep Water Dock in September further contributing to the enterprise by way of wharfage, dockage, and uplands storage lease.

Net gain in large vessel transit moorage is 407 feet. Reduction in liability risk from catastrophic loss is immeasurable. Remember these vessels were abandoned on our facilities with no responsible owners, no maintenance and no caretakers. We aren't finished with the task but we're getting much closer to achieving our objective of a derelict vessel free harbor.