

EX CALAMITY POINT SPILL RESPONSE

MEDIA STATEMENT

10:00 A.M.	OCTOBER 21, 2026
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Vancouver, B.C. – At approximately 4:12 a.m. on October 21, the towing arrangement for the Genesis barge, a fully loaded barge being towed outbound through Burrard Inlet, failed. The barge struck a rock outcrop at Calamity Point on the North Shore, resulting in a release of diesel fuel into the Inlet. The total amount of fuel released is still being calculated and could be up to an estimated 1,000 tonnes. There are no reported injuries.

Western Canada Marine Response Corporation (WCMRC) was activated at 4:40 a.m. and its crews are responding on behalf of the vessel's owner, North Arm Transportation. The source of the release has been controlled. Seven WCMRC vessels are on-site and more vessels are en-route from Nanaimo. Skimming vessels are on-site and product recovery operations have begun, with a focus on minimizing environmental impacts. Harbour Air and SeaBus operations are currently running on schedule.

A Unified Command has been established to coordinate all aspects of the response. The Unified Command includes North Arm Transportation, Canadian Coast Guard, City of Vancouver, Tsleil-Waututh Nation and North Shore Emergency Management, which represents the City of North Vancouver, the District of North Vancouver and the District of West Vancouver.

IMPACTED AREAS

Unified Command requests private and public vessels avoid impacted areas, which include the immediate vicinity of Calamity Point and First Narrows. Calamity Point is located on the North Shore, south of Lower Capilano and across from Stanley Park, just east of the Lions Gate Bridge. First Narrows is an area of Burrard Inlet, which sits between Prospect Point in Stanley Park on the south side and the Capilano River flats in West Vancouver on the north side, and is spanned by the Lions Gate Bridge.

SAFETY

Safety is the primary concern for both first responders and the public. Security and safety plans are being developed. The public is requested to avoid contact with water in and around Calamity Point and First Narrows while a proper health assessment is conducted.

Mobile air monitoring and existing public air quality monitoring stations are continuously monitoring air quality for first responders and the public.

If members of the public detect fumes, they are recommended to avoid the area and report the odour to the 24-hour public call-in line at 1-888-801-5860. Members of the public are asked to call 9-1-1 **only** if they have an emergency.

MARINE AND AIR TRAFFIC IMPACTS

The Port of Vancouver has halted all marine traffic in Zone 1, covering the First Narrows one nautical mile east and west of the incident area. Pacific pilotage Authority has been notified and the Vancouver Fraser Port Authority Harbour Patrol has vessels stationed east and west of the incident area.

SHORELINE IMPACT

If you see diesel impacts on beaches, please call the 24-hour reporting line at 1-888-801-5860. Please do not attempt to clean up the product yourself. Diesel is a hazardous material and requires proper disposal by professionals. If beaches have been impacted by diesel, Shoreline Cleanup Assessment Technique teams will be deployed to assess the impact and recommend appropriate cleanup tactics.

WILDLIFE

The public is advised to avoid contact with impacted wildlife but are encouraged to report any impacted wildlife sightings to the 24-hour reporting line at 1-888-801-5860.

Additional updates will be provided, including at a planned news conference today, October 21, at 2 p.m. PDT.

Visit: www.spillresponsebc.ca

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CONTACTS

Public Information Officer, Unified Command
778-555-5555

Canadian Coast Guard Marine Pollution Reporting

1-800-889-8852