

## **Ghost ship washes ashore in Ocean Shores**

### **Local News**

Posted by: David Haviland

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OCEAN SHORES, Wash. - A sailboat abandoned off the coast of Oregon has washed up on an Ocean Shores, Washington beach. Last weekend's storm prompted the helicopter evacuation of "The Rock," a 40-foot long sailboat beset by weather more than 14 miles off shore of Tillamook, Oregon on Saturday. That sailboat was discovered Wednesday morning by Ocean Shores police near the Shilo Inn beach approach.

Ocean Shore Officer Shawn Beebe tells us the only thing visible at the time was the ship's mast around noon, police recovered what they could during low tide, including the vessel's dinghy. The Coast Guard confirms the ship is breaking up in the surf, it's pilot house and gear washing ashore. The potential pollution is 20 gallons of gas and 10 gallons of diesel. However the owner, an Oak Harbor, Washington resident, had left the engine engaged so it is believed all diesel was consumed. Coast Guard Sector Columbia River's Incident Management Division determined there is no recoverable pollution at this time. The owner and station have been notified, and the owner is en route this morning to see if possible to salvage anything else from the vessel.

History:WARRENTON, Ore. &ndash; Coast Guard rescued a sailor from his sailboat, which was beset by weather more than 14 miles off shore of Tillamook Harbor Saturday. The crew of an MH-60 Jayhawk helicopter rescued the skipper of the 40-foot long sailboat, The Rock, and safely transferred him to Coast Guard Air Station Astoria. Coast Guard Sector Columbia River received a call for assistance from the Duane Jones, an Oak Harbor, Wash., resident and the skipper of the sailboat, stating he was experiencing severe weather off the Oregon Coast. Due to the Tillamook Harbor Bar being closed to all recreational boat traffic and with the onset of night, Jones did not feel safe staying on his boat and asked to be rescued. The Jayhawk crew arrived on scene with the sailboat and safely hoisted Jones from his boat. &ldquo;This is our first major storm of the fall and we want to make sure that all boaters are prepared for the weather,&rdquo; said Petty Officer 1st Class William Whitford, an operations specialist at Sector Columbia River. &ldquo;This guy did the right thing in letting us know that he was experiencing difficulties and then asking for help when things got beyond his control. All boaters need to be prepared for any possibilities, including having the proper radio equipment on board to call for help if needed.&rdquo; As weather permits, Air Station Astoria crews are planning a future flight to find the abandoned vessel and ascertain its condition. Any salvage of the vessel will be the owner&rsquo;s responsibility. There were no injuries in this rescue. For safe boating information, please visit: <http://www.uscgboating.org>



A Coast Guard MH-60 Jayhawk helicopter approaches Air Station Astoria, Ore., after rescuing a man from his sailboat off of Tillamook Harbor, Ore., Sept. 28, 2013. The sailor was aboard his 40-foot sailboat and experiencing waves of more than 20 feet when he requested assistance from the Coast Guard. U.S. Coast Guard photo by Petty Officer 1st Class David Mosley



A Coast Guard MH-60 Jayhawk helicopter returns to Air Station Astoria, Ore., after safely rescuing a man from his sailboat off of Tillamook Harbor, Ore., Sept. 28, 2013. A severe fall storm with winds of more than 25 mph and waves of more than 20 feet caused the sailor to request assistance from the Coast Guard. U.S. Coast Guard photo by Petty Officer 1st Class David Mosley



Duane Jones (left), who was just rescued from his 40-foot sailboat shares a moment with his rescuers upon returning to Coast Guard Air Station Astoria, Ore., Sept. 28, 2013. An MH-60 Jayhawk helicopter crew from Air Station Astoria rescued Jones who was caught in a fall storm off the Oregon coast. U.S. Coast Guard photo by Petty Officer 1st Class David Mosley.