



Rena update #238

12 October 2012

Underwater steel cutting continues with a team of five divers onboard the **Rena** each day.

Salvage (Resolve Salvage & Fire)

- The underwater work is a particularly difficult and potentially dangerous phase of the **Rena** wreck reduction. Divers need to navigate numerous underwater obstacles just to get into a position to cut steel
- This week has seen the Resolve crane barge RMG280 preparing to start lifting steel – this involved extensive mooring/anchoring and crane testing
- A total of 670 tonnes of steel has now been removed from the hull, with a significant amount pre-cut in advance of lifting and transportation to shore. Steel removal continues on a daily basis, albeit at a somewhat slower pace, now that the project is in its underwater cutting phase.

Braemar Howells/Unimar Update

- Braemar recovery teams have unloaded nearly 40 tonnes of scrap and distressed cargo collected from the **Rena** wreck site in recent days, after an improvement in the weather conditions.
- The diver support and debris recovery vessel Tasman Challenger returned to port late yesterday afternoon to discharge a cargo which included nearly ten tonnes of **Rena** debris, and 30 tonnes of distressed cargo in the form of aluminium ingots.
- Braemar Howells operations manager Mike Richards says divers are to be congratulated for a couple of days of arduous work, loading aluminium ingots by hand into baskets, for hoisting onto the deck of the vessel.
- On shore, the clean-up of plastic beads has continued on Matakana Island.
- Mr Richards has reiterated that clean-up efforts have proven their worth, with the quantity of debris continuing to diminish both with time, and the effective cleaning measures employed.
- The tug Maui is continuing its patrols of the exclusion zone with no incursions reported.
- The number of containers recovered has risen to 1007 following the identification of another container from the debris collected.

Oil spill response

- Bay of Plenty Regional Council continues to oversee the **Rena** oil spill response.
- People are encouraged to report any sightings of oil to the Bay of Plenty Regional Council Pollution Prevention Hotline on 0800 884 883.
- The Regional Council also continues to work with wreck removal and debris recovery contractors to

ensure the risk of further oil spills is managed. Resolve Salvage and Fire has an oil spill contingency plan in place and have response equipment and trained staff at the wreck site. Braemar Howells has oil spill response equipment on their vessel patrolling the 2 mile exclusion zone.

Maritime New Zealand oil spill response media team

www.maritimenz.govt.nz

Media queries (including wildlife queries) - 0800 774 554

International media queries - +64 4 499 7318

Media contact for owners, insurers, and salvors - Hugo Shanahan, +64 275 111 561

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Braemar Howells spokesperson Monique O'Connor (for media queries relating to container and debris recovery)

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Braemar Howells spokesperson Grant Dyson (for media queries relating to container and debris recovery)

Thursday-Sunday - +64 27 668 6242

To report sightings of oil - 0800 OIL SPILL (0800 645 774)

To report sightings of oiled wildlife - 0800 333 771

To report sightings of containers or container debris - 0800 333 771

ALL media enquiries:

0800 774 554 (0800 SPILL INFO)

spill.media@mnz.govt.nz

International media call:

+64 4 499 7318



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