



SERVS' Mission:

To maintain a constant state of readiness to assist tankers in the safe navigation through Prince William Sound and to provide oil spill response services to the Alaska crude oil shippers, Valdez Marine Terminal and the pipeline in accordance with oil spill response agreements and plans.



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Alyeska's Ship Escort/Response Vessel System

[SERVS]



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Alyeska Pipeline Service Company's Ship Escort/Response Vessel System (SERVS) provides world-class escort services to the tankers that transit the waters of Prince William Sound. SERVS also has comprehensive protection and oil spill recovery strategies to safeguard the waterways of the Sound.

Shortly after the Exxon Valdez ran aground, the federal government and the State of Alaska passed oil spill laws that strengthened tanker regulations and Alyeska operations in Prince William Sound. Two of the primary regulatory drivers were the Oil Pollution Act of 1990 and the State of Alaska's House Bill 567. This set higher standards for companies that ship crude oil, including requiring them to have response plans that, at a minimum,

allowed for the recovery of 300,000 barrels of oil in the first 72 hours of an incident involving the discharge of oil into U.S. waters. Alyeska leadership, working with the shippers that transport Alaska oil to the U.S. west coast, developed response plans and tools to meet this new requirement. As the plan evolved, SERVS became the cornerstone of oil spill prevention and response in the Sound.

SERVS' primary role is prevention and ship escort. Two SERVS tugboats – each with 10,200 hp – escort every laden tanker through the Sound. One tug tethers to the tanker, from the Valdez Marine Terminal through the Valdez Narrows, to Bligh Reef. Tugboats maintain a minimum distance of a quarter-mile during escorts, keeping tankers within visual sight and response range.

Five of SERVS' tugs have cutting-edge tugboat technology, specifically designed for the demands of the Sound.

Required to be able to recover 300,000 barrels of oil in 72 hours, SERVS uses various response strategies. This includes placing response equipment throughout the Sound; training more than 300 employees and contractors to assist; and also training fishermen from Southcentral to respond to oil spill incidents. These tactics exceed both state and federal requirements.

SERVS is at the forefront of prevention and response for United States marine crude oil transportation, providing a first line of defense for the waters of Prince William Sound.



Primary Assets

- 11 Escort & Response Tugs
- 9 Oil Recovery Barges
- 108 Skimming Units
- 49 Miles of Various Boom
- 5 Hatchery Protection Sites
- 5 Response Centers
- 350+ Vessels Participating in Fishing/Vessel Program

SERVS Capability

- Ability to recover 300,000 barrels of oil in 72 hours
- On-water storage capacity of 900,000+ barrels of oil
- 2 State-of-the-art tug escorts for every laden tanker transiting the waters of Prince William Sound

