

Fishing Vessel Safely Re-floated

Story by PAI Donnie Brzuska, PADET Jacksonville, Fla.

SAVANNAH, Ga. -- Coast Guard pollution investigators developed response objectives, ensured the vessel didn't impede the watery and located a responsible party to prevent pollution from a grounded fishing vessel on Lazaretto Creek June 3.

Pollution investigators from Coast Guard Marine Safety Unit Savannah quickly identified the owner of the fishing vessel *Michael Lynn* and began working with the vessel's owner to coordinate a salvage and pollution prevention plan.



SAVANNAH, Ga. -- The fishing vessel *Michael Lynn* grounded and partially submerged in Lazaretto Creek June 3. Coast Guard photograph.

“The owner of the vessel cooperated fully with all the local, state and federal entities involved and quickly developed a satisfactory salvage plan. The Coast Guard and partner agencies in turn quickly reviewed every aspect of the plan and approved it. The dedication by everyone involved to resolve this issue led to the quick and safe salvage effort,” said Lt. Cmdr. Kevin Lynn of Marine Safety Unit Savannah.

After pollution investigators approved the owner's salvage plan, the owner deployed absorbent boom around the vessel as a precautionary measure to prevent any potential for pollution of the waterway. Then salvage crews pumped out the water trapped inside the vessel's compartments.

The vessel was finally towed from the mud at high tide to a safe area using another fishing vessel. No one was injured as a result of this grounding.

Pollution investigators coordinated response actions with Coast Guard Station Tybee Island, Ga., the Georgia Department of Natural Resources Environmental Protection Division, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the National Park Service.

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