

NOAA Abandoned and Derelict Vessel Case Study



Abandoned Vessel Removals in Perryville, MD

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Project Overview

Reason for project: Vessels presented a public safety and navigation hazard.

Date initiated: April 7, 2015 (vessels reported)

Project duration: 3 months (from initial report)

Project Location

Location: Perryville, MD

Site Name(s): Garrett Island and Perryville, MD Town Pier

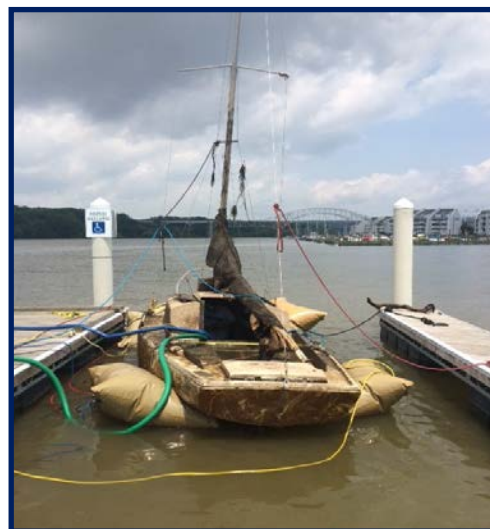
General description of location: Vessels were sunk in the Susquehanna River.

Average Site Depth: 15 ft.

Coordinates: Sailboat ~39° 33' 23.62"N and 76° 04' 51.33"W / Trojan ~39° 34' 11.48"N and 76° 04' 57.87"W

Habitat/Substrate Type Impacted: Silt and sand bottom

Jurisdictions: Maryland Department of Natural Resources (MD DNR)



Project Narrative

History: Registered owner is unknown, but through investigative reports from the MD Natural Resource Police, the person who was in control of the vessels was determined and charged with abandoning the vessels. Both vessels were moored in the Susquehanna River near Garrett Island after being kicked out of a local marina for not paying slip fees. A storm dislodged the sailboat and it floated down to the Perryville pier where it was wedged and remained. The Trojan also sunk around this time as well.

Why was the project initiated: The vessels were scheduled for removal because both were considered hazards. The sailboat was located in the Susquehanna River, at an approximately 15 ft water depth, north of the Amtrak Bridge at the Perryville Town Pier in Cecil County, MD. The Trojan was located in the Susquehanna River, at an approximate 15 ft water depth, off the northeast tip of Garrett Island, south of the B&O Railroad Bridge in Cecil County, MD.

Who initiated the project: Maryland Department of Natural Resources (MD DNR)

Lead agency or organization: MD DNR

Other collaborators/stakeholders involved: Town of Perryville, Cecil County, MD

Funding source(s): Town of Perryville, Cecil County, MD

Threats from ADV

Critical habitats involved: Major Spawning Habitat for Migratory Fish Species of the Chesapeake Bay.

Public safety and health: Sailboat at Town Pier was a hazard to those who use the pier.

Navigation: Sailboat was a navigation issue with vessel that use the pier and the Trojan was a hazard to deeper draft vessel due to its proximity to the channel.

Commerce: Annual Bassmasters Tournament was to begin at the end of August 2015

Aesthetic: These vessels were an eyesore to the locals. Some of whom were extremely upset by the situation.



Summary of Removal

Number of vessels: 2

Primary vessel type: Sailboat and Trojan motorboat

Primary hull type: Fiberglass

Average vessel size: 21 ft. and 45 ft.

Acres restored via removal: N/A

Approximate removal costs: \$20,000

Additional debris removed: None

Vessel removal summary: Vessels were successfully removed by a contractor with no major challenges.

Project Removal Actions

Start date: Report was received from the Natural Resource Police in May 2015

End date: Vessels were removed by Mid-August 2015

Removal options considered: Only a contractor was considered for removing the vessel because they were both sunk and DNR does not have the equipment needed to raise vessels.

Environmental Considerations: The removal of these vessels was not a danger the environment.

Removal Methods: Solicited contractors with the capability of removing and disposing of sunken vessels.

Authorities used to take Possession of Vessels: Maryland Annotated Code (MD Law)

Permits Required: N/A

Salvage Contractor(s): Pristine Marine LLC.

Contractor Selection Process: Pristine Marine LLC.

Vessel Disposal Process/Issues: The Trojan was bid out as a 30' Chris Craft and after it was raised, it was determined that it was instead a 45' Trojan. The underestimation was due to the difficulty of determining a vessel's length under water.

Project Challenges

The removal of these two vessels did not present any major challenges.

Lessons learned:

It would have benefited DNR, the contractor, and the bidding process if DNR used a dive team or other alternative method to verify vessel length/size.

Contact Information:

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<http://www.dnr.state.md.us/boating/abandonedboats.asp>



Images:



Vessels Removed

Vessel name	Vessel Type	Time abandoned	Incident	Length	Hull material
N/A	Sailboat	4 months	Abandoned	21	Fiberglass
N/A	Trojan	4 months	Abandoned	45	Fiberglass