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ADEC and USCG increase cooperation during pollution response

Juneau, **Alaska** – Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation and the 17th Coast Guard District pledge increased cooperation during marine pollution incidents.

Department of Environmental Conservation Commissioner Larry Hartig and Rear Adm. Gene Brooks, commander, 17th Coast Guard District completed the signing of a Memorandum of Agreement on June 16.

"The purpose of this agreement is to better ensure the strongest protection for waters and resources of Alaska," said Hartig.

The agreement enhances cooperation in areas such as spill response, planning, training, information sharing and inspection of vessels and facilities.

"Cooperation and coordination in government is crucial to the public we serve, said Brooks. "Not being content with our current strong relationship, we are moving forward, together, to enhance our planning, capabilities and operations to strengthen the protection of Alaska's marine environment."

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The U.S. Coast Guard is a military, maritime, multi-mission service within the Department of Homeland Security dedicated to protecting the safety and security of America.

The Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation is dedicated to conserving, improving and protecting Alaska's natural resources and environment to enhance the health, safety and social well being of Alaskans.