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CHARTER FOR SHIP SINKING COMMITTEE

WHY IS THIS MISSION NEEDED OR WHY IS IT IMPORTANT

California Ships to Reefs wants to place each vessel upright and correctly oriented on the site where spotted. California Ships to Reefs does not want to harm any marine mammals that may be nearby or any marine life that may be transiting the sink site. The sinking cannot happen unless all the permits for the event are in place.

DESCRIPTION OF WHAT NEEDS TO BE DONE

1. Develop standardized protocol for sinking ships
 - a. Towing of vessel to site
 - b. Anchoring in proper location (GPS/bearings from landmarks, etc.)
 - c. Vessel oriented properly (surge/current)
 - d. Establish safety zone and protocols with local agencies
 - e. Security (i.e., prevent access by unauthorized personnel to vessel/safety zone/viewing zone)
 - f. Ensure demolition contractor complies with federal/state/local regulations regarding licenses, transport and handling of explosives, pyrotechnics, etc.
 - g. Protocols for final cutting and/or explosives placement
 - h. Site Prep (i.e., pick up starfish, etc. & place into containers for safety, then release after reefing complete)
 - i. Policy of who has ship access & who does not – is there any training or orientation required? Policy of who has authority to order personnel off the vessel
 - j. Protocols for First responder/rescue agencies for access pre-sinking for training, video, etc.
 - k. Document sinking for internal purposes
 - l. Buoy/Navigational Aid placement
2. Liaise with Explosives Contractor, U.S. Coast Guard, NOAA Fisheries Office of Protected Resources (Marine Mammal Protection Act) and local jurisdictions to ensure all permits for sinking are valid and in place
3. Liaise with Sinking Event Committee to ensure the following:
 - a. Standardized protocol for documentation of sinking (documentary and internal purposes)
 - b. Press/media/camera equipment placement
 - c. Proper placement of former crew ashes on the vessel(s)

DEFINE SUCCESS FOR THIS COMMITTEE

1. Site prep is complete
2. All permits are valid and in place
3. Anchoring is in proper location
4. Security/Safety protocols are in place and safety/viewing zones have been established and are being monitored
5. Local first responder/rescue agencies have completed pre-sinking training, video, etc.
6. Marine mammals in area of sinking are clear
7. Sinking takes place on time and as planned
8. Vessel is on the bottom with no surprises
9. Buoys/Navigational Aids are in place
10. First diver in on the ship

OVERALL PROJECT: For the duration

SKILLS/PEOPLE OR EQUIPMENT NEEDED TO ACCOMPLISH MISSION OF COMMITTEE

People experienced in security issues, people experienced in public safety issues, ship handlers/pilots, Explosives Contractor Liaison, U.S. Coast Guard Liaison, NOAA Fisheries Office of Protected Resources Liaison (Governmental Relations-Federal Permitting Committee); Local Jurisdiction Liaison (Governmental Relations-Local Permitting Committee); Marine Mammal Lookouts (Science Committee); divers for site prep, reporters, videographers, documentary companies