

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD

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Investigation of: *

*

GROUNDING/STRANDING OF THE FISH *

TENDER BARGE SM-3 IN NUSHAGAK BAY * Accident No.: DCA20FM027

NEAR EKUK, ALASKA, ON AUGUST 30, 2020 *

*

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Interview of: VICTORIA E. KEE, Fish House Manager
SM-3, Northline Seafoods

Via telephone

Thursday,
September 24, 2020

From: [Furukawa Robert](#)
To: [Kee, Victoria Erika](#)
Subject: Ms. Victoria E. Kee, Fish House Manager, SM-3: Interview Transcript, Transcript Errata, and Non-Disclosure Agreement
Date: Friday, October 16, 2020 3:28:00 PM
Attachments: [DCA20FM027_Kee.pdf](#)
[Transcript Errata-SecondPage-SM-3-grounding-stranding-DCA20FM027.docx](#)
[TranscriptErrataNdaLtr4Email-SM-3-grounding-stranding-DCA20FM027.docx](#)

NTSB INVESTIGATIVE INFORMATION / [REDACTED]

National Transportation Safety Board
Office of Marine Safety

October 16, 2020

Dear **Ms. Victoria E. Kee**,

The enclosed transcript of your interview on **September 24, 2020** is provided for your review and comment to ensure its accuracy. It is not for public release. Please destroy the transcript after providing your comments.

The transcript is investigative information of the National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) created as part of the NTSB's investigation into the **Grounding/Stranding of the Fish Tender Barge SM-3 in Nushagak Bay near Ekuk, Alaska, on August 30, 2020 (DCA20FM027)**.

NTSB regulations prohibit the public release of investigative information prior to release by the NTSB without the permission of the NTSB Investigator in Charge (IIC). See 49 C.F.R. § 831.13(b). The IIC has not approved public release of this information at this time. Therefore, we request that you refrain from any further dissemination of this transcript.

Please provide your comments or corrections to the transcript by email:

[REDACTED] If you have any questions, you may contact me by email or phone:

Comments must be returned no later than **October 26, 2020**. Requests for an extension of this deadline must be in writing and received prior to the due date. If comments are not received by the due date, we will consider the transcript to be final without comment.

Thank you in advance for your attention to this matter.

R. Jon Furukawa
Senior Marine Accident Investigator
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Office of Marine Safety
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APPEARANCES:

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U.S. Coast Guard

R. JON FURUKAWA, Investigator in Charge
National Transportation Safety Board

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I N T E R V I E W

(1:03 p.m.)

1
2
3 MR. FURUKAWA: Okay. The date is Thursday, the 24th of
4 September. It is 1303 Eastern Daylight Time. And we're here to
5 interview Ms. Victoria Erica Kee, a processor on the barge SM-3.

6 And --

7 MS. KEE: I actually work as the fish house manager. I don't
8 know if that matters to your interview.

9 MR. FURUKAWA: You're the fish house manager?

10 MS. KEE: Yeah. I was the fish house manager this season.

11 MR. FURUKAWA: Okay.

12 MS. KEE: But I'm not sure if that matters though.

13 MR. FURUKAWA: Well, it does. Fish house manager. Okay.

14 And, Erica, do you acknowledge that this interview is being
15 recorded?

16 MS. KEE: My first name is Victoria.

17 MR. FURUKAWA: Oh.

18 MS. KEE: But yes.

19 MR. FURUKAWA: I'm sorry.

20 MS. KEE: That's okay. Yes. I do acknowledge that this is
21 being recorded.

22 MR. FURUKAWA: Okay. And okay, [REDACTED] take it away.

23 CWO [REDACTED] Okay. Good. Thanks, Victoria, for calling in
24 and letting us talk to you. So as Jon had stated, the Coast Guard
25 and NTSB together, because fortunately there was no loss of life

1 or serious injury, but because of value of the barge, that
2 automatically prompted, by federal law, a joint investigation by
3 the Coast Guard and NTSB. And as you said, talking to the crew is
4 how we're finding out the best information we can find.

5 INTERVIEW OF VICTORIA E. KEE

6 BY CWO [REDACTED]

7 Q. So let's start with your experience in the industry. So
8 you're young. Have you been up here in Alaska working several
9 summers? Or how many years' experience -- I guess what I'm
10 getting at is how many years of experience do you have in the
11 fishing industry?

12 A. This was actually my first summer working up in Alaska in the
13 fishing industry. I did just graduate with my fisheries and
14 wildlife degree, and my brother has been fishing up in Alaska for
15 8 years, so I have quite a bit of information on the Alaska
16 fishing industry. But up until now, my only experience in
17 fisheries is working as fisheries technician for the federal
18 government in Oregon.

19 Q. Okay. For how long have you been doing that?

20 A. I did that for two summers, so two other times, 6 months.

21 Q. Okay. So you said this summer was your first summer in
22 Alaska?

23 A. Yes. Yes, it was.

24 Q. Okay. About when did you start with -- and you hired
25 directly on with Northline, nobody else?

1 A. Yes. I hired directly with Northline, not for anyone else.

2 Q. Okay.

3 A. And I started -- my quarantine for this summer was like May
4 20th, and I believe I got to the barge on June 9th.

5 Q. Okay. And you quarantined in -- on the Kenai Peninsula with
6 the rest of the crew that went up there?

7 A. Yes.

8 Q. Okay. All right. So I think it was Ben that told us you
9 were a deckhand/processor. That's where we got that from. But if
10 your position was different as a fish house manager, what exactly
11 does that have you responsible for?

12 A. So I don't think I'm actually responsible for anything. Like
13 safety wise, anything safety wise, making sure that people are
14 doing things properly within the fish house. But nothing -- I
15 guess at that point in the season, a lot of the safety things came
16 down to Pat and Zach.

17 But during the season I basically was just managing between
18 10 and 15 people and making sure processing ran smoothly and that
19 everyone was following safety procedures with making sure that our
20 key stops were being used when -- like if anyone had any doubts
21 and things like that, that people were stopping and making sure
22 everyone was being safe.

23 Q. Okay. So --

24 A. So at that --

25 Q. -- were you one of several managers, or were you the manager

1 and then people worked for you on different shifts?

2 A. I was one of two managers. I managed the night shift for the
3 majority of the season until our other manager left, probably the
4 month in advance of when the barge crashed. So I was the singular
5 fish house manager for that last month. And I worked underneath
6 Zach directly, so he was on my shift the majority of the summer.

7 Q. Okay. And a typical shift, how many hours would that
8 average?

9 A. So --

10 Q. Was a straight 12-hour shift or sometimes you had to do 16 or
11 even 20 if the fish were coming in?

12 A. It was between 12 and 16 for the majority of the crew for the
13 processor. Sometimes I was working between like 20 and 21 hours.
14 That was only once in a while. That was like three times this
15 summer, I think, three or four times that I did work up to that
16 many hours a couple of times.

17 Q. Okay.

18 A. But for the majority of the people, it was between 12 and 16.

19 Q. Yeah. When you got out to the barge, do you recall doing
20 emergency drills, like fire, abandon ship, man overboard, that
21 kind of series of drills?

22 A. Yes. We did do the, like fire safety drill and things like
23 that. We went through all the procedures, and we walked through
24 how to put on -- it was just practice putting on survival suits.

25 Q. Okay. Good.

1 A. And we did a walk through and went through the like safety
2 and precautionary things on the barge, and where we would all meet
3 in case there were a fire. So yeah.

4 Q. Okay. You said you got the barge June 9th. Do you recall
5 how soon after your arrival on the barge this training took place?
6 Was it within that week, or was it a week or so after, or not
7 until July?

8 A. It was sort of like a week afterwards, or like 5 to 7 days
9 afterwards. Something like that. But --

10 (Simultaneous speaking.)

11 Q. And they were pretty much just waiting for --

12 A. -- all kind of messed up. So --

13 Q. Yeah.

14 A. -- it had been between like a half a week or a week and a
15 half. I'm not entirely sure.

16 Q. Well, it was within the first couple of weeks --

17 A. Yes.

18 Q. -- they knocked it out? Okay. And everybody that was on the
19 barge was involved?

20 A. I believe so. I was not the person who was in charge of
21 managing that, but they were checking people off, and we did it in
22 groups because we wanted to make sure everyone could have space to
23 try out suits and things that, that's what I would do. So we
24 tried them up on the roof, but there was only space enough for 15
25 people at a time. There was 40-something people on the boat, so

1 we did it in like three groups.

2 Q. Okay. Makes sense. Where were those -- and you also had
3 floatation, lifejackets, PFDs?

4 A. Yes.

5 Q. Okay. Where were they stowed, the survival suits and the
6 PFDs?

7 A. Okay. So part of my job at the beginning of the summer was
8 to make sure everyone tried on a survival suit and got the correct
9 size. It was kind of an unofficial job that I kind of got put to.
10 I'm not sure if it was something that they had planned, but I
11 ended up doing it.

12 And so everyone tried on a survival suit, made sure it fit,
13 and got instructions to have it where it would be available in
14 their room. So everyone had their own survival suit in their
15 room, and then we had additional survival suits in the common
16 lounge area.

17 Q. Okay.

18 A. And then everyone got instructions also to wax the zippers
19 and make sure that they have like trash bags for putting on a seat
20 and things, take a look at the survival suits when they were
21 handed their survival suits.

22 Q. Okay.

23 A. And then the PFDs were stored primarily in the lifejacket
24 room, which was the port stern side. We had a -- it was -- so
25 there was the housing unit up on top, and then there was the fish

1 house in the middle, and then the whole (indiscernible) sat in the
2 water. And then the PFDs sat in the port stern corner of the
3 housing on top before you went down into the like fly deck and
4 fish house area. So it was like right on your way out the door.

5 Q. Okay. So the fish -- I've only seen pictures of the barge,
6 so what I've seen is the barge steel hull itself and then
7 descriptions from Pat and Zach and Jeremiah have all told us that
8 the main deck had principally a very large freezer.

9 A. Um-hum.

10 Q. And then there was an accommodation area above that, and
11 that's where the fish house was?

12 A. Sorry. The fish house was right next to the freezer on that
13 -- like so the hull, if it's the -- like we call it the first
14 level, and then the second level is the one that's sitting on top
15 of that, third level is on top of that. The second level, where
16 that freezer is, is where the fish house was and also where the
17 fly deck was.

18 Q. Oh, okay. Okay.

19 A. Yes. And then the housing was on top of that, and that was
20 where lifejackets were stored. But there were also people who had
21 lifejackets in their room if they had like one that was like
22 personal use, one that they liked better.

23 Q. Okay. Did anybody that you know of bring their own either
24 immersion suit or lifejacket?

25 A. I'm not sure if people brought their own. I feel like they

1 must have because there were some like black lifejackets that were
2 people's own personal ones. But they might have been provided.

3 I'm not entirely sure.

4 Q. Okay.

5 A. I never used those so --

6 Q. Okay. But the majority of that equipment was all provided by
7 the company?

8 A. Yes. There was enough lifejackets for everyone on the barge
9 to have one besides, you know, like special black lifejackets or
10 whatever.

11 Q. Okay. All right. So when -- once you arrived on the barge,
12 did you stay on there the entire summer? Did you ever have a
13 reason or need to go ashore?

14 A. There were periodic trips to Dillingham. We weren't allowed
15 to set foot onshore, but there were a couple of trips into town to
16 pick up like food supplies and, you know, other necessary things
17 for like fixing things, parts and equipment and things.

18 Q. And you went on a couple of those runs?

19 A. Yes, I did go on a couple of those runs. And then there were
20 also a couple trips to the beach just to, you know, go and relax
21 and have fun. So I went on those trips as well.

22 Q. Okay. Did anything that you did on the *SM-3* have to do with
23 your degree?

24 A. I mean, I feel like the reason I probably got hired on with
25 very little hassle or questioning was because of my degree. So

1 called --

2 (Simultaneous speaking.)

3 Q. So it was --

4 A. What was that?

5 Q. Okay.

6 A. Oh. But yeah. And then I changed from there and it just
7 happened to be that -- you know, I think maybe Pat saw that I was
8 a capable person and was like, oh, I'll try you out in the fish
9 house lead or management position. So --

10 (Simultaneous speaking.)

11 Q. (Indiscernible) --

12 A. -- I don't know how much it had to do with my degree and how
13 much it had to do with personality or Pat -- physically, Pat is
14 much more focused on personality it seems like. But --

15 Q. Right.

16 A. -- I'm not --

17 Q. No, I'm just curious as a fishery and wildlife person that
18 it's -- if any of that had to do with what the barge was actually
19 doing. But they just sat there, and they just bought and froze
20 fish. That's pretty much their function, wasn't it?

21 A. Yes. So yeah, in that sense, no, what the barge did, did not
22 really have a huge amount to do with my degree.

23 Q. So the --

24 (Simultaneous speaking.)

25 A. -- fish. I'm good at fish ID because of my degree.

1 Q. Right.

2 A. So I did a decent amount of fish IDing this summer, and that
3 was probably the most relatable part to my degree.

4 Q. Okay. Well, it's always good to have a person that can
5 identify the proper species, so you know what you're getting paid
6 for.

7 A. Yeah.

8 Q. Okay. So a couple of trips. So how did you get from the
9 barge to wherever you were going? What was your mode of
10 transportation?

11 A. The -- I don't know if anyone talked about the landing craft
12 that we drove around, the *Seamount*.

13 Q. Yes, they have. Okay.

14 A. But yeah. Okay, yeah. It was -- yeah, basically we just
15 traveled around on the *Seamount*. And there was also a little
16 mini-skiff, like a little Zodiac that we could use to go back and
17 forth between -- like if we had to anchor the *Seamount* or
18 something off the beach, then we could take the skiff in to the
19 beach.

20 Or, if we needed to go back and forth between the holding
21 freezer and the main barge, the *SM-3* barge, then we could take the
22 skiff back and forth between that. And that was primarily when we
23 were pulling the anchors off of the holding barge to bring it into
24 Dillingham that we took the skiff back and forth. So that was one
25 also, one mode of transportation.

1 Q. Okay. So from what we've been told from interviews, the
2 majority of the season out there was for reds, right?

3 A. Yes.

4 Q. And that was June, late June to mid-July?

5 A. Yes. That is correct.

6 Q. Okay. And was there a period that you did silvers as well?

7 A. Yes. After the red season started to fizzle out, we started
8 moving more towards silvers. But we also had a couple weeks --
9 well, mostly only a week and a half that was primarily pinks
10 coming in actually.

11 Q. And again, you said pinks or kings?

12 A. Humpies, pinks.

13 Q. Oh, okay. Okay. Pinks. Okay. And that lasted until how
14 long?

15 A. It must have been like right at the change in between July
16 and August. Probably only like a week, week and a half.

17 Q. Okay. And do you recall when you actually stopped receiving,
18 processing fish?

19 A. I feel like I should know this. It was like August 19th or
20 something, but I'm not entirely sure about that. I don't remember
21 right now.

22 Q. That's good. We're just trying to create a timeline. That's
23 all.

24 A. Yeah. I think it was somewhere around August 19th to the
25 21st or something like that. But it might have also been later.

1 Q. Okay. That's fine. We -- I forgot what I was going to ask
2 you. Okay. So the end of the season around August 19, 21st,
3 somewhere in there. How about when the holding barge was taken
4 off beds and (indiscernible) mooring and taken to Dillingham, when
5 did that happen? So if the season ended May [sic] 21st, how much
6 longer after the end of the season did that barge leave?

7 A. I feel like it left on the 27th. What day was the storm on
8 again? It was September --

9 Q. The night of the 30th into the 31st was the storm.

10 A. The 30th to 31st. Okay. So yeah, I feel like we sent
11 everyone on home on like the 23rd or 24th. And then like 2 or 3
12 days after that is when we moved the holding barge into
13 Dillingham. So probably right around the 27th.

14 Q. Okay. Were you involved in that evolution at all?

15 A. Yes. At that point there, so after everyone went home --
16 well, not everyone. After the majority of the crew went home on
17 the, whatever, 23rd or 24th, there was eight of us left on the
18 barge. So we were all involved in moving that holding barge into
19 Dillingham.

20 Although it was kind of a split crew. So there was five of
21 us that were moving the holding barge -- helping move the holding
22 barge. Then we were having another boat do the moving, we were
23 helping or assisting. But three people stayed on the SM-3 and
24 then five of us -- well, four and then Pat came out a little bit
25 later on the mini-skiff. So four sort of helping move and then

1 Pat joined us.

2 Q. Okay. Do you remember what the name of the -- was it
3 *Seamount* or was it another vessel that moved the barge?

4 A. It was another vessel. It was blue. I feel like the guy's
5 name was Allen Pivot (ph.) who was the captain.

6 Q. Okay.

7 A. But I cannot remember the name of the vessel. And he was the
8 one doing the moving of the barge. We were just assisting if he
9 needed like a side push or something if the current was getting
10 kind of strong, then we would have the *Seamount* on the one side
11 pushing it in one direction or helping to steer basically.

12 And then I also, my personal role in that was I was on the
13 *Riverways-9*, the holding barge -- or it was the *Riverways-11*. I
14 can't remember. We had two *Riverways*. I think it was the
15 *Riverways-9* that the holding barge was. And I was on there tying
16 up lines basically. My job was to make sure the lines were tied,
17 so we could like reduce the amount of contact. Some people were
18 trying to still social distance or semi-social distance from this
19 other crew. So that was my job.

20 Q. So were you just line handling?

21 A. Yes.

22 Q. Okay. Not to sidetrack too much, but you mentioned
23 *Riverways-9*, and Pat had this problem yesterday as well. Who's
24 *Riverways-11*? Is that a Northline barge or is that one of the
25 barges that was tied up next to you?

1 A. I believe the *Riverways-11* was the barge that was -- oh, God,
2 I can't remember. There was -- I think the *Riverways-11* was the
3 one that was tied up next to us. But I can't remember if it was
4 the one that was the holding barge.

5 Q. Okay. So what -- that's what Pat said, too. He said that it
6 was 9 or 11, and then somebody on an earlier interview told us it
7 was 9. Not that that's that important, but we can figure it out
8 at the end. And then there was another -- there was a Bering,
9 *Bristol Maid* I think was there.

10 A. Yeah.

11 Q. And then another barge that he thought was *Riverways-9* or 11
12 that was like a net barge.

13 A. Yeah.

14 Q. Yeah. Okay. All right. So you're line handling on the
15 holding barge, and that took pretty much all day to get it
16 disconnected and on its way to Dillingham?

17 A. Yeah. We took it at like 3 in the morning or 4 in the
18 morning, and it was -- we were back at like 7 or 8, maybe 9
19 o'clock. And then they had to go back into town because something
20 was wrong with the -- when we brought the holding barge in, it was
21 in the wrong location, so they had -- so Pat did all the original
22 driving with Zach on that first trip into town. And then the
23 second trip into town, I think Pat went again. Yeah. Pat went
24 again, and then with Rosie and with Bill. So they went and put
25 the barge in the final location where they wanted it. So there

1 was a couple trips that day. I wasn't part of the second one. I
2 only went on the first.

3 Q. Okay. All right. So now that the holding barge is gone, and
4 SM-3 is now on the mooring buoy by itself, and it's now coming
5 into the day of August 30th, or a couple days leading up to it.
6 Do you remember anybody talking about weather and that there's a
7 nasty storm coming, and we'd better make preparations?

8 A. Yes. Yeah. We were definitely bringing things off the deck
9 and making sure that lines were tied properly and that we had
10 everything prepared. And we also sent -- I think it was during
11 the day before the storm hit that we sent the team out into town,
12 into Dillingham, because we were worried about it getting really
13 messed up like with the storm or, you know, (indiscernible) --

14 (Simultaneous speaking.)

15 Q. Right. (Indiscernible) --

16 A. -- or something. Yeah.

17 Q. -- sitting alongside?

18 A. Yeah. So yeah, there was a lot of preparations made. We
19 went around and were making sure chains were good and things were
20 taken off the deck. And all of that was happening. And we had
21 also done quite a bit of like dock moving, so we -- in the days
22 after the holding barge left, we were doing -- like every day, we
23 were moving -- like we had all these dock sections surrounding the
24 barge, I don't know if anyone mentioned that, but so the fishermen
25 could tie up. So we moved all of those dock sections to the net

1 deck, which was on top of the housing of the barge.

2 Q. I kind of knew of them because Pat told me there was a bunch
3 of them on the beach. When the barge ran aground, they came off
4 the top of the barge.

5 A. Yes.

6 Q. But I wasn't aware that -- well, I might have been, but you
7 were using them as docks. Were they little small barges, or were
8 they actual dock pieces that you could pick up with a crane?

9 A. No. They were actual dock pieces that we could pick up with
10 a crane.

11 Q. Okay. Because some people like to take little barges and
12 make them docks or take 55-gallon drums and, you know, put plywood
13 over the top and call that a dock. It wasn't like that?

14 A. No. This had like true dock floats underneath it, like a
15 flat rectangular dock float.

16 Q. Okay.

17 A. And then it was like -- it was a true dock section. So they
18 all were. There was like eight of them, I think.

19 Q. Okay.

20 A. Yeah.

21 Q. And if you were to -- so when you say the bow of the barge
22 was tied to the mooring buoy, where would the dock sections be in
23 relation to the barge?

24 A. They were along both sides. They ran port -- or not port
25 side. They ran bow to stern on both of the port and starboard

1 sides.

2 Q. Okay. Okay. So now you were doing preparations. It's
3 August 30th. That's the day of the storm. When do you recall
4 things starting to get really bad?

5 A. I feel like it was around 9 or 10 o'clock. I mean, we knew
6 it was already bad. Like everyone had already kind of been
7 feeling a little seasick, and everyone had already taken like
8 seasickness medication probably by 3 to 5 o'clock in the
9 afternoon. It was getting kind of rough.

10 And we all knew that it was going to be a bad storm, so we
11 were just preparing for it that -- making sure that any last
12 minute like preparations were being made, made sure that -- well,
13 everything that we thought would need to be off the deck, was off
14 the deck, and then also tying down things in the fish house and
15 whatnot, making sure that anything that could fall over was just
16 already down.

17 Q. Right.

18 A. And then we -- when we went upstairs, we like ate dinner and
19 were hanging out for a while in the galley, and it was starting to
20 get pretty bad at that point. So I think -- yeah, so we ended up
21 moving into the common area and watching a movie for a little
22 while, I think. And then it started getting bad later. But
23 between that time, we were like -- we watched a movie. I fell
24 asleep on the couch, so I'm not sure what happened.

25 There was a period of time that I'm kind of missing, but I do

1 remember hearing people run down the hall. I got up, and this was
2 probably 7:30, 8 o'clock that I got up and was -- I watched Zach
3 and Jeremiah and Pat all run by down the hallway. And I think
4 they were -- I think -- yeah, I think it was like 8:30 -- well, 7
5 -- it was between 7 and 9 o'clock or 7 and 10 o'clock, somewhere
6 in that timeframe, that we started noticing that something was
7 kind of funky.

8 And they were moving downstairs, and I was like, do you guys
9 need help? And they're like, just stay up here for now, trying to
10 keep as few people on the deck as possible. We were getting some
11 pretty big waves over the stern, so like probably between 8- and
12 10-foot waves. Like it was -- there was one that, when I
13 eventually went down there, it was -- it came over the stern and
14 it hit me, and I was fully drenched even though I was wearing rain
15 gear. It like -- it came in like a (indiscernible) and everything
16 underneath was soaking wet, so it was a huge amount of water. But
17 I'm just anticipating -- I mean, it was taller than I was, and I
18 think it was taller than Zach was, so I'm imagining it was taller
19 than like 6 to 6½ feet or something. So I think it was --

20 Q. Okay. So --

21 A. -- that though. But yeah. So, for a while, Peter Jackson
22 and I were sitting up in the lifejacket room, looking out the back
23 window, seeing if they needed help. And then, eventually, Zach
24 came up, and then Jeremiah and Pat came up following. And I asked
25 if they needed help, and they actually did need help this time, so

1 Peter and I put on rain gear and lifejackets and grabbed a walkie
2 talkie each and went downstairs to help them with things.

3 And basically, when we were down there, I think this must
4 have been the point where they had realized we broke free from the
5 mooring buoy. Probably -- it was probably like 9 or 10 o'clock at
6 that point and -- or maybe it was a little earlier. It was
7 probably -- well, yeah, probably 8 o'clock. And then, so Pat was
8 like, we need to get the emergency anchor, an extra anchor on to
9 the anchor that we did have still. So we were craning or using
10 the two back cranes to keep tension on this extra anchor and move
11 it from the port side to the starboard side where we had our
12 anchor still attached.

13 Q. Okay. Had that first --

14 (Simultaneous speaking.)

15 A. -- not like it ended there, but yeah.

16 Q. Yeah. Had that first anchor already been to (indiscernible),
17 or is that -- when you heard the guys running down the hallway,
18 that's probably what they went to go do?

19 A. Probably, but I'm not entirely sure. For some reason -- this
20 is stupid, because I know how boats work, but for the majority of
21 the season, I was under the impression that we were anchored on
22 both sides of the barge even though we were spinning. So it must
23 not have been to port, and that must have been what they were
24 doing, but I'm not sure when that happened.

25 Q. Okay. Yeah. So according to Pat, the barge broke loose, and

1 then they dropped the first anchor that he tried to get it to grab
2 the bottom, and it was connected to 900-some feet of cable. And
3 when he realized that, that wasn't holding or grabbing, then
4 that's when they added the second anchor to the first anchor
5 cable.

6 A. Yes. Yes, that is what happened. And that is when Peter and
7 I went downstairs to help.

8 Q. That's when you became involved though?

9 A. Yes.

10 Q. Okay.

11 A. I thought our -- so we had six people on the barge at this
12 point, because Bill and Rosie had taken the *Seamount* into town.
13 So six people, and Tessa was sleeping during the majority of this.
14 Nobody woke her up. I think -- so she's probably the least
15 experienced out of everyone with boats and things, so I think
16 nobody wanted to take the chance of having her downstairs until it
17 was absolutely necessary.

18 Q. Was it --

19 A. So she was upstairs still.

20 (Simultaneous speaking.)

21 Q. So they thought that the safest place --

22 A. So five of us were down there.

23 Q. -- for her was just to stay in her room and sleep?

24 A. What was that?

25 Q. They thought the safest place for her was just to stay in her

1 room sleeping, or stay in her room?

2 A. Well, she had fallen asleep earlier, and I think it also
3 happened so fast, like I don't think anyone realized she was
4 asleep. But I do think no one would want -- we were thinking
5 like, oh, we need to get this figured out. I don't think anyone
6 was like, we should go wake her up and like get her down here or
7 anything just because --

8 Q. Sure.

9 A. -- having her on the deck would have been more of a safety
10 hazard than it would have been helpful.

11 Q. Okay. All right. So you're out there trying to get -- so
12 you get the other, the second anchor deployed. Then what do you
13 remember?

14 A. Yes. I do, yeah. We were -- so for the majority of that, I
15 was just helping Jeremiah manage lines and get things out of the
16 way on the back deck. So we had to -- I think we had the baby
17 skiff back there that was kind of in the way. Yeah. So we were
18 trying to kind of get that out of the way and then get some lines
19 prepared for something, not that I know what. But yeah.

20 So we were coiling out lines, and then I also was holding the
21 crane operation controls for Pat, because we have two cranes that
22 we were using, and he was switching back and forth between the
23 starboard and port crane to make sure that tension was held on the
24 anchor when we were moving it from the port side to starboard
25 side. So I was just handing him back and forth the controls.

1 Q. Were they wireless or they were small handheld units
2 connected to a cable that connected to the crane?

3 A. No, they were wireless.

4 Q. Okay. But one was specific for one unit and the other was
5 specific for the other unit?

6 A. Yes. That is correct.

7 Q. Okay. So you're on the back deck securing things, moving
8 line around, working the cranes. And now, if you had to guess
9 about what time it is, what time do you think it is now?

10 A. I think this probably all happened, I mean, like 8 and 9:30.
11 And once they got the anchor deployed, we moved up into the house
12 to be like off the deck and, you know, not in the line of fire for
13 the waves coming over.

14 Q. Okay. And then how long did you stay there?

15 A. It was not very long. We were -- so we were sitting in the
16 corner, the port stern corner of the house, looking down like in
17 the -- the way the hallways were is that you could -- it was kind
18 of an L-shaped, that corner. You could sit and look down both
19 hallways at once if you were sitting at the corner.

20 And when we were looking down the hallway, you could see the
21 wall flexing, and when you were leaning against the wall, you
22 could feel it flexing. Like I was sitting on the floor, leaning
23 against the wall, and I could feel the wall flexing against my
24 back, and then the floor. So it was like, it's -- you know, the
25 angle of the floor and wall were changing. Does that make sense?

1 Q. It does.

2 A. So we were up there for like probably 15, 20 minutes when
3 they were deciding whether or not it would be safer for us to stay
4 up there or where we should go.

5 Q. Okay.

6 A. And I think Zach was getting pretty nervous, so he was going
7 up to Pat and like, where do you -- what -- like what is the plan
8 here? But we didn't care about that because like we could all see
9 the hallways flexing. We were definitely like getting nervous. I
10 didn't think anyone wanted to make that decision without Pat's
11 approval because he like -- yeah, he kind of is the be all and end
12 all person. So we were all getting kind of nervous and just
13 waiting for the call.

14 Q. Okay. Do you think when the housing walls were moving, was
15 the barge still floating or do you think it had gone to the beach
16 and now was bouncing in the surf?

17 A. I think it might have been bouncing in the surf at that
18 point.

19 Q. Okay. So you could feel that impact, the hit, you know, on
20 like a swell, and then you'd feel a slam that it then would swell
21 and then a slam, kind of like that?

22 A. It's weird, because my memory of this is a little bit fuzzy
23 about the time of like when we hit the beach. It kind of -- I
24 mean, so when waves were moving, it felt like we were slamming for
25 most of the night anyway at least, so I mean, it's -- when we

1 moved into the hull, it was very obvious when we were on the
2 beach. But I can't remember if we were like on the beach, on the
3 beach, slamming into the beach when we were watching the housing
4 flex.

5 Q. Okay.

6 A. I think we might not have been quite to the beach yet. But
7 the waves were like always getting shallower and more --

8 Q. Right.

9 A. -- aggressive, like -- yeah.

10 Q. Okay. So Pat made the decision to move into the hold?

11 A. Yes.

12 Q. And all six of you went there?

13 A. Yes.

14 Q. Okay. And if you had to guess, how long do you think you
15 were down there?

16 A. I think it was like 6 to 7 hours.

17 Q. Oh, quite awhile.

18 A. Yeah, it was. I feel like we were there from like 10 or
19 10:30 until like 4 or 5 o'clock in the morning. Like we went down
20 there when it was -- I don't know. It was just getting like dark,
21 and then we came out after it was already light, so -- or it had
22 already just gotten dark, but it was like, it was only dark
23 probably for an hour before we went to the hold. And then it was
24 light when we came back out.

25 Q. Okay. Yeah. That sounds about like that would be the

1 timeframe.

2 A. Yeah.

3 Q. Okay. So you spent pretty much the night in the hold. Were
4 you in the dark or was there water pouring in or did you feel safe
5 down there?

6 A. So there was water coming in, but it was kind of weird,
7 because it was -- what is that thing called? The ice machine that
8 we had sitting on top of the hold, it sat out, but there were kind
9 of gaps between it, and I think the way water was coming into the
10 hold was through the gaps in the ice machine and the fish
11 elevator. So I don't think that water -- like water wasn't
12 pouring in or anything because the boat was like sinking. It's
13 just waves were coming over, and then water was coming between
14 gaps and things, so it wasn't like huge amounts of water or
15 anything like that.

16 And we weren't -- we actually had lights for a little while.
17 I can't remember how long. But we had lights for a little while
18 until I believe the engine room started flooding, so they turned
19 the genset off, and then we had no lights, overhead lights or
20 anything. But one of the -- what is that called? It was like a
21 screen with images from all the cameras that went into the holding
22 tanks that we had, and for some reason -- that must be battery
23 powered, because that thing went for quite a while after we turned
24 the genset off. And it's only a black and white screen, so it
25 wasn't like super bright or anything, but it was enough that you

1 could see like the shadows of people.

2 Q. Right.

3 A. And then we also had a couple headlamps here and there. So
4 it wasn't completely dark until probably 3. Yeah. We only sat in
5 the dark for like half an hour to an hour in like complete
6 darkness.

7 Q. Okay. And continuing on, your -- what you remember after
8 that, then what happened?

9 A. Well, so --

10 Q. So now has the barge stopped moving?

11 A. Well, so we went down in the hold originally, we were sitting
12 in the stern left/starboard corner of the holding -- or not the
13 holding -- of the hold. So we were sitting in -- there's four
14 bays. Bay 1 is the engine room that was in the bow, and then Bays
15 2 and 3 were holding tanks in the center of the hull, and then Bay
16 4 was the like fish pump/parts and tools room. And for a while,
17 we were sitting in Bay 4. And Bay 4 is in the stern.

18 We were sitting in Bay 4 on some raised platforms that we
19 used to walk around down there. But at a certain point, I think
20 we must have been crashing on the beach, and I think -- so we'd
21 been sitting up there for a while, and we could hear the house
22 like going, but it was going very slowly. It was like pops and
23 cracks and banging for quite a while, like 4 hours, maybe 3 hours.
24 I'm not sure when Pat and Zach decided that they were worried, but
25 -- so we heard this going for quite a while.

1 And then they started getting worried that we either were
2 going to get -- I'm not sure if they were worried we were going to
3 get trapped or if we were going to get like tipped over. But at a
4 certain point, they decided that it would be better for us to move
5 away from Bay 4 and into Bays 2 and 3 where the holding tanks
6 were, because the holding tanks were welded down, so they weren't
7 going to move. Like if we did tip over, they wouldn't like come
8 toppling down on us, whereas in the Bay 4, there's a lot of crap
9 that could just like -- if we tipped over, you would have so much
10 shit just piling on top of you.

11 Q. Okay. So like --

12 A. There was also only the one entrance and exit -- well, not
13 one, but there's one way like truly out of Bay 4. I mean, you can
14 go from Bay 4 into Bays 2 and 3, and then go out through the fish
15 house, so there's emergency exits that way. But the like actual
16 true exit of Bay 4 would have -- was like right underneath where
17 the housing was starting to go, I think is what they were worried
18 about, so like the housing blocking our exit.

19 Q. Okay.

20 A. So they moved us into Bays 2 and 3 where they have -- there's
21 exits on either side of Bays 2 and 3, and then there's also
22 watertight doors. And then also there's emergency hatches above
23 that you can crawl out to the fish house. So there was more
24 emergency exits, and it also was a little bit safer, so we
25 wouldn't have stuff like toppling on us if we rolled.

1 Q. Okay.

2 A. And we stayed there for a couple hours. I remember we were
3 all just kind of laying down, like half asleep or sleeping. Some
4 of us were sleeping. But yeah.

5 Q. Okay. So a couple hours go by. Now it's coming up on, I
6 guess, around 4 a.m. I think Pat or Zach were one of the first
7 two to go out and look. When did they tell you, you could come
8 out?

9 A. I don't actually know. I know that I was one of the last
10 couple of people to go out. So Pat and Zach went first, and then
11 I think Jeremiah, and then Amy and Peter went, and I think Tessa
12 stayed down in the hull for a little while. But by the time we
13 came out, we weren't moving anymore, so the barge had no more
14 water under it. We weren't like moving at all anymore. There was
15 no more banging or anything by the time that they were like, maybe
16 we could come out now.

17 Q. Okay. So we're not moving, so we must be hard aground on the
18 beach. So then what happened? Or what'd you do?

19 A. So when we came out from the hull, we were pretty careful at
20 first actually, because you could see -- like as soon as you
21 peeked your head out of the entryway to Bay 4, you could see that
22 the housing was like slid off the bracing that it was one, so --
23 and you could see that it had all like separated out and was kind
24 of falling through. So we were pretty careful.

25 And then, I remember like walking around the corner and

1 seeing that on the port side where the fish house walls had sat
2 and there had been like a freezer door that we used to enter the
3 fish house, all of that was just like (indiscernible) to the port
4 to starboard side was gone, like pushed over.

5 Q. Okay.

6 A. So I think we ended up looking at some of that stuff. And
7 we're kind of standing around, waiting to hear what Pat wanted to
8 do while he was kind of assessing what was going on, and then also
9 kind of -- I think they walked upstairs to kind of assess whether
10 or not we could go into the housing and get some of our stuff.

11 Because when we went down into the hull, all we grabbed was
12 lifejackets. And then I think I remember also telling Tessa that
13 she should grab her wallet. I was worried at that point that the
14 housing was going to come down anyway. So I was, maybe you should
15 grab your passport and wallet and things if you can't come back
16 up. So I think everyone like had their passports and wallets and
17 stuff, but we left pretty much everything else. So it was just
18 kind of, let's grab what you can quick when we went down.

19 And then, so Pat decided he wanted to pump out the engine
20 room, Bay 1, up in the bow, which -- so it was like full of water.
21 And so we kind of were looking around for the pump, which had been
22 in the fish house, and it was still in the fish house, but the
23 fish house was like shoved to the side, and all the things that
24 had been in there were just like everywhere. Thankfully, the pump
25 actually hadn't moved that much, which was kind of interesting.

1 But it had -- it was heavy enough, I guess, that it stayed put
2 pretty well. And it --

3 Q. Okay.

4 A. -- just had moved around a bit. So we got the pump out and
5 were pumping out the engine room, which I believe that --

6 Q. So you were actually able to start it, the pump?

7 A. Yes. Yep.

8 Q. Okay.

9 A. The pump was good. Yeah.

10 Q. Okay.

11 A. And I think, so Zach was the first person to go up into the
12 housing. And when he was up there, our rooms -- his and my room
13 were side by side to each other, and then his room was next to
14 Rosie's room on the other side. So when he went up there, he --
15 his room and Rosie's room were in the best location, the one that
16 had fallen over the reef. So he was able to go into their two
17 rooms and grab some stuff, and then also my room and grab like my
18 laptop and like a change of clothes. So he grabbed like basically
19 a to-go backpack just in case we weren't able to get back up in
20 there.

21 And then I can't remember how long we were pumping out the
22 engine room before we decided to move and start pumping out the
23 Bay 1 -- or no, not Bay 1, Bay 4. Sorry. They wanted to
24 (indiscernible). It was a while though before we went back to Bay
25 4 and started pumping out Bay 4, because there was probably a foot

1 and a half or 2 feet of water in Bay 4 also. And then we ended up
2 going into the house, and kind of everyone was able to like work
3 their way to their rooms and get the rest of their stuff. And
4 then we packed bags for Bill and Rosie also while we were up
5 there.

6 Q. Okay. So were you able to get all of your stuff that you
7 originally came to the barge with, or is some of it still on the
8 barge?

9 A. Some of it is still on the barge. I didn't -- so my room,
10 Peter's room, and Jeremiah's room was on a section of hallway --
11 so when it was -- the way it was all set up is that there was like
12 -- I don't know if you've worked container vans. They kind of
13 looked like little portable like -- you know, not L-shaped, but
14 like rectangular things that you could just set on the house and,
15 you know, take down because Zach and Rosie's room, that section of
16 the hallway stayed on the (indiscernible). But then -- and they
17 were on the port to starboard -- like sideways facing port side of
18 the hallway. My room and where my -- the section of the hallway
19 that was Jeremiah, Peter, and my room was the stern to bow
20 section, so it was running forward to backward, as opposed to Zach
21 and Rosie's room, which ran side to side. But it was just an
22 L-shaped corner that we were on.

23 And so the side that my room and Peter and Jeremiah's room
24 was on, that had slid off quite a bit more, and there was a big
25 gap between like where the head was -- the hallway, there was no

1 hallway anymore. Basically it had fallen through. So there was
2 support beams that you could walk on, but then those were kind of
3 half hanging off, so yeah. It probably wasn't the best choice to
4 go into my room honestly. But anyway, I did go in my room, and I
5 got the majority of my stuff, but I didn't really want to stand
6 up. I was worried about like moving around too much. So
7 basically, I crawled into the entryway of my door and grabbed
8 everything that I could reach, but I didn't want to stand up to
9 grab everything.

10 Q. Okay. So you gather up your gear, then you -- by this time,
11 had somebody come from Ekuk to help you guys?

12 A. Yes. Yes. He was Ben's friend. His name was Tom O'Connor
13 (ph.) I believe. And he was -- he and his wife, Renee, lived at
14 Ekuk or had a house there. And I guess Ben called him to see if
15 he could come down to the beach and see if we were okay, like come
16 check on us.

17 Q. Okay.

18 A. Yeah.

19 Q. So he came down and did he give you a ride back to his place
20 and the you stayed there, or what, where'd you go after you left
21 the beach?

22 A. So the first trip, the very first trip that we made, Zach and
23 I left with Tom back to his house, back to Tom's house. And
24 basically, we were just -- Zach was calling Ben and his wife,
25 Rachel, and I think probably Rosie and people to make sure they

1 were -- they knew what was going on. And then I was calling my
2 parents and stuff. And then, so we stayed there for probably an
3 hour while the phone calls were happening, going through the
4 engineer.

5 But so we stayed there for probably an hour while those calls
6 were happening and then headed back out to the barge along with
7 another guy named Denny. I don't remember his last name. But
8 yeah, basically the (indiscernible) went back out to the barge and
9 we picked up the rest of the people who -- all of our crew. So we
10 picked up Pat and Peter, Tessa and Jeremiah with the car. And
11 then I ended up staying in the extra house on Tom and Renee's
12 property, and Zach ended up staying in their house in their extra
13 bedroom, and then Jeremiah, Pat, Peter and Tessa all ended up
14 staying at Denny's house in his extra bedroom.

15 Q. Okay. For how long? Just the night or two nights, three
16 nights?

17 A. I believe it was just one night, but it was almost two full
18 days, because it was like pretty early in the morning when he came
19 and got us from the barge. Or maybe it was two nights. I can't
20 remember.

21 Q. That's fine. It's not that important. And then when you
22 left, did you or anybody else in the crew have to go seek medical
23 attention for hypothermia or cuts or any kind of injuries?

24 A. Not as far as I know. I don't believe so though. We were
25 all in Dillingham working and stuff after. So Jeremiah and Pat

1 stayed behind in Ekuk and were going back and forth out to the
2 barge for a while afterwards, but Tessa, Peter, Zach, and I left
3 to Dillingham, and none of us had any problems. I don't believe
4 anyone did though. So yeah.

5 Q. Okay. Well, that was quite the event. Does it make you want
6 to do it again?

7 (Laughter.)

8 A. You know, I wouldn't mind being on a barge again, but I don't
9 think I really want to relive the shipwreck part of it.

10 Q. No, of course not. How about out on a regular fishing boat,
11 either a singer or maybe even a crabber or something bigger that's
12 actually out fishing? Have you ever thought about doing that?

13 A. Yeah, I actually have. I think that is something that I'd
14 like to do.

15 Q. Okay. Well, if you ever make it out to Dutch Harbor, I know
16 -- I don't personally know, but I know a lot of people go out
17 there, and they get picked up just by being on the dock at the
18 right time.

19 A. Really?

20 Q. So yeah, you get that ambition, should try that some day.
21 Well, it sounds like Pat's got quite a few connections in the
22 fishing industry. He might be able to find you a good boat to
23 work on.

24 A. Yeah. I think, also, my brother knows some people, so I've
25 got a lot of options if I want to try to get back up there, I

1 think, which is good.

2 CWO ██████████ Okay. Well that about sums up what I wanted
3 to ask you, but from your story, I'm sure Jon's got a few
4 follow-up questions, so I'll go ahead and turn it over to him.

5 MS. KEE: Okay.

6 MR. FURUKAWA: Hey, Victoria. What year did you graduate
7 from OSU?

8 MS. KEE: I actually just graduated on June 13th, so I
9 actually graduated after I got to the barge.

10 MR. FURUKAWA: Okay.

11 CWO ██████████ Well, congratulations.

12 MS. KEE: Thank you.

13 MR. FURUKAWA: Yeah, congratulations.

14 BY MR. FURUKAWA:

15 Q. So let's see. You have a degree in fisheries and wildlife?

16 A. Yes.

17 Q. Is that a Bachelor of Science?

18 A. Is that a what?

19 Q. A Bachelor of Science or a Bachelor of Arts?

20 A. Yes, it is a Bachelor of Science.

21 Q. Okay. And are you from Oregon?

22 A. Yes, I am from Oregon. Astoria, Oregon.

23 Q. From Astoria?

24 A. Um-hum.

25 Q. Okay. Let's see. You said you worked a couple of summers

1 for the State of Oregon as a --

2 A. It was actually -- I was working for the Bureau of
3 Reclamation.

4 Q. Is that federal or state?

5 A. It's federal.

6 Q. Okay. And what'd you do for them --

7 A. And I think we're under the Department of the Interior.
8 Yeah.

9 Q. And what'd you do for them as a tech, a fisheries tech? Were
10 you on boats?

11 A. No, I wasn't on boats when I was doing that. So that job was
12 mostly walking up and down streams and working at hatcheries and
13 doing odd jobs working with tribes and other companies, like
14 Charter Unlimited (ph.), things like that.

15 Q. Okay.

16 A. But no real boat work.

17 Q. Okay.

18 A. Although I do have some other boat work experience, obviously
19 being in Astoria. I got to be on and around boats for the
20 majority of my life. Small boats, but yeah.

21 Q. Um-hum. Okay. Let's see. Okay. The three seasons, red
22 salmon, silver salmon, and pink salmon?

23 A. Um-hum. Although pinks weren't really a season. They just
24 happen to be basically a by-catch that we were making use of.

25 Q. Was that for the pinks?

1 A. What was that?

2 Q. What was it -- what was it a season, for the pinks?

3 A. Yeah. We didn't have like an intentional humpie or pink
4 season.

5 Q. Uh-huh.

6 A. The only intentional seasons we were there for were the reds
7 and silvers.

8 Q. Silvers. Okay.

9 A. Pinks are like -- essentially, they're a by-catch in the
10 nets, and then we were able to make a march out of it and sell
11 them to like people who want to make dog food out of them.

12 Q. Okay. That sounds like some good dog food.

13 A. What was that?

14 Q. That sounds like some pretty good dog food.

15 A. Oh, yeah. Yeah, definitely.

16 Q. Okay. About -- do you remember what the draft was of the
17 *SM-3*?

18 A. Our draft?

19 Q. Yes.

20 A. I do not know what that word means actually.

21 Q. How many feet in the water was the *SM-3* during the season?

22 A. I don't know.

23 Q. Okay.

24 BY CWO [REDACTED]

25 Q. So did you ever go down on the dock pieces that were attached

1 alongside?

2 A. Yes.

3 Q. Did you ever notice any numbers that were on the side of the
4 barge in the water?

5 A. Yeah, I do remember seeing numbers on the side.

6 Q. And do you remember where the water level was in relation to
7 any of those numbers?

8 A. I feel like it was between four and six or something like
9 that.

10 Q. Okay.

11 A. I'm not entirely sure about that.

12 MR. FURUKAWA: Okay.

13 CWO ██████████ Well, that helps a little.

14 MR. FURUKAWA: Yep. And --

15 CWO ██████████ Okay. Go ahead, Jon.

16 MR. FURUKAWA: Okay. And I don't think I have any -- oh, do
17 you have the, we're still recording right now. But do you have
18 the contact information for the O'Connors or Denny?

19 MS. KEE: No, I do not.

20 MR. FURUKAWA: Okay.

21 MS. KEE: But if you were to contact Zach, he probably would
22 be able to contact Tom O'Connor, or get Ben Blakely --

23 MR. FURUKAWA: Okay.

24 MS. KEE: He would have their contact information probably.

25 MR. FURUKAWA: Okay. Okay. Well, I think that's it for me.

1 Yeah. Thank you very much, Victoria.

2 MS. KEE: Yeah. You're welcome.

3 MR. FURUKAWA: And good luck with your fisheries career.

4 MS. KEE: Thank you very much.

5 BY MR. FURUKAWA:

6 Q. Does your brother -- did he graduate from OSU in fisheries
7 also?

8 A. My brother actually graduated from OSU with a mechanical
9 engineering degree.

10 Q. Is he a captain of a fishing boat or deckhand?

11 A. Well, so yes and yes. He -- so out of Astoria, Oregon, he
12 fishes the Young's Bay, and he has a Gilman boat here. So he's
13 the captain of that boat, and I have helped deckhand on his boat
14 before.

15 But when he's in Bristol Bay, he works for Andy Pike (ph.),
16 and he's also worked for (indiscernible). So I can't remember the
17 name, but he worked on the *Annalise* (ph.) as a deckhand for like 3
18 years and another boat before that for like 5.

19 Q. Okay.

20 A. So he spent eight summers up there as a deckhand, and then he
21 is looking to potentially buying himself a permit and a boat now.

22 Q. Okay. So you've worked on your brother's boat, the one in
23 Astoria?

24 A. The one in Astoria is called the *Blackhawk*.

25 Q. Okay. And how long did you work as a deckhand on that one?

1 A. It wasn't really like official work. Mostly it was me kind
2 of sitting on the boat, bumming around, and I'd help him with like
3 the controls and stuff once in a while.

4 Q. Okay.

5 A. But yeah, it's probably -- I have gone with him on and off
6 for 2 or 3 years, 3 probably.

7 Q. Two to three years?

8 A. Yeah. But I did get to spend more time with him this year on
9 his boat during fishing season because of the COVID stuff, so -- I
10 couldn't go to class, and so I was in Astoria for that kind of
11 season. Last year, I only went out with him a couple of times on
12 the weekends.

13 Q. Right. So I guess he's making more money as a fisherman than
14 a mechanical engineer.

15 A. You know, I don't think he is. I just don't think he truly
16 wanted to do mechanical engineering. My parents were like, you
17 should get this degree, and we're not supporting you unless you
18 do. So --

19 Q. Okay.

20 A. He went and got his degree, and now he's a fisherman. So --
21 (Laughter.)

22 MR. FURUKAWA: Okay. Well, thank you very much, Victoria.

23 That -- I don't have anything else. [REDACTED]

24 CWO [REDACTED] No. And you can end the recording if you'd
25 like.

1 MR. FURUKAWA: Okay. The time is 1407 Eastern Daylight Time
2 on Thursday, the 24th of September 2020. And we're ending the
3 interview with Ms. Victoria Kee, the fish house manager of the
4 SM-3.

5 (Whereupon, at 2:07 p.m., the interview was concluded.)
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CERTIFICATE

This is to certify that the attached proceeding before the

NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD

IN THE MATTER OF: GROUNDING/STRANDING OF THE FISH
 TENDER BARGE *SM-3* IN NUSHAGAK BAY
 NEAR EKUK, ALASKA, ON AUGUST 30, 2020
 Interview of Victoria E. Kee

ACCIDENT NO.: DCA20FM027

PLACE: Via telephone

DATE: September 24, 2020

was held according to the record, and that this is the original,
complete, true and accurate transcript which has been transcribed
to the best of my skill and ability.

A solid black rectangular redaction box covering the signature of the transcriber.

Romona Phillips
Transcriber