# **Arctic Shipping and Vessel Activity**

**STEVE SCALZO** 

### **Outline of Presentation**

- 1. Background of MRG and Foss
- 2. MRG/Foss experience in the Arctic and Alaska
- 3. Challenges in a changing Arctic
- 4. Red Dog video
- 5. Questions and Answers



### Marine Resources Group

- Begun in 2004 to develop Saltchuk's Green Water Assets
- 1675 Employees worldwide
- 94 Tugs
- 74 Barges
- MRG Mission
  - Brand Integrity
  - Safe Operation
  - Profitability and Return on Investment
  - Growth Initiatives

# **MRG Global Operations**





**BLUE WATER** 



**GREEN WATER** 



REGIONAL PETROLEUM PRODUCTS

NORTHSTAR utilities group



**AIR CARGO** 







































RESORT & MARINA









## Foss Maritime Company

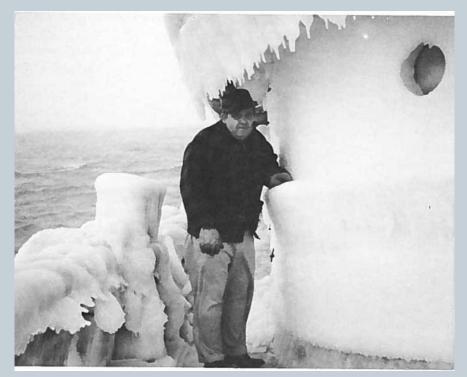
- Founded in 1889
- Foss Maritime Company offers a complete range of maritime transportation and logistics services to customers on the U.S. West and East coasts, Alaska, across the Pacific Rim, Europe, South America and

around the globe.



#### MRG/Foss in Northern Alaska and the Arctic

- 1941- ~1990
  - Standard Oil Contract
- 1957-1964:
  - Dew Line Assist Contract
- 1967-1971
  - Amchitka Island, Holmes and Narver Contract
- 1975-1978
  - Prudhoe Bay Sealift
- 1978-1983
  - Military Sealift Contract
- 1988-present
  - Teck Cominco Contract
- 2004, 2006-2007
  - Sakhalin Islands
- 2010-present
  - Cook Inlet Tug & Barge



Captain Jug Nolze, weather bound on a mid-winter voyage to S.W. Alaska, 1974

### Standard Oil, 1941-1985

#### Primary Foss Vessels

o Edith Foss, Christine Foss, Wendy Foss, Alaska Husky

#### Areas of Operation

- Dutch Harbor
- Bristol Bay
- Bering Sea (various ports and villages, from Kotzebue to Nome)

#### Objectives

- Barge petroleum products between Dutch Harbor distribution base to various ports in Bristol Bay and the Bering Sea
- Supply petroleum products to remote villages in the Aleutian Islands and Western Alaska
- Alaska Husky: Assist and supply the oil drilling platforms in Cook Inlet

# Alaska Husky in Sea Ice



**ALASKA HUSKY** Shown operating in the icy waters of Cook Inlet, servicing offshore drilling platforms. (Courtesy of Foss Tug Co)



### DEW Line Support, 1957-1964

- Primary Foss Vessel
  - Agnes Foss
- Areas of Operation
  - Bering Sea
  - Arctic Ocean
  - Airforce Base at Shemya Island
- Objectives:
  - DEW Line construction support and yearly resupply
  - Complete job in stormy and unpredictable weather
  - Complete 5,800 mile round trip

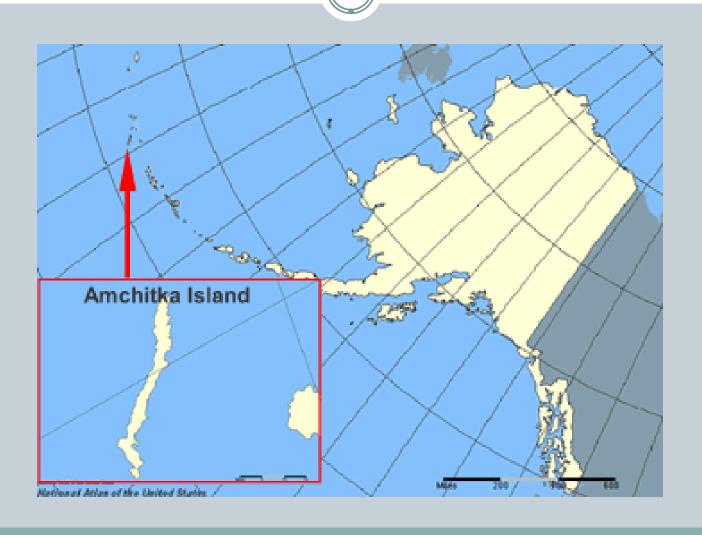
## **Barrow DEW Station**



### Amchitka Island, 1967-1971

- Primary Foss Vessel
  - Adeline Foss
- Areas of Operation
  - Amchitka Island, part of the Aleutian Chain
- Objectives
  - Sealift of supplies and equipment for Holmes & Narver, the prime contractor for the Atomic Energy Commission's underground explosion project
  - 73 separate tows at an average of 40 days each

### Remote: Amchitka Island



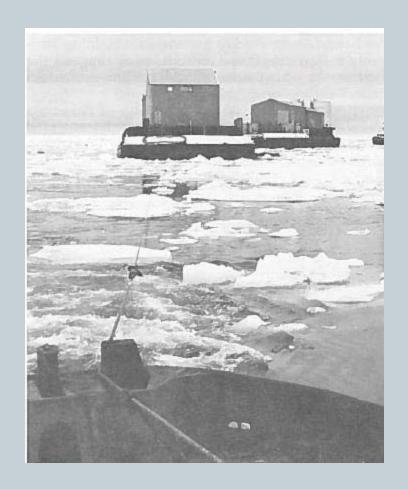
### Prudhoe Bay Sealift, 1975-1978

- Primary Foss Vessels
  - Jeffrey Foss, Arthur Foss, Henry Foss & others
- Areas of Operation
  - o Prudhoe Bay, Alaska
- Objectives , Challenges, & Results
  - O Deliver 47 barges to oil industry customer in Prudhoe Bay
  - Record levels of polar ice led to extremely challenging conditions
  - All 47 barges were delivered safely to Prudhoe Bay
  - The Foss tugs were able to make it out of Prudhoe before the ice thickened
  - 25 barges had to be left in the Bay until the ice thawed

# Prudhoe Bay Sealift, 1975-1978

Icy waters made it challenging to tow 47 barges to Prudhoe Bay, but Foss tugs were able to complete the job.

Right: The barges being towed to Prudhoe Bay



### Military Sealift Command, 1978-1983

- Primary Foss Vessel
  - Justine Foss
- Areas of Operation
  - Adak, Aleutian Islands
- Objectives
  - Deliver one barge-load to Adak once every 3 weeks
  - To maintain the schedule, the regular Foss Alaska Line tug transported the Military Sealift Command cargo on a barge and dropped it off at Sitka, where it would sit in a marshalling area to await the Justine.

# **Towing Barges**



LESLIE FOSS underway with two barges of construction equipment for Adak and Attu Islands in the Aleutians, April 1983 (courtesy Camera Craft Inc., Seattle)

### Teck Cominco, 1988-present

#### Primary Foss Vessels

Barbara Foss, Justine Foss, Drew Foss, Jeffrey Foss, Stacey
Foss

#### Areas of Operation

o Red Dog Mine, NW Alaska

#### Objectives

- Use Foss self-loading barges to pick up the ore and lighter it to the ships anchored offshore
- Complete objectives in a 90-100 day season due to weather and ice







### Sakhalin Islands, 2005-2006

#### Areas of Operation

Sakhalin Islands, North East Russia

#### Objectives and Results

- Transport 36 prefabricated modules to support the construction of an LNG production facility on the NE tip of Sakhalin Island
- Each module was 280' long x 45' wide x 85' tall and weight 1,800 tons
- Manage challenging ice, typhoons and dangerous seas
- Project completed ahead of schedule and safely







## Cook Inlet Tug & Barge

#### MRG Subsidiary Company

- Acquired in 2010
- Two ASD tractor tugs, one conventional tug, one flat deck barge

#### Services

- Harbor Services
- Construction Support
- LNG Support
- Oil rig assist and resupply

#### Areas of Operation

- Port of Anchorage RoRo, Container, Barge, Construction
- Nikishi-Kenai Fuel, LNG, Offshore Rig support
- Homer
- Port MacKenzie





### Challenges in a Changing Arctic

- Commitment to Environmental Stewardship
  - Increased human presence in the Arctic calls for balancing economic opportunity with environmental regulations
- Commitment to Safety and Regulations
  - Many bodies of water usually covered by sea ice are uncharted
  - Strict safety regulations and programs for companies that operate in the Arctic
- MRG/Foss Leading the Way in Environmental Stewardship and Safety Programs

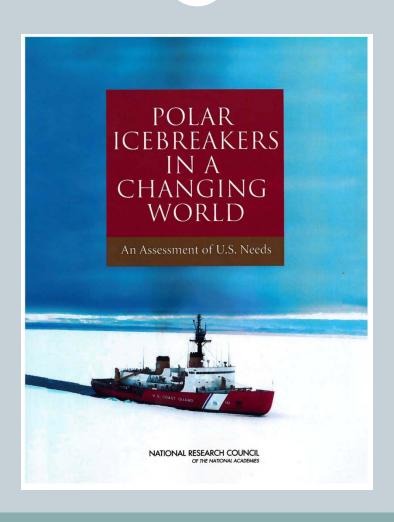




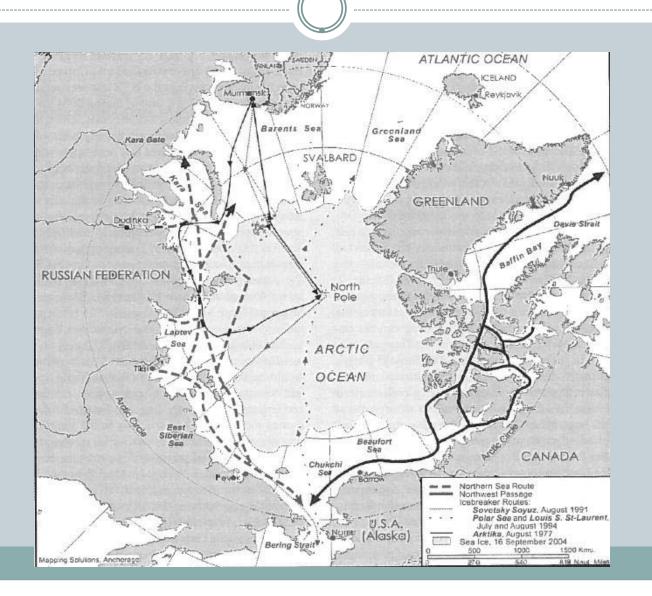




### Polar Icebreakers in a Changing World, 2007



## Polar Icebreakers in a Changing World



### **Operational Considerations**

- Environmental Conditions for Operation
  - Poor Weather/difficult ice
  - Reliable Charts/Navigational aid
  - Underdeveloped communications
  - Remote location logistics
- Northern Bering and Chukchi Seas
  - Earlier Spring and later Fall transitions (ice covered to ice free)
  - Improving access to the Arctic
- Increased Vessel traffic
  - Ice capable vessel transits
  - Northern sea route Russia
  - Northwest Passage Canada

### **Operational Considerations**

- Potential conflicts among competing users
  - Domestic and Foreign
    - Natural Resource exploration, development and production
    - × Fishing
    - Commercial vessel transits
    - Scientific polar research (national leadership role)
    - **X** Tourism
    - Indigenous Peoples
      - Sealing, Whale hunting, wildlife subsistence
      - Cultural implications
    - **US Government** 
      - 1. Protect territorial interests
      - 2. Controlled access and oversight
      - 3. Maritime safety and security law enforcement
      - 4. Boundary protection
      - 5. Natural protection
      - 6. Environmental response
      - 7. U.N. Convention in the Law of the Seas (extensive mapping)
      - 8. Assured access and sovereign presence
        - U.S. national policy
        - Presidential decision directive

# Red Dog Video

## **Questions and Answers**