

RICHARDSON BAY REGIONAL AGENCY

STAFF REPORT

For the meeting of January 12, 2023

To: Board of Directors
From: Jim Malcolm, Harbormaster
Subject: Harbormaster's Report

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

Receive and file.

Reporting Period Dec 8, 2022 – Jan 6, 2023

Vessel metrics.

56	Number of vessels in anchorage excluding transient vessels
0	Number of transient vessels in anchorage
4	Number of floating homes
60	Total Number of vessels, transient vessels and floating homes as of Dec 2, 2022
46	Number of vessels inside the Eel Grass Protection zone

Significant events:

No new vessels arrived in the anchorage over the last month.

One vessel was removed from the anchorage through the vessel buyback program; this vessel was located within the Eel Grass Protection Zone.

One resident of the anchorage was found deceased on the anchorage. On Sun Jan 1, 2023 I was notified by MCSO deputies that the resident of S/V Princessa, a 40 ft S/V anchored in the southern reaches of the anchorage was found deceased on his vessel. I have been in touch with the occupants next of kin and they are making arrangements to re-locate the vessel to a slip in a marina in the area.

Mid December into the new year saw several storm systems move through the area requiring significant monitoring on the anchorage. The systems which moved through over Christmas provided no significant incidents, but did produce some flotsam which

required cleanup including a 12 foot motor vessel which sank and was removed from the anchorage. The system over January 3-5, 2023 was substantially more severe and created issues for vessels on the anchorage.

S/V Carefree II is a 65 foot sailing vessel which was on the anchorage since before the August 2019 census. The occupant of the vessel is unable to command or control his vessel. Early in the morning of Jan 4 the Carefree II broke free from its anchor and went adrift through the anchorage. As I responded with the RBRA patrol vessel, I also notified the Coast Guard and a 47 ft Motor Life boat, as well as the Fire Boat Liberty and a SF Fire Boat which was training in the area responded to the drifting vessel. With the assistance of another anchor out we made contact with the occupant of the vessel who refused to disembark his vessel despite its drifting condition. The anchor out assisting the vessel utilized a lightweight line and some links of anchor chain to attempt to re-anchor the vessel, and the drifting motion stopped. With the occupant refusing to leave his vessel no other actions could be taken. As of 5 pm the vessel was still in the same location that was when units responded in the morning. During the night it continued to drift and wound up at the north end of Richardson Bay against the rocks at the Audubon Society. I again responded to the vessel and encouraged the occupant to depart his vessel while arrangements were made to recover it from the rocks and he again refused. Fortunately, Parker Dive Service was able to immediately respond and removed the vessel from its location and brought to the Army Corps of Engineers Debris Yard. No injuries were sustained by any response units, occupants, or assisting mariners.

S/Vs Adelante, and CF 3604KS: Both of these S/Vs went adrift during the nights of 04-05 Jan. Adelante, a 35 foot S/V grounded near the rocks near 3 San Rafael Avenue in Belvedere. The vessel was still barely afloat about 6 feet from a home when it was located. I was able to tie off to the vessel and commenced tow of the vessel to the Army Corps of Engineers Dock where it was safely moored. I have received word that the vessel occupant has relocated to a convalescent home and the vessel has been tagged as marine debris. I am attempting to contact the previous occupant or their family for disposition of the vessel. The vessel has been tagged as marine debris, survey and final disposition is forthcoming. CF 3604 KS, a 25 foot S/V also went adrift and was found tied to a no wake marker in Strawberry Channel. The vessel was located and recovered by the vessel owner who lives on a different vessel and was taken back to the anchorage.

Both Adelante, and CF3604 KS were unoccupied when they went adrift. Fortunately, none of the drifting vessels collided with other vessels or caused injuries during these incidents.

A fourth vessel (a 40 ft S/V) sustained significant damage, losing both masts with large amounts of debris on the vessel. The vessel remains on the anchorage and I will continue to work with the occupant for final disposition.

