

Report could tighten Alaska cruise ship discharge rules

Jan. 7 -- The U.S. EPA will use a final national report on cruise ship discharges to determine whether Alaska should tighten standards for sewage and graywater discharges.

The Cruise Ship Discharge Assessment Report reviewed five waste streams from cruise ships: sewage, graywater, oily bilge water, solid waste and hazardous waste. The report examines the nature and volume of each waste stream generated, existing federal regulations, existing environmental management strategies and potential adverse environmental impacts. In addition, the report presents a wide range of options and alternatives to address waste streams from cruise ships.

The report is available at www.epa.gov/owow/oceans/cruise_ships/disch_assess.html.

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