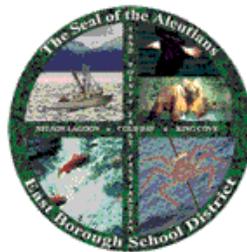
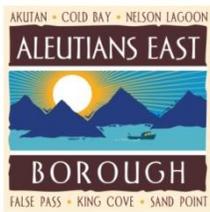


## In the Loop



Bringing the Aleutians East Borough, the AEB School District and Eastern Aleutian Tribes together by sharing common goals.

---

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:** May 4, 2017

**CONTACT:** Meadow Bailey, (907) 451-2240, [Meadow.Bailey@alaska.gov](mailto:Meadow.Bailey@alaska.gov)

## **Tustumena Return to Service Delayed**

**Vessel will return to service Tuesday, July 18.**

(JUNEAU, Alaska) – The Alaska Marine Highway System (AMHS) announced today that the M/V Tustumena will remain at the Vigor Ketchikan Shipyard longer than previously expected. The Tustumena delay is due to the discovery and necessary repair of additional extensive steel wastage in the engine room.

A repair plan developed in conjunction with the United States Coast Guard will ensure the vessel is safe before service is resumed.

It is anticipated that the Tustumena will return to service departing Homer at 5 p.m. Tuesday, July 18.

Originally scheduled to return to service on May 27, the Tustumena delay impacts communities in Southwest Alaska and along the Aleutian chain. The Tustumena went in for a scheduled annual overhaul on March 13.

The Tustumena is 53 years old. A replacement vessel has been designed but is awaiting funding through the pending fiscal year 2018 capital budget.

AMHS staff is contacting affected passengers. For more information, please call your local terminal or the AMHS central reservations office at [1-907-465-3941](tel:1-907-465-3941) or toll free at [1-800-642-0066](tel:1-800-642-0066). An updated schedule will be made available online at [FerryAlaska.com](http://FerryAlaska.com).

The Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities oversees 242 airports, 10 ferries serving 35 communities, more than 5,600 miles of highway and 731 public facilities throughout the state of Alaska. The mission of the department is to “Keep Alaska Moving through service and infrastructure.”

-----

The offices of Rep. Bryce Edgmon and Sen. Lyman Hoffman are well aware of the recent delays and are in contact with DOT to determine whether the problem can be mitigated.

### **Additional Contact Information:**

#### **Governor Walker’s office:**

email: [Benjamin.Robinson@alaska.gov](mailto:Benjamin.Robinson@alaska.gov) (Director of Constituent Correspondence)  
(907) 465-3500

#### **Rep. Bryce Edgmon:**

District: 37  
Email: [Representative.Bryce.Edgmon@akleg.gov](mailto:Representative.Bryce.Edgmon@akleg.gov)  
**Toll-Free: 800-898-4451**

#### **Sen. Lyman Hoffman:**

District: S  
Email: [Senator.Lyman.Hoffman@akleg.gov](mailto:Senator.Lyman.Hoffman@akleg.gov)  
**Toll-Free: 866-465-4453**

---

## Got News?

If you have news you'd like to share or if you'd like to subscribe, please email [ltanis@aeboro.org](mailto:ltanis@aeboro.org) or call Laura Tanis at (907) 274-7579.



*Thank you for reading **In the Loop**. If you would like to subscribe or unsubscribe, please send an email to [ltanis@aeboro.org](mailto:ltanis@aeboro.org). For more information about our communities, our people, and our fisheries, please visit us at [www.alutianseast.org](http://www.alutianseast.org) and [www.aebfish.org](http://www.aebfish.org). For the latest news, find us on Facebook:*

[Link to AEB's Facebook page](#)

[Link to King Cove's Facebook page](#)

