USCG HSC Report - September 2026

Executive Summary of Marine Casualties

During September, a total of eleven marine casualties were recorded, divided between deep draft and small vessels. Among deep draft vessels, there were four propulsion and equipment failures caused by electrical or mechanical component malfunctions, alongside one engine room fire triggered by a failed boiler gasket. Within the passenger, towing, and small vessel sector, operations were impacted by four losses of propulsion due to mechanical starter, sensor, transmission, or unresolved transit issues, one loss of power resulting from an accidentally activated emergency shutoff, and one sinking caused by a propeller shaft seal leak.

Vessel Safety, Navigation, and Environmental Overview

1. **Operational Controls & Navigation:** Five corrective actions were issued to manage vessel risks. This included four operational control orders to restrict vessels experiencing switchboard malfunctions or propulsion losses (three deep draft, one small vessel), and two letters of deviation issued to deep draft vessels operating with inoperative radar or speed indicator systems.

2. **Environmental Incidents:** The Incident Management Division responded to five pollution incidents, pursuing standard federal enforcement for discharges consisting of one major land-based spill of approximately 1000 gallons of asphalt, three minor vessel or terminal operational spills of under a gallon of fuel or hydraulic oil, and one deep draft discharge of an unknown quantity of hydraulic oil.