

## SITE FACT SHEET

### *General M.C. Meigs Shipwreck Site 19*



**Description:** This site consists of a 622-foot military troopship grounded in an intertidal area south of Portage Head and north of Shi Shi Beach. The *General M. C. Meigs* went aground in a storm on January 9, 1972, while under tow. The ship carried approximately 116,000 gallons of Navy Special Fuel Oil in 19 tanks, along with a small Navy harbor tug, numerous steel lifeboats, and several drums of shipboard solvents lashed on deck. Shortly after grounding, the ship broke into two sections and about 500 gallons of fuel oil spilled. The spilled oil globules were raked up and disposed of in a nearby landfill, and the oil-soaked debris was burned at the site. Another 500 gallons of fuel oil spilled from the hulk in June 1972. Oil spillage occurred continually after the grounding, and the remaining fuel oil has likely been released into surrounding waters over time.

**Community Impacts:** Sharp objects, debris; suspected low-level persistent oil contamination.

**Investigations and Actions to Date:** Site inspections were performed by the Makah Environmental Restoration Team in October 2000 and December 2002. During the 2002 visit, Tecumseh Professional Associates was also on site to conduct a Phase I environmental site assessment for the USACE.

**Planned Activities:** Sample beach sediment to evaluate residual contamination; develop feasibility study to assess debris removal.