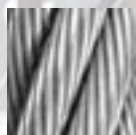




PHOTO BY ROB MORRIS

Weather-bound, Hardy Bay

Weather-bound in Hardy Bay for a day while en route to the Neucel mill at Port Alice was Seaspan International's SEASPAN CHIEF and the covered paper barge SEASPAN 640. On board were Capt. Pat Guillo, mate Carl Soderburg, engineer Bryan Gioia and deckhands Mark Hardie and Aaron Usher. The SEAPAN CHIEF was launched in 1967 as the ISLAND CHIEF for Island Tug and Barge of Victoria by the McKay-Cormack shipyard on that city's Outer Harbour. At the same time the sister tug ISLAND MASTER was built and became the SEASPAN MASTER when the Island Tug fleet was merged into Seaspan International. Only the SEASPAN ROCKET ex ISLAND ROCKET and the SEASPAN QUEEN ex LA REINE, both built by Star Shipyard (Mercer's) in 1963 and 1964 respectively, pre-date the CHIEF and the MASTER in the Seaspan tug fleet. The latter two tugs are a Robert F. Allan design, as is the SEASPAN 640 which was launched in 1966 as the V.T. No. 70 for Vancouver Tugboat Co. at Allied Shipbuilders on Vancouver's False Creek. Measuring 242' x 54' x 15' and 3757 gt, it was a big barge for its time.



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