

## SYNOPSIS



On 15 June 2001, the MAIB was informed that the stern trawler *Primrose* had grounded on the Isle of Rhum. An investigation started that day.

*Primrose* landed her catch in Mallaig, on the evening of 14 June, then sailed in the early hours of the next day to return to the fishing grounds. At 0320, she ran aground. The person on watch had fallen asleep and had failed to alter course sufficiently to take the vessel between the isles of Rhum and Eigg. The watch alarm was not working and had been landed ashore for repairs, and the vessel had sailed one man short of her normal complement.

The vessel was refloated at high water later that day, with the assistance of Mallaig lifeboat. There was superficial hull damage, and water damage to the accommodation and engine room. No injuries or pollution were sustained as a result of the grounding. *Primrose* was later repaired and re-entered service.

The cause of the grounding was the person on watch in the wheelhouse falling asleep and failing to make the required alteration of course.

A number of contributing factors were identified.

Recommendations have been made to the vessel's owner and to the Maritime and Coastguard Agency (MCA) which, if implemented, will reduce the risk of a similar accident happening in the future.