

Officials: Tusty Return Even Later Than Hoped

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Ed Ronco/KCAW

The state ferry Tustumena, which serves Kodiak, the Alaska Peninsula, and out to Dutch Harbor, could go back into service next month after a yearlong absence from the seas.

The 50-year-old ship went into maintenance in October 2012 and never returned to service, after ferry system staff discovered mechanical and structural issues were discovered.

While the Tusty is getting closer to returning to service, the date of that return has again been pushed back – to later than what ferry officials told the Marine Transportation Advisory Board, when it met last week in Sitka.