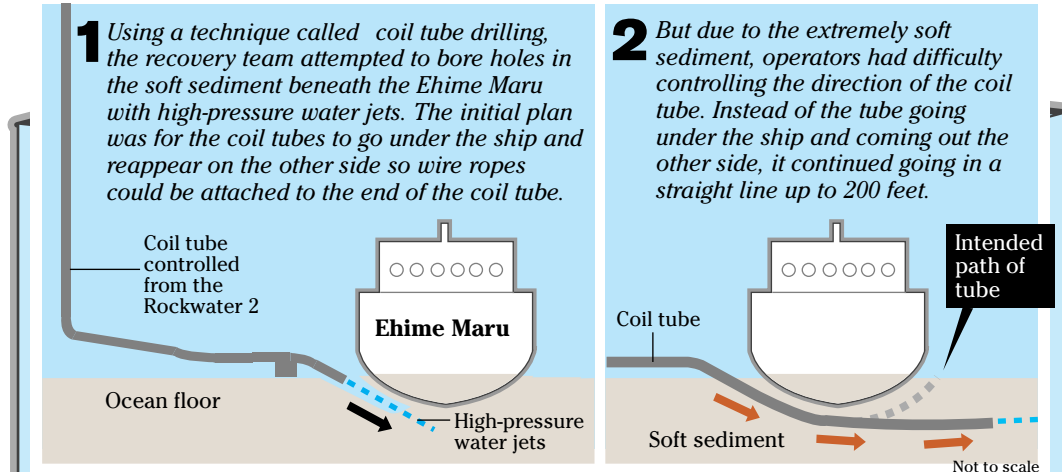


# Recovery operations change plans

The U.S. Navy announced yesterday that due to the strict timetable to raise the Ehime Maru, it will switch methods, now placing wire ropes under the ship. The initial plan to utilize coil tube drilling will be called off. Instead, the stern of the ship will be raised slightly, using linear winches on the Rockwater 2. Wire ropes will be placed under the ship while it is elevated. The Navy says it anticipated these problems and were prepared for this contingency plan.

## The original plan



## The new plan

The new plan calls for a temporary stern lifting plate to be positioned under the stern of the ship. **1** This stern lifting plate will temporarily raise the ship slightly off the ocean floor by linear winches on the Rockwater 2. **2** Messenger wire will then be placed underneath the vessel using Remote Operated Vehicles (ROVs) and assisted by coil tube drilling. **3** The messenger wire will be attached to the ends of the lifting plates. **4** Finally, the messenger wire will be pulled upward by the linear winches on the Rockwater 2, pulling the lifting plates under the ship.

