

Hull of solo sailor's boat salvaged

FRONT PAGE

Africa Service

MAHE: Anthony Steward, the solo yachtsman waiting patiently to be airlifted home, is in high spirits after being told that the hull of his wrecked boat has been salvaged and is being towed to Mahe, Seychelles.

Speaking by phone from Farquhar island, about 600km from Mahe, Steward said the captain of the Seychelles fishing boat who rescued him from an atoll off Madagascar was "determined to save my boat, the **NCS Challenger**."

"I heard the great news this morning that he has got it off the beach at Cerf, where I was stranded, and is towing it all the way to Port Victoria. I'm hoping I'll be able to get it back to South Africa soon."

The NCS Challenger's hull, towed by the vessel Verseau, should arrive at Mahe by Monday. Steward says he lost the mast and all equipment aboard when he was wrecked.

Steward has vowed to complete his attempt to sail solo around the world.

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