

ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION
Division of Spill Prevention and Response
Prevention and Emergency Response Program

SITUATION REPORT

INCIDENT NAME: *Tug Seneca & T/B Na-Kao* Grounding **SITREP #:** 1 and Final

SPILL NUMBER: 11269919001

LEDGER CODE: Not Requested

TIME/DATE OF SPILL: This is a potential spill. At approximately 12:15 AM on July 10, 2011, USCG Sector Anchorage was notified that while transiting to Dillingham, the Crowley *Tug Seneca* had a gill net entangled in the starboard prop which resulted in the tug veering off course and running the Tank Barge (*T/B Na-Kao*) soft aground in the Nushagak River. The State of Alaska was notified of the incident by the USCG at 2:29 AM on July 10, 2011.

TIME/DATE OF SITUATION REPORT: 11:45 AM on July 11, 2011

TIME/DATE OF THE NEXT REPORT: This is the final report.

TYPE/AMOUNT OF PRODUCT SPILLED: No fuel has been released. At the time of the grounding the *T/B Na-Kao*, was loaded with 249,958 gallons of jet fuel, 612,238 gallons of diesel fuel, and 349,958 gallons of gasoline. The *T/B Na-Kao* is a 275 ft. double hull tank barge. Its official number is 1174391. The *Tug Seneca* has reported that they have approximately 29,169 gallons of diesel fuel on board at the time of the grounding.

LOCATION: The *T/B Na-Kao* was soft aground at position 58° 54'03"N / 158° 35'24"W, approximately 9 miles south of Dillingham in the Nushagak River. Dillingham is located at the extreme northern end of Nushagak Bay in northern Bristol Bay, at the confluence of the Wood and Nushagak Rivers, and 327 miles southwest of Anchorage.

CAUSE OF SPILL: The cause of the grounding is under investigation by the USCG Sector Anchorage.

POTENTIAL RESPONSIBLE PARTY (PRP): Crowley Marine Services, 201 Arctic Slope Ave.
Anchorage AK 99518

RESPONSE ACTION: After the grounding the tug's crew gauged all tanks and voids to determine if there was compromise of any fuel tanks or to the barge's outer hull. The Crowley *Tug Nachik* with *T/B BC-152* was immediately mobilized from Egegik to assist with the lightering/fuel removal from the *T/B Na-Kao*.

At 9:26 AM on July 10, 2011, Crowley Marine Services submitted a lightering plan with supporting documentation for Coast Guard and ADEC approval. At 10:55 AM on July 10, the *T/B Na-Kao* failed to refloat on the next incoming high tide. Fuel removal into *T/B BC-152* continued until 1:30 PM. A total of 103,000 gallons of diesel was removed from the *T/B Na-Kao* to the *T/B BC-152* prior to the outgoing tide stopping the operation. Lightering operations started again at 11:00 PM on July 10, 2011.

At 11:30 PM on July 10, 2011 the *T/B Na-Kao* floated free from the grounding location. During the evening transfer operations an additional 78,714 gallons of diesel was removed from the *T/B Na-Kao* for a total of 181,743 gallons of diesel fuel. Once the *T/B Na-Kao* started to float free, transfer operations were stopped and both *Tug Seneca* and *T/B Na-Kao* proceeded to Clarks Point to anchor along with the *Tug Nachik* and the *T/B BC152*. The crews of the *T/B Na-Kao* and *Tug Seneca* will gauge fuel tanks and check all voids upon arrival at Clarks Point.

SOURCE CONTROL: After the grounding the tug's crew gauged all tanks and voids to determine if there was compromise of any fuel tanks or voids to the barge's outer hull. The crew continued gauging throughout the day. Alaska Chadux, Crowley's oil spill response contractor, and Obrien's Response Management was placed on standby to assist if needed.

RESOURCES AFFECTED: There are no reported impacts to shorelines, wildlife, historic or cultural resources. Shorelines of Nushagak Bay are comprised of exposed tidal flats and sheltered tidal flats. In the area of the grounding off Coffee Point, the west shoreline is considered sheltered tidal flats while the bars along the shipping channel are considered exposed tidal flats. The Nushagak River and its tributaries support all five species of Pacific Salmon. Major tributaries in the immediate vicinity of the grounding include the Snake River, Igushik River, and Squaw Creek. These streams, along with three unnamed streams are spawning and rearing areas for Pacific salmon. Beluga whales are known to follow fish runs into the Nushagak River and are present in all waters of Nushagak Bay. Other species of whales are present in Bristol Bay and may migrate into Nushagak Bay. These species include Minke and Killer whales. Harbor porpoise may also be present. Extensive waterfowl and shorebird concentrations are present on the shorelines and in nearshore waters of the bay. These birds are nesting on the shorelines and wetlands and foraging in the nearshore waters of the bay. Seals may also be present in the bay, specifically near the mouth of the bay. They may follow fish runs and move upstream towards Dillingham.

The grounding site is located near many villages with subsistence fishing uses in the bay. Subsistence fisheries are ongoing and prevalent in the area. Commercial fisheries are also present in the bay. Fisheries for salmon are generally open this time of year. Subsistence and commercial fishing is a primary economic activity in the area. Tidelands are managed by the State of Alaska Department of Natural Resources. Land management in the area includes Togiak National Wildlife Refuge and Alaska Maritime National Wildlife Refuge. The Southwest Alaska Salmon Habitat Partnership is a National Fish Habitat Partnership formed in the area and would be a stakeholder to this incident.

FUTURE PLANS AND RECOMMENDATIONS: The *Tug Seneca* and *T/B Na-Kao* will stay anchored at Clarks Point until an inspection is completed of the barge.

WEATHER: Rain with patchy fog. Highs in the mid 50's to lower 60's. Southeast winds 15-30 MPH, with gust to 45 MPH with strongest gust along the Western Capes in the morning.

UNIFIED COMMAND AND PERSONNEL:

Incident Commander: Walt Tague, Crowley Marine Services, Anchorage
F.O.S.C.: Captain Jason Fosdick, USCG Sector Anchorage
S.O.S.C.: Steve Russell, ADEC, Soldotna

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION CONTACT: John Brown, ADEC, (907) 269-7688

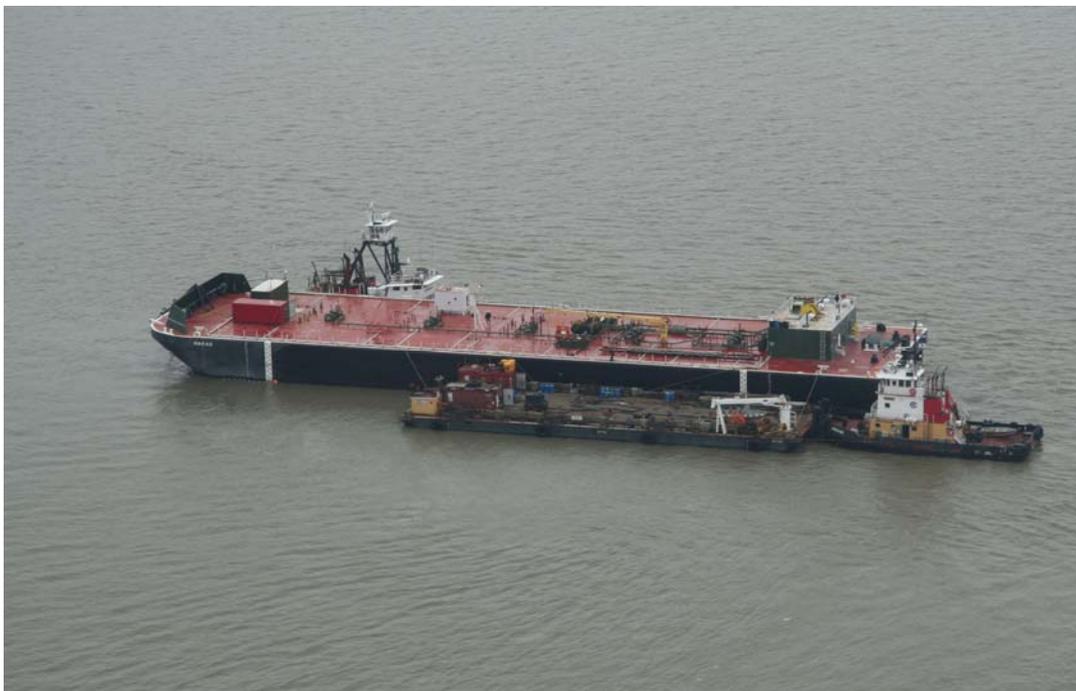
AGENCY/STAKEHOLDER NOTIFICATION LIST

This sitrep has been distributed via email to the Governor's office, Senator Begich's office, ADF&G, ADNR, SECC, USEPA, USDOJ, NMFS, USFWS, and USFS in addition to the following.

AGENCY / STAKEHOLDER	NAME	SENT VIA	ADDITIONAL INFORMATION	TELEPHONE	FAX
Crowley Marine Services	Walt Tague	Email	Walt.Tague@crowley.com	777-5505	777-9771
ADNR	Clark Cox	Email	clark.cox@alaska.gov	269-8565	269-8913
ADF&G	Brad Dunker	Email	Bradley.dunker@alaska.gov	267-2541	267-2499
USCG-Sector Anchorage	USCG-Office	Fax		271-6700	271-6751
USEPA	Robert Whittier	Fax	Whittier.robert@epa.gov	271-3616	271-3424
BBNA	Susan Flensburg	Email	sflensburg@bbna.com	842-5257	842-5862
City of Dillingham	Steve Cropsey, City Manager	Fax	manager@dillinghamak.us	842-5211	842-2060
Curyung Tribal Council	Dorothy Larson	Fax	Dorothy@curyungtribe.com	842-2384	842-4510
Bristol Bay Borough	Arlie Colvin	Fax	arliecolvin@bristolbayboroughak.us	246-4224 x 315	246-6633
Senate S/ Bethel	Lyman Hoffman	Fax	Bethel 5/16 - 1/09 Juneau 1/10 - 5/15	543-3541 465-4453	543-3542 465-4523
House 37/ Bethel	Bryce Edgmon	Fax	Anch 5/16 - 1/09 Juneau 1/10 - 5/15	269-0275 465-4451	269-0274 465-3445



The Crowley *Tug Nachik* with *T/B BC-152* approaching *T/B Na-Kao*, Courtesy of Crowley Marine



The Crowley *Tug Nachik* with *T/B BC-152* alongside the *T/B Na-Kao*, courtesy of the USCG, Air Station Kodiak