



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

[Location]



## **Faulkner Walsh Kwethluk Barge**

**SITREP #: 1**

**SPILL #: 12279927801**

**TIME/DATE OF DISTRIBUTION:** 4:00 p.m. , October 5, 2012

**POTENTIAL RESPONSIBLE PARTY (PRP):** Faulkner Walsh Constructors (Faulkner Walsh)

**INCIDENT LOCATION:** Kwethluk River, near the confluence of the Kwethluk and Kuskokwim Rivers, approximately 12 miles east of Bethel.

**TIME/DATE OF SPILL:** Approximately 9:00 a.m., October 4, 2012

**HOW/WHEN SPILL WAS DISCOVERED:** At approximately 7:40 a.m. on October 4, 2012, a Faulkner Walsh tugboat crew on scene discovered that the anchored barge *Delta Chief* was taking on water; the crew was unable to prevent it from sinking at approximately 9:00 a.m.

**TYPE/AMOUNT OF PRODUCT SPILLED:** Potential contaminants are diesel fuel, lubricating (crankcase) oil, and hydraulic fluid. Faulkner Walsh reports that there are approximately 200 gallons of diesel fuel in the equipment's fuel tanks. The amounts discharged to the Kwethluk River are not known. Initial reports indicated that there was minor sheening in the area.

**CAUSE OF SPILL:** Three pieces of heavy equipment and a service truck are onboard the submerged barge, and may release petroleum through vents in tanks, reservoirs, and crankcases to the river. Faulkner Walsh reports that there are no stand-alone fuel tanks or other sources of petroleum contamination aboard the barge.

**SOURCE CONTROL:** Faulkner Walsh will attempt to raise the barge when conditions safely permit. Severe weather, including high winds, has prevented the company from mobilizing staff and equipment to the site.

**RESPONSE ACTION:** Faulkner Walsh staff have reportedly placed containment boom around area above the barge, although rough water conditions may limit the effectiveness of this action.

**RESOURCES AFFECTED:** The waters, shores, fish, and wildlife of the Kwethluk and Kuskokwim Rivers are potentially affected. Both rivers host several salmon runs, and waterfowl and shorebirds may be present at this time of year. ADEC has not received reports of any fish or wildlife being impacted by this spill.

**FUTURE PLANS AND RECOMMENDATIONS:** Monitor the site until weather and river conditions allow the barge to be raised. Place and maintain containment boom and sorbent boom around the barge when conditions permit. ADEC staff will monitor the Faulkner Walsh response effort, in order to minimize the release of petroleum contamination.

**WEATHER:** Today: numerous rain showers and patchy fog. Highs in the mid to upper 40s. South wind 30 to 50 mph.

Tonight: mostly cloudy with a chance of rain showers. Lows around 40. South wind 15 to 25 mph except south 20 to 35 mph. Gusts to 45 mph along the coast during the evening.

Saturday: cloudy with a slight chance of rain showers. Highs in the lower to mid 40s. South wind 10 to 25 mph.

Saturday night: cloudy. A chance of rain showers after midnight. Lows in the mid 30s to lower 40s. East wind 15 mph.

**UNIFIED COMMAND AND PERSONNEL:**

Incident Commander: Harry Faulkner, Faulkner Walsh Constructors  
 SOSC: Steven Russell, ADEC  
 FOSC: Robert Whittier, EPA  
 Field SOSC: Bob Carlson, ADEC Bethel Field Office

For additional information, call Bob Carlson, 907-543-3215

**TIME/DATE OF THE NEXT REPORT DISTRIBUTION:** As the situation dictates.

**AGENCY/STAKEHOLDER NOTIFICATION LIST:** This situation report was distributed to the agencies listed on the standard distribution list, which includes the governor’s office, Senator Begich’s office, State Emergency Operations Center, U.S. Department of the Interior, National Marine Fisheries Service, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and other state agencies. This situation report was also distributed to the following agencies and stakeholders:

AGENCY / STAKEHOLDER	NAME	SENT VIA	ADDITIONAL INFORMATION	TELEPHONE	
Faulkner Walsh Constructors	Harry Faulkner	Fax		543-3252, 543-3626 fax	
ADNR	Clark Cox	Email	<a href="mailto:clark.cox@alaska.gov">clark.cox@alaska.gov</a>	269-8565	269-8
ADF&G	Brad Dunker	Email	<a href="mailto:Bradley.dunker@alaska.gov">Bradley.dunker@alaska.gov</a>	267-2541	267-2
USCG-MSO/ANC	USCG-Office	Fax		271-6700	271-6
USEPA	Bob Whittier	Email	<a href="mailto:whittier.robert@epa.gov">whittier.robert@epa.gov</a>	271-3616	271-3
City of Bethel	Dan Shea		<a href="mailto:dshea@cityofbethel.net">dshea@cityofbethel.net</a>	543-5306	543-4
AVCP	Myron Naneng		<a href="mailto:Myron_naneng@avcp.org">Myron_naneng@avcp.org</a>	543-7300	543-3
Calista Corporation	Felix Hess			279-5516, 543-5417 fax	272-5
Bethel Native Corporation	Ana Hoffman	Fax		543-2124	543-2
Senate S/ Bethel	Lyman Hoffman	Fax	Juneau 1/10 - 5/15	465-4453	465-4
House 38/ Bethel	Bob Herron	Fax	Bethel 5/16 - 1/09 Juneau 1/10 - 5/15	543-5898 465-4942	543-5 465