



Quarterly Provisional Data Release OIL AND HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCE RELEASES

PREVENTION AND EMERGENCY RESPONSE PROGRAM
DIVISION OF SPILL PREVENTION AND RESPONSE
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION

JANUARY 1 - MARCH 31, 1997

SPILLS DIGEST

Most common spill substance, causes and sources during the quarter. Abbreviations refer to the categories used for graphs on pages 2-3.

TOP 10 SUBSTANCES

Product Name	Count
1 Diesel (REF)	144
2 Hydraulic Oil (REF)	54
3 Other (HS)	33
4 Aviation Fuel (REF)	26
Ethylene Glycol (HS)	26
5 Gasoline (REF)	22
6 Engine Lube Oil (REF)	20
7 Crude (Cru)	18
8 Other (REF)	15
9 Methyl Alcohol (HS)	13
Produced Water (REF)	13
10 Transmission Oil (REF)	11
Waste Oil (All Types) (REF)	11



TOP 10 SPILL CAUSES

Cause	Count
1 Leak, Other	67
2 Line Ruptured	58
3 Tank Overfill	46
4 Unknown	40
5 Seal Failure	29
6 Valve Faulty	25
7 Other	23
8 Vent Discharge	21
9 Connection Faulty	16
10 Cargo Not Secured	14



TOP 10 SPILL SOURCES

Source	Count
1 Other	86
2 Industrial Vehicle	67
3 Home/office/business	40
4 Unknown	27
Fishing	27
Refinery	27
5 Truck	26
6 Fuel Station	20
7 Pipeline	17
Aircraft	17
8 Auto	16
9 Home Heating Tank	15
10 Oil Recover/response	9

SIGNIFICANT RESPONSES

SAVOONGA TANK FARM January 23, 1997

The automatic shut-off mechanism on a day tank malfunctioned, resulting in a 5,000-gallon release of diesel to secondary containment. Approximately 4,795 gallons were recovered. The remaining product was picked up with sorbent material.

OVERTURNED BARGE NEAR NINILCHIK (see photo)

January 25, 1997

While rigging the barge OREGON for sea tow, a tug bumped the vessel's side and ripped an 8-foot hole in one of its ballast tanks. The tank flooded, causing the barge to become unbalanced and

overturn. Approximately 12,500 tons of urea were lost.

UNOCAL STEELHEAD PLATFORM 3697

March 7, 1997

A corroded wastewater discharge pipe which passes through a fuel tank failed, resulting in a 9,000 gallon diesel release. Responders were unable to locate any evidence of the spilled product during multiple overflights of the area.

ARCO DRILL SITE 4

March 17, 1997

Between 750,000 and 1,000,000

gallons of seawater were released through 9 well heads. Cause of the release is under investigation. No impacts to surrounding tundra were observed.

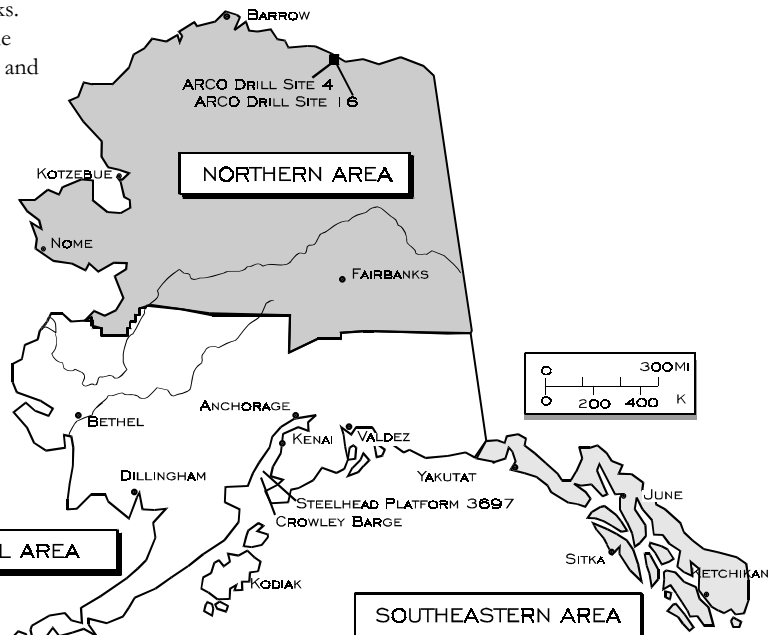
ARCO DRILL SITE 16

March 26, 1997

An estimated 4,914 gallons of mixed crude oil (71%) and methanol/water (21%) were released after the pipeline between the well and a valve split. Contaminated snow was removed and placed in a lined pit. As the snow melts, the water will be reinjected into a well.







SAVOONGA TANK FARM
(St. Lawrence Is.)

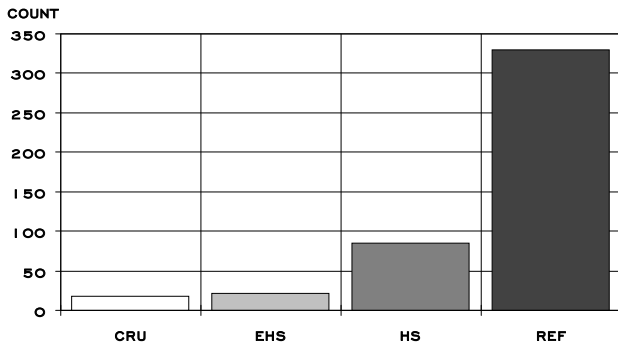


I. STATEWIDE SUMMARY OF RELEASES BY PRODUCT

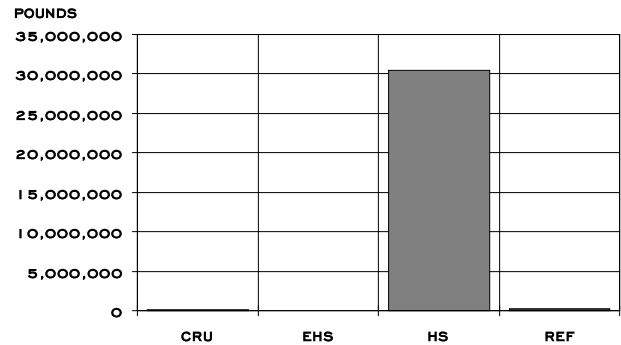
PRODUCT	STATEWIDE	
	COUNT	TOTAL LBS
CRU	18	83,875
EHS	22	28,496
HS	85	30,371,788
REF	330	251,083
TOTAL	455	30,735,242

KEY TO GRAPHS	
	Crude Oil (CRU)
	Extremely Hazardous Substance (EHS)
	Hazardous Substance (HS)
	Refined Oil (REF)

NOTE: RELEASES ARE REPORTED TO THE DEPARTMENT IN GALLONS (GAL) OR POUNDS (LBS). HOWEVER, IN ORDER TO SUMMARIZE DATA IN BAR GRAPHS, RELEASES REPORTED IN GALLONS ARE CONVERTED TO POUNDS USING 8.33 POUNDS/GALLON AS A CONVERSION FACTOR. TO CONVERT POUNDS TO GALLONS, DIVIDE BY 8.33.







NUMBER OF RELEASES BY PRODUCT

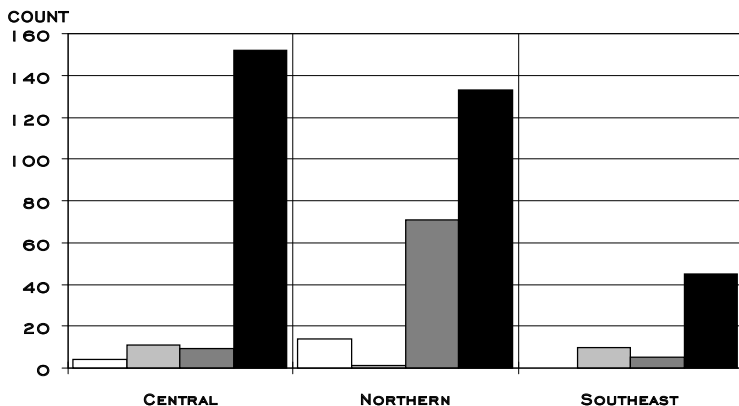


POUNDS RELEASED BY PRODUCT

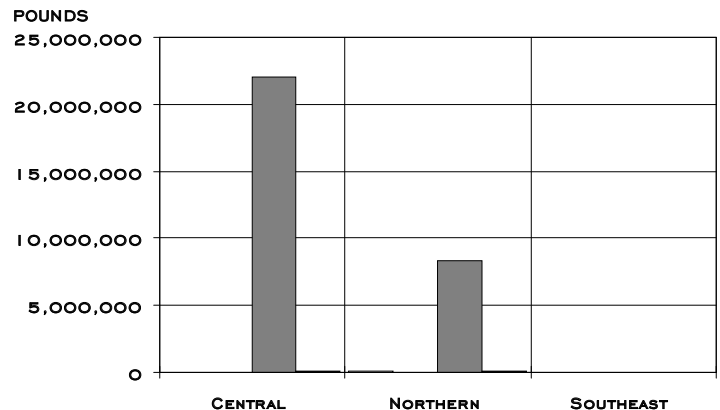
II. SUMMARY OF RELEASES BY AREA

PRODUCT	CENTRAL AREA		NORTHERN AREA		SOUTHEAST AREA	
	COUNT	TOTAL LBS	COUNT	TOTAL LBS	COUNT	TOTAL LBS
CRU	4	35,461	14	48,414		
EHS	11	28,216	1	8	10	272
HS	9	22,002,466	71	8,363,391	5	5,931
REF	152	115,570	133	111,655	45	23,857
TOTAL	176	22,181,713	219	8,523,469	60	30,060

KEY TO GRAPHS	
	Crude Oil (CRU)
	Extremely Hazardous Substance (EHS)
	Hazardous Substance (HS)
	Refined Oil (REF)



NUMBER OF RELEASES BY AREA AND PRODUCT

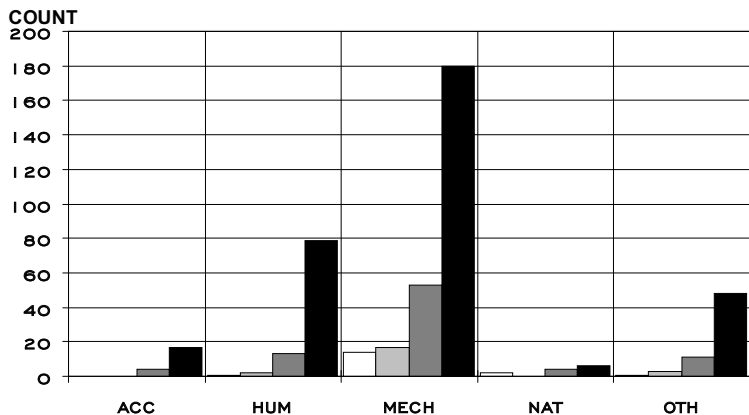


POUNDS RELEASED BY AREA AND PRODUCT

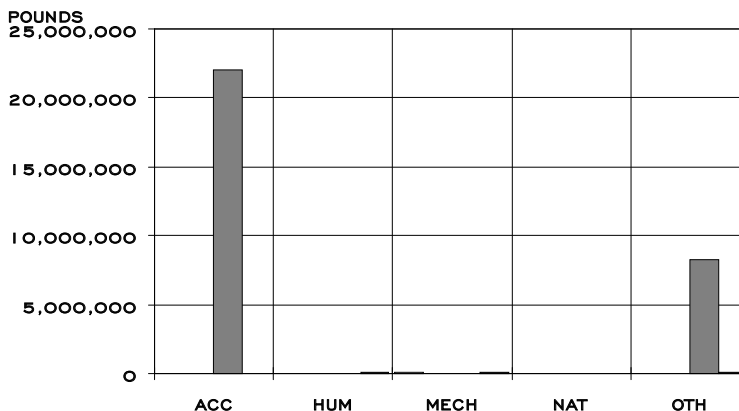
III. SUMMARY OF RELEASES BY CAUSE

PRODUCT	ACCIDENT		HUMAN FACTORS		MECHANICAL		NATURAL CAUSES		OTHER/UNKNOWN	
	COUNT	TOTAL LBS	COUNT	TOTAL LBS	COUNT	TOTAL LBS	COUNT	TOTAL LBS	COUNT	TOTAL LBS
CRU			1	83	14	82,750	2	625	1	417
EHS			2	25	17	17,424			3	11,047
HS	4	22,040,383	13	7,664	53	38,368	4	1,741	11	8,283,632
REF	17	3,757	79	44,782	180	118,161	6	1,266	48	83,117
TOTAL	21	22,044,140	95	52,554	264	256,704	12	3,632	63	8,378,212

KEY TO GRAPHS	
	Crude Oil (CRU)
	Extremely Hazardous Substance (EHS)
	Hazardous Substance (HS)
	Refined Oil (REF)



NUMBER OF RELEASES BY CAUSE AND PRODUCT

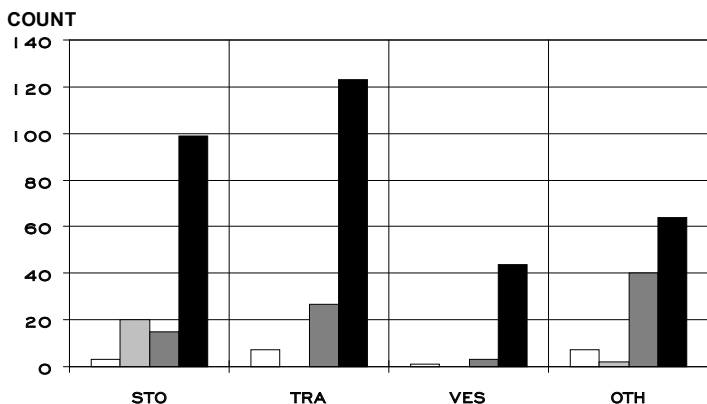


POUNDS RELEASED BY CAUSE AND PRODUCT

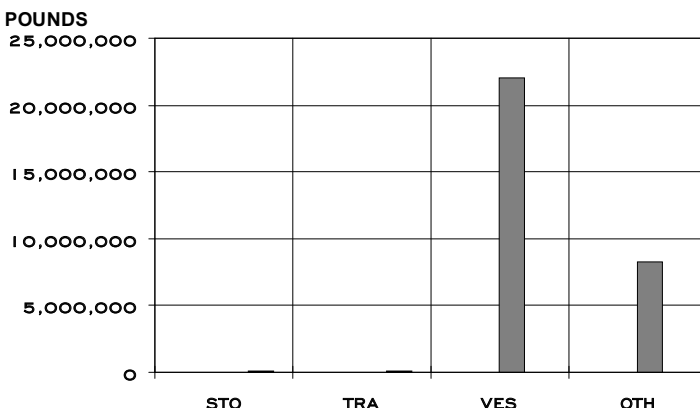
IV. SUMMARY OF RELEASES BY SOURCE

PRODUCT	STORAGE		TRANSPORTATION		VESSEL/BARGE		OTHER/UNKNOWN	
	COUNT	LBS	COUNT	LBS	COUNT	LBS	COUNT	LBS
CRU	3	35,461	7	43,249	1	8	7	5,156
EHS	20	28,471					2	25
HS	15	15,935	27	43,432	3	22,000,008	40	8,312,412
REF	99	119,994	123	100,751	44	6,747	64	23,591
TOTAL	137	199,861	157	187,433	48	22,006,764	113	8,341,184

KEY TO GRAPHS	
	Crude Oil (CRU)
	Extremely Hazardous Substance (EHS)
	Hazardous Substance (HS)
	Refined Oil (REF)



NUMBER OF RELEASES BY SOURCE AND PRODUCT



POUNDS RELEASED BY SOURCE AND PRODUCT

PREVENTION NOTES....

TRACTOR TUGS TO BE STATIONED IN PRINCE WILLIAM SOUND

In an effort to improve upon the world's safest oil transportation system, Alaska's North Slope oil shippers have committed to construct two powerful new tractor tugs to escort tankers through Prince William Sound. Shippers agreeing to the plan include ARCO Marine, British Petroleum, SeaRiver Maritime, Tesoro Alaska and Chevron Shipping Co.

The tractor tug represents a major advancement in tugboat design. Using a state-of-the-art propulsion system with controllable pitch blades, tractor tugs can move forward, backwards and sideways and quickly shift power from full ahead to full astern. A unique hull design allows a tractor tug to turn a full circle while remaining in place. This exceptional maneuverability makes tractor tugs well-suited to tanker escort duties.



UNDERGROUND FUEL TANK DEAD- LINE LESS THAN A YEAR AWAY

By December 22, 1998, all regulated underground petroleum storage tanks in Alaska must have adequate protection against spill and leaks

or be permanently closed. Owners of underground fuel tanks have less than a year before the federal deadline to upgrade, replace, or close leaking tanks, and Department of Environmental Conservation officials fear many owners may not be ready for the deadline. Records show that about 70% of regulated tanks in Alaska — as many as 2,000 tanks in total — are still unprotected. Home heating oil tanks are not affected by the new regulations.



LEAKING OIL TANK ACTIVATES NEW SPILL CLEANUP AGREEMENT WITH KETCHIKAN

While making repairs to a right-of-way in Ketchikan, a City work crew discovered an old abandoned heating oil tank buried under a narrow wooden walkway. The tank had deteriorated and had been leaking for some time. Under the terms of a new "local response agreement" between Ketchikan and DEC, the City will conduct the cleanup, under the direction of the State On-Scene Coordinator (SOSC). The agreement allows the department to reimburse the City for spill response and cleanup costs.

To date DEC has entered into Local Response Agreements with 11 communities statewide. This is the first time the State and a local community have conducted a coordinated response under the agreement. Ron Flinn, SOSC, said, "This is an opportunity for the State and local communities to work together to solve problems of concern to both. It's a good start for this new program."

DEFINITIONS & ABBREVIATIONS

Crude Oil (CRU): unrefined petroleum products.

Refined Oil (REF): refined petroleum products, including gasoline, diesel, petroleum-based lubricants, oily waste, kerosene, and aviation fuel.

Extremely Hazardous Substance (EHS): acutely toxic substances as established by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency under the Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act. The list of EHSs is established by federal regulation (40 CFR Part 355) and includes approximately 360 substances. Chlorine and ammonia are the most common EHSs used in Alaska.

Hazardous Substance (HS): any substance not included in the above definitions that is potentially harmful to humans or the environment when it is released to land, air, or water.

PLEASE NOTE... This report is based on provisional spill data. Readers should be aware that minor discrepancies in the data may exist.

TO SUBSCRIBE... to the "Quarterly Summary of Oil and Hazardous Substance Releases," send your name and address to: Camille Stephens, 410 Willoughby Ave., Juneau, AK 99801, or email:

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