

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

**SITUATION REPORT**

**INCIDENT NAME:** Mystery sheen – The Bowl in Esther Passage

**SITREP #:** 1

**SPILL NUMBER:** 03229919501

**LEDGER CODE:** Requested

**TIME/DATE OF SPILL:** Unknown. Discovered and reported to DEC at 1:30 PM on July 15, 2003.

**TIME/DATE OF SITUATION REPORT:** 4:00 pm on July 16, 2003

**TIME/DATE OF THE NEXT REPORT:** As new information becomes available.

**TYPE/AMOUNT OF PRODUCT SPILLED:** Unknown type/amount. Product appears to be Diesel fuel, bilge oil.

**LOCATION:** The north end of Esther Passage in the “Bowl”, 60° 55.900N, 148° 02.280W, Esther Island in Northern Prince William Sound.

**CAUSE OF SPILL:** Unknown

**POTENTIAL RESPONSIBLE PARTY (PRP):** Unknown

**RESPONSE ACTION:** After receiving the report of a sheen, ADEC and US Coast Guard personnel conducted an overflight of the Esther Passage area. Based on the sighting of significant sheens during the overflight, US Coast Guard MSO Valdez activated Alaska Chadux who responded with three vessels, arriving on site at 1:00 PM on July 16, 2003. Alaska Chadux has hard boom, sorbent boom, sorbent pads, a Desmi Mini Max skimmer, and a Fast Tank with them. A second over flight was conducted at 11:00 PM on July 16, 2003 by US Coast Guard helicopter out of Cordova which reconfirmed the persistence of the rainbow sheen.

**SOURCE CONTROL:** The source is unknown, appears to be bilge wastes dumped from an unknown vessel.

**RESOURCES AFFECTED:** Waters in Esther Passage and some beach impacts on sheltered gravel beaches in the “Bowl” area.

**FUTURE PLANS AND RECOMMENDATIONS:** Alaska Chadux will attempt to collect as much product as possible. On site assessments of the waters and the impacted beaches will determine further collection efforts.

**WEATHER:** Overcast and raining with fog in Port Wells, overcast with rain in Esther Passage.

**UNIFIED COMMAND AND PERSONNEL:**

F.O.S.C.	:	CMDR Mark Swanson, MSO Valdez
S.O.S.C.	:	Gary Folley, ADEC
Field S.O.S.C.:		John Engles, ADEC Valdez

**FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION CONTACT:** John Engles (907) 835-4698

### AGENCY/STAKEHOLDER NOTIFICATION LIST

AGENCY	NAME	Sent Via		Telephone	Facsimile
USCG-MSO/Valdez	CDR. Mark Swanson	Fax		835-7210	835-7207
US EPA	Matt Carr	Fax		271-4306	272-0690
<b>OTHER</b>					
PWS/RCAC	John Devens	Fax		277-7222	277-4523
CIRCAC	Mike Munger	Fax/Email	<a href="mailto:munger@circac.org">munger@circac.org</a>	283-7222	283-6102
Mayor of Cordova	Mayor's Office	Fax		424-6200	424-6000
Mayor of Valdez	Mayor's Office	Fax		835-4313	835-2992
Whittier-City Mgr.	City Manager	Fax		472-2327	472-2404
Eyak Traditional Council	Robert Henrichs	Fax		424-7738	424-7739
			<b>Session/Interim</b>		
<b>Senate R/ Rampart</b>	Georgiana Lincoln	Fax	Juneau 5/16 - 1/09 Juneau 1/10 - 5/15	465-3732 465-3732	465-2652 465-2652
<b>House 35/Valdez</b>	John Harris	Fax	Juneau 5/16 - 1/09 Juneau 1/10 - 5/15	465-4859 465-4859	465-3799 465-3799



Sheening in the "Bowl" in Esther Passage