

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

SITUATION REPORT

INCIDENT NAME: City of Unalaska Home Heating Oil

SITREP #: 2 and Final

SPILL NUMBER: 04259903401

LEDGER CODE: N/A

TIME/DATE OF SPILL: The starting time of the spill is unknown. The City of Unalaska reported that they discover the leak on February 3, 2004 at 9:40 AM and reported it to ADEC on February 3, 2004 at 10:00 AM.

TIME/DATE OF SITUATION REPORT: 3:00 PM, February 5, 2004

TIME/DATE OF THE NEXT REPORT: None. This is the final Sitrep.

TYPE/AMOUNT OF PRODUCT SPILLED: #1 Home Heating Oil. The City of Unalaska's initial estimate is that about 500 gallons were discharged.

LOCATION: Public Works Building, City of Unalaska

CAUSE OF SPILL: Heating oil was observed leaking from the vent of the city's 1,000 gallon home heating oil tank. It appears that the return line to the wash bay heater became plugged. The exact cause is under investigation.

POTENTIAL RESPONSIBLE PARTY (PRP): The City of Unalaska

RESPONSE ACTION: The City of Unalaska contracted with Magone Marine of Dutch Harbor which responded with personnel and equipment. Sorbents were deployed along Shop Creek where the storm drain empties into it. A wood containment was constructed at the discharge of the storm drain to raise the water level and act as an underflow dam. Heating oil was pumped from two oil water separators in the storm drain. Coast Guard personnel on scene advised that it appears that only about ten gallons of heating oil was actually discharged from the culvert into Shop Creek with the majority of the fuel impacting the ground in the area of the leaking tank.

A biologist from the Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G) in Dutch Harbor conducted a survey of the area. He reported a smell and sheen from the heating oil but no fish or wildlife that had been directly affected.

SOURCE CONTROL: The furnace was shut down and leak secured. The storm drain leading from the area has two oil water separators which have contained some of the spilled oil.

RESOURCES AFFECTED: The overflow from the home heating oil tank ran into a storm drain which flows into Shop Creek which flows into Unalaska Lake. It now appears that little oil escaped past the area of storm drain's discharge into Shop Creek. Resources considered at risk at the onset of the spill were the fresh water marsh at the head of Unalaska Lake which supports both bird and juvenile fish populations. Unalaska Lake is a source of subsistence food.

FUTURE PLANS AND RECOMMENDATIONS: The incident is closed for emergency response actions. ADEC will monitor the cleanup of any contaminated soil with the City of Unalaska. Sorbents and the board containment will be left in place for a few days to collect any residual heating oil which may be washed down by rainfall and snow melt.

WEATHER: As of 1:36 PM the weather at Dutch harbor is as follows: Winds from the South at 6 MPH, Visibility 10 miles, Overcast, Temperature 24° F, Dew Point 14° F, Relative Humidity 62%.

UNIFIED COMMAND AND PERSONNEL:

Incident Commander: Dave Kemp, City Manger, City of Unalaska
 F.O.S.C. Captain Morris, USCG Marine Safety Office, Anchorage
 S.O.S.C. Gary Folley ADEC

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION CONTACT: Harry Young, ADEC (907) 269-7542

AGENCY/STAKEHOLDER NOTIFICATION LIST

AGENCY	NAME	Sent Via		Telephone	Facsimile
USCG-MSO/ANC	Captain Morris	Fax		271-6700	271-6751
USEPA	Matt Carr/Carl Lautenberger	Fax		271-3616	271-3424
ADF&G	Wayne Dolezal/Mark Fink	Email		267-2338	267-2464
ADNR	Sam Means	Email		269-8546	269-8913
USCG MSD/DH	LCDR Woodley	Fax		581-3466	581-3468
OTHER	NAME	Sent Via	Session/Interim	Telephone	Facsimile
Unalaska P-W	Dave Kemp	Fax		581-1260	581-2187
DH Port Director	Alvin Osterback			581-1254	581-2519
Unalaska Mayor	Pam Fitch	Fax		581-1211	581-1695
House 38/Unalaska	Carl Moses		Anchorage 5/16 - 1/09	269-0275	269-0274
			Juneau 1/10 - 5/15	465-4451	465-3445
Senate S/Bethel	Lyman Hoffman	Fax	Bethel/Juneau	465-4453	465-4523

Culvert outfall with sorbents deployed (photo courtesy USCG MSD Dutch Harbor)

