



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

CHANGES FROM PREVIOUS SITREPS ARE DENOTED IN RED

## Kulluk Tow Incident

SITREP #: 11

SPILL #: 12249936201

TIME/DATE OF DISTRIBUTION: 4:00 p.m., January 8, 2013

POTENTIAL RESPONSIBLE PARTY (PRP): Shell Exploration and Production Company

INCIDENT LOCATION: The previously grounded conical drilling unit (CDU) *Kulluk* has been refloated and relocated to a place of refuge within Kiliuda Bay on Kodiak Island.

TIME/DATE OF SPILL: As of January 7, the CDU *Kulluk* is no longer grounded. **There continues to be no sign of leakage in the vicinity of the CDU *Kulluk*.**

HOW/WHEN SPILL WAS DISCOVERED: No spill has occurred.

TYPE/AMOUNT OF PRODUCT SPILLED: The CDU *Kulluk* is currently carrying 143,000 gallons of ultra low sulfur diesel fuel, one thousand gallons of jet fuel, and 12,000 gallons of other petroleum products. The salvage crew and vessels monitoring the transport of the CDU *Kulluk* reported no sheen during operations on January 7. No sheen has been observed during any of the prior operational periods **and during the current operational period.**

CAUSE OF SPILL: No spill has occurred. The CDU *Kulluk* went aground on December 31 when the towlines between the vessel and the tug *Alert* and tug *Aiviq* parted. The CDU *Kulluk* was refloated on January 6.

SOURCE CONTROL: There is no indication of a breach of the hull of the CDU *Kulluk* and no sheen has been reported.

RESPONSE ACTION: Spill response plans have been developed for the specific areas near the *Kulluk* and the plan is being updated daily based on weather and operations. At approximately 10:10 p.m. on January 6, 2013, the CDU *Kulluk* was refloated from its Sitkalidak Island position under tow by the M/V *Aiviq*. There were no reported injuries during this operation. The M/V *Aiviq* towed the CDU *Kulluk* to Kiliuda Bay, accompanied by the fleet of support and spill response vessels. The M/V *Nanuq* crew, utilizing infrared equipment, reported that there were no signs of a discharge and no visible fuel trailed the CDU *Kulluk* while en route to Kiliuda Bay. The M/V *Warrior* conducted soundings of the sea floor for potential obstructions at the Kiliuda Bay anchorage location. **The CDU *Kulluk* anchored in Kiliuda Bay shortly after noon on January 7. The M/V *Lauren Foss*, M/V *Corbin Foss*, and the M/V *Ocean Wave* are currently tethered to the CDU *Kulluk* and are standing by to assist as needed. Five additional salvage members were placed onboard the CDU *Kulluk* yesterday, and the one Shell representative who had been onboard was removed, leaving 15 personnel aboard the CDU *Kulluk*. A 150**



kilowatt generator was placed on board the CDU *Kulluk* by a U.S. Army CH-47 Chinook helicopter. The Unified Command continues to maintain personnel and equipment on scene for environmental response operations. A 500 yard safety zone has been established around the CDU *Kulluk* while in Kiliuda Bay.

**RESOURCES AFFECTED:** The shorelines of Kiliuda Bay are primarily comprised of mixed sand and gravel beaches. Several salmon-bearing streams are located within Kiliuda Bay. Based on discussions with stakeholders, Kiliuda Bay appeared to be considered a less sensitive area than the other sites considered for places of refuge. No land based activities on the shoreline or uplands at Kiliuda Bay are anticipated at this time. Waterfowl and sea ducks concentrate in sheltered waters and heads of bays and inlets. Shorebirds and other bird species may be present. Steller's Eiders are potentially present in the nearshore waters. The Steller's Eider is an Endangered Species Act (ESA)-listed species. Kiliuda Bay is within designated critical habitat for the ESA-listed Steller Sea Lion and the Southwest Sea Otter population, both of which may be present in the area. Harbor seals are present in Kiliuda Bay. Fin and humpback whales may be present in the bay.

**FUTURE PLANS AND RECOMMENDATIONS:** The Unified Command continues to manage the salvage and potential spill response phase of the response. Spill responders and equipment are currently mobilized and will implement spill response operations, if necessary. Detailed assessments including underwater surveys are planned while the vessel is anchored at Kiliuda Bay. A community meeting is planned in the City of Kodiak on Wednesday, January 9. Operations continue to work toward improving the living conditions aboard of the CDU *Kulluk* and evaluating the structural condition of the rig. An underwater survey is planned to assess the hull of the CDU *Kulluk* by a remotely operated vehicle (ROV). The ROV will arrive at the CDU *Kulluk* later today. Divers are available for further assessment as necessary. A debris removal plan (including the lifeboats from the CDU *Kulluk*) is being developed for the beaches around the grounding site.

**WEATHER:** Today: winds west northwest 15 to 27 knots decreasing to 10 to 17 knots in the evening. Seas to 3 feet. Tomorrow: winds west southwest 8 to 15 knots. Seas to 3 feet.

**UNIFIED COMMAND AND PERSONNEL:**

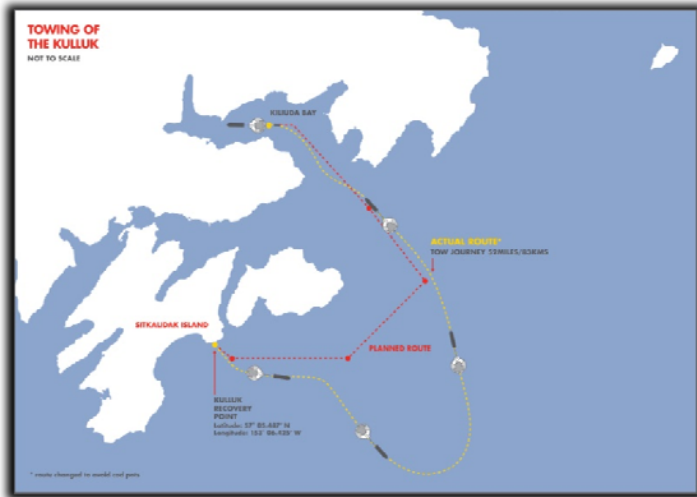
Incident Commander: Sean Churchfield, Shell  
SOSC: Steve Russell, ADEC  
FOSC: Paul Mehler, USCG  
LOSC: Duane Dvorak, Kodiak Island Borough

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

**FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION CONTACT:** Shannon Miller, Public Information Officer, (907) 269-7684 or Ty Keltner, Public Information Officer, ADEC (907) 388-8822. To contact the Joint Information Center, please call (907) 433-3417, or visit the following website for additional information:

<http://dec.alaska.gov/spar/aiviq> Or <https://www.piersystem.com/go/site/5507/>

A community information line has been established for the public, the number is: (907)771-7910 within Anchorage or (866)771-7910 outside of Anchorage.



Map of final CDU *Kulluk* tow route

The CDU *Kulluk*, towed by the anchor-handling vessel M/V *Aiviq*, heads to its safe harbor location in Kiliuda Bay. (Photo courtesy of Shell Alaska)



Sling loading the ADEC emergency tow system onto the CDU *Kulluk* (Photo courtesy of USCG)

**AGENCY/STAKEHOLDER NOTIFICATION LIST:**

Please refer to Sitrep 6 for the updated agency/stakeholder notification list. The link to that sitrep can be found in the **Additional Information** box above.