



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

St. Lawrence Oiled Wildlife:
December 2013



SITREP #: 1

SPILL #: 13389934401

TIME/DATE OF DISTRIBUTION: 3:00 p.m. on December 13, 2013

POTENTIAL RESPONSIBLE PARTY (PRP): No responsible party has been identified for the incident.

INCIDENT LOCATION: Northern coast of St. Lawrence Island, approximately 12 miles east of Gambell.

TIME/DATE OF SPILL: On December 11, 2013, at 4:38 p.m., ADEC received a report from the National Response Center regarding the observation of two dead, oil-covered glaucous gulls off of St. Lawrence Island.

HOW/WHEN SPILL WAS DISCOVERED: Local subsistence hunters discovered the freshly dead gulls during an offshore hunt on December 10.

TYPE/AMOUNT OF PRODUCT SPILLED: No oil slick or pollution incident has been reported in the vicinity of the oiled birds.

CAUSE OF SPILL: The cause of the birds' death and oiling is unknown at this time.

SOURCE CONTROL: At this time the source of the oil remains unknown.

RESPONSE ACTION: The hunters retrieved one of the gulls and shipped it to a University of Alaska Marine Advisory Program representative. It was then shipped to the National Wildlife Health Center in Madison, Wisconsin for a necropsy to determine the cause of death.

On December 12, the United States Coast Guard launched a C-130 reconnaissance flight from Kodiak to survey the vicinity around St. Lawrence Island for an unreported oil slick and other impacted wildlife. No oil slick or oiled wildlife were discovered during the overflight.

The Coast Guard, ADEC, UAF, wildlife trustees, and local citizens will continue exchanging information as the situation develops. No Unified Command has been established at this time.

RESOURCES AFFECTED: No additional oiled wildlife has been reported. Glaucous gulls range in open water areas and are used for subsistence food by St. Lawrence Island residents.

FUTURE PLANS AND RECOMMENDATIONS: ADEC will continue to monitor the situation. ADEC responders may travel to Gambell if an oil slick or additional oiled wildlife are discovered.

WEATHER: Today: North winds 30 knots; seas 9 feet; heavy freezing spray. Tonight: North winds 35 knots; seas 10 feet, heavy freezing spray. Tomorrow: North winds 35 knots; seas 10 feet; heavy freezing spray.

UNIFIED COMMAND AND PERSONNEL:

Incident Commander/FOSC: Paul Mehler III, Captain USCG

SOSC: Tom DeRuyter, ADEC

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

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION CONTACT John Ebel, ADEC, (907)451-2102



Map of St. Lawrence Island, Gambell and Savoonga. The red circle shows approximately where the oiled gulls were found.

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	FAX
Alaska State Troopers	Nome	Fax		443-2835	443-5840
ADF&G	Al Ott / Jack Winters	Email	al.ott@alaska.gov jack.winters@alaska.gov	459-7285 or 459-7279	
Attorney General Office	Steve Mulder	Email	Steve.mulder@alaska.gov	451-2811 or 269-5100	
North West Arctic Borough Mayor	Reggie Joule	Email	rjoule@nwabor.org	442-2500	442-3740
Senate T/ Nome	Donnie Olson	Email	Senator_donny_olsen@legis. state.ak.us	465-3707	
House 39/ Nome	Neal Foster	Fax	Nome 5/16-1/09 Juneau 1/10-5/15	465-3789 or (800) 478-3789	465-3242