



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

SITUATION REPORT



SIGNIFICANT CHANGES FROM PREVIOUS SITREPS ARE DENOTED IN RED

Shishmaref Chukchi Sea Sheen

SITREP # 5

SPILL #: 14389913501

TIME/DATE OF DISTRIBUTION: 5:15 p.m. June 5, 2015

POTENTIAL RESPONSIBLE PARTY (PRP): The responsible party is unknown at this time.

INCIDENT LOCATION: Northern coast of Sarichef Island, near the community of Shishmaref.

TIME/DATE OF SPILL: On June 4, 2014 a sheen on the nearshore icepack with a gasoline odor was reported to ADEC. A sheen was once again noticed by the Village Public Safety Officer (VPSO) and reported to ADEC on both December 15, 2014 and May 26, 2015. The VPSO noted gasoline odor near the area where sheen was discovered.

TYPE/AMOUNT OF PRODUCT SPILLED: Analysis of samples collected in December of 2014 showed that the product released is a mix of weathered gasoline and diesel. During a site visit on June 4, 2015, ADEC and USCG responders confirmed that the released product is gasoline. The amount of product released is currently unknown.

CAUSE OF SPILL: The cause of the release is unknown.

SOURCE CONTROL: Source control has not been established since the release source is unknown.

RESPONSE ACTION: A Unified Command was established on June 5, 2014 and December 23, 2014 for a similar incident, but the case was closed due to completion of response operations. A Unified Command has again been established in response to this incident. The Unified Command is made up of federal, state and local agencies.

ADEC and U.S. Coast Guard personnel traveled to Shishmaref on June 4, 2015 to identify the contamination source, as well as contain and recover any spilled product. Upon arrival, ADEC and Coast Guard responders were able to access an area along the shoreline identified as the "outlet" for product seepage. No ice was observed in the immediate nearshore. Responders observed sheen as well as gravel visibly stained by the gasoline.

RESOURCES AFFECTED: Land and water around the Shishmaref Native Store. At the time of this report, there have been no reports of impacted wildlife.

FUTURE PLANS AND RECOMMENDATIONS: The Coast Guard and their contractor National Response Corporation Alaska are leading the investigation to determine the source of the oil release and the investigation

is on-going. Unified Command will continue to work towards identifying any potentially responsible parties (PRP). Once PRP is determined, Unified Command will monitor their response actions to ensure any imminent and substantial threat to human health, safety, and welfare, and to the environment, is mitigated.

WEATHER: Today: Partly to mostly cloudy and windy; temps nearly steady in the low to mid 30s; north winds at 25 to 35 mph. Tomorrow: A few snow showers scattered about the area in the morning, otherwise a good deal of clouds; highs 39°F; south-west winds at 15 to 25 mph; chance of snow 30%.

UNIFIED COMMAND AND PERSONNEL:

SOSC: Tom DeRuyter, ADEC

FOSC: Capt. Paul Mehler, U.S. Coast Guard

LOSC: Barnett Eningowuk, Alaska State Troopers VPSO

Field SOSC: Jessica Starsman, ADEC

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

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION CONTACT: Tom DeRuyter, ADEC (907) 451-2145

http://dec.alaska.gov/spar/perp/response/sr_active.htm



Gasoline sheen along the Bering Strait shoreline (Photo: ADEC)

AGENCY/STAKEHOLDER NOTIFICATION LIST: Please refer to the first sitrep distributed June 4, 2014 for the agency/stakeholder notification list. The link to the first sitrep can be found in the Additional Information box above.