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FULL INVESTIGATION OF BAKER PLATFORM FIRE IS UNDERWAY

Nikiski, Alaska –The Unified Command responding to the Baker Platform fire continues operations in Nikiski Friday.

Offshore support vessels remain on scene to conduct firefighting operations and a two-mile maritime safety zone remains in effect.

Members of the unified command flew over the platform just after 10am today. Visual accounts from the flyover confirm that the fire is still contained and that the living quarters on board are a total loss. Capt. Paul Mehler, Federal On-Scene Coordinator and Coast Guard Sector Anchorage commander said, “The Unified Command is very pleased with the response effort and can confirm no evidence of debris or hydrocarbon release to Cook Inlet. Coast Guard personnel and resources will remain in the area until we’re certain all safety concerns have been thoroughly addressed.”

Nikiski Fire Department, Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation, US Coast Guard, CISPRI, Offshore Marine Services and Hilcorp personnel have all taken part in the response.

Plans to get Nikiski Firefighters and Hilcorp responders aboard Baker platform are underway. Fire department personnel will utilize heat sensor equipment to ensure there are no remaining hotspots or areas of concern before an on-scene investigation can be launched. While the exact cause of the fire has not been determined, personnel aboard the platform confirmed it began in the living quarters.

A full assessment of the Baker Platform and an investigation into what caused the fire will occur once the danger of fire has been eliminated and the platform’s stability has been confirmed.

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