



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

Qinaq River Submerged Caterpillar EL180

SITREP #: 1

SPILL #: 16279908401

TIME/DATE OF DISTRIBUTION: 2:00 PM on March 31, 2016

POTENTIAL RESPONSIBLE PARTY (PRP): Wilson's General Contracting, Inc.; Specialty Supply Inc.

INCIDENT LOCATION: The Qinaq River, an estimated 325 feet southwest of the south end of the "old" runway near Tuntutuliak (60° 19.900 N, 162° 40.049 W).

TIME/DATE OF SPILL: The incident was initially reported by concerned citizens in Tuntutuliak on Friday March 25. The Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation (ADEC) contacted and confirmed the incident with the PRP. The PRP said that the incident occurred in the evening on Thursday March 24, 2016. The ADEC reported the incident to the Coast Guard and the Department of Natural Resources (DNR).

TYPE/AMOUNT OF PRODUCT SPILLED: The amount of product released is unknown. The PRP reported maximum capacities of the excavator are up to 40-gallons of diesel, up to 40-gallons of hydraulic oil, about 5-gallons of engine lube oil, and an unknown volume of glycol.

CAUSE OF SPILL: The PRP staff were attempting to walk the equipment from Tuntutuliak to Kongiginak and broke through the ice about 15 feet from the south shore of the Qinaq River.

SOURCE CONTROL: The excavator is submerged in the river and currently surrounded by ice except for an exposed part of the excavator's boom. The excavator's compartments containing fuel and oil are submerged and are not accessible.

RESPONSE ACTION: The ADEC and the Coast Guard are working with the responsible parties to develop a plan to safely recover the excavator. The PRP staff has used absorbent boom and pads to remove oil from the water surface in areas that are impacted, safely accessible, and ice-free.

RESOURCES AT RISK OR AFFECTED: The Qinaq (Kinak) River is influenced by the tide, with fluctuations up to several feet reported by local residents. The incident occurred about four miles upstream of the confluence with the Kuskokwim River which flows about twenty-two miles south into Kuskokwim Bay. The area is part of the Yukon Delta National Wildlife Refuge and both rivers are anadromous with sheefish and whitefish species present. There have been no reports of impacts to the shoreline or fish and wildlife.

The community of Tuntutuliak has a water treatment plant that uses water from a groundwater well more than half a mile from the incident location. ADEC advised the Tribal Administrator that water for household use should be collected upstream of the excavator far enough to be outside of the area where the release may have



migrated upstream due to tidal influence. The Coast Guard representative asked the Tribal Administrator to notify residents of possible impacts to river water.

FUTURE PLANS AND RECOMMENDATIONS: A Wilson's General Contracting, Inc. local employee will monitor the site daily and the responsible party will report weekly or as needed to apprise the Coast Guard and ADEC of updates and notable information. A tribal administrator has volunteered to monitor the situation daily as well and will report as needed to the Coast Guard and ADEC. The PRP has stated that he will be sending spill response equipment including absorbent pads and boom and a smart ash burner to the community as soon as possible.

The ADEC and the Coast Guard are working with the PRP to develop a safe equipment recovery plan. The Coast Guard has requested the PRP submit a plan in writing, detailing the proposed response actions. Due to safety hazards involved in equipment recovery while the river remains iced up, it is not likely that the equipment will be recovered until spring breakup.

WEATHER: 30° F, Cloudy, Wind 9 MPH, Flights on hold due to ash from the Pavlov have resumed

UNIFIED COMMAND AND PERSONNEL:

Incident Commander: Mr. Lee Wilson

SOSC: Mr. Ron Doyel, ADEC

FOSC Representative: MST2 Frances Caselton

TIME/DATE OF THE NEXT REPORT DISTRIBUTION: The next report will be distributed on Friday, April 8th at 1300.

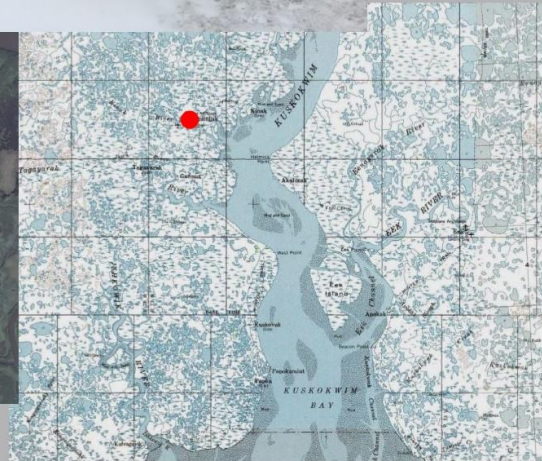
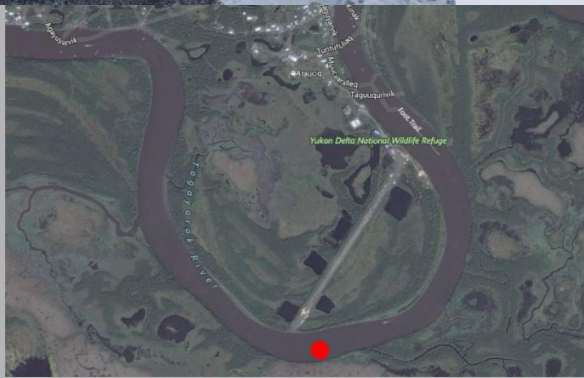
FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION CONTACT: Lisa Krebs-Barsis, Division of Spill Prevention and Response, Prevention Preparedness and Response Program, Aleutians/Western Alaska Unit, ADEC (907) 269-8487
[dec.alaska.gov/spar/perp/response/sr_active.htm]



Caterpillar EL180 in Qinaq River near Tuntutuliak, Alaska

60° 19.900 N

162° 40.049 W



AGENCY/STAKEHOLDER NOTIFICATION LIST: This situation report was distributed to the agencies listed on the standard distribution list, which includes the governor'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
Wilson's General Contracting, Inc.	Lee Wilson	Email			
Specialty Supply, Inc.	Bill Jones	Email			
Senate S- Tuntutuliak	Lyman Hoffman	Fax	senator.lyman.hoffman@akleg.gov Juneau (1/18-4/15) Bethel (4/20-1/15)	465-4453 543-3541	465-4523 543-3542
House 38- Tuntutuliak	Bob Herron	Fax	Representative.bob.herron@akleg.gov Juneau (1/18-4/15) Bethel (4/20-1/15)	465-4942 543-5898	465-4589 543-5892
ADNR	Clark Cox	Email	clark.cox@alaska.gov	269-7470	269-8913
ADF&G	Jeanette Alas	Email	Jeanette.alas@alaska.gov	267-2805	267-2499
USCG-Sector /ANC	USCG-Anchorage	Email	D17-SMB-SECANC- IMD@uscg.mil	428-4100	428-4114 (24 hr)
US EPA	Bob Whittier	Email	whittier.robert@epa.gov	206-553-1263 or 206-553-1264	271-3424
United States Army Corps of Engineers	Regulatory Division	Email	regpagemaster@usace.army.mil	907-753-2712	
Tuntutuliak Tribal Council	Jonathan Pavila	Email	JPavila@tuntutuliaktc.org	543-5306	543-4186
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