



Quarterly Report of Oil and Hazardous Substance Response

April 1 - June 30, 1998
Volume 4 - Number 2

Significant Spills This Quarter

1. Hobbs Industries - Anchorage

Quantity/Product: 2,400 gallons transformer oil
Cause: under investigation

Two 1200-gallon out-of-service electrical transformers spilled low level PCB mineral oil at an industrial site in Anchorage. When the spill was found, the valves were open and the plugs removed. Thus, it appears the spill was either an intentional act, or negligence in draining the transformers. The spill saturated soils down to groundwater and has migrated off-site, entering a storm drain which discharges into Ship Creek. A vacuum truck recovered the oil in the storm drain. Then the storm drain flow was diverted through an oil/water separator. An interception trench, was placed between the spill and the storm drain, to stop further oil from entering the storm drain. The final step will be site characterization and soil remediation.

2. Polaris Drums - Anchorage (May 15, 1998)

Quantity/Product: three 55-gallon drums of solvent
Cause: intentional dumping of hazardous material

An unknown party dumped three drums of a solvent onto a vacant lot behind Polaris School in Anchorage. All of the drums were found empty or nearly so. A twenty by twenty-foot patch of impacted soil was evident with puddles of pooled liquid on the surface. The Department obtained samples of the soil, spilled product, and residual products from two of the drums. A contractor excavated about 50 cubic yards of highly contaminated soil, placed it on a liner and covered it with plastic sheeting.

3. Shell Crude Spill — Nikiski (May 17, 1998)

Quantity/Product: 80 barrels crude oil & produced water
Cause: Alarm and dresser sleeve failure

A sump tank overflowed resulted in a release estimated at 57 barrels of produced water and three barrels of crude oil to an unlined gravel diked area. A high level alarm failed due to a blown fuse in the control panel circuit. Cook Inlet Spill Prevention and Response, Inc. (CISPRI) was activated and a vacuum truck removed free liquids from the secondary containment area. Contaminated soil and gravel were excavated.



Soils stained after mineral oil containing low-level PCBs spilled from out-of-service transformers.

4. Heating Fuel Spill — Juneau (May 8, 1998)

Quantity/Product: 615 gallons home heating fuel
Cause: tank failure

The source of an oily sheen discovered on the waters of Gastineau Channel in Juneau was traced to a failed home heating fuel tank. The 675-gallon underground home fuel tank was pumped dry, with an estimated 60 gallons of mixed diesel fuel being removed from the tank. The contractors removed all visible product using sorbent materials and mechanical suction systems. An interceptor trench was hand dug directly in front of a french drain installed on the owner's property. The owner and their contractors continue to monitor the collection sites for any additional product which can be collected.

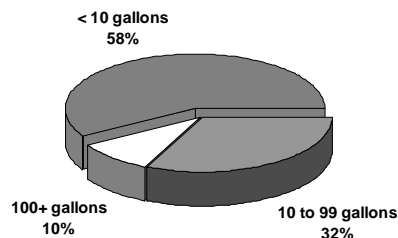
5. Shungnak Tank Farm (May 3, 1998)

Quantity/Product: Unknown quantity, diesel
Cause: Frost heaving caused break in flex hose

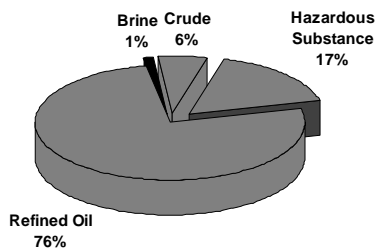
Frost heaves caused a break in a flex hose from a 7,000-gallon tank resulting in a 3,000-gallon diesel spill to secondary containment. Established procedures which required shutting off a 3" valve after filling the daytank were not followed. The Water Treatment Plant Operator was able to recover approximately 3,900 gallons of fuel/water from the secondary containment.

Data Summary

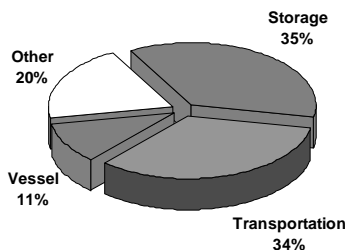
Oil and Hazardous Substance Spills April 1 - June 30, 1998



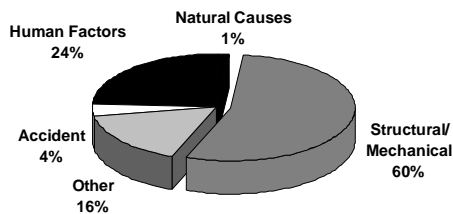
Number of Spills by Size Class



Number of Spills by Product



Number of Spills by Source



Number of Spills by Cause

Spill News

Cleanup

Coville Truck Rollover. A truck owned by Coville, Inc. slid backward on a icy hill in November 1997 and went off the Dalton Highway near Deadhorse, rupturing two of the cargo tanks of #1 fuel oil. About 5,500 gallons spilled and migrated through the tundra and toward the Kuparuk River.



A springtime flooding operation was set up to collect the remaining diesel fuel. A dike was built to divert melt water through the culvert and the diesel was collected with sorbents at an inverted weir that was constructed in the drainage. Water was pumped from the collection pond in front of the dike back up hill to the spill area where it was used, along with mild agitation to flood the remaining free diesel fuel out of the soil. Spring cleanup was completed on May 29. The spill site will be sampled late summer at maximum soil thaw.



Asbestos Cleanup - Manley Hot Springs. In late May Alaska Pollution Control (APC) conducted a cleanup of the asbestos and liquid petroleum product drums in Manley Hot Springs. The contractor removed approximately 3.6 tons of asbestos, 22 drums of liquid petroleum product and 7 drums of contaminated soil. During the cleanup they discovered a cache of military bore cleaner (a solvent). Contamination at the site still exists and, once the bore cleaner is removed, this site will be transferred to the Contaminated Sites Program for ranking and further investigation.

Sagwon Bluffs - North Slope Cleanup Projects. As of May 29, Northern Area Response Team (NART) staff has received commitments for the cleanup of all oil and hazardous substances and abandoned drums at Sagwon Bluffs. The Sagwon Bluffs Cleanup Workgroup met on May 27 and the first priority identified for the project is sampling and containerizing all oil and hazardous substances. This is scheduled to occur in August.

M/V Kuroshima

Cleanup of the M/V Kuroshima spill resumed in April. By late June, most areas were cleaned up. The Restoration and Revegetation Project will be completed in late July or early August.

Spill News

Local Response

Community Spill Response Agreements have been signed with twenty communities around the State. The City of Unalaska and the Municipality of Anchorage are the two latest local governments to enter into agreements with Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC). The agreements allow the DEC to activate and reimburse local response personnel and equipment in the event of a spill and also allow the DEC State On-Scene Coordinator to access the Fairbanks and Anchorage hazardous-materials (hazmat) response teams .

Planning

Unified and Subarea Plan Updates. Change 2 to the *Unified Plan* is scheduled for publication by the end of this calendar year following public review.

The public review period for the draft *Kodiak Subarea Contingency Plan* ended on May 29th. The Coast Guard, Kodiak Island Borough, and the Department anticipate publication of the plan sometime this summer. The Interior Subarea Committee met formally for the first time in Fairbanks in March. The committee was tasked to review and comment on the initial working draft of the *Interior Subarea Contingency Plan*, with follow up meetings planned to further improve and ultimately publish the plan. The Copper River Delta and Flats (CRDF) work group (composed of representatives from the crude oil shipping industry, City of Cordova, Cordova District Fisherman United, Coast Guard, and DEC) is in the process of developing an addendum to the Prince William Sound Subarea Contingency Plan which will outline specific tactics and strategies for protecting the CRDF.

Prevention

Agreement to use State of Alaska Vessels for Spill Response.

The Department met with representatives from the Department of Fish and Game (DFG) and the Marine Highway System (Department of Transportation) to discuss ways to improve cooperation in responding to spills. DFG has two vessels in Southeast Alaska which may be useful as staging platforms in response to a large spill in Southeast Alaska. DEC will work with DFG to develop a draft agreement which can then be used as a template for including other DFG resources in other parts of the state.

Major Drills Planned. The Department will participate in two major drill exercises later this summer. The ARCO Mutual Aid Drill (MAD) drill is scheduled for August 6 on the North Slope. In September, a drill simulating a Spill of National Significance (SONS) will be held in Prince William Sound.

Spill Digest

HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCES (excluding brine)

Total Count: 121

Total Gallons: 248,750

Top 5 Substances

	Product	Count	Gallons
1	Ethylene Glycol (Antifreeze)	15	100
2	Magnesium Oxide (Slurry)	9	208,662
3	Other	7	271
4	Corrosion Inhibitor	5	442
5	Methyl Alcohol (Methanol)	4	29

Top 5 Causes

	Cause	Count	Gallons
1	Leak, Other	14	4,586
2	Other	6	202,116
3	Line Ruptured	6	323
4	Valve Faulty	5	43
5	Tank Overfill	5	363

Top 5 Sources

	Source	Count	Gallons
1	Home/Office/Business	19	206,975
2	Other	10	408
3	Truck	7	263
4	Refinery	7	235
5	Auto	4	6

CRUDE AND REFINED OIL

Total Count: 500

Total Gallons: 35,148

Top 5 Substances

	Product	Count	Gallons
1	Diesel	216	17,078
2	Hydraulic Oil	50	952
3	Gasoline	50	6,582
4	Engine Lube Oil	37	386
5	Aviation Fuel	33	516

Top 5 Causes

	Cause	Count	Gallons
1	Leak, Other	106	4,490
2	Unknown	71	5,357
3	Tank Overfill	54	2,690
4	Line Ruptured	43	4,633
5	Intentional Release	31	253

Top 5 Sources

	Source	Count	Gallons
1	Unknown	66	470
2	Truck	59	944
3	Fishing	41	6,329
4	Home/Office/Business	37	3,915
5	Auto	37	126

PLEASE NOTE. . . This report is based on provisional spill data. Readers should be aware that minor discrepancies in the data may exist.

1998 Calendar

DRILLS

August 5-6:	Mutual Aid Drill, North Slope
August 26:	Alyeska Pipeline Drill, Fairbanks
September 21-23:	British Petroleum/SONS Drill, Valdez

MEETINGS

July 21:	Local Emergency Planning Committee Workshop, Ft. Richardson
July 22:	State Emergency Response Commission, Ft. Richardson
August 12-13:	Oil Spill Recovery Institute Board
August 18:	State/Federal NRDA Workgroup, Anchorage

At a glance.....

April 1 - June 30, 1998

Spill Summary

Total Spills Reported (includes 6 Brine releases):	627
Total Gallons Released (oil):	35,148
Total Gallons Released (hazardous substances):	248,750

Oil Releases

Total Spills Reported:	500
Most Common Substance (205 spills):	Diesel
Most Common Cause: (260 spills)	Structural/Mech.
Most Common Source (177 spills):	Transportation
Largest Release (gallons) (Diesel):	16,380

Hazardous Substance Releases (excluding brine)

Total Spills Reported:	121
Most Common Substance (15 spills):	Ethylene Glycol
Most Common Cause (73 spills):	Structural/Mech.
Most Common Source (60 spills):	Storage
Largest Release (gallons) (magnesium oxide slurry)	200,000

SEND COMMENTS AND SUBSCRIPTION REQUESTS TO:

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mail label

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Transformer oil spill at Hobbs Industries (Anchorage), solvent-like spill at Polaris School, crude oil spill in Nikiski, home heating fuel spill in Juneau, and a diesel leak at Shungnak Tank Farm

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- ◆ Colville Truck Rollover
- ◆ Asbestos - Manley Hot Springs
- ◆ Sagwon Bluffs - N. Slope Cleanup
- ◆ M/V Kuroshima
- ◆ Local Spill Response Agreements
- ◆ Unified & Subarea Plan Updates
- ◆ Cruise Ship Drill 98
- ◆ State Vehicle Agreement
- ◆ Major Drills Planned

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At a glance...

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