



ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION
Division of Spill Prevention and Response
Prevention Preparedness and Response Program
SITUATION REPORT (SITREP)

CHANGES FROM PREVIOUS SITREPS ARE DENOTED IN RED

MP 33 Seward Hwy Vehicle Accident



SITREP #: 1

SPILL #: 19239907202

TIME/DATE OF DISTRIBUTION: 1:00 p.m. March 15, 2019

POTENTIAL RESPONSIBLE PARTY (PRP): N/A

INCIDENT LOCATION: Mile Post (MP) 33 Seward Highway near Moose Pass

TIME/DATE OF SPILL: 2:45 p.m. March 13, 2019

HOW/WHEN SPILL WAS DISCOVERED AND REPORTED: The department received a call from the Alaska State Troopers around 4:00 p.m. on March 13, 2019, reporting an accident and spill at MP 33 of the Seward Highway, near Moose Pass. A semi-truck hauling a large excavator on a low-boy trailer went off the road into Moose Creek as a result of the accident.

TYPE/AMOUNT OF PRODUCT SPILLED: An unknown quantity of diesel from two 150-gallon saddle tanks and an unknown amount of engine oil from the semi-truck spilled into the creek as a result of the accident. Up to 160 gallons of diesel and 140 gallons of hydraulic oil remain in the excavator. The excavator and the semi-truck remain in the creek.

CAUSE OF SPILL: Vehicle accident. The cause of the truck leaving the road and crashing is unknown.

SOURCE CONTROL: At the time of this report the semi-tractor remains in the creek leaking fuel and oil. The excavator is upright and not currently leaking fuel and oil.

RESPONSE ACTION: The accident investigation and weather conditions, blowing snow with 40 mph winds, prevented spill response crews from accessing the scene immediately following the accident. Cook Inlet Aquaculture Association (CIAA) personnel from the Trail Lakes Hatchery accessed the ADEC response conex and deployed sorbent boom at several locations in the creek. Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation (ADEC) responders arrived from Soldotna on March 14th. ADEC responders placed containment boom near the equipment and absorbent boom in several more locations in the creek. ADEC opened the pollution response fund and hired National Response Corporation (NRC) to remove impacted snow, monitor boom locations, and provide pollution mitigation for the salvage operations beginning March 15th. A salvage company has been hired to remove the semi-truck and excavator from the creek.

RESOURCES AT RISK OR AFFECTED: Moose Creek [AWC No. 244-30-10010-2225-3013] (MP33 to Upper Trail Lake) is a known spawning area for sockeye salmon, and likely spawning area for coho salmon. Both species likely have eggs in the gravel in the area impacted by the spill. Eggs may emerge from the gravel in the next few

weeks (weather and temperature dependent). There are likely juvenile coho, chinook, and possibly sockeye salmon in creek. The creek is a known rainbow trout spawning area, adults will likely move into the impacted area in the next few weeks and begin spawning in May. In early spring when invertebrates show up on surface waters, coho and trout will feed on the surface, making them more vulnerable to impacts from remaining diesel.

Upper Trail Lake [AWC No. 244-30-10010-2225-0020] is a spawning area for sockeye salmon, with eggs likely in the gravel. The lake supports rearing habitat for juvenile coho, chinook, and sockeye salmon. The lake supports rainbow trout, lake trout, and Dolly Varden. As juvenile sockeye migrate downstream in Moose Creek into the lake, adult Dolly Varden and trout will be waiting to feed on them.

The nearby hatchery does not intake water from the creek or the lake.

FUTURE PLANS AND RECOMMENDATIONS: The salvage company is working to remove the excavator and the semi-truck from the creek. ADEC and NRC responders will continue to conduct passive recovery in the creek and lake and work to ensure the fuel and oil released do not have impacts further downstream.

WEATHER: Currently rain and snow mix and 35° F. Forecast through tomorrow is for low to mid 30's at night, and high 30's to low 40's during the day with rain and snow mix and ESE winds 5 to 10 mph.

UNIFIED COMMAND AND PERSONNEL:

State On-Scene Coordinator: Geoff Merrell, ADEC

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

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION CONTACT: Geoff Merrell, State On-Scene Coordinator, ADEC (907) 269-7682. Website: <https://dec.alaska.gov/spar/ppr/spill-information/response/2019/03-seward-hwy/>



3-13-2019 Boom Placed in Moose Creek by CIAA staff, photo by CIAA staff

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
Senate O	Peter Micciche	Email	senator.peter.micciche@akleg.gov	465-2828 283-7996	465-4779 283-3075
House 29	Ben Carpenter	Email	representative.ben.carpenter@akleg.gov	465-3779 800-469-3779	
US EPA	Bob Whittier	Email	Whittier.robert@epa.gov	206-553-1263 or 206-553-1264	271-3424
United State Forest Service	Francisco Sanchez	Email	fbsanchez@fs.fed.us		
Alaska Department of Fish and Game	Brian Blossom	Email	brian.blossom@alaska.gov		
Kenai Pen. Borough	Dan Nelson, Office of Emergency Management	Email	dnelson@kpb.us	262-2098	714-2395
Seward Harbormaster	Harbormaster	Email	harbormaster@cityofseward.net	224-3138	224-7187