



**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**

## **APL Yard Diesel Release Kodiak**



**SITREP #:** 2

**SPILL #:** 19239907501

**TIME/DATE OF DISTRIBUTION:** 6:00 p.m. March 19, 2019

**POTENTIAL RESPONSIBLE PARTY (PRP):** American President Lines LTD (APL)

**INCIDENT LOCATION:** APL yard, east of the intersection of Anton Larsen Bay Road and Old Tom Stiles Road, Kodiak

**TIME/DATE OF SPILL:** Overnight on March 15-16, 2019

**HOW/WHEN SPILL WAS DISCOVERED AND REPORTED:** The spill was reportedly discovered at 9:00 a.m. on March 16<sup>th</sup>. Environmental Contracting Solutions, Inc. (ECS), a consultant for APL notified the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation (ADEC) at 12:00 p.m. ADEC personnel notified the United States Coast Guard (USCG) Marine Safety Detachment (MSD) Kodiak and the National Response Center at 12:20 pm.

**TYPE/AMOUNT OF PRODUCT SPILLED:** A fuel line of a refrigeration unit on the APL yard leaked overnight. The capacity of the refrigeration unit was 2,000 gallons. The quantity of diesel that leaked from the refrigeration unit was reported to the department by ECS as 1,369 gallons. Rainfall caused the fuel to enter runoff flow across the yard into a drainage ditch adjacent to the yard. Fuel and runoff flowed from the drainage ditch into a culvert that flowed into a tributary of the Buskin River. From the tributary it flowed into the Buskin River and into St. Paul Harbor. An investigation is underway to verify the quantity of fuel released from the line.

**CAUSE OF SPILL:** Under investigation.

**SOURCE CONTROL:** The entire contents of the fuel storage was reportedly empty when the release was discovered.

**RESPONSE ACTION:** APL contracted ECS to respond to the spill. APL and ECS personnel used check dams, trenching, and absorbent materials in the drainage ditch to prevent more fuel from entering the culverts and river. APL and ECS personnel also placed boom at the inlets and outlets of the culvert. After receiving the report MSD Kodiak personnel and the USCG fire department immediately arrived on scene of the incident to assist in the response activities. ECS initiated an aerial survey of the river, estuary, and harbor. United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) personnel began conducting wildlife surveys.

APL contracted Alaska Chadux Corporation (Chadux) in the afternoon of March 16<sup>th</sup> to respond to the spill. Chadux arrived in Kodiak in the evening on March 16<sup>th</sup>. ADEC personnel arrived in Kodiak in the morning on March 17<sup>th</sup>.

On March 17<sup>th</sup> Chadux and ECS responders conducted shoreline assessments on the river and beaches to identify impacted areas. Responders have been using both passive and mechanical fuel recovery tactics in the river and tributary. Responders have deployed absorbent sweep and boom along the river bank to recover fuel and an oleophilic skimmer in conjunction with the boom at the mouth of the tributary entering Buskin River.

On March 18<sup>th</sup> responders continued to recover fuel using passive and mechanical recovery tactics. An estimated 125 gallons of diesel have been recovered with the skimmer. Thirty-six bags of soiled absorbents and other oily waste have been collected. Responders with assistance from the USFWS conducted assessments of the river bank and USFWS personnel continued to conduct wildlife surveys. A second overflight was conducted on March 18<sup>th</sup> to view the beach and the mouth of the Buskin River.

**RESOURCES AT RISK OR AFFECTED:** The Buskin River is the main subsistence and sportfishing river in Kodiak. The Buskin River State Recreation Area is used by Kodiak residents. Recreational and subsistence fishing takes place in the river and St. Paul Harbor.

Boat harbors approximately a mile from the outlet of the Buskin are home to recreational and commercial vessels.

Buskin River and wetlands complex are known to support chum, coho, pink, and sockeye salmon, Dolly Varden, and steelhead trout spawning and rearing habitat. Pacific razor clam beds are located in nearshore waters by the mouth of the Buskin River and may be harvested by subsistence users.

The impacted area provides wintering habitat for waterfowl, including Steller's eider, emperor goose, and yellow-billed loon. A number of other species, such as the black oystercatcher, marbled murrelet, peregrine falcon and bald eagle are present year round.

Multiple species listed under the Endangered Species Act are likely present in the area including Northern sea otters, Steller sea lion, and humpback whales. Other marine mammals that may be present are sperm whales, killer whales, harbor seals, harbor porpoise, Dall's porpoise and Minke whales.

Wildlife have been observed during USFWS surveys. To date no dead or apparently sick wildlife have been observed in the impacted area.

**FUTURE PLANS AND RECOMMENDATIONS:** APL is setting up an incident command post. An additional ADEC responder is being deployed to Kodiak. ECS and Chadux responders will continue recovery tactics.

**WEATHER:** Currently 38 and cloudy, wind 13 MPH. Forecast for tomorrow calls for rain and mid 40's, wind 16 MPH. Low tides today at 7:58 p.m., then tomorrow at 8:09 a.m. and 8:38 p.m. High tides for March 20<sup>th</sup> at 2:18 a.m. and 2:17 p.m.

**UNIFIED COMMAND:**

Incident Commander: Chris Graff

State On-Scene Coordinator: Geoff Merrell

Federal On-Scene Coordinator representative: LTJG Andy Ready

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

**FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Geoff Merrell, State On-Scene Coordinator, ADEC (907) 269-7682.

Website: <http://dec.alaska.gov/spar/ppr/spill-information/response/>

**AGENCY/STAKEHOLDER NOTIFICATION LIST:**

Please refer to the first SITREP, distributed on March 17, 2019, for the agency/stakeholder notification list. The first SITREP can be found by following the link in the **Additional Information** box above.