



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

Kitoi Bay Diesel Release

SITREP #: 2nd and Final

SPILL #: 19239932401

TIME/DATE OF DISTRIBUTION: 3:00 p.m., December 4, 2019

POTENTIAL RESPONSIBLE PARTY (PRP): Kodiak Regional Aquaculture Association (KRAA)

INCIDENT LOCATION: Kitoi Bay Hatchery, Afognak Island, 58.191663, -152.36379

TIME/DATE OF SPILL: Between November 20th to 22nd, 2019

HOW/WHEN SPILL WAS DISCOVERED AND REPORTED: KRAA reportedly discovered the spill on Friday, November 22nd. KRAA notified the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation (ADEC) at 3:30p.m. on November 22, 2019. Diesel fuel was observed seeping from the north bank of the Big Kitoi River, at the facility.

TYPE/AMOUNT OF PRODUCT SPILLED: KRAA reported between 800 and 1,200 gallons of diesel were released.

CAUSE OF SPILL: A break in a one-inch distribution line serving the facility. The most recent transfer in the line was November 20th. Diesel migrated below the ground surface from the break in the distribution line under structures and a road to the river bank.

SOURCE CONTROL: The distribution line is isolated from the tank and the break in the line was uncovered and repaired.

RESPONSE ACTION: Trained KRAA responders deployed containment boom and absorbents and activated Chadux Corporation (Chadux), an oil spill response organization, on November 22nd. Chadux arrived at the hatchery on Saturday November 23rd. Two United States Coast Guard (USCG) and one ADEC responder arrived on scene to assess the situation on Saturday November 23rd. A Unified Command comprised of KRAA, USCG, and ADEC formed to respond to the spill and coordinate with state and federal resource agencies and other stakeholders.

Chadux and hatchery responders deployed an additional containment boom, set up a waste staging area, and prepared to conduct flushing operations at the source. All equipment for flushing was onsite by Monday November 25th, however inclement weather prevented flushing from moving forward until Saturday November 30th. ADEC and USCG responders were on site November 30th to assess the progress of the response. Flushing operations began on November 30th and ended on December 1st. Responders used a total of 5,800 gallons of water flushed into the ground at the source area. Fluorescent dye was used to ensure communication of water from the source area to the river bank. After two days, flushing efforts were producing diminishing returns. When no increased sheening was observed, the Unified Command decided to end flushing.



Currently sheening on site is light gray and continues to decrease. Two layers of containment boom were removed leaving one in place. Responders continue to deploy absorbents as needed. A total of 84 bags of oily waste are staged at the hatchery, while KRAA is working to develop a plan for disposition of the waste.

The Unified Command approved a demobilization plan for Chadux and the response is transitioning into a maintenance and monitoring phase for trained Hatchery staff.

RESOURCES AT RISK OR AFFECTED:

The Kitoi Bay Hatchery, managed by the Kodiak Aquaculture Association, provides enhanced common property salmon fishing opportunities for Kodiak Management Area (KMA) fishermen by increasing returns of pink, chum, coho, and sockeye salmon through broodstock development, egg takes, incubation, hatching, rearing, and releasing juvenile salmon, primarily to the Kitoi Bay area. There are currently no fish in the hatchery's marine pens.

Kitoi Bay is designated as Essential Fish Habitat for many groundfish, rockfish, and all five species of Pacific salmon. Big Kitoi River is an anadromous stream for chum spawning and rearing, coho and pink spawning, and sockeye are present.

Kodiak Archipelago is a wintering concentration area for sea birds, sea ducks (waterfowl), and shorebirds including ESA-listed threatened Steller's eiders. Chadux has deployed passive hazing tactics to keep birds out of the impacted area and is working on a permit for active hazing if that becomes necessary.

The spill is within the boundaries of the United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) Alaska National Maritime Refuge.

The Kitoi Bay Hatchery and associated spill and response efforts occur within designated Steller sea lion critical habitat. The Steller sea lions present at the site are listed as endangered under the Endangered Species Act (ESA). Harbor seals are also anticipated to occur regularly at this site. In addition to sea lions and seals, humpback whales, harbor porpoise, minke whales, killer whales and Dall's porpoise may occur near the spill site (some humpback whales in this are listed as threatened or endangered). Fin whales, sperm whales, and North Pacific right whales, which are all listed as endangered, may occur further offshore of the spill site. Kitoi Bay is southwest AK stock sea otter, ESA-listed as threatened, Critical Habitat; otters are expected to be present in the area.

FUTURE PLANS AND RECOMMENDATIONS: Light sheening may continue while unrecoverable remnant fuel is attenuated by wind and tide action. Hatchery responders will continue to maintain containment boom, deploy absorbents as needed, and monitor wildlife while sheening is present. The spill occurred on land and migrated underground beneath dense infrastructure. KRAA will coordinate with ADEC to address the on land portion of the release.

WEATHER: Today weather is forecasted to be partly cloudy in the morning then becoming mostly sunny. Highs in the lower 30s with northwest wind of 15 mph.

UNIFIED COMMAND:

Incident Commander: Kodiak Regional Aquaculture Association
State On-Scene Coordinator: ADEC
Federal On-Scene Coordinator: USCG

TIME/DATE OF THE NEXT REPORT DISTRIBUTION: Final

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION CONTACT:

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

Lisa Krebs-Barsis, State On-Scene Coordinator representative, ADEC (907) 269-8487.

AGENCY/STAKEHOLDER NOTIFICATION LIST: Please refer to the first SITREP, distributed November 26, 2019, for the agency/stakeholder notification list. The first SITREP can be found by following the link in the **Additional Information** box above.