



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



## **HEF Waste Dumping at Rolling Stone Gravel Pits**

**CHANGES FROM PREVIOUS SITREPS ARE DENOTED IN RED**

**SITREP #: 2**

**SPILL #: 20309911405**

**DATE/TIME OF DISTRIBUTION:** June 22, 2020, at 4:45 p.m.

Information current as of June 22, 2020, at 3:00 p.m.

**POTENTIAL RESPONSIBLE PARTY (PRP):** Eielson Air Force Base (EAFB), United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), Rolling Stone, Inc. (Rolling Stone), Bethel Federal – Unit Joint Venture, Arctic Slope Regional Corporation, Watterson Construction Co., and North Star Honey Wagon

**INCIDENT LOCATION:** Rolling Stone, Inc. Salcha Gravel Pit at 6665 Richardson Highway, Salcha, Alaska 99714 (Lat/Long: 64.5686N, -147.0483W) and Rolling Stone, Inc. Harding Pit off of Rolling Stone Court in Salcha, Alaska 99714 (Lat/Long: 64.440833N, -146.91138W)

**DATE/TIME OF SPILL:** Multiple instances of discharges at both properties in 2019 and 2020. Specific dates and times of the discharges are still under investigation.

**HOW/WHEN SPILL WAS DISCOVERED AND REPORTED:** Reported anonymously to the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation (ADEC) on April 23, 2020, at 3:45 p.m.

**TYPE/AMOUNT OF PRODUCT SPILLED:** The USAF estimates 33,000 gallons of Ansul Jet-X 2% High Expansion Foam (HEF) waste generated from fire suppression system testing at EAFB was improperly discharged on the ground. The discharged waste was transported off base via tanker trucks and totes. The reuse of totes to transport HEF waste off base indicate that other chemicals could be present in the waste. An estimated 12,000 gallons of HEF waste/mixed chemical waste contained in totes remain at the Rolling Stone properties. Results have been received by ADEC for part of the collection of samples and indicate the presence of perfluorinated compounds and ethylene glycol in some of the waste. Additional sample results are expected over the next several weeks.

**CAUSE OF SPILL:** HEF waste was transferred from EAFB to Rolling Stone via subcontractors and improperly discharged at two gravel pits owned by Rolling Stone. The investigation into the improper waste disposal is ongoing.

**SOURCE CONTROL:** There is no ongoing discharge occurring. Additionally, HEF waste is no longer being transferred from EAFB to the Rolling Stone gravel pits.

**RESPONSE ACTION:** ADEC worked with EAFB and USACE to sample the contents of the 46 totes at the Rolling Stone Salcha and Harding gravel pits to determine the compounds of concern. ADEC staff were onsite during sample collection by an environmental consultant on May 11, 2020, and May 26, 2020. Partial laboratory results from the May 11, 2020 sampling event at the Harding gravel pit were received by ADEC on June 16, 2020. Six totes were sampled for fluorinated compounds; ADEC received results for three of those. One of those three totes contain perfluorooctane sulfonic acid (PFOS) exceeding the state cleanup level. Information provided by EAFB from the manufacturer of the Ansul Jet-X 2% HEF concentrate indicates it does not contain PFOS. Additionally, other analytical results were received for 10 totes of the 46 totes. Of those 10, eight exceed state groundwater cleanup levels for ethylene glycol. Concentrated Ansul Jet-X 2% contains ethylene glycol per the product's Safety Data Sheet.

Water samples from two public water systems, the Knotty Shop, LLC. and the Salcha Community well at the fairground were collected on June 5, 2020. The Knotty Shop is within a quarter mile and the Salcha Community well is approximately 0.7 miles from the Salcha gravel pit. Partial sample results were received by ADEC on June 18, 2020 and found no Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCs) in the samples. Additional results received by ADEC on June 19, 2020, are still undergoing internal review of the data quality but the preliminary sample data indicates the presence of low levels of ethylene glycol in both wells. ADEC collected additional samples on June 22, 2020, for confirmation analysis and expects results by June 26, 2020. Results for the analysis of fluorinated compounds in the public wells is expected on June 26, 2020 and will be released publicly following internal review of the data quality. ADEC, in consultation with the Department of Health and Social Services, is not issuing a drinking water advisory at this time but will reassess based on the results from the additional sampling.

On June 1, 2020, ADEC approved the plan submitted by EAFB and USACE to survey and sample private wells within a quarter mile of the two discharge locations. Efforts to survey for private wells began June 3, 2020 and is expected to conclude by June 24, 2020.

**RESOURCES AT RISK OR AFFECTED:** Impacts to soil at the Rolling Stone, Inc. Salcha and Harding gravel pits. Groundwater near the gravel pits may be impacted. Groundwater supplies public and private drinking water wells in the area.

**FUTURE PLANS AND RECOMMENDATIONS:**

Private wells identified in the survey will be sampled by EAFB and USACE based on the certificate of composition of Ansul Jet-X 2% HEF. Sampling by EAFB and USACE is expected to begin on June 25, 2020. EAFB has denied ADEC's request to sample private wells for fluorinated compounds after a tote exceeded state groundwater cleanup levels for PFOS. ADEC is developing a contract to collect samples from the private wells for PFAS analysis.

EAFB and USACE will be resampling the tote that contained PFOS to confirm presence and concentration and will be sampling all fire suppression systems and water system on Eielson Air Force Base to validate existing systems do not contain PFOS. ADEC is also requiring EAFB and USACE sample the remainder of the 46 totes (40 totes) for fluorinated compounds.

ADEC will continue to review sample results as they are received and review work plans associated with site assessment and response. ADEC has requested EAFB develop a written plan for installation of monitoring wells

on the Rolling Stone properties. In addition, once all the tote sampling results are received, ADEC will request a written work plan to sample the soil/gravel area where discharges occurred at each gravel pit as necessary.

ADEC is continuing to conduct an investigation to determine why the HEF waste was improperly disposed of at the gravel pits.

**WEATHER:** Tonight: Scattered showers with rain potentially heavy at times. Low around 47°F. Winds from the southwest at 10-15 mph. Tomorrow: Scattered showers with rain potentially heavy at times. High 63°F. Winds from the south around 10 mph.

**UNIFIED COMMAND AND PERSONNEL:**

Eielson POC: Amanda Gallagher, EAFB

SOSC: Sarah Moore, ADEC

**DATE/TIME OF THE NEXT REPORT DISTRIBUTION:** Monday, June 29, 2020 at 3:00 p.m.

**FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION CONTACT:** Sarah Moore, SOSC, ADEC (907) 465-5239.

For additional information about potential health impacts contact: Sarah Yoder, DHSS, (907) 269-8054.

For additional information about private well sampling within a quarter mile of the Salcha properties contact: John Budnik, USACE Public Affairs, (907) 753-2615.

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



**FIGURE 1:** Salcha Pit location at 6665 Richardson highway. The red dot indicates the approximate location of discharge. Basemap imagery provided by ESRI. Figure by ADEC.



**FIGURE 2:** Harding Pit location off Rolling Stone Court. The red dot indicates the approximate location of the discharge. Basemap imagery provided by ESRI. Figure by ADEC.



**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
Eielson Air Force Base	Captain Kay Nissen	Email	<a href="mailto:kay.nissen.1@us.af.mil">kay.nissen.1@us.af.mil</a>	377-2116	
Senate A Fairbanks area Ft Wainwright	Senator Scott Kawasaki	Email	<a href="mailto:senator.scott.kawasaki@akleg.gov">senator.scott.kawasaki@akleg.gov</a> Juneau (1/18-4/15) Fairbanks (4/20-1/15)	465-3466 456-7423	451-9293
Senate C Fairbanks, Chena Ridge, Airport	Senator Click Bishop	Email	<a href="mailto:senator.click.bishop@akleg.gov">senator.click.bishop@akleg.gov</a> Juneau (1/18-4/15) Fairbanks (4/20-1/15)	465-2327 456-8161	465-5241 456-8163
House 6 Eielson, Denali, Upper Yukon, Border Region	Representative David Talerico	Email	<a href="mailto:Rep.David.Talerico@akleg.gov">Rep.David.Talerico@akleg.gov</a>	465-4527	
Senate B – North Pole & West Fairbanks	Senator John Coghill	Email	<a href="mailto:senator.john.coghill@akleg.gov">senator.john.coghill@akleg.gov</a> Juneau (1/18-4/15) Fairbanks (4/20-1/15)	465-3719 451-2157	465-3258
Alaska State Troopers	Fairbanks	Fax		451-5100 or (800) 478-9300	451-3002
USCG-Sector /ANC	USCG-Anchorage	Fax		428-4100	428-4114 (24 hr)
US EPA	Bob Whittier	Fax/Email	<a href="mailto:whittier.robert@epa.gov">whittier.robert@epa.gov</a>	206-553-1263 or 206-553-1264	271-3424
ADF&G	Al Ott	Email	<a href="mailto:al.ott@alaska.gov">al.ott@alaska.gov</a>	459-7289 or 459-7285	
Dept of Law Attorney General Office	Steven Mulder	Fax/Email	<a href="mailto:steve.mulder@alaska.gov">steve.mulder@alaska.gov</a>	269-5274	278-7022
Fairbanks North Star Borough	<b>Bryce J. Ward</b> , Mayor	Email	<a href="mailto:bryce.ward@fnsb.us">bryce.ward@fnsb.us</a>	459-1304	
Tanana Chiefs Conference	Bill Justice (Environmental Health Dir.)	Email	<a href="mailto:William.justice@tananachiefs.org">William.justice@tananachiefs.org</a>	452-8251 x 3433	459-3989
Tanana Chiefs Conference	Kyle Wright	Email	<a href="mailto:Kyle.wright@tananachiefs.org">Kyle.wright@tananachiefs.org</a>	452-8251 x 3436	459-3989
City of Fairbanks	Jim Styers, Fire Chief	Email	<a href="mailto:jstyers@fairbanks.us">jstyers@fairbanks.us</a>	450- 6604	450-6666
City of Fairbanks	Brad Johnson, Deputy Chief of Police	Email	<a href="mailto:bjohnson@fairbanks.us">bjohnson@fairbanks.us</a>	450- 6515	452-2142
City of Fairbanks	<b>Nancy Reeder</b> , Chief of Police	Email	<a href="mailto:nreeder@fairbanks.us">nreeder@fairbanks.us</a> , <a href="mailto:fpd@fairbanks.us">fpd@fairbanks.us</a>	450-6467	452-2142
Fairbanks North Star Borough, Director of Emergency Operations	Dave Gibbs	Email	<a href="mailto:dgibbs@fnsb.us">dgibbs@fnsb.us</a>	459-1481	