



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



Shungnak School Tank Heating Oil Release

CHANGES FROM PREVIOUS SITREPS ARE DENOTED IN RED

SITREP # 2

SPILL #: 20389917201

TIME/DATE OF DISTRIBUTION: July 10, 2020, at 4:30 pm
Information current as of July 10, 2020, at 3:00 p.m.

POTENTIAL RESPONSIBLE PARTY (PRP): Native Village of Shungnak, Shungnak Native Store, Northwest Arctic Borough School District, Crowley Fuels, LLC, Alaska Village Electric Cooperation, ANICA, Inc., Northwest Arctic Borough

INCIDENT LOCATION:

Shungnak School tank farm in Shungnak, Alaska (Lat/Long: 66.887140, -157.135677)

TIME/DATE OF SPILL: June 20, 2020, at approximately 12:30pm

HOW/WHEN SPILL WAS DISCOVERED AND REPORTED:

Onsite personnel discovered overfill when checking the tanks at 1:06 p.m. on June 20, 2020. The Native Village of Shungnak reported the spill at 1:11 p.m.

TYPE/AMOUNT OF PRODUCT SPILLED:

The spilled product is heating oil that overflowed from Tank #1. The volume of fuel that spilled is estimated at approximately 15,000 gallons. This estimate is based on the total volume pumped from the fuel delivery barge minus the volume of fuel that went into tanks.

CAUSE OF SPILL:

The tank was overfilled during a fuel delivery from a barge on the Kobuk River. The fuel delivery was scheduled for the Shungnak Native Store and AVEC tanks located in a different tank farm that shares the same marine header. The fuel delivery pipeline from the marine header is connected to a 3-way valve that directs fuel to two tank farms. The valve was not completely closed in the direction of the school tanks and the fuel entered tank #1 and overflowed.

SOURCE CONTROL:

Fuel transfer operations from the barge to the tank farm have ceased, controlling the source.

RESPONSE ACTION:

A response crew from Shungnak responded to the spill immediately, removing the spilled heating oil using sorbent material and also by pumping it into containers. After initial notifications, the Field Incident Commander walked the area to determine the extent of the spill and sent response personnel to collect spilled heating oil

when identified. The spill site and the Kobuk River downhill from the site are visually monitored twice daily. There has been no visual evidence that the contamination has migrated to the Kobuk River. An excavator has been removing contaminated soil in the area near the tank farm. Contaminated soil is being moved off-site to a lined containment area west of town. No injuries have been reported. ADEC conducted a site visit on June 29, 2020, through July 2, 2020. A contractor has been hired and is scheduled to arrive on site on Monday, July 13th to assess the site and determine the extent of contamination. The contractor will also collect water samples from the Shungnak community drinking water treatment facility.

EPA and ADEC have formed a Unified Command but due to Covid-19 travel restrictions, there is not currently an agency presence at the spill site. ADEC is working closely with the Field Incident Command to maintain communication and progress of the cleanup.

RESOURCES AT RISK OR AFFECTED:

The Kobuk River and drinking water well that serves the population of Shungnak are potential resources at risk. The extent of contamination has been reported by the Incident Commander to be approximately 160 feet from the Kobuk River and approximately 295 feet from the Shungnak drinking water source. The Kobuk River is listed as an anadromous stream in the Alaska Department of Fish and Game's stream inventory. There have been no reports of impacts to wildlife or the shoreline.

FUTURE PLANS AND RECOMMENDATIONS:

ADEC will continue to monitor the response actions and review plans being developed to clean up contaminated soils from the area and prevent heating oil migration to nearby resources. An investigation is being conducted to identify the cause of the spill.

WEATHER:

Today: Cloudy. High 68°F with winds E/ESE at 0 to 2 mph. Tonight low around 50°F and winds E at 5 mph. Chance of rain 10-20%.

UNIFIED COMMAND AND PERSONNEL:

Incident Commander: Evelyn Woods, Native Village of Shungnak
SOSC: Graham Wood, ADEC
FOSC: Bob Whittier, EPA

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

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION CONTACT: Graham Wood, SOSC, ADEC (907) 269-7557

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



Tank farm where spill took place after the surrounding brush had been cleared. Also showing the covered contaminated soil stockpile, Shungnak, Alaska (Photo: J. Miller/ADEC, July 2, 2020)



Downhill slope from spill site showing the hillside when fuel spilled towards the Kobuk River, Shungnak, Alaska (Photo: J. Miller/ADEC, June 29, 2020)



Sorbent boom in a trench along the riverbank to prevent the spill from reaching the Kobuk River, Shungnak, Alaska (Photo: J. Miller/ADEC, June 29, 2020)

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 T- Nome	Donny Olson	Email	Senator.Donny.Olson@akleg.gov Juneau (1/18-4/15) Anchorage (4/20-1/15)	465-3707 269-0254	465-4821 269-2031
House 40	John Lincoln	Fax	Representative.John.Lincoln@akleg.gov	465-3473	
Alaska State Troopers	Kotzebue	Fax		442-3222	442-3221
ADF&G	Audra Brase	Email	audra.brase@alaska.gov	459-7289	
USCG-Sector /ANC	USCG-Anchorage	Fax		428-4100	428-4114 (24 hr)
US EPA	Bob Whittier	Fax/Email	Whittier.robert@epa.gov	206-553-1263 or 206-553-1264	271-3424
Dept of Law Attorney General Office	Steven Mulder	Fax/Email	Steve.mulder@alaska.gov	269-5274	278-7022
North West Arctic Borough Mayor	Lucy S. Nelson	Email		442-2500	442-2930