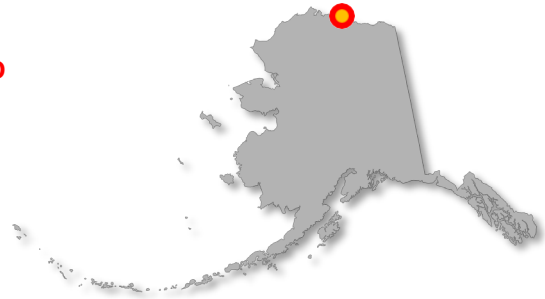




ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION
Division of Spill Prevention and Response
Prevention Preparedness and Response Program
SITUATION REPORT (SITREP)

North Slope, AK



CHANGES FROM THE PREVIOUS SITREP ARE DENOTED IN RED

2026 WNS Rig Move Incident

SITREP #: 4

SPILL #: 26399902301

DATE/TIME OF DISTRIBUTION: April 22, 2026, at 4:15 p.m.
Information current as of April 22, 2026, at 10:00 a.m.

POTENTIAL RESPONSIBLE PARTY (PRP): Doyon Drilling, Inc. (DDI)

INCIDENT LOCATION: Western North Slope (WNS) adjacent to a gravel road about 6.5 miles northwest of Nuiqsut. GPS coordinates: 70.303724, -151.145293

DATE/TIME OF SPILL: January 23, 2026, at 4:40 p.m.

HOW/WHEN SPILL WAS DISCOVERED AND REPORTED: During a rig move along a gravel road, the Rig 26 self-propelled drilling module left the road and toppled onto the tundra.

TYPE/AMOUNT OF PRODUCT SPILLED: According to the Spill Prevention, Control, and Countermeasure Plan (SPCC) for Rig 26, the maximum potential product on board was 8,400 gallons of diesel, 1,930 gallons hydraulic oil, and 85 gallons of ethylene glycol. Fuel volumes in the diesel tanks were measured approximately 30 minutes prior to the incident indicating that approximately 4,000 gallons were on board. Visual inspections conducted estimate volumes released to be approximately 4,000 gallons of diesel and 735 gallons of hydraulic oil. Ethylene glycol tanks remained structurally intact, and response crews removed 41 gallons of un-spilled ethylene glycol from the rig's coolant system (the entire volume of glycol on the rig).

CAUSE OF SPILL: The cause of the accident is unknown. DDI has hired a third-party company to conduct an investigation of the incident.

SOURCE CONTROL: As of March 31, 2026, 100% of the rig, its associated tanks, and other contents have been fully recovered and removed from the site. Initial gross decontamination of the rig happened onsite, and then the rig and its contents were taken to Deadhorse to begin the process of recycling and disposal.

RESPONSE ACTION: The response continues to prioritize the safety of all personnel first and foremost. Phase 1 and 2 of the three-phase response process have been completed, and the response is now in Phase 3.

Phase 1 (completed by February 12, 2026) included initial containment, cleanup of the product, and mitigation of the impacted area around the rig. A snow fence was placed around the entire site to minimize migration of contaminated snow. In addition, an ice trail was constructed to support snow removal operations and provide safe access around the delineated area while mitigating damage to the tundra.

Phase 2 (completed by March 31, 2026) focused on removal of the rig, including further inspection and disassembly of the structure, removal of any remaining fluids or debris from onboard the rig, and transport of the rig salvage to an offsite location. An ice road and pad were constructed to aid in rig deconstruction and removal.

Phase 3 is currently underway, and involves final cleanup, mitigation, and remediation of the entire affected area. While initial delineation of the spill area was conducted during Phase 1 using visual, infrared, and aerial methods, additional delineation was conducted during Phase 3 to investigate the spatial extent of the contamination. On April 3, 2026, a third-party contractor delineated a containment perimeter. A photoionization detector (PID) was used to field-screen soil in 7-foot increments. Approximately 50 soil samples were collected for lab analysis to confirm the field screening results.

Response activities followed established tactics as outlined in the [DEC Tundra Treatment Guideline](#) and the [Alaska Clean Seas Tactics Manual](#) focusing on contaminated snow removal (ACS Tactic R-3 Recovery of Oil-Saturated Snow) and flush and recovery (ACS Tactic R-4 Flushing of Oil on Tundra Surface and Tactic R-6 Recovery of Embedded Oil). Containment boom is being placed around the perimeter of the contaminated area to stabilize the site. The containment boom will be left in place throughout spring and summer to prevent the potential migration of any remaining product.

Extensive flushing tactics have recovered an estimated 5,356 gallons of product. As seen in other responses that also used flush and recovery tactics on tundra, it is not uncommon for final recovered volumes to exceed initial estimates. This can be explained by changes in product density throughout the recovery process as density is temperature-dependent, and there may be some residual water still dissolved in the measured product. Additionally, the stockpile of impacted snow (approximately 1,487 cubic yards) has been removed from the site during Phase 3.

Heavy equipment is being demobilized from the site in anticipation of ice road closure. The site will continue to be monitored through spring and summer. Wildlife observers are on site throughout the response. Air monitoring continues at this site.

RESOURCES AT RISK OR AFFECTED: The drilling module landed on tundra covered in 12 to 24 inches of snow. The closest oil and gas infrastructure, K-Pad, is located approximately 50 feet away and was not impacted. The pipeline is an estimated 202 feet away from the rig and was not impacted by the incident. Based on available maps, the site is less than 500 feet from a tributary to the Nechelik (Nigliq) Channel of the Colville River.

The spill area lies within critical habitat for denning and non-denning polar bears and habitat for caribou, Arctic fox, muskox, ptarmigan, and migratory birds, including those important to subsistence activities. Wildlife agencies, along with local and tribal entities, are assisting with the development of season-specific Wildlife Response Plans for spring and summer. Wildlife Response Plans identify the wildlife species that may potentially be in a three-mile radius of the site, what to do if wildlife appears at the site, and tactics to minimize impacts to the different species, such as wildlife-specific passive hazing.

The response team continues to evaluate the site in real time, and there remains no immediate risk to the community, infrastructure, air quality, drinking water sources, nearby waterways, traffic, or wildlife.

FUTURE PLANS AND RECOMMENDATIONS:

In anticipation of warming weather and spring melt, containment boom is being placed around the impacted area to minimize migration of any remaining contamination and to direct clean meltwater away from the site. In

accordance with Wildlife Response Plans, passive hazing tactics for wildlife will be put in place. A site characterization plan with additional field screening and analytical lab sampling is being developed to guide next steps after spring melt. DEC oversight will continue until the site meets State regulatory cleanup levels.

WEATHER: Today: High of 3° F with light easterly winds at 5 - 7 mph, mostly sunny
Tomorrow: High of 12° F with easterly winds at 12 mph, mostly cloudy

UNIFIED COMMAND AND PERSONNEL:

Incident Commander: Ben Wedin, Doyon Drilling, Inc.

SOSC: Kimberley Maher, DEC

FOSC: Torri Huelskoetter, US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)

LOSC: Chastity Olemaun, North Slope Borough (NSB)

TOSC: Stephanie Nelson, Iñupiat Community of the Arctic Slope (ICAS)

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

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION CONTACT: Kimberley Maher, State on Scene Coordinator, DEC (907) 451-2124

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



Impacted snow and ice were removed from tundra and staged for off-site disposal (left) to allow response crews to continue flush and recovery tactics (right). Photos from April 14, 2026, taken by DEC.

AGENCY/STAKEHOLDER NOTIFICATION LIST:

Please refer to the first SITREP, distributed January 25th, 2026, for the agency/stakeholder notification list. The first SITREP can be found by following the link in the **Additional Information** box above.