



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

F/V Pacific Knight Sinking

SITREP #: 2

SPILL #: 18269920601

TIME/DATE OF DISTRIBUTION: July 31, 2018 @ 4:00 pm

POTENTIAL RESPONSIBLE PARTY (PRP): Lone Fisherman, Inc.

INCIDENT LOCATION: The *F/V Pacific Knight* sank at position 58° 51.626' N 158° 32.070' W, just north of Clark's Point, approximately 11 nautical miles south of Dillingham.

TIME/DATE OF SPILL: July 25, 2018 @ 11:15 am

HOW/WHEN SPILL WAS DISCOVERED AND REPORTED: Coast Guard Sector Anchorage watch standers received a report on the morning of July 25, 2018 from the crew of the *F/V Bella Catherine* that a vessel had capsized near Clark's Point with three persons on board. Reports of sheen were received by the Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G) Area Management Biologist in Dillingham early in the morning on July 26, 2018.

TYPE/AMOUNT OF PRODUCT SPILLED: An estimated 800 gallons of diesel and 300 gallons of hydraulic fluid was on board when the vessel sank. At this time it is unknown how much has spilled.

CAUSE OF SPILL: The vessel capsized. What caused the vessel to capsize is still under investigation.

SOURCE CONTROL: Resolve Magone Marine Services (Alaska), Corporation's (Resolve Magone) dive team has successfully pumped fuel from the vessel's port diesel tank and secured the hydraulic fluid tank vents. At the time of this report, no additional sheen had been observed emanating from the sunken vessel. Efforts continue to remove the remaining fuel from the vessel.

RESPONSE ACTION: The vessel owner is working with the U.S. Coast Guard and has hired Resolve-Magone as their contractor. Resolve Magone arrived the morning of the July 26, 2018 and initiated response operations to secure the fuel onboard the vessel. Poor visibility, severe currents, and deck gear have restricted dive operations. The diesel port wing tank of *F/V Pacific Knight* was completely pumped out during this morning's dive operations. The total amount of fuel recovered at this time is unknown.

RESOURCES AT RISK OR AFFECTED: On July 26, 2018 at 9:00 am ADF&G issued an Emergency Order and reported fuel is spilling from the tender. It told fisherman to avoid the area. An Emergency Order Closure of the whole Nushagak District came out at noon. It was effective at 1:00 pm on July 26, 2018. Fishing closures over the weekend were intermittent. The Nushagak and Igushik Sections could be opened for set and drift gillnets as early as 4:00 pm on July 31, 2018 according to the Alaska Department of Fish and Game. The U.S. Coast Guard Sector Anchorage office has clarified that the *F/V Pacific Knight* was operating as a tender at the time of the



incident. It is therefore suspected that there were no fishing nets onboard that would continue to impact the resource. At this time of year, Nushagak Bay supports all five species of Pacific salmon, several commercially important ground fish species, marine mammals, seabirds, shorebirds, waterfowl, and eagles. Endangered Species Act (ESA)-listed species that may be present include the Western Distinct Population Segment (DPS) Steller sea lions (endangered), Western North Pacific DPS humpback whales (endangered), and Mexico DPS humpback whales (threatened). Other marine mammals in the area include beluga whales, killer whales, gray whales, Hawaii DPS humpback whales, Pacific walrus, and harbor seals. Several of these species will be following adult salmon migrating through the area to feed on them. The shorelines west of Nushagak Bay are part of the Togiak National Wildlife Refuge.

FUTURE PLANS AND RECOMMENDATIONS: During the next slack tide, plans are to pump the fuel from the starboard wing tank during this evening's dive operations. Attempts will then be made to refloat the vessel in future dive operations. Resolve Magone's tug *Makushin Bay* is en route to aid in the response.

WEATHER:

Tonight: Cloudy with 60% chance of precipitation, low of 51°F, south winds at 10-15 mph.

Friday: Cloudy with 40% chance of precipitation, high near 57°F, south winds to 15 mph, and seas to 2 feet.

UNIFIED COMMAND AND PERSONNEL:

A Unified Command has not been established for this case.

TIME/DATE OF THE NEXT REPORT DISTRIBUTION:

TBD

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION CONTACT: Geoff Merrell, SOSOC, ADEC (907) 269-7682

[<http://dec.alaska.gov/spar/ppr/spill-information/response/2018/10-pacific-knight/>]

AGENCY/STAKEHOLDER NOTIFICATION LIST:

Please refer to the first SITREP, distributed July 26, 2018, for the agency/stakeholder notification list. The first SITREP can be found by following the link in the **Additional Information** box above.