



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

North Slope, AK



## **2026 WNS Rig Move Incident**

**SITREP #:** 1

**SPILL #:** 26399902301

**DATE/TIME OF DISTRIBUTION:** January 25th, 2026, at 5:00 p.m.  
Information current as of January 25th, 2026, at 1:00 p.m.

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

**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. Because diesel was used to fuel the rig's mobilization, it is estimated that a significant portion of the diesel had been consumed prior to Rig 26 leaving the roadway. Fuel volumes in the diesel tanks were measured approximately 30 minutes prior to the incident indicating that approximately 4,000 gallons were on board. Evidence of a diesel spill has been confirmed by emergency responders; however, further assessments are in progress.

**CAUSE OF SPILL:** The cause of the accident is unknown. Investigation will begin when safe to do so.

**SOURCE CONTROL:** Source control is being determined. No ongoing leaks are observed.

**RESPONSE ACTION:** The response continues to prioritize the safety of all personnel first and foremost. Minor injuries were reported with eight personnel treated on the North Slope and released. Initial response actions were taken to address a fire onboard Rig 26. The site was released by the on-scene Fire Chief Saturday at 3:45 p.m., though structural hazards continue to limit access. A safety team has been dispatched to evaluate concerns.

**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 is located approximately 50 feet away and was not impacted. Based on available maps, the site is less than 500 feet of a tributary to the Nechelik 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, and ptarmigan, but no impacts to wildlife have been reported.

**FUTURE PLANS AND RECOMMENDATIONS:** As safety allows, spilled products are being identified, delineated, and addressed.

**WEATHER:** Today: -15° F with northwest surface winds of 10 mph.

Tomorrow: dropping to -25 to -30° F with light snow accumulation and wind chills as low as -60° F.

**UNIFIED COMMAND AND PERSONNEL:**

Incident Commander: Andrew Honea, 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, Regional Manager, DEC (907) 451-2124

[\[https://dec.alaska.gov/spar/ppr/spill-information/response/\]](https://dec.alaska.gov/spar/ppr/spill-information/response/)



Map of incident location (white circle with red X) relative to infrastructure. The red line indicates initial delineation of spill impact, photo courtesy of DDI



Rig 26, photo courtesy of DDI

**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	Senator Donny Olson	Email	Senator.Donald.Olson@akleg.gov	800-597-3707 907-465-3707 907-269-0254	907-465-4821 907-269-2031
House 40	Representative Robyn Niayug Burke	Email	Representative.Robyn.Burke@akleg.gov	888-288-3473 907-465-3473	
ADF&G	Division of Habitat	Email	dfg.hab.infofai@alaska.gov	907-459-7363	
ADNR-DMLW	Statewide Abatement of Impaired Land Section	Email	dnr.nro.spill@alaska.gov		
Dept of Law Attorney General Office	Jennifer Currie	Email	jennifer.currie@alaska.gov	269-5274	278-7022
EPA	Brooks Stanfield	Email	stanfield.brooks@epa.gov		

	Bob Whittier Torri Huelskoetter		whittier.robert@epa.gov huelskoetter.torri@epa.gov		
USCG	Sector Arctic and Western Alaska	Email	sectoranchorage@uscg.mil	907-428-4100	907-428-4114 (24 hr)
Senator Lisa Murkowski	Chief of Staff	Fax		(202) -224- 6665 907-456-0233	(202) -224-5301 907-857-0322
Senator Dan Sullivan	Chief of Staff	Fax		202-224-3004 907-456-0261	202-224-6501 907-451-7290
Representative Nick Begich	Chief of Staff			202-225-5765 907-251-4560	
North Slope Borough, Mayor	Josiah Patkotak	Fax/Email	info@north-slope.org	907-852-0200	907-852-0337
North Slope Borough	Department of Planning and Community Services	Email	planninginspectors@north-slope.org	907-852-0320	
Native Village of Nuiqsut		Email	Native.village@astacalaska.net	907-480-3010	
Kuupik Corporation	Andrew Mack	Email	amack@kuupik.com		
Arctic Slope Regional Corporation	David Knutson	Email	dknutson@asrc.com		