



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

CHANGES FROM THE PREVIOUS SITREP ARE DENOTED IN RED

Kwigillingok 6,000-Gallon Diesel Release



SITREP #: 3

SPILL #: 24479903801

DATE/TIME OF DISTRIBUTION: March 15, 2024, at 8:00 AM
Information current as of March 14, 2024, at 9:00 AM

POTENTIAL RESPONSIBLE PARTIES (PRP): Kwik Incorporated (Kwik Inc.) and Native Village of Kwigillingok

INCIDENT LOCATION: The release is in the southwest Alaska community of Kwigillingok, approximately 500 feet from the Kwigillingok river, at the Kwigillingok Inc. marina bulk fuel tank farm (lat/ long: 59.882062 n, -163.151846 w).

DATE/TIME OF SPILL: Spill occurred sometime between February 7, 2024, 6:00 PM local time and February 8, 2024, 10:00 AM local time.

HOW/WHEN SPILL WAS DISCOVERED AND REPORTED: The release was discovered after the Kwik Inc. staff returned to work on February 8, 2024. The Native Village of Kwigillingok reported the spill at 12:03 p.m.

TYPE/AMOUNT OF PRODUCT SPILLED: 8,827 gallons of diesel fuel discharged has remained unchanged.

CAUSE OF SPILL: The release occurred during a bulk fuel transfer from a larger storage tank to a smaller storage tank. The cause is still under investigation, human error is suspected.

SOURCE CONTROL: Source control has been achieved. Snow berms have been built on the outer edges of the spill delineation points for both containment and recovery operations.

RESPONSE ACTION: Since February 19, extreme winter weather and white-out conditions continued to impact recovery operations, equipment reliability and delivery of crew and cleanup materials. As of March 11, approximately 2000 gallons of oil has been recovered. Coast Guard personnel and Resolve crew have now completed the transition from active oil recovery operations into caretaking for the remainder of the winter season. The transition included icing over the source control snow berm system, returning locally sourced rented/borrowed equipment, and packing standby gear into the storage Conex provided by Kwik Inc. Resolve crew completed their demobilized out of Kwigillingok as of March 12. Prior to departing, Resolve received and stored sorbents and ShoreSeal boom, bird hazing materials onsite for phase two recovery operations during the spring thaw cycle.

RESOURCES AT RISK OR AFFECTED: There are currently no reports of wildlife in the area. Spill area is frozen tundra and a small pond with currently no discharge to the Kwigillingok River. Tundra wetlands underlying the

spill are sensitive to disturbance from equipment/vehicles and even excessive foot traffic. Wetlands are currently frozen, with winter travel open for all vehicles/equipment. Although overall snow cover is good, it may be thin in some areas. To the extent practicable during the response, these areas should be avoided to protect the tundra surface.

Threatened bearded and ringed seals are found in Kuskokwim Bay and found in the bay during winter-spring. Threatened bearded and ringed seal critical habitat is NOT in Kuskokwim Bay Endangered large whales (fin, humpbacks, etc.) are not expected to be in Kuskokwim Bay during winter-spring The spill location is within the range of ESA-listed Steller's and Spectacled eiders (both Threatened) and the wood bison (experimental, non-essential population); however, these species are not expected to be present in the spill area during this time of year.

Local subsistence users catch sheefish, northern pike in the river this time of the year. No injuries were reported.

FUTURE PLANS AND RECOMMENDATIONS: ADEC, the state and federal governments will continue to work with the responsible parties to assist with developing response actions for the cleanup, develop tactics to maximize the reuse of recovered diesel fuel and minimize damage to the environment.

Resolve is actively monitoring the site for maintenance concerns and timing for ShoreSeal boom deployment. Periodic site reconnaissance visits will be conducted until breakup recovery operations are resumed sometime in late April early May.

WEATHER: Today the forecast for Kwigillingok is sunny to partly cloudy. High 5F. Winds N at 15 to 25 mph.

Tomorrow the forecast for Kwigillingok is partly cloudy skies with gusty winds. High 6F. Winds N at 20 to 30 mph.

UNIFIED COMMAND AND PERSONNEL:

Incident Commander: Jimmy Oscar, Kwik Inc.

SOSC: Bernie Nowicki, ADEC

FOSC: Christopher Culpepper, USCG

Deputy SOSC: Howard Minor, ADEC

DATE/TIME OF THE NEXT REPORT DISTRIBUTION:

As the situation warrants.

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION CONTACT: Bernie Nowicki, Western Region State On-Scene Coordinator,
(907)-831-1844, bernie.nowicki@alaska.gov
[\[https://dec.alaska.gov/spar/ppr/spill-information/response/\]](https://dec.alaska.gov/spar/ppr/spill-information/response/)



Figure 1. Overflight of spill site boundary on March 10, 2024. Photo by Resolve Marine.



FIGURE 2. Icing over the spill site perimeter berm on March 10, 2024. Photo by Resolve Marine.



Figure 3. Phase II material resupply on March 11, 2024. Photo by Resolve Marine.

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 S- Bethel	Senator Lyman Hoffman	Fax	senator.lyman.hoffman@akleg.gov	866-465-4453 907-465-4453	465-4523 543-3542
House 38- Bethel	Representative CJ McCormick	Email	representative.CJ.McCormick@akleg.gov	907-465-4942 907-465-4942	
ADNR	Samantha Carroll	Email	samantha.carroll@alaska.gov	269-7470	269-8913
ADF&G	Jeanette Alas	Email	Jeanette.alas@alaska.gov	267-2805	267-2499
USCG-Sector /ANC	USCG-Anchorage	Fax		428-4100	428-4114 (24 hr.)
US EPA	Bob Whittier	Email	whittier.robert@epa.gov	206-553-1263 or 206-553-1264	271-3424
City of Bethel	Mark Springer, Mayor	Fax/Email	mspringer@cityofbethel.net	545-8819	543-4186
AVCP	Vivian Korthuis	Fax/Email	vkorthuis@avcp.org	543-7304	543-3369
Calista Corporation	Tisha Kuhns	Fax/Email	tkuhns@calistacorp.com	275-2800	275-2977
Bethel Native Corporation	Ana Hoffman	Fax	ahoffman@bncak.com	543-2124	543-2897