



Quarterly Report of Oil and Hazardous Substance Response

JANUARY 1-MARCH 31, 1998
VOLUME 4-NUMBER 1

Significant Spills This Quarter

1. Tanker Vehicle Spill - Juneau (January 5, 1998)

Quantity/Product: 300 gallons Lube Oil
Cause: Accident

A tanker vehicle slid off a flat bed trailer in downtown Juneau. The tank hit the City and Borough of Juneau office building, causing some damage to the building and puncturing the tank. Approximately 300 gallons of lubricating oil spilled onto the street. The city police and fire department responded to the accident and contacted the Department and the United States Coast Guard. Snow berms were constructed to prevent fuel from spreading in the area and the entrance to the storm drain was blocked off. The remaining lubricant was pumped and the tanker vehicle was righted and removed from the scene. Oil and contaminated snow was then removed. Absorbent boom was placed in Gastineau Channel near the outfall of the storm drain to intercept any oil passing out of the drain.



Glacier Marine tanker overturned in downtown Juneau.

2. Unocal Platform - Cook Inlet (February 6, 1998)

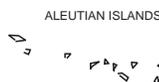
Quantity/Product: 195 gallons Waste Oil
Cause: Human Error (need to confirm)

An abandoned subsurface discharge pipe was used to discharge excess filtered, treated seawater from an oversized well injection pump on the platform. Prior to abandonment 8-9 years ago, this line was used for deck drainage or discharging drill cuttings. Unknown to platform personnel, the line still contained waste oil that was floating on water in the line, and this oil was discharged to Cook Inlet when the excess injection water was pumped through. Approximately 75% of the spilled oil was recovered. Unocal has implemented operational procedures to avoid a similar discharge on all their Cook Inlet platforms.

3. Crane Accident - Juneau (March 23, 1998)

Quantity/Product: 10 gallons Diesel, hydraulic and lubricant oil
Cause: Accident

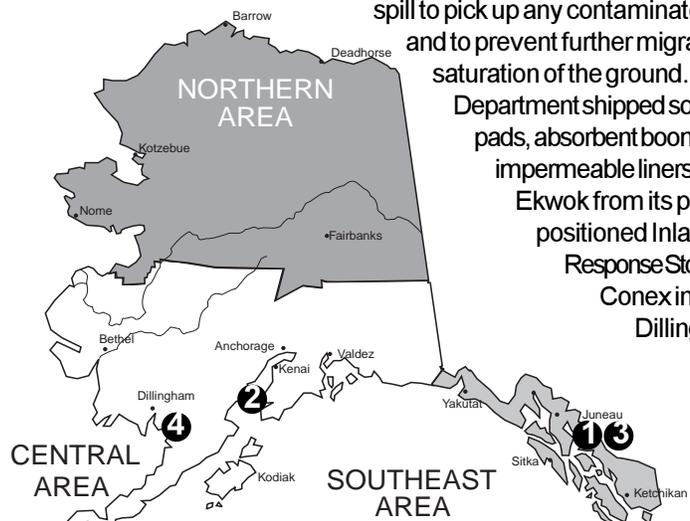
A crane was extracting a pile when the crane tipped and fell into Gastineau Channel. The crane operator escaped, but the crane sank in approximately 50 feet of water. Harbor boom was placed around the area and absorbent boom/pads were placed inside the containment. No significant discharge was observed after the crane was removed.



4. Ekwok - Heating Fuel Tank (March 17, 1998)

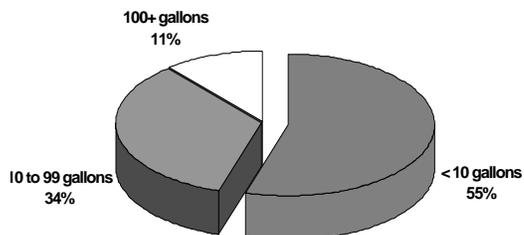
Quantity/Product: 300 gallons Diesel
Cause: Human error

A 2,500-gallon heating fuel tank ruptured as it was being moved to fill the city generator tank. An estimated 800 gallons of fuel were spilled. A cleanup crew hired by the city removed all contaminated snow and placed it into a lined fuel tank area. Approximately six inches of soil was scraped from the area of the spill to pick up any contaminated soil and to prevent further migration and saturation of the ground. The Department shipped sorbent pads, absorbent boom and impermeable liners to Ekwok from its pre-positioned Inland Spill Response Storage Conex in Dillingham.

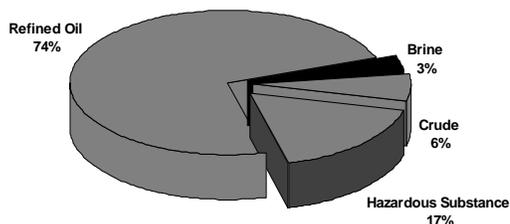


Data Summary

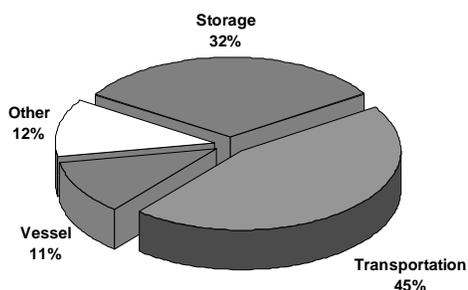
Oil and Hazardous Substance Spills January 1 - March 31, 1998



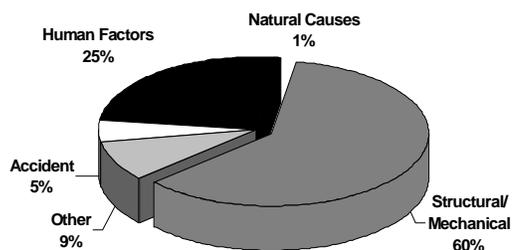
Number of Spills by Size Class



Number of Spills by Product



Number of Spills by Source



Number of Spills by Cause

Spill News

Cleanup

◆ **Sagwon Bluffs Air Strip.** The Department of Environmental Conservation's Northern Area Response Team (NART) has been working with other agencies and industry to coordinate cleanup of some 6,000 drums, drilling mud, and other wastes from the Sagwon Bluffs Airstrip. Participants include Alyeska Pipeline, ARCO, British Petroleum, Bureau of Land Management, Department of Natural Resources, Department of Fish and Game, and Department of Law. Sagwon Bluffs is located at the northern edge of the foothills of the Brooks Range and is within the Trans-Alaska Pipeline Corridor. It was built to support early oil and gas exploration of the North Slope and has been used by a variety of operators over time. A cooperative agreement is being developed that would provide for cleanup of the drums and other materials on the surface. Assessment and cleanup of subsurface contamination would be completed in a second phase.

Local Response

◆ **Fairbanks HAZMAT Team Funding.** In January, the Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) Commissioner Michele Brown presented a check to the Fairbanks North Star Borough Mayor. The check was for the Fairbanks Hazardous Material (HAZMAT) Team's response equipment.

The funding, from the state's spill response fund, was made available through a "community response agreement" between the Borough and the Department. Under the agreement, the state can request the assistance of the Fairbanks Hazardous Materials Team to respond to dangerous spills in Fairbanks or other areas of the state, and can reimburse the borough for expenses. The state and borough will also cooperate on the cleanup of oil spills.

DEC has signed similar spill response agreements with 13 other Alaska communities. However, this agreement is unique in that it is the only one with a community that has the advanced "level A" capability needed to respond to extremely hazardous material releases. The agreement also has a provision enabling the Hazmat Team to respond throughout the state at the request of DEC.

Planning

◆ **Alaska Clean Seas' North Slope Tactics Manual.** DEC participated in the review of the Alaska Clean Seas' North Slope Tactics Manual at the Tactics Team meeting. Consensus thus far is that this is an excellent operational document. With the aid of a contractor, the Department plans to develop a Tundra Treatment manual which will be similar in format to the Tactics Manual.

Spill News

Prevention

◆ **NSB Preventive Maintenance Program.** The North Slope Borough (NSB) has implemented a Preventative Maintenance Program for all Borough user facility fuel tanks and tank farms. This program is being implemented as a direct result of a 5,000 gallon diesel fuel spill in the village of Wainwright in November 1997. The new program will include initial training and regular maintenance to prevent future releases.

◆ **Pogo Gold Mine Development.** The Department is working with the Departments of Natural Resources (DNR), Fish and Game (DFG) and Pogo/Tech to review spill response, preparedness, and fuel storage issues for the Pogo gold mine development project. Lined secondary containment will be required, whether or not double-walled tanks are used for the project, to mitigate the effects of potential spills.

◆ **Dispersant Application Conference.** The Department helped sponsor a "Dispersant Application in Alaska: A Technical Update" Conference in Anchorage on March 18 and 19. The conference included presentations associated with dispersant policies in Alaska, dispersant effectiveness, and oil fate and effect issues. Discussions included case histories from: the Sea Empress oil spill, the Braer oil spill, the results from the North Sea field trial which involved the use of Alaska North Slope crude and Corexit 9500, and dispersant use in Norway. The second day of the conference involved panel discussions associated with dispersant use and effectiveness, fate of dispersed oil, environmental risks and environmental monitoring. Approximately 160 people attended the conference.

Special Recognition

◆ **DEC Northern Area Response Team.** The Department's Northern Area Response Team received a commendation and campaign ribbon from the U.S. Coast Guard Commandant for meritorious service during the Wales spill.

◆ **In Site Burn Guidelines.** The Alaska Regional Response Team (ARRT) met on March 17 in Anchorage. A major topic of discussion was the revisions to the In Situ Burn Guidelines. The guidelines are currently being reviewed and updated by the ARRT's Science and Technology Committee to comply with new requirements under the federal Clean Air Act Amendments. Public review is anticipated during the fourth quarter. The ARRT meets quarterly to review planning and response in Alaska.

PLEASE NOTE... *This report is based on provisional spill data. Readers should be aware that minor discrepancies in the data may exist.*

Spill Digest

HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCES

(excluding Brine)

TOP 5 SUBSTANCES

Product Name	Count	Gallons
1 Ethylene Glycol (Antifreeze)	37	2,021
2 Methyl Alcohol (Methanol)	10	98
3 Other	3	802
4 Corrosion Inhibitor	2	5
5 Acid (Type Unknown)	2	2
TOTAL All Hazardous Substances	87	5,716

TOP 5 CAUSES

Cause	Count	Gallons
1 Leak, Other	26	931
2 Line Ruptured	12	244
3 Valve Faulty	4	35
4 Valve Left Open	3	68
5 Seal Failure	2	201

TOP 5 SOURCES

Source	Count	Gallons
1 Other	11	740
2 Home/Office/Business	11	192
3 Auto	7	43
4 Truck	6	32
5 Refinery	5	167

CRUDE AND REFINED OIL

(excluding Brine)

TOP 5 SUBSTANCES

Product Name	Count	Gallons
1 Diesel	138	10,670
2 Hydraulic Oil	57	782
3 Aviation Fuel	46	4,404
4 Engine Lube Oil	29	536
5 Gasoline	20	501
TOTAL All Crude/Refined Oil	364	22,702

TOP 5 CAUSES

Cause	Count	Gallons
1 Leak, Other	86	919
2 Tank Overfill	47	2,815
3 Line Ruptured	43	1,212
4 Unknown	28	803
5 Valve Faulty	16	5,579

TOP 5 SOURCES

Source	Count	Gallons
1 Truck	55	1,071
2 Industrial Vehicle	47	721
3 Home/Office/Business	37	6,978
4 Fishing	31	867
5 Aircraft	21	220

1998 Calendar

DRILLS

April 6-10: U.S. Coast Guard Drill, Homer



MEETINGS

April 22: State Emergency Response Commission, Juneau

June 23: Alaska Regional Response Team (location TBA)

July 22: State Emergency Response Commission, Anchorage

See our homepage at:

[http://www.state.ak.us/local/akpages/
ENV.CONSERV/dspar/dec_dspar.htm#PERP](http://www.state.ak.us/local/akpages/ENV.CONSERV/dspar/dec_dspar.htm#PERP)

At a glance....

January 1 - March 31, 1998

Spill Summary

Total Spills Reported (includes 15 Brine releases):	467
Total Gallons Released (oil):	22,702
Total Gallons Released (hazardous substances):	5,716

Oil Releases (excluding Brine)

Total Spills Reported:	364
Most Common Substance (135 spills):	Diesel
Most Common Cause: (189 spills)	Structural/Mech.
Most Common Source (214 spills):	Transportation
Largest Release (gallons) (Diesel):	3,675

Hazardous Substance Releases (excluding Brine)

Total Spills Reported:	87
Most Common Substance (37 spills):	Ethylene Glycol
Most Common Cause (63 spills):	Structural/Mech.
Most Common Source (37 spills):	Transportation
Largest Release (gallons) (ethylene glycol)	825

SEND COMMENTS AND SUBSCRIPTION REQUESTS...to the "Quarterly Summary of Oil and Hazardous Substance Releases," send your name and address to: Camille Stephens, 410 Willoughby Ave., Juneau, AK 99801, or email: cstephen@envircon.state.ak.us



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- ◆ Fbnks HAZMAT Funding
- ◆ NSBTactics Manual
- ◆ NSB Preventive Maintenance
- ◆ Pogo Gold Mine Dev.
- ◆ Dispersant Conference
- ◆ Northern Response Team
- ◆ In Situ Burn Guidelines

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Insert - Quarterly Data