

ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION
Division of Spill Prevention and Response
Prevention and Emergency Response Program

SITUATION REPORT

INCIDENT NAME: Ketchikan Public Utilities
Hypochlorite Release

SITREP #: 1st and Final

SPILL NUMBER: 05-11-99-176-01

LEDGER CODE: N/A

TIME/DATE OF SPILL: 6/25/2005, approximately 7:00 p.m.

TIME/DATE OF SITUATION REPORT: 6/28/2005 3:00 p.m.

TIME/DATE OF THE NEXT REPORT: This is the final report.

TYPE/AMOUNT OF PRODUCT SPILLED: Between 24 and 28 gallons of sodium hypochlorite solution was released into the creek. The amount of product spilled was determined by the staff at the water treatment plant.

Sodium hypochlorite is the chemical in chlorine bleach. It is used to disinfect drinking water supplies and to treat waste water before it is released into the environment.

The concentration of the solution leaving the drain pipe was 0.8 ppm. Concentrations in excess of 0.1 ppm can be lethal to fish.

LOCATION: Ketchikan Public Utilities drinking water treatment plant on Ketchikan Creek, approximately one half mile upstream from tidewater.

CAUSE OF SPILL: A PVC pipe ruptured due to a metering pump malfunction.

POTENTIAL RESPONSIBLE PARTY (PRP): Ketchikan Public Utilities

RESPONSE ACTION: City personnel opened a 10 inch raw water line and increased the turbine speed to dilute the water in the creek and sodium sulfite was added to creek water to neutralize the hypochlorite solution. These methods reduced the concentration of chlorine in the creek to 0.0 ppm.

SOURCE CONTROL: The source pipe was secured by 7:40 p.m.

RESOURCES AFFECTED: Ketchikan Creek. ADF&G staff surveyed the creek and estimate between 200 and 300 fish were killed. Species affected include hatchery steelhead smolts, wild coho salmon juveniles, rainbow trout, wild Dolly Varden, adult steelhead and one (1) adult king salmon

The Deer Mountain Hatchery is downstream from the water treatment plant but draws its water from a location upstream from the water treatment plant and was unaffected by this pollution incident.

FUTURE PLANS AND RECOMMENDATIONS: A new pipeline will be installed that connects the floor drain to the city sewer system, bypassing the creek and preventing future incidents of this nature.

WEATHER: Weather at the time of the spill is unknown.

UNIFIED COMMAND AND PERSONNEL:

Incident Commander: John Kleinegger, City of Ketchikan Water Division Manager
F.O.S.C.: CDR Sifling, USCG Marine Safety Office, Juneau
S.O.S.C.: Scot Tiernan, ADEC, Juneau

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION CONTACT: Lester Leatherberry, ADEC, SART, Juneau 465-5346

AGENCY/STAKEHOLDER NOTIFICATION LIST

This sitrep has been distributed via email to the Governor's office, ADF&G, ADNR, SECC, USEPA, USDOJ, NMFS, USFWS, and USFS in addition to the following.

Agency	Name	Sent Via	Additional Info	Telephone	Fax
USCG (MSD Ketchikan)	Lt. Milo Ortiz	Email	mortiz@cgalaska.uscg.mil	225-4496	225-4499
NMFS	Jon Kurland	Email	Jon.kurland@noaa.gov	586-7638	586-7358
Ketchikan Public Utilities	John Kleinegger	Fax		225-1000	247-3232
Senate/Dist. A	Sen. Bert Stedman	Fax	Session : Interim:	465-3873 225-8088	465-3922 225-0713
House/Dist. 1	Jim Elkins	Fax	Session : Interim:	465-3424	465-3793
Ketchikan City Mayor	Bob Weinstein	Fax	mayor@city.ketchikan.ak.us	225-3111	225-5075
Ketchikan Borough Mayor	Michael Salazar	Fax	mayor@borough.ketchikan.ak.us	228-6625	247-6625
SEAPRO	Dave Owing	Email	dave@seapro.org	225-7002	247-1117