

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

**SITUATION REPORT**

**INCIDENT NAME:** Emmonak Fuel Release

**SITREP #:** 3

**SPILL NUMBER:** 05279913901

**LEDGER CODE:** 14149560

**TIME/DATE OF SPILL:** The oil sheen was first observed on the Yukon River by the Emmonak Water Department on May 14, 2005. The spill notification was reported by Kwikpak Fishery at 12:00 AM, May 19, 2005 to the National Response Center (NRC). Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation (ADEC) was notified of the release by U.S. Coast Guard (USCG) at 2:15 PM on May 19, 2005.

**TIME/DATE OF SITUATION REPORT:** 1:00 PM, May 31, 2005

**TIME/DATE OF NEXT REPORT:** As the situation warrants

**TYPE/AMOUNT OF PRODUCT SPILLED:** Diesel and bilge water. Total volume of the spill is unknown; however, 3,050 gallons of diesel and 20,000 gallons of oily water were removed from six abandoned mechanized landing crafts (LCM).

**LOCATION:** Emmonak is located at the mouth of the Yukon River, 10 miles from the Bering Sea. The spill location is 0.25 mile from Kwiguk Pass. Emmonak lies 120 air miles northwest of Bethel.

**CAUSE OF SPILL:** The cause of the discharge is from 5 abandoned LCMs (56 feet by 14 feet) partially submerged in the river. The LCMs were lightered and pulled further up the river bank to stop any fuel discharge.

A 100 foot non-propelled ship called the South Pacific is also currently aground in the Yukon River after the flood eroded the bank. It is unknown at this time if the South Pacific has discharged any oil.

**POTENTIAL RESPONSIBLE PARTY (PRP):** Yukon Delta Fisherman's Marketing Co-op (currently inactive)

**RESPONSE ACTION:** The cleanup and lightering operations commenced on May 25, 2005. Five LCMs were found to be partially submerged in water, which is one more than what was originally reported. Four out of the five partially submerged LCMs were lightered prior to pulling the vessels to the upper bank. One LCM was submerged too deep in the water to lighter the boat safely and therefore was moved onto the upper bank for lightering. It will be lightered as soon as more recovery tanks become available. The two LCMs on the bank that were not affected by the flood were lightered and moved further up the bank. Currently, all seven LCMs are secured and stationed 50 feet from the water's edge. After the LCMs were secured, additional cleanup was performed on six LCMs to negate any sheening potential in the future.

The South Pacific is currently on mud and sand, aground approximately 80 feet from the water's edge. Further assessment will be performed by the USCG on May 31, 2005 to determine the number of fuel tanks on board.

On May 31, 2005 the USCG personnel on-scene reported no oil sheen observed on the river or in the vicinity of Emmonak's water intake for the water treatment plant. USCG reported that Emmonak's water treatment plant continues to be in full operation.

**SOURCE CONTROL:** Six LCMs were lightered and all the LCMs were pulled further up the river bank, stopping the fuel discharge. The river water level has also dropped, preventing any potential fuel discharge from the South Pacific.

**RESOURCES AFFECTED:** The Yukon River was affected. Various shore birds, waterfowl, and salmon inhabit area. However, no impacts to the wildlife or shoreline have been observed by the USCG or the community.

**FUTURE PLANS AND RECOMMENDATIONS:** USCG will remain on site to monitor the incident status. ADEC will monitor the incident status from Anchorage and deploy personnel as needed.

**WEATHER:** Increasing clouds. Isolated rain showers. Highs around 60. East winds 5 to 10 mph.

**UNIFIED COMMAND AND PERSONNEL:**

Incident Commander	Jack Gadwill, Kwikpak Fisheries
F.O.S.C.	Mike Mitchell (USCG)
S.O.S.C.	Gary Folley (ADEC)

**FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Frank Wesser, ADEC, 269-3062

**AGENCY/STAKEHOLDER NOTIFICATION LIST**

<b>AGENCY</b>	<b>NAME</b>	<b>Sent Via</b>		<b>Telephone</b>	<b>Facsimile</b>
USCG-MSO/ANC	Mike Mitchell	Email		271-6700	271-6751
USEPA	Matt Carr	Email		271-3616	271-3424
ADNR		Email			
<b>OTHER</b>	<b>NAME</b>	<b>Sent Via</b>		<b>Telephone</b>	<b>Facsimile</b>
BBNA	Terry Hoefflerle	Fax		842-5257	842-5932
L & P Borough	Jeff Currier	Fax		246-3421	246-6602
<b>Senate T/</b> Bethel	Lyman Hoffman	Fax	Bethel 5/16 - 1/09 Juneau 1/10 - 5/15	543-3541 465-4453	543-3542 465-4523
<b>House 39/</b> Bethel	Mary Kapsner	Fax	Bethel 5/16 - 1/09 Juneau 1/10 - 5/15	486-4942 465-4942	465-4589 465-4589