

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

SITUATION REPORT

INCIDENT NAME: Whittier Harbor Dredging Project **SITREP #:** 1

SPILL NUMBER: 11239904602 **LEDGER CODE:** 14310760

TIME/DATE OF SPILL: 1964 Alaska Earthquake historical spill. On water sheening as a result of the dredging project reported to ADEC February 21, 2010.

TIME/DATE OF SITUATION REPORT: 3:30 PM April 29, 2011

TIME/DATE OF THE NEXT REPORT: As necessary.

TYPE/AMOUNT OF PRODUCT SPILLED: Weathered petroleum products; volume undetermined.

LOCATION: Whittier, AK, small boat harbor.

CAUSE OF SPILL: As a result of the 1964 Alaska earthquake and subsequent destruction of the tank farm at the site, diesel and other contaminants were released to the soil. The current harbor expansion and dredging operations at the former tank farm location have caused the release of a continuous light to moderate petroleum sheening into the harbor.

POTENTIAL RESPONSIBLE PARTY (PRP): City of Whittier

RESPONSE ACTION: The City of Whittier, PND Engineers and Harris Sand and Gravel began dredging operations in the harbor in early February 2011. Dredging of the area at the historical fuel tank farm contaminated site caused a petroleum sheen on marine waters at Whittier harbor. ADEC personnel conducted a site visit and meetings with the RP and contractors concerning sheen containment; booming off the area; further plans for additional sampling required by ADEC; contaminated soil containment; and land acquisition for stockpiling additional contaminated soils. Site visits by ADEC personnel and the U.S. Coast Guard have been conducted on a regular basis since the dredging began. Site visit assessments have resulted in state-required continuous monitoring of the sheen, additional boom being deployed, and a worker safety air monitoring schedule being put into place for the project. To date, the dredging operations for the harbor expansion project have removed approximately 15,000 cubic yards of contaminated soils. An additional 5,000 cubic yards is expected to be removed by May 6, 2011, the projected completion date of the dredging portion of the project.

SOURCE CONTROL: Containment boom, absorbent boom, silt curtains.

RESOURCES AFFECTED: Marine waters of the Whittier harbor. There have been no reports of oiled wildlife.

FUTURE PLANS AND RECOMMENDATIONS: ADEC will continue to monitor the situation closely and conduct further site visits as deemed necessary.

WEATHER: Today, cloudy with scattered rain, highs in the 40s, east wind 10 to 15 mph. Tonight, rain, heavy at times, possibly snow at higher elevations. Low to mid 30s.

UNIFIED COMMAND AND PERSONNEL:

Incident Commander:	Sue Miller (Whittier Harbor Master)
F.O.S.C. :	Frank Schiano (USCG)
S.O.S.C. :	John Brown (ADEC)

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION CONTACT: John Brown, ADEC 269-7688

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		Telephone	Facsimile
ADNR	Clark Cox	Email	clark_cox@dnr.state.ak.us	269-8565	269-8913
US EPA	Matt Carr	Fax		271-4306	271-3424
USCG Sector Anchorage	USCG Anchorage-office	Fax		271-6700	271-6751
OTHER	NAME	Sent Via		Telephone	Facsimile
CIRCAC	Mike Munger	Fax/Email	munger@circac.org	283-7222	283-6102
Whittier-City Mgr.	City Manager	Fax		472-2327	472-2404
Harbor Master	Whittier-Harbor Master	Fax		472-2327	472-2472
			Session/Interim		
Senate P/ Anchorage	Catherine A. Giessel	Fax	Anchorage 5/16 - 1/09 Juneau 1/10 - 5/15	269-0181 465-4843	269-0184 465-3871
District 31/ Anchorage	Bob Lynn	Fax	Anchorage 5/16 - 1/09 Juneau 1/10 - 5/15	269-0205 465-4931	269-0207 465-4316
House 32/ Chugach State Park	Mike Hawker	Fax	Anchorage 5/16 - 1/09 Juneau 1/10 - 5/15	269-0244 465-4949	269-0248 465-4979



Whittier Harbor Dredging project

ADEC 4/28/2011