

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 #:** 2 and Final

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

TIME/DATE OF SPILL: 1964 Alaska Earthquake historical spill. ADEC received a report of on-water sheening as a result of the dredging project on February 21, 2011.

TIME/DATE OF SITUATION REPORT: 2:00 PM, September 8, 2011

TIME/DATE OF THE NEXT REPORT: None. This is the final report.

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 spring 2011 harbor expansion and dredging at the former tank farm location released a continuous light to moderate petroleum sheen 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. As a result of the dredging at the historical fuel tank farm contaminated site, petroleum sheen was released into marine waters and the Whittier Harbor. ADEC personnel conducted site visits and meetings with the RP and contractors concerning sheen containment, and booming the area. ADEC also required additional sampling of the contaminated soil, and directed the PRP to acquire additional land for stockpiling of contaminated soils. ADEC personnel and the U.S. Coast Guard conducted follow up-on site visits on a regular basis and directed continuous monitoring of the sheen, establishment of a worker safety air monitoring schedule for the project duration, and deployment and monitoring of containment and absorbent boom throughout the summer.

The harbor expansion project was completed in late May 2011, and approximately 20,000 cubic yards of contaminated soil were dredged and removed from the site and transferred to the stockpile area. On September 1, 2011, a final site assessment was conducted by ADEC staff who then approved the removal of the remainder of the containment boom at the harbor bulkhead.

SOURCE CONTROL: Containment boom and absorbent boom placed around the sheen.

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

FUTURE PLANS AND RECOMMENDATIONS: ADEC staff recommended that the City of Whittier conduct intermittent monitoring of the area for any further sheening and boom the area as necessary.

WEATHER: Today: Partly cloudy, possible rain showers, highs in the 50s, SW wind 15 to 30 mph gusts.
Tonight: Partly cloudy, temperatures in the 30s to 40s, wind gusts to 30 mph after midnight.

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
or Gay Harpole, ADEC 269-3064

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@alaska.gov	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