



ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION
Division of Spill Prevention and Response
Prevention Preparedness and Response Program
SITUATION REPORT (SITREP)

Hilcorp Trading Bay Slop Oil Release

SITREP #: 3rd - Final

SPILL #: 20239935001

TIME/DATE OF DISTRIBUTION: 3:00 PM December 22, 2020

POTENTIAL RESPONSIBLE PARTY (PRP): Hilcorp Alaska, LLC

INCIDENT LOCATION: Trading bay production facility, approximately 20 miles northwest of Kenai on the western side of Cook Inlet.

TIME/DATE OF SPILL: Discovery of the spill occurred at 12:30 PM on December 15, 2020

HOW/WHEN SPILL WAS DISCOVERED AND REPORTED: The spill was discovered at approximately 12:30 PM on December 15, 2020 by the operator on duty. The spill was reported to ADEC at 2:25 PM on December 15, 2020.

TYPE/AMOUNT OF PRODUCT SPILLED: The type of product spilled is slop oil in concentration of 80% crude oil, 20% water. Hilcorp describes slop oil as oil that includes more water than their specifications for selling that oil. This slop oil goes through additional treatment to remove excess water and then is re-entered into the oil processing system. The amount released is 190 barrels (bbl) or 7,980 gallons (gal).

CAUSE OF SPILL: The cause of the spill is from a leak in an underground line in the slop oil processing system.

SOURCE CONTROL: The source is secured.

RESPONSE ACTION: As of 12/21/2020, a total of 115 bbl (4,830 gal) of slop oil had been recovered. Response personnel continue to recover oil from the containment area with a vac truck. Hilcorp and Chosen Construction continue to work to remove snow and ice and prepare the site for excavation of impacted soils and to inspect the ruptured line. DEC personnel conducted a site visit on 12/18/2020. Passive wildlife/bird deterrent equipment has been deployed around the spill site. The oil has not migrated off of the facility pad. During a transfer of slop oil from Tank 4 to the slop oil tank, TK-9500, the operator noticed the TK-9500 tank level was not increasing proportionately to the decrease in the Tank 4 level. After visual inspection, the operator observed oil under and around the edges of the secondary containment liner. The operator immediately isolated tank TK-9500 and the leaking line upon discovering the leak. Cook Inlet Spill Prevention and Response, Inc. (CISPRI) has been activated to assist in this response and are mobilizing personnel and equipment to the site.

RESOURCES AT RISK: There have been no reported impacts to wildlife or sensitive areas at this time. The facility is located near the State-of-Alaska-managed special areas Trading Bay State Game Refuge and Redoubt Bay Critical Habitat Area, which are recognized as global priority sites for important bird habitat, particularly during spring and summer. By December, most migratory bird species have migrated away from the area to overwinter. A large portion of the population of the nominate subspecies of the rock sandpiper (*Calidris*



ptilocnemis ptilocnemis) is known to overwinter in Trading Bay and the nearby Susitna Flats and may be in the area. Some overwintering waterfowl, seabird, and shorebird species as well as raptor, such as eagles, are also likely to be in the area. The lowlands of Trading Bay provide important wintering habitat for moose. Terrestrial and aquatic furbearers may also be in the area. The National Wetlands Inventory characterizes patches of freshwater forested/shrub wetlands north, west, and east of the facility. The Hilcorp Trading Bay drinking water source well is located about ¼ mile southwest and upgradient of the spill site.

FUTURE PLANS AND RECOMMENDATIONS: CISPRI personnel are currently being demobilized. Hilcorp's contractor, Chosen Construction, has installed heaters to thaw certain areas within the containment area. Once the collection of oil with a vac truck is complete, personnel will work on small sections to scrape up contaminated soil. Excavation of the compromised line is anticipated to begin soon to uncover the pipeline point of failure. Response actions, sampling, and waste disposal will continue to be coordinated with Hilcorp and ADEC.

WEATHER: Today: Cloudy with rain and snow. Temperature highs around 37°F. Windy, with a NE wind of 13 to 26 mph, gusting to 38 mph. Wind chill values as low as 19°F. Chance of precipitation 100%.

TOMORROW: Partly cloudy with scattered snow showers. Temperature highs around 35°F. Windy, with a N wind 6 to 20 mph. Wind chill values as low as 29°F. Chance of precipitation 40%.

UNIFIED COMMAND AND PERSONNEL:

Incident Commander: Dan Marlowe, Hilcorp Alaska, LLC
SOSC: Crystal Smith, ADEC
FOSC-R: MST2 Heather Darce, USCG

TIME/DATE OF THE NEXT REPORT DISTRIBUTION: Final Sitrep

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION CONTACT: Crystal Smith, Central Region Manager, ADEC (907) 717-6533

<https://dec.alaska.gov/spar/ppr/spill-information/response/2020/06-hilcorp-trading-bay-slop-oil-release/>

AGENCY/STAKEHOLDER NOTIFICATION LIST: Please refer to the first SITREP, distributed December 16, 2020, for the agency/stakeholder notification list. The first SITREP can be found by following the link in the **Additional Information** box above.