



Quarterly Summary OIL AND HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCE RELEASES

PREVENTION AND EMERGENCY RESPONSE PROGRAM
DIVISION OF SPILL PREVENTION AND RESPONSE
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION

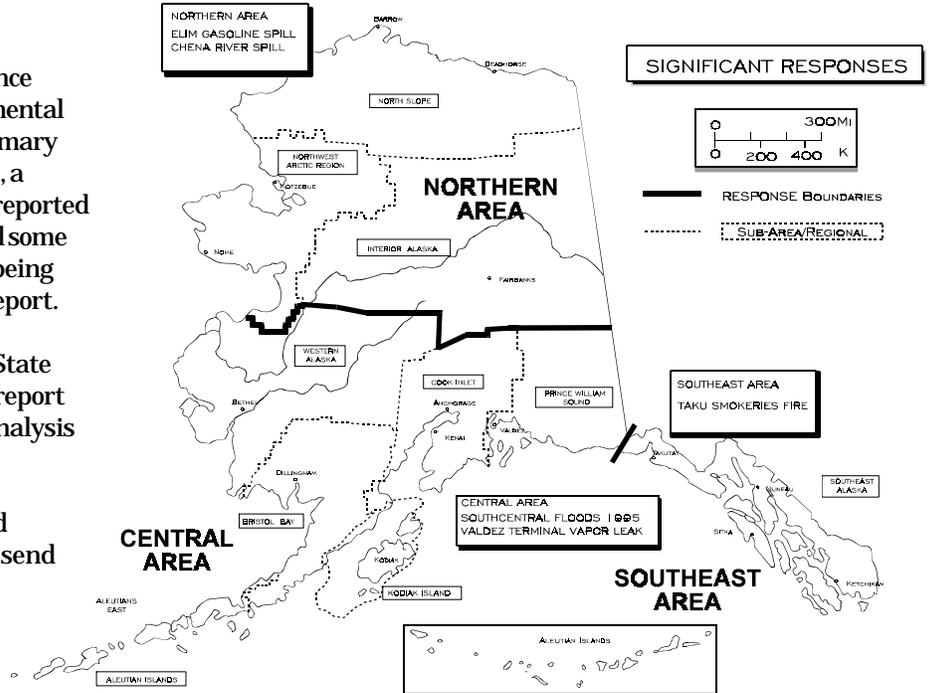
JULY 1-SEPTEMBER 30, 1995

INTRODUCTION

Each year more than 2,000 oil and hazardous substance releases are reported to the Department of Environmental Conservation. This report is the first statewide summary produced from the recently installed Spills Database, a computerized system for managing information on reported spills. The system is still in the debugging phase and some minor anomalies have been noted. Corrections are being made which will be reflected in the next quarterly report.

Summaries will be produced for each quarter of the State fiscal year which begins July 1. The fourth quarter report will be an annual report and will include a detailed analysis of the data for the entire fiscal year.

We hope this report provides useful information and welcome your comments to help improve it. Please send corrections and comments to Camille Stephens, 410 Willoughby Ave., Juneau, Alaska 99801-1795.



SIGNIFICANT RESPONSES

TAKU SMOKERIES WAREHOUSE FIRE

July 24, 1995

A fire caused the total release of the contents of twelve cylinders containing ammonia, freon, propane, oxygen and acetylene (see photo). The Department worked with the Juneau Fire Department to respond to the incident. This incident occurred at a facility located 1/4 mile from downtown Juneau and illustrates the prevalence and potential threat posed by hazardous substances commonly used in Alaska.

VALDEZ TERMINAL VAPOR LEAK

September 24, 1995

An underground leak in the vapor recovery system at the Alyeska Marine Terminal was

the suspected cause of a release of an undetermined quantity of hydrocarbons. With up to nine million barrels of crude oil stored at the facility, the highly volatile vapors posed a potentially serious fire and explosion hazard. A safety and exclusion zone was established to monitor hydrocarbon levels. Air blowers and a water mist hose were used to help control vapors as the surrounding soil was excavated.

SOUTHCENTRAL FLOODING 1995

September 1995

Widespread flooding of rivers and lakes in Southcentral Alaska resulted in several releases. DEC responders collected and disposed of several floating drums and fuel tanks containing various substances. The Department also monitored drinking water, tested wells for contamination, and issued public health bulletins.

ELIM GASOLINE SPILL

September 15, 1995

A fuel transfer hose was damaged after a "four-wheeler" ran over it, releasing approximately 6,800 gallons of gasoline to the ground near the beach. Villagers recovered about 800 gallons.

CHENA RIVER SPILL

August 19, 1995

Heavy rains flushed oily debris into the Chena River from a storm drain near the Alaska Railroad yard. An unknown quantity of oil was released.

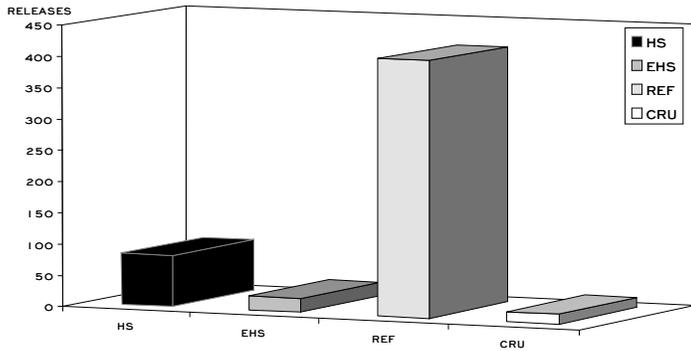


Propane and ammonia cylinders after the Taku Smokeries fire.

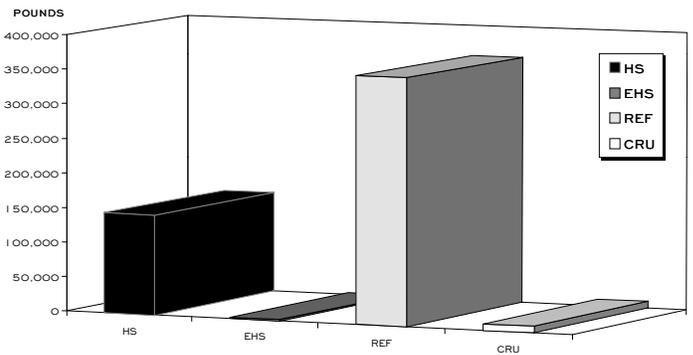
I. STATEWIDE SUMMARY OF RELEASES BY PRODUCT

PRODUCT CATEGORY	I ST QUARTER	
	#	POUNDS
CRUDE OIL (CRU)	16	9,338
REFINED OIL (REF)	408	356,670
EXTREMELY HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCES (EHS)	22	2,035
HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCES (HS)	82	144,683
TOTAL	528	512,726

NOTE: IN ORDER TO SUMMARIZE DATA, RELEASES REPORTED IN GALLONS WERE CONVERTED TO POUNDS USING 8.33 POUNDS/GALLON AS A CONVERSION FACTOR.



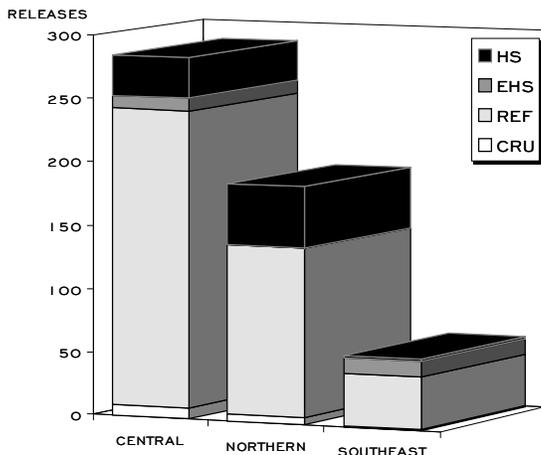
NUMBER OF RELEASES BY PRODUCT CATEGORY



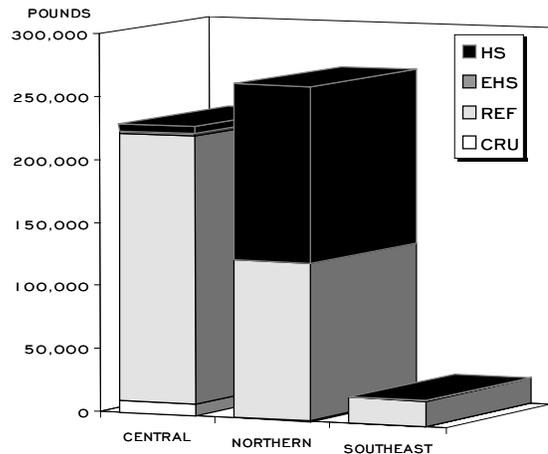
POUNDS RELEASED BY PRODUCT CATEGORY

II. SUMMARY OF RELEASES BY AREA

PRODUCT CATEGORY	CENTRAL		NORTHERN		SOUTHEAST	
	#	POUNDS	#	POUNDS	#	POUNDS
CRUDE OIL (CRU)	9	8,888	6	367	1	83
REFINED OIL (REF)	234	212,277	133	124,109	41	20,284
HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCE (HS)	32	5,790	48	138,874	2	19
EXTREMELY HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCE (EHS)	10	1,813	0	0	12	222
TOTAL	285	228,768	187	263,350	56	20,608



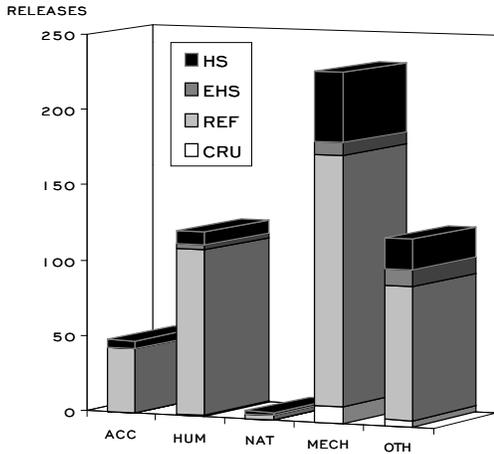
NUMBER OF RELEASES BY AREA AND PRODUCT



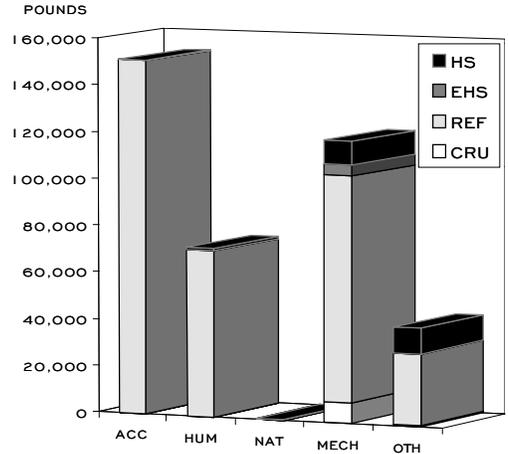
POUNDS RELEASED BY AREA AND PRODUCT

III. SUMMARY OF RELEASES BY CAUSE

PRODUCT CATEGORY	ACCIDENT		HUMAN FACTORS		NATURAL CAUSES		MECHANICAL		OTHER/UNKNOWN	
	#	POUNDS	#	POUNDS	#	POUNDS	#	POUNDS	#	POUNDS
CRUDE OIL (CRU)	0	0	1	8	0	0	11	8,688	4	641
REFINED OIL (REF)	43	151,031	109	70,755	3	250	165	96,262	88	30,274
EXTREMELY HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCES (EHS)	0	0	3	50	0	0	8	4,552	11	20
HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCES (HS)	5	192	9	1,033	2	0	46	10,383	20	11,062
TOTAL	48	151,223	122	71,846	5	250	230	119,886	123	41,997



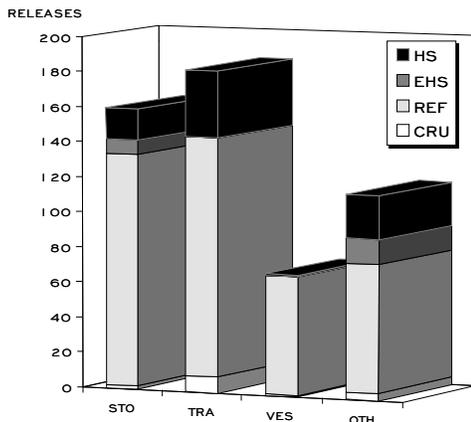
NUMBER OF RELEASES BY CAUSE AND PRODUCT



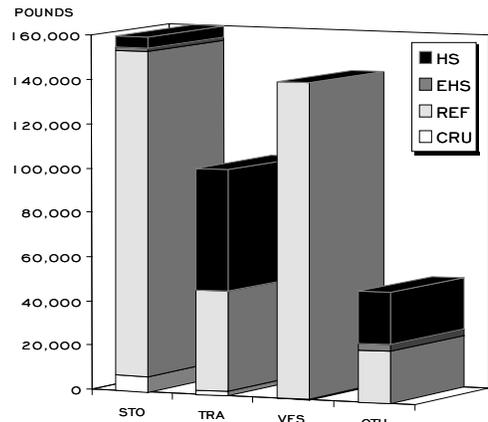
POUNDS RELEASED BY CAUSE AND PRODUCT

IV. SUMMARY OF RELEASES BY SOURCE

PRODUCT CATEGORY	STORAGE		TRANSPORT		VESSEL/BARGE		OTHER/UNKNOWN	
	#	POUNDS	#	POUNDS	#	POUNDS	#	POUNDS
CRUDE OIL (CRU)	2	7,006	9	1,899	1	83	4	0
REFINED OIL (REF)	132	146,429	136	45,115	67	141,668	73	23,457
EXTREMELY HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCES (EHS)	8	1,688	0	0	0	0	14	2,891
HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCES (HS)	18	4,781	38	54,493	1	42	25	23,324
TOTAL	160	159,904	183	101,507	69	141,793	116	49,672



NUMBER OF RELEASES BY SOURCE AND PRODUCT



POUNDS RELEASED BY SOURCE AND PRODUCT

PREVENTION NOTES....

SO₂ Releases at KPC

DEC Prevention and Emergency Response Program (PERP) and Air Quality Management staff are working with the Ketchikan Pulp Company to prevent accidental releases of sulfur dioxide (SO₂) and to improve the facility's emergency response plan. Specific objectives include: improving perimeter monitoring to detect releases; improving emergency evacuation procedures; and, identifying prevention measures that will be implemented by KPC to reduce the number and size of SO₂ releases.

DEC Focuses on Preventing Small Releases

Most of the releases reported to DEC are small and occur at unregulated facilities. PERP staff are taking the lead in initiating a Department-wide program focused on reducing small releases. Increasing public awareness and providing technical assistance will be the primary strategies used.

Reducing Spills

Cleaning up a release is expensive for both the State and the facility owner. One of the primary objectives of the newly reorganized Prevention and Emergency Response Program is to reduce spills. PERP staff will be using the new spills database to identify the principal causes of spills and will then work with facility operators to implement measures to reduce their occurrence. These prevention efforts are intended to make better use of limited funding and staff resources by reducing the number of costly cleanups.

DEFINITIONS

Crude Oil (CRU): unrefined petroleum products

Refined Oil (REF): refined petroleum products, including gasoline, diesel, petroleum-based lubricants, oily waste, kerosene, and aviation fuel.

Extremely Hazardous Substance (EHS): acutely toxic substances as established by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency under the Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act. The list of EHSs is established by federal regulation (40 CFR Part 355) and includes approximately 360 substances. Chlorine and ammonia are the most common EHSs used in Alaska.

Hazardous Substance (HS): any substance not included in the above definitions that is potentially harmful to humans or the environment when it is released to land, air, or water.

DEC ON THE NET....

The Department now has a page on the INTERNET at:

<http://www.state.ak.us/local/akpages/env.conserv/home.htm>



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