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Water Resources Officer, INAC
Field Operations Unit
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DETAILED REPORT: HYDRAULIC OIL SPILL-CFS ALERT, 10 APRIL 2016

INTRODUCTION

1. This report is intended to detail the discovery and follow-up actions taken in response to the 10 April 2016 spill of hydraulic oil on the surface sea-ice located east of Canadian Forces Station (CFS) Alert. This spill was a result of a loose hydraulic line connection on a skid steer vehicle; the vehicle has since been repaired.
2. This spill is being reported as required under the conditions in Part G, Section 4.C of CFS Alert's Nunavut Water Board (NWB) Licence 8AC-ALT---- (formerly 3BC-ALT1015) pursuant to the Nunavut Waters and Nunavut Surface Rights Tribunal Act.
3. This spill is being reported as required under the Arctic Waters Pollution Prevention Act, section 5(1).
4. This spill is being reported as required under the Canadian Environmental Protection Act, Part 9 section 212(1).
5. This spill is being reported as required under the Fisheries Act, section 38(5).
6. This spill is being reported as required by the Government of Nunavut's, Environmental Protection Act paragraph 5.1(a). The spill was reported to the Northwest Territories/Nunavut (NT/NU) 24-Hour Spill Report Line on 12 April 2016. The spill report reference number was not provided at the time of reporting.

DETAILS

1. Time, date, and location of the spill occurrence.
 - a. The spill was discovered at 1600 EST on 10 April 2016. The spill location is located at 82°N 31' 16.8" and 62°W 09' 00.3", as shown in Figure 1.
2. Amount and type of spilled product.
 - a. 3 Litres of hydraulic oil was spilled on to the snow and surface ice.
3. Root cause(s) of the spill.
 - a. A loose hydraulic line connection during operation of the skid steer was the root cause of the spill.
4. Measures taken to contain and clean up the spill site.
 - a. Upon discovery of the spill, hydraulic oil contaminated snow was removed and placed into a barrel as hazardous waste for proper incineration.
 - b. The spill area was 1 square metre (Figure 2).
 - c. All contaminated snow and ice was removed until there were no visual traces of the hydraulic oil.
5. Recurrence prevention.
 - a. This spill occurrence was due to a physical malfunction that could not have been foreseen.
 - b. For prevention, DND raised a vehicle work order (#0011019113676) to repair and inspect the skid steer vehicle.

6. Summary.

- a. A spill of 3 Litres of hydraulic oil was discovered on 10 April 2016 on the sea ice to the east of CFS Alert. Actions were taken clean up the spill site and repair the leaking vehicle. Contaminated snow and ice were recovered for hazardous waste disposal.
- b. The spill was reported to the NT-NU 24-Hour Spill Report Line on 12 April 2016 by 8 Wing Environmental Management.
- c. This spill occurrence was a result of loose hydraulic line connection. Preventative action was taken to repair and inspect the vehicle.

Report compiled by:



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Figure 1 - Map showing spill area located east of CFS Alert, Nunavut.



Figure 2 – Photo of the cleaned up spill site near CFS Alert (12 April 2016).