

# EPA REGION 10 PREVENTION/PREPAREDNESS/ RESPONSE

Alaska Regional Response Team  
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# RESPONSE



## MP 48 RICHARDSON HIGHWAY DIESEL DISCHARGE



ADEC photo



## BACKGROUND:

On December 09, 2014 a “pup” tanker rolled over on the Richardson Highway at MP 48 discharging its contents.

- 4400 gallons of low sulfur diesel fuel
- Discharged directly to a frozen creek bed
- **Why EPA?**
- Large quantity directly to a Navigable Waterway of the US
- PRP's inability to pay
- Sensitivity of the area; salmon habitat, tributary to the Copper River, subsistence use, etc.

Imagery no overlay

72" Culvert

Beaver Pond

MP48

Note water color separation

Tickel River



Mt. Billy Mitchell Campground

Courtesy of John Engles ADEC



## Chronology:

- Incident occurrence December 09, 2015
- December 11, 2014: Arrived on site and formed UC. PRP contractor to represent PRP. PRP issued a NOFI.
- December 12, 2014: clean up activities commenced with PRP contractor and consultant.
- December 17, 2014: PRP contractor notified EPA, and ADEC that insurance/funding was insufficient.
- The PRP was issued an EPA Administrative Order. “Could not comply due to lack of resources”.
- December 20- January 5: Funding secured via OSLTF, Work plans developed with EPA contractor.
- January 5-17, 2015: Clean up activities, soil removal and creek restoration.

## Excavation Operations *"Note contaminated sill"*



## “Benching” to Access Contamination at Depth



## Backfilling with Comparable Materials



# Creek Bed Reconstruction



## Issues/Concerns

- Sub-zero temperatures, snow, freezing rain
- “Cold soaked” equipment
- Poor road conditions
- Long distance travel
- Material frozen in “Side Dumps”
- No connectivity, Sat connections very poor



## Preparedness / Prevention – Planned 2015 Activities

- Outreach to Fuel Haulers *Venues in Fairbanks & Anchorage?*
- 2- 24 Hour Oil Spill Classes to Locals & Tribes *Locations to be determined*
- Alaska Railroad Corridor Vulnerability Assessment ?
- SPCC/FRP Inspections *“North Slope , Cook Inlet, Alaska Peninsula”*
- EO 13650 *“Chemical Safety”* Gap identification, Enhanced State & Local Coordination

# Questions

