



Accident, incident, and mishap notification

Monthly Summary
October 2015



What's in this summary

The following text summarises the notifications of accidents, incidents and mishaps that have been made to Maritime New Zealand in accordance with Section 31 of the Maritime Transport Act 1994 and which have been recorded in our database in the last month (1-31 October 2015).

These summaries are provided for information purposes only, and are not intended to be, and should not be construed as, evidence of any determination by Maritime New Zealand as to accuracy, cause, or liability. For these reasons the information is not suitable for statistical or analytical purposes.

The summaries are not verbatim copies of the original notification. In constructing the summaries, consideration has been given to the reasons to withhold information provided in the Official Information Act. This may result in some information not being included.

If an accident, incident or mishap is notified to Maritime New Zealand more than once, it is only reflected once in the report.

Flooded

Inshore waters, Tasman

Vessel information	
Type:	
Category:	
Length (m):	
Tonnage (tons):	

The vessel was anchored hard on the beach with bow and stern anchors set. Sewerage was being pumped into two 1000 litre drums that were set up on board the vessel. The aft drum had been filled and the forward drum was being filled and was approximately two thirds full. The roll on roll off style loading ramp on the bow of the vessel was lowered, a tidal surge or wake from a passing vessel caused the vessel to pull back from the beach and water entered the open loading ramp. The vessel then continued to take on water and became flooded. The skipper closed the loading ramp to prevent further water ingress and then used the vessels outboard motor to drive the vessel hard onto the beach. The pump that was being used to transfer sewerage was quickly redeployed and used to pump water out of the vessel. A second pump was engaged to transfer sewerage from the drums on the vessel to tanks set up on a second vessel that was standing by to take on additional sewerage. All water was removed from the vessel and the vessel was able to continue operations as per normal. There was no damage to the vessel and no sewerage was spilled during the event.

Collision

Bay of Plenty

Vessel information	
Type:	Foreign SOLAS (ISM)
Category:	Dredger
Length (m):	>45m
Tonnage (tons):	

Vessel struck a beacon while outside the harbour.

Propulsion failure

In harbour, Auckland

Vessel information	
Type:	NZ Passenger (SSM/MOSS)
Category:	Passenger Ferry
Length (m):	<45m
Tonnage (tons):	

Vessel was approaching berth at low speed with no passengers aboard, went to go astern and found no port propulsion on the bridge wing. Skipper checked the main controls however the same problem presented. Transferred to emergency controls with no response. Skipper aborted berthing manouver and proceeded out of the ferry basin into the harbour on starboard main engine.

Skipper posted lookouts and went below to diagnose problem. Found an electrical fault. Skipper made a temporary repair to the fault and returned the vessel safely to the berth. Maintenance electrician was called and a proper fix was made. Fault traced to a solenoid on top of the gearbox that receives a signal from the control system (ahead/astern) had come apart. This was a factory stock part. Electrical team removed the plug and replaced the electrical connections with heat shrink connections to prevent future failure.

Flooded

At berth/marina/boat ramp, Auckland

Vessel information	
Type:	NZ Passenger (SSM/MOSS)
Category:	Passenger Ferry
Length (m):	<24m
Tonnage (tons):	

Crew only on-board vessel undertaking regular maintenance as per maintenance plan with the vessel tied alongside wharf. Crew began raw water sea strainer cleaning by removing sea chest lid. A small amount of water observed lapping over the top. One crew left the vessel to wash the strainer while another crew member proceeded to the starboard engine space to begin sea chest lid removal to clean strainer. Crew returned and found port engine room flooding. Sea chest lid capped and attempt made to pump bilge however breaker tripped off. Submersible pumps and buckets used to get water out of vessel. Water level reached starter motor so vessel was moved to slip and repairs made. Investigation ongoing that will look at procedure for cleaning sea strainers and leaving valves and fittings open and unattended where there is a risk of flooding.

Injury Only

Inshore waters, Canterbury

Vessel information	
Type:	NZ Fishing (SSM/MOSS)
Category:	
Length (m):	<24m
Tonnage (tons):	<500t

Dragging fish cases down deck with case hook, handle on fish case broke causing hook to let go and this resulted in crew member falling backwards landing heavily on lower back onto freezer hatch.

Lifting / Cargo gear failure

In harbour, Canterbury

Vessel information	
Type:	Foreign SOLAS (ISM)
Category:	Bulk Carrier
Length (m):	>45m
Tonnage (tons):	>500t

Crane block separated whilst discharging product from hatch number one, resulting in the grab, chains and block falling approximately 3m back into the hatch. Vessel provided a new replacement block which was fitted, a visual inspection of the grab was conducted and the discharge resumed. A surveyor was brought in to conduct an inspection of the block from No1 crane. His initial findings suggest equipment failure, as a result of severe corrosion. Other than general 'wear and tear' on the exterior of the block, there was nothing to suggest the block had received a severe knock/bang of any kind.

Injury Only

At berth, Southland

Vessel information	
Type:	NZ Fishing (SSM/MOSS)
Category:	Trawler
Length (m):	<45m
Tonnage (tons):	<500t

Crew member was knocked unconscious after falling into the hold during a lifting operation.

Injury Only

A river, Bay of Plenty

Vessel information	
Type:	Raft
Category:	SOP Raft - Adventure
Length (m):	<6m
Tonnage (tons):	

Raft followed a smooth line over the falls, but a passenger was seen clutching their wrist after coming out. It was found their wrist had struck a first aid kit located on the front of the boat.

Injury Only

Offshore waters, Wellington

Vessel information	
Type:	NZ Passenger (NZISM)
Category:	Ro-Ro Passenger
Length (m):	>45m
Tonnage (tons):	>500t

A contractor's light work truck was moved to a new work area on the vehicle deck but the hand brake was not applied. Whilst removing some equipment from the truck it rolled back, crushing the contractor's arm between another stowed vehicle.

Injury Only

At berth, Auckland

Vessel information	
Type:	Foreign SOLAS (ISM)
Category:	General Cargo / Multi-purpose
Length (m):	>45m
Tonnage (tons):	>500t

Worker in the ship's hold stepped down off a pack of timber and rolled his ankle.

Flooded

At berth, Otago

Vessel information	
Type:	NZ Non-Passenger (SSM/MOSS)
Category:	
Length (m):	<24m
Tonnage (tons):	

Vessel was tied to a floating pontoon wharf with bow to the south. Strong tides and a weather change (west-northwest then backing to southwest) enabled the sea to enter through a slot in the transom where divers are deployed. The boat was discovered submerged tied to the pontoon.

Propulsion failure

Inshore waters, Auckland

Vessel information	
Type:	NZ Non-Passenger (SSM/MOSS)
Category:	
Length (m):	<24m
Tonnage (tons):	<500t

Vessel suffered a mechanical failure on the starboard engine. It was reported that the vessel started shaking and lost power on the starboard engine. Revs were reduced and white smoke noticed coming out of the vents. Engine was shut down and they made their way back to port on one engine. Once alongside a visual inspection found oil over the bulkheads. Suspect blown piston.

Near miss / Close quarters

At berth/marina/boat ramp, Canterbury

Vessel information	
Type:	Foreign SOLAS (ISM)
Category:	Vehicle Carrier
Length (m):	>45m
Tonnage (tons):	>500t

Vessel berth starboard side, heading west, with a northwest wind gusting 60 knots. Vessel had extra lines out, pilot onboard, 60t tug midships pushing at 60t, engine, and thruster available. Three bollards holding four stern lines and two springs broke clear of wharf, with the stern of the vessel blown 50m off wharf. Pilot and Master used engine and tug to lay alongside wharf. Extra tug called and vessel sailed after securing cargo and wind conditions improved. No Injury to personnel or damage to ship.

Near miss / Close quarters

Auckland

Vessel information	
Type:	Recreational
Category:	
Length (m):	
Tonnage (tons):	

Vessel anchored off a beach. A yacht started up from near the beach, and under motor headed towards them, missing them by a metre.

Collision

At berth/marina/boat ramp, Tasman

Vessel information	
Type:	Unpowered Recreational
Category:	Rowing Boat
Length (m):	
Tonnage (tons):	

Rowing boat came around a corner in the dark during their first training row of the year. Focusing on their warm-up routine they struck a fishing boat that was reversing out. The rowing boat flipped, but the rower was able to get back onboard. The rowing boat had a light fixed to the bow.

Equipment failure

In harbour, Canterbury

Vessel information	
Type:	Foreign SOLAS (ISM)
Category:	Container Ship
Length (m):	>45m
Tonnage (tons):	>500t

Bow thruster failed to respond to commands from starboard bridge wing control, with the thruster stuck at full thrust to starboard towards the quay. Control ordered to be switched to the centre console and the emergency stop was operated. Ship was berthed safely alongside with no damage using the two tugs.

Flip/Overturn

A river, Bay of Plenty

Vessel information	
Type:	Raft
Category:	Adventure activity (SG)
Length (m):	<6m
Tonnage (tons):	

Catching waterfall eddy above the falls the guide called for a back paddle. The right hand side paddled very strongly and turned raft into the main flow. The raft spun around backwards which was compounded by a customer out of the other boat in the eddy grabbing the front rope of raft. The guide called for a forward paddle, but not all customers paddled. This resulted in the raft not being able to stop in the eddy. The guide called for a get down and the raft went over the waterfall backwards, resulting in the raft flipping. One customer who fell from the raft suffered a leg injury.

Equipment failure

In harbour, Bay of Plenty

Vessel information	
Type:	Foreign SOLAS (ISM)
Category:	General Cargo / Multi-purpose
Length (m):	>45m
Tonnage (tons):	>500t

Vessel entered port with engine control only available on the emergency telegraph. Approaching the berth the chief engineer advised the master that once the engine stopped it could not be restarted. Vessel safely manoeuvred with tug and berthed.

Fire

At berth, Wellington

Vessel information	
Type:	NZ Passenger (NZISM)
Category:	Ro-Ro Passenger
Length (m):	>45m
Tonnage (tons):	>500t

Cab fire in an on board truck's dashboard.

Injury Only

At berth, Tasman

Vessel information	
Type:	NZ Fishing (SSM/MOSS)
Category:	Trawler
Length (m):	>45m
Tonnage (tons):	>500t

Crew member was cleaning the hold and found a damaged floor board. He leaned it up against a frame and then turned around and bent down to do something else, the board then fell over and struck him in the lower back and hip area. The crew member was in a lot of pain and as the vessel was in port an ambulance was called as a precautionary measure. He was assessed in A&E and diagnosed as having muscular bruising.

Injury Only

Offshore waters

Vessel information	
Type:	NZ Fishing (SSM/MOSS)
Category:	Trawler
Length (m):	>45m
Tonnage (tons):	>500t

In rough weather a crewman lost his footing while working in the vessel's meal plant. As he slipped back his foot became wedged between the tread plates of the steps he was using and this caused his knee to be awkwardly wrenched. He saw the medic and their initial assessment was that it was a sprain with swelling. This was iced and rested and the crewman given pain relief. He reported he was okay to return to work the next shift, and continued to work till the end of the trip 10 days later. After a week at home the crewman reported to the company that he had visited a doctor ashore and had actually torn a ligament and sustained a fracture.

Injury Only

At sea, Canterbury

Vessel information	
Type:	NZ Fishing (SSM/MOSS)
Category:	Fishing Vessel
Length (m):	<24m
Tonnage (tons):	

Three crew members died when their vessel sank off the Canterbury coast.

Near miss / Close quarters

A river, Waikato

Vessel information	
Type:	NZ Passenger (SSM/MOSS)
Category:	Not selected
Length (m):	<24m
Tonnage (tons):	

The vessel was running upstream making around 6 knots when a water ski vessel, towing two water skiers, appeared upstream from around a bend at a speed of in excess of 20 knots. The skipper was forced to throw the boat full astern. Local Bylaws say no vessel may exceed 5 knots within 50m of another vessel or 30 metres of the shore. The entire width of the river when the vessels crossed would have only been 30 metres.

Contact

At berth, Wellington

Vessel information	
Type:	NZ Passenger (SSM/MOSS)
Category:	Passenger Ferry
Length (m):	<24m
Tonnage (tons):	

Vessel was being moved from berth to a floating pontoon, with another vessel berthed aft of the pontoon. As they were passing the other vessel a strong gust of wind pushed them alongside the wharf. The skipper misjudged and took the motor out of gear to allow the boat to come alongside and not damage the bow of the other vessel. However the stern clipped the bow of the other vessel just forward of the rubbing strake. Minimal damage was caused – a 40cm crack above the waterline on the starboard hull forepeak section. There were no passengers on board at the time.

Flooded

Inshore waters, Bay of Plenty

Vessel information	
Type:	NZ Fishing (SSM/MOSS)
Category:	Fishing Vessel
Length (m):	<24m
Tonnage (tons):	<500t

Vessel was enroute under autopilot with the skipper cleaning up. They failed to notice the clutch of the autopilot had disengaged, allowing the course to change, and the vessel to hit rocks. The chain locker flooded but the boat remained in a stable condition. The Coastguard were called, who pumped the foc'sle, allowing the vessel to steam to a marina under its own power.

Injury Only

At berth, Southland

Vessel information	
Type:	NZ Fishing (SSM/MOSS)
Category:	Trawler
Length (m):	<45m
Tonnage (tons):	>500t

Crew member was injured while moving a stack of full fish cases in the hold, pulling the case without assistance.

Breach Poor Knights Exclusion Zone

At sea, Northland

Vessel information	
Type:	Foreign SOLAS (ISM)
Category:	Container Ship
Length (m):	
Tonnage (tons):	

Vessel entered the Poor Knights Marine Reserve, Area to be Avoided. Maritime Radio called the vessel on CH16.

Injury Only

Open waters (lake/ocean), Bay of Plenty

Vessel information	
Type:	NZ Passenger (SSM/MOSS)
Category:	Passenger
Length (m):	<45m
Tonnage (tons):	

An elderly lady was disembarking the vessel down the boarding ramp. She lost her balance and went to grab the gate to steady herself, but it moved slightly and she fell. A crew member who was farewelling the guests saw it happen and managed to grab part of her to cushion her fall and help her to her feet. She was unhurt but a little shaken and was happy to carry on her day. A follow up phone call found she had some bruising on her ankle. A procedure has now been put in place to tie the gate on the outside of the boarding ramp so there is no movement should someone need to grab the rail again.

Injury Only

At berth, Tasman

Vessel information	
Type:	NZ Fishing (SSM/MOSS)
Category:	Trawler
Length (m):	>45m
Tonnage (tons):	>500t

While passing items through a door a crew member turned to retrieve more items, but their foot snagged on pipe on deck, and twisted their foot with the forward momentum.

Contact

A river, Bay of Plenty

Vessel information	
Type:	Raft (SOP)
Category:	SOP Raft - Adventure
Length (m):	<6m
Tonnage (tons):	

One lady sitting in the back of the raft, did not hold on properly at a 7m water fall. As she fell out she hit another lady in the middle of the raft, causing a back injury to the lady still in the raft.

Flip/Overturn

A river, Bay of Plenty

Vessel information	
Type:	Raft (SOP)
Category:	SOP Raft - Adventure
Length (m):	<6m
Tonnage (tons):	

A raft flipped at a rock in a grade 2 rapid, with one of those on board dislocating their shoulder during the resulting swim.

Propulsion failure

At sea

Vessel information	
Type:	NZ Fishing (SSM/MOSS)
Category:	Fishing Vessel
Length (m):	<45m
Tonnage (tons):	

Vessel suffered a problem with its main engine, requiring it to be shut down for repairs. Another company vessel in the area was called in to tow the vessel to port.

Person overboard

Inshore waters, Southland

Vessel information	
Type:	NZ Non-Passenger (SSM/MOSS)
Category:	
Length (m):	<24m
Tonnage (tons):	<500t

Vessel was struck by an unusually large wave and one person on board lost his balance and left the vessel. The skipper spun the vessel into reverse course and located the man, steamed up to him, threw him a life line, and dragged him aboard. Ascertained his condition which was excellent apart from being wet as he had only spent a maximum of three to four minutes in the water.

Flip/Overturn

A river, Manawatu

Vessel information	
Type:	Kayak / Canoe
Category:	Unpowered Recreational - Canadian Canoe
Length (m):	
Tonnage (tons):	

An inexperienced pair put onto a high running river, and fell out numerous times. On the last fall they lost the canoe and all barrels, leaving them stranded on the bank cold, wet, and in shock. A hut ranger first noticed the empty canoe and barrels floating past. Jetboats and a rescue helicopter were deployed, finding the couple on the riverbank in a distressed condition. Most operators had waited till the following day for the river to drop.

Injury Only

At berth, Tasman

Vessel information	
Type:	NZ Fishing (SSM/MOSS)
Category:	Trawler
Length (m):	>45m
Tonnage (tons):	>500t

While unloading the vessel's hold, a crew member's finger was hit by a carton that was being passed onto a pallet.

Equipment failure

In harbour, Auckland

Vessel information	
Type:	NZ Passenger (SSM/MOSS)
Category:	Passenger Ferry
Length (m):	<45m
Tonnage (tons):	<500t

Fault alarm sounded three minutes into the trip. Two to three minutes later the same alarm sounded, and again went back to normal. Two minute later on approach to the berth the alarm sounded again, however on this occasion the thrusters were set of full ahead, at 12-13 knots. The master proceeded to bring the thruster back to idle, however the revs would not reduce and the alarm stayed active. The master switched to the back-up mode and the vessel was brought safely alongside without further incident. Tests were performed on the vessel; however the fault could not be identified. The vessel was removed from service to allow the root cause to be identified.

Equipment failure

In harbour, Bay of Plenty

Vessel information	
Type:	Foreign SOLAS (ISM)
Category:	Bulk Carrier
Length (m):	>45m
Tonnage (tons):	>500t

Vessel under pilot control with a tug forward and aft. In the final stages of berth approach the main engine failed to fire astern. Reset, engine fired then went ahead without being commanded. Engine stopped again. Then in final positioning, the engine failed to stop on command.

Contact

In harbour, Otago

Vessel information	
Type:	Foreign SOLAS (ISM)
Category:	Container Ship
Length (m):	>45m
Tonnage (tons):	>500t

Vessel touched the bottom while turning at a beacon.

Other

In harbour, Auckland

Vessel information	
Type:	Foreign SOLAS (ISM)
Category:	Container Ship
Length (m):	>45m
Tonnage (tons):	>500t

Container on-board may have contained undeclared dangerous goods (DGs). Manifest indicated Class 9 DGs (miscellaneous dangerous goods), however Class 5.1 DGs (oxidising substances) were possibly on-board. The container was moved to the DG storage area.

Injury Only

At sea, Southland

Vessel information	
Type:	NZ Non-Passenger (SSM/MOSS)
Category:	
Length (m):	<45m
Tonnage (tons):	<500t

While traveling from one marine farm site to another the operator was distracted and resulted in the vessel colliding with the south corner of the farm. This resulted in two men on board losing their footing.

Hit submerged Object

Inshore waters, Auckland

Vessel information	
Type:	NZ Fishing (SOP)
Category:	Gill Netting
Length (m):	<6m
Tonnage (tons):	

Vessel hit a rock under water, which snapped the drive shaft on the outboard motor.

Electrical power failure

Inshore waters, Northland

Vessel information	
Type:	NZ Passenger (SSM/MOSS)
Category:	Tourism Activity
Length (m):	<24m
Tonnage (tons):	

Arriving for the second dive of the day as the anchor was being dropped the skipper noticed a smell of smoke, and observed smoke coming from the conduit leading into the outboard motor. The skipper opened the centre console hatch, which was found filled with smoke. Passengers and crew were instructed to move to the bow, and the engine was turned off and the batteries isolated through the kill switch fitted to the helm. The cause of the smoke was the secondary charging cable for the house bank of batteries, which had completely melted its plastic covering. The final dive of the day was conducted and a mechanic sent to the boat disconnected the wire.

Injury Only

At sea, Tasman

Vessel information	
Type:	NZ Non-passenger (SSM/MOSS)
Category:	Aquaculture
Length (m):	<24m
Tonnage (tons):	<500t

Crewman was feeding rope onto a gantry winch drum. Crewman was lying on top of wheelhouse to do this. As he was repairing the rope another crewman accidentally retracted the gantry crushing the crewmans leg.

Injury Only

In harbour, Bay of Plenty

Vessel information	
Type:	NZ Passenger (NZISM)
Category:	Cargo
Length (m):	>45m
Tonnage (tons):	>500t

When lifting the vent flap for aft end No. 3 hatch, a crew member's right hand got caught in between the flap and framing, causing bleeding and abraison.