



Accident, incident, and
mishap notification
December 2018



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 December 2018).

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.

Lifting/Cargo gear failure

At berth, Nelson

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

A pallet of 35 bags of fishmeal (30 kg each) was being lifted from the hold onto the wharf with a pallet lifter. As the pallet was slewing across the deck, two of the boards under the bags pulled away from the support struts they were nailed to making the load unstable. The hatch driver instructed the hiab driver to bring the lift down and land on the deck. While doing this, the top boards of the pallet gave way and the product fell approximately 2 metres onto the deck.

Other

River, Southland

Vessel information	
Type:	Other Commercial
Category:	Jetboat
Length (m):	<6
Tonnage (tons):	

A commercial jet boat was on a river trip. While the jet boat was stationary and the driver was giving a commentary to the passengers, a passenger in the front seat put his foot on the accelerator and revved the engine. The driver asked the passenger to stop but the passenger did the same thing two more times. The driver spoke to the passenger about their behaviour and later reported the incident to his manager.

Near miss/close quarters

Inshore waters

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

Vessel A was surveying at night when Vessel B, an unlit fishing vessel, came to within 5 metres of vessel A's portside. Vessel A was taken out of gear. The search light was directed onto Vessel B, which was showing no navigation lights or any other deck lights. At the last second, Vessel B turned on a torch which made it visible.

Propulsion failure

River, Otago

Vessel information	
Type:	Other Commercial
Category:	Jetboat
Length (m):	<6
Tonnage (tons):	

Driver had 9 passengers onboard. Approximately half way through trip the driver stopped to do a commentary before returning up river. On take off the vessel lost power and would only idle. Another boat arrived to take the passengers back to base. Vessel was towed back and taken for repair.

Capsize

In harbour, Waikato

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

Conditions were rough as the dinghy headed into shore from the mooring. Waves started to splash into the dinghy creating more weight inside it. When the dinghy went down a wave 15 metres from shore all the water rushed towards the bow causing the nose to dive into the water. Those onboard had life jackets on and swam to shore (low tide). No injuries and the dinghy was retrieved.

Equipment failure

Inshore, Auckland

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

During a scheduled run the port engine high temperature alarm sounded, with the coolant temp having gone up to 100C. The engine was shut down and an engine check found the raw water pump was not working. The damaged impeller was removed and replaced with a spare. Tested engine - the temperature came back down to normal. Continued on run and monitored the temperature for the rest of the trip.

Steering gear failure

In harbour, Canterbury

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

While berthing to unload fish at the conclusion of fishing trip, the boat would not go astern and hit the wharf.

Equipment failure

In harbour, Nelson

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

While testing smoke sensors on board, it was found that the 'Fire Detection System' was showing a battery fault on the monitor. The crew was to keep a full fire watch at sea and port until the fire alarm system was fully functional.

Collision

Inshore, Southland

Vessel information	
Type:	NZ Passenger (MOSS)
Category:	Charter fishing vessel
Length (m):	<24
Tonnage (tons):	<500

While heading home from a five day trip, the crew member who was on watch fell asleep at the helm. Conditions were flat calm and just breaking daylight. The vessel hit a rock at the back of a point. The skipper pulled boat out of gear, the vessel rolled off the rock and reversed away. The crew assessed the vessel to see if any water was coming in. Could not see evidence of leaks, so the skipper headed back to port.

Contact

At berth, Auckland

Vessel information	
Type:	NZ Passenger (MOSS)
Category:	Charter passenger vessel
Length (m):	<24
Tonnage (tons):	<500

Lost power on starboard engine when approaching Queens Wharf. Berthing was carried out efficiently until a gust of wind pushed the vessel onto the corner of a floating jetty. Minimal damage done to vessel above the belting which was repaired the same day.

Equipment failure

Inshore, Northland

Vessel information	
Type:	NZ Fishing (MOSS)
Category:	Other fishing vessel
Length (m):	<24
Tonnage (tons):	

A tangle came up, snood snapped in the tangle, the line jumped half a metre and hit a person onboard in the eye. The person was wearing glasses, which shattered and cut their eyelid.

Capsize

River, Bay of Plenty

Vessel information	
Type:	Other Commercial
Category:	Raft
Length (m):	<6
Tonnage (tons):	

Raft flipped at the bottom of the a water fall. A passenger informed the guide that they had broken their leg. Weather was fine and sunny at the time. Client was immobilised in the water with back board, lifted into raft and stretchered out to the top car park to meet with ambulance. The client was transported to hospital for further treatment.

Propulsion failure

Coastal, Bay of Plenty

Vessel information	
Type:	NZ Passenger (MOSS)
Category:	Charter passenger vessel
Length (m):	<24
Tonnage (tons):	

Starboard engine shut down. The crew shut down both engines, turned off mains and re-booted all systems. Starboard engine screens still all blank, with port engine running at 100%. Calm seas, full tide and excellent bar conditions. Continued on port engine, 2 inflatables shadowed boat over bar. Called technician - fault fixed.

Capsize

River, Bay of Plenty

Vessel information	
Type:	Other Commercial
Category:	Raft
Length (m):	<6
Tonnage (tons):	

Raft flipped at waterfall, passenger let go of rope and hit the rocks at the bottom of the river causing pain and grazing. Passenger went to hospital for further assessment.

Contact

Inshore, Waikato

Vessel information	
Type:	NZ Non-Passenger (MOSS)
Category:	Aquaculture vessel
Length (m):	<45
Tonnage (tons):	<500

Vessel A was harvesting mussels off mussel lines. Because a number of recreational vessels were tied to the end of the line, Vessel A decided to approach the line in reverse to pick it up. Vessel A asked the skipper of Vessel B, a recreational vessel, tied to the end of the line to move. The skipper of Vessel B started to remove his hook from the line. Vessel A moved 70 metres away to give Vessel B time and space to move. When it looked as if Vessel B was clear, Vessel A began to slowly reverse into position. As Vessel A was reversing, a crew member alerted the skipper that Vessel B was having trouble freeing their hook. The skipper of vessel A put the vessel into forward gear idle but Vessel A was still moving slowly astern due to its momentum. Vessel A lightly collided with Vessel B. No visual damage to either Vessel. Vessel A's line of sight had been obscured by full load of harvested mussels on deck.

Injury

River, Bay of Plenty

Vessel information	
Type:	Other Commercial
Category:	Raft
Length (m):	<6
Tonnage (tons):	

At some stage during a rafting trip, the guide suffered an injury to upper back. The guide was transported to hospital for further assessment and treatment

Injury

River, Bay of Plenty

Vessel information	
Type:	Other Commercial
Category:	Raft
Length (m):	<6
Tonnage (tons):	

A raft flipped while going over a 7m waterfall. One of the passengers fell out of the raft and fractured their leg. The passenger was pulled into another raft, taken to shore and placed on a stretcher. An ambulance was called, and the passenger was transported to hospital for further treatment.

Grounding

River, Manawatu-Wanganui

Vessel information	
Type:	NZ Passenger (MOSS)
Category:	Charter passenger vessel
Length (m):	<45
Tonnage (tons):	<500

As the vessel was making a turn to starboard, the vessel did not respond to helm. The vessel reduced speed and turned hard to starboard, at which point the vessel responded to helm and began to turn. The crew were confident that the vessel would be able to complete the turn but, in the final part of the turn, the stern of the vessel struck the river bank. No passengers or crew were injured. The vessel was checked, showing minor damage but remained water tight. Checks of the vessel continued during the trip and while alongside wharf. Arrangements made for repair.

Equipment failure

Inshore, Bay of Plenty

Vessel information	
Type:	NZ Fishing (MOSS)
Category:	Line fishing vessel
Length (m):	<24
Tonnage (tons):	

Vessel A lost power to main engine. Vessel B went to assist. On arrival, Vessel A was less than a metre from rocks. Vessel B attached a tow line to Vessel A and began towing the vessel from the rocks. About 2 minutes into the tow, the aft cleat ripped off and the tow was lost but both vessels were safely away from the rocks by then. All persons were safe and unharmed but, during the tow, Vessel B's main engine overheated and blew the coolant out of the heat exchanger.

Injury

River, Bay of Plenty

Vessel information	
Type:	Other Commercial
Category:	Raft
Length (m):	<6
Tonnage (tons):	

A client was hit in the lower lip by a rafting paddle or helmet while raft was travelling over a waterfall. The impacted caused a small, but deep, cut. First aid was administered and client was advised to go to hospital.

Propulsion failure

Inshore, Gisborne

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

During passage, main engine shutdown occurred caused by condensation picked up by crank case mist detector. The crank case breathing pipe water chamber drain line was blocked. Once cleared, the main engine started and vessel resumed passage to Lyttelton.

Equipment failure

In harbour, Taranaki

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

Whilst putting up tug tow line on the port quarter of a vessel, a tyre fender securing system on the starboard shoulder of the tug failed. Tyre fell into the sea and then allowed metal to metal contact with the remaining hanging chain. This contact resulted in a small 60mm diameter depression dimple 10mm deep on the hull. This was examined after the tug movement and no failure of the hull metal was evident. Pilot was notified of incident.

Grounding

River, Waikato

Vessel information	
Type:	Other Commercial
Category:	Jetboat
Length (m):	
Tonnage (tons):	

Skipper of a jet boat had steered left away from shore to check on the status of another jet boat. While completing check, the skipper realised bearing had changed and the boat was heading towards shore. Skipper steered away from shore but starboard back corner trim tab came into contact with a stone under the waterline. The boat slid sideways and came to rest with the stern on the shore line. A passenger at the rear of the boat said that their head had come into contact with a tree branch. Passengers were moved to another vessel to complete trip. The injured passenger was checked, with no lacerations visible. The injured passenger later visited doctor as a precaution.

Grounding

River, Otago

Vessel information	
Type:	Other Commercial
Category:	Jetboat
Length (m):	<6
Tonnage (tons):	

Back corner of boat got caught on rock. Tried to power away but current of water pushed nose of boat under and the boat then rolled over. River was in high flow at the time. Boat was recovered the following week once the river dropped.

Fire

Lake, Southland

Vessel information	
Type:	Other Commercial
Category:	Jetboat
Length (m):	<24
Tonnage (tons):	

A jet boat was making its way to shore at the end of a trip, when the skipper smelt something burning. The skipper began heading directly to shore, when the boat started filling with smoke. Skipper stopped the boat, turned the engine off, radioed for assistance and began using extinguisher. Another boat arrived to assist and all passengers were transferred and transported to shore. The skipper of the rescue boat returned quickly to assist. The engine hatch was lifted and spare fire extinguishers were used to put out the remaining flames. The boat was then towed to meet the trailer and taken back to the shed for repairs. Weather was good, lake was very calm, no rain or wind. An internal investigation determined the cause of the fire to be sand build up in the manifold. The damaged part of the engine being fixed and tested.

Equipment failure

In harbour, Canterbury

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

On departure, a fishing vessel was suffering gyro error of up to 10 degrees. The crew identified the problem and managed to reduce the error to only 2-3 degrees. The Master was advised to closely observe the gyro error, and to rectify at the earliest opportunity.

Injury

At berth, Canterbury

Vessel information	
Type:	NZ Passenger (MOSS)
Category:	Charter passenger vessel
Length (m):	<24m
Tonnage (tons):	

While boarding the vessel, a passenger tripped and broke their ankle. The passenger was holding onto hand rail but their foot slipped and they landed awkwardly. A safety briefing had been proced and a guide was assisting passengers to board. The guide saw the accident occur but was unable to prevent it. Staff assisted the passenger to shore, and they were taken to hospital.

Medical Event

In harbour, Canterbury

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

Passenger suffered medical event on board. First aid was administered. Skipper returned to wharf where passenger was transported to hospital by helicopter.

Propulsion failure

Coastal, Canterbury

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

Main engine shut down during passage from Lyttelton to Nelson was rectified and passage resumed. Informed engine manufacturer to obtain support/help to determine the fault. Technician will attend at Nelson. Also informed class surveyor.

Capsize

River, Canterbury

Vessel information	
Type:	Other Commercial
Category:	White Water Kayak
Length (m):	
Tonnage (tons):	

Student was manoeuvring in the grade 2 rapids and practicing their skills, which included a capsize, and dislocated their shoulder while rolling the kayak upright. The student was transported to a take-out and loaded into waiting vehicle and driven to the medical centre where an ambulance was waiting. The ambulance took the student to hospital for treatment.

Electrical power failure

River, Canterbury

Vessel information	
Type:	Other Commercial
Category:	Jetboat
Length (m):	<6
Tonnage (tons):	

The driver of a boat noticed smoke coming from the engine bay. The driver looked inside the bilge and saw sparks coming from the battery area so switched off the isolating switch which stopped the sparking. It is suspected that a short in the engine wiring loom caused melting of the loom which shorted other wires. This was caught before much damage was done and the boat is being repaired.

Person Overboard

At berth, Canterbury

Vessel information	
Type:	NZ Passenger (MOSS)
Category:	Charter passenger vessel
Length (m):	<24
Tonnage (tons):	

A crew member was passing a power cord through the ferry window to skipper while the ferry was berthed at the jetty. The motors were off. The crewmember leaned forward and put a hand on the boat to push themselves back up but instead the boat moved further away from the jetty and the crew member fell into the water between the boat and jetty. The skipper helped the crew member back into the vessel. The crew member was not injured.

Injury

River, Otago

Vessel information	
Type:	Other Commercial
Category:	Jetboat
Length (m):	<6
Tonnage (tons):	

While completing a spin, a passenger slipped and hit their head on hand rails in front causing a cut and bleeding. An ambulance was called and met the jet boat to assess injury. The passenger was taken to the medical centre and cleared.

Collision

Inshore, Bay of Plenty

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

While loading vehicles onto the ferry a logging truck driver was repositioning their vehicle and reversed into a ute, which was forced backwards into another ute causing damage to both vehicles.

Propulsion failure

In harbour, Canterbury

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

Vessel lost main engines in harbour on departure with pilot on board. During this time, vessel had steerage, bow thrusters were on and anchors were ready to let go with forward station manned. Vessel was steered safely and main engine revs were restored. Engine taken back into engine room control and re-started. Steering maintained throughout. Approximately 2 minutes duration between losing engines and re-starting.

Near miss/close quarters

In harbour, Auckland

Vessel information	
Type:	NZ Passenger (MOSS)
Category:	Passenger Ferry
Length (m):	
Tonnage (tons):	

While on scheduled ferry run skipper noticed a commercial jet boat tucked in very close astern while making 21 knots. The jet boat stayed within 20m for 10-15 minutes before overtaking on the starboard side very closely (within 30m) at full speed.

Collision

Coastal, Northland

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

Vessel A was sailing towards Whanganui in 11 knots of wind from 210 degrees. Vessel B was motorsailing on a southerly course and impacted vessel A on starboard hull tearing away part of hull and one stanchion.

Injury

Inshore, Southland

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

Passenger was descending the outside stairs, missed the handrail, lost balance and fell approximately 2 metres down the stairs. Weather sunny, wind 10 knots, sea calm. Crew applied first aid and vessel returned to harbour. Passenger was seen by Medic and sent to medical centre for treatment for contusions and bruising.