



Accident, incident, and mishap notification

November 2016



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 (1-30 November 2016).

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.

Injury Only

Southland

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

While berthing a crew member placed the spring line on the wrong forward bollard. The vessel was astern, but the forward momentum was enough to crush the crew's fingers between the line and the bollard. The aluminium bollard broke due to the loading, so the skipper put the line on the correct bollard, secured the vessel, and radioed for medical assistance for the crew member.

Equipment failure

At berth, Bay of Plenty

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

A shore side engineer started the auxiliary engine and refrigeration system, with a loud bang and the sound of gas observed five minutes later. The engineer shut the isolating valve, vacated the vessel, and called the fire service. The vessel was cordoned off for several hours to allow the vessel ventilation system to remove the gas. Further inspection found a high pressure safety switch had failed, allowing pressure to build and a high pressure relief valve to activate. The system was inspected and serviced, with 15kg of gas found to have been lost.

Equipment failure

In harbour, Taranaki

| Vessel information | |
|--------------------|---------------------|
| Type: | Foreign SOLAS (ISM) |
| Category: | Chemical Tanker |
| Length (m): | >45 |
| Tonnage (tons): | >500t |

While ascending the pilot ladder to transfer to the accommodation ladder the ship side magnets came away from the ship side. This allowed the ladder to swing away from the ship as it rolled.

Injury Only

At berth, Tasman

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

One of the unloading crew had the tip of their middle finger caught under a stack of four boxes, which pushed their finger into the conveyor drive. They were taken to A&E for treatment, with the pad of their finger found inside the glove they were wearing.

Collision

In harbour, Auckland

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

Sailing northwest on a port tack with a WSW wind another yacht was observed sailing in a southerly direction on a starboard tack. The helm was moved for a hard turn to starboard, intending to pass astern of the other vessel. The turn was initially slow so the mizzen sheet was released to increase the rate of turn. As this was done it was observed that the other vessel had turned to port and was now on a head-on collision course. The collision occurred at the vessel's bulwarks just to port of the bowsprit, and on the bowsprit of the other vessel. Bolt cutters were used to free the shroud from the other vessel's bowsprit. No injuries were caused.

Collision

At berth/marina/boat ramp, Bay of Plenty

| Vessel information | |
|--------------------|----------------|
| Type: | Recreational |
| Category: | Pleasure Yacht |
| Length (m): | <24 |
| Tonnage (tons): | |

A yacht collided with the starboard side of another vessel, with the anchor puncturing a hole approximately 1.5m above the other vessel's waterline.

Propulsion failure

Inshore waters, Southland

| Vessel information | |
|--------------------|--------------|
| Type: | Diving (SOP) |
| Category: | |
| Length (m): | <6m |
| Tonnage (tons): | |

Starboard engine seized after low oil pressure developed quickly from a failed balancer shaft gear, causing fibre pieces to travel through the engine and block the engine oil filter, causing damage to the powerhead. Vessel proceeded to travel back on the port engine.

Person overboard

At berth, Auckland

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

While returning to berth one male passenger decided to jump into the water. The MOB alarm was raised, a life ring was thrown overboard, and the boat reversed to retrieve them.

Injury Only

At berth,

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

An engineering company employee was commencing work on the vessel. While descending the first set of stairs their left foot slipped off the step, and their right foot slipped behind them and caught around the rungs and treads of the stairs.

Injury Only

At berth, Auckland

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

A passenger sitting in the rear of a courtesy van was injured when the vehicle stopped suddenly while travelling up a ramp approaching F-deck to avoid collision with a tow-ute travelling up to the next deck. The passenger was thrown forward and collided with the roof mounted air conditioning outlet, knocking them unconscious. Speed and failure to give-way were identified as possible contributing factors.

Propulsion failure

Offshore waters, Auckland

| Vessel information | |
|--------------------|------------------|
| Type: | NZ Cargo (NZISM) |
| Category: | Oil Tanker |
| Length (m): | >45m |
| Tonnage (tons): | >500t |

Main engine auto-stop after the high temperature cooling system tripped on overload. The vessel was not-under-command for twelve minutes.

Contact

Inshore waters, Bay of Plenty

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

The skipper took the vessel near shore to drop the anchor. Due to problems with the hydraulic clutch they decided to go forward and prepare the anchor so the clutch would be active for only a short time. However despite low revs the vessels moved forward further than expected and struck a rock. The vessel was floating free and as it was deemed likely there was only minor damage the skipper dropped anchor until morning.

Injury Only

At berth, Southland

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

Before lifting an empty net cage off the vessel the crane operator noticed two people on the wharf not involved with the loading. They yelled out for them to stand clear and they moved away. The lift commenced, however as they were swinging the load onto the wharf they noticed one person still on the wharf. The operator tried to avoid the person but the load swung and struck them on the head, causing a laceration that required 12 stitches.

Collision

At berth, Wellington

| Vessel information | |
|--------------------|---------------------|
| Type: | Foreign SOLAS (ISM) |
| Category: | Passenger |
| Length (m): | >45m |
| Tonnage (tons): | >500t |

Vessel came into contact with the shore ramp, damaging the bow, requiring a steel repair of 600mm by 400mm.

Propulsion failure

Inshore waters, Tasman

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

Vessel's main generator failed at sea while returning to port. The backup generator was used, but also failed while the vessel was approximately 9nm from shore. The engine was shutdown as it requires the generator for steering and water pump operation. Another vessel towed them to port, where a tug assisted with birthing.

Injury Only

A river, Bay of Plenty

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

After a detailed safety briefing and demonstration the guide asked clients to "paddle forward", then "get down", then "look down" before rafting over falls. On impact a passenger hit either the helmet or paddle of the person in front of them causing a 50mm vertical laceration to their eyebrow. First aid was given and after the trip they were taken for medical attention.

Contact

Inshore waters, Auckland

| Vessel information | |
|--------------------|---------------|
| Type: | NZ Passenger |
| Category: | Other Charter |
| Length (m): | <24m |
| Tonnage (tons): | |

Vessel ran over a rock in calm conditions in good visibility, causing damage to the starboard running gear.

Near miss / Close quarters

Hawkes Bay

| Vessel information | |
|--------------------|-----------------------|
| Type: | NZ Fishing (SSM/MOSS) |
| Category: | Trawler |
| Length (m): | |
| Tonnage (tons): | |

Trawler was in the process of shooting trawl gear, with the net and sweeps shot, with only the trawl doors to be lowered to allow towing to commence. Moments before dropping the doors a recreational vessel approached and threatened to board the trawler and assault the skipper if they fished near the recreational vessel. The skipper of the trawler contacted the vessel via VHF to command them to maintain a steady distance as the vessel was restricted in their ability to alter course.

Injury Only

Inshore waters, Wellington

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

While hauling in the bottom line after the main line had been cleared the buoy line wrapped around the deck hand's left hand. The rope twisted around four fingers, which dragged their hand into the block. Three figures were broken and one severely injured. An ambulance met the vessel at a berth

Propulsion failure

In harbour, Wellington

| Vessel information | |
|--------------------|-----------------------------|
| Type: | NZ Passenger (NZISM) |
| Category: | Passenger / Vehicular Ferry |
| Length (m): | >45m |
| Tonnage (tons): | >500t |

Loss of propulsion power to port shaft. Port shaft control lever put to stop position, propulsion motors re-started, and power to Port shaft restored. Suspected cause is intermittent fault in the power supply unit.

Mooring line failure

At berth, Southland

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

Vessel was in the process of departing the berth. However the night-line still attached snapped, with no injury or damage to vessel or wharf.

Collision

In harbour, Canterbury

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

While laying out an invasive species trap line along five poles of the mooring the wind and sea conditions pushed the vessel towards the last pole. The skipper corrected by putting on slight starboard wheel and applying power, however a gust of wind and a larger than normal wave kicked the stern to port, and causing the bow to head towards a moored yacht. Despite reverse gear the fairlead hit the rail stanchion of the yacht and broke it free. The impact was not especially heavy, but the yacht was used for accommodation, and so not maintained in sailing condition.

Mooring line failure

At berth, Taranaki

| Vessel information | |
|--------------------|---------------------|
| Type: | Foreign SOLAS (ISM) |
| Category: | Chemical Tanker |
| Length (m): | >45m |
| Tonnage (tons): | >500t |

After securing the ship on the berth the mooring bits on the stern collapsed while under normal tension.

Lifting / Cargo gear failure

At berth, Northland

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

The number one crane was being used to lower a vessel hatch, however the crane failed with the starboard side of the hatch cover still 1.5m from the deck. The stevedores were cleared from the area and the deck crew instructed to inspect the issue. The crew managed to lower the hatch by using the crane's jib down function. The crane's outer hoist wire sheaves then fell onto the deck, found to be due to a bearing failure.

Loss of stability

A lake, Bay of Plenty

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

While travelling on the lake at 12kts with 15kt winds and waves of half a metre the weather picked up while traveling with a tail wind. A wave caused the bow of the vessel to dig into a wave, causing the stern of the vessel to lift. The skipper quickly moved a number of passengers to the stern to regain stability. No injuries caused.

Propulsion failure

Inshore waters, Auckland

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

Engine overheated just off a point, so the engine was shut down and the anchor laid. The wind was blowing the vessel towards the lee shore, so the crew spoke with passengers and asked for a Coastguard tow on CH16. The anchor dragged and the winch jammed on retrieval so was cut and buoyed to be picked up the following day. The problem was found to be seaweed blocking the jet intake.

Chemical or harmful substance spill

At berth, Southland

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

During vessel preparations bilge water was being transferred to the sewerage system when a bilge alarm sounded. On investigation the sewerage system was found to be overflowing into the hold and through the toilets onto the deck. The system was isolated and shore connections checked to identify why the holding tanks were not pumping to shore facilities. Faults were found in the on board sewerage pump and a slight blockage found in the shore valve connections. The bilge areas were pumped out via a pump truck and affected areas cleaned down.

Lifting / Cargo gear failure

At berth, Auckland

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

A crane was moving approximately 8 tons of cargo from the number two hold. The wire broke, and the grab fell approximately 6m into the hold, falling clear of the three staff working in the hold. No injuries were caused, however the grab appeared to sustain damage.

Steering gear failure

Inshore waters, Marlborough

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

Vessel's steering locked up, so sails were dropped and engine started to try and manoeuvre away from shore. The skipper couldn't regain steerage so dropped anchor and made a mayday call. The skipper made contact with their office approximately twenty minutes later and were advised to check for any objects fouling the steering mechanism, then if the autopilot was on and what the display said at the helm. It displayed "auto" so they were instructed to press "standby", which caused the steering to return. The mayday was cancelled and the vessel continued.

Contact

Inshore waters, Bay of Plenty

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

Vessel pulled up to the line to die down a broken strop on a float. There was a small boat tied onto the end float, which the aquaculture vessel collided with after going astern to back out of the farm after fixing the broken float. The small boat was pushed backwards and took on a small amount of water. The vessel pulled up next to them to check they hadn't sustained any breaches or injuries.

Injury Only

Inshore waters, Bay of Plenty

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

Crew had finished putting on a float and proceeded to leave the mussel line. The vessel slowed down, and a crew member may have thought it was to put another float on. They had thrown the grapple, however the vessel accelerated, and as the crew member tried to regather the grapple it pulled tight and caught their fingers between the rope and the gantry.

Equipment Failure

Inshore waters, Hawkes Bay

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

While undertaking a tow of the trawl the engine revs were observed to drop. On inspecting the engine room it was found the floor boards were floating. Entering the room water was up to the skipper's knee, so the engine was turned off, which stopped the water coming in. They were assisted by another vessel to pump the water out, and the vessel was towed to port. Inspection found the cause of the leak was a crack in a copper pipe between the a pump and the heat exchanger, which let in water while the engine was in operation.

Collision

Inshore waters, Tasman

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

Travelling yacht collided port bow to port bow with a yacht at anchor after failing to see the anchor or navigation lights of the other yacht. The yacht was travelling at an estimated 30-40kph. One on board the travelling yacht was knocked unconscious, with damage to both yachts caused, but neither taking on water. Both passengers were also using the side windows to assist in navigation, with GPS backlight possibly affecting visibility.

Near miss / Close quarters

In harbour, Auckland

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

A ferry leaving a river for the harbour was positioned to make a port-to-port pass with another vessel. The ferry then made alteration of course to port, cutting in front of the other vessel and another ferry operating in the harbour. The ferry then made a course change to starboard, again cutting in front of both vessels at speed.

Collision

In harbour, Gisborne

| Vessel information | |
|--------------------|-----------------------|
| Type: | Recreational |
| Category: | Power boat / jet boat |
| Length (m): | |
| Tonnage (tons): | |

Vessel collided with a large yacht, sustaining damage including a crack in the hull. The yacht subsequently sailed off.

Propeller entangled

Offshore waters, Auckland

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

While steaming the skiff transfer cable fell off the stern of the skiff, which sits on the stern of the purse seiner. When the vessel stopped to drop anchor and went astern the loose wire wrapped around the shaft. This wasn't realised until the crew tried to put the ship in gear the following morning and the engine kept stalling. Divers inspected the damage and the ship was towed to port for further inspection.

Propulsion failure

A river, Southland

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

Vessel suffered an engine failure on a straight forward section of the river. The crew on board secured the boat at a suitable spot for disembarking the passengers, however the river at the scene was too shallow for a second boat transfer so the passengers were evacuated by helicopter.

Collision

At berth, Waikato

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

Vessel was coming into berth, the skipper lined up the boat and put it into neutral. They then put the boat into what they thought was reverse, and when the vessel didn't slow they increased revs. The vessel was however in forwards and hit the wharf dead centre, hitting the stem and chain. After the passengers were checked and disembarked an inspection was made and the incident discussed with the skipper.

Propulsion failure

In harbour, Bay of Plenty

| Vessel information | |
|--------------------|---------------------|
| Type: | Foreign SOLAS (ISM) |
| Category: | Tanker |
| Length (m): | >45m |
| Tonnage (tons): | >500t |

During departure and after the tug was released, the pilot was told that the engines could not develop enough power to overcome the 2.4 knot flood tide and 8 knot westerly wind. The tug was used to assist the vessel round the corner. The tug was released when the vessel straightened up and the Captain advised that they would stop the ship and rectify the engine problem when well clear of land.

Grounding

In harbour, Marlborough

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

Vessel grounded at low tide, suspected to be from build-up in the channel after recent flooding.

Fire

Inshore waters, Bay of Plenty

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

Crew heard a low voltage alarm and the engine turned off. The engine was restarted, followed by an engine alarm, and smoke from the transom area. The fire extinguisher was used to put out the small fire, believed to be electrical.

Collision

Waikato

| Vessel information | |
|--------------------|-------|
| Type: | |
| Category: | Canoe |
| Length (m): | |
| Tonnage (tons): | |

Two students in a canoe crashed into a log, with them both abandoning the vessel as it was being held down by river flow pressure. Neither were injured, and they relocated to two other canoes.

Collision

Inshore waters, Auckland

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

Approximately 500m from shore a recreational vessel ran over the back of another, causing one on board to go overboard. Another boat going past picked up the overboard person, who suffered minor injuries.