



Accident, incident, and mishap notification

February 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 (1-30 February 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.

Propulsion failure

At berth, Waikato

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

After launching, the vessel came to a sudden halt with engine failure. Attempts to get the engine running again failed so assistance was called from the Coastguard.

Propulsion failure

In harbour, Canterbury

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

Departing port in 35-40kt winds and 3-4m swell, the main engine clutch disengaged unexpectedly. The chief engineer was able to re-engage the clutch approximately 55 minutes later. Decision made to continue seaward then return to port when conditions eased with a tug escort.

Injury Only

At berth, Hawkes Bay

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

A passenger tripped and fell at the bottom of the gangway while disembarking, breaking their ankle.

Injury Only

A river, Waikato

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

A passenger aggravated an old knee injury while going down a waterfall due to the stress of securing their body to the raft. The passenger was taken to the take-out point to be given first aid.

Injury Only

Inshore waters, Bay of Plenty

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

A crew member twisted their foot while descending the crew stairs between decks, causing a sprain and fracture.

Lifting / Cargo gear failure

At berth, Hawkes Bay

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

The runner wire on ship's crane number two broke while lifting logs onto the ship.

Injury Only

A river, Bay of Plenty

Vessel information	
Type:	Jet Boat (SOP)
Category:	
Length (m):	<24m
Tonnage (tons):	

Vessel was put into a spin after giving the passengers five seconds notice. On returning to base, it was found that one passenger had slid into another passenger during the spin, causing a shoulder injury to one of the passengers.

Propulsion failure

A lake, Waikato

Vessel information	
Type:	Power boat / jet boat
Category:	
Length (m):	<6m
Tonnage (tons):	

Boat was being used to tow a biscuit. The engine stopped, was restarted, then failed again and was unable to be restarted.

Mooring line failure

At berth, Auckland

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

Moored vessel came adrift and collided with another boat.

Injury Only

A river, Bay of Plenty

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

Two passengers fell out of the raft going into a waterfall eddy. One was rescued above the drop, the other swam over the drop, suffering a knee injury.

Propulsion Failure

A river, West Coast

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

Exiting a river the main engine developed a fault and stopped. The anchor was deployed and assistance from another vessel called for, who provided a tow to port. Wiring loom, synchronous sensor, and timing sensor replaced, with engine runs completed afterwards.

Equipment failure

At berth, Auckland

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

Tug was assisting the outgoing cargo vessel. Tug was going back on line to position itself to assist pulling the vessel off the berth. While going back the brakes came on, locking up the winch, and tearing the panama lead of the cargo vessel.

Propulsion Failure

In harbour, Auckland

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

Approaching a wharf, the port heat detector in the main engine fire alarm sounded. The skipper also observed a port main engine high oil temperature message on the display. A crew member checked the port engine room and found smoke. RPM on the port main engine was reduced to idle, with a low coolant message also illuminating at the same time. The vessel was manoeuvred to the wharf using the port engine as little as possible. Oil temperature was reducing from 114 degrees to the low 90s during this. The engine room was inspected, with a small amount of residual smoke found, and coolant over every surface with no coolant in the main tank.

Mooring line failure

At berth, Canterbury

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

Due to wind gusts of up to 57kts the stern line parted. Tugs were sent to assist the vessel and stood by until the weather abated.

Flooded

A river, Otago

Vessel information	
Type:	Power boat / jet boat
Category:	
Length (m):	<6m
Tonnage (tons):	

Jet boat had a weeping gland on jet unit. Normally the skipper would put the bilge pump on to remove water, however on this occasion, the skipper did not leave the pump running long enough before loading passengers. Jet boat subsequently sunk about 2 - 3 metres from shore. All passengers made it to shore with no injuries.

Injury Only

Inshore waters, Southland

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

A passenger reached the top of stairs and missed their step, falling onto the deck and fracturing their leg.

Injury Only

A river, Canterbury

Vessel information	
Type:	Jet Boat (SOP)
Category:	
Length (m):	<24m
Tonnage (tons):	

During the second spin of the trip, a passenger beside the driver slid to the right as they had not braced their feet in the footrest as requested during the earlier briefing. This passenger knocked another passenger beside them, causing them to move forward and strike their head.

Person overboard

Inshore waters, Bay of Plenty

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

While assisting a boat just off the breakers on a bar, a crew member slipped off the side of the vessel due to erratic waves.

Injury Only

Inshore waters, Tasman

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

Crew member disconnected a strop from the crane hook. While walking over bulk bags to get to the next task, they tripped and fell approximately 1m onto the crane control stand, landing on their back. They were taken to hospital for medical attention and observation.

Propulsion failure

Offshore waters,

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

Engine shut down due to failure of the fuel pump used to transfer the fuel to the main engine service tank.

Injury Only

At berth, Northland

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

Vessel was secured to allow refuelling. A crew member was standing by the fuel delivery station on the port side, with their hand on a stainless steel hand rail. The forward amidships line came tight across the top of the rail with movement of the vessel. The tip of one finger was caught between the line and the rail, causing injury.

Near miss / Close quarters

In harbour, Otago

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

Vessel's swing manoeuvre came close to a tug (10m) due to the turning circle size of the vessel.

Equipment failure

At berth, Taranaki

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

On departure, a gyro error of 15 degrees was observed. The settings were checked and it was found the system was set to magnetic.

Injury Only

A river, Bay of Plenty

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

Raft was leaving a waterfall eddy when the raft skimmed a rock wall. A passenger was holding their paddle on an angle and, as the raft bounced against the wall, the paddle flung back and their thumb was dislocated.

Lifting / Cargo gear failure

At berth, Bay of Plenty

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

Ship's crane number two was being prepared to hook up chain gear. When the hook was approximately 1.5m from the ground, the upper sheave disintegrated causing pieces of metal, including 9 large bearings, to fall.

Injury Only

At berth, Wellington

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

A passenger was riding a motorcycle on the main vehicle deck. The passenger was directed between two sets of lashing chains laid out on the deck. The passenger was then directed to turn into another lane. The passenger took a wider turn than expected, which took them over a chain, causing them to fall.

Propulsion failure

In harbour, Wellington

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

Diesel generator was on load on its own in port mode during turnaround. The engine tripped off, causing a complete loss of power. Investigation found there was a poor electrical connection on the governor. Governor flying leads were replaced and the diesel generator was back in service.

Fire

At berth, Marlborough

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

PVC tubes of cotton on the deck caught fire and smouldered, eventually setting off the smoke detection alarm, and alerting the crew, who were asleep with the vessel anchored. The crew extinguished the pile of cotton, with the source of ignition not found.

Collision

In harbour, Auckland

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

While backing into the wharf the vessel was faster than usual, with a wind gust hitting the vessel, causing the bow to move outward and the stern in. The stern went through a wooden fender.

Propulsion Failure

A river, Otago

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

Vessel suffered an engine failure while heading downstream. The anchor was thrown over the side, with the vessel drifting in a swift current for approximately 150m before the anchor grabbed. The passengers were then transferred to another boat. The main power feed to the fuel pump from the relay was found to have failed at a join. The join had been crimped and heat shrunk, rather than soldered.

Equipment failure

Inshore waters, Auckland

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

During passage, the starboard aft quarter upper deck life raft deployed unexpectedly, destroying the raft. Initial technical evidence suggest the hydrostatic release unit (HRU) may have gone off. This kind of incident, without pressure being applied to the unit, is considered rare by the contracted technicians, raising the question of a latent defect. Unit to be inspected.

Near miss / Close quarters

At berth, Hawkes Bay

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

Entering the basin, the vessel took a swing to port due to wind, resulting in a near miss with another large vessel. The vessel stopped by using engine, tug, and port anchor. A second tug was called and the vessel berthed.

Capsize

In harbour, Wellington

Vessel information	
Type:	Kayak / canoe
Category:	
Length (m):	
Tonnage (tons):	

Two kayaks in a guided group capsized and were subsequently rescued by a Police vessel.

Injury Only

Inshore waters, Northland

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

A passenger complained of chest pains. Vessel returned and was met by a paramedic and then an ambulance.

Contact

At berth, Auckland

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

Trainee master on approach to the wharf went to the starboard helm and switched over controls. The intention was to bring the vessel slowly along the wharf, however on approach the flood tide caused the bow to drift. Corrections were not sufficient, resulting in the starboard bow quarter belting contacting a wooden post on the wharf. Speed was 2-3kts, causing the pile to move an estimated 10 degrees.

Collision

Inshore waters, Auckland

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

A 14m launch passed within 10m of two rafts, at a speed estimated to be in excess of 18kts. The wake caused the rafts to collide, causing damage.

Near miss / Close quarters

In harbour, Auckland

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

Vessel operating at night was required to take immediate evasive action after sighting several small inflatable boats conducting a training exercise without lights on.

Propulsion failure

A river, Otago

Vessel information	
Type:	Jet Boat (SOP)
Category:	
Length (m):	
Tonnage (tons):	

Jet boat's starboard engine failed while travelling upstream. Skipper steered the boat into a pool on the remaining port motor and called for assistance. Passengers were transferred to another boat. Failure found to be due to a failure of the reflector wheel, causing a total loss of spark to the motor.

Injury Only

At berth, Hawkes Bay

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

A digger driver climbing down into a hold started to feel sick and light headed. They climbed straight back out but still felt sick and short of breath. Hold hatches were opened for 15-20 minutes.

Propulsion failure

At berth, Canterbury

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

Vessel's port main engine failed to fire astern while berthing. The starboard engine was used to continue.

Near miss / Close quarters

In harbour, Gisborne

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

Vessel inbound in the dark drifted to port, passing close to an outbound vessel. This forced the outbound vessel very close to the river wall.

Collision

A river, Waikato

Vessel information	
Type:	Jet Ski (PWC)
Category:	
Length (m):	
Tonnage (tons):	

A jet ski towing three people without a spotter crossed the bow of another boat. The three people being towed hit the left rear of the boat and were then dragged across the stern. All three people were taken to hospital.

Injury Only

In harbour, Northland

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

A crew member strained the side of their neck while securing vent flaps for sea. Treatment given at the next port.

Injury Only

Inshore waters, Northland

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

A passenger injured their back during passage. The skipper was informed and stopped the vessel to assess the passenger. The passenger was moved further aft and was later transferred to a larger vessel.

Contact

At berth, Auckland

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

Vessel berthing at a fuel pontoon was hit by a squall of 30+ kts. The port stern line was tied off as soon as possible, but the wind began to take the bow away from the wharf. As the vessel was moved ahead to secure the bow, the stern line slipped on the bollard, with the vessel moving away from the wharf and contacting another berthed vessel.

Injury Only

In harbour, Canterbury

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

While swimming a passenger swallowed sea water. Once back on board they started cough, so were checked by on board staff. As the coughing did not subside the vessel returned to base to have them assessed. After they experienced trouble breathing, emergency services were called.

Injury Only

At berth, Manawatu

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

Four crew members were moving the gangway ashore. A deckhand on the aft end of the gangway caught their hand between the top rail of the gangway and the guardrail, causing a fracture.

Propulsion failure

In harbour, Otago

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

Engine temperature alarm sounded, with investigation finding a cooling water hose had ruptured. The engine was shut down and another vessel called to provide a tow.

Contact

In harbour, Auckland

Vessel information	
Type:	Yacht (sail)
Category:	
Length (m):	<24m
Tonnage (tons):	

Yacht preparing to begin a race was 100m from the start line doing 5kts when they sighted a small anchored vessel ahead. An immediate turn to port was initiated, however the yacht made contact with the anchored boat, rubbing along the side. The yacht stopped to check for injuries or damage to either vessel.

Injury only

A river, Bay of Plenty

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

Raft flipped crossing a falls, with a passenger falling out, spending approximately 15 seconds under the waterfall before re-emerging in the pool. Passenger suffered a dislocated shoulder.

Injury Only

Offshore waters, Canterbury

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

Crew members were working on deck pushing remaining squid into the pound with their hands and feet. The hatch operator saw the crew stand up and thought they had finished the job. Hatch operator did not see one crew member still pushing squid. The crew member's hand was caught between the hatch door and the deck as the hatch closed, however there was enough room for crew member to free their hand. Plastic shovels to now be used to push fish into the pound.

Injury Only

A river, Bay of Plenty

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

Passengers briefed on the "get down" position prior to passing over a falls. However one rafter suffered a cut above their right eye after hitting the helmet of the passenger in front of them. First aid provided at base.

Injury Only

Inshore waters, Northland

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

While at anchor the skipper was stepping over the transom into the cockpit when they slipped and fell against the raised tiller arm. The tiller fell into the lowered position and trapped the skipper's fingers against the rudder stock, causing crushing and laceration to one finger. Coastguard transported the skipper to shore for treatment.

Propulsion failure

Inshore waters, Wellington

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

Vessel fuel log and tank dipping the previous day indicated the vessel would have sufficient fuel. Crew were unaware that 200 litres of fuel were stolen overnight, causing the vessel to run out of fuel during voyage. The anchor was dropped and Coastguard called to tow the vessel back to the landing area.

Fire

In harbour, Auckland

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

Smoke observed on board from smoldering insulation within the alternator of the training ship's engine. One dry powder fire extinguisher used to extinguish. Crew were evacuated to open decks.

Propulsion Failure

Inshore waters, Taranaki

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

Vessel carried out an astern test prior to arrival. During the test, the air start valve on the number 5 unit stuck open. This caused the air start bursting disks on 1, 2, 3, and 6 units, and the joint on the end of the starting manifold, to blow. The air starting valve was changed, the bursting disk safety covers were replaced, and a starting air leak test carried out. Engine was returned to bridge control and tested ahead and astern.

Other

In harbour, Northland

Vessel information	
Type:	Recreational
Category:	
Length (m):	<24m
Tonnage (tons):	

Top exhaust came away from the muffler, causing heat to be trapped inside the stack, resulting in charring and damage to light wiring.

Propulsion failure

In harbour, Wellington

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

Main engine 1 shutdown automatically due to a high oil mist alarm. At the time the engine was clutched in on the starboard shaft and was being used as a shaft generator. The shutdown resulted in a loss of electrical supply to the forward section of the main switchboard and propulsion to the starboard shaft. Main engine 3 was clutched in on the port shaft at the time. Cause appeared to be moisture/condensation build-up in the oil mist detector resulting in a false warning.

Collision

In harbour, Auckland

Vessel information	
Type:	Rigid inflatable boat (RIB)
Category:	
Length (m):	
Tonnage (tons):	

Operating on a dark night with a mobile phone for navigation, the skipper looked down to adjust the phone, went off course and, while reducing speed to try and find location, collided with a moored boat.