



Accident, incident, and mishap notification

April 2019



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 April 2019).

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

In harbour, Canterbury

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

Vessel was drifting for several hours while waiting for a berth at the port. When subsequently trying to proceed to pilot station crew found an issue with the main engine fuel filters. The ship had been rolling, which may have resulted in air locks in the fuel oil system. If the vessel had gone to anchor, this problem would probably not have occurred as the main engine would have been shut down and put on a period of notice. Fortunately, the wind and swell had died down, but the vessel was adrift, close to the NZ coast with the crew not knowing that the engine would not start.

Contact

In harbour, Northland

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

Vessel was preparing to berth alongside the commercial passenger pontoon when it contacted the Starboard Hand Mark knocking off the top mark and light. No damage to the vessel. At the time there was a strong cross current and wind pushing the vessel down. Skipper and two crew on-board. Reported to the Harbour Master.

Fire

Inshore, Southland

Vessel information	
Type:	Cray/Rock Lobster vessel
Category:	NZ Fishing (MOSS)
Length (m):	<24
Tonnage (tons):	

Fire started on board vessel which was put out by skipper. For fear of fire restarting the ship was evacuated and passengers transferred to another vessel. Ship was towed back into the harbour. No injuries or distress.

Injury Only

In harbour, Marlborough

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

Contractor working on ship has fallen several metres and suffered internal injuries.

Near miss/close quarters

Inshore, Auckland

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

Vessel en route to port altered course to avoid a fishing vessel. The crew then observed a previously unseen vessel shine a torch 20M ahead. The unidentified vessel was approaching the vessel and crossing the bow. The vessel did not show on radar and had no navigation lights until the torch was displayed. The master was given no time for evasive action. Preventative actions were taken by having crew on watch at the time. Safety alert sent to all masters.

Electrical power failure

Offshore, Taranaki

Vessel information	
Type:	Research vessel
Category:	NZ Cargo (ISM)
Length (m):	>45
Tonnage (tons):	>500

Person touched the meat slicer and received a minor electrical shock which felt like a static shock. When checking the machine found the plug looked corroded. The plug was replaced, tested and tagged. Another inspection of plug planned.

Fire

Offshore, Chatham Islands

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

Engineer found smoke was coming from the switch board after the refrigeration alarm was activated. Crew members were soon on standby with a fire extinguisher as the switch board breaker was turned off. The crew extinguished the small fire. The vessel returned to port as the damage could not be repaired.

Equipment failure

In harbour, Bay of Plenty

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

Observed Rate of Turn indicator not functioning, radars on head up un-stabilised display not displaying heading, all analogue gyro repeaters checked were not working, helmsman was using digital display on console. A technician had been requested to go to attend the vessel

Propulsion failure

River, Bay of Plenty

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

Vessel lost propulsion in the port engine due to fuel line cut off valve being turned and left off during an inspection the previous day. Vessel cleared entrance using starboard motor and the operator opened valve before resuming the trip.

Equipment failure

In harbour, Otago

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

On port entry the vessels port stabiliser failed to house resulting in the vessel aborting entry to resolve the issue. Engineers fixed the issue by manually over riding the system. After a 30 minute delay the vessel entered the port with no further issues.

Contact

Inshore, Southland

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

During a trip the bow of the vessel was placed under the waterfall so passengers could get a cup of fresh water from the waterfall. The vessel drifted too close and made contact with the side putting a slight mark/dent in the mid section of the bow. At the time 48 people were on board.

Steering gear failure

Inshore, Auckland

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

Ferry lost steering after departing the ferry basin with 31 passengers on board. The master slowed the vessel and informed the passengers that there was a technical issue. The deckhand investigated and found a loss of hydraulic oil from the steering reservoir. The master reported back to base and informed the passengers that they would return to port and they would be transferred to the next service. Further investigation found a split hydraulic line on the port side tiller flat. All hoses were replaced.

Contact

In harbour, Auckland

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

As the ferry approached the terminal the ramp was lowered prematurely resulting in the ramps finger flaps contacting the concrete landing. It was noticed two of the four finger flaps were damaged. Upon inspection there was no other damage found on the ramp and repairs were planned for the finger flaps.

Extreme vessel movement

In harbour, Northland

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

While steaming up stream at low knts, a racing catamaran passed the starboard side at a distance of 60 to 70 mtrs at an estimated speed in excess of 80 knots

Collision

In harbour, Auckland

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

After locating an orange mooring buoy to the west of the wharf the operator put the engine to astern for a couple seconds before selecting neutral and heading back to the central helm station to take control. Unbeknownst to the operator the throttle was not in neutral, as it was dark they did not realise the vessel was moving with little astern momentum meaning the rear starboard duckboard made contact with the wharf. Vessel was driven slowly away while a deck hand inspected the vessel for damage of which there was none found. On further inspection a slight dent was found in the starboard duckboard. No passengers were injured.

Propulsion failure

In harbour, Northland

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

On departure the vessel failed to fire astern when pilot ordered dead slow astern. Tugs informed and put on standby. Engine then fired astern and vessel departed with tugs giving an escort with no further incident. Problem thought to be an air pressure issue.

Fire

In harbour, Southland

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

A small fire was discovered by a crewman in the port side engineers' store. The crewman immediately went to the bridge and announced 'fire' over the ship's PA system. Two crew grabbed fire extinguishers and put out the fire straight away. The Captain on the bridge ordered the fire hose and pump to be deployed as a standby backup which was not required. The fire was fully extinguished by the two crew using fire extinguishers. The suspected cause is an electrical fire but shore side electricians have been called to the vessel to determine the exact cause and to effect all repairs necessary.

Chemical or harmful substance spill

In harbour, Canterbury

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

While in the compressor room a contractor cut into an air purge pipe realising ammonia into the atmosphere triggering the ammonia alarms. Heads of departments notified and investigation carried out.

Grounding

Inshore, Southland

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

Whilst approaching a secure anchorage at dead low tide the Skipper misjudged the very narrow entrance and came into contact with the bottom. A bump was felt on board but the vessel continued forward without hesitation and rode over the obstacle into deeper water. The vessel was immediately dived on and there was slight impact damage and polishing to the very underside of the keel. An internal hull inspection was also carried out immediately.

Propulsion failure

In harbour, Auckland

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

During final approach to berth engine failed to fire ahead due to one of two engine air blowers failing. Ship berthed "dead ship" with aid of two tugs.

Equipment failure

Inshore, Southland

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

The rudder was put hard over to starboard but remained to port. Engines were used to maintain steerage. The helm was finally brought to midships and the vessel safely berthed using the engines. Investigation showed the port relay had burnt out.

Equipment failure

Inshore, Auckland

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

While inspecting ballast tank traces of Heavy Fuel Oil were found. There was a leak found coming from Heavy Fuel Oil tank. The oil was contaminated with ballast water. The tank was isolated to prevent further contamination. Relevant personnel informed

Injury Only

Inshore, Auckland

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

A member of the crew was walking across the deck and into the cabin when they misplaced their foot on the edge of the wheelchair ramp, rolling their ankle. First aid was administered and the crew member was taken to hospital for X-Rays.

Equipment failure

Inshore, Wellington

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

On entrance to the Marina the port motor water pump drive belt slipped off the drive pulley causing the over heat warning to come on. On closer inspection the idler pulley centre bolt had failed.

Collision

River, Manawatu-Wanganui

Vessel information	
Type:	Canadian Canoe
Category:	Recreational
Length (m):	N/A
Tonnage (tons):	

Kayak was crashed into a tree

Injury Only

In harbour, Auckland

Vessel information	
Type:	Bulk carrier
Category:	NZ Cargo (ISM)
Length (m):	>45
Tonnage (tons):	>500

Crew member injured after opening highly pressurised door. Crew member was disobeying orders.

Injury Only

Inshore, Southland

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

Passenger tripped over sea sill. Prior to arrival of the helicopter and medical team the patient was made as comfortable as possible. Passenger transferred by helicopter to hospital.

Collision

In harbour, Southland

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

A vessel was shifting wharf when the tide was going out. It had to berth behind 2 other vessels. The captain took two attempts, on second attempt it was left going astern until 10M off wharf but tide prevented slowing down even with full power. The vessel hit the wharf with the bow of vessel above water line. Nobody was hurt but superficial damage to vessel.

Injury Only

River, Canterbury

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

When the vessel went over a feature the guide was flung forward from their seat but stayed in the vessel. This over-extended their knee and strained it. Vessel stopped on the side and the guide was carried up to an access 4x4 track and was driven out to base.

Injury Only

In harbour, Wellington

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

First engineer was working in the hydraulic room when they slipped due to oil on their boot after treading in some hydraulic oil residue. They then called on the UHF radio and advised the officer on watch who found the engineer lying on their back with suspected broken femur. Due to the angle of dislocation on the left leg, and information given about the time of the fall paramedics were called in. The engineer was kept comfortable and stable until they arrived. All medical treatment was administered by paramedics.

Equipment failure

Inshore, Northland

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

Skipper noticed a vibration when close to berth. Continued to berth and disembarked passengers. Proceeded out to clear waters with one crew member before entering the water to inspect foil between hulls. Inspection found strut had come away at the base where it attached to the foil. Vessel berthed before being lifting out for the strut to be re-fixed.

Injury Only

Inshore, Nelson

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

As the crew were mooring vessel a passing vessel's wake caused the vessel to surge slightly towards the wharf catching a crew member between the forward davit and timber wharf. The engines were used to skew the vessel away from the wharf and to relieve the situation. The crew member suffered a slight crush to their chest and shoulder area but continued with normal activities. The crew member was monitored for the rest of the day before going for a medical check up the following day.

Injury Only

In harbour, Hawke's Bay

Vessel information	
Type:	Line fishing vessel
Category:	NZ Fishing (MOSS)
Length (m):	<45
Tonnage (tons):	<500

A hook got caught in the hauling station breaking free and striking an operator in the eye 10M away. The operator removed the hook from their eye in shock and proceeded to the bridge for assistance. The skipper and mate attended to the crewman and headed for port to get them to the hospital for further care.

Propulsion failure

In harbour, Southland

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

While vessel was underway and making way in a harbour, vessel lost propulsion due to fuel starvation caused by the failure of a quick release valve in the forward settling tank. Vessel was anchored before power was restored. The vessel was brought back alongside under own propulsion.

Equipment failure

In harbour, Bay of Plenty

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

Whilst at berth the confirm light on the end of ships crane fell while slinging in to the hold. It was suspected that it was a maintenance issue with fittings. No one in the vicinity of fallen light. The working cranes were seized and are undergoing repairs.

Equipment failure

In harbour, Taranaki

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

The cause is a communications fault between valves for the port/starboard tanks allowing more product to go into one side. They have overridden the valve. They are warming up a separate ballast pump and will transfer ballast to even the load out. [Hard to follow]

Contact

In harbour, Auckland

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

As a vessel headed for berth heard a single blast of a horn from a vessel that was berthed. As the vessel was already on approach it had sounded a single blast of its horn. As the vessel approached the area abeam to the berthed vessel it engaged its engines effecting the vessel's approach causing it to be pushed sideways into a berth. The approach was aborted until the other vessel had left. It then continued to berth and be secured to the wharf. as contact was made with the other berth the crew checked that all passengers were okay and it was reported there were no injuries. The passengers disembarked and the vessel was then checked. [Hard to follow]

Collision

Inshore, Auckland

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

A tug was tasked with moving a vessel from one mooring to another after the vessel broke from original moorings. The weather picked up as the tug got alongside. Before a tow line was attached to remove it from the mooring a swell came from the port side and threw the tug into the bow rail starboard side light of the moored vessel which smashed the starboard window of the tug. The vessel was pulled away and glass was cleaned up.

Fire

River, Manawatu-Wanganui

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

Heading down stream with full boat of people. The operator smelt smoke coming from under the floor so aimed out of rapid, shut engine off and made sure everyone was ok. They opened the engine bay with small extinguisher ready and found a fire. They put out as much fire as they could before closing the bonnet and pulled engine bay fire extinguisher. They radioed for help and swam boat ashore, loaded everyone off and moved boat away from customers

Injury Only

Inshore, Hawke's Bay

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

A deckhand slipped while preparing dinner and sliced their thumb with a kitchen knife. The Captain and Vessel Manager made the decision to bring the boat in to port so that they could receive medical attention to clean and dress the cut properly.

Equipment failure

In harbour, Southland

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

Starboard Bridge Wing Main Engine Indicator not Working. An indicator on the Starboard Engine/Thruster control panel is not working. Informed Master to brief Pilots at Master/Pilot exchange that indicator is not operational. Master hopes to have indicator repaired when next in port

Fire

Inshore, Auckland

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

As the ferry approached the berth with passengers on board, a fire alarm sounded in the star board engine room. The Master looked on the CCTV screens but could not see any smoke or fire. The engineer investigated and found no fire but discovered a coolant hose leak that has created heat and steam activating the fire alarm. The vessel was removed from service and the hose repaired.

Contact

Inshore, Canterbury

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

Vessel scraped rock on return to port

Injury Only

River, Manawatu-Wanganui

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

The vessel is installed with a windscreen that is on hydraulic struts so it can be lifted up out of the way and stay up. During a trip it encountered a wake from another boat. The operator slowed down but not enough and the boat hit hard on the water. The hydraulic struts have broken at the clips and the windscreen fell back onto passengers. The supporting bar hit their heads and caused one passenger to appear to lose consciousness. The boat was pulled over right away and everything moved out of the way so the situation could be assessed. Concussion procedures were carried out on the passengers. The windscreen was latched on and the boat continued to the landing. Once all customers were off the boat the passenger was checked again for concussion. Customer was followed up with the next day. New struts will need to be installed. Until new struts and a better locking mechanism is sorted this vessel's windscreen will be removed to prevent it happening again.

Collision

Inshore, Auckland

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

Vessel impacted a port channel marker. Vessel is stopped and Master navigates back to confirm that marker was hit. Master follows SOP and notifies harbour control and operations. The passengers were informed and an engineer inspects void spaces with no internal damage found. The vessel returns to port and passengers disembarked with the vessel being removed from service pending inspection. Incident investigation launched.

Collision

Inshore, Auckland

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

Pilot vessel made contact with a buoy whilst taking a pilot out to a waiting ship. All crew safe and vessel able to return to berth. Initial inspection indicates no hull damage but minor damage to starboard propeller.

Collision

Inshore, Waikato

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

While an estimated 20M off shore a vessel hit a submerged rock while doing approx 10 knots. Visual inspection appeared to show no damage. The vessel continued at very low speed into the harbour. The vessel was taken out of water. The propeller was damaged. There were two people on board but neither had any injuries.

Person Overboard

Lake, Waikato

Vessel information	
Type:	Recreational Kayak
Category:	Recreational
Length (m):	N/A
Tonnage (tons):	

A group of kayakers decided to return to base but as turning one passenger fell overboard, thought to have been clowning around. On trying to re-enter the kayak the second passenger fell in causing the kayak to capsize. A passing vessel assisted the passengers by taking them to the wharf. No injuries sustained.

Collision

Lake, Otago

Vessel information	
Type:	Personal Water Craft
Category:	Recreational
Length (m):	N/A
Tonnage (tons):	

In the middle of racing, the racing vessel hit the wake of fellow competitors. The vessel bounced side to side throwing the driver and crew into the water. Safety boat and fellow competitor arrived at scene within 15 seconds of incident and gave assistance. Race was stopped. Rescue boat with Promed paramedic and diver was on site within 2 minutes where crew were assessed.

Contact

In harbor, Marlborough

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

Vessel was drifting with the wind after coming from the wharf. An unnoticed wind gust blew the vessel into a moored vessel damaging the starboard bow rail on the moored vessel. The other vessel was not damaged.

Injury Only

Beyond Offshore, Bay of Plenty

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

Contractor fell while on the ship causing injury to their knee. Taken to hospital on arrival at port.