



Accident, incident, and mishap notification

Monthly Summary
November 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 (1-30 November 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.

Near miss / Close quarters

At sea, Auckland

Vessel information	
Type:	Recreational
Category:	Yacht
Length (m):	<45m
Tonnage (tons):	

A yacht sailing at 6kts with the wind off their port beam observed a fast moving craft directly ahead travelling at least 25kts. The yacht had full sail and was not under motor, so was the stand on boat. As it became clear that there was no averting action from the boat ahead and that a collision was imminent the skipper took averting action by steering to starboard so as to pass port to port. At the same time the oncoming boat appeared to notice the yacht and initially steered in the wrong direction, making the situation worse. They then quick and sharply veered to starboard, passing at speed within 10m of the yacht's port side.

Contact

Inshore waters, Auckland

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

Whilst barging a 44ft launch into a berth at a marina contact was made with a bow sprit of a berthed launch. The bowsprit punctured the port side quarter window, shattering the safety glass. Contact was also made with a berthed yacht. The port aft cleat jammed under the yachts starboard quarter rubbing strake and approximately 600mm of wooden, rubbing strake capping was broken away.

Propulsion failure

Inshore waters, Auckland

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

Vessel lost steering underway, but not making way, and the vessel then drifted with current (approximately 2 knots) with starboard tender bracket making contact with the wharf. The skipper ran to engine room, shutdown engines, started back up engines and regained steering which then tested fine. Fault has now been identified and rectified.

Collision

Inshore waters, Bay of Plenty

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

Upon completion of dredging the drag head caught a buoy. The current had taken hold on the vessel, as there was very shallow water on the port side there was no possibility to make a starboard turn to avoid the buoy. The buoy was stuck in the drag head and was landed on deck, and an immediate report was transmitted to port radio informing them the buoy was on deck.

Injury Only

Inshore waters, West Coast

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

Crew started to haul up the gear after moving the door to the side of the vessel and connecting the safety chain. A crew member was holding the door into allow it to be lowered into its seat. The door caught on the edge then slipped off the seat, crushing the crew member's hand between the door and the side of the vessel.

Propulsion failure

Inshore waters, Canterbury

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

Vessel ran out of fuel on the return journey after assisting with the recovery operation of a sunken vessel. The distance and time on station was found to be more than expected, with the fuel situation apparent to the crew on the return journey. A company vessel was put on standby, and then called to assist when the fuel was exhausted.

Grounding

Inshore waters, Auckland

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

During a beach pick up the vessel was being maneuvered toward the shore. Light wave action caused the vessel to surge forward, the stern lifted and then came back down. The Port outboard struck the sand with some sideways thrust causing the outboard skegg fin to snap off. The engine was raised and the propeller inspected, with no other damage to the prop, however the damage to the skegg fin was not evident until some days later.

Collision

In harbour, Bay of Plenty

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

Crew underestimated the force of the current, and it took hold of the vessel and pushed it in the direction of a buoy. They tried to back the stern away from the buoy, together with hoisting the dredge pipe out of the water, but did not manage to do so in time to avoid a collision. The buoy was stuck in the dredge pipe and was cut loose. It started to drift so a report was made on the port radio advising the buoy was drifting.

Equipment failure

At berth, Auckland

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

Vessel was alongside boarding passengers prior to departure when the fire alarm sounded. The vessel master made a passenger announcement and passengers were off loaded without incident. The cause of the fire alarm was investigated and found to be a faulty saltwater pump on the port main engine. Shore based maintenance team removed the saltwater pump and replaced with a reconditioned unit.

Injury Only

At berth, Auckland

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

A possibly intoxicated passenger tripped over a door sill, fell forward, and landed on their left arm, possibly causing a fracture. Crew are trained on how to recognise the signs of intoxication and act accordingly, however an assessment of how large groups of intoxicated passengers are moved will be conducted.

Flooded

At berth, Auckland

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

The boat was on its mooring, and started taking on water. Four people assisted by the police launch began getting the water out. A repair to a pipe stopped the water coming in, with pumping and bailing continued until all the water was removed.

Equipment failure

In harbour, Auckland

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

During departure the master transferred controls from port wing to centre console. Controls failed to transfer. Master returned to port wing to regain control and found the command request button stuck down. Switch re-operated and freed up and control regained. Maintenance was advised and lubricated the switch with no further issue.

Contact

Offshore waters, Northland

Vessel information	
Type:	Unpowered Recreational
Category:	Unpowered Recreational - Sea Kayak
Length (m):	<6m
Tonnage (tons):	

A group of sea kayaks came into close proximity to a large powered vessel. After rounding a cape the kayakers sighted the vessel and took avoiding action, however they believe the powered vessel intentionally changed course to bear down on them.

Propulsion failure

Offshore waters, Canterbury

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

Main engine lost power due to an exhaust valve failure on cylinder one.

Contact

In harbour, Bay of Plenty

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

The current took a hold of the vessel and pushed it in direction of a buoy after the master underestimated the force of the current. The buoy became stuck in the draghead, with the crew able to put the buoy undamaged back in position.

Propulsion failure

In harbour, Auckland

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

Approximately 30 minutes into the trip and travelling at a speed of 11 knots the port gearbox seized as a result of overheating. The seals burst causing gearbox oil to spill into the engine room. It was not known if this was a result of the stern leg striking an object but on later investigation it was deemed mechanical failure. The vessel was turned around and motoring back on the starboard engine. The vessel has since been out of the water where an inspection was carried out showing the cause as mechanical failure and likely due to the high engine hours (approximately 800).

Equipment failure

In harbour, Bay of Plenty

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

At the final stages of berthing, with both tugs pushing vessel onto berth, the main engine twice failed to fire astern when requested. Tugs were repositioned to stop headway and engine not used again.

Injury Only

At sea, Canterbury

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

A crew member lost two fingers in an on-board accident. A helicopter evacuation was not required so the vessel steamed to port.

Injury Only

At berth, Bay of Plenty

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

After discharging bitumen, the deck gear man was getting ready to blow the line with air. The air hose was connected and the valves opened, at that time some bitumen splashed out from the air connection and made contact with the crew member's hand. The bitumen was not boiling hot, there was no rupture of the skin and no visible signs of burns. First aid was given, the area was soaked with ice cold water and after the area was completely cooled the bitumen carefully removed.

Equipment failure

In harbour, Auckland

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

During outward transit of the starboard main engine developed a fault and was shut down. The vessel continued on other main engine until clear of the buoy. Harbour control was advised and the vessel re-entered the harbour under one main engine with thrusters available.

Flip/Overturn

A river, Manawatu

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

Raft went to go to the left of the middle rock at the top of a rapid. The raft did not make it all the way past and flipped, and the guide landed on a rock.

Grounding

A river, Otago

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

Two crewmen were ferrying aboard tender (RIB) from shore to dredge. They slowed as approaching a rapid but struck a submerged rock mid river. The tender slewed sideways and tipped the non-driver overboard. The immediately stood up on the rock and re-boarded the tender. No injuries were sustained and the tender was cleared from the rock with minor hull damage.

Contact

At berth/marina/boat ramp, Northland

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

A catamaran was tied up at a marina when those on board heard a shout of “you are going to hit, you are going to hit”, with the boat then sustaining an impact from an outbound vessel. Those on board the catamaran went to the starboard rail and found a motor yacht sliding down the side of their boat.

Contact

At berth, Auckland

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

Vessel approached the wharf from the harbour entrance, moving with the tide. The vessel drew parallel with another vessel, and reversed into berth. The vessel was secured at the aft port quarter to the wharf pile. The tide flow caused the bow to swing towards the other vessel, with the bow rail striking the other vessel's anchor.

Equipment failure

In harbour, Hawkes Bay

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

Engine rev counters on the bridge and bridge wing found to not be working. The vessel departed without incident.

Injury Only

A river, Manawatu

Vessel information	
Type:	Kayak / Canoe
Category:	SG Adventure Activity - Sit-on-top-Kayak
Length (m):	
Tonnage (tons):	

A woman fell from their kayak 400m below the launch site and was trapped under a willow tree. Her partner held her head out of the water until an off-duty policeman and a ranger could launch a jetboat and rescue her.

Injury Only

Inshore waters, Tasman

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

The chief engineer and 2nd engineer were using a hot water and chemical solution for cleaning. The cleaning had finished and the chief engineer was flushing the pump unit with hot water when the 2nd engineer stepped in front of the hose, which resulted in hot water entering his boot. The 2nd engineer was taken back to land as a precaution where medical attention was given where he was discharged within a couple of hours.

Propulsion failure

Inshore waters, Otago

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

Engines began surging after the vessel entered a bay. Another operator was contacted and the passengers were offloaded. Berthing without passengers on board was conducted without incident. It was found that the surging was due to low fuel, with the on-board readings found to be inaccurate. Standard procedures were modified, with the vessel now to be fuelled more frequently.

Contact

Inshore waters, Bay of Plenty

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

Draghead caught the anchor line of a temporary buoy. The buoy was repositioned by the vessel and port radio was informed.

Propulsion failure

Inshore waters, Bay of Plenty

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

Main engine lost oil pressure and stopped.

Mooring line failure

At berth/marina/boat ramp, Auckland

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

Mooring broke and the yacht came ashore. The crew were able to set anchors out from the beach and re-float the yacht as tide came in. No hull breach occurred.

Hit submerged Object

At berth, Gisborne

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

Owner was notified that the moored vessel was listing badly to port. Investigation of the 45 degree list found all compartments clear of water. The starboard water tank was filled to correct the list, without success. Heavy roped were attached to the vessel from the wharf to arrest the list. Investigation found the vessel was hung up under the starboard rolling chock on a submerged broken pile. At high tide the vessel drifted free and was relocated.

Person overboard

Inshore waters, Southland

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

A crew member on board tried to move a tender out of the way so that a small vessel in the water could be tied to the stern. While the tender was being moved the main vessel was put in gear to straighten it up and prevent it from drifting in windy conditions. The move cause the boom that secured the tenders on the back when towing moved out and nudged the crew member into the water. They were not harmed and were quickly picked up by the other small vessel.

Flip/Overturn

At berth/marina/boat ramp, Southland

Vessel information	
Type:	NZ Non-passenger (SSM/MOSS)
Category:	
Length (m):	<6m
Tonnage (tons):	

The vessel was tied on to a continuous mooring in a sheltered cove. Increasing high winds developed into a northerly storm in the evening/overnight. The next morning the wind died and it was discovered that the vessel had been flipped on its mooring by waves in the night. The moorings had held and the vessel was floating upside down in the now calm cove. One pontoon had burst from chaffing on a rope while capsized and the motor was submerged. The crew righted the boat and removed the motor, which was flushed with fresh water and sent to the mainland for inspection. The vessel was towed to a ramp and the chattels were retrieved from the shore and the sea bed under the mooring.

Injury Only

A river, Manawatu

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

A person with a freedom hire canoe group dived into the river and dislocated their shoulder. He set off his PLB and was helicoptered out.

Propulsion Failure

In harbour, Auckland

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

Vessel at 5.6kts in channel making way for berth and at reduced speed the main engine failed when inbound. Vessel used bow thruster and head way to maintain position in channel. An outbound vessel was advised and a tug made fast to the stern to maintain the vessel's position in the channel. The main engine was restarted and the vessel proceeded inbound with one tug fast and the engine on engine control at reduced speed of 8kts.

Injury Only

A river, Manawatu

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

A person on board sprained their shoulder paddling while going through a rapid. They couldn't continue because of the pain so were evacuated.

Injury Only

At berth, Waikato

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

After tying off (forward and aft), crew member was assisting the parents in removing PFD's off 2 infants, when another passenger stepped off the bow (unassisted). He didn't factor in the slight boat movement and one foot missed the dock causing him to make contact with his chin on the dock surface.

Injury Only

Inshore waters, Auckland

Vessel information	
Type:	NZ Hovercraft (SOP)
Category:	
Length (m):	<24m
Tonnage (tons):	

The skipper moved from the helm to pick up the rescue bridge as part of an exercise. The vessel has lower headroom from the helm to where the bridge was stored, and the skipper struck their head directly on the padded head board, causing whiplash. He had a cap on which impaired his height peripheral vision.

Near miss / Close quarters

Inshore waters, Northland

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

On approach to the harbour the skipper observed surfers on the break close to the channel, but could see they were not in the channel. Aware of the possibility there may be surfers not visible to them they sounded the air horn to alert anyone in the vicinity that they were entering the approach to the bar. Seeing their way was clear they picked a wave to run with. As it was low tide the waves were breaking across the bar and the vessel was restricted to the channel by draft. The skipper sounded the horn for a minimum of one minute, and proceeded in on the back of a wave, which restricts the visibility ahead, hence the reason for fitting a warning horn. During this manoeuvre a surfer appeared directly ahead and within two boat lengths causing the skipper to cut the throttle and swerve to avoid running him over. The deceleration caused the vessel to come off the wave to a stop and the following wave caused the vessel to broach and spin off towards the rocks. Vessel was reversed back away from the rocks and checking the passengers and the surfer were all ok, proceeded down the harbour

Hit submerged Object

A river, Otago

Vessel information	
Type:	Jet Boat (SOP)
Category:	Not selected
Length (m):	<6m
Tonnage (tons):	

Crew member was testing a jet boat after repair, with the company not operating commercially due to the river being in flood. As the boat was driven around the submerged jetty area contact was made with the submerged power box, causing a split in the hull. He immediately returned the boat to its trailer and to the workshop for repair.

Capsize

Inshore waters, Chatham Islands

Vessel information	
Type:	NZ Diving (SOP)
Category:	Not selected
Length (m):	<6m
Tonnage (tons):	

Boat was caught by a wave from the stern, and the boat turned to port and capsized. Crew surfaced together and moved to shore. The boat's EPIRB was activated.

Extreme vessel movement

Waikato

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

Boat encountered a large wave when nearly through a bar crossing. The boat went over the wave and come off the other side with a bit of a drop. As the boat came off the wave two people on board fell to the floor, causing both to be injured.

Injury Only

In harbour, Canterbury

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

Shutting down at the end of the day a crew member opened a hatch to close the sea valves. The gas strut that held open the hatch failed, and the hatch fell on the crew member's head.