



Accident, incident, and mishap notification

Monthly Summary
February 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 (1-29 February 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.

Equipment failure

Offshore waters, West Coast

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

The port engine high temperature alarm sounded, the engine was declutched, and the engineers changed the fuel valve. This repair did not stop the high temperatures recurring, so the vessel was diverted to port for repairs.

Fire

At sea, Northland

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

The only crew member was hauling lines at night when the deck lights went out. They went to the wheel house and found there was no steering, noticed smoke, and lifting the engine room hatch could see smoke and flames. Due to the heat they were unable to access any emergency equipment, so got into their dinghy with an EPIRB, and rowed up wind of the vessel. Within 3-5 minutes the whole wheel house was in flames. They were picked-up approximately 30 minutes later and taken to hospital to be treated for smoke inhalation.

Contact

In harbour, Northland

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

Dinghy was at anchor 50-60m from the south west tip of an island in 10-15m of water. Sitting and fishing facing the stern they heard an engine noise coming from behind them, and turned to see a large sailing yacht bearing down on them 40-50m away. They shouted very loudly and often, but saw no one and had no response. The oncoming vessel struck their port side on an angle, pulling away the dinghy's fishing gear.

Contact

At berth/marina/boat ramp, Auckland

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

Approaching the wharf the crew threw a spring line to security, with the throw being short and the security person not able to catch it. The skipper put the engine in reverse but a north east wing got hold of the starboard broadside and pushed the boat towards the pontoon at an angle. The port aft side drifted into a pole on the pontoon, slightly damaging the boat. No damage was done to the pontoon. The skipper reversed the boat out of the wharf area and approached again.

Steering gear failure

In harbour, Auckland

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

While reversing out of the marina the starboard anchor point for the steering block let go. The block was made fast to the mooring cleft using a spring line. This gave limited steering, enough to return the vessel to the berth.

Collision

Inshore waters, Auckland

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

Vessel was leaving a cove anchorage towing an unmanned runabout because the wind had made the cove unsafe. With the night pitch black with no moon or stars the vessel was required to reverse quickly to avoid a reef. In doing so the vessel ran over the towed runabout, and as it was swamped and going down the crew released it to allow the larger vessel to move to safety. An extensive search was conducted, with the runabout later located by sonar in 60-80m of water.

Injury Only

Offshore waters, Bay of Plenty

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

The 3rd engineer was doing a routine chemical dosing of the boiler feed water using PPE consisting of a hard hat, chemical gloves, apron, and safety glasses. They filled the plastic dosing jug with a chemical, but noticed there were some old chemical deposits on the bottom. He decided to tap the bottom of the jug to free up the deposits, but when they did so there was a splash, with a couple of drops of the chemical entering their left eye underneath the safety glasses.

Collision

In harbour, Auckland

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

Vessel anchored to fish in the vicinity of two other vessels. Some time later another vessel approached, colliding with the anchored vessel. Despite all persons being on deck the oncoming vessel was not sighted until a collision was impossible to avoid.

Flip/Overturn

Not selected, Bay of Plenty

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

After following a good line over the falls two people in the front of the raft fell out, which may have caused the raft to slide back under the falls. Once back inside the falls the water landing on the back of the raft caused it to cartwheel, washing everyone out. One person was caught in a particularly strong current, and hit their head on rocks at the bottom, damaging their helmet. On arrival at base they appeared to go into shock, so they were transported to hospital, where small hairline skull fractures were found.

Injury Only

At berth/marina/boat ramp, Southland

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

A crew member fell backwards onto steps on other side of vessel while securing to pontoon.

Near miss / Close quarters

A river, Marlborough

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

A kayaker operating on a river was knocked out of their vessel by a powered craft towing a wake boarder. The power boat then failed to offer assistance on its return downstream. This did not occur in the gazetted water ski area on the river.

Propulsion failure

In harbour, Canterbury

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

On returning from the third trip of the day the vessel ran out of fuel. The skipper radioed another vessel, which towed them back to wharf. The skipper on the vessel did not have a dangerous goods license, so was unable to move the fuel trailer to the wharf that morning. The vessel's fuel computer indicated there was enough fuel for the day, however when the vessel ran out of the fuel the computer still indicated 140L of fuel on board. The operator has reminded crew that vessels are to be refuelled every day.

Equipment failure

In harbour, Wellington

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

Five minutes after departure the engine room reported the starboard main engine inlet leak, with the chief engineer requesting a return to port. The starboard engine was shut down and the vessel returned. Repairs were made and the vessel departed approximately two hours later.

Near miss / Close quarters

A lake, Bay of Plenty

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

A boat towing a skier had a jet boat twice cut in front of them, at an estimated 10-15m. Those on board the jet boat later indicated they didn't believe the manoeuvre was unsafe.

Injury Only

Gisborne

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

A crew member required hospitalisation after injuring their leg in a fall.

Injury Only

Offshore waters, Southland

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

A crew member cut their fingers with a knife while working on fish.

Equipment failure

In harbour, Waikato

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

While doing a chain inspection a deck block failed under load. No injuries were caused.

Contact

Open waters (lake/ocean), Canterbury

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

While working around the intake structure on the lake the stern came in contact with the tower, puncturing and putting a small dent in one of the flotation pods on the back.

Grounding

A river, Otago

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

With a full load of ten passengers the boat approached a corner in low river conditions. At this right hand dropping corner the operator's boats reduce speed. At this reduced planing speed the wave action at the bottom of the corner caused a lack of thrust, causing the boat to slide further sideways than anticipated, coming to a stop on the rocky shore. There were no injuries, and all passengers were unloaded onto the bank. The jet boat was checked, and with no damage found the trip was continued. On the return the skipper noticed a slipping of the boat's impeller, which will be changed immediately.

Injury Only

At berth/marina/boat ramp, Wellington

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

An elderly passenger tripped over the metal ledge on the deck beneath a door frame. On arrival a family member took them to hospital.

Person overboard

At berth, Auckland

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

On returning to berth from taking out a stag party, the groom was thrown overboard. The vessel was immediately taken out of gear and person overboard retrieved. While entering the berth another passenger fell through the open sea door at the transom. The vessel was immediately taken out of gear and the person overboard swum to the berth finger and was helped out. The sea door was opened for berthing and passengers were told by deckhand to stand clear of door while berthing.

Hit submerged Object

Inshore waters, Southland

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

Vessel hit a submerged log while traveling at approximately 20kts. Damage was caused to the port propeller, and the vessel returned to harbour immediately.

Near miss / Close quarters

At sea, Auckland

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

A yacht sailing close to the shore was required to take avoiding action to avoid a fishing ship.

Near miss / Close quarters

Inshore waters, Wellington

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

Another vessel was observed heading south, it was plotted and found to be on a near collision course with the ferry. At a distance of 2.9nm and with an indicated bow crossing of .27nm the other vessel was called on VHF CH16. They replied "I am standing on, you alter to port". The vessel was informed that they were the give way vessel, and requested to speak to the ship's master. The other ship's master arrived, and stated that there was now not enough time to alter course, and requested the ferry alter course to port. The ferry's master believed there was still sufficient space, but not wishing to compound the issue altered course, passing the astern the other vessel.

Grounding

West Coast

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

A trawler ran aground on a beach. Several other vessels responded to assist, however an attempt to tow resulted in a broken tow line. There is no risk to the crew as they can step off onto the beach.

Foundered

A river, Otago

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

While moving slowly up rapid the boat took a pressure wave on the front right of the bow. This pushed the boat across the flow, and water entered from the upstream side over the boat's starboard side, causing the boat to sink very quickly.

Propeller entangled

Inshore waters, Hawkes Bay

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

During a training exercise with a helicopter, a rope from the helicopter was ingested into the vessel's port side jet intake. The port engine was immediately taken out of gear, and the vessel returned to base under its own power.

Equipment failure

Inshore waters, Waikato

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

During a routine winching operation a case deck roller failed under load. No one was injured and the incident is being fully investigated by the owner and the operator.

Person overboard

At berth, Otago

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

After the boat was shut down the skipper went downstairs, when they reached the top of the launch's stairs he hear the deckhand yell, and saw them fall off the stern while trying to secure an aft line around a pile. The deckhand's lifejacket inflated and they retrieved themselves via a ladder. The crew member was assessed and found to be uninjured.

Near miss / Close quarters

A river, Canterbury

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

Setting up to go through a 90 degree left hand turn at a cliff face a private boat appeared from a turbulent/hydraulic cove where the main flow hits the cliff face. When the private boat saw the jet boat they stopped midstream, effectively blocking the river. The jet boat started an emergency stop, at the same time the other boat was pushed backwards by the current into the cove area. The jet boat then had enough room to continue forward upstream. The other boat later stopped by the jetty to apologise.

Cargo shift

At berth, Canterbury

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

The vessel was in its second day of unloading when a pallet of fish was hoisted from the front freezer hold, when the corner of the lifting frame caught a coil of rope (approximately 15 kg) stowed on the deck close to the hatch combing, causing the coil of rope to fall into the freezer hold approximately 12 meters, hitting a crewman in the back and shoulder area causing him to fall to the deck.

Hit submerged Object

A river, Auckland

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

While re-positioning a port lateral buoy within the channel as the ground tackle was being dragged into the shallows it came up the channel bank, kicked up, and struck the starboard outboard leg and propeller, resulting in damage to the cavitation plate and the propeller.

Electrical power failure

In harbour, Auckland

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

While transiting in moderate seas and 32kt winds an out-of-sync alarm sounded, with the starboard engine at 1700rpm and the port engine at 1300rpm. Speed was reduced and the vessel was manoeuvred towards a sheltered area, to allow advice to be received and the issue to be investigated. The revs on the port engine were able to be lowered manually by disconnecting the actuator cable from the rack; however it was determined to be unsafe to continue on only the starboard engine due to the sea conditions making it difficult to turn and berth at the destination. The passengers were informed and the vessel returned to base.

Foundered

Inshore waters, Auckland

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

While ferrying passengers back to the vessel in an aluminium pontoon tender two large waves, possibly amplified by running down the side of the larger vessel, swamped the tender. The passengers swam the last few meters to the stern of the vessel and were assisted aboard. The tender remained afloat due to its own buoyancy and was bailed and craned aboard.

Equipment failure

In harbour, Auckland

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

While powering up out of harbour the boat was found to be lacking thrust, and unable to travel over 10kts. The port engine was shutdown to back-flush possible fouling of the jet unit. The port engine then failed to restart despite numerous attempts. The boat returned on one engine, with an engineer adjusting a relay on the starter motor allowing the engine to start again.

Contact

At berth, Auckland

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

With the vessel going astern into berth the engines were move ahead to stop the vessel. The engines failed to engage and the vessel made contact with the wooden piles. The crew were able to secure the stern line, the passengers were informed, and the engines were restarted. The berthing was completed and the vessel returned to base without passengers to allow investigation.

Collision

Offshore waters, West Coast

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

Two fishing vessels collided while operating offshore, resulting in damage to one of the vessels.

Propulsion failure

Inshore waters, Wellington

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

Automatic engine shut down of port main engine when overheating alarm activated. Subsequently analysed as a faulty detector sensor. Engine restarted and vessel completed passage.

Equipment failure

In harbour, Wellington

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

Engine failed while inbound to the marina. Investigation found a loose fuel line fitting, causing an air block in the fuel system. The skipper tried to bleed the system without success. A fishing vessel was called for help, who responded and towed the vessel towards the marine, with a Police boat later responding and completing the tow.

Equipment failure

Inshore waters, Tasman

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

The main Engine overheated, and it was shut down soon after. Crew tried to ascertain the problem, but nothing was visible. Dropped Anchor and let main engine cool down. Restarted the main but it still overheated at idle so the crew waited till daylight so they could organise a tow home. Vessel was towed in by a fishing vessel next day. Problem was a faulty thermostat which was replaced.

Injury Only

A river, Manawatu

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

Raft hit a rock then flipped. Passengers fell overboard and swam in the shallow rapids, resulting in two injuries.

Grounding

A river, Otago

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

Jet boat grounded operating in a river.

Near miss / Close quarters

A river, Canterbury

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

Skipper of a dinghy was checking their flounder net in a lagoon when a jet boat passed at full speed and an estimated 25m away. The jet boat made a sharp turn, with the large wake created nearly capsizing the other vessel.

Injury Only

At berth, Wellington

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

Climbing down off a hatch lid the crew member's ring caught on the lid, causing the finger to be degloved.

Near miss / Close quarters

At sea, Northland

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

Motoring at approximately 4kts another vessel was sighted heading across their bow, with the crew estimating it would have passed 100m or so in front. The other vessel then veered towards the yacht, passing down their starboard side at 15-20m.

Equipment failure

In harbour, Taranaki

Vessel information	
Type:	Foreign SOLAS (ISM)
Category:	Tug
Length (m):	
Tonnage (tons):	

After completing the service on both main engines both ship's engineers attempted to start the starboard main engine in order to test for fluid leaks. Three times the engine was cranked over to start without firing. During the fourth attempt, with one of the engineers standing at the suspected underperforming batteries, the lower aft battery exploded. A small amount of acid sprayed onto the engineers overalls. No injury or damage other than to the battery was sustained.

Steering gear failure

At sea, Taranaki

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

The 12mm stainless steel steering arm snapped, resulting in a complete loss of steering.

Contact

In harbour, Northland

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

Crew were adjusting the tow line from their vessel to a yacht that had broken free from its mooring. In a metre swell the yacht was heaving up and down and touching the bottom. As the deck hand was tending the tow line with both hands a larger set of swells rolled through, and with the additional of another boat's wash the confused sea put the boat close to the bow rail of the yacht. The skipper was not able to put enough power on as the deck hand was unable to brace and may have lost their footing. The skipper put enough power on to minimise damage and injury, with the bow of the yacht contacting and bending the out board protection rail.

Equipment failure

Inshore waters, Canterbury

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

Whilst shooting the net from roller, the roller began to free spool. A crew member was standing in the bight of the wire cable bridal and it bit around his lower leg. On inspecting his leg he had abrasions and an open tissue wound. After cleaning it out and applying first aid it was decided it best to return to port and take him to have it cleaned out at the emergency department.

Chemical or harmful substance spill

Offshore waters

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

A flexible hose on an ammonia plate freezer located in the factory deck failed during a routine procedure.

Steering gear failure

Inshore waters, Waikato

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

During a routine check a “d-shackle” on the starboard tiller arm was found to have come off. The back-up wire was left holding the steering cable on the tiller arm. The shackle was replaced, but was found to have movement the following day. A fleet-wide inspection found seven shackles that were loose.

Contact

In harbour, Northland

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

On approach to the berth the tug was attending forward and was made fast. As the tug went out to clear the bow it entered the bow pressure wave, which affected the pitch available, causing the tug to pivot around the bow, making contact with the ship's anchor. Damage was caused to the tug's bulwarks on the port quarter above the waterline. No damage was caused to the ship's anchor.

Contact

Inshore waters, Southland

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

After dropping anchor in 18m of water at low tide the vessel was taken out of gear, with the main engine and hydraulics still running. A freshening breeze blew up just after setting anchor, causing the vessel to swing towards the shore line. The skipper observed the echo sounder was shoaling rapidly, so the crew were called to try and recover the anchor. This caused the vessel to be pulled onto an uncharted reef/bank, with the keel lightly bumping on the bottom, and the bank clearly visible on the port side. The vessel was put in gear, the crew were instructed to slack away the anchor chain, and the vessel was manoeuvred to a safe position. It was decided to buoy the anchor off and retrieve it in daylight.

Collision

At sea, Bay of Plenty

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

Crew of a yacht sighted a cargo ship on the starboard bow approaching at an estimated 15-18kts from the south-west and on a collision course. The yacht's speed was approximately 7kts. Navigator and the skipper were concerned enough to try and call ship on VHF 16 to establish that the officer of the watch had us in sight and establish what measures would be taken by each vessel to avoid collision at sea. The vessel was called two to three times with no response. Due to the estimated 20kt closing speed the yacht was forced to make an emergency tack to port, with the unidentified ship passing on the port side approximately 1200m away. Maritime radio was called to advise there was a ship not responding to call, presenting a potential navigation risk to other craft.

Collision

At berth, Southland

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

A vessel clearing logs from a harbour collided at slow speed with a moored passenger ferry. Minor damage was caused to the paint work.

Injury Only

Inshore waters, Canterbury

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

A passenger was sitting at the bow, and the skipper was thinking to ask her to move back from the bow, but the ride was smooth at the time and she looked comfortable there. The vessel was traveling at a comfortable speed no more than 16 knots into .5 of a metre chop. The vessel then hit a wave that was bigger or deeper than the others, and the passenger bounced in the seated position and instantly cried out with pain. The passenger was experiencing extreme back pain, so the vessel was returned to the wharf and arrangements made for an ambulance to meet the vessel.

Hit submerged Object

Inshore waters, Waikato

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

Vessel was moored against an environmental monitoring platform in an estuary, with the boat against one of the structure's legs. As the tide lowered the starboard inflated pontoon wedged on a protruding bolt that had been below the waterline. As the tide lowered further the bolt punctured and ripped the pontoon, rupturing the separator between the forward and rear compartments. It was determined enough air could be put into the starboard compartment to stay afloat while making for the harbour jetty. During the transition to the jetty the water level lowered to the point that the vessel grounded just short of the channel marker buoys. While grounded a patch was fitted, which reduced the amount of air being lost, allowing the boat to be re-floated after the tide turned.