



Accident, incident, and mishap notification

March 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 (1-31 March 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.

Injury Only

Offshore waters, Canterbury

Vessel information	
Type:	NZ Non-passenger (SSM/MOSS)
Category:	General Cargo / Multi-purpose
Length (m):	>45m
Tonnage (tons):	>500t

Engineer come out of the engine room asking for assistance, with a deep cut on their thigh. The vessel diverted and first aid was given.

Collision

A river, Canterbury

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

Raft hit a rock and went up on its side. A person on board had their foot secure but nearly fell out, twisting their knee.

Propulsion failure

A lake, Waikato

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

Rubber damper plate on the gearbox flange broke in a turn, rendering the drive train inoperable. Vessel dropped anchor and another vessel was called to take passengers.

Collision

In harbour, Auckland

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

While at anchor the vessel was struck by a yacht. A minor injury was caused to the crew member on board the anchored vessel, with those on board the yacht failing to stop or check the condition of the anchored vessel after the collision. Estimated speed was 10kts, with the two vessel's making contact both on the starboard side.

Injury Only

Inshore waters, Northland

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

A passenger was not responsive after getting seasick. They were breathing but otherwise unresponsive. A doctor and nurse on board provided assistance, with the passenger regaining consciousness.

Injury Only

In harbour, Marlborough

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

A crew member was cleaning up a fuel oil spill after a leakage. They slipped on the oil covered deck plating while carrying a bucket of cleaner. The contents of the bucket split over them causing the chemical to splash on their eye. Irritation was present, alleviated with large amounts of water.

Electrical power failure

Offshore waters, Auckland

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

During a planned test of the emergency generator it was found that the secondary spring starter didn't build up tension. Inspection found the ratchet drive and lock were worn enough to lose contact and slip, with the ratchet drive also found to be faulty.

Equipment failure

Inshore waters, Northland

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

A passenger hurt their back during transit, appearing to be due to the failure of the plastic clip on their seat belt.

Propulsion failure

Inshore waters, West Coast

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

Gearbox failure required the vessel to get towed back to safety.

Injury Only

Inshore waters, Canterbury

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

A large log was caught in the trawl net. While trying to remove it a crew member's index finger got caught between the log and the vessel's hull, causing a crush injury.

Injury Only

Inshore waters, Auckland

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

A crew member was stocking an alcohol fringe when a bottle of sparkling wine exploded, causing an eye injury from a glass shard.

Propulsion failure

Inshore waters, Foreaux Strait

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

Vessel's engine stopped due to fuel starvation. The vessel was anchored and the issue investigated. The emergency fuel shut off was found to have been accidentally tripped. The shut off was reset, the fuel system bled, and the engine restarted.

Injury Only

At berth, Otago

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

A team encountered trouble un-lashing a container bar. The bar released suddenly and fell down towards another team, striking one of the workers on the helmet, suffering minor injuries.

Injury Only

A river, Bay of Plenty

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

A guide broke their wrist when the raft impacted the water after going over a waterfall.

Injury Only

Inshore waters, Northland

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

A crew member complained of a headache, and later started vomiting. They went to rest in their cabin, with the captain later finding their condition had deteriorated. A helicopter was sent to evacuate the crew member, with the event believed to be an allergic reaction.

Lifting / Cargo gear failure

At berth, Hawkes Bay

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

Crane was luffed out over the wharf and in a stationary position with the wharf crew attaching the log wires to the hook. The crane jib then started coming back on its own due to a brake failure. The driver hit the emergency stop button, by which time the hook had travelled approximately 6m.

Propulsion failure

At berth, Southland

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

Vessel was departing its berth when the starboard engine jammed in reverse. The vessel continued to turn and despite the engine being shut down the vessel contacted the breakwater on the starboard stern quarter. The vessel was pulled away by another vessel. The hull was not breached, and investigation was commenced on the engine control system.

Fire

Inshore waters, Northland

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

Smoke was detected in the engine room. The engine room extinguishers were used and the fire was extinguished. Vessel returned to port without assistance.

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

Vessel was moving at approximately 10kts when the port engine gearbox pressure fluctuated. Both engines were pulled back to idle. Moving ahead on the port engine produced little thrust. Hydraulic fluid was found around the gearbox area, and as the vessel was being turned by the tide another vessel assisted. Fault traced to a faulty seal on the gearbox filter housing.

Other

At berth, Hawkes Bay

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

A log slid off the deck and broke a cabin window. No one was in the cabin at the time, and no injuries caused.

Propulsion failure

Inshore waters,

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

Main engine was brought back to full ahead after a shutdown caused by a blackout in the engine room. There was a main engine turbocharger surge and the main engine was stopped. The turbocharger was inspected, with damage found to the compressor wheel.

Injury Only

A river, Bay of Plenty

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

Paddling over a drop the raft suffered a violent flip at the bottom. A passenger's shoulder was dislocated.

Injury Only

Inshore waters, Auckland

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

A passenger slipped down stairs from the top to the bottom while carrying coffee in both hands. Possible back injury. The passenger stated they were fine, however their condition later deteriorated. First aid was applied and the vessel returned to the wharf to be met by a helicopter.

Propulsion failure

At berth, Canterbury

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

During engine trials after maintenance the main engine failed start astern. Fault was traced to the air start distributor.

Injury Only

At berth, Hawkes Bay

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

During loading of logs one of the vessel's crew walking on the deck logs fell to the deck.

Injury Only

A river, Bay of Plenty

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

While going over a waterfall a passenger hit their head on the person in front of them. First aid was applied.

Equipment failure

At berth, Northland

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

Port anchor was heaved up and the vessel got underway. It was then found that there was no anchor at the end of the cable.

Propulsion failure

Inshore waters, Southland

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

As the vessel slowed to navigate around a point the starboard engine stalled. The engine would not restart, with smoke observed from the starter motor. This then turned into flames from inside the motor. The flames were extinguished and the electrics to the starboard engine were isolated. The vessel returned on the port engine, with the starter motor later replaced.

Injury Only

A river, Canterbury

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

A passenger was pulled back into the raft on flat water, but their finger got caught in the D ring, and tearing the end of their finger off. First aid was provided and they were driven to hospital.

Equipment failure

At berth, Bay of Plenty

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

Approaching berth the order was given to the aft tug for a 25t pull back. There was a bang, with the line found to have failed. Using the forward tug, main engine, and rudder, the vessel was held off against the wind while the aft tug reconnected.

Fire

Inshore water, Canterbury

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

Vessel was trawling when timber around the base of the funnel began to smoulder. The fire extinguisher was used and another vessel assisted to remove the funnel housing and extinguish the fire. Found there was no heat wrap where the exhaust passes through the deck, which will be heat wrapped to prevent reoccurrence.

Near miss / Close quarters

In harbour, Wellington

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

While anchored in calm conditions a large launch was observed steaming directly towards the vessel at least 3km away. At 500m away it adjusted course slightly to pass within 50m, travelling at an estimated 20-25kts. The wake caused the vessel to rock substantially.

Equipment failure

Inshore waters, Canterbury

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

Malfunction of boarding ladder with failure of restrictor stay caused a crush injury to passenger's finger.

Grounding

Inshore waters, Auckland

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

Hit a submerged rock one metre below the surface, causing rudder and propeller damage.

Steering gear failure

Inshore waters, Northland

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

Lost steering due to equipment failure, towed to safety by Coastguard.

Collision

A river, Waikato

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

Traveling downstream the jet boat clipped a redundant wooden bridge pile just below the water surface. The boat lurched sideways and the only passenger on board strained their shoulder while holding the hand grips inside the vessel.

Grounding

In harbour, Auckland

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

Vessel grounded at low tide 200m from a yellow special marker.

Steering gear failure

A lake, Hawkes Bay

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

Vessel with no passengers on board stripped a steering gear. Vessel was able to continue home a slow speed.

Grounding

Inshore waters, Otago

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

Vessel grounded on a sand bar. Vessel was stranded for 15 minutes until the tide was high enough to float off.

Propulsion failure

In harbour, Wellington

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

The pins on the stern leg failed, causing the vessel to lose power. The anchor was deployed and assistance called.

Injury Only

Offshore waters, Gisborne

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

Skipper was trying to release the cod end knot when the bag swung around and crushed their legs against the port beam. A crew member assisted the skipper and the vessel returned to port a short distance away.

Collision

A lake, Canterbury

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

Two boats were parked alongside an iceberg. The skipper of one accidentally leaned on the throttle while hooking onto the ice and the boat accelerated forward and collided with the other vessel, causing damage.

Foundered

At berth, Auckland

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

Vessel sank on its mooring.

Grounding

In harbour, Auckland

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

Entering a harbour a buoy marking a rock was missing, with the vessel turning towards the rock to avoid a crayfish pot buoy in the middle of the channel. The rock was observed on the chart but it was too late to avoid and the propellers hit the rock, causing damage.

Injury Only

Inshore waters, Southland

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

Coming alongside the stern of another ship a crew member's finger got caught between the spring line and a cleat, tearing off the finger.

Injury Only

Inshore waters, Tasman

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

A crew member assisting the skipper hanging mussel catch rope on a mussel spat catching line had a lapse in concentration and had their hand pulled into a rope guide. The skipper reverse the line to release the crew member's hand, which was found to have suffered a fracture.

Contact

Inshore waters, Southland

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

While attaching the forward tow line through the starboard shoulder the tug went under the flare of the container ship's bow, causing damage to the tug's mast.

Structural failure

At berth, Tasman

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

A hole of 5mm diameter in the bottom plate of a ballast tank directly below the suction pipe was found. The area around the hole was found in good condition without corrosion and with no sign of indentation.

Contact

At berth, Canterbury

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

A shore crane collided with one of the vessel's cranes. Minor damage was caused to both cranes.

Propulsion failure

A river, Auckland

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

After departing the berth and starting to proceed down the river the centre engine turbo charger failed, shutting the engine off.

Propulsion failure

In harbour, Northland

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

Main engine encountered a problem, which triggered a main engine auto slowdown. There was a scavenging air box fire alarm in cylinder number four, followed by an exhaust gas outlet temperature deviation alarm and exhaust gas high temperature alarm. After these sequence of alarms the turbocharger started surging which then caused the main engine to slow down automatically. Faulty fuel injector valve was found to be the cause of the scavenging air box fire.

Near miss / Close quarters

Inshore waters, Waikato

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

Vessel took evasive action to avoid another large recreational vessel.