



Accident, incident, and mishap notification

November 2017



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 2017).

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

Inshore waters, Bay of Plenty

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

Starboard motor revs were fluctuating up and down. Berthed at nearest island. Checked all fuel valves, filters and lift pump. Checked engine controls and changed to new racor filter. After a sea trial there was no change. A technician was called but was unable to help. Vessel made its way into port for technician to fix fault.

Contact

At berth, Canterbury

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

During berthing of a container ship, a tug came into contact with the ship, causing damage to two lights on the tug.

Extreme vessel movement

A lake, Southland

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

Boat broached in extreme conditions. One passenger fell overboard. Passenger was rescued but was unable to be resuscitated

Grounding

Inshore waters, Auckland

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

Vessel returning to harbour when skipper misjudged distance from rocks in the passage and made contact. Life jackets were distributed to all passengers and Mayday call made. Passengers were transferred to a Coastguard vessel and vessel returned to berth under own power.

Fire

Offshore waters

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

The vessel was engaged in trawling operations when fire alarm sounded. The mate instructed the crew to search and locate the source of the alarm which turned out to be in the engine room. At the same time the auxilliary engine shut down and blacked the vessel out except for emergency lights, radios and sat comms. Chief engineer then shut down the main engine. Fire was located in one of the main switch boards and extinguished with dry powder. Mayday alert sent. Fire procedure followed. The space was left to cool with a watch maintained then, when cool, ventilated and checked for damage. Extensive damage to one switch board. Vessel left in a deadship situation with fishing gear still on the bottom in 950m of water. Chief engineer managed to reinstate some of the 240v system allowing communication with the vessel manager.

Steering gear failure

Inshore waters, Waikato

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

Skipper was backing off a mussel line when a sudden loss of steering occurred. Crew were instructed to pick up the line again so the vessel was effectively anchored and the source of the problem could safely be investigated. Crewmen identified a broken connection on a steering ram. The problem was temporarily fixed and the mussel line let go again so vessel could return to port. There was a loud bang and another loss of steering. Crew again picked up the mussel line to anchor to. The Skipper gave the crew a recap of the emergency steering procedure and the vessel was successfully brought back to the mooring where further maintenance will be carried out to repair moderate damage to rudder and propeller.

Contact

In harbour, Wellington

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

Vessel received damage to gunnel by coming into contact with underside of rubbing strip of barge while assisting in strong winds and choppy conditions.

Injury Only

Inshore waters, Canterbury

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

Vessel launched its rescue boat to retrieve a drone. One of the drone's blades hit the deckhand's hand causing a laceration to thumb and fore finger.

Contact

Inshore waters, Auckland

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

Vessel was slightly damaged while crew were practising a manoeuvre. Vessel came in contact with the edge of the dock as the vessel was being sprung off. There was no forward movement of the vessel, hence no impact was felt at the time.

Propulsion failure

A river, Canterbury

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

As the skipper increased power, after a period when the vessel was stopped, the port engine stopped. The skipper located a suitable place to stop and assess the problem. Skipper radioed for assistance. No other boats were available so a helicopter was called to return the passengers to base. Suspected high pressure fuel pump failure.

Dragged anchor

Inshore waters, Marlborough

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

In the peak of high tide in a storm the boat dragged its anchor, settling on the road alongside the beach.

Mooring line failure

At berth, Chatham Islands

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

Vessel was moored during extreme weather when the mooring chain broke. Vessel ended up bow first on a reef. Vessel was towed back to the wharf where it was checked for damage.

Propeller entangled

Inshore waters, Hawkes Bay

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

While hauling a bottom longline in strong current, the line became entangled. The longline floated up underneath the vessel hull, and became entangled around the propeller and rudder meaning the vessel was unable to make way under her own power. The skipper notified shore staff and arranged for another vessel to tow back to port.

Lifting / Cargo gear failure

At berth, Canterbury

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

Stevedores were discharging an 18m length of Steel beam when one of the preslung wires gave way causing the other end to break and the heave to drop about 8m into the hold landing on top of other cargo.

Lifting / Cargo gear failure

At berth, Marlborough

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

During operation the heave being moved by a crane dropped several metres in an uncontrolled descent before coming to a stop. Possible issue with hook mechanism.

Contact

In harbour, Auckland

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

During berthing training with new skipper, the helm was moved the wrong way; the bow swung to starboard and collided with the wharf causing minor damage to the handrail. No damage to vessel.

Person overboard

Inshore waters, Gisborne

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

Crewman was cutting off ties and reached over the slide to cut a tie off. Crewman misjudged it and slipped over the side of the vessel into the water. Crew noticed straight away and lifted the crewman back onboard the vessel.

Equipment failure

Inshore waters, Bay of Plenty

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

Vessel at sea reported broken antenna due to fall from deck during strong winds. Antenna will be repaired once back at port.

Contact

In harbour, Northland

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

Vessel was pushing barge. Crew member at the helm was distracted watching another crew member working and hit port marker. No injuries or damage.

Collision

In harbour, Auckland

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

Vessel was approaching wharf when it impacted a pile causing passengers to fall. Two passengers were standing on the stairs and fell to the bottom. Emergency services were called and both passengers were transferred to hospital.

Injury Only

Inshore waters, Foreaux Strait

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

Crewman was moving aft on trawl deck when ship rolled. Crewman steadied himself but caught his finger in small pinch point on winch casing crushing his fingertip.

Propulsion failure

In harbour, Wellington

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

Overflowing water from a catch-tray dripped onto the port side propulsion control cabinets and caused short circuiting.

Grounding

A river, Canterbury

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

Vessel touched an obstacle as it went through a bumpy disturbed part of the river. Crewman later observed that boat speed was slower and there was a vibration from the jet unit. Vessel pulled up and unloaded passengers before investigating. Passengers were transported back to base. Crewman noticed bilge pumps had started and the vessel was taking on water. Vessel was towed back to berth where hole and bend in intake bars was found.

Injury Only

A river, Bay of Plenty

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

Passenger injured their finger on raft. Passenger grabbed the thwart rope rather than the handle, and when propelled forward the finger became jammed between paddle and rope. Passenger was transferred to base and met by ambulance.

Grounding

Inshore waters, Wellington

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

Vessel was running a close shoreline search for a missing diver when it ran over a submerged rock. The vessel was stopped and engine and hull checks completed. Decision made that damage was negligible and continued with search.

Grounding

Inshore waters, Southland

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

Vessel squatted and made contact with mud while traveling at approximately 1kt. Forward propulsion was removed and astern engaged as precaution. Vessel came free and re-entered the channel. No injuries or damage.

Dragged anchor

Inshore waters, Waikato

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

Vessel was anchored for the night when the skipper realised the anchor wasn't holding. There was not enough power in battery to start engine. Vessel was being pushed by wind so skipper called Coastguard for assistance. Vessel towed back to port.

Injury Only

At berth, Otago

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

A crewman was helping engineers in the engine room to position a piston into its housing. A miscommunication lead another crewman to drop his side of the piston which caused the first crewman to fall, squashing his middle and index finger on his left hand.

Propulsion failure

At berth, Marlborough

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

Vessel lost power to starboard shaft whilst berthing.

Grounding

In harbour, Northland

Vessel information	
Type:	Waka Ama
Category:	
Length (m):	
Tonnage (tons):	

Waka got swamped on one side so paddled towards shore to empty water. The waka was unable to get to a safe area as the swell was too strong and the waka was pushed onto rocks. Two paddlers were taken to shore by a support craft. Coastguard was called, the support boat returned and uplifted three more paddlers and the Coastguard uplifted the three remaining paddlers. All paddlers were wearing lifejackets and were assessed by St John staff after the incident.

Other

In harbour, Auckland

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

Helmsman put the wheel to port instead of starboard. Pilot and master immediately picked up error and corrected helmsman. After a few minutes, the helmsman began to appear disoriented. The helmsman seemed very alert initially but his performance deteriorated quite suddenly. The events occurred at almost midnight, fatigue suspected.

Propulsion failure

At berth, Canterbury

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

Whilst berthing with tug fast, overloading on the bow thruster caused the generators to trip and the vessel to blackout. Power was restored within a few minutes and the vessel continued to berth as normal.

Injury Only

A river, Waikato

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

Vessel was descending falls when passenger was thrown forward into the helmet of the person sitting in front when the raft impacted the bottom of the drop. Passenger received a deep cut the left side of their forehead.

Wrap/Pin

A river, Manawatu

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

Canoe wrapped around log and passengers were unable to release. Passengers left canoe and swam to shore. Another canoe paddled the passengers to the other side of bank to get assistance with stuck canoe.

Injury Only

A river, Bay of Plenty

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

Going over a drop the guide fell to the right of the boat, with their knee still in the raft. They managed to get loose and pull themselves back into the raft. Returning to base they were taken to hospital for treatment of a resulting knee injury.

Flip/Overturn

A river, Bay of Plenty

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

Raft overturned and a paddler's head contacted something under water. This caused a cut to the nose and bleeding to the paddler.

Injury Only

Inshore waters, Foreaux Strait

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

A rope tied to a rail tangled around the propeller. Crewman thought propellor had cut and released rope, however the rope had not released and crewman's finger was caught. Call made to Coastguard for urgent medical treatment.

Flip/Overturn

A river, Bay of Plenty

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

A passenger in a raft that flipped contacted the river floor and received minor cut to face and bruising. First aid administered at the time of injury.

Equipment failure

At berth, Marlborough

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

Passenger was boarding a vessel via gangway which moved sideways. Passenger lost balance and also observed that gangway was connected to the wharf by two castor wheels which were not chocked, allowing free movement. Passenger advised watchman then captain who rectified the situation.

Grounding

Inshore waters, Hawkes Bay

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

Crew were taking off sails and preparing to turn back to shore. Vessel's keel struck something underwater, possibly a sandbar, and came to a sudden halt. A crew member who was below deck was thrown forward and hit their back. Vessel berthed and crew member was driven to nearby medical facility with minor injuries.

Injury Only

A river, Bay of Plenty

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

Passenger chipped tooth going over falls.

Contact

Inshore waters, Tasman

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

Tender vessel was returning from tendering passengers ashore and was crossing the primary vessel's bow. Primary vessel was stationary. Skipper left wheelhouse momentarily and the primary vessel began to drift forward across the path of the approaching tender. The crew member operating the tender noted the primary vessel's movement but continued on their course believing that the skipper would stop the vessel and allow the tender to pass in front. As the two vessels drew closer, crew member decided to take evasive action. This brought the tender to a stop in front of the primary vessel. The two vessels contacted lightly. No injuries or damage.

Propulsion failure

Inshore waters, Northland

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

Vessel was en-route to vehicle ferry ramp when the master noted difficulty with the vessel's gear lever and that he wasn't able to de-select and select a new gear. Duty Mechanic was transferred to the vessel. One of the bolts holding a gear control cable had failed. Bolt was replaced and vessel placed back in service.

Lifting / Cargo gear failure

At berth, Bay of Plenty

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

Crew were discharging cargo off the vessel using mechanical grabs. As the full grab was being lifted the ring at the top of a chain pennant broke dropping the grab onto the product at the bottom of the hold.