

A 24-passenger boat with 5,000 pounds of freight capacity is available to provide crew changes and light freight support during the summer open water season. The crew change boat uses the Oliktok Point public dock and typically provides trips twice a day.

A 42-person capacity hovercraft is used during the shoulder seasons for crew changes. The hovercraft has a 5.7 metric ton freight capacity to transport small loads. The hovercraft has a twin engine design (lift and thrust) and can work in a maximum operational wind speed of 30 knots (40 knot gusts) and a minimum operational temperature of -37 degrees Celsius (°C).

Table 2-2 presents the transportation support between 2012 and 2016.

Table 2-2 Logistics and Transportation Support (2012 – 2016)

	HOVERCRAFT (TRIPS) ^a	CREW BOAT (TRIPS) ^a	BUS/VAN (TRIPS) ^a	BARGE (TRIPS) ^a
2012	1,094 (estimated)	1,215	--	658
2013	1,162	1,286	1,549 ^b	672
2014	1,364	1,459	1,464 ^b	765
2015	1,610	1,280	1,500 ^b	508
2016	855	614	1,481 ^c	8

Notes:

a = All trips are one-way

b = Busses with a capacity of 28 passengers were used from 2012 through 2015.

c = Vans with a capacity of 10 passengers were used during 2016; use of vans instead of buses resulted in approximately 17 additional trips per year.

Marine Transportation Routes

Marine vessel transportation (hovercraft, crew boat, and barge) between OPP and SID is required to support Nikaitchuq drilling activities in State of Alaska waters. Construction of the island and associated drilling activities in State of Alaska waters were evaluated by USACE in 2006 in their Permit Evaluation and Decision Document. As part of the permit evaluation and decision process for island construction and drilling, USACE consulted with NMFS under the ESA. As a result of this consultation, mitigation incorporated into the project included use of regular routes and narrow corridors for vessel traffic to reduce the affected area, as shown in Figure 2-3. The water depth between OPP and SID is typically 6 to 8 feet deep.

Emergency Support

Eni does not currently maintain a helicopter to support their activities at SID. In the event of an emergency requiring helicopter support, a helicopter will be obtained. A lighted helipad is located at NOC and a lighted helideck is located at SID. If necessary, an Arktos™ all-terrain machine is staged near the camp at SID and is available for emergency evacuation. The Arktos™ has a 52-person capacity and is operable in all seasons and in most weather conditions. It can handle 34 degrees of slope and is able to maneuver through ice rubble fields and ice/water interface zones.