

ALASKA INLAND AREA CONTINGENCY PLAN

FINAL, April 2025
(USCG nomenclature “Version 2020.2”)



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HOW TO USE THIS PLAN

The Alaska Inland Area Contingency Plan is one of four Area Contingency Plans. This plan is for the operational guide for responses to oil discharges and hazardous substance releases in the inland zone of Alaska. The inland zone is described in [Section 1200](#).

This plan is intended to be responder friendly. To accomplish this a few assumptions and administrative decisions on the layout and content were made. These are described below under the categories of Format/Layout and Content.

FORMAT/LAYOUT

- This plan is organized according to Incident Command System sections.
- The [Section 7000 Hazardous Substances](#) is intended to address issues specific to these types of responses. The primary ICS sections are either generic to all responses or specific to oil discharges.
- [An Acronym and Abbreviation list](#) is provided in the front of this plan. This list includes acronyms and abbreviations used in the plan or that are often used in a response. This list is considered “first use” of the term and are not spelled out in later sections of the plan, with a few exceptions.
- **References and Tools Boxes:** With a few exceptions, hyperlinks are not imbedded in this plan. However, at the top of each section and many subsections there is a “References and Tools Box” with a listing of websites, electronic documents and other internet tools of websites, electronic documents and other internet tools that are useful and pertinent to the subject. Most of these References and Tools are available via the [ADEC References and Tools Website](#), which is organized by ICS section and by subject.
 - The hyperlink in this box refers plan-users to the ADEC References and Tools page; the bold heading refers to the Categories on the ADEC References and Tools Page with this information, although it is not comprehensive. Additional resources that may not be included on the ADEC References and Tools page may also be listed in the References and Tools box.
 - Purpose: Most hyperlinks were removed from the plan to facilitate hyperlink maintenance. Broken links in previous plan versions were a persistent problem. Also, consolidating all links in one location facilitates the ability of responders to download all applicable files. Previously a responder would have to search a plan to find and download these documents.
 - The ADEC References and Tools page is checked regularly for broken links which can be fixed without editing the ACP. In the event of broken or missing links on the References and Tools page found between these regular checks, the website name or title should be sufficient to find using an internet search tool.
- A glossary of terms is available [in Section 10 Definitions](#).
- Attempts have been made to format this file to enhance its usefulness in an electronic format on a computer, tablet, or smartphone.

CONTENT

- This plan is an operations plan. Content that was appropriate for prevention, preparedness, or general background has been removed. Please see the ADEC References and Tools.
- Plan users are trained responders. This plan is not intended to provide training. Content available in previous plan versions that was focused on training vs. operational has been removed.
- This plan is intended for multi-agency use. In general, agency-specific guidance is not included in the plan but is listed in the “References and Tools” box at the top of each section and many subsections, and is also available on the ADEC References and Tools Page.
- Previous plan versions quoted or paraphrased content from other plans and guidance documents. Most of this content has been removed and the plan-user is referred to the source document.
 - Purpose: This content is generated and maintained by the authoring agencies and organizations. Updates to these documents occur on timelines set by their author agencies. By referring to the source document, rather than embedding the content directly into this plan, responders are directed to the most current information.
 - Further, revisions to this content are usually outside the authority or ability of the OSCs and the Area Committees.
- This plan is one part of a suite of plans. [Section 1100](#) and Figure 1-1 describe some of the other associated plans. This plan should be used in conjunction with agency-specific plans and protocols, facility/vessel response, and issue-specific plans and guidance, such as the Wildlife Protection Guidelines for Oil Spill Response in Alaska.



ALASKA INLAND AREA COMMITTEE

Mission Statement:

Established in 2018, the Alaska Area Inland Committee manages and continuously improves upon the Area Contingency Plan, and provides a platform for consistent coordination between federal, state, tribal and local emergency planners and responders. The Area Committee ensures expedited processes exist for exigent circumstances related to dispersant use and other mitigating substances and devices. The Area Committee is the venue for public input on all relevant government processes and scientific issues related to oil and hazardous substance spill prevention, preparedness, planning and response within the Alaska Inland Area

ALASKA INLAND AREA CONTINGENCY PLAN

March 10, 2021

Dear Recipient:

Attached is the 2021 version of the Alaska Inland Area Contingency Plan (ACP). The ACP serves as tactical and operational instructions and guidance to responders and planners preparing for a coordinated federal, state, tribal, and local exercise and/or response to a discharge, or substantial threat of discharge of oil and/or a release of a hazardous substance from a facility, vehicle, vessel or other source operating within the Inland Area of Alaska. State and Federal On-Scene Coordinators shall use the ACP, in conjunction with the Regional Contingency Plan and National Contingency Plan, to inform and support the Alaska Inland Area Committee as it continuously updates and improves upon building the ACP. This ACP is compliant with Section 300.210(c) of the National Contingency Plan and Alaska Statute 46.04.210.

The Area Committee, under the direction of the Co-Chairpersons, will review the ACP annually and propose modifications in accordance with relevant agency policy and in response to operational lessons learned. We welcome your ideas to improve the plan. Please direct your correspondence to the following addresses:

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Attn: Alaska Area Planner for Emergency Response
Alaska Operations Office
222 West 7th Avenue #19
Anchorage, AK 99513

Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation
Attn: Regional and Area Planner, Interagency Coordination Unit
Prevention, Preparedness and Response Program
555 Cordova Street
Anchorage, AK 99501

This ACP supersedes the *2018 Alaska Inland Area Contingency Plan*. This plan and updated versions will be available on the following website:

<https://dec.alaska.gov/spar/ppr/contingency-plans/response-plans/inland-area/>

The Co-Chairpersons of the Alaska Inland Area Committee hereby approve this document.

Signed by:

Robert Whittier

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U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

Signed by:



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RECORD OF CHANGES

VERSION #	APPROVAL DATE	SECTION(S)	PAGE(S)	CONTEXT / REASON FOR CHANGE
2021	March 2021	All	Entire Plan	<p>Completed annual validation of ACP in accordance with NCP (40 CFR 300.210), USCG, and State of Alaska policy.</p> <p>Improved grammar and readability and removed duplicate language. Streamlined plan content for sustainable plan management; for example, consolidated external references on the new ADEC References and Tools website.</p> <p>Developed/inserted plan content for sections identified as “TBD” in version 2018. Changes made to the Arctic and Western Alaska ACP Version 2018.1, as appropriate, in the Inland Zone, have been made to this plan.</p> <p>Section 7000 (Hazardous Substances) has been revised, in consultation with the Statewide Hazardous Materials Response Team and Alaska Inland Area Committee’s Hazardous Substance Working Group.</p> <p>To align with ICS and National policy, a description of a Multi-agency Coordination Group has been added (Section 2450). A description of the role of other stakeholders, including the Regional Stakeholder Committee (RSC) has been added to Section 2460. Detailed information on the RSC is incorporated by reference as a new RSC Job Aid, available on the ADEC References and Tools webpage.</p> <p>This plan was submitted for Public Review in May-June 2020. This revision incorporates applicable information from the 2019 Arctic and Western Alaska ACP and 2020 Southeast Alaska ACP public reviews. All proposed modifications were reviewed by federal and state planners and incorporated as appropriate.</p>

2020.1	March 2024	All	Entire Plan	<p>Various administrative updates throughout.</p> <p>Incorporated UAS protocols developed by AWA plan.</p>
2020.2	April 2025	All	Entire Plan	<p>Various administrative updates throughout.</p> <p>Updated entire plan to new USCG format.</p>

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ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

The following list addresses the acronyms and abbreviations used in this ACP or that may be used during a response. The first use occurrence is provided in this list and not elsewhere in the plan. The acronyms and abbreviations are defined here, allowing the reader to quickly refer to a list, rather than search for the first appearance in the document where the acronym is defined.

°F	Degrees Fahrenheit
AAC	Alaska Administrative Code
ACP	Area Contingency Plan
ADEC	Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation
ADF&G	Alaska Department of Fish and Game
ADOH	Alaska Department of Health
ADNR	Alaska Department of Natural Resources
ADOA	Alaska Department of Administration
ADOL	Alaska Department of Law
ADOT&PF	Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities
AIMS	Alaska Incident Management System
ALMR	Alaska Land Mobile Radio
ALOHA	Areal Locations of Hazardous Atmospheres
AMPD	Average Most Probable Discharge
ARRT	Alaska Regional Response Team
AS	Alaska Statute
ATSDR	Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry
AWA	Arctic and Western Alaska
BIA	Bureau of Indian Affairs
BLM	Bureau of Land Management
BOA	Basic Ordering Agreement
BSEE	Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement
CAMEO	Computer-Aided Management of Emergency Operations
CERCLA	Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act
CFR	Code of Federal Regulations
CHRIS	Chemical Hazards Response Information System
CISPRI	Cook Inlet Spill Prevention and Response, Inc.
COTP	Captain of the Port
CPCS-1	Common Program Control Station
CST	Civil Support Team
CWA	Clean Water Act
DCRA	Alaska Division of Community and Regional Affairs
DCST	Designated Contract Support Team
DEW	Distant Early Warning
DHS	U.S. Department of Homeland Security
DHSEM	Alaska Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management (A Division of DMVA)
DMVA	Alaska Department of Military and Veterans Affairs
DOC	U.S. Department of Commerce
DOD	U.S. Department of Defense
DOE	U.S. Department of Energy

DOI	U.S. Department of the Interior
DOT	U.S. Department of Transportation
EAS	Emergency Alert System
EHS	extremely hazardous substance
EMS	Emergency Medical Services
EOC	Emergency Operations Center
EOP	Emergency Operations Plan
EPA	U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
EPCRA	Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act
ERG	Emergency Response Guide
ESA	Endangered Species Act
ESI	Environmental Sensitivity Index
eURG	National Pollution Funds Center User Reference Guide
FAA	Federal Aviation Administration
FBI	Federal Bureau of Investigation
FEMA	Federal Emergency Management Agency
FOSC	Federal On-Scene Coordinator
FPN	Federal Pollution Number
FRP	Facility Response Plan
GIS	Geographic Information System
GIUE	Government-initiated Unannounced Exercises
GRS	Geographic Response Strategies
GSA	General Services Administration
Hazmat	Hazardous materials
HAZWOPER	Hazardous Waste Operation and Emergency Response
IAP	Incident Action Plan
IC	Incident Command
ICP	Incident Command Post
ICS	Incident Command System
IFO	Intermediate Fuel Oils
IMH	Incident Management Handbook
IPAWS	Integrated Public Alert and Warning System
IMT	Incident Management Team
ISC	Integrated Support Command
IWI	Intentional Wellhead Ignition
JBER	Joint Base Elmendorf Richardson
JIC	Joint Information Center
LC	Ledger Code
LEPC	Local Emergency Planning Committee
LEPD	Local Emergency Planning District
LERP	Local Emergency Response Plan
LOFR	Liaison officer
LOSC	Local On-Scene Coordinator
MAC	Multiagency Coordination
MACS	Multiagency Coordination System
MARPLOT	Mapping Application for Response Planning and Local Operational Tasks
MESA	Most Environmentally Sensitive Area
MMPD	Maximum Most Probable Discharge

MOA	Memorandum of Agreement
MOU	Memorandum of Understanding
MSD	Marine Safety Detachment
NASA	National Aeronautics and Space Administration
NAWAS	National Warning System
NCEI	NOAA's National Centers for Environmental Information Center
NCP	National Contingency Plan
NIMS	National Incident Management System
NIOSH	National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health
NMFS	National Marine Fisheries Service
NOAA	National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NOAA ORR	NOAA, Office of Response and Restoration
NPC	National Planning Criteria
NPDES	National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System
NPFC	National Pollution Funds Center
NPRA	National Petroleum Reserve – Alaska
NPS	National Park Service
NRC	National Response Center
NRDAR	Natural Resource Damage Assessment and Restoration
NRF	National Response Framework
NRIA	Nuclear/Radiological Incident Annex
NRS	National Response System
NRT	National Response Team
NSF	National Strike Force
NTV	Non-Tank Vessel
NWS	National Weather Service
ODPCP	Oil Discharge Prevention and Contingency Plan
OHSRPRF	Alaska Oil & Hazardous Substance Release Prevention and Response Fund (also referred to as the “Response Fund”)
OPA 90	Oil Pollution Act of 1990
OSC	On-Scene Coordinator
OSHA	Occupational Safety and Health Administration
OSLTF	Federal Oil Spill Liability Trust Fund
OSRO	Oil Spill Response Organization
PADS	Physical Agent Deterrent Sheets
PIO	Public Information Officer
POLREP	Pollution Report
POR	Places of Refuge
PPOR	Potential Places of Refuge
PPE	Personal Protective Equipment
PPR	Prevention, Preparedness, and Response
PRAC	Primary Response Action Contractor
PREP	Preparedness for Response Exercise Program
PRFA	Pollution Removal Funding Authorization
PRP	Potentially Responsible Party
PWS	Prince William Sound
RCAC	Regional Citizens Advisory Council
RCP	Regional Contingency Plan

RCRA	Resource Conservation and Recovery Act
REAA	Regional Educational Attendance Area
RIID	Radioactive Isotope Identifier
RP/PRP	Responsible Party/Potential Responsible Party
RP/PRP IC	Responsible Party/Potential Responsible Party Incident Commander
RPM	Remedial Project Manager
RRT	Regional Response Team
RSA	Reimbursable Services Agreements
RSC	Regional Stakeholder Committee
RV	Recreational Vehicle
SAR	Search and Rescue
SCAT	Shoreline Cleanup Assessment Technique
SCERP	Small Community Emergency Response Plan
SCO	State Coordinating Officer
SDS	Safety Data Sheets
SEOC	State Emergency Operations Center
SERC	State Emergency Response Commission
SITREP	Situation Report
SMART	Special Monitoring of Applied Response Technologies
SMFF	Salvage and Marine Firefighting
SONS	Spill of National Significance
SOSC	State On-Scene Coordinator
SOSCR	State On-Scene Coordinator Representative
STAR	Spill Tactics for Alaska Responders
START	Superfund Technical Assessment and Response Team
SUPSALV	U.S. Navy, Supervisor of Salvage
SWIMS	Solid Waste Information Management System
TBD	To Be Developed
TOPS	Technical Operating Procedures
TOSC	Tribal On-Scene Coordinator
UC	Unified Command
USACE	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
USAMRICD	U.S. Army Medical Research Institute of Chemical Defense
USCG	U.S. Coast Guard
USFS	U.S. Forest Service
USFWS	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
VOSS	vessel of opportunity skimming system
VRP	Vessel Response Plan
WCD	Worst-case Discharge
WHEC	High Endurance Cutter
WMD	Weapons of Mass Destruction
WMEC	Medium Endurance Cutter
WPG	Wildlife Protection Guidelines for Oil Spill Response in Alaska

1 INITIAL EMERGENCY CONTACTS

FEDERAL	
NRC (24 hr)	1-800-424-8802
FOSC for Coastal Zone – USCG – Coast Guard Sector Western Alaska and U.S. Arctic	907-428-4100 or 1-866-396-1361
FOSC for Inland Zone – EPA, Region X Alaska Operations Office	907-271-5083
EPA FOSC Huelskoetter (cell)	907-570-1540
EPA FOSC Whittier (cell)	907-830-7236
EPA Region 10 (24 hr)	907-206-553-1263
STATE	
SOSC – ADEC, Central Region	1-800-478-9300
SOSC – ADEC, Northern Region	1-800-478-9300
SOSC – ADEC, Southeast Region	1-800-478-9300
SOSC—ADEC, Western Region	1-800-478-9300
After Hours Spill Number	1-800-478-9300

Additional contact information is available on the [ADEC References and Tools webpage](#) within the ACP Contact Directory.

1000 – INTRODUCTION

REFERENCES AND TOOLS

National and Statewide Policy

Agency Response Guides

[ADEC Alaska Inland Area Committee Website](#)

Alaska's federal and state government response planning obligations are met through the Alaska RCP, Arctic and Western Alaska ACP, Alaska Inland ACP, Prince William Sound ACP, and Southeast Alaska ACP. The RCP contains planning and response role and policy information that in other areas of the nation would most likely be contained in an ACP. This information may be succinctly repeated in Alaska's ACPs when emphasis is desired, but the primary location of this information is contained in the RCP.

This ACP is an operational plan. Under the guidance and oversight of the federal and State on-scene coordinators, the Alaska Inland Area Committee has prepared this ACP for, and in consultation with, the responders dependent upon its implementation. Plan content is intended to support the individuals that fill a response role and to achieve a coordinated and effective response to a pollution event as defined by the NCP.

This plan is intended to serve as a primary guidance during a response. Additional information and guidance referenced in the plan is found in the boxes labeled "References and Tools," which direct the user to the ADEC website. Table 1-1 outlines the five categories of References and Tools established to organize various types of information to support a response to an oil discharge or hazardous substance release anywhere in Alaska.

Table 1-1: Categories of References and Tools

Alaska Area Planning References and Tools website: https://dec.alaska.gov/spar/ppr/contingency-plans/response-plans/tools/	
CATEGORY	DESCRIPTION
AGENCY RESPONSE GUIDES	The key response guidance and tools that are utilized in most responses (e.g., IMHs, AIMS, STAR, WPGs).
PRINCIPAL REFERENCES & TOOLS	These include geographically specific or position-specific principal references. This might include guidance specific to a geographic zone, a habitat type, or job aid. These are often used by multiple ICS sections, and are applicable to most responses.
SECONDARY REFERENCES & TOOLS	Issue-specific or task-specific information. This includes templates and job-aids relevant to completing a discreet task or applies to certain types of responses (e.g., an ammonia release).
BACKGROUND INFORMATION & BIBLIOGRAPHIC SOURCES	Preparedness, planning, and training information.
AREA-SPECIFIC INFORMATION	Information that is applicable to a specific ACP geographic area and within the authority of the OSCs to revise or modify for specific application.

All the References and Tools provided on the ADEC webpage do not reflect specific endorsement or mandate by the Alaska Inland Area Committee but are provided to assist responders. If there appears to be a conflict between what is stated in documents found within the References and Tools website and what is stated within statutory or regulatory requirements, the statutory or regulatory requirements shall be followed.

Area-specific information may be incorporated into the ACP [Section 9000](#) or directly hyperlinked to the relevant Area Committee and ACP webpage.

1100 – INTRODUCTION/AUTHORITY

This Alaska Inland ACP represents a coordinated and cooperative effort by government agencies. This document contains information applicable to a pollution response within the Inland Area of Alaska. The EPA and ADEC have written this ACP jointly. It meets the government pollution response contingency planning requirements under the NCP and State of Alaska’s Statutes (AS). The Alaska Inland ACP is also the primary guidance document for RP/PRP lead responses to execute an effective and appropriate response as per the NCP.

This ACP describes the strategies of a coordinated federal, State, tribal, and local response to a discharge, or substantial threat of discharge of oil or a release of a hazardous substance from a vessel or facility operating within Alaska’s boundaries and surrounding waters (geographic boundaries). Industry’s facility and vessel response and contingency plans provide specific data regarding the RP/PRP’s containment, control, and cleanup actions. LERPs, also known as EOPs and SCERPs, provide information regarding resources and emergency actions at the community level. The RCP, ACPs, LERPs, and industry plans are all critical components of the coordinated federal, State, tribal, local, and RP/PRP response to an oil discharge or hazardous substance release. Figure 1-1: Integrated Contingency Planning illustrates the interrelationship of local, State, and federal planning efforts.

The Alaska Inland ACP addresses responses to an average most probable discharge (AMPD), a maximum most probable (MMPD), and a worst-case discharge (WCD), including discharges from fire or explosion. Planning for these three scenarios covers the expected range of discharges and releases likely to occur in the area. Hazardous substance response scenarios are also included, where appropriate. For the purposes of this plan, the average most probable discharge is the size of an average discharge/release in the area based on historical data. The MMPD is also based on historical discharge/release data, and is the size of the discharge most likely to occur, considering:

- The size of the largest recorded discharge/release;
- Traffic flow through the area;
- Hazard assessment;
- Risk assessment;
- Seasonal considerations;
- Discharge/release histories; and
- Operating records of facilities and vessels in the area.

The WCD for a facility is the largest foreseeable discharge in adverse weather conditions (see 33 USC § 2735(b)(2); 49 CFR 130.5). Summaries of scenarios by geographic zone are referenced in [Section 9430](#) and available on the Area Plan References and Tools page in the compiled Alaska Oil Spill and Hazardous Substance Release Scenarios Compendium.

This plan is also used as a framework to assess shortfalls and weaknesses in the Alaska Inland area response structure before an incident. Consistency reviews should address, at a minimum, the quality and quantity of federal, state, tribal, local, and industry response equipment within the State; available response personnel; protective strategies; and personnel needs compared to those required.

The Alaska Inland Area Committee is tasked to manage and continuously improve upon this ACP. Further guidance on the Alaska Inland Area Committee is located in the Alaska RCP and [Section 1300 Area Committee](#). Interested parties are also welcome to reach out to the AWA Area Committee Secretary for further information or visit the Area Committee and ACP webpage.

The NCP details governmental obligations to establish response plans and the necessary content for these plans. Additional information on Alaska’s government contingency planning requirements and authorities are found within AS 46.04.200, AS 46.04.210, and AS 26.23 *Disasters*.

Figure 1-1: Integrated Contingency Planning



The Alaska Inland Area Committee is tasked to manage and continuously improve upon this ACP, primarily through an annual validation process. This process includes reviewing the Alaska Inland ACP, proposing modifications, and, if appropriate, incorporating those modifications with approval from federal and State OSCs. Further guidance on the Alaska Inland Area Committee is in the Alaska RCP and [Section 1300](#). Interested parties are also welcome to reach out to the Alaska Inland Area Committee Secretary for further information or visit the [Alaska Inland Area Committee and ACP webpage](#).

The NCP details governmental obligations to establish response plans and the necessary content for these plans. Additional information on Alaska's government contingency planning requirements and authorities are found within AS 46.04.200, AS 46.04.210, and AS 26.23 *Disasters*.

1200 – GEOGRAPHIC BOUNDARIES

For more detailed mapping, refer to the references and tools website, mapping and GIS section.

1210 – Geographic Planning Boundaries

Alaska is divided into the Inland zone and the Coastal zone. The Inland zone generally includes all non-coastal land and waterways, 1,000 yards and inland of the waters subject to the extent of tide, with exceptions from this

1 general rule noted in the MOU. This ACP encompasses the Inland zone of Alaska. The FOSC boundaries are defined
2 in an agreement titled *Memorandum of Understanding between the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region*
3 *10, Superfund and Emergency Management Division and the U.S. Coast Guard Seventeenth District Concerning*
4 *FOSC Response Boundaries for Oil Discharges and Hazardous Substance Pollutant and/or Contaminant Release,*
5 dated January 2022 – see Section 1220.1 for additional information. These boundaries are used for both planning
6 and response activity purposes. A copy of this MOU can be found in the RCP.

7 The Alaska Inland area is subdivided into ten (10) geographic zones, the boundaries of which are defined in State of
8 Alaska regulation 18 AAC 75.495 (*Regional Master Discharge Prevention and Contingency Plan Boundaries*). These
9 geographic zones are detailed in Table 1-2 and Figure 1-2.

10

1 Figure 1-2: Alaska Planning Areas and Ten Geographic Zones and Table 1-2: Geographic Zone Descriptions.

2 Table 1-2: Geographic Zone Descriptions, Inland Area

GEOGRAPHIC ZONE	DESCRIPTION
Aleutian Island (AI)	Encompasses the boundaries of the Aleutians East Borough, the Aleutians West Coastal Resource Service Area, and the Pribilof Islands, inland of 1,000 yards from the extent of tide.
Bristol Bay (BB)	Encompasses the boundaries of the Bristol Bay Coastal Resource Service Area, the Bristol Bay Borough, and the Lake and Peninsula Borough, inland of 1,000 yards from the extent of tide.
Cook Inlet (CI)	Encompasses the boundaries of the Kenai Peninsula Borough, the Municipality of Anchorage, and the Matanuska-Susitna Borough, inland of 1,000 yards from the extent of tide.
Kodiak Island (KI)	Corresponds with the Kodiak Island Borough boundaries, inland of 1,000 yards from the extent of tide. It encompasses the Kodiak Island archipelago, extending from the Barren Islands at the north to Chirikof Island and the Semidi Island group at the south, and the coastal area watershed draining to the Shelikof Strait on the south side of the Alaska Peninsula from Cape Kilokak to Cape Douglas. The Kodiak archipelago and west side of Shelikof Strait within the Kodiak Island Borough is approximately 100 miles wide and 250 miles long. It includes more than 5,000 square miles of land, no point of which is more than 15 miles from the sea.
North Slope (NS)	Encompasses the boundaries of the North Slope Borough, inland of 1000 yards from the extent of tide.
Northwest Arctic (NWA)	Encompasses the Northwest Arctic Borough and the Bering Straits Regional Corporation, inland of 1,000 yards from the extent of tide.
Prince William Sound (PWS)	Encompasses the area of the state south of 63°30' 63E 30' North latitude, west of the Southeast Alaska geographic zone, and east of the Cook Inlet geographic zone, inland of 1,000 yards from the extent of tide.
Southeast Alaska (SEAK)	This area includes all of Alaska from the Dixon Entrance to the south up to and including Icy Cape to the north, inland of 1,000 yards from the extent of tide. The area extends a distance of over 530 miles. The Southeast Alaska Geographic Zone Area is comprised of the State of Alaska east of a straight line commencing at 60.01.3 degrees north latitude, 142 degrees west latitude, thence proceeding northeasterly to its end at the international boundary between the United States and Canada at 60.18.7 degrees north latitude, 141 degrees west longitude.
Western Alaska (WA)	Lies north of the Bristol Bay Geographic zone and south of the Bering Straits Regional Corporation, Iditarod, and Kuspuks REAA, inland of 1,000 yards from the extent of tide.

3

4

Figure 1-2: Alaska Planning Areas and Ten Geographic Zones

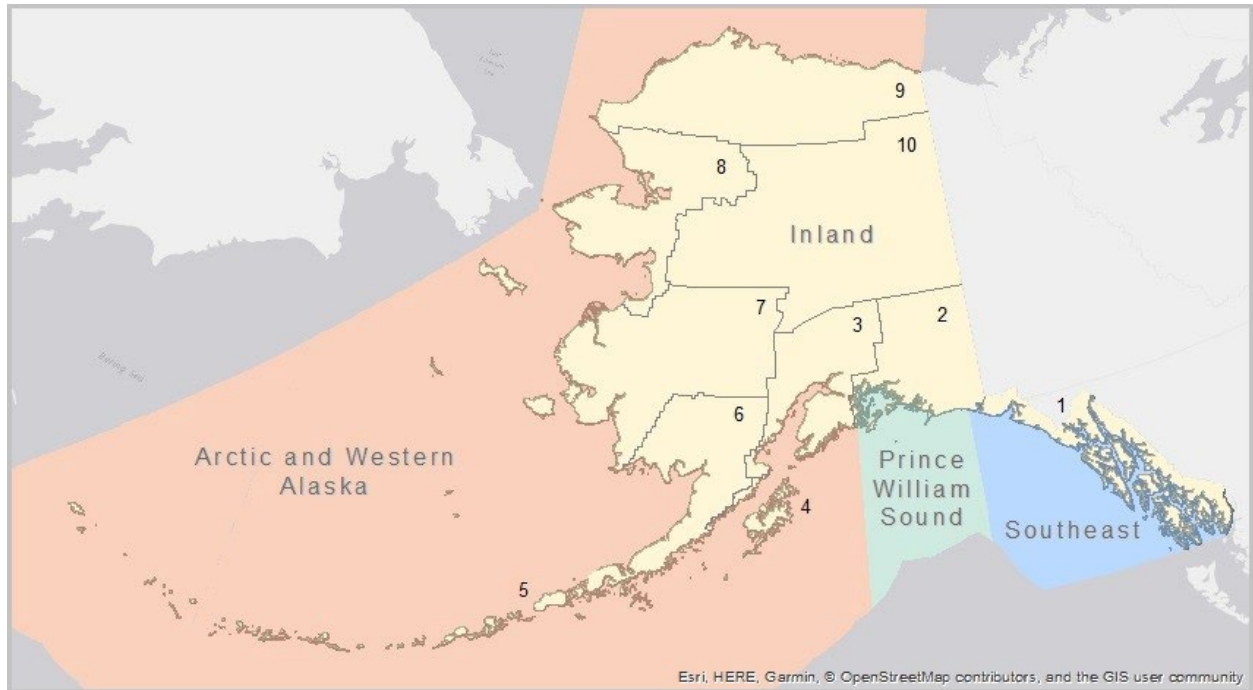


Figure 1-2 depicts the four Planning Areas in Alaska and the ten geographic zones (1. Southeast Alaska; 2. Prince William Sound; 3. Cook Inlet; 4. Kodiak Island; 5. Aleutian Islands; 6. Bristol Bay; 7. Western Alaska; 8. Northwest Arctic; 9. North Slope; and 10. Interior Alaska).

1220 – Geographic Response Boundaries

Response boundaries delineate areas of responsibility for FOSCs and SOSCs. The federal agency providing the FOSC is determined by the location of the incident (coastal or inland zone, for most responses). ADEC determines the SOSC based on the location of the incident, i.e. Northern, Central, Southeast, or Western area. Although each SOSC has a designated area of responsibility, all authorized SOSCs have statewide jurisdictional authority.

1220.1 – FOSC Boundaries

An existing MOU, described in [Section 1210](#), between the USCG Seventeenth District and EPA, formally establishes the emergency response boundary for USCG and EPA FOSCs at 1,000 yards inland of the extent of tide.

Per the MOU, the response and planning boundary between the federal jurisdictions of the USCG and EPA will be 1,000 linear yards from the extent of the tide. However, the MOU identifies the following eight exception areas to the general 1,000-yard rule:

- Kenai River (Kenai, AK) [Arctic and Western Alaska Area];
- Kasilof River (Kasilof, AK) [Arctic and Western Alaska Area];
- Knik River (Palmer, AK) [Arctic and Western Alaska Area];
- Kuskokwim River (Bethel, AK) [Arctic and Western Alaska Area];
- Kvichak River (Levelock, AK) [Arctic and Western Alaska Area];
- Naknek River (King Salmon, AK) [Arctic and Western Alaska Area];
- Nushagak River and Wood River (Dillingham, AK) [Arctic and Western Alaska Area]; and
- Yukon River (St. Mary's, AK) [Arctic and Western Alaska Area].

Maps of the jurisdictional boundaries at these exception locations are available on the ARRT webpage. The ACP Community by Area Committee database, available on the State's References and Tools webpage, is a statewide location cross-reference listing. This table may aid in determining the applicable planning area by city or borough and geographic zone.

In the event a discharge or release affects more than one area, 40 CFR 300.140(b) of the NCP provides that the determination of the FOSC should, in general, be based on the area or resource most vulnerable to the greatest threat. If the area vulnerable to the greatest threat cannot be determined, the Unified Commanders may want to consider establishing an organization that can adequately provide for effective response in both zones.

FOSC for DOD and DOE Facilities: Per the NCP, the DOD and the DOE will provide FOSCs who will be responsible for taking all response actions to releases of hazardous substances, pollutants, or contaminants when the release is on, or the sole source of the release is from, any facility or vessel, including bareboat-chartered and bareboat-operated vessels, under their jurisdiction, custody, or control.

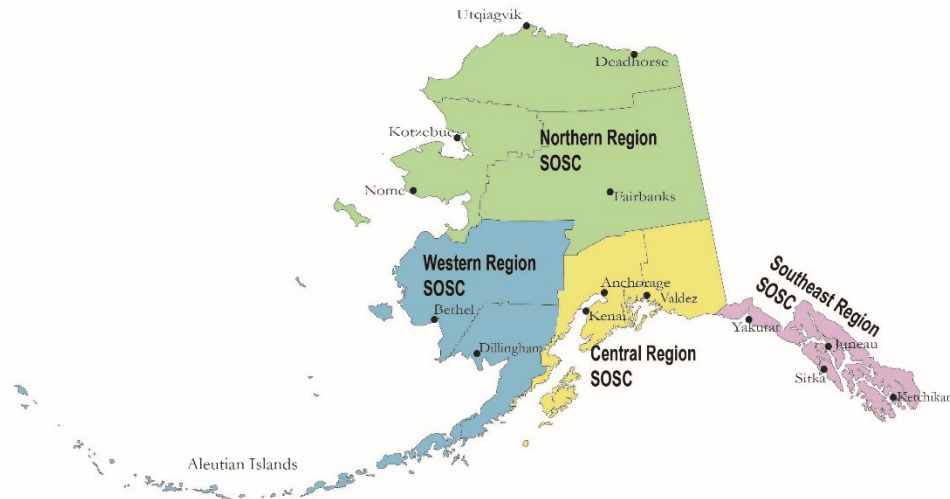
1220.2 – SOSC Boundaries

- SOSCs are designated by the Commissioner of the ADEC. SOSCs have been pre-designated for the following response areas: Northern Alaska; Central Alaska; Western Alaska; and Southeast Alaska. SOSC response boundaries for the State of Alaska are depicted on the map shown in Figure 1-4: SOSC Response Boundaries. In the event of a major spill, the Commissioner may designate the Director, Spill Prevention and Response Division or another individual to serve as the SOSC. An SOSC may appoint an on-scene field representative (SOSC Rep) to act for the SOSC during a response with selectively delegated authority by the SOSC. There is a response team available for oil discharges and hazardous substance releases in each geographic area of responsibility. These teams and their areas of responsibility are as follows:
 - Western Region:** Western Alaska, Bristol Bay, and Aleutian Islands.
 - Central Region:** Prince William Sound, Cook Inlet, and Kodiak Geographic Zones.
 - Northern Region:** Northwest Arctic, North Slope, and Interior Geographic Zones.
 - Southeast Region:** Southeast Alaska Geographic Zone.

- Regional response teams provide ADEC’s initial response to actual or potential releases to protect people, property, and the environment. These response teams are trained to identify hazards and augment response efforts by taking defensive actions to contain the release; prevent exposures; and secure the area. The most important functions of area response teams are to make proper notifications and initiate the emergency response sequence. The SOSOC and their associated response teams are activated dependent upon the location of the spill in the Alaska Inland Area. When necessary, the initial ADEC response team may be supported through activation of state support staff or responders from other regions. The Statewide Response Team is activated for large incidents requiring mobilization of statewide resources, participation of other state agencies, and involvement of other jurisdictional interests. ADEC’s most experienced and senior personnel from the four regional teams will fill the state’s primary response roles and activate supporting staff as needed.

The Statewide Response Team is activated for large incidents requiring mobilization of statewide resources, participation of other state agencies, and involvement of other jurisdictional interests. ADEC’s most experienced and senior personnel from the four regional teams will fill the State’s primary response roles and activate supporting staff as needed.

Figure 1-3: SOSOC Response Boundaries



1300 – AREA COMMITTEE

Under the CWA, as amended by the OPA 90 and the NCP (40 CFR 300.210), the Alaska Inland Area Committee acts as a preparedness and planning body for the Alaska Inland. FOSC and SOSCs serve as co-chairs to the Area Committee. The Alaska Inland Area Committee is comprised of federal, State, tribal, local, industrial, and other non-governmental organization representatives.

The Alaska Inland Area Committee provides a process for public involvement and input on all relevant government processes and scientific issues related to oil discharge and hazardous substance release prevention, preparedness, planning, and response. A primary function of the Alaska Inland Area Committee is to improve coordination among the federal, State, tribal and local planning levels and to facilitate the availability of trained personnel, necessary equipment, and scientific support needed to address oil discharges or hazardous substance releases.

The Alaska Inland Area Committee solicits advice, guidance or expertise from all appropriate sources and establishes subcommittees and work groups as necessary to accomplish the preparedness and planning task. The FOSC/SOSCs may solicit support from federal or State ARRT members on an as needed basis. This includes requesting, where necessary, that the ARRT provide guidance to the Area Committee to support inter-area consistency within Alaska.

1310 – Organization

The EPA's FOSCs and the SOSCs for the Northern Region, Central Region, Southeastern Region, and Western Regions serve as the Alaska Inland Area Committee co-chairs. The co-chairs provide leadership to the Area Committee through the Alaska Inland Steering Committee.

Alaska Inland Area Secretary

The Alaska Inland Area Committee organization includes an Area Secretary with five (5) standing subcommittees:

- Geographic Response Strategies Subcommittee;
- Exercise and Training Subcommittee;
- Regulator Advisory and Coordination Subcommittee;
- External Communications; and
- ACP Administration.

The Area Committee selects members and provides general direction and guidance for any standing subcommittee. In addition to federal, State, and local agency representatives, subcommittee participants may include facility, owners/operators, shipping company representatives, cleanup contractors, emergency response

officials, marine pilot associations, academia, environmental groups, consultants, response organizations and representatives from any applicable regional citizens' advisory councils.

NOTE: Although the Alaska Inland Area Committee is an operational planning body and not a response entity, members of the Alaska Inland Area Committee may also have specific roles during response operations.

1400 – NATIONAL RESPONSE SYSTEM (NRS)

General information on the NRS is provided in the Alaska RCP and should be referenced for information on the broader response principles of this system. Defined by the 40 CFR 300.5, *the NRS is the mechanism for coordinating response actions by all levels of government in support of the OSC/RPM. The NRS is composed of the NRT, RRTs, OSC/RPM, Area Committees, and Special Teams and related support entities. The NRS can expand or contract to accommodate the response effort required by the size or complexity of the discharge or release.*

1410 – Spill of National Significance (SONS)

For a SONS in the Inland Zone, the EPA Administrator may name a senior agency official to assist the FOSC in communicating with affected parties and the public, and to coordinate federal, State, tribal, local, and international resources at the national level. This strategic coordination will involve, as appropriate, the NRT, ARRT, the Governor of Alaska, tribal leaders, and the mayors or other chief executives of local governments (refer to 40 CFR 300.323).

1420 – State-Declared Disaster

REFERENCES AND TOOLS

National and Statewide Policy

- Alaska RCP **Natural Disasters/Stafford Act Disasters**
- State of Alaska Emergency Operations Plan

See also State of Alaska Administrative Order #170

Responses resulting from State-declared disasters are coordinated through the DMVA, and the DHSEM. Commissioners of DEC and DMVA coordinate to determine if an oil discharge or hazardous substance release constitutes a disaster emergency under AS 26.23. This coordination and consultation may result in a request to the Governor of Alaska for a disaster emergency declaration. During a state-declared disaster emergency, the OSCs report through the SEOC to the SCO.

Generally, the Governor's proclamation of a disaster emergency is a prerequisite to a federal major disaster or emergency declaration. During a federal major disaster or emergency declaration, the SOSC reports to the SCO, and the FOSC reports to the Principal Federal Official. When either a State or federal disaster results in conflicting demands for scarce resources (e.g. aircraft) the SCO is responsible for making resource allocation decisions.

1430 – Regional Response Team (RRT) Structure

REFERENCES AND TOOLS

National and Statewide Policy

- Alaska RCP
- NCP, 40 CFR 300.115
- NCP, 40 CFR 300.120

Additional information on the standing ARRT is found at: <https://www.alaskarrt.org/>

The ARRT is a standing body established by the NCP. During a response, an incident-specific ARRT may be activated to coordinate assistance and provide advice to the FOSC. The ARRT may assist in providing additional federal and

State resources to facilitate coordination for federal and State permits. An incident-specific ARRT is led by the agency providing the FOSC (USCG or EPA).

During any response requiring State input to the ARRT, the SOSC has been delegated the authority to serve as the representative to the ARRT. The SOSC consults with other state agencies that have management authorities/responsibilities for resources that might be affected by ARRT decisions. If an incident-specific ARRT is activated, due to the operational requirements of the response to a specific oil discharge or hazardous substance release, appropriate ARRT members will convene, as necessary. They may discuss major policy issues affecting multiple agencies, such as *in situ* burning, use of chemical countermeasures, and nationwide permits. More details on NCP authorized incident-specific ARRT activities is found at 40 CFR 300.115(j)(4)(i-v).

When an ARRT agency representative is assigned as a responder within an incident-specific UC, they may be activated to advise the OSCs as a member of the ARRT. Although the expertise of an agency representative is essential to each task, the functional roles may be different within the response structure.

1440 – Alaska Inland Area Response Structure

REFERENCES AND TOOLS

National and Statewide Policy, Agency Response Guides

- Alaska RCP
- AIMS Guide
- EPA IMH
- ADEC Disaster Response Plan
- ACP Contact Database

1440.1 – Federal Role in Incident Response

The EPA is the lead agency for inland oil discharge and hazardous substance release responses and will serve as the FOSC in the UC. The role of the EPA in the UC will vary according to type of discharge/release and size. The EPA has adopted the EPA IMH for use in guiding their major response efforts. The guide provides detailed guidance for each identified ICS position for emergency response operations and is available as a downloadable application that is searchable.

1440.2 – State Role in Incident Response

The ADEC is the lead agency for the State of Alaska when responding to the release of oil and hazardous substances. ADEC has oversight and approval authority for the containment and cleanup of discharged oil, including the handling and final disposal of waste generated from the response (AS 46.04.020 Removal of Oil Discharges). ADEC serves as the SOSC in the UC. The AIMS Guide provides ADEC and other response personnel with detailed guidance for each ICS position to properly respond to a major spill incident.

1440.3 – Tribal Role in Incident Response

TOSCs can represent tribes and their interests and authorities. These individuals may be physically at the response, and if the incident requires it, there may be multiple TOSCs within a single UC. The role of the TOSC is broad, but focused in two main areas:

- Ensuring that tribal needs, priorities, and concerns are reflected in the incident objectives and the decision-making of the UC; and
- Offering tribal resources to support the response and helping the response be more efficient and effective through tight coordination with the tribal community and government.

The TOSC should help facilitate effective, direct communication between the response and the tribe. The Alaska Inland ACP does not specify who will fill the TOSC role, but that the individual should be someone with a strong command of ICS, the authority to make decisions on behalf of the tribe, knowledge of tribal resources and capabilities, and the ability to commit full time to the response.

There are many roles for tribal governments to consider during a response. The role of tribal governments is determined by the tribe's jurisdictional authority, interest, and availability of qualified tribal representatives. Examples of roles for tribal government representatives include:

- Join UC as the TOSC. This requires jurisdictional authority, adequate training, and the ability to commit full time to the response.
- Contribute information about sensitive resources to the Planning Section.
- Add local knowledge to the Logistics Section or Operations Section.
- Work through stakeholder issues with the Liaison Officer.
- Work with the Joint Information Officer in the Joint Information Center to ensure tribal constituents are briefed appropriately.
- Work within the Operations Section if the tribe has significant tactical resources that will be deployed in the field.

The best way for a tribal government to prepare for the TOSC role is:

- Develop and maintain the tribe's SCERP (Contact DHSEM SCERP Team for assistance).
- Have a solid background in ICS, with training up through the ICS 400 level would be very useful (basic online ICS training is available through FEMA).
- Participate in regular meetings of the Area Committee.
- Participate in the development and testing of GRSs in their jurisdiction.
- Review the Alaska Inland ACP and other information available to responders on the ARRT, ADEC, and Alaska Inland ACP webpage.
- Participate in as many response exercises as possible and forge relationships with partners in industry and the State and federal government.
- Build relationship with potential community stakeholders that includes individuals, agencies, and non-profits likely to be impacted by a discharge/release and involved in the response.

1440.4 – Local Role in Incident Response

REFERENCES AND TOOLS

Contact Information

- Alaska DCRA Community Database (online resource for local contact and community information, best viewed in Mozilla Firefox or Google Chrome web browsers)

LOSCs can represent a city or borough during a response. These individuals are physically at the response, and if the incident requires it, there may be multiple LOSCs within a single UC. Local governments with jurisdiction to direct and coordinate local responses to incidents designate the LOSCs to serve and represent their community. LOSCs are normally part of the UC as long as there is an immediate threat to public safety or the incident occurs within their local jurisdiction.

The LOSC will serve as the Incident Commander as long as there is an immediate threat to human life, unless the LOSC requests a State or federal authority to assume that responsibility. Once the immediate threats to human life are abated, a UC assumes authority for the response.

In the event of an oil discharge or hazardous substance release that impacts or threatens to affect multiple jurisdictions, the appropriate officials from the affected communities will integrate into the command structure either through an LOSC liaison representing the affected communities or through a multi-agency coordination group.

1440.5 – Responsible Party/ Potential Responsible Party (RP/PRP) Policy

The RP/PRP is responsible for containing, controlling, and cleaning up any oil discharge or hazardous substance released in accordance with any industry response plans required by federal law or ODPCPs required by State law. The RP/PRP must notify the federal, State, tribal, and local authorities of the incident and initiate an effective response. The RP/PRP is expected to respond to an incident using their own resources and secure additional contractual expertise and equipment when necessary.

The FOSC and SOSC have the authority to oversee the RP/PRP's activities, and both are authorized to take over or augment the RP/PRP's response activities if they determine those activities to be inadequate. During an RP/PRP lead response, if the regulated vessel or facility has an ODPCP under State law or a VRP or FRP under the national planning criteria, it will serve as the primary guidance document for the response, and the RP/PRP will designate the Incident Commander.

If there is no RP/PRP, or if the RP/PRP does not have a government-approved contingency plan, the ACP will become the guiding document during the response.

1450 – Incident Command System (ICS)

REFERENCES AND TOOLS

National and Statewide Policy

- Alaska RCP

Agency Response Guides (ADEC and EPA will utilize ICS per their agency guidance)

- AIMS Guide
- EPA IMH

ICS Resources

1450.1 - Government Role

Although the EPA and ADEC are the lead federal and state agencies with broad responsibilities during an oil discharge or hazardous substance release, other federal and state agencies have major roles in incident response, which are defined by federal and State statutes.

Every effort will be made to incorporate personnel from participating agencies in specific ICS functional roles within the Planning, Finance/Administration, Operations, Logistics and Command Staff. All participants assigned to the response will work under the direction of the FOSC or SOSC while representing their respective agencies.

The FOSC is responsible for representing all federal response action concerns, in accordance with the NCP. The FOSC is the final arbitrator within the federal response organization. All disputes should be resolved within the response structure, so the federal government can speak with a single consistent voice through the FOSC.

State of Alaska agencies with regulatory or mandated roles will organize into a single State response to an oil discharge or hazardous substance release with a single SOSC in charge. Even though the SOSC is from the ADEC, they are responsible for representing **all** State concerns. The SOSC is also the final arbitrator within the State's spill response organization. All disputes should be resolved within the response structure, so the State can speak with a single, consistent voice. Disputes that cannot be resolved within the incident response structure should be elevated by the Agency Representative or SOSC to the Crisis Management Team for resolution at the Commissioner level.

1460 – Area Exercises

Area exercises are intended to ensure every component of an ACP is exercised over a four-year period. There are four types of Area exercises required per the *PREP Guidelines*:

- Quarterly Area notification drills;

- Annual Area IMT tabletop exercise;
- Annual equipment deployment drill; and
- Quadrennial Area full scale exercise.

1460.1 – National PREP

REFERENCES AND TOOLS

Background Information, Preparedness Resources:

- National Preparedness for Response Exercise Program Guidelines, 2016

The National Preparedness Response Exercise Program (NPREP) was developed to satisfy the OPA 90-mandated federal oil pollution response exercise requirements under the purview of the USCG, EPA, PHMSA and BSEE. PREP is not mandated for use by industry but does meet the intent of OPA 90 for a regulated facility exercise program and demonstration of federal discharge response readiness.

1460.2 – State of Alaska Provisions for an Area Exercise

For State of Alaska government plans exercise provisions, reference: AS 46.04.200(d) State Master Plan. The ADEC commissioner is authorized to “require or schedule an unannounced oil spill drill” of an approved industry plan to test the need to revise Alaska’s government response plans. As the RCP and ACPs meet the State of Alaska’s response planning obligations, elements of any of these plans may be assessed during any industry-initiated exercise or specifically evaluated at the direction of the commissioner.

1470 – Federal Radiological Response Plan

REFERENCES AND TOOLS

Hazardous Substances

- Job Aid: Radiation Response Guidance
- Nuclear/Radiological Incident Annex (NRIA) to the National Response Framework (NRF)
- EPA: Radiological Emergency Response Plan, 2017

Additional information may be found on the National Nuclear Security Administration website for Nuclear Incident Response.

The 2017 EPA Radiological Emergency Response Plan identifies the overall roles, responsibilities, and coordination for management of potential or actual radiological incidents and emergencies and coordination among the following EPA offices and Special Teams.

FEMA maintains the NRIA to the NRF, which describes the policies, situations, concepts of operations, and responsibilities of the federal departments and agencies governing the immediate response and short-term recovery activities for incidents involving release of radioactive materials to address the consequences of the event.

1500 – STATE/LOCAL RESPONSE SYSTEM

REFERENCES AND TOOLS

National and Statewide Policy

- Alaska RCP

Logistics

- Community Spill Response Agreements and Local Response Equipment

Background Information

- DHSEM SCERP

ADEC maintains agreements with several Level A and Level B qualified hazmat teams to provide local and statewide hazmat response expertise. ADEC has established Community Spill Response Agreements or Local Spill Equipment Agreements. Additional information on these is provided in the RCP.

1510 – Local Response Systems and Teams

The NCP establishes that emergency responses are managed by the local responders under the direction of the LOSC as long as there is an immediate threat to life-safety. The SOSC or FOSC may assume the responsibility upon the request of the LOSC.

The local agency that provides the LOSC depends on the response location, agency jurisdiction, and the capabilities and availability of agency staff/representatives to serve in the role of LOSC. Agencies and organizations that may provide a LOSC include:

- Local Governments: City or Borough;
- Tribal Governments;
- Local Fire, EMS, or Law Enforcement;
- Hazmat Teams; and
- LEPCs.

1600 – NATIONAL POLICY AND DOCTRINE

REFERENCES AND TOOLS

National and Statewide Policy

- Alaska RCP

Please see the Alaska RCP, section on Response Policy and Scope (2021 version) for the national response policy.

2000 – COMMAND

Although an incident may involve a single Incident Commander, often someone from the RP/PRP or local jurisdiction will fill that role; regardless, the focus of this plan is on a coordinated multi-jurisdictional or a UC response.

2100 – UNIFIED COMMAND (UC)

REFERENCES AND TOOLS

National and Statewide Policy

- Alaska RCP

Agency Response Guides

- AIMS Guide, Section 2.7 Unified Command
- EPA IMH, Chapter 12 Unified Command

Statewide Agency Guidance and Policy

- Wildlife Protection Guidelines for Oil Spill Response in Alaska

ICS Resources

- USCG ICS Position Job Aids

Cultural Resources and Historic Properties

- Programmatic Agreement on Protection of Historic Properties during Emergency Response under the National Oil and Hazardous Substances Pollution Contingency Plan
- Alaska Implementation Guidelines for FOSCs for the Programmatic Agreement on Protection of Historic Properties during Emergency Response under the NCP

If an RP/PRP is identified and is responding, UC should: receive an incident briefing, assess current response actions, and identify immediate response priorities. Following initial response actions by the RP/PRP, and consistent with their industry response plans, the State and federal agencies with jurisdiction may establish a UC with the RP/PRP.

For significant oil discharges and hazardous substance releases, there will normally be OSCs from the federal and State governments and a RP/PRP IC. There may also be a tribal or local OSC for incidents posing an immediate threat to public safety and those within their jurisdictions. When there is not an RP/PRP, the RP/PRP is unable to respond satisfactorily, or the federal or State OSC takes over response activities, UC will determine the IC.

The IC directs control, containment, removal, and disposal of the waste. The RP/PRP IC and the agencies with jurisdictional responsibility will contribute to the process of:

- Determining overall incident objectives and priorities;
- Selecting strategies;
- Ensuring joint planning for tactical activities;
- Ensuring integrated tactical operations are conducted;
- Maximizing use of all assigned resources; and
- Resolving conflicts.

The UC oversees all aspects of the incident response (e.g., oversight, monitoring, resource allocation, and cleanup). The FOSC and SOSC make the determination of the adequacy of the RP/PRP's control, containment, removal, and disposal efforts. The Unified Commanders will:

- Designate the IC (if RP/PRP lead, generally a qualified individual is the designated RP/PRP IC);

- where the RP/PRP is unknown or where the RP/PRP is not adequately responding to the incident, designate the IC (who will normally be one of the Unified Commanders assigned to the UC);
- Designate officers and section chiefs for each section within the ICS;
- Review and approve a consolidated IAP; and
- Ensure the IAP is carried out by the IC.

There can be only one IC at any given time. However, the IC can change as incidents progress if circumstances arise that are beyond the ability or resources of the RP/PRP.

2110 – Command Representatives

Under the NCP and State statutes, State and federal governments are responsible for ensuring responses to oil discharges and hazardous substance release incidents are timely and adequate. This responsibility has three aspects:

- Conduct the government’s oversight functions concerning monitoring, investigating, permitting, and collecting documentation for possible litigation or cost recovery;
- Augment the RP/PRP’s cleanup efforts, when necessary, to contain the release, recover the product, and minimize the impact to the environment; and
- Take over containment, control, and cleanup operations when necessary.

Federal and State governments conduct and coordinate these three functions using the Unified ICS. The federal and State governments’ oversight function only involves government or contracted resources, although it is coordinated with other parties involved in the cleanup effort.

2110.1 – Federal Representative

The FOSC directs and coordinates the federal response to incidents under the authority of federal laws and regulations.

2110.2 – State Representative

The SOSC directs and coordinates the State’s response to an oil discharge and hazardous substance release.

2110.3 – Tribal Representative

Tribal governments can designate a qualified representative to serve as a TOSC on the UC. The TOSC coordinates the tribe’s response to an oil discharge and hazardous substance release.

2110.4 – Local Representative

REFERENCES AND TOOLS	
Contact Information	
•	Alaska DCRA Community Database (online resource for local contact and community information, best viewed in Mozilla Firefox or Google Chrome web browsers)
•	ACP Contact Directory

Local governments can designate a qualified representative to serve as an LOSC on the UC. The LOSC may serve as IC as long as there is an immediate threat to public safety. The LOSC coordinates the local government response to an oil discharge and hazardous substance release.

2110.5 – RP/PRP Representative

The RP/PRP provides an IC as long as the RP/PRP is responding and has adequate resources to dedicate to the effort. Under State regulations 18 AAC 75.315, it is the responsibility of the RP/PRP to contain, control, and clean up an oil discharge or hazardous substance release. Similar federal laws require RP/PRPs to respond to their discharges/releases and oblige the RP/PRP to direct its own containment, control, and cleanup efforts. While the

RP/PRP is required to respond to a discharge/release, the SOSC oversees the RP/PRP's containment, control, and cleanup efforts and has the authority to take over or supplement the response activities if the SOSC determines that the response is inadequate (18 AAC 75.320). The FOSC has similar authority under federal law. OPA 90 authorizes the USCG and the EPA to direct the PRP's activities without "federalizing" (taking federal control of) the cleanup efforts.

The RP/PRP may use contracted resources, including OSROs, IMTs, and NTV Cleanup Contractors, to assist or to act on their behalf during the incident responses. These entities may fill ICS positions or work in the field to facilitate cleanup efforts.

2120 – Area Command and Single Command

2120.1 – Area Command

Per the NIMS Command and Management component, the specific purposes of establishing an Area Command are to:

- Oversee the management and support of multiple incidents; and
- Oversee the management of large incidents that cross over jurisdictional boundaries.

Large complex incidents or multiple incidents over a large geographic area might require forming an Area Command to manage critical resources. These types of incidents call for a coordinated response, with large-scale coordination typically found at a higher jurisdictional level. An Area Command is an expansion of the incident command function and is activated only if necessary, depending on the complexity of the incident and management span of control considerations. Setting incident-specific objectives and managing incident-specific tactical operations and support remain the responsibility of the individual Incident Commander or UC. Included as an example, Figure 2-1 depicts the response organization established during the 2010 Deepwater Horizon incident.

An Area Command provides strategic direction and oversight of incident management to ensure agency objectives and direction are met. An Area Command prioritizes incidents, allocates critical resources to support identified needs, and ensures all applicable parties have access to incident information.

In addition to providing strategic direction, Area Command also has the responsibility to coordinate with federal, State, tribal, and local governments, and volunteer assisting or cooperating organizations. An Area Command will also have to coordinate with other activated dispatch centers, including Department Operations Centers, EOCs, and MAC Groups, as appropriate. An Area Command does not have direct operational responsibilities. An Area Command is ultimately responsible for the successful mitigation of the incident(s) and provides overall strategic direction but leaves tactical direction to the Incident Commands/UCs.

The SOSC for the affected region will work within the Area Command. The individual incidents will be under the command of SOSC representatives. The Area Command will coordinate all response efforts.

Figure 2-1: Example Area Command from the 2010 Deep Water Horizon Response

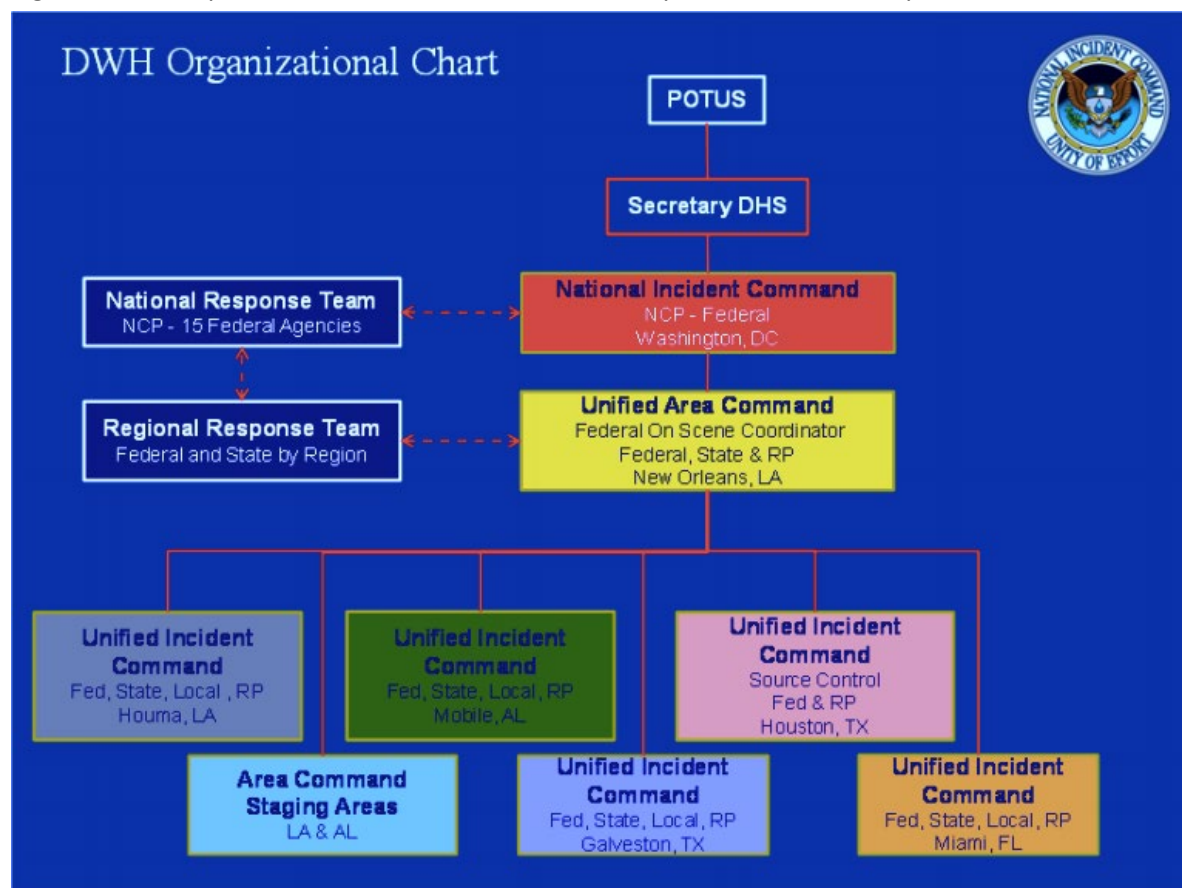


Figure sourced from: *A Perspective from Within Deepwater Horizon's Unified Command Post Houma*, Deepwater Horizon Study Group Working Paper dated January 2011.

2120.2 – Single Command

When an incident occurs within a single jurisdiction and one agency has primary responsibility, the single command structure will be established.

2130 – Unified Command Staff

Key positions may be established to assume responsibility for activities that are not part of the line organization. Unified Commanders/OSCs determine who fills the positions described below:

- **Safety Officer** (see [Section 2200](#)): Assesses hazardous/unsafe situations and develops a safety plan to ensure personnel safety
- **Public Information Officer** (see [Section 2300](#)): The point of contact for the media and individuals who desire information about the incident
- **Liaison Officer** (see [Section 2400](#)): The point of contact for affected communities, interest groups/stakeholders that do not have jurisdictional authority, landowners, leaseholders, government agencies, and other groups of interested parties. Several Liaison Officers may be designated, depending on the level of coordination required. The Liaison Officers coordinate with a MAC Group, if one is activated.

2140 – Guidance for Setting Response Objectives

The Command and General Staff are responsible for the development of strategic objectives that clearly define what the incident management / response team is working to achieve. The inside cover of the AIMS Guide has additional information.

REFERENCES AND TOOLS

Agency Response Guides

- AIMS Guide Section 2.7 Unified Command
- EPA IMH, Chapter 13 Unified Command

National and Statewide Policy

- NCP, 40 CFR 300.317, National Response Priorities

2200 – SAFETY

REFERENCES AND TOOLS

Command, Safety Officer

- Alaska OSHA, Physical Agent Data Sheets
- Job Aid: Health and Safety (PDF 456K)
- RRT10 (WA, ID, OR) Northwest Area Contingency Plan (NWACP), Health and Safety Job Aid Site Safety Job Aid
- Safety and Health Awareness for Oil Spill Cleanup Workers
- Training Marine Oil Spill Response Workers under OSHA's Hazardous Waste Operations and Emergency Response Standard, OSHA Publication 3172
- EPA Safety Officer Toolbox

Statewide Agency Guidance and Policy

- ADEC Spill Tactics For Alaska Responders (STAR) Manual

Personnel must comply with all applicable worker health and safety laws and regulations.

OSHA standards apply during hazardous waste operations and emergency response and are found in 29 CFR 1910.120 and 08 AAC 61. The regulations apply to both emergency response and post-emergency cleanup of hazardous substance releases. The definition of a hazardous substance that is used in these regulations is much broader than the CERCLA definition, and includes all CERCLA hazardous substances, RCRA hazardous waste, and all DOT hazmat listed in 49 CFR Part 172.

Oil discharge and hazardous substance releases are covered by these regulations. The rules cover employee protection during initial site characterization and analysis, monitoring activities, material handling activities, training, and emergency response. Safety plan templates and tools that may be useful during an incident are listed in Table 2-1.

Response personnel must ensure that they have received training appropriate for the operations and activities in which they are participating. The OSHA Field Compliance Officer should be contacted to ascertain the worker training requirements and develop an implementation plan to minimize the hazards of exposure to workers involved in cleanup operations. State requirements that are more restrictive will preempt federal requirements.

Table 2-1: Useful Safety Plan Tools

AGENCY	DESCRIPTION
EPA Safety Officer Toolbox	This toolbox includes templates of ICS Forms related to site-safety plans, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ICS 206 Medical Plan ICS 215a-EPA, Incident Action Plan, Safety Analysis
Northwest ACP, Health and Safety Job Aid Site Safety Job Aid	Includes Health and Safety guidance utilized by Region 10 EPA FOSCs in Idaho, Oregon, and Washington.
ADEC Safety Plan Template ADEC SPAR Safety Manual (requires access to the State SharePoint site)	The ADEC Division of Spill Prevention and Response (SPAR) Safety Manual, Section 12 Site Safety Plans provides information for incident response, emergencies, and hazardous substance release response. The ADEC SPAR Safety Manual, Appendix E, also contains links to sample Safety Plans and templates.
Alaska OSHA, Physical Agent Data Sheets (PADS)	Contains fact sheets on common physical hazards in Alaska.

2210 – Site Characterization

An initial step in developing a response health and safety plan is site characterization. Site characterization should identify the potential risks to worker health and safety, including, but not limited to: chemical hazards, physical hazards, transportation-related risks, wildlife concerns, security, and delineation of the impacted area.

2220 – Site Safety Plan Development

An overall incident Safety Plan will be developed that applies to ALL staff working on the response.

Each agency or organization may also have their own safety policies and safety plan that their staff must also comply with; these plans address the specific duties of that organization's staff. This is a separate document.

2300 – PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICER (PIO)**REFERENCES AND TOOLS****Command, Public Information Officer**

- PIO Job Aid - includes media contacts and information on the JIC

During a major response, when media interest is expected to last several days, the UC should task the PIO with establishing a JIC to coordinate the public affairs activities of participating agencies and parties. A JIC is a co-located group of representatives from local, State, federal, and private organizations designated to handle public information needs during an incident or event. The JIC is designed to fit naturally into the ICS and can be customized to reflect the size of the incident or event. Establishing a JIC under the ICS is the most effective means of meeting information requirements and can make the difference between the public perceiving the incident to be under control or out of control.

2400 – LIAISON OFFICER (LOFR)

[REFERENCES AND TOOLS](#)

Contact Information

- Alaska DCRA Community Database (online resource for local contact and community information, best viewed in Mozilla Firefox or Google Chrome web browsers)

The Liaison Officer is the point of contact for affected communities, interest groups that do not have jurisdictional authority, landowners, leaseholders, government agencies, and other groups of interested parties. The Liaison Officer coordinates with a MAC Group or Regional Stakeholder Committee's (RSC), if one is activated, and assists the UC in maintaining communications and coordination with various agencies and organizations.

UC staff do not always represent all agencies/organizations with an interest or responsibility in responding to the incident. Each agency represented in the UC may assign an agency-specific liaison to ensure compliance with their statutory and regulatory obligations.

A description of several types of organizations that may be engaged with the response via the Liaison Officer are provided in the subsections below.

2410 – Investigators

[REFERENCES AND TOOLS](#)

Agency Response Guides

- EPA IMH
- AIMS Guide

The agencies that investigate incidents vary by the type and location of the incident. Table 2-2 lists the agencies that may have investigating authority over a specific incident.

Table 2-2: Investigating Agencies

INCIDENT TYPE/LOCATION	INVESTIGATOR
Oil discharges and hazardous substance releases in the coastal zone	ADEC EPA
Transportation-related accidents	National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA) USCG
Chemical accidents at fixed industrial facilities, including petroleum refineries	U.S. Chemical Safety Board (CSB)
Incidents involving worker safety issues, including casualties	Alaska OSHA Federal OSHA
Criminal investigations	Local law enforcement Alaska State Troopers FBI
Violation of laws protecting wildlife and historic properties	Natural and Cultural Resource Agencies (USFWS, NMFS, NPS, BLM, ADF&G, ADNRR etc.)

2420 – Agency Representatives and Natural Resource Agencies

REFERENCES AND TOOLS

Contact Information

- ACP Contact Directory

Natural resource agency emergency contacts are maintained on the [ARRT website](#) under “Members and Contact Information”

2430 – Tribal Government and Native Organizations

2430.1 – Tribal Government

REFERENCES AND TOOLS

Contact Information

- Tribal contact information is available in the ACP Contact Database.

Additional tribal contact information is maintained by the following agencies:

- U.S. Bureau of Indian Affairs
- Alaska DCRA Community Database (online resource for local contact and community information, best viewed in Mozilla Firefox or Google Chrome web browsers)
- EPA Alaska Office, Tribal Program staff

The FOSC or their representative notifies the tribe(s) following an oil discharge or hazardous substance release that has the potential to affect tribal interests.

2430.2 – Native Organizations

REFERENCES AND TOOLS

Contact Information

- Alaska Regional and Village Corporations
- Alaska Regional Corporations and Non-profit Organizations

In addition to federally recognized tribes, there are several other categories of native organizations that are potential stakeholders, such as native corporations, non-profit organizations, and co-management organizations. This list is not comprehensive.

2440 – Local Government

REFERENCES AND TOOLS

Contact Information

- ACP Contact Directory
- Alaska DCRA Community Database (online resource for local contact and community information, best viewed in Mozilla Firefox or Google Chrome web browsers)

The FOSC or the SOSC (or their representative) notifies the local government(s) following an oil discharge or hazardous substance release that has the potential to affect local interests.

2450 – Multi-Agency Coordination (MAC) Group

A MAC group is designed to facilitate all levels of government and all disciplines to work together more efficiently and effectively. It is composed of representatives of involved governmental agencies and jurisdictions in the response area or area potentially impacted by the discharge or release.

The MAC Group can provide coordinated decision making and resource allocation among cooperating agencies, and may establish the priorities among incidents, harmonize agency policies, and provide strategic guidance and direction to support incident management activities. The MAC Group can advise on the sharing and use of critical resources, including the identification of potential locally available response resources (personnel or equipment). The MAC group is not part of the on-scene ICS and is not involved in developing incident strategy or tactics.

Role of Federal and State Agencies in MAC Group: Usually, state, and federal agencies relevant to a response should be involved in the UC, IMT or field operations; but if they are not, the MAC Group may provide an appropriate avenue for their agencies input.

Role of Tribal Governments in MAC Group: Federally recognized tribes can be involved as described in [Section 2430](#), via government-to-government consultation, or via the MAC Group.

2460 – Regional Citizens Advisory Councils

RCACs are independent, non-profit organizations that monitor and advise on oil industry programs to include areas such as spill prevention and response, tanker safety, and environmental impact assessments. OPA 90 established two RCACs in Alaska: Cook Inlet RCAC and PWS RCAC. Dependent upon the type of incident, incident location and potential impacts within the AWA area, both of Alaska's RCACs may have an interest or representation in an AWA response that occurs within the Cook Inlet geographic zone and portions of the Kodiak Island geographic zone.

The RCAC has four primary tasks to perform during a crude oil spill: observe, verify, inform, and advise. RCACs inform local community members and other concerned groups about response activities and provide information on local concerns and priorities to the IMT. The RCAC may participate within the IMT for crude oil spill response. The RCAC may also provide local knowledge and concerns to incident commanders that can prove valuable to operational decisions. RCACs may also monitor on- water activities, observe, and verify spill response and cleanup efforts. The RCAC is a resource for the Unified Command and participates in the RSC when it is established and functioning during a crude oil spill response. Specific responsibilities of the RCAC include:

- Providing a voice for local communities and citizens in the policies and decisions that affect them.
- Advising the oil industry and the public on oil spill prevention and response, and ways to mitigate the environmental impact of terminal, offshore oil facilities, and tanker operations.
- Monitoring terminal, tanker, and offshore oil facilities operations and implementation of spill prevention and response plans.
- Increasing public awareness of private oil industry's current capabilities in spill prevention and response, and the environmental impacts of oil transportation.
- Fostering long-term partnership between industry, government and local communities.
- Conducting independent research.
- Participating in, monitoring, and critiquing actual spill responses, spill drills, deployment exercises, and spill simulations conducted by industry. The RCACs also assist industry and regulatory agencies in drill

2470 – Regional Stakeholder Committee

Alaska's spill response agencies have agreed to a unique stakeholder engagement structure to provide a more efficient process when needs and requirements are exceptional. This structure is called a Regional Stakeholder Committee (RSC).

The RSC is a group of stakeholders directly impacted by an incident. They are invited to share their local knowledge with response leadership. RSC members are expected to present issues of local concern, share local knowledge, and

help identify resources that could be useful to the response. The RSC may include representatives from tribal and local governments, the Regional Citizens Advisory Council (if RCACs are active in that Area), landowners, leaseholders, businesses/ corporations, and directly affected special interest groups.

RSC membership may vary from incident to incident and from phase to phase of a given event. Agencies/organizations functioning as part of the overall ICS response structure would not typically be included in the RSC. An RSC is similar to but different from a MAC Group in that the RSC does not play a direct role in setting incident priorities or allocating resources, and instead advises the UC and provides recommendations or comments on incident priorities and objectives, and the incident action plan.

The RSC process allows local knowledge, concerns, and resources to be incorporated into incident management decision-making, ideally creating a more effective response. It builds trust among affected stakeholders and ensures those directly affected receive the same response information and status updates. It also helps the LOFR streamline job duties by eliminating the need to manage directly affected entities individually. In addition, having affected entities participate in the RSC process helps prioritize issues and concerns locally and helps manage requests and the allocation of limited response resources.

RSC organization can be described as similar to a Multi-agency Coordination Group (MAC) that includes non-agency stakeholders and other interested parties. The RSC focus is more on capturing stakeholder concerns, local knowledge, and potential resources and creating interaction and exchange among those directly affected and the IMT versus allocating resources as the MAC does. During an incident, both a MAC and RSC may be stood up simultaneously, as they are ultimately different.

The RSC is a venue for two-way communication between the UC and affected Stakeholders. RSC participation is limited and managed by invitation from the UC (via the LOFR). RSC Members receive additional information than what is provided via the standard public messaging and outreach provided by the PIO/JIC, such as media briefings, written response summaries (i.e., Situation Reports or Pollution Reports, etc.), and stakeholder outreach events like Town Halls or Open Houses.

The PIO also has a role in preparing information about the incident and response for the public and engaging media.

See the Regional Stakeholder Committees Job Aid for additional information.

2480 – Other Stakeholders

Non-governmental organizations are involved in a response as a conduit of response-related information from the PIO or Liaison Officer to their organizations members or interested parties. They may also serve as a resource to identify personnel capable of providing local knowledge and response resources (personnel and equipment). The UC can designate stakeholder-specific Liaison Officers (e.g. Liaison Officer to Fishing Groups and fisherman)

If a MAC Group is established for the response, the local elected officials serving on the MAC Group also serve as a conduit of information from the response to their constituents, including local non-governmental organizations and commercial organizations.

2500 – NATURAL RESOURCE DAMAGE ASSESSMENT AND RESTORATION (NRDAR)

REFERENCES AND TOOLS

Background Information, General

- DOI: NRDAR Primer
- NOAA Office of Response and Restoration: Natural Resource Damage Assessment (NRDAR)

When oil discharges or hazardous substance releases occur, state and federal agencies typically conduct emergency response activities to minimize impacts. The primary goals of emergency response are to contain, control, and collect recoverable oil or hazardous substances to protect human health and the environment. Sometimes, the extent of environmental damage requires further restoration. When this occurs, natural resource

trustees from state and federal agencies may opt to conduct a NRDAR to restore injured resources. Authorities for natural resource trustees to conduct assessment and restoration activities are described in the NCP, CWA, CERCLA, and OPA 90. The State of Alaska has the authority to pursue any person who injures or degrades the environment of the State under AS 46.03.780 Liability for Restoration. Table 2-3 shows typical NRDAR Trustee agencies in Alaska.

Not all discharges/releases require a NRDAR, and there are no quantitative thresholds for initiating NRDAR (e.g., no minimum amount of discharged/released product, no requirement for EPA involvement, and no prerequisite for shoreline impacts). NRDAR Trustee Representatives decide if/when to initiate NRDAR based on the nature of the incident and its actual or potential impacts to natural resources under their jurisdictions.

If an incident poses NRDAR concerns, NRDAR Trustee Representatives will notify the UC of the initiation of NRDAR preassessment activities and may appoint a NRDAR Liaison to represent the NRDAR team as a member of the Command Staff. The NRDAR Liaison serves as a conduit for coordination and information exchange to/from the UC. NRDAR activities are conducted under separate authority and funding source. While UC does not direct the NRDAR, NRDAR representatives and UC personnel are expected to fully coordinate and share resources and information to maximize efficiencies and reduce duplication. While NRDAR activities may overlap with the response activities, NRDAR activities shall not interfere with response activities. Costs associated with NRDAR are tracked and addressed separately from response costs. NRDAR studies and restoration efforts often continue beyond the conclusion of emergency response activities.

NRDAR data/sampling needs may include (note: this is not a comprehensive list):

- Locations and trajectories of discharged oil or released hazardous substances;
- Samples of oil or hazardous substances from the discharge/release source;
- Samples of oil or hazardous substances in environmental media;
- Blood, tissue, etc. samples from impacted resources;
- Locations and numbers of impacted fish and wildlife;
- Locations of natural resources at risk of being impacted or disturbed by response activities; and
- Type, magnitude, and duration of impacts to natural resources.

UC may collect some of these data for its own purposes, and the NRDAR team will request the UC to share these data, thereby reducing costs and duplication of efforts. If enough data are not collected to support NRDAR goals, the NRDAR team may deploy field staff to collect data independently from response activities. Typical NRDAR field activities may include systematic carcass searches/collections, environmental media sampling (pre- and post-impact), habitat characterization, biota abundance assessments, human use assessments, and aerial wildlife surveys.

Information sharing between response and NRDAR teams helps to minimize injuries to natural resources and human use of those resources. Further, coordination of response and NRDAR efforts maximizes the likelihood of successful resource protection, mitigates injuries, and maximizes restoration of natural resources. It avoids duplication of efforts and expenses; maximizes efficient utilization of staffing, equipment, and data/information sharing; and avoids conflicts, misunderstandings, and interference with work.

Table 2-3: Typical NRDAR Trustee Agencies in Alaska

Typical NRDAR Trustee Agencies in Alaska*	
Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation	National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
Alaska Department of Fish & Game	National Park Service
Alaska Department of Law	Bureau of Land Management
Alaska Department of Natural Resources	Bureau of Indian Affairs
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service	U.S. Forest Service

*Participation by a specific agency in NRDAR depends on whether the oil discharge affects (or is likely to affect) natural resources under its jurisdiction. Incident-specific NRDAR teams can include other agencies, tribes, or foreign governments (for oil discharges under OPA), depending on the incident location and resources affected.

3000 – OPERATIONS

This section focuses on oil discharge response operations. For guidance on responding to a hazardous substance release, refer to [Section 7000](#) on Hazardous Substances.

REFERENCES AND TOOLS

Agency Response Guides

- AIMS Guide, Appendix A Operations Section
- EPA IMH, Chapter 8 Operations Section

The Operations Section is responsible for the direction and coordination of all incident tactical operations, including the development of detailed operational plans based on the UC objectives. The Operations Section collects information from field level sources, and communicates with, and makes recommendations to the UC.

3100 – OPERATIONS SECTION ORGANIZATION

Operations Section Organization, AIMS Guide

Within the Operations Section, the guide provides for a wide variety of functions that may be organized into branches, divisions, groups, task forces, etc. A pre-established organizational structure is not provided as each situation will determine the need for functional elements, which can then be organized to best meet the needs of the Operations Section Chief. (AIMS Guide, Executive Summary)

The Operations Section expands or contracts based upon the existing and projected needs of the incident. Initially, the Operations Section usually consists of those few resources first assigned to an incident. (These resources will initially report directly to the Incident Commander.)

The number and types of branches and divisions/groups are incident specific. The AIMS Guide and the EPA IMH identifies the key functions within the Operations Section, listed below in Table 3-1 and Table 3-2. The nature and gravity of the incident will dictate the necessary response structure established within the Operations Section.

The specifics of the incident dictate the response and directs the organization of the Operations Section. Some considerations that can affect and inform the organization are:

- Incident objectives;
- Size and topography of the affected area;
- Complexity of the incident and number of tasks;
- Span of control;
- Logistics requirements; and
- Number and locations of command post and staging areas.

1 **Table 3-1: AIMS Guide, Operations Section, Critical Functional Areas**

CRITICAL FUNCTIONAL AREAS	
Field Command	Source Control
Site Safety Officer	Wildlife Response
Staging Area Management	Salvage
Field Safety Representative	Decontamination
Air Operations	<i>In Situ</i> Burn Operations
Recovery	Dispersant Operations
Protection	EMS
SAR	Waste Management and Disposal
Hazmat	Law Enforcement
Fire Suppression	Away Team

2 **Table 3-2: EPA IMH, Chapter 8, Operations Section Positions**

EPA IMH, CHAPTER 8, OPERATIONS SECTION POSITIONS	
Operations Section Chief	Division/Group Supervisor
Deputy Operations Section Chief	Strike Team/Task Force Leader
Staging Area Manager	Operations Task Force Monitor
Air Operations Branch Director	Single Resource Manager
Operations Branch Director	

3

4 **3200 – RECOVERY AND PROTECTION**

REFERENCES AND TOOLS

Agency Response Guides

- AIMS Guide, Appendix B
- ADEC STAR Manual
- Wildlife Protection Guidelines for Oil Spill Response in Alaska
- Alaska Implementation Guidelines for the Protection of Historic Properties

Operations

- NOAA's Characteristics of Response Strategies
- Response System Planning Calculators
- Geographic Response Strategies (links by geographic zone)

OSRO/PRAC/Industry Response Procedures and Equipment and Industry Websites and References

- PRAC/OSRO Technical Manuals

5

6 Oil discharge recovery and protection response strategies emphasize controlling the release and spread of the oil
7 to prevent or reduce contamination of potentially affected sensitive resources. These strategies can include
8 mechanical cleanup, a variety of booming techniques, removal of oiled debris or *in situ* burning. The determination
9 to activate any one of these strategies is dependent upon numerous factors, including, but not limited to, incident-

specific objectives, imminent or substantial threat to human life, environmental conditions, equipment/personnel availability, and resource protection priorities.

The ADEC STAR Manual is a primary guide for response tactics in Alaska. Most Alaska OSROs/PRACs have technical manuals that will supply both pre-identified protection sites, as well as tactical descriptions and instructions based on the equipment available to their members.

3210 – Protection

The ADEC STAR Manual provides guidance for recovery and protection techniques.

3220 – On-Water Recovery

The ADEC STAR Manual provides guidance for on-water recovery and protection techniques. In many cases, recoverable oil is contained on water and directed to shore for shoreside recovery operations.

3230 – On-Land Containment and Recovery

Refer to the ADEC STAR Manual for on-land containment and recovery tactical descriptions and techniques.

3230.1 – Shoreline Cleanup Options

Shoreline cleanup strategies are diverse and will depend on several factors, including shoreline type, discharged oil properties, extent of contamination, prevailing weather conditions, accessibility by shoreline cleanup crews and equipment, etc. The UC, in consultation with Operations and Environmental Unit staff, will determine the best available options for cleaning impacted shorelines based upon these factors. A Shoreline Cleanup Plan may address assessment techniques, evaluation of shoreline cleanup options, establishment of shoreline cleanup endpoints, and specific cleanup tactics. Refer to the WPG and Alaska Implementation Guidelines for the Protection of Historic Properties for information on shoreline cleanup activities related to wildlife, historic properties, and cultural resources.

3230.2 – Pre-Beach Cleanup

When practical, removal of debris from shorelines prior to contamination by stranded oil can reduce the amount of oiled debris.

3240 – Disposal and the Waste Management Plan

REFERENCES AND TOOLS

Planning

- Waste Management and Disposal Job Aid

The STAR Manual also provides additional information

The Operations Section must coordinate with the Planning Section/Environmental Unit to develop an incident-specific Waste Management Plan, which must be approved by the UC, if applicable, or the State. The Waste Management Plan must address transport, interim storage, containment, and final disposal.

During the initial stages of a response, prior to the approval of the Waste Management Plan, IC/UC may use an interim emergency response waste stream management template.

3240.1 – Decanting Policy

With State approval, on-site decanting may be allowed. RP/PRPs are obligated to obtain authorization to decant water collected during removal operations. The form for gaining SOSOC approval for decanting is linked on ADEC's Alaska Spill Response Permits Tool website under Waste Management permits.

3250 – Decontamination

The Operations Section must address decontamination prior to entry by any personnel in the hot zone. Decontamination needs to be addressed as part of the Site Safety Plan and aspects may be included in the Waste Management Plan.

The ADEC STAR Manual provides guidance for decontamination, including guidance for vessel decontamination.

3260 – Alternative Response Technologies

REFERENCES AND TOOLS

Statewide Agency Guidance and Policy:

- Spill Tactics for Alaska Responders (STAR) Manual
- Alaska RCP

Alternative Response Technologies:

- ARRT's *In-situ* Burning Guidelines
- Special Monitoring of Applied Response Technologies (SMART) Protocols
- ARRT's Dispersant Use Plan for Alaska

The NCP authorizes the use of alternative response technologies and outlines the process by which the UC may approve their use. Alternative response technology plans and guidance are developed by the ARRT in accordance with the NCP, Subpart J. The ADEC's STAR Manual has additional technical advice.

The ARRT has developed the "*In Situ* Burning Guidelines for Alaska," that outlines decision making and the approval process and is included in the Alaska RCP.

The checklists for this guidance are provided on the References and Tools page for convenient use by responders. The *in situ* burning and dispersant plan checklists and documents are approved for use by the ARRT and are not to be modified by the area committees. When considering the use of *in situ* burning, chemical agents, or other mitigating substances during a response, the Operations Section must comply with established guidelines, coordinate with the Environmental Unit to assess appropriateness of the methodology, complete the required checklists, and acquire OSC approval in accordance with established protocols set by the ARRT.

Intentional Wellhead Ignition (IWI)/ Voluntary Wellhead Ignition may be considered as a source control strategy by the RP/PRP in consultation with the FOSC, SOSC, and ARRT concurrence. [Note: The AWA Area Committee, under the direction of the USCG FOSC for Western Alaska intends to develop guidance on IWI for inclusion within a future version of the AWA-ACP. The Alaska Inland area OSCs will review this guidance for inclusion into this ACP when it is available. This future guidance would provide a process for evaluating conditions of use that provide context to, and a process for, the decision to authorize IWI.]

3300 – EMERGENCY RESPONSE

3310 – Initial Response Actions

REFERENCES AND TOOLS

Operations and Planning

- ADEC ICS Forms (*listed under Statewide Agency Guidance and Policy*)
- USDOT Emergency Response Guidebook (*listed under Hazardous Substances*)

Command

- Alaska Implementation Guidelines for the Protection of Historic Properties

Cultural Resources & Historic Properties

- Programmatic Agreement on Protection of Historic Properties during Emergency Response under the National Oil and Hazardous Substance Pollution Contingency Plan

Initial response personnel should refer to the USDOT Emergency Response Guidebook to determine immediate safety and response measures. Use the following guidance to collect information to complete ICS Form 201.

Table 3-3: Initial Response Actions

INITIAL RESPONSE ACTION
1. Define Nature of Incident a. Determine facts of discharge/release: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• RP/PRP (name and phone number)• Location and time of incident• Type of incident (explosion, grounding, operational, etc.)• Type of product• Movement of discharged/released product• Environmental resources, sensitive areas, and historic properties at risk b. Determine whether RP/PRP can respond. c. Classify size of discharge/releases. d. Identify resources at risk.
2. Evaluate Hazards to Human Health/Safety a. Determine threat to public health. b. Assess fire/explosion hazard. c. Assess personnel safety based on potential/existing hazards. d. Determine appropriate level of personnel protective equipment for responders.
3. Evaluate Severity of Incident and the Need for Additional Resources a. Estimate amount of discharged/released product and total potential amount. b. Estimate duration of response efforts. c. Assess weather conditions: obtain on-scene weather conditions, short-term site, and transit forecasts from NWS. d. Determine the presence, or suspected presence, of invasive species.
4. Initiate Response Strategy a. Protect responders and the public. b. Secure or isolate the source of discharge/release. c. Protect sensitive areas:

INITIAL RESPONSE ACTION	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coordinate with natural and cultural resource agencies on the protection of sensitive areas, resources and on potential response actions; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Begin consultations and permitting in accordance with Section 4800; • Develop priorities consistent with the Geographic Response Strategies, if available, and Alaska Sensitive Areas Compendium; 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> d. Initiate containment and recovery of product. e. Initiate discharge/release tracking. f. If ballast water discharge is considered as an option for vessel stability or other concerns, the threat of invasive species needs to be addressed by responders. g. The FOSC (or authorized representative) initiates the requisite consultations as described in Section 4800.
<p>5. Inform Local Residents, Communities, and Stakeholders</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Prepare press statement: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Report the extent that EPA, ADEC, RP/PRP and local emergency response personnel are responding to discharge event. • Give brief details of the discharge. • Describe actions taken by the UC. • Announce that formal media release will be issued as more information is received. b. Contact local media. c. Be forthcoming and provide as much information as quickly as possible. If no information is available, say so but ensure that information is provided to the media as soon as it is available. d. Conduct appropriate briefings via the ICS Liaison Officer. 	

3320 – Building the Incident Management Team/ Incident Ramp-up

A response progresses through a series of steps where the number of personnel and amount of equipment is increased (or decreased), as necessary, to meet the demands of the situation. The increase of resources to address response needs is called a “ramp up.” EPA will rely on its IMH and State of Alaska personnel will employ the AIMS Guide as well as the STAR to direct their staffing of emergency response teams.

The ramp up begins when the discharge/release is first reported and progresses with the sequential and prioritized activation of the response resources of the RP/PRP and the local, State, and federal responders. Each response will differ according to size and severity, location, season, and a variety of other factors. Personnel needs will vary accordingly.

The ramp up procedures and personnel requirements presented below are provided as guidance for the UC during the initial staffing of the ICS. The ICS can expand and contract to meet the needs of an emergency response without any loss of effectiveness or control. The goal for any major discharge/release is to have the personnel in place to staff a complete ICS within the first 96 hours of a response.

The ramp up to a full response generally moves through three staffing levels. The Initial Response Team (Hours 0-6) will consist primarily of first responders who will carry out initial response actions. The Transitional Response Team (Hours 6-96) will form as additional personnel arrive on-scene and ICS functions are added. The Full Response Team (by Hour 96) will be complete when full ICS staffing levels have been reached. Qualified personnel within the ICS will identify resources and equipment necessary for an effective response.

This ramp up guidance outlines the response of federal and State personnel. RP/PRP personnel will initiate a concurrent ramp up according to the procedures referenced in their contingency plan. In those incidents where there is imminent threat to life and property, the appropriate local fire chief, State trooper, or emergency manager will be the Incident Commander. If applicable, the LOSC will follow the guidance of their local emergency response plan.

Hours 0-6: Initial Response Team

The Initial Response Team will consist primarily of the FOSC, SOSC, LOSEC, and possible TOSC response officers, natural resource agencies (if necessary), and local emergency response and RP/PRP personnel. The Initial Response Team will carry out initial response efforts, which include notification and equipment mobilization. Depending on the size of the discharge/release, a UC may begin to form as the IRT carries out these response actions.

Notifications: The RP/PRP is responsible for making notifications to local, state, and federal agencies. Notifications may include local officials, police, and fire departments. The ADEC will notify the appropriate State agencies. EPA will notify the appropriate federal agencies and other points of contact, as necessary. The FOSC will notify appropriate natural and cultural resource agencies to begin the consultation process on resources at risk, including:

- Threatened and endangered species and their critical habitats;
- Response actions that can affect natural and cultural resources; and
- Response actions to protect or reduce the impact to natural and cultural resources, as appropriate.

Initial Response Action: Following these notifications, the initial responders will assess the chemical characteristics of the discharged/released material and establish a safe level of PPE prior to dispatching a response team to the scene. Upon arrival, the response team will conduct a site characterization to evaluate environmental hazards. Upon ensuring a safe operating environment, they will attempt to determine the source of the discharge/release, identify the RP/PRP, secure the source of the discharge, and begin to gather data for the ICS to use to formulate a response strategy or validate the RP/PRP's strategies. This initial response team will normally have no containment or product removal means with them at this time, unless provided by the RP/PRP. If local authorities or federal/State responders identify an immediate threat to public health and safety, appropriate action will be initiated. If the situation warrants, an evacuation may be implemented according to the procedures referenced in the LERP.

The response team will contact the FOSC, SOSC, and TOSC to report the details of the incident, and initiate a preliminary investigation into its cause. The FOSC/SOSC/TOSC or other response team personnel will advise the RP/PRP regarding the legal requirement to initiate containment and recovery actions. The FOSC will be advised of the severity of the discharge/release and will activate the ICS. The FOSC/SOSC/TOSC will brief the federal, state, tribal, and local government agencies regarding the incident status and ramp up procedures. The FOSC will continue to consult with natural resource agencies on actions to be taken that may affect trust resources. The FOSC will activate an FOSC Historic Properties Specialist unless they determine that the incident is categorically excluded from the National Programmatic Agreement to protect historic properties.

The ADEC will select any available state resource agency personnel to serve as a local contact until ADEC responders arrive on scene. The ADEC will request that ADNOR and ADF&G identify environmental priorities for protection. ADNOR and ADF&G will use the environmental sensitivities information in this plan as a primary source for this information. USFWS, NOAA Fisheries, and ADF&G, may also be contacted for initial environmental sensitivity and wildlife concentration information. The ADEC will forward these priorities to the Incident Commander and the UC.

The RP/PRP is responsible for deploying appropriate privately-owned pollution response equipment as quickly as possible, regardless of whether federal/State equipment has been deployed in the interim. The FOSC/SOSC/TOSC may assist the RP/PRP and arrange for initial delivery of pollution response gear via the most expedient mode of transportation.

Incident Command Post Establishment: A field command post will be assembled to coordinate efforts until the FOSC, SOSC, TOSC, LOSEC, and RP/PRP can establish the command center. The location of this field command post will depend upon the location and severity of discharge/release, time of year, weather, and other considerations.

State, federal, and local personnel arriving on scene should realize that workspace, telephone lines, and other office resources might be quite limited during the initial response. Individuals are encouraged to bring cellular/satellite phones. Cellular phone capabilities can be severely limited or non-existent at the incident location.

Hours 6-96: Incident Management Team

The Incident Management Team forms as additional federal, State, tribal, and local response personnel arrive on scene. After the initial response, the scope and size of the discharge/release can be gauged, and the UC will convene, and ICS staffing will increase or decrease. In a government-led response, the UC will designate an Incident Commander. In a RP/PRP-led response, the Incident Commander will be a representative of the RP/PRP. The Incident Commander will designate appropriately trained personnel as Section Chiefs for the Operations, Planning, Logistics, and Finance/Administration Sections of the ICS. As the response develops, appropriate ICS functions will be added until a full response team is in place.

3400 – AIR OPERATIONS

REFERENCES AND TOOLS

Air Operations

- DOI Aviation Resource List (assistance from DOI required to access list)
- Airline Data Inc.
- AirNav.com Offers information and useful details on various airport aspects and services availability.
- AirportIQ 5010: Airport Master Records and Reports: This GCR & Associates, Inc. website provides unedited information with data derived from the National Flight Data Center FAA Airport Master Record (Form 5010).
- The ADOT, Division of Statewide Aviation provides rural airport information, including a link to diagrams and aerial photos of selected airports.
- FAA Alaska Region website offers airport diagrams and aerial photographs.
- Alaska Supplement to the FAA Flight Information Publication
- Alaska DCRA Community Database (online resource for local contact and community information, best viewed in Mozilla Firefox or Google Chrome web browsers)
- NWS's Alaska Aviation Weather Unit for enroute and on-scene aviation weather conditions

UAS

- Protocol for using unmanned aircraft systems (UAS) during an oil spill response or exercise (DOC)

3410 – Air Tactical

3410.1 – Aerial Surveillance

Aerial surveillance can be used during pollution response to gather information about the size and nature of an oil spill. Commercially provided UAS and/or rotary-wing (R/W) aircraft are highly maneuverable and well-suited to surveillance in crowded or congested areas, such as ports and harbors. Information on the spill may be gathered through visual observation of the spill or videography/photography by the UAS operator or aircrew, or by a subject matter expert carried on board an aircraft.

Fixed-wing (F/W) aircraft are better suited to long-range or off-shore aerial surveillance. Information on the spill may be gathered through visual observation, photography, or the aircraft may be configured with Side Looking Airborne RADAR (SLAR) that can be used to detect and map oil spills.

3410.2 – Flight Restrictions

UC can request the FAA impose temporary flight restrictions. FAA controllers can deploy to the response area to manage the flight restrictions. FAA controllers can be deployed and operate from a USCG WHEC or WMEC.

1 3410.3 – Unmanned Aerial Systems

Note: *The Arctic and Western Alaska Area Committee has developed guidance for the use of unmanned aerial systems on behalf of all Alaska Area Committees – see the References and Tools box at the beginning of this section.*

2 3410.4 –Temporary Flight Restrictions (TFR)

3 A TFR is a type of Notice to Airmen (NOTAM) that informs pilots and aircrew of an area restricted to air travel due
4 to a hazardous condition, a special event, or a general warning. A TFR may be requested by various entities,
5 including military commands, Federal security/intelligence agencies, regional directors of the Office of Emergency
6 Planning, etc. If it is determined that a TFR is required, the Air Operations Officer should make a written request
7 through the FAA’s Flight Standards District Office.

8 Situations that may warrant a TFR in accordance with 14 CFR 91.137 includes, but are not limited to, the following:

- 9 • 14CFR 91.137(a)(1): toxic gas leaks or spills; flammable agents, or fumes which, if fanned by rotor or
10 propeller wash, could endanger persons or property on the surface, or if entered by an aircraft could
11 endanger persons or property in the air; volcanic eruptions that could endanger airborne aircraft and
12 occupants; nuclear accident or incident; and hijackings.
- 13 • 14CFR 91.137(a)(2): aviation or ground resources engaged in wildfire suppression; and aircraft relief
14 activities following a disaster (e.g., earthquake, tidal wave, flood, etc.).
- 15 • 14CFR 91.137(a)(3): disaster/hazard incidents of limited duration that would attract an unsafe congestion
16 of sightseeing aircraft.

17 **3420 – Air Support**

18 Consult with the Alaska Supplement to the NOAA Flight Information Publication for specific information on airports
19 and runways. In general, runways are paved in locations serviced by the major commercial airlines, such as Alaska
20 Airlines. There are many smaller airlines that service the more remote communities, including fixed-wing and
21 helicopter, scheduled and charter flight operators. During summer months when tourist traffic is heavy, charter
22 flights may be limited. Weather may close the airports for days at a time. Light winds and low visibility often
23 ground small planes. For a major response, local air traffic can dramatically increase.

24 The AirportIQ 5010 database and Alaska DCRA Community Database lists public and private airports, landing strips,
25 and heliports by community. For current runway status, reference the latest edition of the Alaska Supplement to
26 the NOAA flight information publication.

27 **3500 – STAGING AREAS**

28 Citing for staging areas should prioritize previously disturbed areas. Coordination with the Environmental Unit is
29 necessary to mitigate impacts to resources.
30

31 **3600 – WILDLIFE**

REFERENCES AND TOOLS

Wildlife, Fish and Their Habitats

- Wildlife Protection Guidelines for Oil Spill Response in Alaska (WPG)
- Alaska Sensitive Areas Compendium

32
33 The WPG provides spill responders with tools and background information to address wildlife concerns during a
34 spill response. Questions regarding oiled or potentially oiled wildlife preparedness and response activities should

- 1 be directed to the wildlife agencies, i.e. USFWS, NMFS, and ADF&G. Operations should coordinate with the
- 2 Planning Section/Environmental Unit to develop an incident-specific Wildlife Response Plan. Contact Information
- 3 is available in the WPG.

4000 – PLANNING

REFERENCES AND TOOLS

Agency Response Guides

- AIMS Guide, Appendix B, Planning Section; Appendix D IMT Meeting Guidelines
- EPA IMH, Chapter 9, Planning Section

Planning Section function and staff positions can be found in the NIMS Guidance. Chapter subsections provide a brief overview of the units within the Planning Section.

4100 – PLANNING SECTION ORGANIZATION

REFERENCES AND TOOLS

Agency Response Guides:

- USCG IMH, Chapter 3, Operational Planning Cycle, Chapter 8-1 Planning Section
- USCG ICS Position Job Aids
- ADEC ICS Forms
- AIMS Guide, Appendix B and Position Descriptions
- AIMS Guide, Appendix D IMT Meeting Guidelines
- AIMS Guide, Appendix E: General Purpose and Description of ICS Forms, Page E-6 Incident Status Summary

4110 – Planning Section Planning Cycle Guide

REFERENCES AND TOOLS

Agency Response Guides:

- EPA IMH
- AIMS Guide

ICS Resources:

- USCG Operational Planning Ps
- FEMA Planning Cycle

Refer to the EPA IMH and USCG Job Aids. ICS Forms are available on ADEC's website and the planning cycle is further explained on the FEMA website or within AIMS, Appendix D IMT Meeting Guidelines.

1 4200 – SITUATION

2 4210 – Area Mapping

REFERENCES AND TOOLS	
Mapping and GIS	
Data Source	Description
Environmental Response Management Application®, NOAA	ERMA: NOAA's Online Mapping Tool
Alaska Mapper, ADNR	Alaska Mapper - Interactive access to State of Alaska land records
Alaska State Geo-Spatial Data Clearinghouse, Geographic Zone Data	ASGDC providing: Aquatic Farms, Biologically Sensitive Areas, ESI, MESA, and Regional Maps (USGS Quadrangles, NOAA Nautical Maps)
Alaska Community Database Online	Community Profile Map
ShoreZone Mapper Use a browser such as Chrome, Firefox, or Edge for best results.	ShoreZone imagery, low tide, oblique aerial imagery: This standardized system catalogs both geomorphic and biological resources at mapping scales of better than 1:10,000. The high resolution, attribute-rich dataset is a useful tool for extrapolation of site data over broad spatial ranges for creating a variety of habitat models and response tools
ADEC Mapping Links	ADEC Geographic Information Systems Maps ADEC Open Data (GIS Data) ADEC Drinking Water Protection Areas ADEC PPR ADEC Seafood Processing
ESRI's ArcGIS	ArcGIS Online
Alaska Ocean Observing System	AOOS Data Resources Page Cook Inlet Response Tool
BLM's Spatial Data Management System	Online access to BLM Alaska land record documents, reports and GIS data

3

1 **4220 – Weather/Rivers/Tides/Currents**

REFERENCES AND TOOLS	
Weather, Rivers, Tides, and Ice	
Data Source	Description
NWS SPOT	Weather forecast for incidents and events Anchorage: 907-266-5167 Fairbanks: 907-458-3800 or contact the Incident Meteorologist at 907-790-6824.
NWS Alaska Aviation Weather Unit, FAA Webcams, Windy.com	Aviation weather data
NWS AHPS Monitor, NWS River Ice Stream Gauge	River Conditions
NWS Ice Desk	Sea Ice Conditions
NOAA's Tides and Currents	Tidal Conditions
NOAA's NCEI Arctic Action Team	NOAA's NCEI – Satellite and Information Service, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NCEI Oceans and Sea Ice • NCEI Weather and Climate • NCEI Geophysics and Bathymetry

2 3 **4230 – Situation Unit Displays**

REFERENCES AND TOOLS
Agency Response Guides <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AIMS Guide, Chapter 4.0 Incident Management System: IMT Section 4.2.5 Incident Situation Display • AIMS Guide Appendix F: Incident Situation Display Status Boards • EPA IMH

4 **4240 – Required Operational Reports**

5 See [Section 4800](#) for information that might be required during or after an incident.

6 **4240.1 – ICS Form 209 – Incident Status Summary**

REFERENCES AND TOOLS
Agency Response Guides <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AIMS Guide, Appendix E: General Purpose and Description of ICS Forms, Page E-6 Incident Status Summary • USCG IMH, List of forms, Chapter 24.1 (<i>Useful and Applicable to EPA-led responses</i>) • ADEC ICS Forms <p><i>See also the EPA Response Website</i></p>

7

4240.2 – Pollution Reports (POLREPs) and Situation Reports (SITREPs)

In general, the EPA and ADEC issue SITREPS, while the USCG produces POLREPS; however, the terms refer to similar reports. SITREPS and POLREPs are prepared for pollution events of significance/potential significance and whenever the OSLTF has been opened.

The EPA uses the website <https://response.epa.gov> to produce and disseminate SITREP's and related information.

The ADEC disseminates information on ongoing emergency response activities through the issuance of periodic SITREPs and can be found at <https://dec.alaska.gov/spar/ppr/spill-information/response/>. The number and frequency of these reports depends upon the severity of the incident and the size and scope of ADEC response activities associated with the incident. ADEC SITREPs are routinely distributed to ADEC management, the Governor's Office, Legislators, other agencies, local communities, tribes, media, as well as to all appropriate stakeholders depending on the specific incident. Additional SITREPs are generated during the cleanup and recovery phase to keep interested parties informed on the progress of this aspect of the response.

4240.3 – After Action Report

To better evaluate the response methods used by ADEC and ensure that any problems encountered are adequately addressed, an "after action" summary report (i.e., a lessons learned report) is produced for significant discharge/release incidents involving ADEC and other State response staff. After Action Reports are prepared through consolidating ADEC internal inputs as well as inputs from other responding State agencies.

4240.4 – Federal On-Scene Coordinator's Report

The FOSC will submit an FOSC report as requested by the ARRT or NRT as per 40 CFR 300.165 for an incident.

4300 – RESOURCE UNIT

REFERENCES AND TOOLS

Agency Response Guides

- AIMS Guide, Appendix B
- EPA IMH, Chapter 9

4400 – DOCUMENTATION UNIT

Minimum Requirements – Each agency will immediately implement document control and collection procedures. In all cases, telephone logs, correspondence, reports, time records, and field notes will be considered part of documentation. Numerical document control by all participating agencies and a mechanism for centralized document control and retention will be instituted at the agency level. All staff will be subject to a "Check In - Check Out" process through the Resource Unit of the Planning Section to ascertain that vital records are retained onsite.

Additional documentation and data management requirements will vary by incident. ADEC, in conjunction with the ADOL, will establish the documentation and data management requirements for each incident. Attention will be paid to cost recovery requirements.

1 **4500 – DEMOBILIZATION UNIT**

REFERENCES AND TOOLS

Planning

- Demobilization plan – Sample plan template

2 **4600 – ENVIRONMENTAL UNIT**

REFERENCES AND TOOLS

Agency Response Guides

- AIMS Guide, Appendix B
- EPA IMH, Chapter 10, Environmental Unit

Refer to [Section 4800](#) for a list of Permits that the Environmental Unit may be tasked to complete

3 **4610 – Geographic Response Strategies (GRS)**

4 Pre-identified GRS, useful as a basis to initiate response operations, are intended to be flexible for modification to
5 prevailing conditions. GRSs often contain information about fish and wildlife resources and historic properties.
6 Additional GRS may be available from industry through their contingency plans, ADEC posts the contingency plans
7 for ADEC-regulated facilities on their website.

REFERENCES AND TOOLS

Planning

- Geographic Response Strategies
- [GRS are available online on ADEC's website](#) and are organized by geographic zone, including: GRS for the Inland Zone developed for the Chena River in Fairbanks, Alaska (Interior Geographic Zone) and for rivers and lakes on the Kenai Peninsula (Cook Inlet Geographic Zone).
- [Tundra Treatment Guidelines](#) may provide techniques for mitigating impacts to tundra

8 **4620 – Fish and Wildlife Protection Strategies**

REFERENCES AND TOOLS

Wildlife, Fish and Their Habitats

- Wildlife Protection Guidelines for Oil Spill Response in Alaska
- Alaska Sensitive Areas Compendium

9 Information and recommendations for appropriate fish and wildlife protection strategies to help minimize impacts
10 to wildlife will be provided to the OSCs through representatives of USFWS, NMFS, and ADF&G. The Planning
11 Section/Environmental Unit should collaborate, as time allows, with wildlife agency representatives to generate
12 recommendations to incorporate into response plans. Wildlife agency contact information is available in the WPG.
13 The WPG provides spill responders with tools and background information to address wildlife concerns during a
14 spill response in Alaska. Best Management Practices are available in the Wildlife Protection Guidelines to minimize
15 impacts to wildlife and their habitat. The Alaska Sensitive Areas Compendium is intended for use by the OSCs
16 during the initial phase of an incident to assist in identifying sensitive biological and cultural resources, services,
17 and users in 10 Alaska geographic zones.

4630 – Shoreline Cleanup Assessment Techniques (SCAT)

REFERENCES AND TOOLS

SCAT

- Alaska Shoreline Countermeasures Manual, NOAA April 1994
- Job Aid: SCAT Guidance
- NOAA Shoreline Assessment Job Aid, 2014
- Shoreline Assessment Manual, 4th edition, NOAA, August 2013
- The Arctic SCAT Manual, A Field Guide to the Documentation of Oiled Shorelines in Arctic Regions, Environmental Canada, July 2004

Natural and cultural resource agencies' expertise in topics, including potential for resource and habitat damage, wildlife disturbance, oil toxicity, and oil degradation, should be considered in the determination of appropriate techniques for various shoreline types.

4640 – Potential Places of Refuge

REFERENCES AND TOOLS

Planning:

- Potential Places of Refuge website
- ARRT Guidelines for Places of Refuge Decision-Making

None established in Inland Zone. See [Section 9730](#) for additional information.

4700 – TECHNICAL SUPPORT

Certain incidents or events may require the use of Technical Specialists who have specialized skills or experience. While typically established within the Planning Section, specialized units may be assigned to any section that requires certain knowledge, experience, or skills. Examples include an Operation Section Transportation Recovery Unit, a Volunteer Unit within Logistics, or a SCAT Team Coordination Unit within the Planning Section.

4800 – REQUIRED CORRESPONDENCE, PERMITS, AND CONSULTATION

4810 – Administrative Orders

EPA Administrative Orders are directed to the RP/PRP are prepared by the EPA Office of Regional Counsel.

4820 – Notice of Federal Interest

The FOSC is required to inform the RP/PRP of the U.S. Government's legal requirements when a pollution incident occurs. This function is achieved by issuing a "Notice of Federal Interest" to all suspected responsible parties. The U.S. Government's role in an incident is primarily oversight unless the RP/PRP fails to take adequate removal action.

4830 – Notice of Federal Assumption

The FOSC is required to notify the RP/PRP if their actions to abate the threat and remove a hazardous substance are unsatisfactory. The FOSC then assumes response management, and the RP/PRP is liable for costs incurred by the federal government. The document by which this is communicated is called a "Notice of Federal Assumption."

4840 – Letter of Designation

Information on "designation of source" is provided at the NPFC website.

The FOSC is responsible for notifying the NPFC of the source of an actual or potential discharge. The NPFC must also be notified if the source is not identified. The NPFC should be contacted for procedural guidance and with any questions.

The purpose of the notice of designation is to notify RP/PRPs and any guarantors of their designation as owner/ operator/ guarantor of the source of an incident, their potential liability under OPA 90, and their responsibilities to advertise for claims. An RP/PRP for the designated source does not have to take action to accept the designation. A designated RP/PRP may deny the designation. An RP/PRP may also advertise without accepting responsibility for the incident. If the FOSC and SOSC believe that there is the possibility or likelihood for OPA third-party claims for removal costs or damages due to the incident, the relevant NPFC Case Officer will be notified immediately.

4850 – ESA Section 7 Consultations

REFERENCES AND TOOLS

Wildlife, Fish and Their Habitats

- Wildlife Protection Guidelines for Oil Spill Response in Alaska
- Alaska Region Spill Response Emergency Endangered Species Act Consultation Initiation Template
- Alaska Region Spill Response Emergency Endangered Species Act Post-Response Consultation Close-Out Template

NRT Guidance:

- The EPA follows NRT guidance on this process, in accordance with the MOA. Those resources are found online: NRT Guidance, Technical Assistance & Planning

Additional ESA Consultation Guidance can be found at the following websites:

- NMFS, Alaska Office, ESA Consultation
- USFWS, ESA Consultation
- NRT ESA Section 7 Consultation page

Section 7 of the ESA requires any federal agency that authorizes, funds, or carries out activities that may affect listed species or designated critical habitat to consult with DOI (through USFWS) and DOC (through NMFS). This applies to both exercises and spill responses. The ESA and its implementing regulations provide special provisions for consultation during emergencies such as an oil spill.

Any emergency response actions taken by the FOSC using NCP authorities, and in coordination with the SOSC as part of a Unified Command using NCP authorities, must follow the Inter-agency MOA Regarding Oil Spill Planning and Response Activities Under the Federal Water Pollution Control Act's National Oil and Hazardous Substances Pollution Contingency Plan and the ESA. The MOA provides flowcharts for actions for planning, response, and post response. Additional guidance for responders is available in the Wildlife Protection Guidelines for Oil Spill Response in Alaska.

In addition, the "Inter-agency Memorandum of Agreement Regarding Oil Spill Planning and Response Activities Under the Federal Water Pollution Control Act's National Oil and Hazardous Substances Pollution Contingency Plan and the Endangered Species Act," signed in 2001, provides special provisions for "emergency consultation" during an oil spill that may (or has) affected listed species or their designated critical habitat. The USFWS and NMFS can make recommendations to the FOSC to avoid the taking of listed species and reduce response-related impacts.

If take of ESA-listed species does occur because of response activities, formal section 7 consultation between the FOSC and USFWS and NMFS will need to be conducted immediately after the incident. See Section 4810 of the WPG for additional information about emergency ESA section 7 consultation.

In 2014 and 2015, in accordance with the applicable MOA, EPA Region 10, and USCG D17 conducted formal consultation on the now superseded Unified Plan for Alaska. FOSC's should act in accordance with the Biological Opinions of the USFWS and NOAA Fisheries that resulted from this consultation.

4860 – Letter of State Interest

The SOSC is responsible for determining when to issue a State Interest Letter to RP/PRP who discharge oil or release hazardous substances. The SOSC needs to evaluate each incident and determine if a State Interest Letter is appropriate or warranted. RP/PRP who discharge oil or release hazardous substances that meet the following conditions should receive a State Interest Letter, although the SOSC has discretion to issue letters for discharges/releases that do or do not meet the conditions listed below:

- Public injured or significant environmental damages;
- Public required evacuation;
- RP/PRP required to correct a deficiency to prevent reoccurrence;
- Corrective action plan required (includes cleanup and disposal plans);
- SITREP generated;
- Vessel grounded or sunk with actual or potential discharge/release;
- High potential for civil or criminal action(s);
- Recalcitrant RP/PRP; and
- Alaska OHSRPRF opened.

The “letter of State interest” has been designed to provide written documentation to an RP/PRP of its obligations under State law and regulation. Receipt of the letter provides an acknowledgement of these obligations on the part of the RP/PRP. The project manager or SOSC, as appropriate, signs the letter. State interest letters are either sent via certified mail or hand-delivered to ensure receipt by the RP/PRP.

4870 – Historic and Cultural Properties Protection Consultations

[REFERENCES AND TOOLS](#)

Cultural Resources and Historic Properties

- Alaska Implementation Guidelines for the Protection of Historic Properties
- Alaska Implementation Guidelines for FOSCs the Programmatic Agreement on Protection of Historic Properties during Emergency Response under the NCP

Cultural resources are historic, prehistoric, and archaeological resources, which include deposits, structures, ruins, sites, buildings, graves, artifacts, fossils, or other objects of antiquity, that provide information pertaining to the historical or prehistorical culture of people in the State, as well as to the natural history of the State.

The National Historic Preservation Act, the Native American Graves Protection & Repatriation Act, the Archaeological Resources Protection Act, and the Alaska Historic Preservation Act are the primary laws requiring consultations or consideration during emergency response for historic and cultural resources.

The Programmatic Agreement on Protection of Historic Properties during Emergency Response under the National Oil and Hazardous Substances Pollution Contingency Plan (Programmatic Agreement) provides national guidance for FOSCs to help protect historic properties and comply with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act.

The Alaska Implementation Guidelines for FOSCs for the Programmatic Agreement ensure consistent application and interpretation of the national Programmatic Agreement by FOSCs and support agencies, including DOI, USFS, and ADNRR.

1 **4880 – Permits**

REFERENCES AND TOOLS

Planning

- Alaska Spill Response Permits Tool
- ARRT's *In Situ* Burning Guidelines
- Wildlife Protection Guidelines for Oil Spill Response in Alaska
- Alaska RCP, Part Seven and Nine
- ARRT's Dispersant Use Plan for Alaska
- SMART Protocols

2 The Alaska Spill Response Permits Tool, available via the References and Tools webpage or directly on ADEC's PPR
3 webpage, contains a list of the various permits that could be required during response to and recovery from an oil
4 discharge or hazardous substance release. Some forms, authorizations, and instructions in the Spill Response
5 Permits Tool are not required by regulation but are recommended formats for particular response activities. This
6 list is not exhaustive. There also may be required permits not described in the permits tool. Incident-specific
7 permitting needs must be coordinated with Unified Command, resource agencies, and agency representatives
8 within the Environmental Unit. Additional information about authorizations and permits related to wildlife can be
9 found in the WPG.

10 If an incident occurs within the boundaries of a municipality, additional municipal permits may be required.
11 Appropriate local government officials should be contacted to determine local permitting requirements.

12 There is no requirement to obtain a permit for IWI within the State of Alaska. However, State of Alaska regulations
13 require certain conditions exist prior to using IWI as a response tactic. These conditions are best communicated to
14 the FOSC, SOSC, TOSC/LOCS, and ARRT via the "Intentional Wellhead Ignition Risk Benefit Model Worksheet." The
15 OSCs within the Inland area recognize that if IWI is recommended, the request shall be reviewed without delay (in
16 most cases). Using this worksheet to request approval is currently the best way to seek approval for IWI.

17 Note that while the State of Alaska has made pre-approvals for companies to ignite a condensate blowout during
18 drilling operations and voluntary wellhead ignitions, they still must follow the process as stated in Section 3260:
19 Intentional Wellhead Ignition.

5000 – LOGISTICS

5100 – LOGISTICS SECTION ORGANIZATION

REFERENCES AND TOOLS

Agency Response Guides:

- EPA IMH
- AIMS Guide

Contact Information:

- Alaska DCRA Community Database
- ACP Contact Directory
- ICS Resources:
- USCG ICS Position Job Aid: Logistics Section Chief
- USCG ICS Job Aids: Operational Planning Ps: Logistics
- The Milepost: Alaska Travel Planner (updated annually, available via local and online booksellers)

5110 – Logistics Challenges in Alaska

Alaska has a limited road system; most of Alaska is accessible only by air or water. Airport facilities are often limited, and vessel support areas are generally small barge landing areas (i.e., no harbor or dock facilities). Accommodations in small communities are often scarce; in large and small communities during summer tourist seasons lodging is often at full capacity.

Significant logistics challenges exist when responding to incidents off the road system throughout Alaska. It is another layer of complexity that is often overlooked during the initial phases of a response. The logistics challenges are dynamic and vary year to year and season to season. The cost and complexity of any response off the road system will challenge each agency, RP/PRP, or stakeholder. It is highly recommended that everyone involved manage their own logistics by assigning a logistics coordinator who reports through Logistics Section Chief of the UC. This function cannot be overlooked and must be staffed appropriately as soon as possible for any response.

Logistics for remote Alaska is often routed via a hub and spoke system. This system is based on using larger communities that act as a hub for the smaller surrounding towns and villages. Establishing a logistics supply chain within the nearest hub community is most likely one of the first steps regarding logistics for any environmental response. Regional hubs include: Anchorage, Aniak, Bethel, Dillingham, Fairbanks, Galena, Juneau, Ketchikan, King Salmon, Kotzebue, Nome, Prudhoe Bay, St. Mary's, Utqiagvik, Valdez.

These communities were selected as regional hubs mainly due to regional commercial aircraft routes, lodging availability, hospitals/medical facilities, and other basic services. In the event of an emergency, responders would most likely travel to one of these communities first before getting to their destination. For instance, to reach Kaktovik, responders and other resources must fly through Prudhoe Bay.

5200 – SUPPORT

5210 – Response Equipment and Assets

5210.1 – Agencies

Oil discharge and hazardous substance release response equipment is available through State and federal agencies (see Table 5-1).

Table 5-1: Agency Response Equipment and Assets

Agency	Equipment Description
Federal Agency (Access via FOSC)	
EPA	Monitoring and Sampling; Decontamination; communications (satellite phones and radio); Level A PPE; mobile command post; Anchorage Logistics Center (EOC)
USCG	20 pre-positioned oil pollution response equipment depots: basic equipment package consists of harbor boom, anchor/towing support, various sorbents, generators, emergency lights, and limited PPE. In Anchorage, one VOSS and 5,000 feet of offshore boom (seas to 4 feet) are pre-positioned on four flatbed trailers for quick transport to the scene.
Navy SupSalv	Ship salvage, shipboard damage control, and diving. Response hub in Anchorage/JBER. For additional details, visit the Navy SupSalv website.
DOD	Multiple military facilities, vehicles, aircraft, heavy equipment
DOI	Boats, aircraft, vehicles, and bunkhouses
State Agency (Access via SOSC)	
ADEC	Pre-positioned response equipment caches, communications equipment, nearshore response packages. Anchorage equipment hub/warehouse.
ADF&G	Vessels
ADOT&PF	Ferries, heavy equipment
ADNR	Heavy Equipment, aircraft support

5210.2 –Response Contractors

Response contractors are available through the FOSC and the SOSC (see Table 5-2).

Table 5-2: Response Contractors

Federal Contractors (Access via FOSC)	
EPA	START Emergency Response Team. Maintains response equipment, BOAs for analytical labs, historic properties specialists, air charters.
USCG	Basic Ordering Agreement Term Contractors (spill response contractors)
State Contractors (Access via SOSC)	
ADEC	Spill Response Term Contractors Technical Support and Planning Term Contractors

State Term Contractors: ADEC maintains term contracts with several companies and consulting firms for providing needed expertise and assistance during responses to an oil discharge and hazardous substance release. These contracts can be activated by the issuance of a Notice to Proceed by the ADEC Contract Manager or the SOSC. Contact the SOSC listing of the companies holding a Term Contract with the State of Alaska.

PRAC/OSRO: PRACs and OSROs may play an important role in a response. PRACs and OSROs are organizations that may enter into a contractual agreement with an RP/PRP (vessel or facility owner/operator), assisting the RP/PRP in cleanup operations. PRACs/OSROs can provide equipment, trained personnel, and additional resources. PRAC/OSRO Operations and Technical Manuals can be referenced in vessel or facility contingency plans and serve as supplementary reference documents during a response. OSROs generally have access to large inventories of

response equipment and personnel resources. The FOSC or SOSC may contract these assets for use. Complete equipment inventories are listed in the respective PRAC/OSRO Operations and Technical Manuals. For more information:

- ADEC maintains a list of PRACs
- USCG maintains a list of OSROs

A map with community response equipment Conex container locations and inventory is maintained by ADEC on their Community Spill Response Agreements and Equipment website.

5220 – Facilities

For a federally funded response, the GSA and the USCG will locate and contract necessary facilities. For RP/PRP responses, the RP/PRP will be required to provide an adequate command center.

5220.1 – ICP Options

Regardless of the volume discharged/released, the OSCs and resource agency representatives will initially operate from their normal offices. For significant incidents, a joint command center might be required. In general, a command post is established in the closest community that has the necessary services and support facilities. For responses in remote locations, command posts are often in regional hub communities (e.g., Anchorage, Fairbanks, and Juneau).

There are several established and equipped municipal EOCs throughout Alaska, some of the primary EOCs are listed in Table 5-3. Schools and community centers are often utilized as EOCs in rural communities. Responders should contact local government to arrange use. Many agencies and industry have designated and equipped ICPs and EOCs; these might be available to host a joint command center.

Table 5-3: Established Emergency Operations Center

CITY	FACILITY
Anchorage	Municipality of Anchorage EOC
Anchorage/JBER	State EOC
Wasilla	Matanuska-Susitna Borough EOC
Soldotna	Kenai Peninsula Borough Emergency Response Center
Kodiak	Kodiak Island Borough Assembly Chambers (Designated EOC) Kodiak Alaska Army National Guard Armory (Alternate EOC)
Fairbanks	Fairbanks North Star Borough EOC
Juneau	Juneau Police Department (Primary EOC) Capital City Fire Rescue Glacier Fire Station (Alternate EOC)
Mobile (based in Anchorage)	DMVA/DHSEM Mobile EOC

5220.2 – Lodging

REFERENCES AND TOOLS

Contact Information:

- Alaska DCRA Community Database
- ACP Contact Directory

Several commercial lodging facilities are available across Alaska, but during the summer tourist season, most lodging facilities are booked at capacity and availability will be limited. The smaller communities have very limited lodging facilities or no facilities at all. Some possible alternatives to traditional lodging may be the use of RVs,

mobile homes, portable work camps/shelters, National Guard Armories, school gyms, etc. But in some of these cases, if the incident is no longer deemed an emergency, specific zoning rules may prohibit use.

Near coastal areas, on-water berthing facilities for response personnel may be required. Chartered passenger vessels, constructed “hotel” barges, or U.S. Navy vessels might be utilized to provide berthing. All “berthing” type vessels must meet current USCG regulatory requirements.

Refer to the DCRA Online Community Database for local lodging options.

5220.3 – Port/Dock Facilities/Capacities

REFERENCES AND TOOLS

Contact Information:

- Alaska DCRA Community Database
- ACP Contact Directory

Additional Websites

- Alaska Association of Harbormasters and Port Administrators
- ADOT&PF Ports and Harbors

A complete listing of ports and harbors is available on the Alaska Association of Harbormasters and Port Administrators website and at the ADOT&PF Ports and Harbors Page. Docking facilities and barge landing areas may also be available on the major rivers of Inland Alaska.

5220.4 – Airports/Heliports

REFERENCES AND TOOLS

Contact Information:

- Alaska DCRA Community Database
- ACP Contact Directory

Air Operations:

- AirportIQ 5010

Refer to [Section 3400](#).

The Airport IQ 5010 online database provides a list of airport and heliport facilities, searchable by location/city.

Many communities have limited airport facilities (e.g., runway length for small aircraft only; gravel airstrips; limited fuel; unstaffed). Air services/support is generally based out of regional hub airports; with connections to larger cities via these hub locations.

5220.5 – Temporary Oily Waste Storage and Final Disposal Facilities

Temporary storage of oily waste or recovered fluids must be addressed in the incident-specific Waste Management Plan. Responders should coordinate specific requirements with Operations Section and Environmental Unit.

5220.6 – Waste Disposal Facilities

Responders should consult with ADEC on the landfill status and the current information on the adequacy of landfills. Currently, no approved hazardous waste disposal sites exist in Alaska. Municipal landfills in Alaska either no longer accept oily wastes or accept only lightly oiled soils. Additional guidance for Alaska Class I and II landfills is available on the ADEC website.

A list of solid waste facilities in Alaska is available on ADEC’s website. All facilities are available on the SWIMS database.

5220.7– Laboratories

Disclaimer: This list of ADEC approved laboratories does not guarantee the accuracy or validity of the data generated by these laboratories. A laboratory that is certified or approved has established that they can implement a quality control program in accordance with the appropriate federal or State regulations or statutes. This list is updated by the ADEC Contaminated Sites Lab Approval Officer (907 465-5390). For the most up-to-date listing, visit the ADEC List of Approved Labs website.

When choosing a lab from the list, request the lab supply a copy of their current ADEC approval letter. These letters detail the methods and matrices for which the lab has approval. "Approved methods" does not imply approval for both water and soil samples. Labs must renew their approval and pass performance evaluation samples annually. Failure to do so results in the revocation of a lab's approval.

5300 – SERVICES

REFERENCES AND TOOLS

Contact Information:

- Alaska DCRA Community Database

5310 – Food

A major response will require significant quantities of food and the associated equipment necessary for properly handling, storing, preparing, and disposing of food waste. These tasks would require contract support from the local area if the requirements did not exceed local capability. Anchorage has numerous construction support organizations that could provide portable field kitchens and catering support complete with portable shelters; this support can be provided in air-transportable "packages." It is recommended that food and other basic supplies be purchased from stores most immediate to the incident, when possible. Larger responses will require purchases from vendors outside the area. High-speed vessel transport or small aircraft may be needed to deliver food to on-scene personnel.

5320 – Medical

Hospitals are available in most hub and regional hub communities. Small communities, particularly in rural Alaska, are often served by a clinician supported by a medical doctor via telemedicine. The Alaska Community Database provides information on the nearest health care facilities by community.

5340 – Transportation and Heavy Equipment

5340.1 – Vehicle Rental

Outside of the urban hub locations, vehicle rentals might be available by small locally owned businesses. In small communities, vehicles may be rented via the city or tribe or lodging facility. The lodging facility will often be able to provide vehicle rental information.

Off-road vehicles (all-terrain vehicles and snow-machines) may also be available to rent locally—responders should contact the City, tribe, or lodging facility for recommendations.

5340.2 – Truck and Heavy Equipment Rental

For trucks and heavy equipment, the Alaska National Guard and the ADOT&PF also may be able to provide resources.

5340.3 – Maintenance

Scattered and limited maintenance and repair facilities exist in the Alaska Inland Area. Extended operations not in the immediate vicinity of maintenance facilities will require that self-contained facilities be brought on scene. Limited maintenance facilities may be available locally. The RP/PRP will need to provide self-contained facilities aboard barges or other means.

5350 – Clothing

Alaska’s environmental conditions dictate that response personnel be equipped to operate in the harsh arctic environment. Personnel must arrive on-scene with adequate clothing to begin working immediately. This includes a complete set of heavy-duty rain gear, steel-toed rubber boots, gloves, hard-hat liner, and warm (preferably not cotton) under garments. Mosquito-netted clothing may also be required for safety and comfort. Depending on the season, winter outerwear will also be required. Employers will be responsible for resupplying their employees with necessary clothing.

5360 – Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) and Safety Equipment

All responders must report with the minimum required OSHA and State hazardous response training and all required PPE. This equipment might include hard hat, safety goggles, hearing protection, gloves, personal flotation device, respirator with cartridges, and steel-toed boots. It will be the responsibility of the employer to provide and document the required training and to fully outfit and resupply their personnel with the necessary safety equipment. Availability of PPE will be confirmed by the Site Safety Officer.

Fire Resistant Clothing is often required at oil production or refining facilities.

Arctic-weight winter clothing is often required, consistent with on-site conditions and safety protocols, October through May (especially above the Arctic Circle).

All of Alaska is “bear country.” Crews working in remote locations should be trained in how to be safe in bear habitat. Workers may need to be provided bear spray or have designated well-trained guards with the appropriate guns as a precaution against negative human/bear encounters. These remote crews may also require one or more of the following: briefings on how to handle food residue and trash; bear-resistant containers for food and perishable items; and portable electric fencing for camp security to deter bear intrusions.

5400 – COMMUNICATIONS

REFERENCES AND TOOLS

Agency Response Guides:

- AIMS Guide
- EPA IMH

Contact Information:

- Alaska DCRA Community Database
- ACP Contact Directory

ICS Resources:

- USCG ICS Job Aids: *See the Communication Unit Leader (COML)*

5410 – Emergency Notifications to Community

REFERENCES AND TOOLS

Natural Disasters/ Stafford Act Disasters

- DHSEM Local Area Emergency Alert System Plans
- DHSEM Small Community Emergency Response Plans

Many communities have reverse 911 and broadcast text messaging capabilities to disseminate emergency messages, such as shelter in place recommendations.

Four separate systems for broadcast of emergency messages are available to the OSC. These include the NOAA Weather Radio System, the State of Alaska EAS, IPAWS, and the NAWAS.

NOAA Weather Radio System: The Alaskan NOAA Weather Radio System is handled through the NWS and is constantly updated. The NOAA Weather Radio System operates in two modes (i.e., normal and alarm). In the normal mode, the system provides regionally specific updated weather information. In an emergency, NWS can activate the alarm mode. In the alarm mode, NWS can remotely activate any one of 15 remote radio weather transmitters. The OSC can activate the alarm mode of the Alaskan NOAA Weather Radio System by contacting the NWS and stating that they wish to activate the NOAA Weather Radio System to service certain geographical areas. All messages should be short and concise. At a minimum, responders should provide the following information:

- The nature of the emergency;
- Actions underway by local, State, and federal agencies and the RP/PRP; and
- Special instructions to the public.

Standard NOAA weather radio transmitters (with a nominal 45-mile broadcast radius) are situated at strategic locations throughout the state. In addition, when NOAA makes a broadcast on its weather radio affecting a specific geographical region, it can also notify the local primary CPCS-1, a component of the EAS, covering the affected area and ask the CPCS-1 station to rebroadcast the emergency message.

State of Alaska Emergency Broadcasting System, including EAS and IPAWS: The DHSEM is responsible for activation of the State EAS and IPAWS. The State notification system can be activated statewide or regionally.

NAWAS: The DHSEM also operates the Alaska component of NAWAS. This system uses dedicated commercially leased land lines.

To activate the EAS, IPAWS or the NAWAS, contact DHSEM at 1-800-478-2337 or 907-428-7000.

5420 – Communications Capabilities

Communications throughout Alaska can be limited by terrain, limited communications infrastructure, and limited service providers. Alaska’s communication technology options and their potential limitations are described in Table 5-4.

1 **Table 5-4: Communications Options**

TECHNOLOGY	DESCRIPTION	LIMITATIONS
Landline	Voice and internet/data communications	Service, especially data service can be limited in remote locations.
Cellular	Voice, text, and internet/data communications	Service in many locations is limited due to terrain. In remote communities, cell service is often available only through a single provider, cell phones from outside responders on other networks may not work.
Satellite	Telephone and data. Frequently used in extremely remote locations. Satellite phones and portable satellite communications packages are available to establish service.	Service in many locations is limited due to terrain, latitude, and weather
Radio	VHF radio communications is the primary radio band used by the State of Alaska, EPA, and USCG. However, many local emergency responders utilize the UHF band.	Repeater location and accessibility ALMR compatibility
Electronic	Documents may be sent electronically. Additionally, many organizations and communities have social media outlets (i.e. Facebook groups/pages), that allow for rapid dissemination of information to the community.	<i>See limitations on data/internet service.</i>

2 For all communication technology, response communications can overload the local capability, particularly in
3 remote locations.

4 **ALMR:** The ALMR system is the two-way VHF radio system in use today by first responders and public safety
5 officials for instant, effective, and private communications during everyday operation. The system provides the
6 efficiency, security, and flexibility required during emergencies for communications on demand and in real time.
7 The ALMR transportable capability provides coverage in areas outside the range of the fixed infrastructure to
8 increase capacity during an emergency or event, or to provide temporary communications for a site where
9 communications are down. Table 5-5 provides a description of agency-owned/managed communication assets in
10 Alaska.

Table 5-5: Agency Owned/Managed Communications Assets

AGENCY	DESCRIPTION
ADEC	Communications equipment; managed by ADEC PPR Warehouse Portable communications trailer
ADOA Enterprise Technology Services	Provides communications support (907-296-5781 in Anchorage)
DMVA	Mobile emergency communications system Mobile Command Post
DMVA / Alaska National Guard:	Emergency Communications Response Team 103rd CST has a communications van
DOD	Extensive communications capabilities SUPSALV also has a command trailer
ADPS	Maintains agency-owned/managed communication assets (e.g. ALMR)
ADPS / AST	Communications trailer

Each agency may have limitations and restrictions regarding the use of their communication equipment.

5430 – Interpreters

REFERENCES AND TOOLS

Contact Information:

- ACP Contact Directory
- Alaska Institute for Justice, Language Interpreter Center

With the growing number of non-English or English as a second language speakers into Alaska, and increased interaction with foreign-flag vessels, language barriers may arise. Response staff may need the skills of an interpreter. Local hospitals and the State Troopers are the two most likely sources for the names of available interpreters. EPA and USCG Tribal Coordinators can assist in identifying interpreters of Alaska Native languages. The Alaska Institute for Justice, Language Interpreter Center is another resource for interpreters.

5500 – STATE RESPONSE RESOURCES

REFERENCES AND TOOLS

Logistics:

- Community Spill Response Agreements and Local Response Equipment

ADEC pre-staged equipment is found on their Local Response Equipment website. ADEC’s warehouse provides a central storage and maintenance location for staff PPE, rapid response Conex container, and communication equipment. Access, mobilization, and transport of this equipment is also coordinated through ADEC. Other State resources are described throughout this ACP, as well as the References and Tools website.

5510 – Types of Incidents and Response Capability

In addition to the pre-designated SOSCs, ADEC maintains trained area response teams to manage minor (Type 4), medium (Type 2-3), and major (Type 1) incidents.

6000 – FINANCE/ADMINISTRATION

6100 – FINANCE/ADMINISTRATION SECTION

REFERENCES AND TOOLS

Agency Response Guides

- EPA IMH, Chapter 12
- AIMS Guide

Finance/Cost

- National Pollution Funds Center: The Oil Spill Liability Trust Fund
- NPFC User Reference Guide (eURG)
- Technical Operating Procedures (TOPS) for State Access under The Oil Pollution Act of 1990
- ADEC About RFA and the Response Fund

Note: None of the guides listed above in the References and Tools text box are specifically prescribed by this plan, and none are mandated for use by response plan holders or RP/PRP parties. FOSCs and SOSCs will work with the response organization established by the RP/PRP in responding to and managing oil discharges or hazardous substance releases if their organization is compatible with ICS principles.

6200 – FUND ACCESS

6210 – Federal Oil Spill Liability Trust Fund (OSLTF)

6210.1 – FOSC OSLTF Access

The FOSC contacts the NPFC to request an FPN and initial project ceiling. The pollution number is referenced in all subsequent correspondence. Obligation of funds is tracked to ensure the ceiling is not exceeded. For details regarding documentation and cost recovery, see the NPFC User Reference Guide (eURG) on the References and Tools webpage.

6210.2 – State Access

State governments, typically through the SOSC, may request up to \$250,000 from the OSLTF via the appropriate FOSC. State governments access the OSLTF according to procedures in the NPFC User Reference Guide (eURG), Chapter 4. The TOPS for State Access under OPA 90 are also available.

6210.3 – Trustee Access

The OSLTF is available to pay for response or removal actions carried out under FOSC direction. The NPFC designates the total amount of money available and assigns an FPN for the FOSC. Federal agencies working for the FOSC may request funds from the FOSC to pay for their activities. State trustees should work through their federal trustee partners to obtain funding for authorized response activities. See the NPFC User Reference Guide (eURG) for additional information. In general, federal, and state agencies seeking access to the OSLTF following an incident may take the following actions:

1. When an agency is notified of an incident, joint discussions between the FOSC and that agency's representative will occur to determine if it is appropriate for the agency to participate and support the FOSC.
2. If participation in the response is appropriate, a request for funding will be made to the FOSC. Initially, the request can be made orally but must be quickly followed by a written request.

3. The funding request will include anticipated tasks, estimated costs, and the total amount of funding needed for the duration of the response.
4. Authorization comes from the FOSC in the form of a signed and dated PRFA. The PRFA includes the activities to be funded, the amount of money available, and an FPN. The FPN must appear on all incident documentation. The signed PRFA is used as agency authorization to invoice the NPFC for reimbursement of response costs.
5. It is necessary to fully document all costs associated with authorized response expenditures. Records must include salaries and benefits, daily transportation costs, individual per diem, authorized overtime costs, material costs, equipment costs (owned or rented), and authorized contractor costs.
6. If at any time during the response it appears that the agency will exceed the PRFA ceiling, there must be an IMMEDIATE written request to the FOSC to increase the ceiling. The request must include detailed activities and costs. If an increase is approved, the FOSC will issue an amendment to the PRFA.

6210.4 – Local Government Access

Local governments cannot directly access the fund. However, during a response, local government resources may be hired via a PRFA. For claims after the fact, local governments can submit claims to the FOSC.

6220 – Federal Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA) Funding

6220.1 – FOSC Access

EPA and USCG FOSCs have access to CERCLA funding, as applicable, via authorities found in the NCP. EPA accesses CERCLA funding via internal policies and procedures.

6220.2 – State Access

EPA and USCG FOSCs can assist the State in accessing CERCLA funding. All requests are reviewed and approved by the appropriate FOSC.

6220.3 – Trustee Access

Federal agencies working for the FOSC may request funds from the FOSC to pay for their activities. State trustees should work through their federal trustee partners to obtain funding for authorized response activities.

6220.4 – Local Government Access

For local government reimbursement under CERCLA, refer to EPA’s Local Government Reimbursement Program website.

6230 – Stafford Act Funding

6230.1 – FOSC Access - TBD

6230.2 – State Access - TBD

6230.3 – Trustee Access –TBD

6240 – Alaska Oil and Hazardous Substance Release Prevention and Response Fund (OHSRPRF)

Expenditures made directly from or reimbursed from the OHSRPRF will have unique tracking requirements both for legislative reporting and cost recovery documentation. Due to the multi-agency involvement in ICS, it is

important that all agencies understand the documentation and reporting requirements related to usage of the fund.

Additional information is available on the ADEC SPAR website RFA and the Response Fund.

6240.1 – ADEC

SOSCs may access funds in the Response Account of the OHSRPRF, also referred to as the “Response Fund,” as provided in AS 46.08.040 and AS 46.08.045 to:

- Respond to a release or threatened release when the Governor declares a disaster related to an oil or a hazardous substance discharge emergency; or
- Investigate and evaluate the release or threatened release of oil or a hazardous substance; or
- Contain, clean up and take other necessary action, such as monitoring and assessing, to address a release or threatened release of oil or a hazardous substance that poses an imminent and substantial threat to the public health or welfare or to the environment.

The DEC Commissioner has management and oversight authority of Response Fund expenditures. This authority has been delegated to the pre-designated SOSCs subject to the following requirements.

The Response Fund Manager has delegated in writing authority to approve payments of expenditures from the Response Account for \$50,000 or less per incident to each SOSC for emergency responses within their area. This authority may not be further delegated on a permanent basis without the prior written approval of the Response Fund Manager. The SOSC may delegate this authority to another individual in their temporary absence.

6240.2 – Other Agencies

Other State agencies should only incur obligations and expenditures after receiving a request for involvement and a work plan approved by the SOSC. Obligations and expenditures not requested by the SOSC will not be reimbursed from the OHSRPRF.

Other agencies may seek reimbursement from the OHSRPRF through an RSA. Supporting documentation requirements may be more than standard State requirements. Thus, agencies should carefully review supporting documentation requirements. Requests for reimbursement will be reviewed against OHSRPRF requirements and will not be approved unless the documentation requirements have been met.

This reimbursement process may be amended if a cost recovery agreement is negotiated with an RP/PRP that adds or changes reporting requirements. The ADEC will provide written notification to all participating State agencies in such a case.

6300 – COST

6310 – Cost Documentation, Procedures, Forms and Completion Report

6310.1 – Federal

6310.1.1 Oil Discharge Responses

The FOSC is required to submit all cost documentation for cost recovery to the NPFC. All federal cost documentation, procedures, and forms are available via the NPFC’s User Reference Guide.

6310.1.2 CERCLA Responses

The FOSC is required to submit all cost documentation for cost recovery to the NPFC. All federal cost documentation, procedures, and forms are available via the NPFC’s User Reference Guide.

6310.1.3 *Stafford Act Responses - TBD*

6310.2 – State

Cost Recovery Direct from the RP/PRP: In cases of cost recovery direct from the RP/PRP, each participating agency may be required to provide documentation to the liable party and to ADEC for cost recovery (AS 46.04.010). Written notification of procedures will be provided by ADEC to each participating agency. Each agency will be required to maintain records related to the cost recovery process. Specific record keeping requirements will be outlined in writing by ADEC to each participating agency, but will include, at a minimum:

- Expenditures Incurred;
- Expenditures Submitted for Cost Recovery; and
- Expenditures Recovered.

Cost Recovery through Litigation: In cases of cost recovery through litigation, each participating agency may be required to provide documentation to the ADOL and to ADEC for cost recovery. Written notification of procedures will be provided by ADEC to each participating agency.

6310.2.1 *Fund Expenditure Methods*

RSA executable documents will include:

- A detailed explanation of services being rendered under the agreement;
- Financial coding for expenditures and receivables, initial or amended maximum service costs to be incurred by the servicing agency, and commencement and completion dates; and
- Servicing, requesting, and procurement contacts.

All RSA additions, executions, and amendments will be approved by the SOSOC or his/her designee prior to authorization and certification by ADEC. The following will be included with each expenditure submission:

- Copies of invoices, procurement documentation, travel documentation, time sheets, and all receipts to support all non-personal service expenditures; and
- Narrative justification for the expenditure, addressing specific reasons for each expenditure as it relates to the agency's approved work plan, including detailed time entry memos for personal service expenditures.

6310.2.2 *Accounting*

State accounting applications will rarely be located on site. All agencies must use a unique accounting structure (such as location and sub location code, and program code) or other tool to identify all expenditures by a specific ICS project.

ADEC must receive written notification from each participating agency of the accounting structure being used to capture its authorization, obligations, and expenditures.

6320 – Oil Pollution Act of 1990 (OPA 90) Liability Limits

Limits of Liability as defined by OPA 90 are outlined in 33 CFR 138, Subpart B.

6400 – TIME

See the agency guidance at the beginning of this section for requirements for tracking of staff time.

6500 – COMPENSATION/CLAIMS

Guidance for submitting a claim under the OSLTF is available at the National Pollution Funds Center: The Oil Spill Liability Trust Fund website, under "Oil Spill Claims".

Claims that are not managed through the OSLTF are likely submitted directly to the RP/PRP to resolve.

6600 – PROCUREMENT

6610 – Contracting Officer Authority

6610.1 – Federal

Federal contract authority for spill response falls under the FOSC duties. Further guidance on this topic is available at the National Pollution Funds Center: The Oil Spill Liability Trust Fund website.

6610.2 – State Responsible Agency: ADOA

Agencies are cautioned that procurement actions are governed by AS 36.30, the State of Alaska Administrative Manual, 2 AAC 12, Departmental Delegated Purchasing Authority Memoranda, as well as individual departmental policy and procedures.

In an initial activation of the multi-agency ICS, the ADOA can establish an on-scene Procurement Office, using the DCST and reporting to the Finance/Administration Section Chief. The Logistics Section Chief will work with the Procurement Office to ensure accounting practices and procedures are followed for all transactions.

Primary activities include the following:

- Establish written term contracts for services;
- Eliminate State liability from verbal contracts through public notices;
- Assess and establish leases for office and other space;
- Assist, as needed, all participating agencies in contracting, emergency procurement, and reporting.;
- Establish systems to provide adequate internal controls and communication between the finance procurement unit and the logistics supply unit;
- Coordinate with DMVA/DHSEM and ADOT&PF and Logistics to ensure ground transportation requirements are met; and
- Assist in hiring and training staff for procurement functions.
-

7000 – HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCES

Guidance for hazardous substance response is focused on highlighting distinctions between oil and hazardous substance response under the NCP. Each hazardous substance response is unique, and this section is intended to serve as a policy guide to provide hazardous substance response resources and clearly define the ways a hazardous substance release response may often differ from an oil discharge response.

REFERENCES AND TOOLS

Hazardous Substances

- NCP 40 CFR 300.400 Hazardous Substance Response (Subpart E)
- Hazardous Substance Job Aid
- Nuclear/Radiological Incident Annex to the NRF
- Radiological Response Procedure Job Aid
- Hazardous Materials Response Special Teams Capabilities and Contact Handbook
- NOAA Air Resources Laboratory (air dispersion modeling assistance)

Chemical and Hazard Material Guides and Manuals, available under “Hazardous Substances”

- CHEMTREC, Chemical/Hazardous Substance information, 1 800-424-9300
- Emergency Response Guide (DOT, 2020)
- International Maritime Dangerous Goods Codes
- Fire Protection Guide to Hazardous Materials, NFPA catalog
- NIOSH Pocket Guide to Chemical Hazards
- Occupational Safety and Health Guidance Manual for Hazardous Waste Site Activities
- Computer-Aided Management of Emergency Operations (CAMEO), EPA Software Suite (includes CAMEO, ALOHA and MARPLOT)
- National Institutes of Health PubChem Open Chemistry Database

Agency Response Guides

USCG IMH

- Chapter 15: Terrorism Incident
- Chapter 20: Hazardous Substances/Materials
- Chapter 22: Multi-Casualty Branch

EPA IMH:

- Chapter 15: Hazardous Substance Response
- Chapter 18: Radiological Incidents
- Chapter 19: Biological Incidents
- Chapter 21: Terrorist Incidents

AIMS Guide

Note: CERCLA-regulated hazardous substances, and their reportable quantities, are listed in 40 CFR Part 302, Table 302.4. CERCLA and EPCRA reportable quantities may also be found in EPA’s “List of Lists.” Radionuclides listed under CERCLA are provided in a separate list, with Reportable Quantities in Curies.

1 See also [Section 7500](#) for additional reference material.

2 7100 – INTRODUCTION

3 There are several factors that are unique to hazardous substance releases. These factors do not change the ICS
4 structure. The purpose of this section is to provide ACP users with information specific to response to hazardous
5 substance releases, including WMD incidents.

6 Many ARRT and Alaska’s Area Committee member agencies have specific responsibilities during and following a
7 hazardous substances incident, including WMD or other terrorist act (chemical, biological, or radiological). The ACP
8 is a good general guide for interagency coordination and resources during a response to any type of oil or

hazardous substances incident. When an incident is large enough in scope to trigger the NRF, a hazardous substance response will be conducted under Emergency Support Function 10 and may use this plan as a guide.

7110 – Scope

This subsection focuses on hazardous substance incidents with the following characteristics:

- Multi-agency or multi-jurisdictional response;
- Exceedance of localized (city/county/state) response capacity;
- Response that exceeds one operational period;
- Release or imminent release of hazardous substances (not intelligence only); and
- Response phase of the incident, through stabilization.

7120 – Definitions of Hazardous Substances

This subsection does not specifically deal with issues related to a response to petroleum products. Petroleum products, such as diesel and gasoline, are specifically excluded from CERCLA and are not considered to be “hazardous substances” under federal statute. State environmental statutes, however, consider these materials hazardous substances.

This subsection addresses the hazardous substances, as defined and regulated by CERCLA, the Clean Air Act, CWA, and the Toxic Substances Control Act. This includes RCRA “hazardous wastes.” In addition, any element, compound, mixture, solution, or substance may also be specifically designated as a “hazardous substance” under CERCLA. This definition includes numerous hazardous chemicals, as well as chemical warfare agents and radionuclides. CERCLA hazardous substances and associated Reportable Quantities are listed in 40 CFR Part 302.4 – the “List of Lists.” CERCLA also applies to “pollutants or contaminants” that may present an imminent or substantial danger to public health or welfare. An imminent or substantial danger to public health or welfare is caused when the pollutant or contaminant will, or may reasonably be anticipated to, cause illness, death, or deformation in any organism. Most biological warfare agents have been determined to be pollutants or contaminants under CERCLA.

Hazardous substance responders should be familiar with Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear, and Explosive (CBRNE) responses that are generally considered part of a terrorist or weapons of mass destruction (WMD) attack, making the response a crime scene. DOD, DHS, and FBI all have authorities for responding, investigating, and sampling CBRNE incidents and FOSCs shall be prepared to provide resources and technical assistance concurrent to the criminal investigation or after it is completed. EPA and USCG are the only federal agencies that have authority to provide removal and remediation services for long-term environmental multi-media cleanup and decontamination of a contaminated site.

The State of Alaska regulates hazardous substances under a broad definition of hazardous materials in AS 29.35.590(7).

7130 – Authorities

7130.1 – Federal Authorities

Federal authorities are responsible for a response to the release of a hazardous substance, pollutant, or contaminant, including biological, chemical, and radiological warfare agent, are outlined in the CWA § 311, CERCLA (commonly known as “Superfund”), and the NCP. FOSCs do not have the authority to respond to hazardous material incidents that do not include hazardous substances.

FOSCs have a mandate to respond to assist State, tribal, and local hazardous materials responders who are dealing with an unknown chemical release to the environment. Once the public safety threat is over, the FOSC must evaluate if there is a remaining environmental threat from a hazardous substance or pollutant or contaminant, as defined by CERCLA.

Jurisdiction: Federal jurisdiction is based on the source or impacts of the releases, unlike responses to oil discharges, which is based on the risk of impact to waters of the U.S. In accordance with the NCP, the EPA is the pre-designated FOSC for the inland zone and the USCG is the FOSC for the coastal zone. The FOSC will respond to hazardous substance releases, or threats of release which originate from:

- Vessels and vehicles and other modes of transportation, e.g., railroad.
- Facilities, when the release requires immediate action to prevent risk of harm to human life, health, or the environment.
- Hazardous waste management facilities, or illegal disposal areas, when the USCG FOSC determines emergency containment or other immediate removal actions are necessary prior to the arrival of the EPA FOSC.

Per the USCG-EPA Instrument of Redelelegation, any response to an incident originating from a vessel of any kind, is the jurisdiction of the USCG FOSC and cannot be delegated to the EPA (agreement signed 1987 and 1988).

DOD will provide the FOSC for any hazardous substance releases from DOD vessels or facilities. DOE will provide the FOSC for any releases from DOE facilities.

Under the NCP, responsibility for radiological responses is more complex and is dependent on who “owns” the source of the release. Roles and responsibilities are outlined in the Nuclear/Radiological Incident Annex to the NRF. The EPA Radiological Emergency Response Plan provides additional guidance on responding to radiological incidents.

Transition to Long-Term Cleanup/Site Remediation: Once the immediate threat to human life, health, or the environment has been abated and the character of the response changes to a long-term cleanup or site remediation, the FOSC’s responsibilities will be transferred to a designated EPA official. The EPA is the lead federal agency for longer-term hazardous substance and pollutant or contaminant cleanups in the inland and coastal zone. However, long-term cleanup is outside of the scope of this plan.

7130.2 – State Authorities

The State of Alaska regulates hazardous substances under a broad definition of hazardous materials in AS 29.35.590(7). For chemical releases, ADEC will provide the SOSC. ADOH will activate their EOC and will designate the SOSC. Radiological responses are jointly led by the ADEC and ADOH and the SOSC will be determined on a case-by-case basis.

7130.3 – Lead Agencies for Types of Hazardous Substance Incidents

Table 7-1 outlines the State and federal lead agencies for specific incident types. Note that this chart only shows the agency with primary authority—it does not reflect the fact that multiple agencies typically coordinate on each incident.

Table 7-1: Lead State and Federal Agencies for Specific Incident Types

	OIL	CHEMICAL	BIOLOGICAL	NUCLEAR/ RADIOLOGICAL	DISASTER
State of Alaska	ADEC	ADEC (plus state defined hazmat)	ADHOH	ADEC, ADOH	DMVA
Federal	EPA USCG	EPA USCG	EPA	EPA, USCG, DOE, DOD NRC, NASA	FEMA

7200 – RESPONSE

7210 – Command

Local Command: The community’s LOSC is in command and control until he or she determines that there is no longer an imminent threat to public safety. The LOSC can at any time request higher authority to assume

command and control of an incident. Local emergency plans should be consulted for any specific directions or guidelines. The local fire department or LEPC should have the most current records on local storage of hazmat in quantities large enough to meet federal reporting requirements.



As long as there is an immediate threat to public safety, the LOSC serves as the ultimate command authority if the FOSC or SOSC does not assume the lead role for the response or the LOSC requests a higher authority to assume that responsibility.

7210.1 – Hazardous Substances Incident/Unified Command Objectives

Primary UC Objectives:

- Protect the safety of the public and responders;
- Identify the hazards;
- Isolate the hazard area;
- Establish Command;
- Complete notifications; and
- Activate response plans.

Other Possible UC Objectives:

- On-site safety;
- Threat assessment;
- Hazard detection and reduction;
- Environmental monitoring and forecasts;
- Plume or trajectory modeling;
- Sample and forensic evidence collection/analysis; and
- Assess impacts to Critical Infrastructure and cascading impacts.

7210.2 – Criminal Incident Management

It may be unclear at the onset of a response whether the cause was accidental or criminal. Local responders will be the first to arrive on scene to assess the situation and, if trained, take initial response measures to contain or stop the release. In instances where criminal activity is suspected, coordination is required between the hazardous substance response and law enforcement. Law enforcement agencies will consider the incident as a crime scene. Although protection of life remains paramount, and protection of health or the environment are priorities, the protection and processing of the crime scene is imperative so perpetrators can be identified and apprehended.

The FOSC should share all available and applicable information, with the law enforcement agencies' assistance in making these determinations.

7210.3 – Credible Threat Determination (Terrorism /CBRNE Events)

If a responder suspects terrorism, the FBI, and local/State law enforcement must be notified as soon as possible. A terrorist incident will always be treated as a federal crime scene; thus, giving the FBI and local/State law enforcement agencies the initial lead in each response.

Credible Threat Determination: The FBI and other law enforcement agencies will determine whether the event is credible terrorist threat / act of terrorism, based on available evidence, statements, scenario, and intelligence. The FOSC may be approached by the law enforcement agencies to assist in obtaining initial investigative samples to confirm their "credible threat."

Response to Terrorism Incident: A CBRNE/WMD type terrorist incident is inherently a hazardous substance incident with a criminal investigation component. As such, it should be responded to under the NRS and potentially

the NRF. The NRF's *Terrorism Incident Law Enforcement and Investigation Annex* provides guidance on a response to criminal incidents with significant impacts.

The FBI and DHS can activate federal resources to assist in the response activities, not only for the criminal investigation but for UC support. The FBI and the DHS may be able to provide information on critical infrastructure, cascading impacts, geographic information system products, and access to the Infrastructure Protection Gateway systems.

The UC responding to an incident involving terrorism must be acutely aware of the unique nature of the federal government's response mechanism for these types of incidents. Homeland Security Presidential Directive 5 gives DHS the lead federal role for coordinating federal support to a State and local response; however, nothing in the NRF changes the legal authorities or responsibilities outlined in other federal, State, or local laws and regulations. Members of the UC may find themselves working with or for DHS, the FBI, FEMA, or several other federal agencies under the NRF.

7220 – Operations

Operations activities for hazardous substance, pollutant, or contaminant releases are dependent upon the way they are released (i.e., explosion, train derailment, fire, etc.) and the environment (air, water, soil) or structures impacted by the release. FOSC authority to respond is dictated by the NCP, Subpart E. FOSCs should follow the phases outlined there. In general, operations activities can be grouped into the following general steps, listed in Table 7-2. (These steps are not presented in a chronological order and not all are necessary in all responses.)

Table 7-2: General Operations Activities

Notifications and Communications	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Notification• Communication of the hazard warning to others• Initiation of emergency decontamination of casualties
Victim Health and Safety	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Evacuation/shelter-in-place• Removal of victims to a safe area• Observation of signs and symptoms of casualties
Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Determination of the contaminant/hazards involved• Plume and runoff forecasts• Determination of extent of contamination• Sampling of water/soil/air/product• Determination of threat to human health and the environment
Site Control and Worker Health and Safety	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Establishment of hot, warm, and cold zones• Control of access to area• Initiation of decontamination procedures for response personnel/equipment
Containment and Clean-up	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Control/stoppage of further releases• Containment of material already released• Implementation of countermeasures

7220.1 – Offensive vs Defensive Operations

Defensive response measures include detecting a release, notifying the public and appropriate agencies, predicting plume movement, and protecting the public through evacuation or shelter-in-place tactics.

Offensive response measures include monitoring chemical concentrations and entering hazard zones to accomplish rescue, control, decontamination, or other objectives. The key to an effective offensive response is a well-trained, equipped, and practiced hazmat team.

Response staff should refer to OSHA HAZWOPER standards 29 CFR 1910.120. For personnel safety, it is imperative that responders know which level they are trained and qualified to respond. Other response objectives may be prioritized during an incident, such as providing medical care, firefighting capability, and decontamination.

7220.2 – Sampling Assistance and Resources

The following agencies can provide on-site sampling as well as limited field analyses of samples.

- EPA – Region 10;
- USCG Pacific Strike Team;
- FBI Hazardous Materials Response Unit; and
- National Guard 103rd CST.

7220.3 – Analytical Analysis / Laboratory Assistance

Several laboratories can assist in sample analysis; however, laboratory capabilities vary. Available analyses, detection limit, sample type, and turn-around times vary.

The State labs for ADEC and ADOH can analyze several matrices (soil, water, air, biological samples) for a variety of contaminants, including capabilities in general chemistry, radiological isotope identification and activity, and biological agents.

EPA's START contractor maintains BOAs with several labs, these are listed in Table 7-3. However, it should be noted that this is not an exhaustive list and other labs, including other Alaska-based labs, may be available.

1 **Table 7-3: Analytical Labs (EPA/START BOA Laboratories)**

LABORATORY	CAPABILITIES	CONTACT
EMSL Analytical, New Jersey	Asbestos	Contact Us (emsl.com)
A & B Labs	General Chemistry/ Limited Air	Contact Us - Ablabs
Eurofins Air Toxics (Air)	Air	Eurofins Air Toxics - Eurofins USA
ARI (General)	General	Contact Us – Analytical Resources, LLC (arilabs.com)
ALS Environmental, California	Air	ALS locations (alsglobal.com)
ALS Environmental, Washington	General Chemistry/ Dioxin	ALS locations (alsglobal.com)
GEL Laboratories	General Chemistry	Contact Labs The GEL Group
Lab/Cor, Inc, Oregon, and Washington	Asbestos	LABCOR INC - Home
On Site Environmental	General Chemistry	Environmental Analytical Testing Services OnSite Environmental, Inc. (onsite-env.com)
Test America, Alaska, Washington, Phoenix	General Chemistry, Dioxin, Air	Eurofins US Locations - Eurofins USA
EMT Laboratory, Illinois	General Chemistry	Get In Touch Sterling Labs (thesterlinglab.com)
Pace Analytical	Air, Hydrocarbons, Dioxins	Contact Us – Pace Analytical (pacelabs.com)

2 **7220.4 – Plume Modelling Assistance**

3 Several plume modelling programs/applications are available for hazardous substance gas vapors and particulate
4 plumes. These range from simple (ALOHA) to complex (HYSPLIT).

5 **ALOHA:** ALOHA can predict the movement of hazardous substances in the atmosphere and display the toxic threat
6 zones on a digital map via MARPLOT. ALOHA can also estimate thermal and explosive threat zones of flammable
7 chemicals. ALOHA has almost a thousand chemicals in its database. MARPLOT uses electronic maps created by the
8 United States Bureau of the Census that cover the entire country. ALOHA and MARPLOT are available downloaded
9 for free as part of the CAMEO software suite from EPA.

10 Use and Limitations: ALOHA is a basic tool for responders to use and does not require significant specialist training
11 to utilize; while simple to use, it has several limitations as it does not consider several variables used in more
12 advanced modelling.

13 **Gaussian Plume Model:** *Can be performed locally by CST 103rd, but HYSPLIT model preferred if time allows.*

- 14 • Contact: The CST 103rd has staff stationed in Anchorage, trained in performing this model. NOAA Air Resources
15 Lab may also be contacted at [Contact Us – Air Resources Laboratory \(noaa.gov\)](#).

16 **HYSPLIT Model:** HYSPLIT is one of NOAA's most widely used atmospheric transport and dispersion air modeling
17 systems. It can be used to determine where airborne particles originated as well as where they are likely to go
18 based on historic and anticipated weather patterns. Unlike ALOHA, HYSPLIT models are available for modeling
19 particulates, such as smoke.

20 Use and Limitations: A user-friendly trajectory or dispersion model, the READY (Real-time Environmental
21 Applications and Display sYstem), can be run from the NOAA's Air Resources Laboratory HYSPLIT website.
22 However, this interface does have limitations in its accuracy and detail and is designed with atmospheric scientists
23 as the intended user. Hazardous Substance release responders should contact NOAA for assistance is preparing a
24 more accurate and complete model.

In Situ Burning: This model can be used for *in situ* burning smoke plumes, although it is based on wood smoke and not smoke from petroleum fires. Personnel from ADEC's Division of Air Quality are learning to run HYSPLIT models (early 2020) to support in situ burn decision making.

- Contact: NOAA's Air Resources Laboratory at <https://www.arl.noaa.gov/about/contact-us/>, or ADEC's Scientific Support Manager at <https://dec.alaska.gov/spar/ppr/about/contacts> for more information.

7220.4 – Transition to Removal/Cleanup Action

At some point after the peak of the initial response phase, the nature of site activities may evolve into a removal or cleanup action. The responders involved in the initial response phase may not be actively involved with this phase and additional resources may be brought in to perform the removal and cleanup activities. In addition, it is possible that additional federal and State agency representatives may need to be involved with the removal action to ensure that regulatory mandates are followed. It is critical that the initial responders debrief the incoming clean up staff prior to demobilizing. Standard short-term removal and cleanup actions are:

- Evaluate cleanup/decontamination options;
- Implement cleanup alternatives; and
- Some sites will move to a long-term monitoring or remediation phase. This is outside the scope of the ACP.

7230 – Logistics

7230.1 – Specialized Hazardous Materials/Emergency Response Teams

There are several specially trained hazardous materials teams (both public and private) in Alaska that might be available to respond to a hazardous substance release (see Table 7-4).

Emergency Response Teams, LEPCs and first responders may obtain access to preparedness and planning information by requesting access to the State's Tier II Database. EPCRA Tier II data is managed by ADEC; for additional information staff should email the Tier II coordinator at tiertwo@alaska.gov.

Table 7-4: Response Teams

TEAM NAME	BASE	REGION-WIDE, IF REQUESTED	TEAM LEVEL A/B
EPA Emergency Response (START)	Anchorage, AK	Yes	Both
EPA Radiological Emergency Response	Las Vegas, NV	Yes	Both
Pacific Strike Team (USCG)	Novato, CA	Yes	Both
103 rd CST (National Guard)		Yes	Both
Statewide Hazardous Material Response Teams			
• Anchorage Fire Department HazMat Team	Anchorage, AK	Yes	Both
• Fairbanks North Star Borough HazMat Team	Fairbanks, Ak	Yes	Both
• Capital City Fire/Rescue HazMat Team	Juneau, AK	Yes	Both
• Ketchikan Fire Department HazMat Team	Ketchikan, AK	Yes	Both
• Kodiak Fire Department HazMat Team	Kodiak, AK	Yes	Both
• Sitka Fire Department HazMat Team	Sitka, AK	Yes	Both

In addition to the teams listed above, several additional agencies and organizations are members of the Statewide Hazmat Response Work Group and have trained responders and hazmat teams. These include the DOD (on JBER,

Fort Wainwright and Eielson Air Force Base), FBI, ADOH, and industry partners, such as the Alaska Railroad and Alaska West Express/Lynden Transport.

7230.2 – Contractor Support

There are several contractors in Alaska with expertise in responding to hazardous substance releases. It is essential that any contractor who is retained have the appropriate training to meet OSHA’s 29 CFR 1910.120 health and safety requirements and be capable of responding in the appropriate level of protection.

7300 – HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCES AND PRODUCTS IN ALASKA

This section profiles specific EHSs in Alaska—the substances and their characteristics, the facilities that use or store them, their transportation, the risks they pose, and the capability to respond to large-scale releases.

Alaska is fortunate in that only a limited number of EHSs are known to be present in the state, and, of the limited number identified, only a few are prevalent. The most prevalent EHS, in terms of pounds stored and number of reporting facilities, are listed in Table 7-5 below. This list is based on the 2018 Tier Two Reports. Table 7-6 lists common hazardous substances that have a high probability of occurrence or a high consequence if released, including chemical, biological, radiological/nuclear, and explosive substances. The Cameo Chemical website for each chemical includes hyperlinked references, such as the ERG, NIOSH Pocket Guide, International Chem Safety Card, USCG CHRIS Code; use the website or CAMEO Chemical App to access this additional guidance on chemical properties, safety, and response.

Table 7-5: Most Prevalent EHS in Alaska

EHS	CHEMICAL PROPERTIES AND RESPONSE REFERENCES
Ammonia, Anhydrous	CAMEO Chemical: Anhydrous Ammonia
Aniline	CAMEO Chemical: Aniline
Benzyl Chloride	CAMEO Chemical: Benzyl Chloride
Chlorine	CAMEO Chemical: Chlorine NRT Quick Reference Guide: Chlorine Gas
Ethylene Oxide	CAMEO Chemical: Ethylene Oxide
Formaldehyde	CAMEO Chemical: Formaldehyde
Hydrogen Sulfide	CAMEO Chemical: Hydrogen Sulfide NRT Quick Reference Guide: Hydrogen Sulfide
Nitric Acid	CAMEO Chemical: Nitric Acid, Red Fuming CAMEO Chemical: Nitric Acid, Other than Red Fuming
Sodium Cyanide	CAMEO Chemical: Sodium Cyanide NRT Quick Reference Guide: Cyanide Salts
Sulfuric Acid	CAMEO Chemical: Sulfuric Acid

1 **Table 7-6: Common Hazardous Substances in Alaska**

HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCE	CHEMICAL PROPERTIES AND RESPONSE REFERENCES
CHEMICAL	
Asbestos	CAMEO Chemical: Asbestos EPA Guidelines for Catastrophic Emergency Situations Involving Asbestos
Benzene, Toluene, Ethylbenzene, Xylene (BTEX)	CAMEO Chemical: Benzene CAMEO Chemical: Toluene CAMEO Chemical: Ethylbenzene CAMEO Chemical: Xylene
Mercury	CAMEO Chemical: Mercury EPA Mercury Response Guidebook March 2019
Methanol	CAMEO Chemical: Methanol
Non-ammonia Refrigerants	TBD
Polychlorinated biphenyl (PCB)	TBD
Pesticides/Herbicides/Biocides	TBD
BIOLOGICAL	
Botulinum Toxin	CDC, Botulism Website
General Response Guidance:	ASTM E2458 - 17 Standard Practices for Bulk Sample Collection and Swab Sample Collection of Visible Powders Suspected of Being Biological Agents and Toxins from Nonporous Surfaces ASTM E2770 - 17 Standard Guide for Operational Guidelines for Initial Response to Suspected Biological Agents and Toxins
RADIOLOGICAL/NUCLEAR	
Technologically Enhanced Naturally Occurring Radioactive Material TENORM	EPA TENORM: Oil and Gas Production Wastes
Nuclear Medicine Products	Radiation Used in Nuclear Medicine U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission Fact Sheet: Medical Use of Radioactive Materials
Radiological Imaging/ Industrial Radiography Products	U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission Industrial Uses of Nuclear Materials
General Response Guidance:	EPA Region 10 Radiological Incident Response Standard Operating Guidelines EPA Emergency Response Program Radiological Incident Checklist
EXPLOSIVES	
Military Munitions	Responding to Military Munitions Concept Plan (USCG Sector Delaware Bay)
Unexploded Ordnance	EPA Handbook on the Management of Ordnance and Explosives at Closed, Transferring, and Transferred Ranges and Other Sites
Industrial Explosives	TBD
Illicit Explosives	TBD

2

7400 – RESOURCES

REFERENCES AND TOOLS

Hazardous Substances

- Hazardous Substance Job Aid
- Refer to [Section 7230](#) for a listing of Hazardous Materials Emergency Response Teams

7410 – Personnel and Equipment

Sources of hazmat response personnel fell into relatively distinct categories depending on the type of organization. Municipal organizations draw their hazmat personnel primarily from local fire departments. In most cases, hazmat response is simply one function of the local fire department(s)—along with firefighting, other forms of disaster management and EMS. Fire department hazmat personnel include both paid and volunteer members.

Federal organizations with hazmat response capability draw members from DOD installation fire departments. The military fire departments often include both military and civilian personnel.

Industry organizations with hazmat response capability draw personnel from two areas: facility workers and industry fire departments.

7410.1 – Federal

EPA, Region 10, maintains a Level A capability through their START Contractor and EPA response staff stationed in Alaska. USCG maintains the Pacific Strike Team located in Novato, California.

Additionally, EPA may call upon the DOD’s Alaskan Command (as a member of the ARRT) to provide hazmat response resources (teams and equipment) from U.S. Army and U.S. Air Force facilities if capabilities exist.

Federal personnel, except for specialized teams (e.g., the NSF and the Pacific Strike Team, or the EPA START Team), will not enter a hazardous environment. Federal agencies in Alaska will maintain a “conservative” Level D response capability level. “Conservative” response consists of recommending evacuating the affected area and maintaining a safe perimeter while attempting to positively identify the pollutant and outlining a clear course of action. This response posture is appropriate due to insufficient numbers of trained or equipped personnel to allow a safe and proper entry into a hazardous environment and the low risk of a chemical release in the area.

7410.2 – State

ADEC is mandated by statute to respond to a discharge of oil or a hazardous substance (AS 46.08.130). ADEC may contract with a person, business, or municipality to meet response requirements, or may establish and maintain a containment and cleanup capability (i.e., personnel, equipment, and supplies).

Presently, ADEC has no Level A or B hazmat response capability, although there is some possibility that ADEC response team contractors could be mobilized out of Anchorage in time to assist in certain hazmat responses. ADEC has some monitoring equipment in Anchorage and Fairbanks, and there is some capacity for the agency to assist local or nearby response efforts by monitoring airborne contaminant levels.

As an alternative measure, ADEC has negotiated response agreements with local communities to enhance oil and hazardous substance response capabilities using existing local resources. ADEC will, in turn, reimburse the responding local community for expenses incurred during the response. Under the provisions of the local response agreement, the local community reserves the right to refuse an SOSC’s request to respond based on local conditions and overall readiness capability.

ADEC has entered into local response agreements with the Fairbanks North Star Borough, the Municipality of Anchorage, the City and Borough of Juneau, the City of Ketchikan, and the City of Kodiak whereby the local hazmat team may elect to respond on the State’s behalf to an incident when requested by the SOSC. These agreements address Hazmat responses beyond the normal jurisdictional boundaries of the MOA and the city of Kodiak.

Information on the State’s hazmat capability and Statewide Hazmat Response Team is available on ADEC’s Hazmat Response webpage.

7410.3 – Local Emergency Planning Committees

EPCRA includes requirements for chemical hazard planning including the establishment of SERC and LEPC. Local Emergency Planning Commissions were established within the LEPCs to, among other duties, prepare, review, and test/exercise emergency plans. The plans must include a variety of information, including a description of emergency equipment and facilities in the community, and emergency response training programs. Responders may refer to these documents during an incident. Information about the SERC and the Alaska’s 21 LEPCs are available online.

7420 – Policy, Guidance, and Studies

EHS releases summaries are available from calendar year 2010 to the present on ADEC’s hazmat response website.

7500 – REFERENCE MATERIALS

CERCLA hazardous substances, and their reportable quantities, are listed in 40 CFR Part 302, Table 302.4. CERCLA and EPCRA reportable quantities may also be found in EPA’s “List of Lists.” Radionuclides listed under CERCLA are provided in a separate list with Reportable Quantities in Curies. Table 7-7 summarizes the references materials.

Table 7-7: Reference Materials to Support Hazardous Substance / Material Response

INFORMATION SOURCE	DESCRIPTION
Code of Federal Regulations	29 CFR – Labor 33 CFR – Navigation and Navigable Waters 40 CFR – Protection of the Environment 40 CFR Part 300 – NCP 49 CFR – Transportation
Safety	NIOSH Manual of Analytical Methods OSHA Guidance Manual for Hazardous Waste Site Activities Quick Selection Guide to Chemical Protective Clothing 3M Respirator Selection Guide and Odor Thresholds for respirators ATSDR Medical Management Guidelines for Acute Chemical Exposures includes information on: - physical properties - symptoms of exposure - standards and guidelines - personal protection - decontamination - care for first responders - pre-hospital and hospital providers
Chemical Properties	Chemical Hazards Response Information System ATSDR Chemical Specific Information NIOSH Pocket Guide to Chemical Hazards American Conference of Industrial Hygienists Threshold Limit Values and Biological Exposure Indices Wiley Guide to Chemical Incompatibilities Chemical Properties Handbook, Thermodynamics-Environmental Transport, Safety and Health Related Properties for Organic and Inorganic Chemicals

Table 7-7: Reference Materials to Support Hazardous Substance / Material Response

INFORMATION SOURCE	DESCRIPTION
	The Merck Index
First Responder References:	EPA OSC Blue Book – A collection of field related resources
	Hazardous Materials Guide for First Responders
	CSX Corporation Transportation Emergency Response to Railroad Incidents
	DOT Emergency Response Guidebook
	DOT Emergency Response Guidebook Mobile app
	ATSDR - HazMat Emergency Preparedness Training and Tools for Responders
Military References	USAMRICD Medical Management of Chemical Casualties Handbook
	USAMRIID's Medical Management of Biological Casualties
	Textbook of Military Medicine
	Defense against Toxin Weapons Manual
	Jane's Chem-Bio Handbook (not available online—must be purchased or borrowed)

1 **7510 – Reports**

REFERENCES AND TOOLS

- [Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act and State of Alaska Tier II Reporting](#)

2

1 **8000 – SALVAGE & VESSEL FIRE FIGHTING**

REFERENCES AND TOOLS

Salvage and Marine Fire Fighting

- Job Aid: Marine Fire Fighting, Salvage and Lightering

2

SMFF PROVIDERS. The following SMFF providers may be available for response on the Alaska Inland rivers. They are listed below with their 24-hour response line. For the latest information on each SMFF providers' resources and capabilities, contact the company directly:

- Ardent (206-332-8200)
- Donjon-SMIT (703-299-0081)
- Resolve Marine (954-764-8700)
- T&T Salvage (713-534-0700)

3 *This section has not been developed to address salvage and vessel firefighting in the inland zone. Resources and*
4 *subject matter experts may be available via the nearest USCG Sector.*

5

9000 – APPENDICES

REFERENCES AND TOOLS

Contact Information

- ACP Contact Directory – Comprehensive and centralized listing of statewide agency and organization points of contact with current contact information.
- Alaska Community Database

9100 – EMERGENCY NOTIFICATION

9110 – Initial Awareness, Assessment, and Notification Sequence

In the case of a *reportable* oil discharge or hazardous substance release (as defined in State and federal regulations), the RP/PRP or initial responder to the incident will immediately notify the agencies listed in Table 9-1. Once these initial notifications have been made, the FOSC, SOSC, and LOSC will be responsible for the notification of appropriate federal, State, tribal, and local agencies, and organizations, respectively.

Table 9-1: Initial Emergency Contact Checklist

The area code for all phone numbers is 907, unless otherwise indicated	
FEDERAL	
NRC (24 hr)	1-800-424-8802
FOSC for Coastal Zone – USCG – Coast Guard Sector Western Alaska and U.S. Arctic	907-428-4100 or 1-866-396-1361
FOSC for Inland Zone – EPA, Region X Alaska Operations Office	907-271-5083
EPA Region 10 (24 hr)	206-553-1263
STATE	
SOSC – ADEC, Northern Alaska Response Team (business hours)	1-800-478-9300
SOSC – ADEC, Central Alaska Response Team (business hours)	1-800-478-9300
SOSC – ADEC, Southeast Alaska Response Team (business hours)	1-800-478-9300
SOSC – ADEC, Western Alaska Response Team (business hours)	1-800-478-9300
After Hours Spill Number	1-800-478-9300

9200 – PERSONNEL AND SERVICES DIRECTORY

The complete contacts directory, including State, federal, local, and tribal contacts, stakeholders, and other service providers is available in the ACP Contact Directory. The Communities by Area Committee spreadsheet lists communities and their Area Committees, geographic zone, and local governments.

ADEC maintains an internal Callout Directory of individuals and agencies that may require notification or support the State's response to an oil discharge or hazardous substance release.

EPA maintains an internal call-out list, updated monthly, for the OSCs, on Emergency Response Unit staff, and contractors. Refer to the EPA Special Teams for a description of the teams that may provide additional expertise during a response.

Technical support and the special teams that may provide technical support are identified in several different ways. The NCP lists several special teams available to the FOSC. The USCG published the Hazardous Materials Response Special Teams Capabilities and Contact Handbook in 2005, which includes many specialized teams also available to the UC.

Contact Information for Alaska State Trooper Posts is found here: <https://dps.alaska.gov/ast/contacts>.

9210 – Stakeholders

9210.1 – Fishing Cooperatives and Fleets

Fishing fleets/organizations are included in the ACP Contact Directory (Tab: Response and Planning Contact, Group: Other Stakeholders). These organizations are primarily commercial fishing associations. For information on subsistence fishing, coordinate with the local tribal government, native non-profit corporation, or the regional corporation.

Generally, fishing groups and associations may be contacted with requests for specific information on the location and timing of fish, as well as local current conditions. Though the primary function of these organizations is not to provide such information, individual members will be quite knowledgeable about environmental conditions and may be willing to share information.

9210.2 – Volunteer Organizations

Volunteers may be coordinated and requested through the DHSEM SERC Coordinator (see the ACP Contact Directory). The American Red Cross has capabilities in providing sheltering and support services to the local population, potentially impacted by the incident.

Wildlife response contractors may accept trained wildlife volunteers on an incident-specific basis.

Volunteer transportation-related organizations, such as the Civil Air Patrol (activated by Alaska State Troopers through the Rescue Coordination Center) and USCG Auxiliary (activated by USCG), may also be utilized during a response.

9210.3 – Maritime Associations/Organizations/Cooperatives

There are three marine pilot associations in Alaska (Tab: Response and Planning Contact, Group: Other Stakeholders). Additional information is available from the State of Alaska Board of Marine Pilots website.

9300 – DRAFT INCIDENT ACTION PLAN (IAP)

ADEC ICS Forms are available online.

Example IAPs are available on the EPA Response website.

9400 – AREA PLANNING DOCUMENTATION

9410 – Discharge and Release History

For discharge and release historic information see the ADEC PPR Spill Database or the Spill Summaries.

1 **Table 9-23: Most Significant Hazardous Substance Releases by Geographic Zone**

GEOGRAPHIC ZONE	HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCES: MOST SIGNIFICANT RELEASES
Aleutian Islands	As of June 2014, the most significant release in the Aleutians geographic zone occurred on July 6, 2012, when 20,000 pounds of anhydrous ammonia were released from the F/V Excellence while the vessel was at the dock in Dutch Harbor. The ADEC Spills Database also noted 19 other hazardous substance releases of 100-plus gallons/pounds, of which 15 involved anhydrous ammonia and three releases involved chlorine gas.
Bristol Bay	The most significant release occurred on July 21, 2008, when a fire at a fish processing facility resulted in a release of 8,000 pounds of anhydrous ammonia. The ADEC Spills Database also noted three other minor releases of anhydrous ammonia and a release of hydrochloric acid over the past 17 years of recorded data.
Cook Inlet	TBD
Interior	The most significant release was a release of 10,000 gallons of an unspecified acid, on October 4, 1989, at the Healy Power Plant. [To be completed by Area Committee; details not readily available]
Kodiak	There have been relatively few major hazardous substance releases in the Kodiak geographic zone. The most significant occurred in April 1997, when a fire at the Star of Kodiak fish cannery released thirty pounds (30 pounds) of anhydrous ammonia.
North Slope	TBD
Northwest Arctic	ADEC Spills Database lists 427 hazardous substance releases of various sizes that have occurred in the geographic zone in the 10-year period between January 1, 2007 and December 31, 2016. The most significant release in this geographic zone was a 250,000-pound zinc concentrate release to tundra on August 12, 2012. The ADEC Spills Database lists 61 hazmat releases of 100-plus gallons/pounds during that period. Of the 427 hazardous substance releases, 6 were releases of chemicals classified as EHS (ammonia [anhydrous], and sulfuric acid), and only 1 exceeded the reporting threshold specified in the EPCRA Section 302.
Prince William Sound	TBD
Southeast Alaska	TBD
Western Alaska	There have been relatively few major hazmat releases in the Western Alaska Geographic zone. A minor chlorine release occurred in July 1995 at a school in Nightmute, and a minor ammonia release occurred in Bethel from the Yut Biat Barge in April 1998.

9420 – Fate of Discharged Oil

Natural processes that may act to reduce the severity of an oil discharge or accelerate the decomposition of discharged oil are always at work in the aquatic environment.

- **Weathering** is a combination of chemical and physical processes that change the physical properties and composition of discharged oil. These processes include evaporation, oxidation, biodegradation, emulsification, dispersion, dissolution, and sedimentation. Processes and definitions of the processes, and how they relate to oil discharges are provided below.
- **Evaporation** occurs when substances are converted from liquid state to vapor. During an oil discharge, lighter components can evaporate into the atmosphere, leaving behind heavier components. Evaporation rates depend on the composition of the oil and environmental factors like wind, waves, temperature, currents, etc. For example, lighter refined products, such as gasoline, tend to evaporate very quickly because they have a higher proportion of lighter compounds. Heavier oils, like bunker oil, contain relatively few light compounds and leave viscous residues, composed of heavier compounds.
- **Oxidation** is a chemical reaction between two substances, which results in loss of electrons from one of the substances. This chemical reaction can take place between discharged oil and oxygen in the air or water. This reaction can produce water soluble compounds that can dissolve or form persistent compounds call tars. Oxidation of oil is a very slow process but can be enhanced by sunlight.
- **Biodegradation** occurs when microorganisms, such as bacteria, fungi, and yeast, break down a substance by feeding on it. Seawater contains a range of microorganisms that can either partially or completely degrade oil. Nutrient levels, water temperature and oxygen availability can all affect biodegradation, which tends to be quicker in warmer environments.
- **Emulsification** is a process where small droplets of one liquid become suspended in another liquid. During a discharge, emulsification takes place when strong currents or waves suspend water droplets in oil. Water-in-oil emulsions are frequently called "mousse" and are more persistent than the original oil.
- **Dispersion** is the breakup and diffusion of substances from their original source. In an oil discharge, turbulent seas can break oil into various sized droplets and mix them into the water column. Smaller droplets can stay suspended while larger droplets tend to resurface, creating a secondary slick. The amount of oil dispersed depends on the oil's chemical and physical properties and the sea state. For example, lower viscosity oils such as diesel, have higher dispersion rates in rough seas. Chemical dispersants may be used to enhance dispersion.
- **Dissolution** is the process of dissolving one substance in another. Many oils contain light aromatic hydrocarbons, like benzene and toluene, which are water soluble. During a discharge, these compounds readily dissolve in water or evaporation into air, which is faster than dissolution.
- **Sedimentation** is a process where discharged oil chemically binds with, or adheres to, particulates in the water column, creating a density greater than the original oil. If the density of oil/particulate compounds becomes greater than water, particles will settle out of the water column. Sedimentation is much more common in shallow, nearshore areas because of the greater number of suspended particulates.

The various types of petroleum products respond quite differently when released into the environment.

Discharges of refined product that enter the water generally will disperse and experience significant evaporation and spreading, making recovery difficult. Crude oil and IFO (bunker fuel) will be affected by the same natural degradation factors but to a much lesser degree; these oil discharges are "persistent" in nature and will require aggressive actions and innovative techniques to successfully mitigate harm.

1 **9430 – Planning Scenarios**

REFERENCES AND TOOLS

Background Information

- Alaska Oil Discharge and Hazardous Substance Release Scenarios
- Alaska Scenarios Compendium

2 The consequences of having a significant discharge or release necessitates an understanding of the challenges to
3 response in remote parts of the state. Table 9-3 provides a summary of the planning scenarios by geographic zone
4 that demonstrate challenges and preparedness efforts on the part of the Area Committee. A compendium of
5 response scenarios, organized by Alaska’s geographic zones, is available on ADEC’s References and Tools webpage
6 under Background Information.

Table 9-3: Planning Scenario by Geographic Zone

GEOZONE	INLAND WCD* / PRODUCT	INLAND MAXIMUM MOST PROBABLE DISCHARGE* / PRODUCT	INLAND AVERAGE MOST PROBABLE DISCHARGE* / PRODUCT	HAZMAT: PRODUCT/ VOLUME*
Aleutians	TBD	TBD	TBD	3,600 lbs. / anhydrous ammonia
Bristol Bay	24,600 gallons/ diesel	TBD	2,500 gallons / No 1 diesel fuel	1,500 lbs. / anhydrous ammonia
Cook Inlet	250,000 gallons/ crude oil	120,000 gallons/ Jet A	2,100 gallons / gasoline	20,000 gallons/ formaldehyde solution
Interior	2,500,000 gallons/ crude oil	100,000 gallons/ diesel and jet fuel	1,000 gallons/ gasoline	Insert a cyanide potential
Kodiak Island	TBD	TBD	TBD	3800 lbs. / anhydrous ammonia
North Slope	40,000 gallons/ crude oil	200,000 gallons/ crude	2,100 gallons / diesel	4,500 gallons/ hydrochloric acid
Northwest Arctic	5,000 gallons/ diesel	TBD	1,000 gallons / No 1 diesel	-insert a Red Dog Mine volume; zinc or lead
Prince William Sound	1,680,000 gallons/ crude oil	>100,000 gallons crude oil (30,000 gallons recovered)	8,000 gallons/ diesel	9,000 lbs./ anhydrous ammonia
Southeast Alaska	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD
Western Alaska	224,000 gallons/ diesel		1,500 gallons / No 1 diesel	30 gallons/ sulfuric acid

*Total volume. Does not consider the rate of discharge over time.

9500 – LIST OF AGREEMENTS

Reference the RCP, Applicable MOU/MOA.

9600 – CONVERSIONS

Common conversions are easily found via the internet.

9700 – RESPONSE REFERENCES

9710 – Geographic Zone Descriptions

9710.1 – Aleutian Islands

9710.1.1 – General Description

Physical Features: The Aleutian Islands and the Alaska Peninsula are characterized by rugged and fjord-like coastlines rising to volcanic mountainous areas up to 9,000 feet in elevation. The population is distributed among predominantly isolated coastal communities. Major communities include the cities of Unalaska, Sand Point, and St. Paul. The region's maritime climate is comparatively mild regarding general Alaskan temperatures; however, the islands are often fog-shrouded and frequently struck by storms. The weather in the region is the result of the interaction between major weather systems that move northward across the Gulf of Alaska or eastward across the Bering Sea and the land topography.

Socio-Economic: Commercial fishing and fish processing are the economic mainstays in the region. There are approximately 400 fishing vessels operating in the Aleutian Island chain. Unalaska/Dutch Harbor has developed as a seafood supply and processing center with some port development. Unalaska is consistently the top U.S. port in volume of fish and shellfish landings; in 2005, commercial fishermen unloaded 887.6 million pounds of fish and shellfish, worth \$166 million.

Dutch Harbor is also used temporarily as an offshore oil/gas staging area for Bering Sea offshore exploration.

A portion of the Great Circle Route, a major international shipping route, is located within the Aleutians Geographic zone. An estimated 3,000–3,500 vessels, approximately 30–40 of them tank ships, transit through Unimak Pass each year.

Oil Activities: In the Aleutian Islands, Unalaska/Dutch Harbor serves as the major regional hub for the distribution of noncrude oils to the Aleutian villages, southern Bering Sea, and the offshore fishing fleet. Service in the southern part of the area is year-round but becomes ice dependent during late October to breakup. Unimak Pass and False Pass also witness heavy traffic both for transport servicing villages to the north and the Aleutian chain and for foreign-vessel transport between North America and the Far East.

Deliveries of noncrude oils into the Aleutian Islands are from the south, primarily Puget Sound or from upper Cook Inlet. Noncrude oil originating from upper Cook Inlet and West Coast ports also passes through the area enroute to the Far East, and transport in the reverse direction is also true.

General: There are 12 communities in the region, 10 Native and 2 non-natives.

Community Contacts, Key Facilities and Services: It is the responsibility of both the LOSC and SOSC to initiate contact with the appropriate local government agencies and organizations once initial emergency notifications have been made. Local plans may designate who will serve as the LOSC, who has responsibility for making any necessary contacts, and who should be contacted. Each distinct town, village, or community within larger jurisdictions, such as boroughs, may have their own emergency response plan, and all applicable local plans should be consulted during an emergency.

The LOSC may notify additional parties. Initial notifications will be made by telephone, with concurrent transmission of any available documents (e.g., SITREPs or other information) by e-mail whenever possible.

Please refer to the DCRA website for information on communities. Contacts, including medical providers and other key facilities and services, are available via the Alaska Community Database Online. Both sites are best used in Mozilla Firefox or Google Chrome.

9710.1.2 – Aleutian Island Logistics

Communities in the Aleutian Islands Geographic Zone are inaccessible by road. This limits the rapid transport and staging of equipment and personnel resources to certain areas. Depending upon the significance and location of the event, resources existing within the region will be moved to the staging location by air or marine vessel and then transferred to vessels for deployment to the specific incident location. Resources secured from locations outside of the Aleutian Islands region can be expected to arrive initially by air or sea and then transferred to the staging locations by the most appropriate means available.

The Aleutian Islands Geographic Zone's limited road, water and air transportation capability severely limits the ability to transport significant quantities of equipment and personnel to and from locations in the region. After transport to existing airports, equipment may need to be transferred to vessels for on-scene deployment. Small charter aircraft, both fixed wing and helicopters, will be the main method of rapidly transporting responders to the scene. If weather prevents flying or if many personnel are involved, then in-region passenger vessels will be used. Workers brought in from outside the region will most likely arrive on scheduled Alaska Airlines, Ravn flights or via chartered aircraft. These workers can then be shuttled to the scene by a combination of aircraft and vessels.

Response equipment can be dispatched to the scene by a combination of USCG and private charter aircraft and vessel transport. A limited number of fishing vessels operate in the region and these vessels are extremely dependent on pack ice conditions.

For transportation via air and water, the following table provides distance from Anchorage to some of the Aleutian Islands communities (see Table 9-4). Times assume favorable weather and do not consider delays waiting for favorable tides. Distances are from tables found in the back of *U.S. Coast Pilot, Volume 9 -Pacific and Arctic coasts of Alaska from Cape Spencer to the Beaufort Sea*. (Available on the Internet at <https://nauticalcharts.noaa.gov/publications/coast-pilot/index.html>.)

Table 9-4: Approximate Distance and Transit Times to Aleutian Islands Communities

LOCATION	DISTANCE	TRAVEL TIME (ESTIMATED IN HOURS)	
		VESSEL (~10 kts)	AIR (C-130)
From City of Kodiak to:			
Unalaska/Dutch Harbor	800 miles	96	1.9
From Anchorage to:			
Adak	1,300 miles	108	3.3
Akutan	766 miles	64	1.8
Atka	1,200 miles	100	2.9
Cold Bay	634 miles	53	1.3
False Pass	646 miles	54	1.4
King Cove	625 miles	52	1.3
Nelson Lagoon	580 miles	48	1.1
Nikolski	900 miles	75	2.3
Saint George	750 miles	63	2.1
Saint Paul	750 miles	63	2.1
Sand Point	570 miles	48	1.1
Unalaska/Dutch Harbor	800 miles	67	1.9

9710.2 – Bristol Bay

9710.2.1 – Bristol Bay General Description

Physical Features: Portions of this region are in the maritime, transitional, and continental climatic zones. The weather in the region is the result of the interaction between land topography and major weather systems that move northward across the Gulf of Alaska or eastward across the Bering Sea.

The South side of the Alaska Peninsula is characterized by a fjord-like coastline rising to volcanic mountainous areas occasionally up to 8,000 feet. The north side of the peninsula and the Bristol Bay area are characterized by a relatively regular coastline with numerous sand and gravel beaches and abutting coastal lowlands, often drained by river systems terminating in broad estuarine areas. Major storm systems move northward off the Gulf of Alaska and into the South coastal highland areas, dropping precipitation usually as rain on the southern side and leaving the leeward (northern) side in somewhat of a rain shadow. The north side of the peninsula and Bristol Bay, however, are subject to eastward-moving storm systems from the Bering Sea; hence, these areas are among the stormiest in the State. Headwater areas of the major Bristol Bay-Togiak drainages receive less precipitation than coastal areas and are subject to greater temperature fluctuations due to the influence of the continental climatic zone.

The Bay spans 200 miles from its base at Port Moller on the Alaska Peninsula to its northwest boundary at Cape Newenham and stretches northeasterly nearly the same distance to the mouths of the Nushagak and Kvichak rivers which drain its inland reaches. The Nushagak and Kvichak are two of several major rivers in the region. At the west end are the Kvichak River (which drains Lake Iliamna), the Nushagak, the Alagnak and the Naknek River, which drains Naknek Lake on the Alaska Peninsula.

Socio-Economic: Bristol Bay is the world's largest sockeye salmon fishery and the State's largest salmon fishery, which is by far the dominant enterprise in the region. Dillingham and Naknek are the major fish processing areas as well as the main ports, although fishing fleets work out of numerous smaller communities also. Noncommercial harvest, including subsistence, is another major activity especially important in areas with no direct connection to the commercial fishing and processing industry.

Additional economic bases are provided by the tourist industry, mostly associated with sportfishing and hunting lodges in the Bristol Bay lakes area, and by government services including military bases. Infrastructural development is minimal. Dillingham is the only improved harbor in the Bristol Bay area, and the road network is minor and local. Most travel within the region is by plane (scheduled and charter) or private boat. There is no connecting road network, and the Alaska Marine Highway System provides service just to Chignik. The population centers of the region are thus physically isolated from one another. This factor has limited the diversification of the local economies so that they remain closely tied to the regional fish and wildlife resources.

Oil Activities: Deliveries of noncrude oils are made to the villages in this area primarily by barges operating from Dutch Harbor or the Cook Inlet Region. Deliveries are ice dependent and do not occur as ice forms. Delivery of non-crude oil is made to the remote villages in this area primarily by small barges.

General: There are a total of 30 communities in the region (including the two boroughs).

9710.2.2 – Bristol Bay Logistics

Table 9-5 provides communications, computer, and office equipment supply and rental information.

Table 9-5: Bristol Bay Logistics

The area code for all phone numbers is 907 , unless otherwise indicated		
Bristol Bay Communications, Computer and Office Equipment – Supply and Rentals		
NAME/LOCATION	PHONE	COMMENTS
Bristol Bay Cellular Dillingham, AK	907-842-5814	Cellular phone service and supplies
Bristol Bay Cellular King Salmon, AK	907-246-6399	Cellular phone service and supplies
Bristol Bay Micro LLC Dillingham, AK	907-842-3966	Computer parts and supplies

9710.3 – Cook Inlet

For a response by CISPRI to a member company's discharge, expect to use the CISPRI command center facility in Nikiski as a central location. Discharges extending over a large area may require the establishment of auxiliary locations. ICs may consider the Denaina or Egan convention centers or one of the large hotels in Anchorage with expandable meeting/banquet rooms that offer the space and utilities required for a command post. The State Emergency Coordination Center at JBER (Camp Denali) or the Municipality of Anchorage EOC could also be activated for a major response operation.

9710.3.1 – Cook Inlet General Description

The geographic zone encompasses a very diverse array of topographical features, including extremely mountainous terrain, ice fields, tidewater and piedmont glaciers, river deltas and broad tidal mudflats, rocky shoreline, and boreal forests.

9710.3.2 – Cook Inlet Logistics

Portable restrooms should be readily available in the Cook Inlet Geographic Zone from Anchorage, Kenai, Soldotna, Seward, and Homer. Vendors include:

- Moore and Moore Services/Quick Sanitation, 235-8837 Service from Ninilchik to Homer.
- Peninsula Pumping, 907-262-5969, Service Locations: Sterling Hwy from the Seward Highway to Kasilof and the Kenai Spur Highway; including Cooper Landing, Kasilof, Kenai, Nikiski, Soldotna, and Sterling.
- Rent A Can, Service Locations: Seward Highway between Seward and Anchorage, North along the Parks Highway to Talkeetna, and east to Sutton along the Glenn Highway. More distant locations may be arranged.

9710.3.3—Kenai Peninsula Borough (KPB)

They have 2 Command Posts. One set up KPB Emergency Operation Plans Building in Soldotna and a second one in Seward at the Bear Creek Fire Station.

9710.4 Interior Alaska

9710.4.1 – Interior Alaska General Description

As defined by Alaska regulations, the Interior geographic zone is the area of the State not included in the other nine geographic zones. Specifically, this is the area that is bordered by the North Slope Borough boundary to the north, the Northwest Arctic Borough boundary to the northwest, the Matanuska-Susitna Borough and REAA 11 to the south and southwest, including the area north of the 63°30' North Latitude line extending from the Canadian border to the northeastern boundary of the Matanuska-Susitna Borough. The Interior Geographic zone includes the Fairbanks North Star Borough, the Denali Borough, REAAs 12, 13, and 15, and part of REAA 16.

Larger than the state of Montana (the fourth largest state in the United States), the geographic zone is bordered on the south by the Alaska Range and on the north by the Brooks Range. Between these mountains, the Yukon River, and its drainages arc across the state from the Canadian border to the Bering Sea. Additional mountain ranges within the geographic zone include the Ray, White, and Crazy Mountains, and the southern slopes of the Endicott and Philip Smith Mountains (eastern Brooks Range). The topography of the Interior Geographic zone is dominated by the Yukon and Kuskokwim Rivers, and the region is characterized by extensive upland areas in addition to broad alluvial lowlands such as Yukon and Minto Flats. Permafrost is discontinuous throughout the region.

The geographic zone is in the Arctic/continental climatic zone and temperatures are generally extreme during both summer and winter, while precipitation and wind are normally light. Summer temperatures can reach 95° F. Winter temperatures regularly drop to -30°, and may plunge to -60° F and below. Many human activities in the Interior Geographic zone revolve around the subsistence, recreational, and commercial uses of fish and wildlife. Commercial fishing, trapping, reindeer herding, guided and general season hunting and fishing trips, and fur tanning and sewing are important segments of the local economy. Service-related businesses and government provide the primary sources of wage employment in the region.

Fairbanks, the state's second largest city, is central to the region and serves as the principal employment center for the area. Fairbanks provides the northern terminus of the Alaska Railroad, where logistical support to the North Slope is moved overland via the Dalton Highway. The Parks, Richardson, and Steese Highways also traverse the geographic zone. Aside from these principal highways and the railroad, most travel within the region is by plane (scheduled and charter), private boat, or snow machine, depending upon the season. The city of Nenana also serves as a major transportation point for shipping due to its strategic location along the Tanana and Nenana Rivers, which is not far from the juncture with the Yukon River.

Delivery of non-crude oil is made to the remote villages in this area primarily by small barges (normally 300,000-gallon capacity). Deliveries are ice-dependent and do not occur when ice forms. The Trans Alaska Pipeline System transits the geographic zone enroute to the terminus at Valdez.

There are a total of 57 communities in the region (including the two boroughs), of which 31 are predominately Native Alaskan and 26 predominately non-Native.

Discharges/releases in the Arctic environment require careful preplanning to overcome the effects imposed by the environment. Resources at risk during the summer months are much greater in species and number than those in the winter months. Summer daylight increases the available work hours to allow almost continuous operations. The extended daylight does not, however, increase the number of hours an individual can safely perform his task. The severe stresses imposed by operating in winter conditions in periods of darkness will seriously reduce individual efficiency over a given period. The severe weather does not always produce a negative effect but can produce a positive effect at times. Ice and snow can act effectively as barriers to impede the spread of oil and can be used effectively to hold and contain oil. Techniques for organizing a response in arctic environments have been developed and numerous reference documents detail these procedures.

9710.4.2 – Logistics

Communities in the Interior Geographic zone rely heavily on the railroad, highway and river barge systems for logistical support and community resupply. The Alaska Railroad connects Fairbanks with southern stations by following the Nenana and Susitna River valleys, providing rail service from Eielson AFB south, with multiple stops on the way to Anchorage and the southern terminus at the port of Seward on the Kenai Peninsula. Coal mined near Healy is transported via the railroad to Seward.

The major highways head out of Fairbanks like spokes on a wheel: the Richardson Highway angles southeast to Delta Junction where it meets the Alaska Highway (aka Alcan), providing access to Canada, southeast Alaska, and the lower 48, or, by staying on the Richardson Highway, access to the Copper River Valley, Valdez or the Glenn highway; the George Parks Highway leads south through the Denali Borough to the Susitna Valley, the Mat-Su Borough and Anchorage; the Steese Highway heads northeast, terminating at the community of Circle on the Yukon River; and the Elliot Highway branches off the Steese to head west, providing access to the Dalton Highway (aka Haul Road) and the town of Minto before terminating at Manley Hot Springs on the Tanana River, due west of Fairbanks.

The Yukon River and its tributaries, especially the Koyukuk and Tanana Rivers, serve as the primary transportation routes for many of the villages in the Interior Geographic zone; barge service provides delivery of equipment, supplies and fuel to the river communities. Most communities do have airstrips, but they offer variable levels of freight service capabilities.

Rapid transport and staging of equipment and personnel resources in rural Interior Alaska communities will present a challenge to the logistics staff. Depending upon the significance and location of the event, resources existing within the region will be moved to a staging location by air, water or ground, and then deployed to the specific response location using whatever transportation system available. Resources secured from locations outside the Interior Geographic Zone initially are transported by air or road and then transferred to the staging locations by the most appropriate means available.

Boat Ramps: Boat ramps are typically found in developed communities in the geographic zone. Contact the village mayor or other community leader/coordinator for specific information and capabilities.

Port Authorities and Harbor Masters: The Interior Geographic zone has only one community with a port authority, the city of Nenana. Many villages along the Yukon River have receiving facilities for barges delivering fuel and supplies.

9710.5 – Kodiak Island

9710.5.1 – Kodiak Island General Description

Physical Setting: At 3,588 square miles, Kodiak Island is the largest island in Alaska and is the second largest island in the United States. Kodiak Island consists primarily of mountainous terrain with mountain ridges generally trending northeast-southwest. Although several peaks are greater than 4,000 feet in elevation, most range between 3,000 and 4,000 feet. About 40 small cirque glaciers (none greater than 2 miles) are evident along the main divide. Numerous hanging valleys feed into the main canyons radiating from the central divide. Relatively short, swift, clear mountain streams drain the uplands.

Kodiak Island Borough lands along the west side of Shelikof Strait extend inland to approximately the Gulf of Alaska drainage-divide within the Aleutian Range of the Alaska Peninsula. Like Kodiak Island, the mountain range is oriented northeast-southwest. Mountain elevations within this area are generally less than 5,000 feet and the stream and river drainages are generally short and steep. Higher elevations of the Aleutian Range along the west boundary of the geographic zone include glaciers and perennially snow-capped peaks of active and inactive volcanoes.

Climate: The Kodiak Island Geographic Zone experiences a characteristic maritime climate. The North Pacific high-pressure system dominates the area during the summer, bringing south to southwest winds and typical average air temperatures ranging from 50-54 degrees Fahrenheit. In winter, the weather is controlled by the Aleutian low

atmospheric pressure system. Winds associated with this system are generally north to northwesterly, resulting in low temperatures at or below freezing. Summer winds tend to be slightly higher than in winter and are more consistent in direction. Shelikof Strait is bounded by mountains on the north and south and can be subjected to high winds related to the funneling of air between these mountain ranges.

Kodiak is warmed by the Japanese Current, which prevents the extreme seasonal temperature variations encountered in mainland Alaska. Kodiak's climate is like that of Southeast Alaska, but with less precipitation. January temperatures in the Kodiak Island Geographic Zone range from 14 to 46 degrees Fahrenheit. July temperatures vary from 39 to 76 degrees. Average annual precipitation is 54.5 inches, with considerable ranges in precipitation amounts throughout the geographic zone.

Geology: Exposed bedrock and shallow soils prevail along the rugged coastline of the Kodiak Island Geographic Zone. Northwest Kodiak shows effects of glaciation, with long, narrow fjords and U-shaped valleys. These lie perpendicular to the mountains and the geologic fault lines. Typically, rivers enter at the heads of the fjords and are characterized by shorter, wider estuarine embayments. Southwest Kodiak Island and the Trinity Islands tend toward long, continuous shorelines with a few crenulate bays. Most of the sandy beaches occur on the western coast of Kodiak Island and the Trinity Islands.

Shelikof Strait is a trough formed by plate subduction tectonics. The Strait is a southwest continuation of Cook Inlet extending approximately 170 miles to a juncture with the waters of the North Pacific Ocean. The mountains and lowlands surrounding Shelikof Strait exhibit a full range of characteristic glacial features, and the offshore geology of the Strait also displays evidence of past glaciations. Ice scour and moraine deposits in Shelikof Strait attest to the fact that ice filled the Strait and spilled out onto the Continental Shelf during past glacial advances.

The seafloor in Shelikof Strait is broad and generally flat with closed basins. Along the south side of the Alaska Peninsula, Shelikof Strait has relatively steep slopes descending over 190 meters in the south; areas of deepest water in Shelikof Strait occur along the southeastern side adjacent to Kodiak Island where they reach to depths of 240 meters.

Geography: Land development in the Kodiak Island Geographic Zone has been limited to some extent by the dramatic topography of the archipelago, where elevations rise steeply from sea level to peaks of 2,000 to 4,000 feet. Most developable parcels of land are located on the relatively flat land along major bays and inlets. These bays and inlets generally form the terminus of the major drainages on Kodiak Island, and these populated areas often coincide with important wildlife habitat areas.

Until recently, the ownership status of many areas within the Kodiak Island Geographic Zone was described as "unclear." While the status of certain areas may still be indeterminate, the Kodiak Island Borough Coastal Management Program has documented a trend over the last decade toward increased private ownership of discrete parcels of land in the geographic zone. The general pattern of land ownership has been described as numerous small parcels of privately-owned land surrounded by federal or State lands, which are managed for wildlife and retained in public ownership.

Major landowners in the Kodiak Island Geographic Zone include the Kodiak Island Borough, the municipalities and villages in the geographic zone, state and federal agencies, and local and regional native corporations. Most of the borough land was originally obtained and selected under municipal entitlement from the State of Alaska; other parcels were obtained through trades with the State. Over 50 percent of borough land is located on Shuyak Island and Raspberry Island. State lands fall under the jurisdiction of the ADNR, ADF&G, and occasionally other state agencies. Federal lands include Kodiak National Wildlife Refuge land, National Parks lands, and USCG property. Much of the surface and subsurface land in the Kodiak Island Geographic Zone is owned by regional and village Native corporations established under the ANCSA. Some of these lands are located within the boundaries of the Kodiak National Wildlife Refuge.

The Kodiak Island Geographic Zone includes the city of Kodiak, U.S Coast Base Kodiak, the road system communities of Bells Flats, Pasagshak, Anton Larson Bay and Chiniak, the rural communities of Akhiok, Karluk, Larsen Bay, Old Harbor, Ouzinkie, and Port Lions, and numerous remote facilities and settlements, including Ben Thomas Logging Camp (Kazakof/Danger Bay), Big Sandy Lake Logging Camp, Lazy Bay/Alitak Cannery, Munsey's

Bear Camp and Lodge, Olga Bay Cannery, Port Bailey Cannery, Port O'Brien/Uganik Bay Cannery, Port Williams Lodge/Cannery (Shuyak Island), Uyak Bay Cannery, and Zacher Bay Lodge/Cannery (Uyak Bay).

Ecological Resources: An assortment of shorebirds and waterfowl utilize the resources of the Kodiak Island Geographic Zone, either as permanent residents or for nesting, wintering, or staging/feeding sites along their migratory paths. The rivers, lakes and streams in the geographic zone provide aquatic habitats for resident and anadromous fish important to commercial fisheries, subsistence harvests, and recreational activities. These fish resources are also a critical food source for brown bear, smaller mammals, and many bird species. In addition to the brown bear, elk, Sitka black-tailed deer, mountain goats, and numerous smaller mammals also inhabit the Kodiak Island Geographic Zone. The south side of the Alaska Peninsula also provides habitat for moose.

These resident and migratory populations of fish and wildlife depend on the availability of appropriate habitat and environmental conditions in order to exist in the Kodiak Island Geographic Zone. A healthy coastline and continued abundance of marine, intertidal, and upland food sources are vital to the survival of all inhabitants of the Kodiak Island Geographic Zone, including human populations. The protection of marine and coastal resources from the devastating effects of oil pollution is of primary concern to residents, and these concerns are reflected in the Alaska Sensitive Areas Compendium located on the ADEC's References and Tools webpage. This compendium also provides information on fish and wildlife diversity and abundance in the Kodiak Island Geographic Zone.

History, Culture and Economy: Kodiak Island has been inhabited for 10,000 years by Sugpiaq Eskimos. In 1792, Russian fur trappers settled on the island. Sea otter pelts were the primary incentive for Russian exploration at that time, and the commercial harvest of sea otter fur eventually led to the near-extinction of the species. Kodiak was the first capital of Russian Alaska, and Russian colonization had a devastating effect on the local Native population. By the time Alaska became a U.S. territory in 1867 (the same year in which the capitol was moved from Kodiak to Sitka), the Koniag region Eskimos had almost disappeared as a viable culture.

In 1882, a fish cannery opened at the Karluk spit, and this sparked the development of commercial fishing in the area. The City of Kodiak was incorporated in 1940, and the Kodiak Island Borough incorporated in 1963. During the Aleutian Campaign of World War II, the Navy and Army built bases on Kodiak Island; the U.S. Air Force has also been active in Kodiak in the past. Fort Abercrombie was constructed in 1939, and later became the first secret radar installation in Alaska. The USCG eventually assumed the U.S. Navy property on Kodiak, and today the U.S. Coast Base Kodiak includes approximately 2,000 military personnel and their families.

The 1960s brought growth in commercial fisheries and fish processing in the Kodiak Island Geographic zone until the 1964 earthquake and tsunami virtually leveled the downtown area, destroying the fishing fleet, processing plant, canneries and 158 homes. The infrastructure was rebuilt, and by 1968 Kodiak had become the largest fishing port in the United States in terms of dollar value of landings (since surpassed by Unalaska/Dutch Harbor). When the 1976 Magnuson Act extended U.S. fisheries jurisdiction to 200 miles offshore, Alaskan ground-fisheries saw a significant reduction in foreign competition and the groundfish processing industry in Kodiak began to develop as well. Today, Kodiak culture is grounded in commercial and subsistence fishing activities. Kodiak is one of the nation's top ports in both seafood volume and value. Municipal, State, and federal agencies are the second largest local employer, and summer tourism continues to expand throughout the Kodiak Island Geographic zone.

9710.5.2 – Kodiak Island Risk Assessment

Each of the communities and remote settlements in the Kodiak Island Geographic Zone faces the risk of oil or hazmat pollution from local shoreside facilities. In addition, Liquefied Natural Gas, and crude oil tank ship traffic in Cook Inlet and PWS pose a threat to Kodiak Island and its adjacent waters.

By comparison with some regions in the State, the threat of an inland spill on Kodiak is minimal. There are no refineries in the Kodiak Island Geographic Zone, but the geographic zone does support several fish canneries and processing plants, which are a potential source for chemical spills (primarily ammonia). The largest inland facility is the U.S. Coast Base Kodiak, which has several fuel farms containing gasoline, diesel, and aviation fuel.

In the remote villages, where refined products are stored in tank farms, the highest probability of spills occurs during fuel transfer of refined products to the tank farm from another source, such as the fuel barge, or from

feeder lines from the tank farm onto users. This is not to say that these spills are common, but that precautions should be observed.

The various types of petroleum products respond quite differently when released into the environment. Spills of refined product that enter the water generally will disperse and experience significant evaporation and spreading, making recovery difficult.

Spills in this subarctic-maritime climatic zone require careful preplanning to overcome the effects imposed by the moist, cold-weather environment. Machinery and people face significant challenges when operating in acute cold. The severe stresses imposed by winter conditions, with extreme temperatures and the extended darkness, can seriously reduce individual efficiency over a given period.

Cold weather conditions can prove beneficial, at times: ice and snow can act effectively as natural barriers, impeding the spread of oil, and can be used effectively to create berms for spill containment. Techniques for organizing and responding to spills in arctic environments have been developed and applicable supporting information should be consulted during an event.

The summer months expose many more species, both in diversity and numbers, to the negative effects of an oil spill. Whereas in winter, most species have left the regions and the snow and ice conditions may buffer the soil from the impact of released oil, during the warmer months the land, flora and fauna are all quite vulnerable to an oil spill. Though summer daylight increases the available work hours to allow almost continuous operations, the extended light does not increase the number of hours response personnel can safely perform tasks.

Findings from the 1998 Risk Assessment of Kodiak Island Geographic Zone: In 1998, the Kodiak Island Geographic Zone Committee formed a workgroup to conduct, with the assistance of a contractor, a qualitative risk assessment of oil and hazardous substance spill threats in the Kodiak Island Geographic zone, undertaken as part of the geographic zone contingency planning process. The Kodiak Island Geographic zone Committee Workgroup members relied on historical oil spill data recorded by the ADEC, NOAA, and the U.S. Coast Base Kodiak and, in combination with observations by the Geographic Zone Committee and its workgroup members, identified potential sources and types of oil spills that may occur in the Kodiak Island Geographic zone. This risk assessment assisted the planning process in several respects. The level and types of spill risks observed in the remote villages of Kodiak were used to help determine the contents of the equipment packages that were later staged at these locations.

These categories of spill risk were qualitatively analyzed for the 1998 Kodiak Island Risk Assessment, and included the following possibilities:

- Operational spills at fixed facilities;
- Catastrophic spills due to equipment failures or tank ruptures at fixed facilities;
- “Orphan” spills which originate from underground storage tanks or other unidentified sources; and
- Fish processing facilities with hazardous substances (ammonia/chlorine).

Upon examining historical spill data and analyzing near-miss events and other observations and data regarding the threat of oil spills workgroup members from the Kodiak Island Geographic Zone Committee determined that the risk of oil spills in the Kodiak Island Geographic Zone varies among the communities. Important variables such as season, prevailing weather, and time of day may aggravate the risk of certain types of spills.

1. Conclusions of the 1998 Risk Assessment

The Kodiak Island Geographic Zone Committee Workgroup made the following conclusions regarding the risk of oil and hazardous substance spills in the Kodiak Island Geographic Zone in 1998. These findings are still considered relevant for consideration today, and as such, remain as part of this plan. These observations are reflected in varying degrees in the scenarios chosen for inclusion in this plan (see Alaska Oil Spill and Hazardous Substance Release Scenarios on the References and Tools webpage), in the response priorities identified in previous sections, and in contents of the borough-owned spill response equipment packages, which have been staged for use as first response resources in the remote communities of the Kodiak Island Borough.

(Respective order of findings does not necessarily reflect severity or priority of risk.)

- In several of the remote communities on Kodiak, the municipal/village tank farms pose a considerable risk for both operational spills during refueling and catastrophic spills resulting from old or poorly maintained tanks and piping. Limited funding and resources in many smaller communities contribute to this problem.
- The U.S. Coast Base Kodiak has the largest quantity of fuel stored at their upland facility in Women's Bay, and a tank failure at this facility presents the potential for a large volume spill. The fact that a large quantity of response equipment and personnel are collocated with the facility serves to mitigate the risks from a large-scale spill or release at U.S. Coast Base Kodiak .
- In Kodiak, as in many parts of rural Alaska, the term "worst-case scenario" may be linked more closely to geographic location, type of fuel, and weather/seasonal conditions than to the actual quantity of oil involved. Most areas and communities in the Kodiak Island Geographic Zone are not accessible by road system, and adverse weather conditions often complicate air and sea travel in the region. For this reason, a spill that originates in or threatens remote areas, especially environmentally sensitive or subsistence use areas, will pose many logistical challenges during a response. Other factors, such as the type of product spilled, or the attitude and resources of the RP/PRP, can complicate a spill response.
- The large number of underground storage tanks on former defense sites poses a potential spill risk, especially when the location and contents of these tanks is unknown. The risk of leaks from underground storage tanks is chronic in the Kodiak Island Geographic Zone, and while the quantity of oil or other hazmat stored in these tanks is generally limited, it is important to recognize that underground storage tanks on Formerly Used Defense Sites and other such locations do pose a spill risk.
- The fish processing plants located in the City of Kodiak, as well as in several remote communities, pose a moderate threat of hazardous substance releases, due to the quantities of ammonia (and sometimes chlorine) involved in processing fish products.

9710.5.3 – Kodiak Island Cultural Resource & Environmental Organization Contacts

The organizations list in Table 9-6 provides information on local cultural resources and archaeological sites.

Table 9-6: Kodiak Island Cultural Resource & Environmental Organization Contacts

The area code for all phone numbers is 907 , unless otherwise indicated		
RESOURCE TYPE	ORGANIZATION	CONTACT INFORMATION
Cultural Resources	Alutiiq Museum 215 Mission Rd., Kodiak 99615	907-486-7004
	Baranov Museum 101 Marine Way, Kodiak 99615	907-486-5920
Environmental	Kodiak Audubon Society	907-486-2685
	Kodiak Community Conservation Network	907-486-4684
	Alaska Marine Conservation Council	907-486-4684 and 907-486-3673

9710.5.4 – Kodiak Island Logistics

Table 9-7: Kodiak Island Communications, Computer & Office Equipment – Supply & Rentals

The area code for all phone numbers is 907 , unless otherwise indicated		
NAME/LOCATION	PHONE	COMMENTS
Frontier Micro Systems	486-4646	computer hardware, software sales, repair
Island Computers	486-8326	repairs
Cost-Savers	486-2408	office supplies, equipment
Alaska Electronics	486-4700	cellular, satellite phone rentals, radio equipment
Radar Alaska	486-3892	cellular, satellite phone rentals, radio equipment
Island TV	486-4297	phone, radio equipment
GCI Communications	486-3344	phone service and Internet provider
Walmart	481-1670	Computers, hardware/software, electronics, etc.

9710.6 – North Slope

9710.6.1 – General Description

The North Slope Geographic Zone boundaries match those of the North Slope Borough, which is the largest boroughs in Alaska with over 15 percent of the state’s total land area. The geographic zone encompasses the entire northern coast and most of the northeastern coast of Alaska along the Arctic Ocean and contains approximately 89,000 square miles of land and 5,900 square miles of water, making it larger than the State of Utah. The geographic zone’s southern boundary runs in an east - west direction at 68° North latitude, about 105 miles north of the Arctic Circle, which is at latitude 66° 30' North. The geographic zone extends east to the border with Canada, west to the Chukchi Sea, and north to the Beaufort Sea. Point Barrow (71° 23' N, 156° 29' W), seven miles north of Utqiagvik, is the northernmost point in the United States.

Though the geographic zone lies entirely above the Arctic Circle, portions of the region are in the arctic, transitional, and continental climatic zones. The weather in the region is the result of the interaction between global air movements, land topography, and major weather systems that move north-south and east-west across the Bering Sea. The region’s climate is mostly arctic: temperatures range from -56° to 79°F, with summer temperatures averaging 40°F and winter temperatures averaging -17°F, though high winds frequently yield much lower chill factors. The strongest wind recorded in Utqiagvik was from the southwest in February 1989, at 74 mph. On the North Slope, February is the coldest month and July is the warmest. Winters also include periods of approximately 65 days without daylight, depending upon the latitude; correspondingly, summer offers the reverse,

with as many days having no sunset. The region is classified as a wet desert, because the average annual precipitation is only about 5 to 7 inches, with snowfall averaging 20 inches. Most of the snow that falls on the tundra is snow that has been blown there from somewhere else.

Mountain ranges in the North Slope Geographic Zone include the Brooks Range and the Davidson, Philip Smith, Endicott, and DeLong Mountains. The highest point on the North Slope is Mount Chamberlin (9,020 feet) in the eastern Brooks Range. Apart from the mountains, the region is characterized by rolling, treeless tundra. The larger river basins in the region include the Canning, Sagavanirktok, Colville, Ikpikpuk, Kuk, and Utukok. The Colville River is the longest river (about 428 miles long), and the largest lake, Teshekpuk Lake, southeast of Utqiagvik, is 22 miles long and covers 315 square miles.

Permafrost underlies the entire region. On the Arctic Coastal plain, permafrost starts between 1 to 2 feet below the surface and has been found at depths of 2,000 feet. Permafrost and the surface layer on top of it are remarkably fragile and special construction techniques (e.g., ice roads, gravel pads, structures built on pilings, reinforced concrete foundations with heat radiation devices) have been devised to protect them.

The Chukchi and Beaufort Seas of the Arctic Ocean are the primary marine waters associated with the geographic zone. The entire marine area of the region lies within the continental shelf. Sea ice formation in the Chukchi and Beaufort Seas begins in October, and the ice pack persists through late June, although the ice begins to melt and break up in April. The northern coast of Alaska has some of the highest rates of coastal erosion in the world. Coastal erosion in excess of 300 feet in a year has been documented. Coastal erosion in Prudhoe Bay averages 6 to 17 feet per year. Figure 9-1 depicts shoreline erosion at a Beaufort Sea drill site.

Figure 9-1: Drill Site Erosion



J.W. Dalton Drill Site Erosion. Located east of Utqiagvik on the Beaufort Sea near Teshekpuk Lake and Point Lonely DEW line site. This photograph was taken in 2003; between the summers of 2003 and 2004 over 300 feet of shoreline eroded away along part of the site. Approximately 600 feet of coastal plain were lost over a 6-year period. Photo provided by BLM

The Arctic National Wildlife Refuge occupies the eastern half of the region. The portion of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge within the North Slope Borough has an area of approximately 18,500 square miles. Beginning at the western border of the Refuge are the oil fields of Prudhoe Bay, which stretch west approximately 125 miles to

the NPRA. Created by presidential executive order in 1923 and originally called the Naval Petroleum Reserve, the NPRA contains nearly 37,000 square miles. Approximately 3,900 square miles of the Gates of the Arctic National Park lay within the North Slope Geographic Zone along the Brooks Range, and the Noatak National Preserve, directly to the west, contains nearly 3,000 square miles. Along the coast at Point Hope lies the Chukchi Sea portion of the Alaska Maritime National Wildlife Refuge, which includes approximately 370 square miles.

The population of the borough consists of 74 percent Alaska Native or part Native. Inupiat Eskimos, most permanent residents, have lived in the region for centuries, active in trading between Alaskan and Canadian bands. (The oldest inhabited site on the North Slope is the Mesa Site, about 200 miles South of Utqiagvik on the northern flank of the Brooks Range. It was first inhabited about 11,700 to 9,700 years ago.) Traditional marine mammal hunts and other subsistence practices are an active part of the present-day Inupiat culture.

During World War II, Atkasuk was a source of coal. Oil exploration in the 1960s led to the development of the huge reserves found in Prudhoe Bay and, subsequently, building of the Trans-Alaska Pipeline in the 1970s.

The Borough incorporated in 1972. There are eight North Slope villages (Anaktuvuk Pass, Atkasuk, Utqiagvik, Nuiqsut, Kaktovik, Point Hope, Point Lay and Wainwright) and an unincorporated town serving the oil industry (Deadhorse). The total borough population recently dropped below 7,000, with most permanent residents living in Utqiagvik, the largest village (population near 4,200) and the center of local government for the North Slope Borough. After the passage of the ANCSA in 1971, families from Utqiagvik re-settled the abandoned villages of Atkasuk and Nuiqsut. North Slope oil field operations provide employment to over 5,000 non-residents, who rotate in and out of oil work sites from Anchorage, other areas of the State, and the lower 48. Census figures are not indicative of this transient work site population.

Air travel provides the only year-round access, while land transportation provides seasonal access. There is no road system connecting the North Slope villages to each other. "Cat-trains" are sometimes used to transport freight overland from Utqiagvik during the winter. Barges operating from Dutch Harbor or Cook Inlet deliver noncrude oils to the villages. Deliveries are ice dependent, and do not occur when too much remains from winter or when new ice forms.

The only road from "outside" is the James Dalton Highway (formerly called the Haul Road), which essentially parallels the Trans-Alaska Pipeline System starting at Livengood, north of Fairbanks, and ending at Deadhorse in the Prudhoe Bay area. Apart from cargo and passenger airplanes, travel on the North Slope is by boat in the summer and snow machine in the winter. In late summer, some supplies are barged from Anchorage or Seattle to the coastal villages and the industrial facilities at Prudhoe Bay. In winter, large vehicles with huge balloon-like tires or wide tracks are used for oil exploration activities. Routine industrial traffic uses ice roads, which are constructed through a process of pouring water over the frozen tundra or onto the surface of a lake; the water quickly freezes and is solid enough to drive on.

Human activities in the Arctic Region revolve around the subsistence, sport, and commercial uses of fish and wildlife. Oil and gas development and production on the arctic coastal plain has provided the primary source of wage employment and government funds. Infrastructure development is minimal by national standards, except within the developed oil fields.

The North Slope region encompasses a vast area that has relatively limited risks in some respects, but elevated risks when considering certain factors. The North Slope has a very small population covering thousands of square miles. The number of facilities storing, handling, and transferring refined products is very small. These facilities typically provide fuel mainly for the generation of electricity and heating homes. The fuel is also used to power vehicles and vessels which are relatively few as well. Tank barges provide fuel to these facilities no more than twice each year and only during the short open-water season. Numerous exploratory and production wells exist in the region and produce a large amount of crude oil which is piped above ground to processing facilities before being shipped through the Trans Alaska Pipeline to Valdez.

Numerous hazards are inherent in the transportation, storage, exploration development and production of petroleum products. The impact of these hazards can be lessened or avoided completely through proper operations. The shoreline geomorphology of this region does not present a hazard to the integrity of a vessel. Most of the shorelines fall into some type of sand/gravel/cobble combination, peat, tidal flats, or vegetated shores.

The operating season is very short in this region because of the late ice breakup and the early freeze-up of the Beaufort and Chukchi Seas. Vessels have been damaged by ice, which is an ever-present concern. The movement of ice, whether during freeze-up, breakup, or in the dead of winter can produce great stresses on vessels and structures, all of which could sustain damage in this harsh environment.

Tidal currents and sea states in the Beaufort and Chukchi are not usually extreme and will generally not pose a risk to operations. Strong storms and high winds are unusual during the period when vessels are transiting the region. However, storm surges can occur and would pose a substantial risk to shoreline cleanup operations and personnel.

As with all areas within Alaska, the North Slope region supports a wide range of wildlife. During the season when the North Slope is thawed, the inland and shoreline areas are a haven for migratory waterfowl and other birds. Local communities rely on marine mammals as a traditional food source, and these mammals are present in concentrated areas during certain times of the year. Polar bears roam the ice pack and are very susceptible to oiling, as are almost all the other mammals, birds, and fish in the region. Subsistence hunting and fishing, rather than commercial fishing or guided/charter hunting and fishing, are the main activities of this region. Residents of the North Slope primarily engage in a subsistence lifestyle and rely heavily on the availability of the resources in the area. Any spill of significance could devastate their food harvest and seriously threaten their normal means of existence. Any long-term impacts to their food resources could have a disastrous impact on their way of life. The Alaska Eskimo Whaling Commission serves to organize and promote whaling by the Inupiat and Siberian Yupik Eskimos living in the coastal villages in northern and western Alaska, a significant marine subsistence activity for many of the North Slope villages.

By contacting specific communities, one may be able to obtain specific information regarding local weather, river conditions, and topographic features.

9710.6.2 – North Slope Risk Assessment

See the NOAA Alaska/Arctic Spill Risk Assessment.

9710.6.3 – North Slope Logistics

Generally, support facilities and services will be limited in nearly all locations in the North Slope geographic zone. The deployment of these limited resources will be further dependent upon the season. For instance, the short open water periods for the Beaufort and Chukchi Seas (roughly a three-month period between the average breakup and freeze-up dates) place an additional demand on tactics and planning for responding to an on-water oil spill in this region. The *Milepost* and *Alaska Wilderness Guide* contain valuable information and may be a resource to consult for more in-depth information.

The *Alaska Clean Seas Technical Manual, Volume 1 (Tactics Descriptions)*, provides a comprehensive listing, description, and specifications for spill response equipment assets available to their member North Slope operators. Additionally, the *Alaska Clean Seas Technical Manual, Volume 2 (Map Atlas)* provides information on North Slope air accessible airstrips, staging areas and pre-staged equipment, vessel access and hydrographic conditions (along with priority protection sites and general environmental sensitivities). (The *Alaska Clean Seas Technical Manual* is available on the Alaska Clean Seas website at www.alaskacleanseas.org.)

9710.7 – Northwest Arctic

No geographic zone descriptions have been developed at this time.

9710.8 – Prince William Sound

No geographic zone descriptions have been developed at this time.

9710.9 – Southeast Alaska

No geographic zone descriptions have been developed at this time.

9710.10 – Western Alaska

Subsistence hunting and fishing, rather than commercial endeavors, are the main activities of this region. The Alaska Eskimo Whaling Commission serves to organize and promote whaling by the Inupiat and Siberian Yupik Eskimos living in the coastal villages in northern and western Alaska, a significant marine subsistence activity for many of the North Slope villages. Local community contacts may be able to provide specific information regarding local weather, river conditions, and topographic features.

9720 – Geographic Response Strategies

REFERENCES AND TOOLS

Mapping and GIS:

- Geographic Response Strategies

GRS are available online on ADEC's website and organized by geographic zone. Additional GRS may be available from industry through their contingency plans, ADEC posts the contingency plans for ADEC-regulated facilities on their website.

Pre-identified GRS, useful as a basis to initiate response operations, are intended to be flexible for modification to prevailing conditions. The only government-produced GRS in the Inland zone are for the Chena River (Fairbanks, AK/ Interior Geographic zone) and some Kenai Peninsula rivers and lakes, accessible via the along the Sterling Hwy/Kenai Spur road network (Cook Inlet Geographic Zone). During an incident, as in an exercise, the RP/PRP and IMT must consider all potentially sensitive areas that may be impacted for strategies to mitigate and protect valued resources and habitat.

9730 – Potential Places of Refuge

REFERENCES AND TOOLS

Planning:

- Potential Places of Refuge website
- ARRT Guidelines for Places of Refuge Decision-Making

None established in Inland Zone.

PPORs are pre-identified sites that may aid decision makers in responding to vessel casualties. PPORs are tailored to protect sensitive areas from impacts from possible spills during the initial response. These PPORs are organized by Geographic Zone. Additional information on the background and process for pre-selection of these sites is provided on ADEC's website.

For incidents where there are no pre-identified PPOR(s), refer to **Appendix 1** of the ARRT Guidelines for Places of Refuge Decision-Making. It provides incident-specific places of refuge decision-making considerations. This appendix provides step-by-step procedures to facilitate collaborative selection and determination of strategies needed to mitigate potential impacts to sensitive resources.

9740 – Environmental, Fish and Wildlife Protection Plans

REFERENCES AND TOOLS

Wildlife, Fish and Their Habitats

- Wildlife Protection Guidelines for Oil Spill Response in Alaska
- Alaska Sensitive Areas Compendium (for information on specific sensitive areas by geographic zone.)

9750 – Community Profiles

The Alaska DCRA Community Database Online provides complete and current information on specific communities within the geographic zone. It provides a quick reference to some types of available services.

9760 – Technical References List

Refer to the Area Plan References and Tools page.

10 – DEFINITIONS

Activation: notification by telephone or other expeditious manner or, when required, the assembly of appropriate members of the RRT.

Barrel: a unit of volume for crude oil and petroleum products. One barrel equals 42 U.S. gallons at 60°F.

C-Plan: A casual, vernacular term used to describe any type of contingency or response plan in Alaska.

Clean Water Act: the Federal Water Pollution Control Act of 1972 (P.L. 92-500), as amended by the Clean Water Act of 1977 (P.L. 95-217), as amended (33 U.S.C. 1251 - 1376).

Coastal Waters: The marine and estuarine waters of the United States up to the head of tidal influence. These are waters in the Coastal Zone and responses here are within the jurisdiction of the USCG FOSC.

Coastal Zone: Coastal zone as defined for the purpose of the NCP, and as applied in Alaska means all United States waters subject to the tide, and other waters of the high seas subject to the NCP, and the land surface or land substrata, ground waters, and ambient air proximal to those waters. The term coastal zone delineates an area of federal responsibility for response action. Precise boundaries are determined by EPA/USCG agreements (MOU between the EPA and USCG regarding FOSC jurisdiction and the boundary between the Coastal and Inland Zone) and identified in the Alaska RCP.

Command Post: a site located at a safe distance from the spill site where response decisions are made, equipment and staff deployed, and communications handled. State incident command personnel are located at the command post.

Community Right-To-Know: See Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know (EPCRA)

Containment and cleanup: all direct and indirect efforts associated with the abatement, restriction of movement or removal of an oil or hazardous substance release.

Cultural resources: historic, prehistoric, and archaeological resources, which include deposits, structures, ruins, sites, buildings, graves, artifacts, fossils, or other objects of antiquity, that provide information pertaining to the historical or prehistorical culture of people in the State, as well as to the natural history of the State.

Damage assessment: the process of determining and measuring damages and injury to the human environment and natural resources, including cultural resources. Damages include differences between the conditions and use of natural resources and the human environment that would have occurred without the incident, and the conditions and use that ensued following the incident. Damage assessment includes planning for restoration and determining the costs of restoration.

Disaster emergency: the condition declared by proclamation of the Governor or declared by the principal executive officer of a local government unit to designate the imminence or occurrence of a disaster in the State for aiding the affected individuals and local government.

Discharge: any emission (other than natural seepage), intentional or unintentional, and includes, but is not limited to, spilling, leaking, pumping, pouring, emitting, emptying, or dumping. The OPA 90 specifies the use of the term “oil discharge” to describe an oil spill.

Catastrophic discharge: an oil discharge in excess of 100,000 barrels, or any other discharge of oil or hazardous substances, which the Governor determines, represents a grave and substantial threat to the economy or environment of the State.

Major discharge: a major oil discharge is a discharge over 10,000 gallons on inland waters and over 100,000 gallons on coastal waters or any other discharge of oil or a hazardous substance release that may require evacuation or sheltering of nearby residents or businesses or which causes a serious environmental threat.

Medium discharge: a medium oil discharge is between 100 and 10,000 gallons on inland waters and 1,000 to 100,000 gallons on coastal waters or any other discharge of oil, or a hazardous substance release which results in a localized effect that may threaten the health and safety of people and emergency workers in the immediate area of the incident and/or present an environmental threat.

Minor discharge: a minor oil discharge is a discharge of less than 100 gallons on inland waters and less than 1,000 gallons on coastal waters or any other discharge of oil, or a hazardous substance that does not threaten public health, safety, or the environment.

Dispersant: a chemical agent used to enhance the breakup of concentrations of discharged oil into droplets, thereby promoting the mixing of oil into the water column with the intent to accelerate dilution and degradation rates.

Emergency Operations Center (EOC): the pre-designated established site from where State and local governments direct and manage support for an on-scene emergency operation.

Emergency Planning and Community Right-To-Know (EPCRA): federal legislation requiring disclosure of hazardous chemical information to local fire departments, the Local Emergency Planning Commission, and the State Emergency Response Commission, as well as local citizens upon request (Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act of 1986, SARA Title III).

First Federal Official: the first federal representative of a participating agency of the NRT to arrive at the scene of a discharge or release. This official coordinates activities under this Plan and may initiate, in consultation with the FOSC, any necessary actions until the arrival of the predesignated FOSC. A state with primary jurisdiction over a site covered by a cooperative agreement will act in the stead of the First Federal Official for any incident at the site.

Geographic Response Strategy (GRS): Geographic response strategies are site-specific response methods used to protect sensitive coastal environments from the deleterious effects of oil discharges or other hazardous substance releases. GRS provide first responders with specific guidance for rapid deployment of pre-identified actions to protect priority sensitive sites.

Hazardous materials: As defined by AS 29.35.590 (7), a hazardous material means a material or substance, as defined in 49 C.F.R. 171.8, and any other substance determined by the Alaska SERC in regulations to pose a significant health and safety hazard; "hazardous material" does not include food, drugs, alcoholic beverages, cosmetics, tobacco, or tobacco products intended for personal consumption.

Hazardous substance: Hazardous Substance has different definitions in different State and Federal law and regulation. For the purposes of the RCP, the two primary definitions are provided.

CERCLA Definition: a substance on the list defined in section 101(14) of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980 (CERCLA) (P.L. 96-510; 94 Stat. 2767), as amended by SARA, and regulations promulgated under CERCLA, currently located at 40 CFR ' 302.4.

State Definition: an element or compound that, when it enters into the atmosphere or in or upon the water or surface land of the State, presents an imminent and substantial danger to public health or welfare, including but not limited to fish, animals, vegetation, or any part of the natural habitat in which they are found (AS 46.03.826(5)(A). (Under State of Alaska law, oil is considered a hazardous substance (AS 46.03.826(5)(B).) The State uses the term Hazardous Material interchangeably with Hazardous Substance.

HAZWOPER Training: training required by 29 CFR 1910.120 for personnel involved in post emergency response operations at which personnel may be exposed to hazardous substances.

Incident Action Plan: the strategic goals, tactical objectives, and support requirements for responding to an incident. All incidents require an action plan.

Incident Command Post: is a predesignated temporary facility and signifies the physical location of the on-scene incident command and management organization.

Incident Command System (ICS): the management tool to coordinate the efficient use of facilities, equipment, personnel, procedures, and communications. An ICS is designed to begin developing from the time an incident occurs until the requirement for management and operations no longer exists.

Inland waters: “inland waters” are Waters of the United States in the inland zone. Inland waters include rivers, lakes, reservoirs, and wetlands that meet the definition of Waters of the US. See definition of Waters of the US.

Inland zone: the environment inland of the coastal zone. The term inland zone delineates an area of federal responsibility for response action. Precise boundaries are determined by EPA/USCG agreements (MOU between the EPA and USCG regarding FOSC jurisdiction and the boundary between the Coastal and Inland Zone) and identified in the Alaska RCP.

Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC): a group of local representatives appointed by the SERC to prepare local oil and hazardous materials releases response plans as per the mandates of the federal EPCRA and in coordination with local jurisdictional boundaries.

Local Emergency Planning District (LEPD): geographical planning districts established by the SERC under the federal EPCRA.

Local Emergency Response Plan (LERP): a plan developed for an LEPD by a Local Emergency Planning Committee under the federal EPCRA. LERP’s must be reviewed by the SERC. In Alaska, there are not plans called “LERPs,” however, there are local plans that serve as LERPs such as Emergency Operations Plans (EOPs) and Small Community Emergency Response Plans (SCERPs).

Local government:

State of Alaska Definition: a borough or city incorporated under Alaska law.

Federal Definition: public entities responsible for the security and welfare of a designated area as established by law. A county, municipality, city, town, township, local public authority, school district, special district, intrastate district, council of governments (regardless of whether the council of governments is incorporated as a nonprofit corporation under State law), regional or interstate government entity, or agency or instrumentality of a local government; an Indian tribe or authorized tribal entity (FEMA), or in Alaska a Native Village or Alaska Regional Native Corporation; a rural community, unincorporated town or village, or other public entity.

Multiagency Coordination Committee (MAC): an ICS term that refers to the functions and activities of representatives of involved agencies and/or jurisdictions who come together to make decisions regarding the prioritizing of incidents and the sharing and use of critical resources during an emergency response. The MAC organization is not a part of the on-scene response nor is it involved in developing operational tactics. However, the incident command system used in Alaska for responses to oil and hazardous substance discharges does not always employ MAC organization, but instead often uses a Regional Stakeholder Committee (RSC) that works with the Unified Command.

Municipality: a borough or city incorporated under Alaska law.

Natural resources: land, fish, wildlife, biota, air, water, ground water, drinking water supplies, and other such resources belonging to, managed by, held in trust by, appertaining to or otherwise controlled by the State, Federal government, or a municipality.

Natural Resource Damage Assessment and Restoration (NRDAR): NRDAR is a formalized process to compensate the public by collecting and analyzing information to evaluate the nature and extent of injuries to natural resources or services resulting from an incident or threat of an injury. NRDAR is an economic, legal, and scientific process that must demonstrate causality between release and resource injury or lost use. NRDAR is defined in the CWA and OPA 90 for oil discharges, and CERCLA for hazardous substance releases. NRDAR trustee representative coordinate with response agencies; integrate trustee concerns into clean up, assess injuries, evaluate, and scale restoration, and finally oversee and/or implement restoration actions to return the natural resources and services to baseline.

Oil: liquid hydrocarbon of any kind and in any form, whether crude, refined, or a petroleum by-product, including but not limited to petroleum, fuel oil, gasoline, lubricating oils, oily sludge, oil refuse, oil mixed with other wastes, crude oils, liquefied natural gas, propane, butane, or other liquid hydrocarbons regardless of specific gravity.

Oil Discharge Prevention and Contingency Plan (ODPCP): A State-required plan for terminals and distributors of crude and refined oil products; Marine tankers and barges that transport crude and refined oil products; oil pipelines; onshore and offshore oil exploration and production facilities; refineries; nontank vessels and railroad tank cars (see AS 46.04.030).

On-Scene Coordinator (OSC): the official at the event responsible for coordinating response activities.

Federal On-Scene Coordinator (FOSC): the federal official predesignated by the USCG or EPA to coordinate and direct federal responses under Subpart D of the NCP, or the official designated by the lead agency to coordinate and direct removal actions under Subpart E of the NCP. Generally, the EPA will provide the FOSC for discharges or releases into or threatening the inland zone and the USCG will provide the FOSC for discharges or releases into or threatening the coastal zone. However, if the release is from a facility or vessel under the jurisdiction, custody or control of DOD or DOE, then DOD or DOE will be the lead agency and designate the FOSC. For releases of hazardous substances, pollutants, or contaminants from a vessel or facility under the jurisdiction, custody, or control of a federal agency other than the USCG, EPA, DOD, or DOE, then that federal agency will provide the FOSC for all removal actions that are not emergencies.

Local On-Scene Coordinator (LOSC): the designated Community Emergency Coordinator under the LERP. Where no LERP exists, the police or fire chief or other emergency services official will serve as the LOSC.

Responsible Party's Incident Commander (RP/PRP IC): the person designated as incident commander or chief command staff in the facility or vessel contingency plan or who is responsible for the discharge or release. . In RP/PRP led responses, the RP/PRP OCS will typically serve as the Incident Commander (RP/PRP IC).

State On-Scene Coordinator (SOSC): the OSC designee of ADEC. Four SOSCs have been predesignated by the ADEC Commissioner.

Tribal On-Scene Coordinator (TOSC): the person designated by the tribe(s) who's areas of concern are impacted or threatened by the discharge/release

Place of Refuge: A "place of refuge" is defined as a location where a vessel needing assistance can be temporarily moved to and where actions can then be taken to stabilize the vessel, protect human life, reduce a hazard to navigation, and/or protect sensitive natural resources and/or other uses of the area (e.g., subsistence collection of mussels, commercial fishing, recreational boating). A place of refuge may include constructed harbors, ports, natural embayments, temporary grounding sites, or offshore waters. A vessel moved to a temporary grounding site must be removed after emergency actions are completed. There are no pre-approved places of refuge identified in Alaska.

Pollutant or Contaminant: defined by Section 104 (a)(2) of CERCLA, includes, but not be limited to, any elements, substances, compound, or mixture, including disease-causing agents, which, after release into the environment and upon exposure, ingestion, inhalation, or assimilation into any organism, either directly from the environment or indirectly by ingesting through the food chain, will or may reasonably be anticipated to cause death, disease, behavioral abnormalities, cancer, genetic mutation, physiological malfunctions (including malfunctions in reproduction), or physical deformation in such organisms or their offspring. The term does not include petroleum, including crude oil and any fraction thereof which is not otherwise specifically listed or designated as a hazardous substance under Section 101(14)(A)-(F) of CERCLA, nor does it include natural gas, liquefied natural gas and synthetic gas of pipeline quality (or mixture of natural gas and synthetic gas). For purposes of the NCP, the term pollutant or contaminant means any pollutant or contaminant, which may present an imminent and substantial danger to public health or welfare.

Prevention and Preparedness: actions taken by agencies and companies to reduce oil and hazardous substance discharges through policies, programs, and authorities.

Regional Citizen’s Advisory Council (RCAC): The Oil Pollution Act of 1990 (OPA) established two RCACs in Alaska: Prince William Sound RCAC (PWSRCAC) and the Cook Inlet RCAC (CIRCAC). The RCACs are independent, non-profit organizations that monitor and advise on oil industry programs to include areas such as spill prevention and response, crude oil terminal and tanker safety, and environmental impact assessments. The RCACs' role in the spill response organization is defined in the Prince William Sound Area Contingency Plan (ACP) and Arctic and Western Alaska (AWA) ACP.

Remedial investigation: process undertaken by the lead agency (or RP/PRP if they will be developing a cleanup proposal) that emphasizes data collection and site characterization. A remedial investigation is undertaken to determine the nature and extent of the problem presented by the release. This includes sampling and monitoring, as necessary, and includes the gathering of enough information to determine the necessity for a proposed extent of remedial action. Part of the remedial investigation involves assessing the source of the contamination at or near the area where the hazardous substances, pollutants, or contaminants were originally located (source control remedial actions) or whether additional actions will be necessary because the hazardous substances, pollutants, or contaminants have migrated from the area of their original location (management of migration). The remedial investigation is generally performed concurrently and in an interdependent fashion with the feasibility study. However, in certain situations, the lead agency may require RP/PRP parties to conclude initial phases of the remedial investigation prior to initiation of the feasibility study.

Remedial Project Manager (RPM): the official designated by the lead agency to coordinate, monitor, or direct remedial or other response actions under the NCP.

Responsible party: any person, operator, or facility that has control over an oil or hazardous substance immediately before entry of the oil or hazardous substance into the atmosphere or in or upon the water, surface, or subsurface land of the State.

Restoration: after injury, the process of returning an ecosystem to its former condition; includes both replacement and acquisition of equivalent resources and services. Although the responsible party is responsible for paying damages for injured resources, Federal and State trustee agencies (and not the OSCs) are responsible for evaluating the need for and implementing any necessary restoration programs.

Small Community Emergency Response Plan (SCERP): a customized flipbook with essential, community-specific, information to assist the community’s response to a disaster. The SCERP differs from an Emergency Operation Plan (EOP) and does not replace your community or borough EOP. Instead, the SCERP supports an EOP by providing a quick response reference tool that assists communities with limited response capabilities through the crucial first 72 hours of an event.

State Emergency Response Commission (SERC): a group of officials appointed by the Governor to implement the provisions of Title III of the Federal Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act of 1986 (SARA). The SERC also reviews the State Oil and Hazardous Substance Discharge Prevention and Contingency Plan and LERPs.

Subsistence economy: an economy in which the customary and traditional uses of fish, wildlife, and plant resources contribute substantially to the social, cultural, and economic welfare of families in the form of food, clothing, transportation, and handicrafts. Sharing of resources, kinship-based production, small-scale technology, and the dissemination of information about subsistence across generational lines are additional characteristics.

Trustee: an official of a federal natural resources management agency designated in subpart G of the NCP or a designated state official or Indian tribe or, in the case of discharges covered by the OPA, a foreign government official, who may pursue claims for damages under section 107(f) of CERCLA or section 1006 of the OPA.

Volunteer: means any individual accepted to perform services by the lead agency that has authority to accept volunteer services (examples: Reference 16 U.S.C. 742f(c)). A volunteer is subject to the provisions of the authorizing statute and the NCP.

Waters of the State: includes lakes, bays, sounds, ponds, impoundment reservoirs, springs, wells, rivers, streams, creeks, estuaries, marshes, inlets, passages, canals, the Pacific Ocean, Gulf of Alaska, Bering Sea and Arctic Ocean,

1 within the territorial limits of the state and all other bodies of surface or underground water, natural or artificial,
2 public or private, inland or coastal, fresh or salt, which are wholly or partially in or bordering the state or under
3 jurisdiction of the State (AS 46.04.900(29)).

4 **Waters of the U.S. (WOTUS):** waters federally regulated under the Clean Water Act (CWA). The 1972 amendments
5 to the Clean Water Act established over “navigable waters,” defined in the Act as the “waters of the United States”
6 (CWA Section 502(7)). Many Clean Water Act programs apply only to “waters of the United States.”

11 – REFERENCES

The primary location of references is the [ADEC References and Tools webpage](#).

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