

USCG Sector Buffalo

Fall 2019 RRT-3 Meeting
November 19 - 21, 2019



USCG Sector Buffalo Exercises and Cases (Since April 2019)

- Sector Buffalo Case Load: 33 cases, 13 physical responses, and 10 Federalized cases
- No significant cases in Pennsylvania.
- Area Committee met on May 22nd at the Erie County Emergency Operations Center in Erie, Pennsylvania.

IMD presented updates to the Geographic Response Strategies for Lake Erie, Lake Ontario, and the St. Lawrence Seaway.

Briefed concerns on rising water levels, specifically Lake Ontario and the deterioration of shoreline from high water.

Stressed continued concerns about 55 gal drum use as dock floats – many have turned into mystery drums this year.



Benefits of Drone Operations

Sector Buffalo is continuing to strengthen our relationship with state, local, and tribal agencies in regards to aerial photography and video obtained from drones.

Pictures and videos from drones have greatly affected our planning and response capabilities in the field, especially in remote areas, as was evident from the Galop Island grounding which occurred in the Saint Lawrence Seaway in October. M/V RT HON PAUL J MARTIN grounded, requiring multi-agency response via Incident Command System (see pictures below taken by drone ISO response operations).

