

USCG/EPA Jurisdictional Boundaries for Puerto Rico and the US Virgin Islands

EPA supplies FOSCs for incidents originating in the inland zone while USCG furnishes the FOSC for incidents originating in the coastal zone and for incidents on the high seas that may impact U.S. waters¹. For spills in areas where boundaries are designated by a highway or road, the roadbed or right of way shall be the responsibility of the cognizant EPA FOSC. The place of origin of the spill regardless of movement of the discharged product caused by tide, current, wind, gravity etc., will determine which FOSC has jurisdiction.

On commercial waterfront facilities, WHERE INDICATED IN THE FOLLOWING BOUNDARY DESCRIPTIONS, the spill response jurisdictional boundaries will follow the same USCG/EPA pollution prevention regulations boundary for the enforcement of pollution prevention regulations. USCG will respond to spills originating from the "transportation-related" portion of the facility and the EPA to the spills originating from the "non- transportation related" portions of the facility.

The USCG/EPA jurisdictional boundaries are defined for emergency responses only. EPA will be the designated FOSC for all remedial actions.

It may be necessary to transfer FOSC responsibility from one agency to another. Examples of when transfers are appropriate are:

- When a response changes from an emergency response to a remedial action.
- When one FOSC or agency is better suited to coordinate the response to a specific incident. For instance, the EPA may request the USCG FOSC for oil spills near the boundary that will impact navigable waters, or USCG may request an EPA FOSC on certain hazardous materials cases.
- When the FOSC's emergency response workload is beyond his/her capability.
- When an FOSC is first on scene of an incident outside of his/her jurisdiction and starts response actions before the pre-designated FOSC arrives.

When the FOSC duties are transferred, the agreement will be confirmed in writing by utilizing one of the applicable form letters at the end of this narrative. On larger cases, both the USCG and EPA FOSC may assist in a Unified Command regardless of who the designated FOSC is. There will always be a pre-designated FOSC for all cases involving federal resources.

¹ **Department Of Defense and Department of Energy Facilities or Vessels:** When an incident is on, or the sole source of the release is from, any facility or vessel under the jurisdictional custody, or control of DOD or DOE, then DOD or DOE will provide an OSC/RPM as appropriate.

The following is a detailed description of the FOSC jurisdictional boundaries for Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands:

Puerto Rico: The inland and coastal areas are divided mostly by road or thoroughfare, beginning at the intersection of Route 1, Munoz Rivera Avenue and Route 26 in San Juan. The boundary runs East on Route 26; then North on De Diego Avenue and east along Route 37, Calle Loiza to Route 187; then along 885 and continuing East along Route 187, Ave. Boca De Congrejos until Route 3 in Rio Grande. The jurisdictional boundary then runs along Route 3 eastward to Route 194 in Fajardo; then along Route 194 back to Route 3 and then along the Eastern side of Puerto Rico to Yabucoa where the boundary then turns onto Route 901- to Route 760 and back to Route 3; then West along Route 3 to Salinas where the boundary continues West along Route 1 into Ponce. In Ponce the boundary continues westward by turning South along Route 2 on to Route 14 South, Avenida Malecon, to Route 10 North, Comercio Street and North on Avenida Hostos, and then West on to Route 585 back to Route 2; then continuing West along Route 2 to Tallaboa. In Tallaboa the boundary follows westward along Route 127 to Route 336 to Route 3336, to Route 335 South to Route 335R to the border of the Guanica National Forest. The boundary then runs westward along the Northern boundary of the National Forest to 334 in Guanica and continuing westward on Route 116, West on Route 324 to 304 to 305, South on Route 303 to 301 North to 101 West on 101, to 307, to 308; then North along Route 102 through Mayaguez; then North onto Route 3342, Calle Concordia, and on to Route 3341, Calle Pena to Route 64. Follow Route 64, Avenida Jose Gonzalez, Northwest onto Route 2 North; then onto Route 115 North onto Route 429 and then back to Route 115 North through Rincon and then North on Route 441 back to Route 115 and through Aguadilla along the waterfront road of Routes 111, 442, 440 and back to 111 North onto Route 107 North through Airstation Borinquen onto Route 110 to Route 4446 to Route 466 and then East onto Route 459 to Isabela. In Isabela the boundary goes from Route 459 East on Route 113 to Route 2; then along Route 2 East onto Route 4484 and East on Route 485 to Route 119 East in Camuy; then continues East on Route 2 through Arecibo and then East onto Routes 681 to La Boca, on 6684 to Boquillas, to 685 East to 686; then along Route 686 to Vega Baja and then North and East on to Routes 688, 690 and 693 to Dorado; then in Dorado onto Route 165 East; then East on Route 888, Avenida Nereidas, then along Route 24, Calle Wilson and Calle Juan Ponce De Leon in Catano back onto Route 165; then East on Route 28 and East on Route 2, J.F. Kennedy Avenue to Route 1; then North on Route 1 back to the starting point on Route 26.

Culebra, Vieques and the smaller islands of Puerto Rico: The EPA/USCG jurisdictional boundaries on Culebra and Vieques islands are delineated by an imaginary line that runs 100 meters inland from the water's edge. All of the Commonwealth's smaller islands, such as Mona Island, will be under the jurisdiction of the USCG FOSC.

U.S. VIRGIN ISLANDS

The inland and coastal areas are divided mostly by road or thoroughfare, except for St. John.

On **St. Thomas**: The boundary begins near Crown Bay at the intersection of Route 30/Moravian Hwy. and Route 304, and runs West along Route 304; then North on Route 302, then Westward again along Route 30/Julian Jackson Drive/Brewers Bay Road; then North and East along Route 301/West End Road, Northeastward along Route 33/Crown Mountain Road to Route 333; then North on Route 333 on to Route 404; then East along Route 37/Hull Bay Road and Route 40 to Route 35; then East and North along Route 35 to Route 42/Mahogany Run Road; then along Route 42 Eastward along Route 38/Smith Bay Road onto Route 32/Redhook Road; then Westward along Route 30/Bovoni Road/Frenchman Bay Road/Veterans Drive through Charlotte Amalie back to Route 304.

All outlying islands, including Water Island and Hassel Island, fall under the jurisdiction of the USCG FOSC.

On **St. John**: The EPA/USCG jurisdictional boundary on St. John is delineated by an imaginary line that runs 100 meters inland from the water's edge.

On **St. Croix**: The EPA/USCG jurisdictional boundary on St. Croix begins along the south side of **Henry E. Rohlsen Airport** on Route 64 and follows Westward along Route 66/Melvin H. Evans Highway, then North on Route 661/Hannah's Rest Road/Emancipation Drive, and continues North on Route 70 to Fisher Street in **Frederiksted**.

In **Frederiksted**, the boundary line runs West along Fisher Street and then North along King Street, continues North and then East on Route 63/Hans Bluff Road, then East on Route 78/Scenic Road; then North on Route 69/River Road and East along Route 80/Cane Bay Rd, which becomes North Shore Road. The boundary continues North and East on Route 80/North Shore Road to Route 75/Northside Road; then East on Route 75 to King Street in **Christiansted**.

On King Street, the boundary continues East, then South and East on Route 66/Hospital Street, and continues on Route 66/East End Road; then South and West along Route 60/Southshore Road; then West onto Route 624; then South and West on Route 62/Southside Road to Route 68, then West and North on Route 68, to Route 66/Melvin Evans Highway; then West along Route 66/Melvin Evans Hwy.; then South and West along Route 64 back to the starting point at the **Airport**.

**Statement of Agreement
Between
FOSC USCG Sector San Juan and
EPA Region II**

WHEREAS, the UNITED STATES COAST GUARD is the predesignated Federal On-Scene Coordinator (FOSC) for the discharge or release which occurred at _____

from _____

on or about (time) _____, (date) _____ 20____, the following is agreed:

That EPA Region II hereby assumes all FOSC responsibilities in accordance with the National Oil and Hazardous Substances Contingency Plan (40 CFR Part 300) for the above outlined discharge or release.

That this transfer of FOSC responsibilities is COMPLETE and will include all associated investigation, cleanup or removal, disposal, public relations, incidental paperwork and filing of required reports.

That this transfer will further remain in effect until such time as the FOSC has determined that there is no further danger to the public health or welfare.

That this agreement does not preclude continued USCG support for the EPA FOSC agreed upon for this incident as deemed appropriate.

U.S. EPA Region II

DATE

FOSC, USCG Sector San Juan

DATE

**Statement of Agreement
Between
EPA Region II
and the
USCG FOSC, Sector San Juan**

WHEREAS, the UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY is the predesignated Federal On Scene Coordinator (FOSC) for the discharge or release which occurred at _____
from _____
on or about (time) _____, (date) _____ 20____, the following is agreed:

That the FOSC, Sector San Juan hereby assumes all FOSC responsibilities in accordance with the National Oil and Hazardous Substances Contingency Plan (40 CFR Part 300) for the above outlined discharge or release.

That this transfer of FOSC responsibilities is COMPLETE and will include all associated investigation, cleanup or removal, disposal, public relations, incidental paperwork and filing of required reports.

That this transfer will further remain in effect until such time as the FOSC has determined that there is no further danger to the public health or welfare.

That this agreement does not preclude continued EPA support for the USCG FOSC agreed upon for this incident as deemed appropriate.

U.S EPA Region II

DATE

FOSC, USCG Sector San Juan

DATE