

2013 Lake Tahoe Basin

Environmental Response Tabletop Exercise AFTER ACTION REPORT

Wednesday, November 6, 2013



Sponsored by





LAKE TAHOE BASIN
ENVIRONMENTAL RESPONSE
TABLETOP EXERCISE
NOVEMBER 6, 2013

AFTER ACTION REPORT

Wednesday, November 6, 2013

Lake Tahoe Basin Management Unit: Forest Supervisor's Office

35 College Drive, South Lake Tahoe, CA 96150

THIS PAGE LEFT BLANK INTENTIONALLY

Handling Instructions

The formal title of this document is “2013 Lake Tahoe Basin Environmental Response Tabletop Exercise After Action Report.”

Points of Contact:

Contact Name: Lance Richman

Name of Agency: US EPA

Address: 75 Hawthorne Street, SFD 9-3

City/State/Zip: San Francisco, CA 94105

Phone and Extension: (415) 972-3022

Email Address: Richman.Lance@epa.gov

Contact Name: Belinda Walker

Name of Agency: USDA FS

Address: 602 South Tippecanoe Avenue

City/State/Zip: San Bernardino, CA 92408

Phone and Extension: (909) 382-2607

Email Address: brwalker@fs.fed.us

Executive Summary

The 2013 Lake Tahoe Basin Environmental Response Tabletop Exercise was designed to coordinate and build relationships between local, state and federal partners in the Lake Tahoe community, and to test the community's ability to respond to an environmental spill that has the potential of impacting the Lake. The exercise planning team was composed of diverse agencies, including local partners from impacted counties, state partners from Nevada and California, and federal agencies including the Environmental Protection Agency, the United States Department of Agriculture Forest Service, and United States Coast Guard.

Based on the exercise planning team's deliberations, the following objectives were developed for the exercise:

1. Notify all appropriate agencies, consistent with the USDA FS Response Plan and the Lake Tahoe Basin Geographic Response Plan.
2. Establish a Unified Command and support Incident Management Team (to include Multi-Agency Coordination) to support a hazardous material response in the Lake Tahoe region that may impact the Lake.
3. Define jurisdictional and response authorities for the scenario (response at Lake Tahoe).

The purpose of this report is to analyze exercise results, identify strengths to be maintained and built upon, identify potential areas for further improvement, and support development of corrective actions.

MAJOR STRENGTHS

The major strengths identified during this exercise are as follows:

- **Engagement by Local, State, and Federal Response Partners.** The exercise demonstrated that the Lake Tahoe response community is engaged in seeking collaborative solutions to enhancing the ability to respond to a hazardous materials incident that may impact the Lake. Key partners at all levels of government actively participated and contributed to the success of the exercise.
- **Feedback for Improvement of Plans.** Exercise participants applied the discussion of how the response would play out to inform future updates to federal, state and local response plans. Through strengthening of relationships and increasing awareness of existing plans and procedures, the exercise will lead to greater coordination between planning efforts, and ensure regular review and update of the Lake Tahoe Geographic Response Plan (LTGRP).

PRIMARY AREAS FOR IMPROVEMENT

Throughout the exercise, several opportunities for improvement in the Lake Tahoe community's ability to respond to a hazardous materials spill. The primary areas for improvement, including recommendations, are as follows:

- **Expand Exercise Participation.** There were some key stakeholders absent from the exercise that should be included in future events. In particular, dispatch, law enforcement, and private sector partners should be engaged in the next exercise and ensure that partners from these disciplines at all levels of government are included.
- **Need for Updated Notification Lists.** The need was identified to do a comprehensive review of notification lists to ensure that notifications are going out to the correct agencies, and that response partners understand how those notifications will be made.
- **Clarification of Jurisdictional Authorities.** The exercise demonstrated some lack of clarity regarding jurisdictional authority over the incident, particularly between federal agencies. Those issues should be addressed in the update of the LTGRP.

As with all exercises the work done here should be built upon in future training and exercises. Drawing on the information presented in this report, emergency response planners and responders in the Lake Tahoe community should conduct additional discussion-based and operational exercises focusing on the objectives and the recommendations presented in the improvement plan attached to this report.



Caption: Belinda Walker (USDA FS) introduces the exercise to the players.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

TABLE OF CONTENTS.....	1
EXERCISE OVERVIEW.....	3
EXERCISE DESIGN SUMMARY.....	3
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS.....	3
NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS.....	4
EXERCISE OBJECTIVES AND CAPABILITIES.....	7
EXERCISE GOALS.....	7
EXERCISE OBJECTIVES.....	7
CAPABILITIES TO BE TESTED.....	7
SCENARIO SUMMARY.....	9
INITIAL SCENARIO.....	9
MODULE 1 – INITIAL NOTIFICATIONS AND RESPONSE.....	9
MODULE 2 – CONTINUING OPERATIONS.....	10
MODULE 3 – PLAN COORDINATION.....	10
SCENARIO MAP.....	11
EXERCISE ANALYSIS.....	13
GENERAL.....	13
OBJECTIVE 1 – INITIAL NOTIFICATIONS.....	14
OBJECTIVE 2 – UNIFIED COMMAND.....	17
OBJECTIVE 3 – ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES.....	18
PLAN COORDINATION.....	19
OTHER.....	Error! Bookmark not defined.
CONCLUSION.....	21
ATTACHMENT A LIST OF ACRONYMS.....	22
ATTACHMENT A EXERCISE FEEDBACK SUMMARY.....	23
ATTACHMENT B IMPROVEMENT PLAN.....	24

THIS PAGE LEFT BLANK INTENTIONALLY

EXERCISE OVERVIEW

EXERCISE DESIGN SUMMARY

Exercise Name: 2013 Lake Tahoe Basin Environmental Response Tabletop Exercise

Type of Exercise: Tabletop Exercise (with Communications Drill)

Date: Wednesday, November 6, 2013

Duration: 09:30 – 17:00

Location: Lake Tahoe Basin Management Unit: Forest Supervisor’s Office
35 College Drive
South Lake Tahoe, CA 96150

Sponsors:

- Regional Response Team (RRT) 9
- United State Environmental Protection Agency (US EPA)
- United States Coast Guard (USCG)
- United State Department of Agriculture Forest Service (USDA FS)
- Nevada Department of Public Safety (NDPS)
- California Governor’s Office of Emergency Services (CalOES)
- Nevada Department of Environmental Protection (NDEP)
- Carson City, Nevada
- Douglas County, Nevada
- El Dorado County, California

Scenario Type: Truck Accident/Hazardous Materials Release (Rendered Cooking Oil)

Core Capabilities Tested: Planning, Public Information and Warning, Operational Coordination, Environmental Response/Health and Safety, Operational Communications

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Exercise Design Team:

- Lance Richman, US EPA/RRT 9
- Belinda Walker, USDA FS
- Genevieve Villemare, USDA FS
- Mike Ardito, US EPA
- Jeff Erwin, NDEP
- Jeff Collins, NDEP
- Stacey Belt, Carson City Emergency Management
- Karen Bender, El Dorado County Environmental Management
- Mike Tilley, El Dorado County Environmental Management

Facilitators:

Stacey Giomi, Fire Chief – Carson City

Ben Sharit, Fire Chief – Tahoe Douglas Fire Protection District

Exercise Venue provided by: United States Forest Service, Lake Tahoe Basin Management Unit

PARTICIPATING ORGANIZATIONS

LOCAL

- Carson City
- City of South Lake Tahoe
- El Dorado County
- Placer County
- East Fork Fire Protection District
- Tahoe Douglas Fire District

STATE

- California Office of Emergency Services
- California Office of Spill Prevention and Response
- Nevada Department of Environmental Protection
- Nevada Division of Emergency Management

FEDERAL

- Federal Emergency Management Agency
- United States Coast Guard
- United States Department of Agriculture, Forest Service
- United States Department of Defense
- United States Department of Homeland Security
- United States Environmental Protection Agency

NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS

- **Players:** 17
- **Observers:** 10
- **Phone Participants:** 3
- **Facilitators:** 2
- **Evaluators:** 2
- **Exercise Support:** 3
- **TOTAL:** 36



Caption: Exercise observers.



Caption: The exercise was expertly facilitated by Chief Stacey Giomi and Chief Ben Sharit.

THIS PAGE LEFT BLANK INTENTIONALLY

EXERCISE OBJECTIVES AND CAPABILITIES

EXERCISE GOALS

The primary goal of the tabletop exercise was to coordinate and build relationships within the Regional Response Team 9, specifically with the USDA FS, the States of Nevada, e.g., Nevada Department of Environmental Protection, Nevada Division of Emergency Management and California, e.g., California Office of Spill Prevention, California Office of Emergency Services, and the local community, e.g., Tahoe/Douglas Fire, Douglas County Emergency Management Office, El Dorado County, etc. An additional goal was to provide a forum to begin the update and revision of the Lake Tahoe Geographic Response Plan, and the USDA FS Response Plan.

EXERCISE OBJECTIVES

The following objectives were identified by the Exercise Design Team to test in the tabletop exercise:

1. Notify all appropriate agencies, consistent with the USDA FS Response Plan and the Lake Tahoe Basin Geographic Response Plan.
2. Establish a Unified Command and support Incident Management Team (to include Multi-Agency Coordination) to support a hazardous material response in the Lake Tahoe region that may impact the Lake.
3. Define jurisdictional and response authorities for the scenario (response at Lake Tahoe).

CAPABILITIES TO BE TESTED

This exercise utilizes the Core Capabilities outlined in the National Preparedness Goal to serve as a basis for evaluating exercise play. The key Core Capabilities that were tested are listed below. The Core Capabilities were designed to replace the Target Capabilities previously identified by the federal government. Recognizing that many organizations are transitioning use between these two concepts, the related Target Capabilities for each Core Capability are also included. A crosswalk of Target Capabilities to Core Capabilities can be found at <http://www.fema.gov/pdf/prepared/crosswalk.pdf>.

Common

- **Planning.** Conduct a systematic process engaging the whole response community as appropriate in the development of executable strategic, operational, and/or community-based approaches to meet defined objectives.
 - **Related Target Capabilities:** Planning
- **Public Information and Warning.** Deliver coordinated, prompt, reliable, and actionable information to the whole response community through the use of clear, consistent, accessible, culturally and linguistically appropriate methods to effectively relay information regarding any threat or hazard.
 - **Related Target Capabilities:** Emergency Public Information and Warning

- **Operational Coordination.** Establish and maintain a unified and coordinated operational structure and process that appropriately integrates all critical stakeholders and supports the execution of core capabilities.
 - **Related Target Capabilities:** Emergency Operations Center (EOC) Management, On Site Incident Management

Response

- **Environmental Response/Health and Safety.** Ensure the availability of guidance and resources to address all hazards including hazardous materials, acts of terrorism, and natural disasters in support of the responder operations and the affected communities.
 - **Related Target Capabilities:** Environmental Health, Responder Safety and Health, Weapons of Mass Destruction and Hazardous Materials Response and Decontamination
- **Operational Communications.** Ensure the capacity for timely communications in support of security, situational awareness, and operations by any and all means available, among and between affected communities in the impact area and all response forces.
 - **Related Target Capabilities:** Communications



Caption: Tahoe Douglas Fire Protection District

SCENARIO SUMMARY

INITIAL SCENARIO

At 0800 on the morning of Wednesday, November 6, 2013, a stake bed truck carrying twenty 300-gallon totes of rendered cooking oil overturned near Stateline, Douglas County, Nevada and spilled rendered cooking oil. Seventeen of the totes ruptured and spilled approximately 5,000 gallons of oil. Several thousands of gallons of the oil flowed into a nearby creek and 2,000 gallons spilled on and or next to Highway 50. The spill occurred on state of Nevada land and flowed onto nearby adjacent land.

The spill has traveled downstream and is expected to impact Lake Tahoe. The driver of the truck disappeared after the accident and has not been found. The truck had not been registered for several years.

The closest stream in the area is Burke Creek, approximately 3168 feet from Stateline, in Douglas County, in the state of Nevada, United States, near Tahoe Village, Nevada. Burke Creek is also known as Friday Creek.

Nevada Beach campground is located in close proximity to the spill. Nevada Beach is 3696 feet long and in some places the sand is over 300 yards wide. Although this makes it a little on the windy side, the wind makes it popular for kite boarders. Nevada Beach Campground has 54 campsites and 30 RV sites. Nevada Beach Campground is located 2 miles east of the California-Nevada state line, on Highway 50.



Caption: Stateline, Nevada

MODULE 1 – INITIAL NOTIFICATIONS AND RESPONSE

Immediately after the incident, Douglas County 9-1-1 is notified of the incident by a person who witnessed the accident. The witness stated that material had spilled, but did not know what type of material it was.

The first responder to the scene is the Tahoe Douglas Fire Protection District. They have determined that the material released was rendered cooking oil and have discovered that a significant amount of

material has spilled onto Highway 50 and flowed into the nearby creek. It is unclear what the extent of the environmental impacts is at this time.

MODULE 2 – CONTINUING OPERATIONS

It is now three hours since responders arrived on scene. Initial containment operations are underway. Traffic has been stopped in both directions. It has been determined that the cooking oil has flowed into Burke Creek, and it is expected to impact Lake Tahoe.

Caption: Nevada Beach Campground



MODULE 3 – PLAN COORDINATION

It is now two weeks later. The environmental impacts to Lake Tahoe have been mitigated and specialized response resources have been demobilized. Key stakeholders have gathered for an after action review of the response with a focus on what went well and what could be improved upon. A key discussion is how existing plans and processes can be updated and integrated.

SCENARIO MAP



THIS PAGE LEFT BLANK INTENTIONALLY

EXERCISE ANALYSIS

This section of the report reviews the performance of exercised capabilities. Based on the format and structure of the exercise, observations are organized by objective. Each objective is followed by related observations, which include analysis and recommendations for program enhancement. Also included is a set of general observations about level of exercise participation. All observations are based on documented exercise feedback and observer/evaluator notes.

GENERAL

The following section describes observations and recommendations that are related to general exercise design and conduct.

OBSERVATIONS

Feedback regarding exercise participation was mixed. It was recognized that a great effort had been made and that many key stakeholders at the local, state, and federal levels were present and contributed to the success of the exercise. However, it was noted that some key partners were absent from the discussion that would have added additional value to the discussion. Those agencies include:

- Local and State Law Enforcement
- Dispatch
- Private Sector Partners (response contractors) and Community-Based Organizations
- Water Districts

The following private and community partners were identified by exercise participants as potential stakeholders:

- League to Save Lake Tahoe
- Sierra Club
- Private land owners
- Zephyr Cove Resort Operator (Aramark)
- Other USDA FS special use permit holders

One participant noted that the exercise would have benefited from additional situational information. Concern was expressed that communications drill confused discussion and should have been conducted as a separate operations-based exercise.

One participant noted that there was a little confusion as to the role of players versus observers during the exercise.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Include more agencies in future exercise planning efforts and ensure that information about exercise play is communicated in advance of exercise date.
2. Conduct annual exercises to test the LTGRP including a functional exercise.
3. Identify key community-based organizations (e.g., environmental groups, recreational groups) that should be kept informed about response activities.

OBJECTIVE 1 – INITIAL NOTIFICATIONS

The following section describes observations and recommendations related to the following exercise objective:

“Notify all appropriate agencies, consistent with the USDA FS Response Plan and the Lake Tahoe Basin Geographic Response Plan.”

QUESTIONS CONSIDERED

- Upon notification of the incident, what initial notifications will dispatch make?
- What would be the Fire District’s initial response to the incident?
- Once initial response is underway, what subsequent notifications may need to be made?
- What would be subsequent response activities over the first few hours of the incident?
- Who should be on-scene to support on-scene response activities?
- What resources do local responders have available to support this type of incident?
- What additional resources might be needed?

OBSERVATIONS

Objective 1 was explored in two ways during the exercise. The first was in the form of a communications drill where a call was made to local dispatch to attempt to observe whether notification are being made in line with the LTGRP. In general, the communications drill went well with the following agencies receiving alert of the incident:

- Cal OES
- California Department of Fish and Wildlife (through Cal OES)
- Nevada Division of Emergency Management
- Nevada Department of Environmental Protection (through DEM)
- El Dorado County Environmental Management
- City of Stateline spill official (through El Dorado County)
- USDA FS Spill Response Coordinator (through FS Fire Chief)
- NRC (subsequent notifications are below)
 - US EPA 9 Main Office
 - NOAA RPTS for Nevada
 - National Response Center HQ
 - USCG Pacific Area Command Center

- Pacific Strike Team Main Office
- Nevada Department of Environmental Protection Main Office

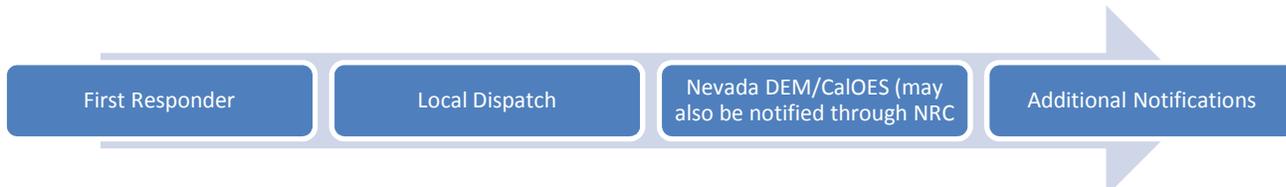
However, notification was not automatically made to the Forest Service for the incident and they are not included on the immediate action checklist in the LTGRP.

The second means of exploring how initial notifications would occur was through group discussion. It was noted that the likely first responder to the incident will be the Tahoe Douglas Fire District who will notify the appropriate dispatch agency. Dispatch is then responsible for making notifications as described in the LTGRP. However, when dispatch was called during exercise play, the agency did not have a copy of the LTGRP or a list of notifications to be made. Based on exercise discussion, the following notification processes were described for local, state, and federal notifications:

Local Notification Process



State Emergency Management Notification Process



EPA Notification Process



USDA FS Notification Process



It was discussed that additional notifications may be necessary including:

- Political notifications. Handled by Nevada DEM and Cal OES.
- Notifications based on public health and safety objectives.

It was noted that notifications were not made to the following organizations:

- Tahoe Regional Planning Agency (TRPA)
- Lahontan Regional Water Quality Control Board (LRWQCB)
- Private property owners
- USDA FS special use permit holders

Overall the consensus was that the objective of making appropriate notifications was met during the exercise, however there is a need for updating emergency notification information in the LTGRP and for ensuring that information is available to dispatch and local responders.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Update LTGRP initial notifications list and ensure it is provided to local dispatch agencies and first responders.
 - Include USDA FS on initial notifications list.
 - Include fact that impacted private property owners should be notified.
2. Conduct annual communications drill to test LTGRP call out.
3. Conduct awareness training on the role and function of the NRC.



Caption: Cal OES receives notification of the incident.

OBJECTIVE 2 – UNIFIED COMMAND

The following section describes observations and recommendations related to the following exercise objective:

“Establish a Unified Command and support Incident Management Team (to include Multi-Agency Coordination) to support a hazardous material response in the Lake Tahoe region that may impact the Lake.”

QUESTIONS CONSIDERED

- How will command and communications be established?
- What would trigger the need to establish a Unified Command or other coordinated command structure?
- Who may need to be included in a Unified Command structure, if established?
- How would technical support from the Regional Response Team (RRT 9) be requested and what is the expected response time?
- How will operations be coordinated with the State of California and other jurisdictions in the Lake Tahoe area?

OBSERVATIONS

Exercise participants were asked to identify what agencies would participate in a Unified Command for the incident. Agencies identified included:

- Tahoe Douglas Fire District
- USDA FS
- Nevada Highway Patrol
- Douglas County Emergency Management
- US EPA

One participant noted the need for greater coordination of the public information function during an incident of this type.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Conduct additional training around principles of Unified Command and Multi-Agency Coordination.
2. Incorporate coordination of public information into subsequent exercises.

OBJECTIVE 3 – ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

The following section describes observations and recommendations related to the following exercise objective:

“Define jurisdictional and response authorities for the scenario (response at Lake Tahoe).”

QUESTIONS CONSIDERED

- What would be the expected actions of local, state and federal agencies responsible for the following functions?
 - Emergency Management
 - Fire Services
 - Law Enforcement
 - Environmental Protection
 - Natural Resources
 - Other Stakeholders
- What other stakeholders should be engaged in the response?

OBSERVATIONS

Overall the consensus was that the objective of defining jurisdictional roles and responsibilities was partially met during the exercise. It was noted that the majority of key players were in attendance and that there was a good discussion around clarification of roles, particularly as it relates to federal partners. However, much of the discussion continued to focus on who should be notified and what mechanisms would be used to make those notifications. Discussion on expected response actions from local, state, and federal partners was not discussed in as much detail as expected.

One participant noted that the purpose of the National Response Center (NRC) is to allow reporting parties to only make one phone call to mobilize federal resources, and that local agencies need to register with the NRC to ensure they are on the notification list. In regard to NRC notifications, the question was raised as to whether agencies have the authority to self-deploy for the response. Discussion revealed that US EPA has primary federal authority over the incident and that requests for additional support from other federal agencies would be at the request of the EPA FOSC.

It was noted the Regional Response Team 9 does not play a direct role in response to the incident and that technical support for the response will be provided by the EPA FOSC, not RRT 9. It was also noted that there is some confusion between what role different federal agencies will play in the response. EPA will be in charge of the response with USCG supporting rescue and removal operations.

Additional roles and responsibilities for different disciplines that may respond to the incident were discussed as follows:

- Emergency Management

- Activate local Emergency Operations Centers and support resource management and public information activities
- Coordinate with State emergency management agencies
- Fire Services
 - Serve as first responders
 - Activate mutual aid resources
- Law Enforcement
 - Actions were not fully discussed, need to engage law enforcement in future exercises
 - Traffic control and security
- Natural Resources
 - Actions were not fully discussed
- Other stakeholders
 - Non-Governmental agencies
 - Environmental advocacy organizations
 - Tourism
 - Special use Permittees

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Conduct additional tabletop exercises to further explore the response and recovery actions expected by local, state, and federal response partners.
2. Clarify the role of RRT 9 in supporting response efforts.

PLAN COORDINATION

The final discussion module was centered around plan coordination with a focus on how the LTGRP can be updated to better reflect how response efforts are conducted. The following observations and recommendations are the result of that discussion.

QUESTIONS CONSIDERED

- Are players familiar with local, state, and federal response plans and what are they?
- Do plans adequately and accurately reflect how response agencies conducted response operations?
- Do plans identify how local, state, and federal agencies will coordinate?
- What elements of plans need to be updated?
- What elements of plans need to be coordinated?
- What stakeholders, if any, need to be included in the process that were not involved in the exercise?

OBSERVATIONS

The focus of the discussion was on the LTGRP with the premise that the plan doesn't need to be rewritten, just updated to reflect current data and information. Particular sections of the LTGRP that were called out for review and update included:

- Contact Lists
- Radio Frequencies
- Resource Lists
- Private Contractor Resources Inventories

One observation that would impact local EOPs and the LTGRP was that hazardous materials response levels need to be consistent between plans. The Tahoe Douglas Fire District described their response levels as follows:

- Level 1: Incident can be handled within agency's own resources (i.e., a fuel leak from a car)
- Level 2: Exceeds agency's capabilities and the need is identified to call in mutual aid support for a Level A or Level B entry. State emergency management would be notified.
- Level 3: Requires federal support for the response. If the event impacts Lake Tahoe it would be an automatic Level 3 incident.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Ensure that the emergency contact number for the Nevada Division of Emergency Management only references (775) 687-0400. The alternate number (775) 687-0300 should be deleted.
2. Define the role of subject matter experts (SMEs).
3. Add a section on plan authorities to delineate the responsibilities of different agencies. (e.g., inland vs. coastal zone, county vs. federal, federal agency vs. federal agency)
4. Update local Emergency Operations Plans (EOPs) to be in alignment with the LTGRP.
5. Update notification lists and radio frequencies in the LTGRP.
6. Add a section on legal issues, particularly as they relate to cost recovery.
7. Ensure plan is distributed to key response partners.

PLAN COORDINATION

In addition to the discussion focused on the exercise objectives, a brief discussion was held regarding the issue of abandoned vessels in Lake Tahoe. The following recommendations reflect that discussion.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Develop strategies do deal with abandoned vessels including availability of response assets, funding mechanisms, coordination with States, and cost sharing.
2. Provide information to local response partners on the USCG Abandoned Vessel Work Group.
3. Determine if and how NOAA funds can be used to support abandoned vessel operations in the Tahoe Basin.
4. Expand the section on abandoned vessels in the LTGRP to include resources that might be available.

CONCLUSION

The 2013 Lake Tahoe Basin Environmental Response Tabletop Exercise provided an opportunity for local, state, and federal stakeholders in the Lake Tahoe community to explore the community's ability manage a hazardous materials spill that could potentially impact the Lake. It was determined that all objectives were met or will be addressed through actions identified in an improvement plan that provides guidance for community stakeholders to continue to enhance response and recovery capabilities.



Caption: The exercise was attended by a wide range of stakeholders at the local, state, and federal level.

ATTACHMENT A LIST OF ACRONYMS

CalOES	California Office of Emergency Services
EOC	Emergency Operations Center
FEMA	Federal Emergency Management Agency
FOSC	Federal On-Scene Coordinator
LRWQCB	Lahontan Regional Water Quality Control Board
LTGRP	Lake Tahoe Geographic Response Plan
NDEP	Nevada Department of Environmental Protection
NRC	National Response Center
RRT	Regional Response Team
SMEs	Subject Matter Experts
TRPA	Tahoe Regional Planning Agency
TTX	Tabletop Exercise
USCG	United States Coast Guard
US EPA	United States Environmental Protection Agency
USDA FS	United States Department of Agriculture Forest Service

ATTACHMENT A EXERCISE FEEDBACK SUMMARY

2013 Lake Tahoe Basin Environmental Response Exercise Feedback Summary Table

Total Respondents: 7					
	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
The exercise met my expectations	3	3	1	0	0
I will be able to apply the knowledge learned	3	4	0	0	0
The exercise objectives for each topic were identified and followed	5	2	0	0	0
The content was organized and easy to follow.	3	4	0	0	0
The materials distributed were pertinent and useful.	5	2	0	0	0
The facilitators were knowledgeable.	7	0	0	0	0
The quality of instruction was good.	6	1	0	0	0
Participation and interaction were encouraged.	6	1	0	0	0
Adequate time was provided for questions and discussion.	5	2	0	0	0
	Excellent	Good	Average	Poor	Very Poor
How would you rate the exercise overall?	5	2	0	0	0

Question	Percent of Respondents Who Answered Agree or Strongly Agree
The exercise met my expectations	86%
I will be able to apply the knowledge learned	100%
The exercise objectives for each topic were identified and followed	100%
The content was organized and easy to follow.	100%
The materials distributed were pertinent and useful.	100%
The facilitators were knowledgeable.	100%
The quality of instruction was good.	100%
Participation and interaction were encouraged.	100%
Adequate time was provided for questions and discussion.	100%

ATTACHMENT B IMPROVEMENT PLAN

Objective	Recommendation	Priority	Program Element	Responsible Party	Timeframe
Exercise Design	Include more agencies in future exercise planning efforts and ensure that information about exercise play is communicated in advance of exercise date.	Medium	Exercise	RRTIX/Exercise Design Team	Aspirational
Exercise Design	Conduct annual exercises to test the LTGRP including a functional exercise.	Medium	Exercise	All	1 - 2 years
1 - Notifications	Identify key community-based organizations (e.g., environmental groups, recreational groups) that should be kept informed about response activities.	High	Exercise	Local Response Partners	< 1 year
1 - Notifications	Update LTGRP initial notifications list and ensure it is provided to local dispatch agencies and first responders. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Include USDA FS on initial notifications list. • Include fact that impacted private property owners should be notified. 	High	Planning	US EPA/USDA FS/Local Response Partners	< 1 year

Objective	Recommendation	Priority	Program Element	Responsible Party	Timeframe
1 - Notifications	Conduct annual communications drill to test LTGRP call out.	High	Exercise	US EPA, USDA FS, and Local Response Partners	1 - 2 years
1 - Notifications	Conduct awareness training on the role and function of the NRC.	Low	Training	US EPA/USCG	1 - 2 years
2 - Unified Command	Conduct additional training around principles of Unified Command and Multi-Agency Coordination.	Medium	Training	State Emergency Management agencies/Local Response Partners	< 1 year
2 - Unified Command	Incorporate coordination of public information into subsequent exercises.	Medium	Exercise	All	Immediate
3 - Roles and Responsibilities	Conduct additional tabletop exercises to further explore the response and recovery actions expected by local, state, and federal response partners.	Medium	Exercise	All	Aspirational
3 - Roles and Responsibilities	Clarify the role of RRT 9 in supporting response efforts.	Low	Planning	RRT 9	1 - 2 years

Objective	Recommendation	Priority	Program Element	Responsible Party	Timeframe
Plan Coordination	Ensure that the emergency contact number for the Nevada Division of Emergency Management only references (775) 687-0400. The alternate number (775) 687-0300 should be deleted.	High	Planning	US EPA	Immediate
Plan Coordination	Define the role of subject matter experts (SMEs).	Low	Planning	US EPA	Aspirational
Plan Coordination	Add a section on plan authorities to delineate the responsibilities of different agencies. (e.g., inland vs. coastal zone, county vs. federal, agency vs. agency)	High	Planning	US EPA	< 1 year
Plan Coordination	Update local Emergency Operations Plans (EOPs) to be in alignment with the LTGRP.	Medium	Planning	Local Emergency Management	1 - 2 years
Plan Coordination	Update notification lists and radio frequencies in the LTGRP.	High	Planning	US EPA and Local Response Partners	< 1 year
Plan Coordination	Add a section on legal issues, particularly as they relate to cost recovery.	Medium	Planning	US EPA/USCG	< 1 year

Objective	Recommendation	Priority	Program Element	Responsible Party	Timeframe
Plan Coordination	Ensure LTGRP is distributed to key response partners.	Medium	Planning	US EPA	< 1 year
Other	Develop strategies do deal with abandoned vessels including availability of response assets, funding mechanisms, coordination with States, and cost sharing.	Medium	Planning	US EPA & USCG	Aspirational
Other	Provide information to local response partners on the USCG Abandoned Vessel Work Group.	Low	Planning	USCG	1 - 2 years
Other	Determine if and how NOAA funds can be used to support abandoned vessel operations in the Tahoe Basin.	Low	Planning	USCG	1 - 2 years
Other	Expand the section on abandoned vessels in the LTGRP to include resources that might be available.	High	Planning	US EPA	1 - 2 years