

Natural Resource Damage Assessment for Response Practitioners

> Monica Rusk - NPFC NRD Claims Manager

Today's objectives -

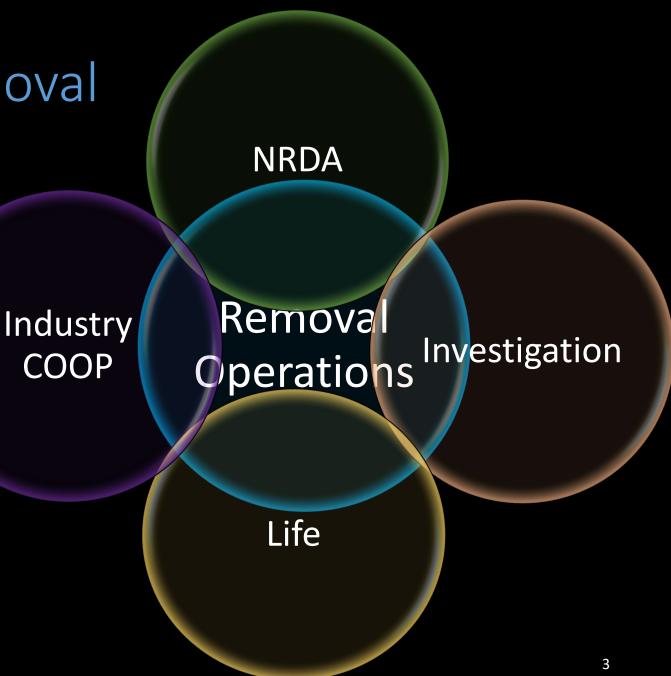
- Clarify how NRDA overlaps with Response Operations
- Compare the Response vs. NRDA funding streams
- Look at specific Response influences on NRDA Claims
- Consider how NRDA can influence Response
- Explore opportunities in Planning and Preparedness



Its not all about removal

The OSC/RPM directs response efforts <u>and</u> <u>coordinates all other efforts</u> <u>at the scene</u> of a discharge or release. NCP - 40 CFR 300.120

Trustees are acting under their own OPA authorities 33 U.S.C. 2706 and other authorities related to environmental protection



NRDA Considerations for Responders

- Injuries from the oil and <u>the</u> <u>response actions</u> may be subject to NRDA
 - *This includes response actions for "substantial threat" incidents*
- Baseline conditions and ephemeral data often collected <u>during</u> response operations
- NRD claims can be costly, complex, and can take years/decades to reach settlement



The Color of Trustee Money

Authorized, developed & reimbursed through agreement with the FOSC and collaboration with NPFC Case Officer PRFA

For removal activities directed by OSC

Available to federal, state, local and tribal governmental entities

Under FPN ceiling

Approved SOW

Rapid execution

Defined POP

Amendable/ Extendable

Cost Doc required for reimbursement

Billable to RP

IAA For NRD preassessment activities

Initiate

Available to FEDERAL natural resource **trustee** agencies

NOT under FPN ceiling Authorized, developed & reimbursed through agreement with the **NPFC NRD** Claims Manager

'Not typically thought of' Response Influences on a NRDA <u>Claim</u> -

DOCUMENTATION

- WHAT actions you are taking,
- WHY you are taking them, and
- UNDER WHAT AUTHORITY

Timing of IC engagement with NRDA Team

Early Engagement -

- Improves coordination
- Establishes a mutually beneficial feedback loop (linkages with Ops and Planning)
- Maximizes opportunity for ephemeral data collection and development of data collection/data sharing agreements



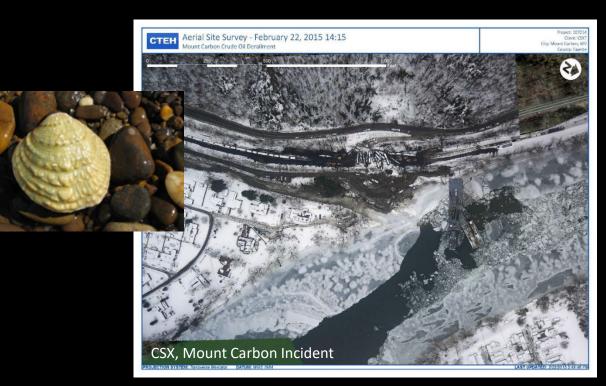


 Develop resource protection strategies from a NRDA perspective

NRDA Influence on Response –

- setting response objectives to minimize claims

 Know how to find the SMEs you need (when you need) to plan, respond, and mitigate environmental injury





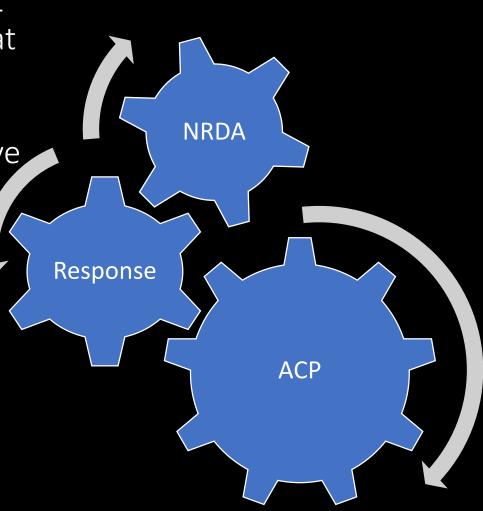
Keeping the momentum going -

- Response planning from a NRDA perspective can produce better response outcomes, improve efficiency, and speed the time to recovery
 - Lower total incident cost
 - Less consequential environmental impact
 - Less bad public perception



Available References

- Variety of resourced developed out of DWH see your local trustee representatives for what might be most applicable
- ICS Job Aid for NRDA, NOAA
- Recommendations for Conducting Cooperative NRDA, West Coast JAT
- DWH Oil Spill Lessons Learned Workshop: Non-traditional Response and Emergency Restoration, DOI
- Guidelines for Collecting High Priority Ephemeral Data for Oil Spills in the Arctic, RPI and NOAA
- Case Studies: Integrating NRDA Emergency Restoration in Response, ERG for NOAA



Key Messages

- Document, Document, Document
- Setting response objectives to minimize claims is a win-win – improves outcomes, lowers total cost, provides for the earliest recovery
- Proactively engage NRDA folks help them help you
- Understand the available funding mechanism and when to advise the trustees to talk to NPFC
- Find creative ways to get them to your meetings
- Document, Document, Document



Ready for more?

Contact your friendly neighborhood NPFC NRD Claims Manager:

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