



**OIL SPILL PREVENTION AND RESPONSE
TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE (TAC)**

<https://www.wildlife.ca.gov/OSPR/Preparedness/Technical-Advisory-Committee>



*Meeting of
Wednesday, October 3, 2018
9:30 a.m. to 3:10 p.m.*

*Department of Fish and Wildlife
Yolo Wildlife Area
45211 County Road 32B
Davis, CA 95618*

MINUTES

Attendance:

<i>TAC members</i>	<i>Agency Representatives</i>	<i>OSPR Participants</i>	<i>Guests</i>
John Berge	Debra French, Calif Fire	Thomas M. Cullen, Jr.	
Matt Rezvani	Jonathan Bishop, CCC	Yvonne Addassi (by phone)	
Lynn Korwatch	Linda Scourtis, S.F. BCDC	Julie Yamamoto	
Janell Myrhe	Timothy Holmes, U.S.C.G.	Ted Mar	
Tracy Van Houten	Jordan Stout, NOAA	Eric Milstein	
Joseph Cobb	Chris Beckwith, CSLC	Bernadette Fees	
Sejal Choksi-Chugh (by phone)		Paul Hamilton	
James Farner (by phone)		Greg McGowan	

1. INTRODUCTIONS – OSPR UPDATE

Captain Thomas Cullen, Jr., OSPR Administrator

(report provided)

Administrator Thomas Cullen, Jr. offered a brief update of each branch of the Office of Spill Prevention and Response, touching on a few highlights. Further updates can be found in the report provided.

- OSPR has ten TAC members, which is the highest number since I’ve been an Administrator. There are still four vacancies that need to be filled.
- Some OSPR staff were graciously hosted by Joseph Cobb down in Bakersfield, to tour Aera and other production fields.
- Dr. Hampton and I embarked on Alaska Tanker Company’s tanker, the Explorer, in Long Beach for a two night transit up to Anchorage Nine in San Francisco. We want to continue that partnership with a great company like Alaska Tanker to open it up to some of our field folks, or other folks at OSPR, to embark and see first hand an operation by one of our major industry partners.
- Travelled to Washington D.C. and sat in on the National Response Team meeting at US EPA and the Coast Guard. Also attended the Coast Guard Change of Command. This was the first of many changes of command for the Coast Guard.
- OSPR will be holding a local government on scene coordinator workshop. We recognize the importance of having locals, who know the people and the lay of the land, participate in a liaison type role.
- Attended Congressman Garamendi’s maritime advisory committee meeting.
- California Department of Fish and Wildlife held their Department Awards Ceremony, recognizing two of OSPR’s own - Randy Imai and the Santa Cruz Marine Wildlife Veterinary Care and Research Center.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. John Berge, TAC Vice Chair

February 7, 2018 Minutes – A motion to accept the minutes was made and seconded. The minutes were unanimously approved.

3. OSPR 101 OVERVIEW AND CURRENT UPDATES

*Dr. Steve Hampton,
OSPR Assistant Deputy Administrator*

(report provided)

Mission

- OSPR’s missions is to provide best achievable protection of California’s natural resources by preventing, preparing for, and responding to spills of oil and enhancing affected resources.
- OSPR’s mission is four pronged: Prevention, Preparedness, Response and Restoration.

- OSPR has 16 office locations and 240 personnel; 100 scientists/oil spill prevention specialists, 100 administrative support or other specialists and 40 wildlife officers.

Prevention

The goal of OSPR's Prevention Branch is to reduce both the number and total volume of oil spills reaching California's waters. Working with state and federal partners, Prevention staff analyze the root causes of spills and design policies and programs to reduce risk.

Preparedness

OSPR's Preparedness Branch ensures that producers and transporters of oil, as well as OSPR and other responders, are prepared in case there is an accident.

Response

OSPR's Field Response Teams consist of wildlife officers, oil spill prevention specialists, and environmental scientists. Together, they respond physically to an average of 248 spills each year – over four per week. They address another 960 spills per year via telephone consultations. Other programs in OSPR:

- Response Technology and Support
- Marine Wildlife Veterinary Care and Research Center
- Laboratories
- Response Equipment Grants
- Oiled Wildlife Care Network
- California Oil Spill Study and Evaluation Program
- Marine Invasive Species
- Military and Superfund Sites

Restoration

As a trustee for natural resources, OSPR conducts natural resource damage assessments (NRDA) to examine the natural resource injuries from oil spills, to quantify the injuries, and to seek damages to both restore the injured resources and to compensate the public for the lost interim ecological benefits and uses of those resources.

Regulations

The Lempert-Keene-Seastrand Oil Spill Act defines OSPR's mission and responsibilities. To implement the Act, OSPR creates regulations that require the oil industry to take various measures to prevent oil spills and to be prepared in the event of a spill.

Technical Advisory Committee

The Lempert-Keene-Seastrand Oil Spill Prevention and Response Act established the Technical Advisory Committee to provide independent recommendations to OSPR.

The Committee consists of fourteen members. Eight are appointed by the Governor, three by the Speaker of the Assembly, and three by the Senate Rules Committee. They meet at least twice a year and prepare a report at least once every two years for the Governor and Legislature.

Finances

OSPR receives the bulk of its funding from a 6 ½ cent per barrel fee on crude oil delivered to refineries in California. A smaller fee on non-tank vessels augments these revenues. Together, these form the Oil Spill Prevention and Administration Fund, which funds most of OSPR, as well as the Oiled Wildlife Care Network and portions of the State Lands Commission. OSPR receives some additional funds for non-oil related work, such as Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC), Marine Invasive Species, and various programs within the laboratories.

4. AGENCY BRIEFINGS

California Coastal Commission
(report provided)

Mr. Jonathan Bishop

Meetings

The Commission staff attended the following meetings from February 7, 2018 to October 3, 2018:

- Seven Harbor Safety Committee (HSC) meetings. Updates to all Harbor Safety Plans are continuous and ongoing. Humboldt, Port Hueneme and San Diego HSC's continue to work on SB 414 emergency tug/tow capability reports.
- Eight Area Committee (AC) meetings. CCC OS Program staff has been working on updates to the LA/LB Area Plan and is currently signed up for working subgroups engaged in stakeholder engagement and outreach as well as the offshore workgroup looking at issues surrounding offshore pipelines and platforms.
- One Regional Response Team 9(RRT 9) meeting. CCC oil spill program staff attended and presented at the RRT 9 State Agency Roundtable. Updates to the California Dispersant Plan and the CCC CZMA review process of the CA Dispersant Plan were highlighted.
- Prevention First Symposium, Long Beach. CCC OS Program staff attended the Prevention First Symposium held in Long Beach, CA.
- Local Government On-Scene Coordinator (LGOSC) Training. CCC OS Program staff attended the OSPR/OES sponsored LGOSC training in San Rafael at the Emergency Operations Facility.
- USCG/Chevron El Segundo Drill. Staff participated in the two day USCG/Chevron spill drill at the El Segundo refinery.
- Beacon West Oil Spill Response Plan (OSRP)/Federal Consistency Review. CCC OS Program staff is working with BSEE and OSPR on Beacon West's OSRP.

New Legislation

AB 1197 (Limon) Spill Management Teams – This bill regulates SMT's. CCC OS program staff participated in the scoping meeting for the new regulations in Playa del Rey (2/27), and is reviewing the draft regulations that were recently released.

AB 2864 (Limon) NRDA Participation – This bill would ask the OSPR Administrator to invite the CCC and BCDC to participate in the NRDA process for coastal and Bay oil spills. During this reporting period, the CCC OS, Energy, Legislative and Legal staff worked with OSPR and others on clarifications/fine tuning the language of the bill. Awaiting Governor's approval.

Coastal Development Permits and Projects

Refugio Oil Spill/Coastal Development Permitting Update (CDP # 9-17-0297) – The public hearing and action on the emergency oil spill cleanup work at Refugio conducted under Emergency Permit No. G-9-15-006 was held and approved on March 9th in Port Hueneme. CCC staff continues to coordinate with trustee agencies and other interested parties on the NRDA process and possible future mitigation projects.

City of Long Beach Southeast Areas Development and Implementation Plan (SEADIP). On July 26, the CCC certified the Land Use Plan and Implementation Policies of SEADIP and the City's Oil Code, both components of the City of Long Beach's LCP. The amendment adds Oil Production Uses as an allowable use on two sites in the SEADIP area (the Pumpkin Patch site and the Los Cerritos Wetland Authority site) and revises the Oil Code to reflect the addition of these two areas as "Oil Operating Areas".

Pacific Quest Vessel Salvage. On August 12th, the 56-foot commercial fishing vessel, *Pacific Quest*, ran aground near Natural Bridges State Beach, in Santa Cruz County, with a maximum potential capacity of 1,200 gallons of diesel fuel aboard. The CCC issued an emergency coastal development permit (ECDP) which authorized emergency development consisting of removal of diesel fuel and other pollutants from the wrecked vessel. Debris cleanup has been ongoing and continues. Plans with UCSC and the LML are being coordinated to restore the upper bluff staging area to pre-development conditions. A follow-up regular permit will be required to mitigate for unavoidable impacts to coastal resources as a result of the wreck and salvage of the vessel.

BCDC

Ms. Linda Scourtis

(report provided)

BCDC participated in the February - September HSC meetings, although no meeting was held in August. The next meeting is scheduled October 11 in Richmond.

BCDC's primary effort over the spring was managing the Harbor Safety Plan's annual update, which was adopted for submission to the OSPR Administrator during the June 14 HSC meeting.

BCDC spill staff attended USCG Deep Draft Industry Day April 25. Staff listened to the Pac States/BC annual meeting webinar on abandoned and derelict vessels June 19.

Following the July 12 HSC meeting, spill staff joined the Navigation work group for a NOAA briefing and discussion on CATZOC (Categories of Zone of Confidence).

Spill staff attended a maritime stakeholder meeting sponsored by Rep. John Garamendi September 17, where accomplishments over the previous two years were presented and suggestions for future actions were received.

Spill Contingency Planning

Spill staff participated in the March 20, May 15 and September 18 Area Committee meetings, and joined other Sensitive Sites work group members in determining potential restoration sites to be added to the ACP.

BCDC spill staff attended the Joint LEPC, Coast Guard Area Committee-HazMat working group meeting in Martinez May 9.

Staff participated in the July Statewide Area Committee meeting at the Shell Clubhouse in Martinez.

Participated in OSPR sensitive site survey of Bel Marin Keys restoration site in Marin County September 5.

Response

Primary spill staff received annual 8-hour HAZWOPER refresher training February 28.

Backup spill staff received SCAT training with Pacific Strike Team March 27-29.

Primary staff logged in to a webinar re oil spill effects on marine mammals March 29.

Backup spill staff:

Attended a marinas spill workshop in Vallejo May 8.

Took ICS-300 in June with the Pacific Strike team.

Received 24-hour HAZWOPER training June 26-28.

Participated in the July 19 Shell NPREP.

Attended Prevention First September 25-26.

Primary spill staff participated in:

Chevron Richmond worst-case exercise August 15-16.

LGOSC workshop in San Rafael August 21.

Chevron Avon worst-case exercise in San Ramon September 27.SF Fleet Week Emergency Exercise October 1.

BCDC Enforcement staff continues to participate in the USCG Abandoned Vessels working group as well as the Richardson's Bay Regional Authority and City of Sausalito efforts to improve navigational and open waterways.

NOAA

(report provided)

Mr. Jordan Stout

- **Some lessons from the 2017 Hurricane season** – NOAA's Emergency Response Division was heavily deployed during the 2017 Hurricane Season, staffing command posts in TX, FL, Puerto Rico and the USVI in support of USCG's ESF-10 (oil & hazmat) operations. Many disaster-related response lessons were learned including the value of abandoned/derelict vessel regulations, management of electronic field data (QA/QC, cross-platform connectivity/integration, visualizations), and coastal habitat protection guidance for the removal of 1,566 sunk, capsized, grounded, or displaced vessels. The evolving learning curve across multiple hurricanes in the same season underscored the value of disaster planning.
- **NOAA Spill Science Following Deepwater Horizon (DWH)**
 - Remote sensing – Multi-level field tests at the Ohmsett test tank (NJ) and a chronic leak site off the Louisiana coast have improved the use of remote sensing tools to detect, characterize and estimate volumes of surface oils in open water environments. Simultaneous field data collection by satellite, aircraft-mounted sensors, Un-manned Aerial Systems (UASs), and in-situ oil thickness measurements have helped validate sensor packages and improved classification algorithms to distinguish oil sheens from thicker and emulsified oils. Updated classification (TCNNA – Texture Classifying Neural Network Analysis) algorithms have already been incorporated into NOAA satellite spill reporting process (see below for more on NESDIS).
 - Endangered Species Research special issue on DWH – Volume 33 of Endangered Species Research (2017) includes 22 scientific articles summarizing 5 years of interdisciplinary studies of DWH impacts on marine mammals & sea turtles. Over 200 authors including NOAA and partner researchers. Available for OpenAccess download at: <https://www.int-res.com/abstracts/esr/v33/>
 - Dolphin inhalation study – One of the key routes of DWH oil exposure to dolphins was through inhalation of VOCs, aerosols and droplets. Dolphins are particularly susceptible to inhalation effects due to their large lungs, deep breaths, and extended breath-hold times so NOAA Fisheries is working with the National Aquarium (Baltimore) to better assess aerosol and droplet inhalation pathways in dolphins.
- **NOAA satellite spill reports now public** – In March 2018, NOAA NESDIS' (National Environmental Satellite Data & Information Service's) Marine Pollution Surveillance Reports (MPSRs) became publicly-available at: <https://www.ospo.noaa.gov/Products/ocean/marinepollution/>. These reports, formerly "for government use only", indicate areas of "possible oil" identified by NESDIS analysts using a variety of constantly streaming environmental satellite data.
- **Voluntary SCAT data standard published** – In May 2018, NOAA published a voluntary standard for digital data describing oiled shorelines using SCAT (Shoreline Cleanup Assessment Technique). With the ever-increasing use of digital data during incident responses, this voluntary standard provides a common point of reference for the development of electronic field data collection tools, databases and information products for SCAT activities.
- **Interagency Agreement (USCG & NOAA) for use of ERMA as COP** – In September 2018, an interagency agreement (IAA) was signed by USCG & NOAA at the headquarters-level providing a framework for USCG's use of ERMA as the Common Operating Picture for spills, exercises, and planning. In development since DWH, this IAA:
 - Clarifies ERMA as part of NOAA's Scientific Support role coordinated through SSCs
 - Addresses the importance of data sharing
 - Provides a mechanism for future USCG-funded ERMA projects

- Supports nationally-consistent approaches/visualizations for USCG activities, including tracking Abandoned & Derelict Vessels (ADVs), Geographic Response Strategies (GRSs), training and exercises
- **LRAUV field demo off Moss Landing** – Researchers at the Monterey Bay Aquarium Research Institute (MBARI), Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution (WHOI), and University of Alaska’s Arctic Domain Awareness Center (ADAC) developed a small Long-Range Autonomous Underwater Vehicle system (Tethys AUV), which was demonstrated in an open-water field test on 27-SEP-2018 in Monterey Bay. It is described as “a helicopter-portable system that functions as a rapid response solution to incidents occurring in the maritime environment, and aims to increase the situational awareness of first responders.” The goal of this five-year project is to provide an autonomous underwater capability to survey oil spills at long range, at high latitudes, and under ice. The field test involved sensing and mapping sea dye, simulating an oil spill in open water.
- **CRRC Science/Academic Leveraging Workshop** – In early January 2019, UNH’s Coastal Response Research Center (CRRC) will host a workshop on “Leveraging Science and Academic Engagement During Incidents” on January 8-9 in Tiburon, CA. Yvonne Addassi is a member of the Organizing Committee. Workshop goals include:
 - Develop best practices for advancing NOAA ORR (Office of Response & Restoration) interactions with the academic community during response, enabled by relationships built during the preparedness phase
 - Build relationships and foster understanding of the roles and responsibilities of the oil spill response/assessment scientific community and the academic community, including an understanding of each other’s strengths and limitations
 - Develop mechanisms that facilitate access for academic research during oil spills
 - Develop implementation recommendations and metrics for evaluating success
- **Upcoming SeaGrant spill workshop in CA** – The National Sea Grant College Program (aka “SeaGrant”), a Federal-University partnership program, is planning a series of five workshops around the country focusing on the "Health, social, and economic disruption related to oil spills" (<http://masgc.org/oilscience/NAS-project-flyer.pdf>). These workshops, held in coordination with the National Academy of Sciences’ Gulf Research Program (GRP) and the Gulf of Mexico Research Initiative (GOMRI), will aim to listen to those directly affected by spills, identify regional priorities for improving preparedness, promote networking, identify resources, and address gaps related to spill-relevant public health topics. Each workshop will result in a summary report, laying the foundation for potential follow-up activities to improve public health response and regulatory frameworks.

U.S. Coast Guard
(report provided)

Mr. Timothy Holmes

Meetings, Plans & Coordination:

- RRT9, November 6-8, 2018. This meeting will serve as an RCP workshop (11/7-8), preceded by an ExecSec meeting on 11/6. Location TBD. January RRT Meeting, January 9-10, 2019 in Long Beach.
- ESA7: CG & EPA received concurrence on the Biological Assessment on the CA Dispersant Use Plan from USFWS and NMFS.
- Draft RRT9 Dispersant Use Plan for CA: Draft is being briefed to CG FOSCs, Area Committees, NMSs, TAC, and EPA9 & CGD11.
- CA Area Committees: SFBD – 9/18 Sausalito CA; LA North & South – 10/9 Santa Barbara, CA; SD County – 10-11 Carlsbad, CA; CC – 10/25 Moss Landing, CA; NC 11/15 Eureka, CA.
- MEXUSPAC: D11 & SEMAR Region 2 signed the 2018 MEXUSPAC Annex in Ensenada, NX on March 23, 2018. 2019 MEXUSPAC Mtg & TTX scheduled for February 20-21, 2019 at SEMAR R2 in Ensenada, MX.
- OWCN continues efforts to move SEMAR & Baja Norte forward with their development of an oiled wildlife response plan.
- HQ/NRT:
 - CG & NOAA Interagency Agreement (IAA) standardizes use of ERMA as the Common Operation

Picture for USCG-let training, exercises, and response to discharges of oil and releases of hazardous substances, pollutants, and contaminants. It also establishes a formal framework for policy decision and use of ERMA to support USCG activities.

PREP Guidelines 2016.1: The Federal Register Notice of Availability is being finalized with anticipated release date OOA 30 September 2018.

NRT Abandoned Vessel Guidance Workgroup Meeting held 9/26.

Clean Gulf – November 13-15, 2018.

Response Activities (IMD)

July 12, 2018: SEC SD received notification from San Diego Harbor Police of flooding at the General Dynamics NASSCO facility in the vicinity of 32nd Street Naval Base, San Diego.

Readiness:

GIUEs: FY18 = 81% compliance Coast Guard-wide. 10% compliance in D11.

Training:

DRAT completed multiple Boom Training evolutions using CA OSPR Boom Trailers for County Park Rangers, Fire Departments, Marine patrols and the Yurok Tribe.

August 2018: DRAT and NOAA provided spill response management training for over 40 CG and OSPR Responders at Sectors SD & LA/LB.

Late November 2018: DRAT to provide annual CGC ASPEN Spilled Oil Recovery System (SORS) training south of Bay Bridge.

5. 2017/2018 TAC BIENNIAL REPORT TO GOVERNOR AND LEGISLATURE

*Mr. John Berge
TAC Vice Chair*

The Biennial Report is a report that is sent to the Governor and the Legislature every two year.

- Matt Rezvani and Janell Myhre will work on future issues
- John Berge and Tracy Van Houten will work on accomplishments
- Julie Yamamoto will liaise between both teams

6. MEETING DATES

Mr. John Berge, TAC Vice Chair

Next TAC meeting(s) – Thursday, January 17, 2019, in San Diego, CA.

ADJOURN

Meeting adjourned 3:45 p.m.