

Workgroup Meetings Announcement

Aleutians Potential Places of Refuge Aleutians East Zone B Geographic Response Strategies

Wednesday January 31

The Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation has funded a new project to develop additional information for the Aleutians Subarea Contingency Plan. Specifically, a Potential Places of Refuge (PPOR) section will be developed for the entire Subarea and a Geographic Response Strategy (GRS) section will be updated for the Aleutians East B Zone (Unimak Pass, Akutan Island, Unalaska Island, and Umnak Island). A Workgroup will oversee this work. The workgroup will consist of interested parties, including: local and tribal governments, resource management agencies, response agencies, response organizations, marine pilots, professional mariners, and others. Nuka Research and Planning Group, LLC. (Nuka Research) has been contracted to facilitate the workgroup process and to develop the documents.

An initial workgroup meeting is planned for Wednesday, January 31 2007 at the USFWS Service Center in Anchorage. Future meetings will be held in the community of Unalaska, but the first meeting is scheduled for Anchorage to accommodate as wide a group as possible.

This initial meeting will serve two purposes.

- 1) Review the past work done on the Aleutian Subarea GRS' (<http://www.dec.state.ak.us/spar/perp/grs/ai/home.htm>) and make arrangement to continue the development of these site-specific oil spill protections plans for the Aleutians East B Zone.
- 2) Initiate a Potential Place of Refuge (PPOR) project and identify PPOR sites across the entire Aleutians Subarea.

Previously, PPOR projects have taken place in the Prince William Sound and Kodiak Subareas. You may review the project web sites at: <http://www.dec.state.ak.us/spar/perp/pwspor/home.htm> and <http://www.dec.state.ak.us/spar/perp/kppor/index.htm> to gain an understanding of the PPOR process and documents.

The Aleutian GRS web site is being updated and a new Aleutian PPOR web site is being developed. These web sites will contain additional meeting information, agendas, meeting materials, and draft documents.

Please contact Mark Janes at mark@nukaresearch.com or (907) 299-3224 if:

- 1) You wish to be kept informed about this project and receive a link to the project web sites,
- 2) You wish to attend the meeting in Anchorage on January 31, or
- 3) You cannot attend the meeting and would like to reschedule the date.

Please pass this announcement on to others that you feel might be interested in this project.

Happy New Year
Mark Janes, Nuka Research