



ALASKA DEPT OF
ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION



U.S. COAST GUARD
SECTOR JUNEAU

LETTER OF PROMULGATION

The Southeast Subarea Contingency Plan is the guideline for establishing operations in the event of a major response effort to an oil spill or hazardous material release. This volume supplements the *Alaska Federal/State Preparedness Plan for Response to Oil and Hazardous Substance Discharges/Releases* (Unified Plan).

Information contained herein will be disseminated to agencies and personnel involved in various spill response and cleanup activities.

The Southeast Subarea Contingency Plan is the result of a joint planning effort. Members of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, U.S. Coast Guard, Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation, U.S. Department of Interior, and numerous other federal, State, local, Native and industry participants contributed to this document.

We solicit comments and recommendations to improve this plan. Please forward your comments to Mr. Dale Gardner (Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation, Prevention and Emergency Response Program; Dale.gardner@alaska.gov; 555 Cordova St, Anchorage, AK 99501), or Ms. Kathy Hamblett (U.S. Coast Guard, Sector Juneau; Kathy.A.Hamblett@uscg.mil; 709 West 9th Street, 223B, Juneau, AK 99801).

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SOUTHEAST SUBAREA CONTINGENCY PLAN

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NOTE: This plan is also available online at the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation, Prevention & Emergency Response website:

<http://dec.alaska.gov/spar/perp/seplan/>

UNIFIED PLAN and SUBAREA CONTINGENCY PLANS

Congress passed the Oil Pollution Act (OPA) of 1990 in the wake of the Exxon Valdez oil spill, which occurred in March of 1989. The law requires oil storage facilities and vessels to submit to the federal government spill prevention and response plans detailing how they will respond to product discharges and to take responsibility to clean up any spills that may occur. OPA streamlined and strengthened the U.S. Coast Guard (CG) and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) ability to prevent and respond to catastrophic oil spills. OPA amended the Clean Water Act and, in conjunction with the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980 (CERCLA), it mandates a "National Oil and Hazardous Substances Pollution Contingency Plan (NCP)" to provide the organizational structure and procedures for preparing for and responding to discharges of oil and releases of hazardous substances, pollutants, and contaminants. OPA called for the establishment of Regional Response Teams to oversee spill response planning and protocols and Regional Citizens Advisory Councils to monitor the oil shipping industry in Cook Inlet and Prince William Sound. Oil Pollution Act requires the CG and the EPA to prepare oil spill response plans for the State of Alaska, which is designated as an entire planning "region" under federal guidelines.

Alaska statute, also passed as a result of the Exxon Valdez oil spill, requires the Alaska Dept. of Environmental Conservation (ADEC) to prepare a state-wide master plan addressing oil and hazardous substance discharges. In late 1993, the State Emergency Response Commission and the federally-led Alaska Regional Response Team approved the concept of combining state and federal planning requirements and developing joint plans. The *Alaska Federal/State Preparedness Plan for Response to Oil and Hazardous Substance Discharges/Releases*, more commonly known as the Unified Plan, meets these federal (NCP and OPA) requirements for regional and area planning, as well as state planning requirements. The Unified Plan, along with the supplementary Subarea Contingency Plans, represents a coordinated and cooperative effort by government agencies and was written jointly by the CG, the EPA, and the ADEC.

Alaska statute divides the state into ten regions for oil and hazardous substance spill planning and preparedness. The CG and the EPA joined with the ADEC to use these ten regions for area planning instead of the federal planning divisions since this would facilitate unified planning for the State of Alaska and prove more practical, as well. Because the State of Alaska is called a planning "region" under federal planning guidelines and to avoid confusion with the other federal term, "area contingency plans," these ten subordinate planning regions of the state are called "subareas" in the context of the Unified Plan.

The Unified Plan contains information applicable to pollution response within the entire State of Alaska and meets the pollution response contingency planning requirements applicable to the federal and State governments. The plan provides broad policy guidance and describes the strategy for a coordinated federal, state and local response to a discharge, or substantial threat of discharge, of oil and/or a release of a hazardous substance within the boundaries of Alaska and its surrounding waters.

Under both federal and State law, the responsible party for an oil or hazardous substance incident is required to report the incident and mount a response effort to contain and cleanup the release. The federal and state governments mandate response plans for oil tank vessels and facilities that have stringent spill response requirements. If the responsible party fails to respond adequately or if no responsible party can be identified, then the federal and State governments will mount a response and will rely upon the Unified Plan and the appropriate Subarea Contingency Plan for response protocols and guidance.

Whereas the Unified Plan contains general information for response efforts taking place anywhere in the State of Alaska, the Subarea Contingency Plan (SCP) concentrates on issues and provisions specific to its particular subarea. The SCP provides information precise to the area, including emergency response phone numbers, available response equipment and other resources, specific response guidelines, and information on sensitive areas protection and hazardous substance presence.

Alaska State statute mandates a public review of all new plans, an annual ADEC review of these plans, and another public review whenever the plans are significantly revised. The federal government does not require public review for its plans, though the CG and the EPA, as part of the Alaska unified planning process, do cooperate with the State of Alaska and participate in the public review process.

The Unified Plan and the SCPs are presented to the Alaska State Emergency Response Commission and the Alaska Regional Response Team (ARRT) for review and comment. The Unified Plan approval process can be found in Annex D of the plan. For subarea contingency plans, the plan approval occurs with the signing of the plan's letter of promulgation by the three plan holders – the USCG, the USEPA and the State of Alaska.

Brief synopses of the Unified Plan and the Subarea Contingency Plans follow:

UNIFIED PLAN SYNOPSIS

Annex A provides the purpose and objectives; existing government contingency planning requirements; federal and State authorities; geographic planning and response boundaries; and the response systems and policies

Annex B explains the unified response organization and gives information on the Incident Command System, the federal and State roles during oversight of an incident or when the government leads the response; and emergency declarations and spills of national significance.

Annex C outlines the operational administration of federal and state laws and statutes, including permits required for oil spill responses.

Annex D gives plan review / update procedures and schedule and addresses drills and exercises.

Annex E offers a summary of area resources, including response equipment; tribal governments and Native organizations; environmental and volunteer groups; state term contracts; laboratories; communications; and waste management and disposal information.

Annex F presents chemical countermeasures, dispersants, and other spill mitigating substances, devices and technology. Specific guidelines for dispersant use and *in situ* burning are included.

Annex G contains the Wildlife Protection Guidelines for Alaska.

Annex H provides a standard site safety plan and training guidelines.

Annex I deals with public affairs and has general rules for community relations and media interaction, contacts and checklists.

Annex J addresses radiological response procedures.

Annex K contains the applicable Memoranda of Understanding/Agreement that have been entered into by federal, State, and local agencies.

Annex L addresses hazardous materials by providing an overview of chemical hazards, a chemical profile of Alaska, the extremely hazardous substances at facilities, the chemical risks, and the response capability within Alaska.

Annex M provides the historic properties protection guidelines for federal on-scene coordinators.

Annex N gives a listing of available shoreline cleanup and assessment guidelines.

Annex O presents the ARRT-approved Potential Places of Refuge Guidelines. Several of the SCPs that address coastal areas now include a Potential Places of Refuge Section.

Annex P offers guidelines for marine firefighting, salvage and lightering.

Annex V addresses state and federal policy on volunteers. Definitive guidelines may be developed in the future.

Annex Z provides definitions and a listing of the abbreviations and acronyms that appear in the plan.

Annexes Q, R, S, T, U, W, X & Y are reserved for future use.

The Unified Plan is available on the State of Alaska DEC website at:

<http://www.dec.state.ak.us/spar/perp/plan.htm>

SUBAREA PLAN SYNOPSIS

Response Section lists the essential and most immediate federal and state emergency contact numbers on the first page. Emergency contact numbers for other federal and state agencies, plus those for communities within the subarea, follow. Additionally, information on the spill response command structure, procedures and protocols is included.

Resources Section provides two-page profiles on each of the communities in the subarea; a listing of commercially and non-commercially available equipment; an information directory, offering contact numbers to a variety of resources and companies; and an explanation of logistical considerations, assets, and other supplemental logistics information.

Hazmat Section lists response protocols and the state and federal authorities, policies, responsibilities, and response capabilities. The section also provides a general risk assessment of hazardous substances found within the subarea.

Sensitive Areas Section gives profiles on the biological resources and human use resources that could be adversely affected by a spill. The section includes: graphs depicting the sensitivity of resources; priority ratings from “lesser” to “major” for areas of environmental concern; land management designations and maps; Most Environmentally Sensitive Areas maps; and areas of local concern. Attachments, such as those containing water intake/user lists or salmon escapement tables, may also be found in this section.

Background Section explains legal requirements and boundaries and provides a description of the plan, area of responsibility, the development process and players, and the physical attributes of the subarea, including maps and tidal current flow charts, when available. This section lists the state and federal response priorities, significant historical spills, and abbreviations contained in the plan, and includes the risk assessment maps (when applicable) developed for the places of refuge project.

Scenarios Section will usually offer, depending upon the subarea, scenarios for the worst case, maximum most probable case, and average most probable case for spills in coastal and inland habitats. These scenarios depict how a response to an incident might unfold. When appropriate, vessel and inland hazmat scenarios may also be presented.

Geographic Response Strategies (GRS) Section (*Note: not developed for all subareas*) provides site-specific spill response plans to protect priority sensitive areas identified for specific geographic locations within the subarea.

Potential Places of Refuge (PPOR) Section (*Note: not developed for all subareas*) identifies potential locations to a move a vessel needing assistance, where actions can be taken to stabilize and/or repair the vessel, in order to protect human life, reduce hazards to navigation, and/or protect natural resources and other uses of the area. In addition to the two-page PPOR documents, the risk maps used to assess and identify the PPOR locations may be available, as well, usually in the Background Section.

Marine Firefighting Plan (*Note: not developed for all subareas*) presents the marine firefighting guidelines as established, usually, by the local government(s) in conjunction with the US Coast Guard. This is a stand-alone plan that can appear in conjunction with the subarea plan.

All the subarea plans are available on the State of Alaska DEC website at

<http://www.dec.state.ak.us/spar/perp/plan.htm>

RECORD OF CHANGES

Change Number	Date of Change	Date Entered	Entered By (Signature, Title)
1	March 2006	March 2006	Subarea Committee Staff
2	April 2013	April 2013	Subarea Committee Staff

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National Response Center

1-800-424-8802

NRC Background

Reporting a Spill

Legislative Requirements

Chemical/Biological Hazards

Contacting The NRC

National Response System

Report Spills to the NRC at:

800-424-8802

The National Response Center is the SOLE national point of contact for reporting Oil, Chemical, Radiological and Biological discharges.

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REPORT ALL

OIL AND HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCE SPILLS

ALASKA LAW REQUIRES REPORTING OF ALL SPILLS

During normal business hours

contact the nearest DEC Area Response Team office:

Central Area Response Team: Anchorage

**269-3063
fax: 269-7648**

Northern Area Response Team: Fairbanks

**451-2121
fax: 451-2362**

Southeast Area Response Team: Juneau

**465-5340
fax: 465-2237**

Outside normal business hours, call: 1-800-478-9300



Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation
Division of Spill Prevention and Response

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Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation

Discharge Notification and Reporting Requirements

AS 46.03.755 and 18 AAC 75.300-.307

Notification of a discharge must be made to the nearest Area Response Team during working hours:

Anchorage: 269-3063 269-7648 (FAX)	Fairbanks: 451-2121 451-2362 (FAX)	Juneau: 465-5340 465-2237 (FAX)
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OR

to the 24-Hour Emergency Reporting Number during non-working hours: 1-800-478-9300

Notification Requirements

Hazardous Substance Discharges

Any release of a hazardous substance must be reported as soon as the person has knowledge of the discharge.

Oil Discharges

■ TO WATER

- Any release of oil to water must be reported as soon as the person has knowledge of the discharge.

■ TO LAND

- Any release of oil in excess of 55 gallons must be reported as soon as the person has knowledge of the discharge.
- Any release of oil in excess of 10 gallons but less than 55 gallons must be reported within 48 hours after the person has knowledge of the discharge.
- A person in charge of a facility or operation shall maintain, and provide to the Department on a monthly basis, a written record of any discharges any discharge of oil from 1 to 10 gallons.

■ TO IMPERMEABLE SECONDARY CONTAINMENT AREAS

- Any release of oil in excess of 55 gallons must be reported within 48 hours after the person has knowledge of the discharge.

Special Requirements for Regulated Underground Storage Tank (UST) Facilities*

If your release detection system indicates a possible discharge, or if you notice unusual operating conditions that might indicate a release, you must notify the Storage Tank Program at the nearest DEC Office within 7 days:

Anchorage: (907) 269-7504	Fairbanks: (907) 451-2360
Juneau: (907) 465-5200	Soldotna: (907) 262-5210

*Regulated UST facilities are defined at 18 AAC 78.005 and do not include heating oil tanks.

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