



GEOGRAPHIC RESPONSE STRATEGIES (GRS)



POTENTIAL PLACES OF REFUGE (PPOR)

Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation

Potential Places of Refuge in Alaska





Place of Refuge

A temporary location to stabilize a vessel, protect life, remove hazards, protect public health and resources.





Background:

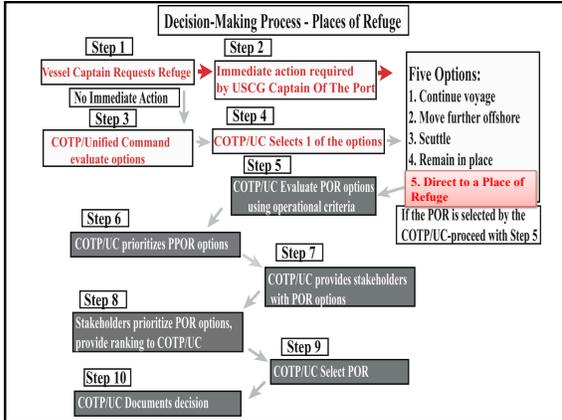
After the T/V Castrol incident & the sinking of the Erika and Prestige, in 2003 the International Maritime Organization adopted resolutions regarding Places of Refuge guidelines.

In 2004 the Alaska Regional Response Team developed guidelines for the PPOR decision making process in Alaska.



Decision Making Process Established by the ARRT

- Establishes a standardized and predictable process to evaluate risks of a ship in distress
- Uses existing Incident Command System to make decisions
- Provides checklists to evaluate risks
- USCG Captain of the Port for Western Alaska has ultimate authority to make the PPOR decision.

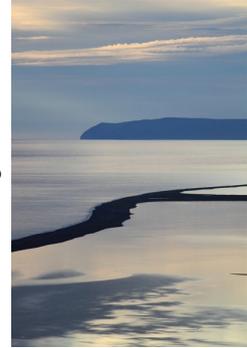
WHAT ARE GRS ?

Geographic Response Strategies are pre-planned response strategies that protect sensitive, geographically limited areas in the event of an oil spill.



PRIMARY GUIDING PRINCIPLES

- Create site-specific responder-oriented strategies and tactics to protect sensitive areas.
- Strategies should be flexible and modifiable to fit prevailing conditions.
- GRS are not a legal requirement.

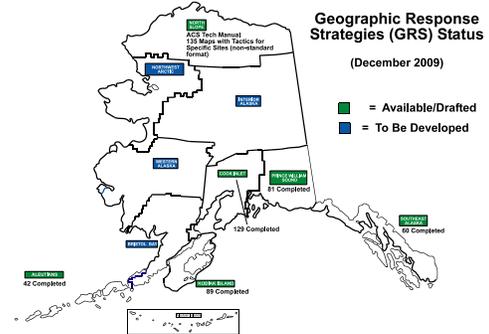


PRIMARY GUIDING PRINCIPLES

- Identify resources at risk and set priorities for their protection.
- Provide lists of equipment and personnel needs, logistical information, and field instructions.
- Make practical to implement, test & update.



Nearly 400 GRS have been developed for the State of Alaska



1ST STEP: ASSEMBLE A WORKGROUP

Workgroup assembled of people with the skills, background and expertise to develop the various components of the GRS.

Representatives are sought from:

- Industry
- Spill Response Cooperatives
- Federal and State Resource Agencies
- Local Towns, Villages and Tribal Groups

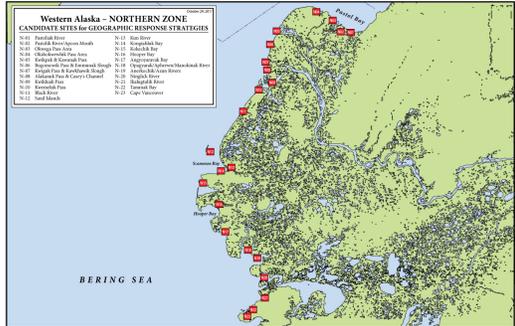
2nd STEP: SITE SELECTION PROCESS

- Preliminary Site Selection by Natural Resource Agencies and the Workgroup
- Additional Public Input
 - Fact Sheet, Maps
 - Outreach to interested groups and tribal organizations
- Final Site Selection approved by the Workgroup

CRITERIA FOR SITE SELECTION

- 
Environmental Sensitivity
- 
Risk of an Oil Spill
- 
Ability to Protect the Site

DRAFT SITE SELECTION



3rd STEP: TACTICS GROUP

- Design general protection and recovery tactics
- Gather information on the selected sites:
 - Maps and Charts
 - Photos
 - Sensitive resources
 - Local Knowledge
- Adapt tactics specifically to each site
- Design the plans

GATHERING SITE INFORMATION

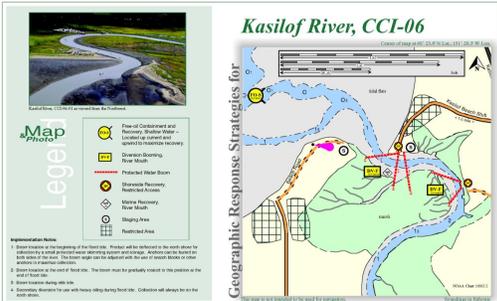


Information is collected on the prevailing winds, currents and other local conditions which could impact the response.



Site characteristics and dimensions, wildlife info and other notable features in the area are sought out.

GRS Front Page



Legend

- Free Oil Containment and Recovery, Shallow Water - Available for immediate recovery
- Protected Water Boom
- Shoreside Recovery, Restricted Access
- Staging Area
- Restricted Area

Geographic Response Strategies for Kasilof River, CCI-06

1. Show location in context of the field site. Product will be defined in the next slide for recovery by wind protection and recovery by boom and skimmer. Recovery by boom and skimmer will be defined in the next slide. The boom size can be adjusted with the size of spill booms or other recovery equipment.

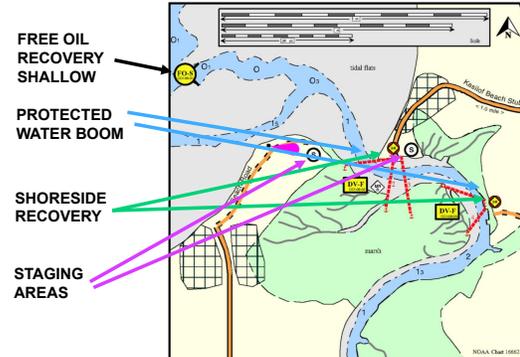
2. Show location in context of the field site. The boom must be positioned in the water to protect the shore.

3. Show location in context of the field site. The boom must be positioned in the water to protect the shore.

4. Show location in context of the field site. The boom must be positioned in the water to protect the shore.

December 2011
Tom L. Robertson

Sample GRS tactics map



FREE OIL RECOVERY SHALLOW

PROTECTED WATER BOOM

SHORESIDE RECOVERY

STAGING AREAS

NOAA Chart 16652

GRS Back Page

Click Here to go to the Response Strategy

December 2009

ID	Location and Description	Response Strategy	Implementation	Response Equipment	Staging Area	Site Access	Resources Protected	Special Issues
123456	Location 1	Strategy 1	Implementation 1	Equipment 1	Staging Area 1	Site Access 1	Resources Protected 1	Special Issues 1
123457	Location 2	Strategy 2	Implementation 2	Equipment 2	Staging Area 2	Site Access 2	Resources Protected 2	Special Issues 2

LOCATION & DESCRIPTION IMPLEMENTATION STAGING AREA SPECIAL ISSUES

RESPONSE STRATEGY RESPONSE EQUIPMENT SITE ACCESS RESOURCES PROTECTED

PUBLIC PROCESS

All documents generated by the workgroup are available for review online.



PREVENTION



GRS' are planned in advanced and are a tool in the spill response toolbox.

But the best plan is preventing or reducing the risk of a spill.

More Information at the Project Websites:

GRS webpage:
<http://www.dec.state.ak.us/spar/perp/grs/wa/home.htm>

PPOR webpage:
<http://www.dec.state.ak.us/spar/perp/wabbppor/index.htm>

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Mark@nukaresearch.com
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Questions/Discussion-




Pre-planning for this

Helps prevent this