LETTER OF PROMULGATION

The Prince William Sound 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 response and cleanup activities.

The Prince William Sound 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, Alaska Department of Fish and Game, U.S. Department of the Interior, and numerous other federal, state, local, tribal, stakeholder and industry participants contributed to this document.

We solicit comments and recommendations to improve this plan. Please forward your comments to LT. Todd Bagetis (U.S. Coast Guard, Marine Safety Unit Valdez, P.O. Box 486, Valdez, AK 99686), or Mr. Nicholas Knowles (U.S. EPA, Alaska Operations Office, 222 W 7th Avenue, Anchorage, AK 99501).

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Region X (Alaska Operations Office)

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Commander, USCG
Federal On-Scene Coordinator
Captain of the Port, Prince William Sound

Steven Russell
State On-Scene Coordinator, ADEC
Central Alaska Response Team
# PRINCE WILLIAM SOUND SUBAREA CONTINGENCY PLAN

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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 (USCG) 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 industry. Oil Pollution Act requires the USCG 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 Department 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 (ARRT) 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 USCG, the EPA, and the ADEC.

Alaska statute divides the state into ten regions for oil and hazardous substance spill planning and preparedness. The USCG 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 (SCP) for response.
protocols and guidance.

Whereas the Unified Plan contains general information for response efforts taking place anywhere in the State of Alaska, SCP concentrates on issues and provisions specific to its particular subarea. SCP provides information precise to the area, including emergency response contact information, 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 USCG 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 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 – USCG, EPA 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’s 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 O Presents the ARRT-approved Potential Places of Refuge Guidelines (PPOR). 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 ADEC website at: www.dec.alaska.gov/spar/perp/plan.htm
SUBAREA PLAN SYNOPISIS

**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.

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

**Potential Places of Refuge Section** identifies potential locations to 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. (Note: not developed for all subareas)

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

All subarea plans are available on the State of Alaska ADEC website at: www.dec.alaska.gov/spar/perp/plan.htm
## RECORD OF CHANGES

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<td>3</td>
<td>October 2014</td>
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<td>Prince William Sound Subarea Committee</td>
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Report Spills to the NRC at:
1-800-424-8802
or Via the NRC Online Reporting Tool at
http://www.nrc.uscg.mil/nrchp.html

The National Response Center is the SOLE national point of
contact for reporting Oil, Chemical, Radiological, Biological,
and Etiological discharges into the environment anywhere
in the United States and its territories.
IT'S THE LAW!
AS 46.03.755 and 18 AAC 75.300

REPORT
OIL AND HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCE SPILLS

During Normal Business Hours
call the nearest response team office:

- Central Alaska: Anchorage
  (907) 269-3063
  Fax: (907) 269-7648

- Northern Alaska: Fairbanks
  (907) 451-2121
  Fax: (907) 451-2362

- Southeast Alaska: Juneau
  (907) 465-5340
  Fax: (907) 465-2237

Outside Normal Business Hours

Toll Free 1-800-478-9300
International 1-907-428-7200

Hazardous Substance
Any hazardous substance spill, other than oil, must be reported immediately.

Oil – Petroleum Products

To Water
- Any amount spilled to water must be reported immediately.

To Land
- Spills in excess of 55 gallons must be reported immediately.
- Spills in excess of 10 gallons, but 55 gallons or less, must be reported within 48 hours after the person has knowledge of the spill.
- Spills of 1 to 10 gallon must be recorded in a spill reporting log submitted to ADEC each month.

To Impermeable Secondary Containment Areas
- Any spills in excess of 55 gallons must be reported within 48 hours.

Additional Requirements for Regulated Underground Storage Tank Facilities
Regulated Underground Storage Tank (UST) facilities are defined at 18 AAC 78.005 and do not include heating oil tanks.

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 ADEC UST Program within 7 days.

UST Program: (907) 269-0055 or 269-7679

rev. Feb/2013
USCG NATIONAL STRIKE FORCE

The National Strike Force (NSF) was created in 1973 as a Coast Guard “Special Team” under the National Oil and Hazardous Substances Pollution Control Plan (National Contingency Plan), designed to support the Coast Guard, Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), and Department of Defense (DoD) pre-designated Federal On-Scene Coordinators (FOSCs) in their preparedness and response duties including responding to potential and actual oil and hazardous material spills and weapons of mass destruction incidents as directed by the National Contingency Plan (NCP). The NSF is composed of four units: the National Strike Force Coordination Center (Elizabeth City, NC), the Atlantic Strike Team (Fort Dix, NJ), the Gulf Strike Team (Mobile, AL), and the Pacific Strike Team (Novato, CA). The USCG National Strike Force Coordination Center (NSFCC) coordinates the three Coast Guard Strike Teams and the Public Information Assist Team (PIAT). The NSFCC also carries out several national preparedness missions directly supporting FOSCs. Each FOSC has a specific Strike Team designated for initial contact and may contact that team directly for any assistance. A FOSC may directly request PIAT assistance by contacting the NSFCC or any Strike Team.

The National Strike Force is one of the deployable specialized forces (DSF) managed by the Deployable Operations Group (DOG). However, unlike the other DSFs requiring a request for forces, a Federal On-Scene Coordinators can request NSF assistance directly by contacting their servicing Strike Team or contacting the NSFCC.

Contact Numbers

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<tr>
<th>Service</th>
<th>Phone</th>
<th>Fax</th>
<th>Email</th>
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<tr>
<td>National Strike Force</td>
<td>(252) 331-6000</td>
<td>(252) 267-3458 CDO</td>
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<tr>
<td>Coordination Center</td>
<td>(252) 331-6012</td>
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<tr>
<td>1461 North Road St.</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Elizabeth City, NC 27909</td>
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<tr>
<td>Atlantic Strike Team</td>
<td>(609) 724-0008</td>
<td>(609) 724-0232 FAX</td>
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<tr>
<td>5614 Doughboy Loop</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fort Dix, NJ 08640-0068</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gulf Strike Team</td>
<td>(251) 441-6601</td>
<td>(251) 441-6610 FAX</td>
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<tr>
<td>8501 Tanner Williams Rd.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mobile, AL 36608-9690</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pacific Strike Team</td>
<td>(415) 883-3311</td>
<td>(415) 883-7814 FAX</td>
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<td>Novato, CA 94949-5082</td>
<td>(415) 559-9405 OOD</td>
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To request National Strike Force assistance, contact your servicing Strike Team at the number listed above; or the NSFCC at 252-331-6000 (after hours through the CDO at 252-267-3458); or the National Response Center at 800-424-8802.

NSF website:  http://www.uscg.mil/hq/nsfweb
DOG website:  http://www.uscg.mil/pacarea/dog/
### NSF STRIKE TEAM AREAS OF RESPONSIBILITY

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STRIKE TEAM AREAS OF RESPONSIBILITY

NATIONAL STRIKE FORCE CAPABILITIES

- Respond with trained personnel and specialized equipment to prevent, contain and/or remove spills of oil and releases of hazardous material;
- Provide spill management expertise;
- Provide guidance for preplanning and response to weapons of mass destruction incidents;
- Assist with response planning and consultation;
- Conduct operational training in oil and chemical spill response techniques and equipment usage;
- Participate with the response, coordination, control and evaluation of National Preparedness for Response Exercise Program (PREP) training and exercises;
- Technical assistance, equipment and personnel to augment the FOSC staff during incident response;
- Identify, locate, and assist in the transportation of specialized equipment needed for any type of response;
- Provide support from the Public Information Assist Team (PIAT) to FOSCs during incident responses or exercise training;
- Assist in coordinating the use of private and public resources in support of the FOSC during a response to or a threat of a worst case incident;
- Review Area Contingency Plans (ACP), including evaluation of equipment readiness and coordination among responsible public agencies and private organizations;
- Assist in location of spill response resources for both response and planning, using the DOG NSFFC's national and international computerized inventory of spill response resources in the Response Resource Inventory (RRI) data base which includes the OSRO/PAV programs;
- Inspection of district pre-positioned pollution response equipment.

REQUESTING STRIKE TEAM ASSISTANCE

- Requesting assistance from any one Strike Team, an FOSC immediately gains access to the entire NSF personnel roster and equipment inventory.
- FOSCs are encouraged to contact the NSF when:
  - Control of the discharge requires the special knowledge or special equipment of the NSF;
  - Response will require in excess of two days to complete removal operations and augmentation by NSF personnel will release local forces to return to normal operations;
  - Responsible Party (RP) has not or will not assume control immediately of the incident and the FOSC needs an immediate response to protect the environment and or the public;
  - In the judgment of the FOSC, NSF capabilities are necessary;
  - Technical assistance, equipment and other resources to augment the FOSC staff during incident response or exercise training;
  - Deployment of the district prepositioned pollution equipment (VOSS) or USCG SORS equipped vessel response is needed.

STRIKE TEAM DEPLOYMENT

Upon receiving a request, personnel and equipment will be deployed to the scene in the most expeditious manner possible. Each team maintains a state of readiness which enables them to rapidly mobilize personnel and response equipment. Strike Team response equipment is palletized, loaded, and ready for immediate deployment by truck or aircraft.

Each Strike Team is capable of dispatching responders by the fastest means possible adhering to the NSF’s minimum response time criteria as the circumstances of the incident dictate:

- Mobilizing four members within 2 hours of notification
- Mobilizing eight members within 6 hours of notification
- Mobilizing heavy equipment loads within 6 hours of notification
- Additional Strike Team personnel and equipment can be mobilized within 24 hours of notification

STRIKE TEAM FUNDING

For responses, Strike Team personnel require travel orders or travel accounting information prior to deployment. Funding typically comes from the pollution response fund (FPN, CPN, DPN). If no pollution response fund has been accessed, the requesting unit must provide funding.

Requests for training and exercise support that are associated with PREP are generally funded through the Deployable Operations Group (exercises included in the MTEP process); however, under some circumstances, the requesting unit may be required to provide funding.

Non-PREP training and exercise support requests originating from a Federal agency, including the Coast Guard, shall be funded by the requesting agency or unit. Under most circumstances, State, County, and
Municipal level-agencies will not be expected to provide funding.

**TRANSPORTATION**

Mobilization of Strike Team equipment may involve over-the-road transport: all three Strike Teams have tractor-trailer rigs that give them rapid deployment capabilities.

Aviation support is often needed during an emergency response to rapidly transport Strike Team equipment and/or personnel to the incident. When a Strike Team is requested by a FOSC/Sector Commander for assistance, the need/requirements for aviation support should be discussed. Requests for aviation support are the responsibility of the FOSC/Sector Commander. If aviation support is needed for an emergency response, the Sector should request the appropriate aviation support to Area through the District. The Strike Team can engage directly with the applicable Sector/Air Station to coordinate the aviation support requirements while the request is being processed through the District and Area.

*NOTE: Since response support is time critical, early notification of Strike Team assistance (or potential assistance) will allow the teams to begin logistics planning even before a formal request is made.*

**LOGISTIC CONSIDERATIONS**

- Strike Teams make every effort to be logistically independent; however, assistance may be required from the FOSC in arranging the following support:
- Heavy lifting equipment, such as cranes and forklifts capable of handling a 16,000 lb. containment barrier box;
- Fork extensions for forklift;
- Small boats, vessels of opportunity;
- Tractor-Trailer rigs;
- Electrical power, land lines for telephones and computers,
- Local logistics @staging areas, docks, boat ramps, weather conditions, etc.
- Potable water supply and fuel supply for command posts.

Specific logistic needs will be clarified during the initial request for assistance; these needs vary, dependent upon the incident and location. Strike Teams attempt to minimize the effort by the FOSC's staff required to arrange support. However, the local knowledge of the FOSC's staff may be relied upon by the Strike Teams to make reasonable decisions regarding logistics.

**PUBLIC INFORMATION ASSIST TEAM (PIAT)**

The Public Information Assist Team (PIAT) is an element of the National Strike Force, co-located with the National Strike Force Coordination Center and is available to Federal On-Scene Coordinators. Four highly trained crisis communications professionals staff the team. The PIAT’s primary function is to provide the gamut of emergency public information services during oil spills and hazardous material releases – the team also provides these services for natural disasters, domestic terrorism events and weapons of mass destruction events. Team members routinely act as the Public Information Officer for Coast Guard and Environmental Protection Agency officials responsible for mitigating oil and hazardous material incidents.

Team personnel also teach risk communication and media relations techniques, as well as ICS-based
Joint Information Center organization and Public Information Officer operations to response community personnel from the Coast Guard, other federal agencies, state and local agencies and industry. Additionally, the PIAT assists in the scenario development of Coast Guard pollution response exercises and participates as evaluators or controllers during federal- and industry-led exercises.

To request the Public Information Assist Team, contact the NSFCC at 252-331-6000, or after hours through the CDO at 252-267-3458, or the NRC at 800-424-8802.


**PIAT DEPLOYMENT**

Upon receiving a request, PIAT’s goal is to deploy two (2) personnel and one (1) response kit within six hours of notification, and an additional two (2) personnel within 24 hours, if necessary. All NSF members, including PIAT, deploy for a maximum of 21 days at a time.

**PIAT FUNDING**

For responses, PIAT requires travel orders or travel accounting information prior to deployment. Funding typically comes from the pollution response fund. If no pollution response fund has been accessed, funding will come from the requesting unit.

Requests for training and exercise support that are associated with PREP are generally funded through the Deployable Operations Group; however, under some circumstances, the requesting unit may be required to provide funding.

Non-PREP training and exercise support requests originating from a Federal agency, including the Coast Guard, shall be funded by the requesting agency or unit. Under most circumstances, State, County, and Municipal level-agencies will not be expected to provide funding.