



Prince William Sound Area Committee Meeting
Meeting Minutes
April 18th, 2023
08:30-11:30
Cordova Center



Introductions:

- In person
- Virtual

Opening Remarks:

- Reminder of role/responsibilities of an Area Committee.
- Warm welcomes from Deputy Federal On-Scene Coordinator, LCDR Bryson Jacobs, and State On-Scene Coordinator, Ms. Anna Carey.
- Summary of notable marine environmental response cases
- Upcoming transfer season for Coast Guard personnel. Departures including the current Federal On-Scene Coordinator, CDR Pat Drayer, MSU Valdez' Response Department Head, LT Ben McIntyre-Coble, and the Emergency Management/Force Readiness Officer for Sector Anchorage, LCDR Matt Richards. The new Federal On-Scene Coordinator will be CDR Sarah Rousseau. CDR Rousseau is arriving in Valdez from the Coast Guard Headquarters Office of Emerging Policy in late June.
- Update from Ms. Victoria Colles on Area Committee Initiatives.

Presentation from Mr. Adam Saaid, ADEC Environmental Crimes Unit

- Clarified roles/responsibilities of the ADEC Environmental Crimes Unit.
- Discussed potential reasons for environmental law enforcement actions.
- Provided contact information and website to report suspected violations.

Presentation from LCDR Matt Richards, Executive Secretary of Arctic/Western Alaska Area Committee

- Discussed validity/reliability of current GRS products.
- Provided update on new GRS initiatives, including the use of a new mobile platform for end users to view and update GRS data.
- Described how new GRS data could be validated by emerging GRS Sub-Committee.
- Provided demonstration on new uses for UAS platforms to survey remote locations.

Presentation from Mr. Brian Kovol, Midnight Sun Environmental

- Provided broad overview of the Shepard Point Marine Tribal Transportation Oil Spill and Marine Casualty Response Facility.
- Stressed that the project's sponsors, the Native Village of Eyak, are the traditional stewards of Prince William Sound and that the projects goals are in keeping with these responsibilities.
- Discussed upcoming project milestones, including initiating construction on the road/bridges that will link Cordova with the proposed facility.

- Provided mock-up of what the facility will include, namely all-purpose docks and storage areas.
- Discussed how Alaska Chadux Network and other response entities could use the facility.

Public Comment Period

- No public comments provided.

Closing Remarks by Deputy FOOSC/SOSC

Other Business Not Covered

- In April of 2020, the Maritime Oil-Spill Response Plan Advisory Group (MORPAG) was established to review the Coast Guard's implementation of the Vessel Response Plan (VRP) program. The MORPAG has concluded its analysis of the VRP and recommended several improvements. The Coast Guard is now soliciting for public comment on the MORPAG's recommendations. Please refer to the following website to review the MORPAG's findings and provide your inputs to policy makers:

[Federal Register :: Request for Information on Coast Guard Vessel Response Plan and Maritime Oil-Spill Response Plan Advisory Group \(MORPAG\) Recommendations](#)

- The tentative date for the next Area Committee meeting will be Thursday, October 5th in Valdez. This date will coincide with October 4th Valdez Marine Terminal full scale exercise.