

**DRAFT MEETING SUMMARY
KODIAK ZONE GRS WORKGROUP**

March 15, 2005

**Kodiak Fisheries Research Center
Kodiak, Alaska**

Attendees:

Joe Banta – PWSRCAC
Wayne Biessel – DNR/State Parks
Terry Bryant (tel.) – CIRCAC
Duane Dvorak – KIB
Linda Freed – City of Kodiak
Dale Gardner – ADEC
Kathleen George – Nuka Research
Steve Howell (tel.) – CIRCAC
Mary Jacobs – CIRCAC
John Kwietniak – Tesoro Alaska

Dave Lawrence (tel.) – APSC/SERVS
Robert Lindsay – CIRCAC
Jeff Lewis – USFWS
Dave McMahan – ADNR
Mike Munger (tel.) – CIRCAC
Tim Robertson – Nuka Research
Bill Schuster (tel.) – USFS
Gareth Van Hatten – USFWS
Danielle Wiley – USCG-MSD Kodiak
Pam Yngue – Public

Dale Gardner, ADEC, opened the meeting and facilitated introductions.

Tim Robertson, Nuka Research and Planning Group, reviewed and revised the agenda for the day. He then gave an overview presentation about geographic response strategies (GRS) in Alaska and the process for developing GRS, explaining that this is the second phase of GRS development for the Kodiak Subarea. Funding for the project is being provided by the following partners: ADEC, CIRCAC, PWSRCAC, and Tesoro Alaska.

Steve Howell, CIRCAC, explained the public outreach process for the project. Suggestions were given to hold a GRS informational presentation at the next LEPC meeting as well as to the Borough Assembly. The deadline for public comment on the sites to be selected for GRS was established as May 2, 2005.

John Kwietniak of Tesoro Alaska led a discussion of the oil spill risks in the Kodiak Subarea. Tesoro tanker traffic transits the Kodiak coastline, with the Shelikoff Straights being out of bounds for any and all of their traffic. In addition, 95% of Tesoro tankers are double-hulled. Other tank barges, cruise ships and freighter ships follow similar routes. Additional risks include log carriers, large container ships, fishing vessels and processors, Coast Guard cutters and the state ferry. Staging areas and bulk oil facilities were included as land based risks on the coastline.

Dave McMahan, ADNR, gave a presentation on the protection of cultural resources and the process in place to do so. There are over 1,700 known archaeological/cultural sites in the Kodiak Subarea and more are continuing to be discovered. For instance, during the Exxon Valdez oil spill, there were 400 to 500 new sites reported.

Tim Robertson approached the group with the suggestion by DEC of doing the Potential Places of Refuge (PPOR) process along with the GRS site selection. It was decided that both processes would take place concurrently. Tim will go back to the funding group for additional assistance in order to do both projects at the same time. The Coast Guard will pass on information already gathered from the marine firefighting study. An email will go out to the main workgroup asking for participants for both a Tactics Sub-group and PPOR Sub-group signup along with a suggestion for a teleconference meeting date.

The following members volunteered for the Potential Places of Refuge Committee:

Mary Jacobs	USFWS/Kodiak Refuge
Mike Munger	Dale Gardner
John Kwietniak	

The preliminary discussion of the selection of Kodiak Subarea GRS high priority sites turned into a discussion of how to handle the 166 candidate sites already included in the site selection matrix with the possibility of more sites being added as the process continues. The project is currently funded for 20 sites. The decision was made to break the Kodiak Subarea into five zones (North, South, East, West, and Mainland). Handling the process by zones will make it easier to manage and focus on the high priority sites as well as the economical advantage of working zone by zone with the site surveys. The first two zones chosen for GRS development are the North Kodiak and the West Kodiak zones, with the initial focus to be on the West Kodiak Zone.

The Workgroup will be taking site selection nominations (both public and agencies) on the two zones with a deadline of May 2, 2005. They will then finalize the site selections at the next meeting.

The next Kodiak Subarea Workgroup meeting will be held May 4, 2005 in Kodiak.

Action Items:

1. Gather nominations, both public and agencies, of site selections for the North and West Kodiak Zones by May 2, 2005.
2. Tim to present decision of doing both the PPOR and GRS projects concurrently to funding groups.
3. Email announcement for invitation of Tactics Committee and PPOR Committee and form both groups.
4. Organize teleconference for PPOR discussion and identification.
5. Coast Guard to pass on Firefighting study results for the PPOR project.
6. Kodiak Subarea meeting for site selection on May 4, 2005.