

ALASKA DEPT OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION



USCG MARINE SAFETY OFFICE VALDEZ



USEPA (REGION X) ALASKA OPERATIONS OFFICE

LETTER OF PROMULGATION

November 18, 2005

Dear Prince William Sound Subarea Contingency Plan Holder:

Attached is Change 2 to the *Prince William Sound Subarea Contingency Plan for Oil and Hazardous Substance Spills and Releases* (PWS SCP). The change represents a major revision of the plan and includes several new sections (Section G, Geographic Response Strategies (GRS), and Section H, Potential Places of Refuge). Due to the overall size of the document and the reproduction costs, the majority of the plan recipients will receive the plan in CD format (as opposed to a hard copy of the plan).

The historic properties information noted in Section H, Potential Places of Refuge should be disregarded, and will be removed in a future revision to the plan.

The electronic files of the plan will also be available for viewing and download at the Alaska Regional Response Team's website at: <http://www.akrrt.org/plans.html>

Please take the time to review the updated plan and provide any recommended changes for future revisions to the following subarea committee staff contacts:

ADEC Prevention Section (Attn: Larry Iwamoto)
555 Cordova Street
Anchorage, AK 99501
Email: larry_iwamoto@dec.state.ak.us
Phone: (907) 269-7683 Fax: (907) 269-7648

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222 W 7th Avenue, #19
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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 has been 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, U.S. Department of Interior, and numerous other federal, State, local, Native and industry participants contributed to this document.

We appreciate the constructive comments received during the public review process, and we incorporated the majority of the comments.

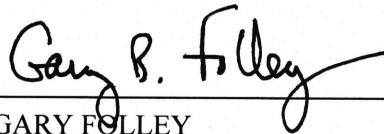
Any questions regarding the plan may be directed to the individuals listed in this letter. The Record of Changes page in the Introduction Section has also been updated to denote this update to the plan.



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PRINCE WILLIAM SOUND SUBAREA CONTINGENCY PLAN

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NOTE: This plan is also available online at the Alaska Regional Response Team website:
www.akrrrt.org

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UNIFIED PLAN & SUBAREA CONTINGENCY PLAN DESCRIPTIONS

The Prince William Sound Subarea Contingency Plan is a supplement to the *Alaska Federal/State Preparedness Plan for Response to Oil & Hazardous Substance Discharges/Releases* (commonly referred to as the Unified Plan). The Unified and the Subarea Contingency Plans represent a coordinated and cooperative effort by government agencies and were written jointly by the U.S. Coast Guard, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, and the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation. The Oil Pollution Act of 1990 (OPA 90) requires the USCG and the USEPA to prepare oil spill response plans for the State of Alaska, which is designated as an entire planning region under federal guidelines. Alaska statute requires the ADEC to prepare a state-wide master plan addressing oil and hazardous substance discharges. The Unified Plan meets these federal (National Contingency Plan and OPA 90) requirements for regional and area planning, as well as State planning requirements.

OPA 90 requires the development of Area Contingency Plans for the inland and coastal zones of each federal region. For the Alaska region, there are three Coast Guard Captain of the Port zones and one inland zone. The three Captain of the Port zones are: 1) Southeast, which covers all of Southeast Alaska; 2) Prince William Sound, which covers the Prince William Sound area; and 3) Western Alaska, which includes the rest of coastal Alaska from Cook Inlet out the Aleutians and north to the Beaufort Sea and the Canadian border. The inland zone is subdivided into two sectors: 1) the North Slope oil production area and the Trans-Alaska Pipeline System (TAPS) and 2) all other areas inland from the coastal zones.

Alaska statute divides the state into ten regions for oil and hazardous substance spill planning and preparedness. The USCG and the USEPA 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 (for example, the huge COTP Western Alaska planning area is replaced by seven more manageable divisions). 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 rely on 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 Prince William Sound SCP focuses on the Prince William Sound region of the State. The boundaries of this subarea are described in the Background Section of this plan. The Prince William Sound SCP provides information specific to the area, including emergency response phone numbers, available response equipment and other resources, specific response guidelines, and information on hazardous substance presence and sensitive areas protection.

Alaska State statute mandates a public review of all new plans, an annual departmental review of these plans, and another public review whenever the plans are significantly revised. The ADEC offers a public review of these plans for a period of 30 to 60 days during which verbal and written comments are accepted. The federal government does not require public review for any of its plans, though the USCG and the USEPA, as part of the Alaska unified planning process, do cooperate with the State of Alaska and participate in the public review process.

Neither the federal nor the State government maintains a formal approval process for these plans. 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 ARRT's concurrence is also part of the process for plan promulgation. Final promulgation of this plan is accomplished once the three plan holders – the USCG, the USEPA and the State of Alaska – sign the letter of promulgation.

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National Response Center

1-800-424-8802



Report Spills to the NRC at:

1 800 424-8802

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

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

Northern Area Response Team: Fairbanks

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

Southeast Area Response Team: Juneau

**phone: 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

Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation

Discharge Notification and Reporting Requirements

AS 46.03.755 and 18 AAC 75 Article 3

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 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.