



ALASKA DEPT OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION



USCG MARINE SAFETY OFFICE JUNEAU



USEPA (REGION X) ALASKA OPERATIONS OFFICE

LETTER OF PROMULGATION

The Southeast 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 Southeast 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 solicit comments and recommendations to improve this plan. Please forward your comments to Mr. Dale Gardner (ADEC, Division of Spill Prevention and Response, 555 Cordova Street, Anchorage, AK, 99501), or Ms. Mary Goolie (U.S. EPA, Alaska Operations Office, 222 W 7th Avenue, #19, Anchorage, AK 99513).

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SOUTHEAST SUBAREA CONTINGENCY PLAN

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- ONE** **SALMON ESCAPEMENT TABLES**
(separate document in electronic version)
- TWO** **TONGASS NATIONAL FOREST MAP**
(in back pocket in hard copy version)

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

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UNIFIED PLAN AND SUBAREA CONTINGENCY PLAN DESCRIPTIONS

The Southeast 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 Southeast SCP focuses on the Southeast region of the State. The boundaries of this subarea are described in the Background Section of this plan. The Southeast 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. During this comment period, several public meetings are held at locations appropriate for the plan being reviewed. 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 the plan is accomplished once the three plan holders – the USCG, the USEPA and the State of Alaska – sign the letter of promulgation.

SUBAREA PLAN SYNOPSIS

SECTION A: RESPONSE

The 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 Southeast Subarea, follow. Additionally, information on the spill response command structure, procedures, and protocols is included.

SECTION B: RESOURCES

The Resources Section provides two-page profiles on each of the communities in the Southeast 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.

SECTION C: HAZMAT

The Hazmat 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.

SECTION D: SENSITIVE AREAS

The 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.

SECTION E: BACKGROUND

The 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. The section lists the state and federal response priorities, significant historical spills, and abbreviations contained in the plan.

SECTION F: SCENARIOS

The intent of the Scenarios Section is to depict possible spill incidents and how responses to a variety of simulated incidents may unfold. *This section is currently under development for the Southeast Subarea Contingency Plan and will be posted on the AKRRT.org website when available.*

SECTION G: GEOGRAPHIC RESPONSE STRATEGIES

Geographic response strategies provide site-specific spill response strategies to protect priority sensitive areas in a specific geographic area. In addition to all of the individual GRS, the section presents a location map and descriptions of all the spill response tactics that may be identified for use in a GRS.

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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)

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
Juneau: (907) 465-5200

Fairbanks: (907) 451-2360
Soldotna: (907) 262-5210

*Regulated UST facilities are defined at 18 AAC 78.005 and do not include heating oil tanks.