# REGIONAL RESPONSE TEAM 10/NORTHWEST AREA COMMITTEE (RRT/NWAC)

# PUBLIC SESSION NOTES

**0800 – 1630 Wednesday 7 June, 2017**

**Kootenai County Complex**

**Coeur D’Alene, Idaho**

**Sign-in sheets can be viewed**[here](http://www.rrt10nwac.com/files/files/06-07-17%20NWAC%20Sign-in.pdf)**.**

## Safety Briefing, Introductions, Opening Remarks

Ms. Elizabeth Petras, United States Coast Guard (USCG) District 13 (D13) introduced herself, welcomed everyone to the meeting, and gave a safety briefing. Mr. Jeff Rylee, Idaho Office of Emergency Management (IOEM) welcomed everyone to Coeur D’Alene. CDR Jill Malzone, USCG Sector Puget Sound (SPS) introduced herself and offered apologies that CAPT Sturgis could not attend the meeting due to Port/Harbor Safety Committee Meetings. LTJG Berit Boyle, USCG Sector Columbia River (SCR) offered apologies for CAPT Timmons who could not attend the meeting due to activities associated with the Rose Festival and the on-going activities associated with the Goble site. Ms. Beth Sheldrake, United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) welcomed the attendees. Participants introduced themselves.

## NW Area Committee and NW Area Contingency Plan Overview

Ms. Josie Clark, EPA, gave a presentation on interagency spill coordination, the organization and membership of the Area Committees, the organization and membership of the Regional Response Team (RRT), various levels of response planning, major components of the National Contingency Plan (NCP), the role of an On-Scene Coordinators (OSCs), the organization of Unified Command (UC) during a response, Geographic Response Plans (GRPs) that are targeted for use during the first 12 to 24 hours of a response, and the organization of the Northwest Area Committee (NWAC). The presentation can be viewed [here](http://www.rrt10nwac.com/files/files/01_NWAC%20NWACP%20Overview.pptx).

## Task Force and Joint Response Team Brief Out

Ms. Allison O’Brien, United States Department of Interior (DOI), gave an update on the Tribal Outreach and Technical Training Task Force. The Task Force focused on four tasks;

1. developing a job aid for a tribal coordination specialist to utilize during the response to ensure all tribes had equal opportunity to participate in Unified Command (UC) during a response. Develop a Quick Guide for Tribal On-Scene Coordinators (TOSCs) to assist with the decision process during a response, using the draft plan that was implemented during a recent drill. The Task Force would also like to identify two to three tribal personnel that could fulfill the TOSC for drills over the next year to test the proposed plans;
2. Develop training for tribal members pre-spill and during an event;
3. Compile and distribute funding opportunities for tribal capacity building; and
4. Develop talking points for interaction with tribal members and response interaction for NWAC and RRT members.

Ms. Linda Pilkey-Jarvis, Washington State Department of Ecology (Ecology), gave an update on the Non-Floating Oils Task Force. The TF has been working on updating language in Section 9000 (non-floating oils) of the NWACP to recognize there are other types of oils that will not float. Changes are also recommended to Chapter 3000 to update the text and revising the existing checklist to complete an Incident command System (ICS) 232 Resources At Risk, suggesting changes in the GRPs to define tactical tools for non-floating oil responses, reviewing the waste disposal plan, the decanting tool, and finally they are making a suggestion to the 96-Hour Plan Task Force to add oils that might not float.

Mr. Michael Heffner, Oregon State Fire Marshall (OSFM), gave presentation on the work being conducted by the Fire to Environment Task Force which includes creation of a classroom presentation/discussion organized around terminology, roles and authorities of participants in a response, principals of UC; incident management by objectives, transition from emergency response to consequence management, and a tabletop application exercise. Finally, the Task Force is working on the creation of a checklist to assist with transition from a fire/life safety event to consequence management phase. The presentation can be viewed [here](http://www.rrt10nwac.com/files/files/02_Fire2Enviro.pptx).

CWO Brandon Todd, USCG SPS, gave an update on the 96-Hour Plan Task Force which is working on continuing the work performed last year by the task force which includes creating templates and example documentation that would be commonly completed in the first 96 hours for the response in a boilerplate format. They are proposing hosting these templates either on the RRT/NWAC page or on the Ecology web page.

Ms. Sonja Larson, Ecology, provided an update on the in-situ burning Task Force as part of her ISB Technical Session (see notes below).

## Community Air Monitoring

Mr. Michael Boykin, EPA, gave a presentation on Community Air Monitoring (CAM) including background of work that was previously completed in 2016, resource tier selection, a CAM template and responder checklist, and selection of particulate and chemical action levels to use during an action. These documents will be proposed for inclusion in the 2018 NWACP. The presentation can be viewed [here](http://www.rrt10nwac.com/files/files/03_CommunityAir%20Monitoring.pptx).

## Local Responder Concerns – Open Forum

Larry Sims, Hauser Lake Fire/Kootenai Fire Chiefs, expressed the concerns for his department are the two rail lines that run right at the edge of their district, as they are the smallest district in the state. The Local Emergency Planning Commission (LEPC) has discussed tagging on or expanding the GRP through the Spokane River. Mr. Pete Hartman, Washington State Military Department, noted his department covers Pend Oreille down to Asotin County, which consists of 10 counties and three tribes. Their major concern regards the rail lines that run right through downtown Spokane. In most of the counties that his division covers, the emergency management departments consist of one person that also has other responsibilities and duties. Ms. Linda Pilkey-Jarvis noted that with the spill contingency planning that is now required for trains transporting any type of oil through the state of Washington. That planning will require rail companies to conduct drills which will highlight these concerns in the smaller communities. Mr. Bob Howard, Bonner County Emergency Management, noted their largest concern is that most fire departments are volunteer and keeping their training for HAZWOPER certification is difficult and expensive. Mr. Paul Musser, Idaho Regional Response Team HazMat Region 1, noted their major concern regards the Pleasant View Aquifer recharge which flows adjacent to the rail yard and the potential contamination of the aquifer from rail and firefighting activities. He also reported they recently discovered there is a rail line from Montana that follows the Clark Fork River and has increased rail traffic from 7 to 20 trains per month. Mr. Kevin Brackney, Nez Perce Tribe Water Resources Division, reported his group is working to outfit local fire and gas stations with response capacity. Ms. Molly McCann, Lakes Commission, noted Burlington Northern Santa Fe (BNSF) will be building a new rail line over Lake Pend Oreille and it is of great concern to the commission. She also noted there had been a grain spill that occurred nearby and the commission has no information on the impacts of the spill.

## Updated Pend Oreille Geographic Response Plan

Mr. Dan Haley, Idaho Department of Environmental Quality (IDEQ) gave a presentation on the new Lake Pend Oreille GRP including what a GRP includes, the intended audience for a GRP, geography of the lake, the rail lines that traverse the region, the reason there was a need to update existing GRP for the lake, the structure of the GRP, creation of new mapping features, the difficulties involved in creating an approach in the Clark Fork Delta, and Denton Slough areas. Finally, he noted the importance of vetting any planning tools through stakeholders to ensure planning strategies would not negatively impact important resources. The presentation can be viewed [here](http://www.rrt10nwac.com/files/files/04_Lake%20Pend%20Oreille%20GRP.pptx).

## Idaho Flooding and Hazardous Materials

Mr. Jeff Rylee, IOEM, gave a presentation on the natural disasters that have occurred so far this year in Idaho including winter storms avalanches, landslides and floods in January, February, March, and then spring river flooding in April and May. Of the 44 counties in the state, up to 33 counties had declared emergency status either at the local or state level. The presentation can be viewed [here](http://www.rrt10nwac.com/files/files/05_ID%20Flooding%20and%20Hazardous%20Materials.pptx).

## In-Situ Burn Technical Session

Ms. Sonja Larson, Ecology, gave a presentation on In-Situ Burning (ISB) regarding when ISB might be conducted, the conditions that should be present in order to conduct ISB, the objectives of the ISB Task Force, a preview of the ISB interactive map, updates to the ISB Feasibility Analysis Worksheet, updating the checklists, and the role of the regional air authority agencies in the decision making process. The presentation can be viewed [here](http://www.rrt10nwac.com/files/files/06_ISB%20Technical%20Session.pptx).

## On-Scene Coordinator Reports – Part I

### Oregon Department of Environmental Quality

Mr. Mike Zollitsch, Oregon Department of Environmental Quality (ODEQ) gave a presentation on the responses that have occurred over the past year including the Mosier Train Derailment, the River Street Fire response, and the myriad of other responses that have occurred between these two incidents. The presentation can be viewed [here](http://www.rrt10nwac.com/files/files/07_ODEQ%20OSC%20Report.pptx).

### Washington State Department of Ecology

Mr. David Byers, Ecology, gave a presentation on the spill response programs including notifications for the previous 12 months; staffing levels of responders; trainings, exercises, and workshops; an update of the equipment grant program; and the Columbia River Mystery Sheen and the Recreational Vehicle HERO sinking responses. The presentation can be viewed [here](http://www.rrt10nwac.com/files/files/08_Ecology%20OSC%20Report.ppt).

## Serving Disadvantaged Communities during Responses

Ms. Janine Wilson and Mr. Nick Mechikoff, Panhandle Health District, gave a presentation on supporting communities during responses which included services provided by the Health District, the geographical risk areas in the district, public health preparedness plans, and the network of community providers to assist with medical care during an incident. The health district covers the five northern counties in the state (Benewah, Bonner, Boundary, Kootenai, and Shoshone counties). The presentation can be viewed [here](http://www.rrt10nwac.com/files/files/09_Panhandle%20Health%20District.pptx). Ms. Megan Dardis-Kunz, Idaho Department of Health and Welfare, discussed the agency and what services they are able to provide, a handout was provided and can be viewed [here](http://www.rrt10nwac.com/files/files/ID%20Health%20and%20Welfare_Handout.pdf).

## On-Scene Coordinator Reports – Part II

### United States Environmental Protection Agency

OSCs Stephen Ball and Eric Vanderboom, EPA, introduced themselves and their area of responsibility and expertise. They gave a presentation on EPA response activities including the Treoil Industries Biorefinery response, the Hanford Tunnel Collapse, Corvallis Mercury spill, and the River Street Warehouse fire response. The presentation can be viewed [here](http://www.rrt10nwac.com/files/files/10_EPA%20OSC%20Report.ppt).

### United States Coast Guard – Sector Puget Sound

CWO Brandon Todd, USCG SPS, gave a presentation on SPS activities since the previous NWAC/RRT meeting, including the Tug Gene Dunlap, Tug Island Wind, training, exercises/workshops, and federal, state, and local planning coordination efforts. The presentation can be viewed [here](http://www.rrt10nwac.com/files/files/11_USCG%20SPS%20OSC%20Report.pptx).

### United States Coast Guard – Sector Columbia River

ENS Kira Adams, USCG SCR, gave a presentation on activities for SCR since the previous NWAC/RRT meeting, including the recreational vehicle Hero response, vehicle in Willapa River, Portland Yacht Club, River Street Warehouse fire response, Goble Site situation update, and a review of trainings, exercises/workshops; and federal, state, and local planning coordination efforts. The presentation can be viewed [here](http://www.rrt10nwac.com/files/files/12_USCG%20SCR%20OSC%20Report.ppt).

## Closing Comments

LTJG Berit Boyle thanked the participants and appreciated the topics on the agenda. Ms. Sheldrake thanked the participants, especially the local responders that expressed their concerns.