Section 9315

Operations Section
Organizational Guidance
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Operations Section Organizational Guidance

This tool provides guidance on how to organize the Operations Section based on minor, medium, and major inland or coastal spills.

Example organization charts are intended to assist with staffing for the initial Incident Action Plan (24 to 48 hours timeframe). All of the scenarios assume the response will be managed by one individual to give a central location for accountability of resources. The span of control provided on the organization charts is based on the asset number and not the number of personnel.

Situation status maps were developed to assist in developing the operations plan.

9315.1 Minor Inland Spill Scenario
This spill scenario is based on an inland spill of less than 1,000 gallons.

Original Report: An above ground storage tank failed resulting in a sheen seen several miles from the source in a nearby river. The spill occurred at a former feed lot property. The property owner is participating in the response. The property owner is unsure how much fuel was in the tank but an estimated 1,000 gallons of used motor oil is presumed to be the maximum potential released.

Update: The property is connected to an irrigation system and an irrigation waste way. Spill product migrated through the irrigation pipes and vaults under the property through a creek that empties into a nearby river. A over flight showed the majority of the oil released remains in a 4 mile stretch of a narrow creek. Minimal sheening has been seen on the river. A contractor has been hired to manage the containment and recovery operations. There are several waterfowl wintering in the area. Reports of oiled wildlife in the creek and oxbow lakes has been confirmed.
Figure 9315-1  Minor/Inland Spill Scenario Org Chart <1,000 Gallons

TF leaders would be directing 1 individual integrated with each asset.

* Span of control (SOC) is based on asset number, not personnel number.
Figure 9315-2  Aerial Photograph Showing Spill Scenario
9315.2 Minor Coastal Spill Scenario

This spill scenario is based on a coastal spill of less than 10,000 gallons.

Original Report: A 70-foot commercial fishing vessel (F/V), the F/V Bad Day ran aground in a remote area of Puget Sound, Washington and was taking on water. Initially, the F/V pumps were keeping up with the water. There are 5 people onboard the vessel all with personal flotation devices. The weather is calm with no fog. The actual spill volume is unknown but an estimated 1,000 gallons of diesel fuel and an unknown amount of lube oil are onboard.

Update: The F/V listed as the tide went out and is now completely submerged. The persons onboard have all been removed from the F/V and taken to the hospital. The F/V owner reported only 500 gallons of diesel fuel onboard at the time of the grounding with a potential up to 1,000 gallons. As the tide came in, the vessel was submerged and sheen was reported.
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Figure 9315-3  Minor/Coastal Spill Scenario Org Chart <10,000 Gallons
Figure 9315-4  Aerial Photograph Showing Spill Scenario
9315.3 Medium Inland Spill Scenario
This spill scenario is based on an inland spill of greater than 1,000 gallons but less than 10,000 gallons.

Original Report: A tank truck and trailer overturned along the highway in the Willamette National Forest. The tank truck landed on its side and the cargo remained in its tank. The trailer landed upside down in a ditch that drains to a creek that flows to the Middle Fork of the Willamette River less than ¼ mile downstream. The driver survived with minor injuries. First responders estimated a full load of gasoline and diesel at approximately 10,000 gallons was released from the trailer. Residential communities below the spill depend on groundwater for domestic use. The area where the spill occurred has no established Geographic Response Plans so strategies must be developed during the response.

Update: The truck owner reported there were 4,000 gallons of gasoline and 3,500 gallons of diesel fuel in the tank of the trailer. Recovery work resulted in preserving 900 gallons of gasoline and 1,000 gallons of diesel from the tank. Estimates are that 3,100 gallons of gasoline and 2,500 gallons of diesel spilled onto the ground and into the creek.
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Figure 9315-5  Medium Inland Spill Scenario Org Chart >1000 and <10,000 Gallons

Group Supervisors would be directing 1 individual integrated with each Task Force or Single Resource. Span of Control (SOC) is based on asset number, not personnel number.
Figure 9315-6  Medium/Inland Scenario Overview Map
9315.4 Medium Coastal Spill Scenario
This spill scenario is based on a coastal spill of more than 10,000 gallons but less than 100,000 gallons.

Original Report: A 100,000 gallon storage tank owned by Acme, Inc. split apart and collapsed at the company’s tank farm located near Puget Sound, Washington. The tank split while being filled to capacity for the first time after it had been dismantled and moved to its new location. The split released diesel oil over the tank’s containment dikes, across the parking lot, onto an adjacent property, and into an uncapped storm drain that emptied directly into Puget Sound. Within minutes, the oil slick moved miles from shore, naturally dispersing throughout the width and depth of the waterway. The oil carried by the currents impacted wildlife, damaged private property, and adversely affected shipping and businesses in the area.
Figure 9315-7  Medium Coastal Spill Scenario Org Chart 10,000 >100,000 Gallons
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Figure 9315-8  Medium Coastal Spill Scenario Org Chart >100,000 Gallons

Span of Control (SOC) is based on asset number, not personnel number.
Figure 9315-9 Medium/Coastal Scenario Overview Map
9315.5 Major Inland Spill Scenario
This spill scenario is based on an inland spill of greater than 10,000 gallons.

Original Report: A minor landslide occurred along the Columbia River east of White Salmon, Washington near Rowland Lake. Approximately 12 rail cars, part of a 100-car unit train carrying Canadian crude oil, derailed. Some of the cars ruptured and are leaking oil. First responders’ initial assessment report indicates a breach in four of the cars.

Update: The railroad reports that the crude oil is Access Western Blend Dilbit. The material balance survey indicates that almost 70,000 gallons remains in the breached tank cars and will have to be removed. Approximately 46,000 gallons leaked onto the ground and into the Columbia River. Initial reports of oil floating on the water is confirmed; however, responders should take into consideration that weathering of the oil may occur and watch for evidence of submerged oil.
Figure 9315-10  Major Inland Spill Scenario Org Chart <10,000 Gallons

Span of Control (SOC) is based on asset number, not personnel number.
Figure 9315-11  Major Inland Spill Scenario Org Chart <10,000 Gallons
Figure 9315-12  Major/Inland Scenario Overview Map
9315.6 Major Coastal Spill Scenario
This spill scenario is based on a coastal spill of greater than 100,000 gallons. An additional potential organization chart is provided in Figure 9315-16 and is based on best practices from recent drills and exercises.

Original Report: The tanker vessel (T/V) Acme, carrying almost 7.9 million gallons of fuel oil, lost control of its steering near the entrance to Rosario Strat. Unable to adjust its course, Acme crossed into the intended path of another outbound T/V Bubba. Crews were not able to restore steering and the T/V Acme collided with the side of the T/V Bubba. Four tanks on the port side of the T/V Bubba were damaged with an initial release of 1.5 million gallons (approximately 35,000 barrels) with potential of approximately 2.9 million gallons of Alaska North Slope Crude from the T/V Bubba. No oil was released from the T/V Acme.
Figure 9315-13  Major Coastal Spill Scenario Org Chart >100,000 Gallons
Figure 9315-14  Major Coastal Spill Scenario Org Chart >100,000 Gallons
Figure 9315-15  Major/Coastal Scenario Overview Map
ICS 207 - Sample Organizational Chart

Figure 9315-16  Major/Coastal Scenario Alternative Org Chart >100,000 Gallons