

North Coast Area Subcommittee Meeting Minutes

15 May 2014

1300-1500

Woodley Island Marina

Eureka, CA

Attendees

Representatives from:

USCG

CDFW-OSPR

USFWS

NOAA-Restoration Center

Humboldt County DEH-CUPA

California State Parks

California Coastal Commission

Sause Brothers

Chevron

L&M Renner

Marine Spill Response Corporation (MSRC)

Pacific Affiliates

Welcome and Admin

Co-Chairs Mr. Jeff Dayton (CDFW-OSPR) and MSSD2 Billy Gartman (USCG) opened the meeting with a brief introduction from everyone in attendance. March's ACP meeting minutes were circulated.

Recent Spills and Incidents

- One pollution incident at Centerville Beach west of Ferndale where a vehicle was stuck on the beach at high tide.
- One pollution incident in Humboldt Bay involving a discharge of diesel during fueling operations at USCG Station Humboldt Bay.

Drills and Exercises

Current/Upcoming:

- On July 16th Chevron Eureka Terminal will run a tabletop exercise.
- The equipment deployment evaluation for McDaniel Slough is scheduled for the last two weeks in September. A tidal restoration project was recently completed there that resulted in the breach of the outer levee and changed the dynamics of the site. The City of Arcata wants to be involved in the exercises.
- L&M Renner is still figuring out when they will schedule their drills for the year.

Recent exercises:

- On May 14th Chevron had an equipment deployment at the Eureka Terminal. It was a different scenario that involved the fuel barge the Morro Bay. They requested that the fuel barge stay an extra day so that they could participate in the exercise. The barge was boomed off.

Old Business

- Mr. Jeff Dayton, CDFW-OSPR, announced that the Governor's FY14-15 budget includes a proposal to fund CDFW-OSPR for inland oil spill response.
- Mr. Jeff Dayton, CDFW-OSPR, conducted a slideshow presentation on the March 18th equipment deployment for the ACP's 1-345-A site strategy for Elk River and marsh. He showed the updated (draft) aerial images for that site and announced other changes including the addition of the Hiksari Trail and access points. Mr. Garth Baugh from MSRC discussed lessons learned from the exercise including the need for more manpower and that even though the strategy called for 1400' boom, they only used 700' during the deployment. Mr. Baugh stated that he did not wish to change the amount of boom listed in the ACP because on a high tide he may need all 1400' of boom. An alternate strategy concept was also discussed by committee.
- Mr. Billy Gartman, USCG, discussed Shoreline Cleanup and Assessment Technique (SCAT) training and stated he has been contacting District 11 Response Advisory Team (DRAT) trying to schedule a date. Lieutenant Breedlove from D11 DRAT has been unable to commit to a date.

New Business/Announcements

- Mr. Jeff Dayton, CDFW-OSPR, announced an update for the ongoing cleanup of the Samoa Pulp Mill site. As of May 12, 2014 the EPA had moved 54 truckloads (42 green, and 12 black) for a total of 920,000 gallons of caustic pulp liquors up to Kapstone Paper Company in Longview, WA. They have removed the remaining sulfuric acid, wharf deck pipelines and headers. They have also begun disassembling and removing the tanks.
- Mr. Tom Cullen, CDFW-OSPR Administrator, introduced himself and apologized for not making it up to Eureka sooner. He also thanked everyone for their commitment to protecting the environment.
- Mr. Jeff Dayton, CDFW-OSPR, announced that there will be a 14-day comment period in June for feedback on the draft revision of the ACP once the document is posted on USCG's Homeport website.
- Mr. Billy Gartman, USCG, announced that as good stewards of the Oil Spill Liability Trust Fund (OSLTF) the Coast Guard will take a less aggressive stance regarding the cleanup of vehicles stuck on the beach like the one on Centerville Beach near Ferndale. He stated that the Coast Guard may not deem 20 gallons of gasoline to be a substantial threat to the environment costing an estimated \$12,000 to \$20,000 to remove. He urged that local agencies take charge of these

types of incidents and that if it was out of their control that the Coast Guard would be there to provide assistance. Mr. Gartman reiterated that mystery drums washing up on the beach did require Coast Guard involvement due to fact that the hazards are unknown.

- Mr. Jeff Dayton, CDFW-OSPR, stated that the Coast Guard's policy for the cleanup of vehicles on the beach is consistent with CDFW-OSPR. He also suggested responsible parties, local agencies, and stakeholders take more responsibility for vehicles stuck on the beach. The Lost Coast 4X4 Club was praised for removing the vehicle from Centerville recently.
- Ms. Maje Hoyos, Humboldt County DEH-CUPA, offered her Department's assistance with equipment that could identify the contents of mystery drums.
- Mr. Garth Baugh, MSRC, announced the addition of aerostats and IR cameras to their response vessels. MSRC has a contract with Ocean Imaging and now have equipment that they can mount on a plane which analyzes oil spills and determines thickness and movement. He also requested information on possible sites to set up a command center in the event of a large response. Mr. Ben Perry-Thistle said that they were already designated in the ACP.
- Mr. Ben Perry-Thistle, USCG, announced that the submission deadline for the ACP revision may be extended for a week. He also stated that ACP Volume 1 and Section 7000 were rewritten. There is also a proposal to change the ACP revision cycle to every 4 years instead of 3. Mr. Perry-Thistle thanked all those involved in the 2014 ACP revision and for providing feedback.
- Mr. Jeff Dayton, CDFW-OSPR, announced with the transition from a coastal to a statewide program, the previous OSPR response threshold of 42 gallons (1 barrel) of oil will be eliminated.
- Mr. Bill Pinnix, USFWS, demonstrated NOAA's GNOME (General NOAA Operational Modeling Environment) software the Office of Response and Restoration's (OR&R) Emergency Response Division uses to model the trajectory of oil on water during spill response. He also debriefed the Area Committee after attending OSPR's Environmental Response to Oil Spill (EROS) conference in San Diego, March 24-28. He strongly recommended taking the course.
- Mr. Jeff Dayton, CDFW-OSPR, announced the OWCN (Oiled Wildlife Care Network) will be having a 24-hr HAZWOPER training at Humboldt State University August 19-21, seats will likely be available for AC members who need certification or 8-hr refresher.
- Ms. Amber Transou, Cal State Parks, announced that they will offer online refresher training for HAZWOPER.
- Mr. Ross McDonald, Sause Bros, announced that there are new proposed regulations for response times for Spill Management Teams (SMTs).
- Ms. Maje Hoyos, Humboldt County DEH-CUPA, announced the addition of a new inspector to her department, Ms Shannon Townsend. She will inspect from Eureka on south to Ferndale.
- Mr. Billy Gartman, USCG, announced that Petty Officer Alexander from Marine Safety Detachment (MSD) Humboldt Bay will be transferring to MSD Ketchikan, Alaska in July.

- Ms. Maje Hoyos, Humboldt County DEH-CUPA, announced that hash oil also known as “Honey Oil” or “Bubble Hash” is becoming more prevalent in California. The tell tale signs are discarded butane canisters, camping fuel and PVC pipe. They have been known to use abandoned vessels as manufacturing sites. Many of the sites have exploded due to the flammable gases and poor ventilation.
- Mr. Ben Perry-Thistle, USCG, announced that there are new proposed regulations making it mandatory for OSRO’s to participate in OSPR’s SSSEP (Sensitive Site Evaluation Plan).
- Mr. Jonathan Bishop, California Coastal Commission, announced there are changes to the OSPR’s COFR (Certificate of Financial Responsibility) program.

Set Meeting Date (s)

- The next North Coast Area Subcommittee Meeting will be held in Eureka at Woodley Island Marina July 17th, 2014 at 1300.
- **The following 2014 dates are for the Eureka area North Coast Area Subcommittee meetings:**

July 17th

September 18th

November 20th