



CANUSDIX 2004

Ketchikan, Alaska
20-24 September 2004



After Action Report

Prepared by:

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A. Background:

CANUSDIX 2004 was conducted from September 20-24, 2004 in Ketchikan, AK. This comprehensive exercise included formal Joint Planning Group meetings, international wildlife workshops, training and deployment of offshore oil response equipment, and several work group meetings. A schedule of events is attached.

This report is intended to summarize the proceedings of the major events and provide recommendations to improve response in the Dixon Entrance region, as well as improve future CANUSDIX exercises.

The format for this report will be objective based. Each specific objective will be reviewed and evaluated for level of success.

B. Major Accomplishment Summary:

- Conducted formal Joint Planning Group meetings to determine and draft new work group tasking to improve response in Dixon Entrance.
- Conducted an extensive multi-vessel on water exercise that was managed using the Incident Command System ICS-204 work assignments form.
- Developed a standard operations briefing format using the ICS-204 work assignments form.
- Conducted several multi-agency work sessions.
- Provided hands on equipment deployment training and cross training to all participating agencies.
- Conducted professional post deployment maintenance of all equipment.
- Provided several presentations to the Joint Work Group including a Canadian Coast Guard Organizational update, an overview and update of the Joint Contingency Plan and the National Response Plan, an overview of the USCG District Thirteen Incident Management Assist Team, security procedures for trans boundary movement of personnel and equipment, trans boundary funding issues, rat response, a case review and lessons learned on the M/V LeConte grounding, and places of refuge discussion.
- Hosted a presentation on historic properties protection.

C. CANUSDIX 2004 Objectives Summary:

The general objectives for this event were to exercise the CANUSDIX Annex to the Joint Plan, to improve emergency procedures for Dixon Entrance, and to expand the working relationships between all participants. Specific objectives included:

- Ensure and promote safety for all participants at all times.
- Provide a format for US and Canadian response agencies to improve working relationships.
- Provide a format for US and Canadian response agencies to receive cross training on each other's equipment and processes.

- Provide a format for the CANUSDIX Wildlife Response Working Group (Wildlife Response Working Group) and the CANUSDIX Resource Agency Working Group (Resource Agency Working Group) to meet and work on joint response projects.
- Conduct and evaluate a safe coordinated on-water equipment exercise incorporating lessons learned from past exercises and identifying potential improvements for equipment deployment and operations.
- Continue previous work assignments and identify the Joint Planning Group's future concerns for various Dixon Entrance Region response issues.

D. Specific Objective Review:

- **Ensure and promote safety for all participants at all times.**

Successfully completed. No injuries or "near misses" related to the exercise occurred despite the rainy conditions. SEAPRO developed a detailed safety plan, and conducted a thorough safety brief. In addition SEAPRO developed draft tailgate safety briefs, which were shared with responders and can be used in future safety briefs. A dedicated safety vessel was provided by the local Coast Guard Auxiliary and was on scene and available for emergency use. Shore side medical facilities were alerted to our training. Each unit involved in the exercise appointed their own safety officer, and were instructed to conduct safety briefs prior to each step of the deployment process. No safety infractions were observed.

Recommendations:

- Continue to stress safety at all levels.
 - Continue to have the host country provide the Safety Officer and develop the safety plan.
 - When possible ensure safety officers from each participating unit hold safety meeting early in the week to review and discuss safety plan and procedures.
 - Continue to conduct safety briefs at each unit prior to getting underway and prior to starting each stage of equipment deployment.
 - Continue to stress the small points: hard hats, ear/eye protection, safety communications, etc.
- **Provide a format for US and Canadian response agencies to improve working relationships.**

Successfully completed. The Canadian Coast Guard, U.S. Coast Guard (USCG), provincial, state and private response companies worked together daily at all levels. Work sessions were held on *Dispersants and In Situ Burn* applications with focus on decision-making processes, application capabilities and potential use. Field personnel worked closely on logistical issues and equipment deployment training. Senior level personnel met daily and provided input to the new 2005-2006 two-year joint work plan. An operations briefing workshop was held and a standard operations briefing format was developed and used during the joint field deployment portion of this

exercise. In addition to the formal portion of CANUSDIX, participants continued to build relationships at informal dinners, BBQs, and other social functions.

Recommendations:

- Continue to provide meaningful activities that improve response management and team building. Activities that may be considered include joint objective development, procedural discussions for command post liaison, communications procedures, or other areas of joint concern.

Note: Results of the *Dispersants and In Situ Burn* work sessions will be provided in a separate cover at a later date.

- **Provide a format for US and Canadian response agencies to receive cross training on each other's equipment and processes.**

Successfully completed. Available personnel from both Coast Guards were spread among the various vessels and equipment to observe and provide assistance during the equipment deployment.

Recommendations:

- As discussed in previous lessons learned and if feasible, future exercises should continue to provide alternate platforms for cross training personnel.
- If funding permits, invite and include the other Coast Guard to deployment and equipment training not associated with CANUSDIX. This will enable those attending to focus on the equipment deployment process.

- **Provide a format for the Wildlife Response Working Group and Resource Agency Working Group to meet.**

Successfully completed. The **Wildlife Response Working Group** met and discussed updates to the *CANUSDIX Wildlife Response Guidelines* and reports on facility evaluations for migratory bird stabilization and treatment in Ketchikan and Prince Rupert. The **Resource Agency Working Group** met and discussed BC Resource Mapping Capability and the potential for a *CANUSDIX Places of Refuge Resource Agency Guidelines* document. In addition, the working group organized and held two half-day working sessions on Dispersant Use and In-Situ Burning. The results of both working group meetings will be provided in a separate cover to this report.

Recommendations:

- Continue to provide a format for the Wildlife Response Working Group and Resource Agency Working Group to meet and pursue activities that continue to support existing and new joint preparedness efforts in Dixon Entrance.
- **Conduct and evaluate a safe coordinated on-water equipment exercise incorporating lessons learned from past exercises and identifying potential improvements for equipment deployment and operations.**

Successfully completed. The equipment deployment for CANUSDIX 2004 was completed without any safety infractions. Several skimming and collection systems were deployed by the CCGC Bartlett, USCGC Anthony Petit, the SEAPRO Oil Spill Response Vessel Rudyerd Bay and the SEAPRO Oil Response Barge #5. A lightering platform was deployed and included the Tug Tiger SEA 76, a lightering barge and the SEAPRO Sea Slug oil containment barge. The Fishing Vessels “Josie J” and “The Boat” towed Ro-boom in a u-shaped gated enhanced booming configuration. Vessels responded in accordance with the tasking orders issued under the Incident Command System ICS form 204.

All response vessels were briefed and provided written tasking orders. Vessels understood their mission and executed orders. The operations brief (which included safety and communications) was held prior to the deployment and was given using an ICS 204 assignments form.

Contracted fishing vessels took approximately 1000 ft of SEAPRO owned Ro-boom off a reel from the Coast Guard Base and towed it to the vicinity of Mountain Point. The Ro-boom was deployed in an “enhanced” boom configuration to cascade oil into the collection systems of trailing vessels. This provided ships with a real life configuration, and provided ship handlers with the opportunity to practice skimming in close quarters. A temporary storage device (TSD) was filled with water prior to the equipment deployment and later transported to the lightering station on scene. Establishing a lightering station, and exercising the filling and lightering of a temporary storage device was included as a lessons learned from previous exercises.

A personnel “DECON” line was established on the USCGC Anthony Petit to demonstrate the decontamination process for oil spill response workers.

Recommendations:

- Continue to include on water equipment deployment as part of CANUSDIX exercises.
- Continue to have the host country direct the on water deployment using their particular response management system - ICS for USCG and RMS for CCG. Appropriate forms should be used and briefs conducted as in a

real situation. In addition, a work group should be formed to see if combining ICS/RMS forms into one set of agreeable forms is feasible.

- Continue to provide a standard agenda for conducting concise briefs. The ICS form 204 was used and provided only pertinent information to the oil spill responder supervisors. This form proved to be very effective.
 - Continue to include personnel decontamination procedures for all vessels.
- **Continue previous work assignments and identify the Joint planning group's future concerns for various Dixon Entrance Region response issues.**

Successfully completed. The Joint Planning Group met in private session to determine tasking required for continuous response improvement in Dixon Entrance.

The work group will continue to use the annual CANUSDIX exercise as a format for completion of their work plan goals and for annual group meetings. A written summary of project scopes and how the group plans to address the new tasks will be issued under separate cover (2005-2006 Joint Work Plan). These new tasks will improve response management in Dixon Entrance.

Items completed and lessons learned from CANUSDIX 2003 that were incorporated into this years exercise include: a standard operations briefing format (using the ICS-204 form), signature and acknowledgement of the overall safety plan by equipment deployment personnel, safety briefs conducted prior to all new operations, several safety issues corrected, use of the response management system of the host country, decontamination training, deploying a lightering station, annual work group review of the Wildlife Response Guidelines, and support of all working groups.

Recommendations:

- The Joint Planning Group should continue to meet annually at CANUSDIX to review the current state of response for Dixon Entrance, and provide direction and reach consensus on tasking as required.
- The Joint Planning Group should continue to support work groups to the maximum extent possible.
- The Joint Planning Group should include all Working Group Co-Chairpersons as part of the Joint Planning Group. This will help ensure that the Joint planning Group and the working groups arrive at mutually agreed-upon work activities.
- Exercise planners should continue to schedule meeting rooms and support needs for work groups at CANUSDIX exercises.
- The work group should continue to use CANUSDIX as an annual meeting and work-scheduling platform for completing tasks.
- The work groups should keep the Joint Planning Group informed of their progress.
- The work groups should provide the Joint Planning Group with a written summary.

E. Scenario Review:

No scenario was used in this year's event.

As per 2003 lessons learned it was recommended that a new scenario be developed that would promote the new tasking of safe anchorages and dispersant/in-situ burn decision-making processes. This may involve a collision with vessel on the border, or an offshore event with vessels asking to enter the best port for repairs, lighting or crew/passenger transfer.

Leading up to this year's event SEAPRO's Contingency Planner coordinated efforts and provided necessary background information (threat analysis, response equipment, etc.) for developing three realistic scenarios. The development of these scenarios were scheduled to take place at the Contingency Planners work group meeting during this exercise. Due to a scheduling conflict the Joint Planning Group canceled the Contingency Planners work group meeting. The development of three realistic scenarios is added to the 2005-2006 Joint Work Plan.

As noted in several previous lessons learned, **Contingency Planners should work towards development of a risk and threat assessment section for the Annex.** This information could then be used to develop response-planning strategies for the region. Include realistic scenarios and trajectories in this analysis.

F. Equipment Deployment Summary:

Deployments emphasized command and control, safety and training of personnel. Each unit conducted an internal debrief for the equipment and process that was used.

The following equipment was deployed during the on water exercise.

- **U.S. Coast Guard:**

The CGC Anthony Petit deployed the vessel of opportunity skimming system (VOSS) with the foam filled boom and the Lancer 25,000 gallon storage barge. In addition, the CGC Anthony Petit was the designated Task Force Commander and provided response direction to all on scene assets. On board decon training was held for the ships personnel and conducted by both the CG Pacific Strike Team and ship corpsmen. The USCG base supplied all necessary shore side logistics.

Unlike the fast sweep boom, deploying the foam filled boom was much quicker but required the ship to maneuver at a reduced speed. The ideal speed was roughly .5 knots.

The U.S Coast Guard Auxiliary M/V Inside Straight was utilized and provided safety/security on scene.

Equipment deployment de-brief comments:

- A good morning operations brief was conducted using the ICS-204 form.
- A thorough safety and communications brief was conducted.
- A thorough on board safety and operations brief was conducted by the executive officer.
- While waiting for other response assets to arrive on scene, the wind and current made the initial response operations difficult.

▪ **Canadian Coast Guard:**

The CCGS Bartlett deployed the Ro-boom side sweep with jib arm and the GT 185 weir skimmer. This deployment went smoothly, but there were some concerns that the Ro-boom system may be too large for the CCGS Bartlett.

Equipment deployment de-brief comments:

- At times during the deployment it was difficult to keep the vessel on course.
- Pre-rigging the jib arm assembly in the in-transit mode along the ship helped expedite the on scene deployment.
- Ship to ship communications between the vessels on scene was excellent and worked very well.

Suggested improvements:

- It would be helpful to the deck crew to have a rigging plan on the door of the response container. In addition, laminated photos of the response equipment being deployed (all responders) would help the response vessels on scene identify each other and rapidly facilitate response efforts.
- Improvements to deck tackle, i.e. blocks, lines and the chance to experiment with the placement of deck tackle during deployment may lead to a more efficient operation.
- Double-check all equipment prior to deployment to insure a smooth operation.
- Establish a DECON exercise on board and hold more of these types of exercises in the future.

▪ **Burrard Clean**

Burrard Clean did not deploy any response equipment for this exercise. Burrard Clean utilized this exercise as a learning platform and were observers during the equipment deployment.

▪ **SEAPRO**

SEAPRO deployed the Oil Spill Response Vessel Rudyerd Bay. This vessel has a sweep width of about 46 ft. using two Lori brush skimmers and 65 bbl. on board recovery capacity and provides a rapid (15-20 minutes) deployment time once on scene. Offload is accomplished using DOP 160 pump with water injection flange. The vessel is suited for recovery for near shore operations. In addition, the Oil Response Barge 5 was deployed in a “V” skimming configuration utilizing two small boats and the Tug Artie. The M/V The Boat and the fishing vessel Josie “J” retrieved 1000 feet of Ro-boom, which was pre-staged at the USCG Base and transported to the operations area. The Ro-boom was deployed in an enhanced booming formation with a 10-foot gate. The Sea Coast Tug Tiger and the Barge SEA 76 formed up a lightering station near California Head. Prior to the operational period a 60K Sea Slug (temporary storage devise) was filled with 20K gallons of fresh water and retrieved/towed by the Rudyerd Bay to the lightering station near California Head.

Equipment deployment de-brief comments:

- The morning operations brief was short and to the point (excellent).
- The communications on scene and the overall coordination of response assets worked well.
- The on scene weather conditions may have been a factor provided the weather worsened. Under the same conditions Ro-boom vs. harbor boom from the Oil Response Barge 5 would have worked better.
- During the next equipment deployment modifications to the enhanced Ro-boom configuration should be explored. Placing the gated portion of the Ro-boom further from the end would form more of a funnel for collection, much like an ocean/current buster design.
- A suggestion was made to allow more time to practice maneuvering the enhanced boom (making turns).

G. Safety:

Safety is always the top priority for any response or training activity. For this deployment, SEAPRO provided the on scene safety officer, and the USCG Auxiliary provided a dedicated safety vessel. SEAPRO developed the overall safety plan and distributed to participants. Safety was successful, with no injuries. The following was noted and needs to be continued in future training:

- All response supervisors signed the acknowledgement form for the overall safety plan.
- Tailgate safety briefs were conducted prior to the start of response operations. This type of safety brief was developed by SEAPRO and proved to be very effective.

H. On Scene Communications:

No problems or issues were reported. Marine CH 81A was the main channel for communication to and from the task force commander. This prevented channel clutter and sped the flow of information. Marine CH 16 was used for emergency, distress and hailing. SEAPRO VHF TAC 1 was used for all SEAPRO assets. In addition SEAPRO used their repeater to cross link with Burrard Clean Operations UHF to test communications capabilities.

In a real event, remote communications will likely be an issue. To pre-identify potential problems, it was recommended in previous exercises that a communications survey be conducted of the area to determine cell phone, satellite telephone and VHF and UHF coverage, along with INMARSAT voice and data transmissions capability. This survey can be done outside of CANUSDIX exercises, and combined with other missions in the area.

I. Future Exercise Recommendations:

A meeting of the Joint Planning Group and exercise planners was held to discuss CANUSDIX 2005. The following input was provided to the planners for consideration; the joint 2005-2006-work plan document will create direction for improvements to the plan. Work groups need to be established and project officers identified.

- CANUSDIX 2005 is scheduled for the week of 12-16 September in Prince Rupert, Canada.
- Complete the 2005-2006-work plan.
- Continue to include equipment deployment exercises as part of CANUSDIX, and use the response management system of the host country to control. Determine feasibility of developing mutually compatible RMS/ICS forms.
- USCG and CCG coordinate and conduct joint Incident Command System (ICS) and Response Management System (RMS) training.
- Conduct a new threat assessment for the Dixon Entrance region and develop a threat assessment section to the CANUSDIX Annex.
- During this meeting the OSCs requested a legal review of both the draft Places of Refuge and the signed/approved CANUSDIX Annex - Wildlife Response Guidelines. The Working Group Co-Chairs strongly disagree with this recommendation and requested the Joint Planning Group reconsider after all stake holders have the opportunity to discuss it with them further. Due to time constraints during CANUSDIX 2004, the Working Group Co-Chairs feel an opportunity to discuss the issue at length was not afforded. However,

the OSCs are ultimately responsible for the proper expenditure of any federal funds and want legal counsel to review the documents to ensure there are no conflicts with existing U.S. and Canadian law or policy. Given that there are no compelling arguments for withholding the documents, the U.S. has already delivered the documents to their legal teams.

- Continue improvement of Wildlife Response Guidelines as needed.
- During this meeting the OSCs requested that the trustees provide an overview of the latest science/literature on oiled wildlife survivability, develop or provide a field guide for wildlife identification, and develop/incorporate “triage” into the Wildlife Response Guidelines. The Working Group Co-Chairs strongly disagree with this recommendation. An overview of the “latest science/literature...” was presented by one of the world’s experts in Ketchikan in 2002 and in Prince Rupert in 2003. The existing guidelines are consistent with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) policy as outlined in the 2004 Best Practices for Migratory Birds during Spill Response. This policy includes triaging of oiled birds by qualified individuals in bird treatment facilities. Discussions with wildlife resource trustees and International Bird Rescue Research Center representatives following the 2004 meeting confirmed the information articulated in the “pre-meeting”; namely, that it is not feasible or advisable to “triage” oiled migratory birds on the beach. A representative from the USFWS agreed with the previous statement during the plenary session. The OSCs acknowledge the Working Group Co-Chair and Trustee position, but still feel there is an opportunity to make further advancements in wildlife response beyond the current approach. The OSCs continue to be driven by a desire to increase wildlife survivability and reduce unnecessary suffering while fulfilling statutory responsibilities as stewards of federal funds. Therefore, the OSCs want to retain this work list item and will speak directly with the Trustees to work out details and resolve any conflicts.
- USCG and CCG explore and evaluate various web-based systems for real time information sharing during a response. Evaluate web EOC and other incident management software packages.
- Develop a logistics/personnel accommodation resource list and incorporate into the CANUSDIX Annex.
- Conduct a Dixon Entrance Contingency Plan (communications only) response exercise.
- USCG, CCG and industry logistics planners review and update plans for rapid deployment of response equipment.
- Continue to include and support all work groups during the annual exercise. For 2005, consult with work group leaders well in advance to schedule and provide meeting space and support as required.

- Proposed for CANUSDIX 2005
 - Conduct an on-water communications exercise and include both USCG and CCG Buoy tenders, SEAPRO, Burrard Clean, and Canadian VTS. Test remote communications in Dixon Entrance (cell, satellite, radio, etc.). Test for dead areas throughout region transit.
 - Conduct a shoreline boom deployment exercise in a high current area.
 - Analyze/compare/contrast ICS and RMS. Appoint a workgroup to develop mutually compatible ICS/RMS forms. Goal - present draft to Joint Working Group during CANUSDIX 2005.
 - Conduct command post “merger” tabletop exercise. US/Canadian OSCs establish separate command posts for the first 1-2 day period. Test the coordination of U.S./Canadian response organizations and subsequent command post/leadership merger. Initially set-up tablespots in separate rooms in the same hotel.

- Proposed for CANUSDIX 2006
 - Conduct large-scale logistics and remote equipment deployment in the vicinity of Haystack Island.
 - Conduct a real time information sharing exercise. Establish a website, post photos, media releases, response updates, etc.







Distribution:
All Participants via E-mail.

Enclosures: (1) Participants List
(2) Schedule of Events
(3) Wildlife Response Working Group Report
(4) Resource Agency Working Group Report

CANUSDIX 2004 - Participant List

This list includes those personnel who participated in this event and/or provided contact information.

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CANUSDIX 2004 - Participant List

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CANUSDIX 2004 - Participant List

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21 September: Tuesday – (cont.)

<u>Presenters</u>	<u>Agenda</u>
CDR Bill Whitson	1030-1100 USCG D13 Marine Response Branch Incident Management Assist Team
Mr. Richard Cropp	1100-1130 Security procedures for transferring personnel and equipment across the border in an incident that locks the border.
1130-1300	LUNCH
Mr. Jeffry D'Alessandro & Canadian Representative	1300-1345 US/Canada Trans Boundary Funding (NPFC/SOPF)
Ms. Deborah Rudis	1345-1415 Rat Response
CDR John Sifling	1415-1500 Case Review (LeConte) Lessons Learned
Ms. Pamela Bergmann	1500-1530 Places of Refuge
Mr. Paul Ross	

Workshops/Workgroups

1545-1645	Joint Planning Group Meeting – 2-year work plan review (2003-2004) and new work plan (2005-2007) Location: Westcoast Cape Fox Boardroom (Naa Kaani) CDR John Sifling, Don Rodden, Bob Mattson
1300-1600	Develop Operations & Safety Brief Standard Check-list CCG/USCG/SEAPRO/Burrard Clean Location: Westmark Cape Fox Room "B"

Equipment

0800-1600	Equipment Preparation: SEAPRO/Burrard Clean/USCG/CCG CGC Anthony Petit: Load / Train on VOSS: Set Up & Safety
1615-1715	Review Schedule of Events for Wednesday Develop Wednesday Assignments Location: Westcoast Cape Fox Room "B"

22 September: Wednesday

On Water Equipment Deployment

0730-TBD	Check In/Check Out Station – ADEC/SEAPRO Location: Crow's Nest (upper CG base)
0800-0845	Operations Brief – LT Gary Koehler or LT Rob Nakama (MSO Juneau) CWO Dana Jensen (CGC Anthony Petit) Safety Brief – Jenny Brewer (SEAPRO) LTJG Andy Vanskike (D-17 DRAT) Communications Brief – Pete Pritchard (SEAPRO), Art Pilot (ADEC) Representatives from each participating agency/company/vessel Location: Crow's Nest (upper CG Base)

22 September: Wednesday (cont.)

- 0900-1500 Underway Equipment Deployment
Location: Vicinity Mountain Point
Task Force Commander: USCGC ANTHONY PETIT
- 1500-1530 Equipment Deployment Debrief – Each task force group leader will debrief their crew separately and send a representative to the summary debrief meeting (1630-1700 Crow’s Nest, upper CG Base).
- 1530-1730 Start Equipment Demobilization/Preventive Maintenance
Location: ISC Ketchikan (lower CG Base)
- 1630-1700 Summary Debrief Meeting
Location: Crow’s Nest Club (upper CG Base)

Work Sessions/Workgroups

- 0800-1130 Dispersant Work Session
Location: Westcoast Cape Fox Room “B”
Teleconference: 1-800-857-0373 (pass code # 17634)
- 1130-1300 LUNCH
- 1300-1500 Wildlife Response Working Group Meeting
Resource Agency Working Group Meeting
Location: Westcoast Cape Fox Room “B”
Teleconference: 1-800-857-0373 (pass code # 17634)
- 1500-1700 Planners Workshop
USCG/CCG
Location: Westcoast Cape Fox Lodge Boardroom

23 September: Thursday

Equipment

- 0800-1300 Complete Equipment Maintenance and Repack
Location: ISC Ketchikan
- 0800-1130 Barge Load-out Work Session
Location: Westcoast Cape Fox Room “A”
- 0800-0845 Historic Properties
(ADEC, Canada/US Agencies, SEAPRO)
Location: Westcoast Cape Fox Room “B”
- 0900-1200 In-Situ Burn Work Session
Location: Westcoast Cape Fox Room “B”
Teleconference: 1-800-857-0373 (pass code # 17634)
- 1130-1300 LUNCH**

23 September: Thursday (cont.)

1330-1530

Canada – U.S. Joint Work Group Meeting
Location: Westcoast Cape Fox Lodge Room “A”

Presenters

Agenda

Ms. Pamela Bergmann	1330-1335	CANUSDIX Wildlife Response Working Group Report
Mr. Paul Ross		
Ms. Pamela Bergmann	1335-1345	CANUSDIX Resource Agency Working Group Report
Mr. Paul Ross		
Cheryl Fultz	1345-1355	Planners Workshop Report
Pete Pritchard	1355-1405	Barge Load-out Workshop Report
Brian Hennessey	1405-1415	Ops/Safety Workshop Report
CDR John Sifling	1415-1425	Joint Planning Group Report

Closing Remarks

1430-1435	Capt John Davin	USCGD17
1435-1440	CDR John Sifling	MSO Juneau
1440-1445	Mr. Don Rodden	Canadian Coast Guard
1445-1450	Mr. Bob Mattson	ADEC
1450-1455	Mr. Paul Ross	Environment Canada

1515-1630

2005 CANUSDIX Planning Meeting
Representative from:
USCGD17 – DRAT/Canadian CG
MSO Juneau / MSD Ketchikan/ADEC
SEAPRO/Burrard Clean
Location: Westcoast Cape Fox Lodge Room “B”

1800-TBD

Dinner Reception @ Westcoast Cape Fox Room “A”

24 September: Friday

0415

AMHS Ferry M/V Kennicott departs for Prince Rupert
Travel Day for all Participants

MEMORANDUM

FROM: Pamela Bergmann and Paul Ross, CANUSDIX Wildlife Response Working Group Co-Chairpersons

SUBJECT: Summary of September 22, 2004, CANUSDIX Wildlife Response Working Group Meeting

The following is a brief summary of actions taken/completed and action items as discussed at a Canada/United States Dixon Entrance (CANUSDIX) Wildlife Response Working Group (Working Group) meeting, held on September 22, 2004, in Ketchikan, Alaska.

PROMOTION OF WILDLIFE RESPONSE GUIDELINES

Actions Taken: Pamela Bergmann reported that a presentation co-authored with Paul Ross and entitled “A Model Approach for Developing Joint International Wildlife Response Guidelines: An Example from Canada and the United States” was made in October 2003 at the International Effects of Oil on Wildlife Conference in Hamburg, Germany, and that a companion paper will be published in the conference proceedings. It was also reported that she and Paul Ross are preparing a paper entitled “Keys to Success in Developing the First Joint Trans-Boundary Wildlife Response Guidelines: The Canada/United States Dixon Entrance Example” for inclusion in the proceedings for, and for presentation at, the May 2005 International Oil Spill Conference in Miami, Florida.

Paul Ross reported that at CANUSPAC 04 (conducted in Victoria, BC) the U.S. and Canadian Coast Guards tasked Environment Canada (EC) and the U.S. Department of the Interior – Office of Environmental Policy and Compliance, Portland (DOI Portland) with determining if the *CANUSDIX Wildlife Response Guidelines* could be modified and adopted for use in the CANUSPAC area. EC and DOI-Portland accepted the request and agreed to co-chair a working group. An initial meeting of the working group was conducted at CANUSPAC 04 as most key federal, state and provincial agencies were in attendance. The working group agreed that the *CANUSDIX Wildlife Response Guidelines* provide an excellent model and could be modified for use in the transboundary waters of the Juan de Fuca Strait area.

Paul Ross also reported that the *CANUSDIX Wildlife Response Guidelines* are being used as a template in Atlantic transboundary waters and were discussed at a recent international cross border workshop on the east coast. Resource agencies plan to have their own wildlife guidelines in place by spring 2005, in time for CANUSANT 05 in June.

These efforts supported one of the “CANUSDIX September 2003 After-Action Report (2003 After-Action Report)” recommendations for the Working Group; namely, “promote the guidelines to other regions across the Canada/US border and to other regions where international cooperation for wildlife response will be required for a successful response.”

Actions Item: Pamela Bergmann will work with Nathalie Lowry to determine interest in re-starting wildlife response efforts for the Canada/United States North area.

REVIEW OF WILDLIFE RESPONSE GUIDELINES

Actions Completed: The *CANUSDIX Wildlife Response Guidelines* were placed on the internet [http://www.akrrt.org/CANUS_DixonEntrance] in October 2003. This effort completed one of the 2003 After-Action Report recommendations for the Working Group; namely, “Canadian CG or USCG should put the guidelines on the web for ease of access and use.”

Actions Taken: Working Group members discussed revisions that need to be made in the *CANUSDIX Wildlife Response Guidelines*. The revisions include updates to Canadian emergency contact information in Appendix 2, and permit information in Appendices 9A and 9B.

Action Item: Paul Ross will coordinate with appropriate Canadian wildlife resource agency representatives to identify necessary revisions to Appendices 2, 9A, and 9B.

Action Item: Pamela Bergmann and Paul Ross will provide an updated version of the *CANUSDIX Wildlife Response Guidelines* to Working Group members, and their respective U.S. Coast Guard and Canadian Coast Guard points-of-contact, after revisions to Appendices 2, 9A, and 9B are made.

KETCHIKAN AND PRINCE RUPERT FACILITY EVALUTIONS

Prior to placing the *CANUSDIX Wildlife Response Guidelines* on the CANUSDIX web site in October 2003, updated information in Appendix 14 (“Potential Bird Stabilization and Treatment Facilities: Dixon Entrance Area”) was included. In addition, Work Group members were provided a copy of the September 2003 facility evaluation prepared by Curt Clumpner of the International Bird Rescue Research Center (IBRRC). Both of these tasks completed 2003 After-Action Report recommendations.

Work Group members discussed the status of work to develop a detailed plan that identifies what would be necessary to have selected pre-identified facilities in Ketchikan and the Prince Rupert area ready to receive oiled migratory birds for treatment within a specified time period (e.g., 48 or 72 hours), which was a 2003 After-Action Report recommendation. It was reported that work on this task had not been completed; however, Work Group members and Burrard Clean Operations (BCO) and Southeast Alaska Resource Petroleum Organization (SEAPRO) representatives agreed to move ahead with this action item during the next year.

Action Item: Pamela Bergmann and Paul Ross will work with Work Group members and IBRRC, BCO, and SEAPRO representatives to identify a plan for developing a detailed plan that identifies what would be necessary to have selected pre-identified facilities in Ketchikan and the Prince Rupert area ready to receive oiled migratory birds for treatment within a specified time period (e.g., 48 or 72 hours).

MEETING ATTENDEES

Work Group representatives:

Paul Ross, Environment Canada (Co-Chairperson)

Ken Morgan, Environment Canada-Canadian Wildlife Service (via teleconference)

Karen Hutton, Marilyn Joyce, and Bruce Shepherd, Fisheries and Oceans Canada (via teleconference)

Sean Sharpe and Mike Drumm, British Columbia Ministry of Land, Water, and Air Protection

Stafford Reid, British Columbia Ministry of Land, Water, and Air Protection (via teleconference)

Pamela Bergmann, U.S. Department of the Interior-Office of Environmental Policy and Compliance (Co-Chairperson)

Deborah Rudis and Catherine Berg, U.S. Department of the Interior-Fish and Wildlife Service

Brad Smith, U.S. Department of Commerce, National Marine Fisheries Service (via teleconference)

Mark Fink, Alaska Department of Fish and Game

Doug Sanvik, Alaska Department of Natural Resources

Other attendees:

Nathalie Lowry, Environment Canada, Whitehorse

Les Dawes, Canadian Coast Guard

Craig Dougans, Burrard Clean Operations

Jack Davin, U.S. Coast Guard-District 17

Gary Koehler and Eileen Nally, U.S. Coast Guard-Juneau Marine Safety Office

Greg Buie and Jeff D'Alessandro, U.S. Coast Guard, National Pollution Fund Center

John Whitney, U.S. Department of Commerce-National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

Cheryl Fultz, Southeast Alaska Petroleum Resource Organization

MEMORANDUM

TO: Canada/U.S. Dixon Entrance (CANUSDIX) Resource Agency Working Group Members

FROM: Pamela Bergmann and Paul Ross, CANUSDIX Resource Agency Working Group Co-Chairpersons

SUBJECT: Summary of September 22, 2004, CANUSDIX Resource Agency Working Group Meeting

The following is a brief summary of actions taken/completed, consensus points, and action items as discussed at a CANUSDIX Resource Agency Working Group meeting, held on September 22, 2004, in Ketchikan, Alaska.

ESTABLISHMENT OF WORKING GROUP

Actions Taken/Completed: As requested at the September 2003 CANUSDIX meeting in Prince Rupert, the U.S. Department of the Interior-Office of Environmental Policy and Compliance (DOI-OEPC) and Environment Canada (EC) took the lead in establishing the CANUSDIX Resource Agency Working Group (Working Group) to address resource-related topics for work related to places of refuge (e.g., locations where vessels experiencing difficulties could be directed/taken) and dispersant use and *in situ* burning guidelines/decision-making in the CANUSDIX trans-boundary area.

The following Canadian and U.S. resource agencies have been invited to participate in the Working Group (in addition to EC and DOI-OEPC, who serve as the Working Group Co-Chairpersons): EC-Canadian Wildlife Service, Fisheries and Oceans Canada, Indian and Northern Affairs Canada, Canada Parks Agency, and British Columbia Ministry of Land, Water, and Air Protection in Canada, and DOI-Fish and Wildlife Service, U.S. Department of Commerce-National Marine Fisheries Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture-Forest Service, Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Alaska Department of Natural Resources, and Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation in the U.S.

PLACES OF REFUGE

Actions Taken/Completed: The Working Group Co-Chairpersons reported that, as agreed upon at an August 17, 2004, Working Group teleconference, the Working Group's preference for using the Alaska Regional Response Team's (ARRT) "Guidelines for Places of Refuge Decision-Making (POR Guidelines)" as the template for CANUSDIX guidelines for places of refuge decision-making, was relayed to their respective Canadian Coast Guard (CCG) and U.S. Coast Guard (USCG) CANUSDIX representatives.

Working Group members discussed the preliminary draft “Canada-United States Joint Marine Pollution Contingency Plan, CANUSDIX Annex: Guidelines for Places of Refuge Decision-Making,” which was provided to Working Group members, CCG, USCG, and other interested parties. This document included a preliminary draft “Framework for Resource Agency Input to Places of Refuge Decision-Making (Appendix 3).”

CCG and USCG representatives confirmed it is appropriate for the Working Group to continue their work on preparing guidelines for resource agency input to places of refuge decision-making based on the ARRT POR Guidelines. However, CCG and USCG representatives declined the Working Group’s offer to prepare a draft “Canada-United States Joint Marine Pollution Contingency Plan, CANUSDIX Annex: Guidelines for Places of Refuge Decision-Making.” It was noted that the ARRT POR Guidelines include a process for inputting other considerations (which are not under resource agency management authority) into the CCG and USCG places of refuge decision-making process, which was a Working Group action item from September 2003.

The Working Group Co-Chairpersons reported that appropriate places of refuge information had been shared between the Working Group and the Pacific State/British Columbia Task Force Executive Director, as requested in September 2003.

Consensus Point: U.S. resource agencies agreed that factors to be considered in places of refuge decision-making should mirror the factors identified in the *Southeast Alaska Subarea Contingency Plan*. It was also agreed that U.S. resource agency representatives would re-organize the U.S. factors to mirror the organizational structure used for Canadian factors. The Working Group agreed it is not possible, nor is it desirable, to develop more specific pre-incident places of refuge resource “prioritization” criteria, since each incident is unique.

Action Item: The Working Group Co-Chairpersons will take the lead in preparing “stand alone” CANUSDIX Annex guidelines for resource agency input to places of refuge decision-making. [Note: See also the “Action Item” under “Dispersant Use and *In Situ* Burning”.] The resulting draft will be provided to Working Group members for review and comment. Once consensus is reached among Work Group members, the guidelines will be forwarded to the CCG and USCG for review and approval.

DISPERSANT USE AND *IN SITU* BURNING

Actions Taken/Completed: The Working Group Chairpersons reported that Working Group members had been provided copies or internet sites for existing Canadian and U.S. dispersant use and *in situ* burning guidelines/decision-making documents applicable to the Dixon Entrance trans-boundary area. Those documents included: (1) 2001 draft *British Columbia/Canada, In-situ Oil Burning Policy and Decision Guidelines*, (2) Environment Canada 1984 *Guidelines on the Use and Acceptability of Oil Spill Dispersants*, (3) 1994 *In Situ Burning Guidelines for Alaska*; and (4) 1999 *RRT Oil Dispersant Guidelines for Alaska*.

Working Group members affirmed that resource agency contacts identified in the preliminary draft “Framework for Resource Agency Input to Places of Refuge Decision-Making” are the

same individuals who would be involved in providing input to dispersant use and *in-situ* burning decision-making.

Half-day work sessions on dispersant use and *in situ* burning guidelines were organized by the Work Group and held on September 22 and 23, respectively. A copy of the agendas listing the names of presenters and workshop attendees is attached.

Consensus Point: The “stand alone” CANUSDIX guidelines for resource agency input to places of refuge decision-making needs to be expanded to also include resource agency input to dispersant use and *in-situ* burning decision-making.

Action Item: The Working Group Co-Chairpersons will take the lead in preparing “stand alone” CANUSDIX Annex guidelines for resource agency input to places of refuge, dispersant use, and *in-situ* burning decision-making.

Action Item: The Working Group will meet in September 2005 in Prince Rupert to continue discussing mutual topics of interest.

MEETING ATTENDEES

Work Group representatives:

Paul Ross, Environment Canada (Co-Chairperson)
Karen Hutton and Bruce Shepherd, Fisheries and Oceans Canada (via teleconference)
Sean Sharpe and Mike Drumm, British Columbia Ministry of Land, Water, and Air Protection
Stafford Reid, British Columbia Ministry of Land, Water, and Air Protection (via teleconference)

Pamela Bergmann, U.S. Department of the Interior-Office of Environmental Policy and Compliance (Co-Chairperson)

Deborah Rudis and Catherine Berg, U.S. Department of the Interior-Fish and Wildlife Service
Brad Smith, U.S. Department of Commerce, National Marine Fisheries Service (via teleconference)
Mark Fink, Alaska Department of Fish and Game
Doug Sanvik, Alaska Department of Natural Resources

Other attendees:

Nathalie Lowry, Environment Canada, Whitehorse
Les Dawes, Canadian Coast Guard
Craig Dougans, Burard Clean Operations

Jack Davin, U.S. Coast Guard-District 17
Gary Koehler and Eileen Nally, U.S. Coast Guard-Juneau Marine Safety Office
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John Whitney, U.S. Department of Commerce-National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
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