



ALASKA DEPT OF
ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION



UNITED STATES COAST GUARD
CAPTAIN OF THE PORT PRINCE WILLIAM SOUND



USEPA (REGION X)
ALASKA OPERATIONS OFFICE

May 16, 2005

Dear Tribal Leader:

For your information, The Prince William Sound Subarea Contingency Plan (SCP) was first published in 1997, with a subsequent change published in July 1999. The plan will be undergoing an active review process this summer to include a review of geographic response strategies, potential places of refuge, and additional updates to the plan. The Prince William Sound SCP supplements the Alaska Federal/State Preparedness Plan for Response to Oil and Hazardous Substance Discharges/Releases (the Unified Plan). The Alaska Regional Response Team and the State Emergency Response Commission approved a joint federal/state planning initiative in 1992, which led to the publication of the Unified Plan and the requirement for ten subarea contingency plans. The Prince William Sound SCP, in conjunction with the Unified Plan, describes the strategy for a coordinated federal, tribal, state, local, and industry response to a discharge or substantial threat of discharge of oil or a release of a hazardous substance within the boundaries of the Prince William Sound subarea. A map outlining the subarea is attached.

The United States government recognizes its unique legal relationship with Tribal governments as set forth in the United States Constitution, treaties, statutes, executive orders, and court decisions. In 1994, the President of the United States issued a presidential memorandum for the Heads of Executive Departments and Agencies reaffirming the government-to-government relationships with Native American Tribal Governments. On May 14, 1998, the President issued Executive Order 13084, "Consultation and Coordination With Tribal Governments." The Executive Order addresses regular and meaningful consultation and collaboration with Indian Tribal governments in developing regulatory policies on federal matters affecting their communities. A new Executive Order signed on November 6, 2000 reaffirms the commitment to tribal sovereignty, self-determination, and self-government. Similarly, the Governor of the State of Alaska issued Administrative Order 186 that makes clear for all state and federal agencies, the courts, the tribes, and the public that the State recognizes and respects the governmental status of the federal recognized tribes within Alaska.

We (United States Coast Guard, United States Environmental Protection Agency, and Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation) view participation by the tribal governments as a critical step in the success of the overall spill response planning process. Electronic files of the Unified Plan and the current version of the Prince William Sound SCP are available for review on the Alaska Regional Response Team's website at:

<http://www.akrrt.org/plans.html>

For information on upcoming activities or if you wish to obtain a compact disk CD of the Prince William Sound SCP, please contact LT Catherine Huot, USCG Marine Safety Office Valdez (835-7214), Mary Goolie EPA, Alaska Operations Office (271-3414) or Larry Iwamoto, ADEC Anchorage (269-7683).

ROBERT E. BAILEY

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Encl: Map of the Prince William Sound Subarea
cc: Tribal Government Environmental Staff

Prince William Sound, Alaska

Contingency Plan Subarea

1 inch = 50 miles

Approximate 3-Mile Limit
Roads

