

The following tactical information was developed by the Joint Design Team (JDT) in order to cover field response activities for the first 12 hours of this scenario.

It should be noted that this write-up is not intended to reflect the expected tactical response by SERVS during an event such as this scenario. It also is not intended to imply that the scenario information from the PWS Tanker Plan was determined to be inadequate. However, the write-up does represent one approach to the scenario. It is recognized that there are other valid strategies/tactics which could have been employed ... several of which would likely have been more effective at initially recovering product.

Please keep in mind that the JDT had to carefully craft the initial response in order to facilitate the following exercise factors:


- The Joint Steering Committee (JSC) wanted the spill to be limited to no more than 5,000 bbls.
- The JSC did not want shoreline impacts to be a major focus for the drill {i.e. the major focus for the drill is the command post planning process and the Incident Management Team (IMT) transition}.
- The JSC wanted the command post play to last for two days, with continued on-water skimming activities being the focus of field activities during the development of the second Incident Action Plan (IAP).

## PWS AreaEx 04 – Command Post Scenario

### **Initial Tactical Plan:**

#### 1. TransRec 450-8.

Mission – Skim at spill site and potential secondary releases from tanker.

- Proceed from Naked Island to spill site/tanker, approximately ½ nautical miles (nm) southeast of buoy #9 (i.e. 60° 56.9 n 146° 52.0 w).
- While transiting to the spill site, mark the leading edge of slick along track line .
- At spill site, deploy equipment with 4 supporting fishing vessels (i.e. tactic 0-1) and commence skimming operations.

#### 2. Valdez Star.

Mission – Ellamar Geographic Response Strategy (GRS) site protection (i.e. screen).

- Proceed from Valdez to Tatitlek Narrows northwest of Ellamar (i.e. 60° 54.2 n 146° 44.2 w).
- Search for oil slick in a northwesterly direction along trackline between Ellamar and spill site. Starting search approximately 5 nm from spill site.
- Upon locating slick, deploy equipment with 2 supporting fishing vessels and Allison Creek (i.e. tactic 0-2c) and commence skimming operations.


#### 3. TransRec 450-3.

Mission – West Bay GRS site protection (i.e. screen).

- Proceed from Valdez to west entrance of West Bay on Bligh Island (i.e. 60° 52.6 n 146° 49.7 w).
- Once on-scene, deploy equipment with 4 supporting fishing vessels (i.e. tactic 0-1).
- Search for oil slick in a north-northwesterly direction along trackline toward spill site. Starting search approximately 5.5 nm from spill site.

#### 4. TransRec 450-1.

Mission – Bull Head Environmental Sensitivity Index (ESI) site protection (i.e. screen).

- Proceed from Valdez to location approximately 2 nm east of Finski Pt. on Glacier Island (i.e. 60° 53.7 n 147° 00.0 w).
- While transiting to search location you will likely cross the slick, mark east and west edges of the slick along track line .
- Once on-scene, deploy equipment with 4 supporting fishing vessels (i.e. tactic 0-1).
- Search for oil slick in a northeasterly direction along trackline toward spill site. Starting search approximately 4.5 nm from spill site.

#### 5. TransRec Mineral Creek.

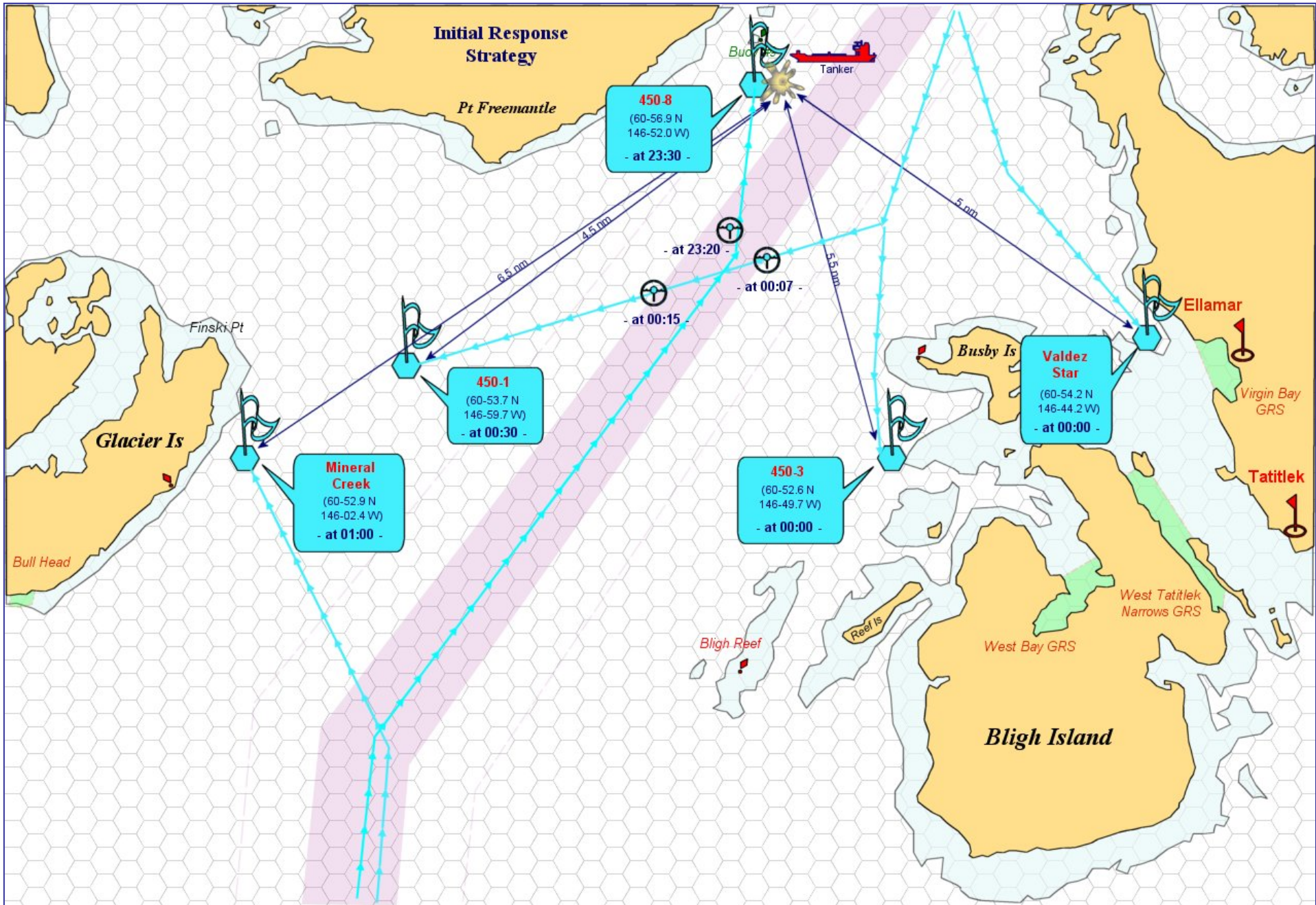
Mission – Bull Head ESI site protection (i.e. screen).

- Proceed from Port Etches to location approximately 1.25 nm south-southeast of Finski Pt. on Glacier Island (i.e. 60° 52.9 n 147° 02.4 w).
- Once on-scene, deploy equipment with 4 supporting fishing vessels (i.e. tactic 0-1).
- Search for oil slick in a northeasterly direction along trackline toward spill site. Starting search approximately 6.5 nm from spill site.

#### 6. Responder 500-2.

- Proceed from Valdez to Tatitlek Narrows northwest of Ellamar.
- Anchorage and establish on-scene staging area.
- Support deployment of shoreline protection taskforce to execute Virgin Bay, West Tatitlek Narrows, and West Bay GRSs.
- Support deployment of near-shore free oil task forces to backup TransRec deployments.

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### Graphics notes:

- Each hex represents 1/16<sup>th</sup> of a square nautical mile {i.e. each is approximately 1/4 nm wide}.
- Colored hexes represent areas searched by the taskforces since their arrival on-scene (up till 08:00 on the 4th). Blue hexes denote no oil detected and yellow-brown hexes denote oil detected (with recovery occurring at that location). The Red outlined hexes denote the taskforce locations at 08:00.
- The light blue regions represent water depths of less than 10 fathoms (i.e. 60 feet). Green regions represent the GRS/ESI sites.

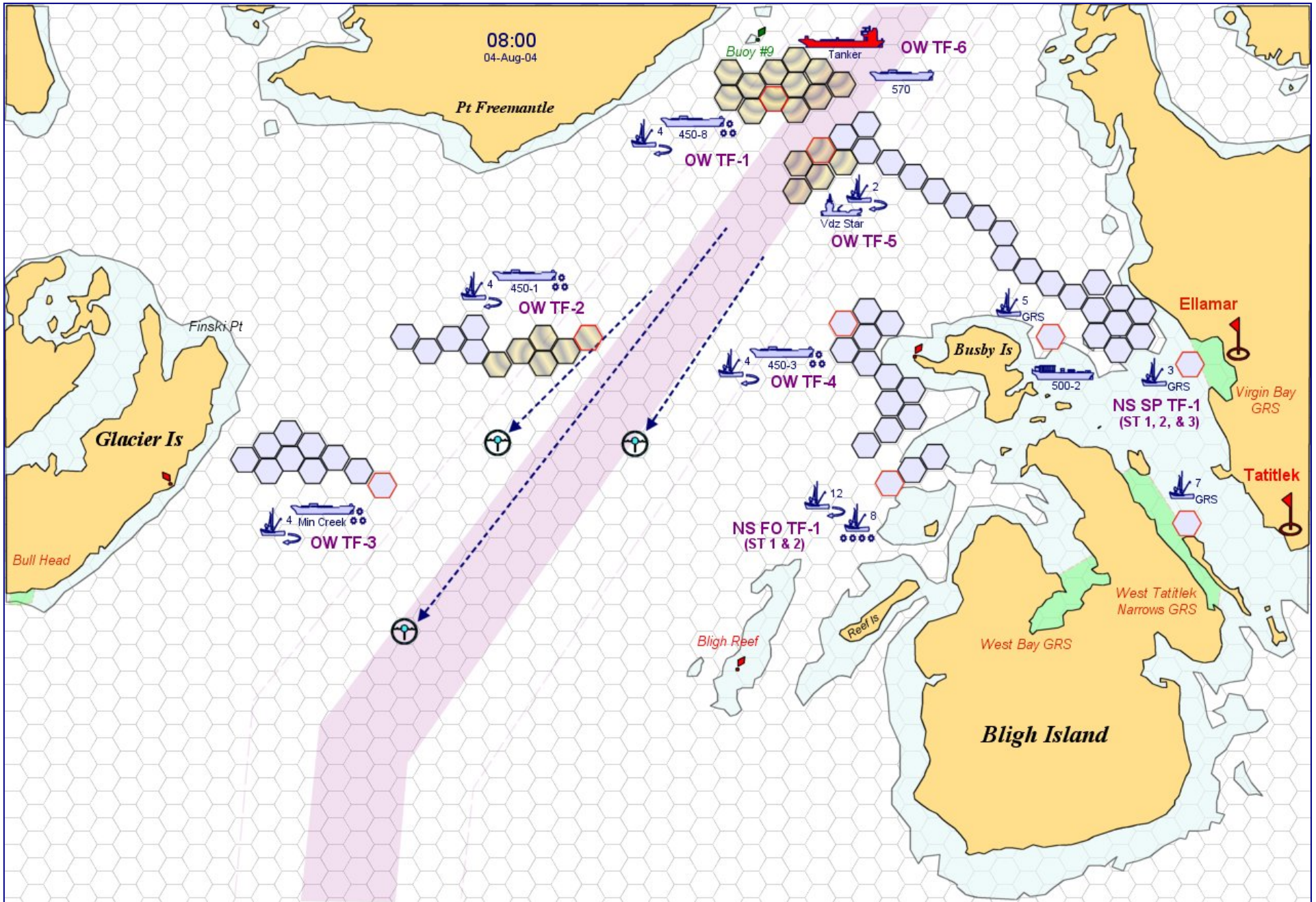
### On-scene Conditions:

- Visibility has been extremely limited (approximately 1/4 nm) from 20:00 on the 3<sup>rd</sup> to 08:00 on the 4<sup>th</sup>. On-water responders essentially can only see the slick if it is in their immediate vicinity. Conditions are expected to improve around 12:00 on the 4<sup>th</sup>.
- The effective search/skimming speed has been approximately 1/2 knot due to the limited visibility. Throughout the next 12 hours (i.e. 08:00-20:00 on the 4th) this speed is anticipated to remain constant, first due to continued low visibility and later due to slick thickness/entrainment/etc.
- With command post trajectory analysis, tracking buoys () and on-scene vessel transit reports, responders have developed a sense that the central axis of the slick is along the tanker separation lanes and is moving at less than 1 knot to the southwest.

### Tactical Notes:

- For this scenario skimming operations toward the center of the channel were delayed in favor of protecting the GRS/ESI sites from potential down-stream oiling ... at least until the near-shore free-oil taskforces (NSFOTFs) and near-shore shoreline protection taskforces (NSSPTFs) could be mobilized. This decision was further supported by the slick's current track and mild weather predictions, which should keep the oil in open-water regions of the sound for the next 6-12 hours. The 1<sup>st</sup> NSFOTF deployed at 07:00 north of West Bay on Bligh Island. The 1<sup>st</sup> NSSPTF is on-scene (06:30) but currently unable to execute the GRSs due to limited visibility and navigational hazards.
- Estimated product recovery rates, temporary storage usage, and spill trajectories for this scenario will be calculated and tracked by exercise control. *Please note that recovery rates (from control) will likely be artificially low in order to keep on-water skimming operation in play.*
- Most NSFOTFs for this scenario consist of two strike teams (STs) of 10 fishing vessels each. Please note that the PWS Tanker Plan scripts NSFOTFs with three STs. Due to the scripted arrive times of fishing vessels, span-of-control issues, and the geographic areas potentially impacted for this scenario, the emergency response team decide to form most NSFOTFs with only two STs. As the response progresses this may lead to the formation of up to six NSFOTFs (with 2 STs each) by the end of the 2<sup>nd</sup> operational period (i.e. 16:00 on the 4<sup>th</sup>).

PWS AreaEx 04 – Command Post Scenario



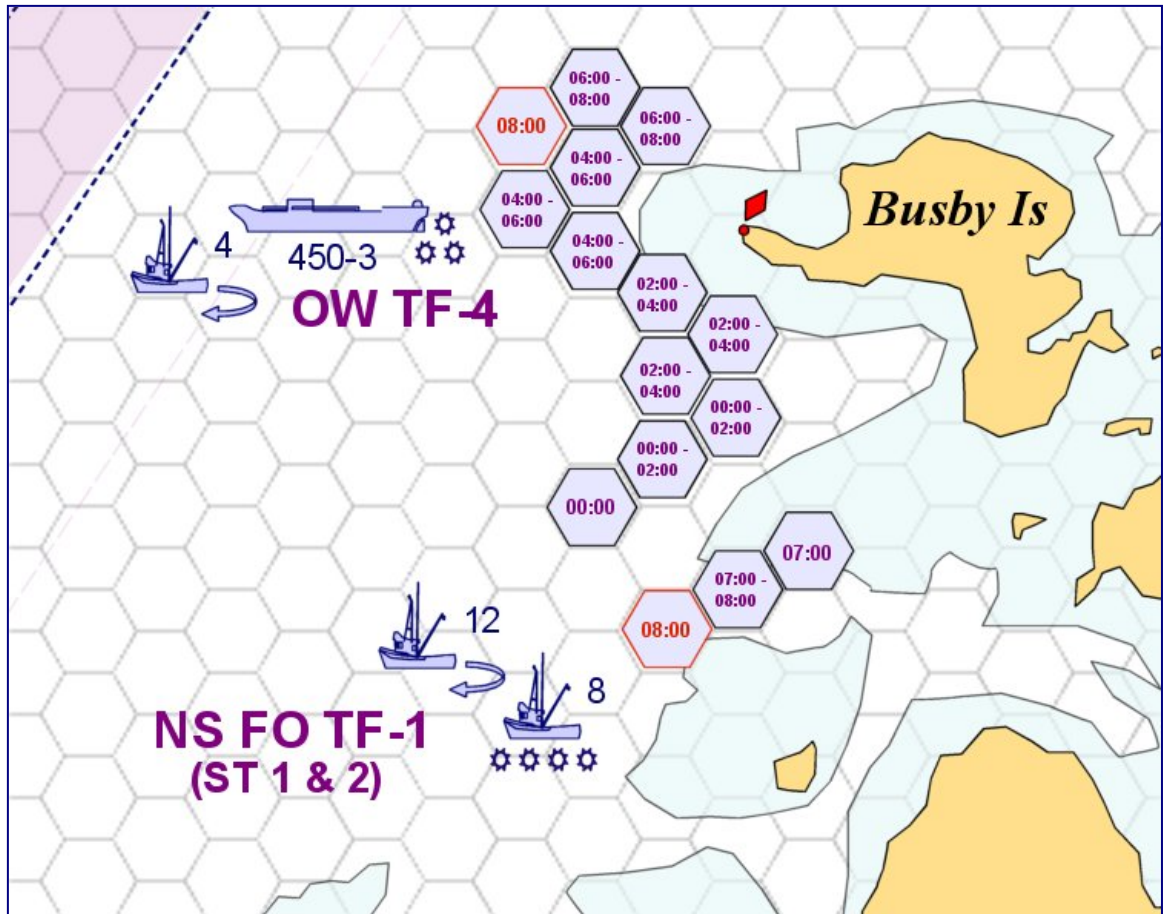
**Movement Estimates:**

Due to sweep width (i.e. boom systems), speed of advance (i.e. ½ knot), and the number of vessels involved the following hexes were determined to be the likely areas searched/skimmed by the various taskforces in one hour:

- Open Water Task Forces (OWTFs): 1.5 hexes per hour.
- Near-shore Free Oil Task Forces (NSFOTFs): 2.5 hexes per hour.

The diagram depicts OWTF-4 deploying at midnight (00:00) and searching west of Busby Island for 8 hours (i.e. 1.5 hexes times 8 = 12 hexes covered)

The diagram also depicts NSFOTF-1 deploying at 07:00 and searching for 1 hour {i.e. 2.5 hexes times 1 = 3 hexes (rounded up)}.



PWS AreaEx 04 – Command Post Scenario

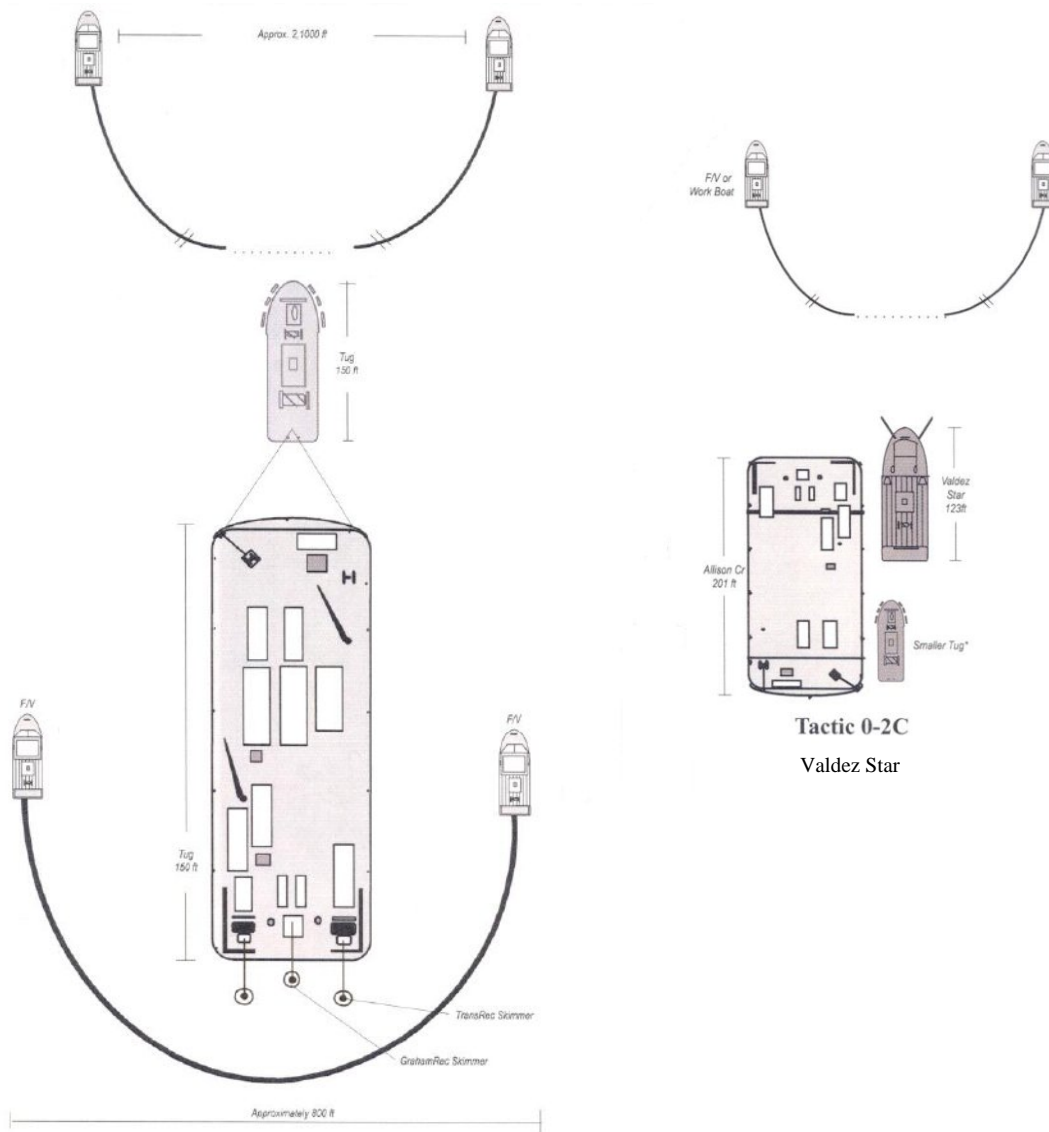


Figure 2-1. Tactic 0-1, TransRec/GrahamRec Task Force (Task Forces #1-4)

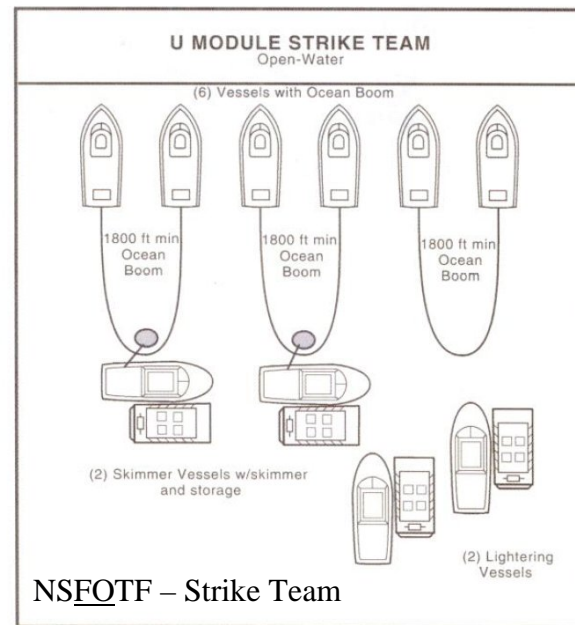


Figure 3-4. "U" Module (Open-Water) Strike Team

Resource Mobilization - Buoy #9 Scenario

MB = Mobilized TR = In Transit OS= On Scene HP= Hatchery Protection

Task Force	Major Resource	Fishing Vsl Support	Location at 0-hour	Emergency Response Task	Speed (kts)	Dist. (NM)	Trans (Hrs)	Mob (Hrs)	Total Time	20-21	21-22	22-23	23-24	00-01	01-02	02-03	03-04	04-05	05-06	06-07	07-08	08-09	09-10	10-11	11-12	12-13	13-14	14-15	15-16	16-17	17-18	18-19	19-20	
										1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	
Tanker	Tug-1		On-scene	Tanker - Escort (Pri)	10	0	0.0	0.0	0.0	OS																								
	Tug-2		On-scene	Tanker - Escort (Sec)	10	0	0.0	0.0	0.0	OS																								
OWTF-1	450-8 / Tug-3		Naked Is (Sentinel)	Tanker - Skim	8	24	3.0	0.5	3.5	MB			TR	OS																				
	Fishing Vessels (T1)	4	Valdez	Boom (Tactic 0-1)	8	21.5	2.7	0.5	3.2	MB			TR	OS																				
OWTF-5	Vdz Star / Al Crk		Valdez	Ellamar - Screen/Skim	8	21.5	2.7	1.0	3.7	MB				TR	OS																			
	Allison Creek					8	21.5	2.7	1.0	3.7	MB				TR	OS																		
	Tug-4 & Line Boat					8	21.5	2.7	1.0	3.7	MB				TR	OS																		
	Fishing Vessels (T1)	2				8	21.5	2.7	1.0	3.7	MB				TR	OS																		
OWTF-6	570 / Tug-5		Valdez	Tanker - Lightering Barge	8	21.5	2.7	1.0	3.7	MB				TR	OS																			
OWTF-4	450-3 / Tug-6		Valdez	West Bay - Screen/Skim	8	23	2.9	1.0	3.9	MB				TR	OS																			
	Fishing Vessels (T1)	4	Valdez	Boom (Tactic 0-1)	8	23	2.9	1.0	3.9	MB				TR	OS																			
OWTF-2	450-1 / Tug-7		Valdez	Bull Head - Screen/Skim	8	27	3.4	1.0	4.4	MB				TR	OS																			
	Fishing Vessels (T1)	4	Valdez	Boom (Tactic 0-1)	8	27	3.4	1.0	4.4	MB				TR	OS																			
DTF-1	C-130 & spotter (Lynden)		Anchorage	Load Up, Fly 1st Sortie	200	132	0.7	4.0	4.7					MB	TR	OS																		
	Fishing Vessels (T1)	1	Valdez	SMART	8	27	3.4	1.0	4.4	MB				TR	OS																			
OWTF-3	Mineral Creek / Tug-8		Port Etches (Sentinal)	Bull Head - Screen/Skim	8	38.6	4.8	0.5	5.3	MB					TR	OS																		
	Fishing Vessels (T1)	4	Valdez	Boom (Tactic 0-1)	8	28	3.5	1.8	5.3		MB				TR	OS																		
NSG	500-2 / Tug-9		Valdez	Tatitlek Narrows	8	23.5	2.9	3.0	5.9						TR	OS																		
	Fishing Vessels (T1)	2	Valdez	Safety & Command Vessels	8	23.5	2.9	3.0	5.9						TR	OS																		
NSHPTF	Fishing Vessels (T2)	10	Various	Hatchery Protection	8	48	6.0	1.0	7.0	MB						TR	OS																	
SPTF-1	Fishing Vessels (T2)	15	Various	GRSs - Bligh Is. & Ellamar	8	60	7.5	3.0	10.5																									
NSFOTF-1	Fishing Vessels (T2)	20	Various	West Bay (Tactic N-2b)	8	60	7.5	3.0	10.5						MB																			
DTF-1	USCG C-130 (Strby)		Kodiak	Transit to ANC, Load Up	200	500	2.5	8.0	10.5																									
NSFOTF-2	Fishing Vessels (T2)	20	Various	Pt. Freemantle (Tactic N-2b)	8	60	7.5	5.5	13.0						MB																			
NSFOTF-3	Fishing Vessels (T2)	28	Various	Bull Head (Tactic N-2b & 7b)	8	60	7.5	5.5	13.0						MB																			
SPTF-2	Fishing Vessels (T2)	8	Various	GRS - Jack Bay	8	60	7.5	5.5	13.0						MB																			
NSFOTF-4	Fishing Vessels (T2)	20	Various	Precautionary Area (Tactic N-2b)	8	60	7.5	8.0	15.5																									
NSFOTF-5	Fishing Vessels (T2)	20	Various	Leading Edge (Tactic N-2b)	8	60	7.5	8.0	15.5																									
NSFOTF-6	Fishing Vessels (T2)	20	Various	Leading Edge (Tactic N-2b)	8	60	7.5	8.0	15.5																									
OWTF-6	Tanker of Opportunity		Gulf of AK (inbound)	Transit to Tanker, Lighter	12	44	3.7	13.0	16.7																									

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08:00 - command post exercise play starts.