January 29, 2009

Public Session, Coeur D’Alene, Idaho

Meeting Called to Order @ 8:06 am

Chris field opened up the morning.

Everyone introduced themselves (list attached with attendees)

1. **Mary Halverson – Idaho Hazardous materials Response Plan**

Mary gave a talk on Idaho‘s stand-alone Hazmat plan. Mary discussed Idaho’s levels of incident classifications, and that the purpose of classifications was so that costs could be recovered more easily. . A full copy of Idaho’s plan can be found at: [www.bhs.idaho.gov](http://www.bhs.idaho.gov). To see her powerpoint presentation on the topic **See Link.**

1. **Josie Clark – Overview of the Regional Response Team, Northwest Area Committee, the Northwest area contingency Plan, and the Canada/US Joint Inland Contingency Plan, Western States Annex.**

Josie discussed the RRT and NWAC as the two entities responsible for regional oil spill and hazmat response planning, as well as the goals and content of the Northwest Area Contingency Plan. Josie informed the group that Idaho accepts this plan once the Federal Agency comes into play during a response. For Further information on NWACP **See Link**

Josie also talked about CANUSWest. CANUSWest is a nation to nation agreement that US and Canada will work together on cross border reponses, or incidents that are large enough to merit cross border support. For further information on CANUSWest See link.

1. **Chris Field-Local Emergency Planning Committees**

Chris discussed relation between National Contingency Plan and the NWACP, and how they fit together well. Chris Fields then opened the floor for local response from different states to talk about their procedures. In the discussion that ensued, states discussed their similarities and differences of their LEPC groups and local planning efforts. General themes included: much of the local planning is done for disasters and hazmat tends to be an add-on; LEPC’s are often groups of one or two people in rural areas; and, Oregon is currently building out their LEPC groups to be on a county wide basis.

1. **Spokane Hazmat Capabilities (See Link)**

Dave Leavenworth, Fire Chief with Spokane Fire Dept. stated that Spokane’s hazmat team covers a huge geographic area, because they were the only type 2 Hazmat team in eastern Washington, north Idaho, and Western Montana for many years. Now that Northern Idaho has established a hazmat team, they cover a smaller geographic area.

Ron Wilson (WA Emergency Management Division) stated that as Hazmat stands in Washington, there is a bill before Washington to split the state into 5 regions, and provide regional response capability. This would take the bomb component out of the police department. This will provide response within two hours no matter where you are in the state.

The Washington hazard mitigation plan, which is all hazard, it was the very first plan to be approved at the federal level.

1. **Adam Knight - Idaho Regional Response Team Capabilities**

Idaho’s regional response team 1 covers the five northern counties of Idaho. Lieutenant Adam knight showed a power-point slide on the capabilities throughout the state. To see this power-point See Link. Adam went over what their team does for North Idaho, talked about some of the calls, and showed some of the tools they use during the trainings and response events.

Adam discussed that the main responsibility of his unit was to Fire fight, respond to hazmat calls, and car wrecks. He informed the group that Hazmat is was not their primary response, but they are ready to help with a moment’s notice.

To overcome the challenge of having the team be scattered throughout different fire departments, they have a monthly training every 4th Monday. Everyone knows about it, so they can schedule for it. Once a year they have a week of hazmat training.

1. **Calvin Terada and Mark Layman - Local Response Consortiums**

Calvin did a presentation on the Columbia and Snake River spill response initiative.

Ecology Spill response team representative (Mark Layman) gave the History of the initiative: In 2004 there was a USACE spill. There was ice on the river, oil in the river, and it took two days to find the source. Ecology’s team was activated. Ecology helped USACE train to be further prepared in the future. This is all part of the local, state, and area plan.

Calvin discussed the Issue of making GRP’s consistent across all three states that utilize the Ecology department’s tool for building GRPs. This is being explored a little bit more and Linda Pilkey-Jarvis further added, that making the GRP’s more consistent is only a goal right now.

A question was raised about seeking reimbursement for voluntary response actions taken. Agencies and companies that offer assistance will seek reimbursement after the spill from the responsible party. If the responsible party can’t pay for the service, the USCG or EPA will tap into the Oil Spill Liability Trust Fund.

For a copy of the power-point presentation **See Link.**

1. **OSC Reports**

**USCG Sector Portland** -Shawn Edwards, Incident Management Division.

 Shawn discussed the recent projects that Sector Portland has been working on including an accident involving a Trawler leaving Tillamook bay, and incident with Western Star trucking, and Washougal Dredge. Shawn also informed us about an ongoing project with a LST 1166- Vietnam era landing craft. For more detail on Shawn’s report, See Link for presentation.

**Washington Department of Ecology** -Mark Layman

Mark discussed four recent spills, he also talked about projects with the Swift Power house, and Truck on Interstate 5, and a spill from an Exxon Mobile Tank. For further detail on Mark’s report, See Link.

**US EPA-** Earl Liverman

Earl gave an update on his section of Idaho, and a general break down of the EPA OSC structure.

He went on further to discuss North Ridge Estates in Oregon State, the Seattle City light mercury spill in Washington State, and the Swift Creek site with naturally occurring asbestos in WA.

Greg Weigel also spoke on his section of Idaho, and about the mercury spills in the public schools. Greg also discussed UPRR Nampa Rail Yard Oil discharge in Idaho State.

For Further information on Greg’s and Earl’s presentation See Link.

**USCG Sector Seattle** -Sarah Booth

Talked about spills experienced in WA around the Puget sound involving the Hylebos Water way, Tacoma, and 2 vessels in WA. She also talked about three vessels that sank during dec-jan storms. For further information See Link.

1. **Earl Liverman, EPA and Aaron Jones, Kootenai County Fire Dept - Facilitated Discussion of Response**

Earl and the CDA fire department Chief came up with an exercise that was interactive, and allowed for people to ask questions and learn about how multiple agencies would response to an incident that impacted both Idaho and Washington . The incident chosen was a Tractor-Trailer rollover with a catastrophic release of red-dye diesel into the Spokane River. The scenario involved someone calling 911 reporting an oil truck accident, and then the anticipated response activities of the multiple response agencies were discussed. Discussion started with the initial notifications, through the emergency phase, and into the transition into the consequence management phase.