

**REGIONAL RESPONSE TEAM/NORTHWEST AREA COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
MAY 19 -20, 2004**

LOCATION: SeaTac Radisson Hotel, 17001 Pacific Highway South, SeaTac, Washington

PARTICIPANTS: Attendance list is attached.

MEETING AGENDA:

Wednesday, 19 May 2004

8:00 - 1:00 Executive Session
1:00 - 1:10 Welcome by hosts Department of Ecology (Dale Jensen, Manager Spill Prevention, Preparedness & Response Program) and US Coast Guard (CAPT Danny Ellis, Commanding Officer, Marine Safety Office Puget Sound)
1:10 - 1:50 Security and Response Operations at the Port of Seattle (Jim Searle, Port of SEA Director of Security and Ed Campbell, Port of SEA Fire Department)
1:50 - 2:20 Washington Department of Ecology's DrillTrac Program (Elin Storey, Ecology)
2:20 - 2:35 Ecology's New Rules and Legislative Authorities (Linda Pilkey-Jarvis, Ecology)
2:35 - 2:50 BREAK
2:50 - 3:20 Planning for Tire Fires in Eastern Washington (Mark Layman, Ecology)
3:20 - 4:00 US Geological Survey Capabilities (Cynthia Barton, USGS)
4:00 - 6:00 ADJOURN - Informal Social at Hotel

Thursday, 20 May 2004

8:00 - 8:30 National Response Plan/NIMS Update (Matt Bernard, USCG D13)
8:30 - 9:00 Washington Outer Coast Logistics Project Update (Scott Knutson, USCG)
9:00 - 9:30 2004 SONS Exercise Overview (CDR Bill Whitson, USCG)
9:30 - 9:45 Puget Sound N-Prep Exercise Update (CDR Mark Dix, MSO Puget Sound)
9:45 - 10:00 BREAK
10:00 - 10:15 CANUSPAC Cross-Border JRT Exercise (Matt Bernard, USCG D13)
10:15 - 10:45 OSC Reports

- Kirkland Ricin Response (David Rees, EPA)
- Point Roberts Vessel Fire (Carl Anderson, Ecology, and MST1 Corey King, MSO Puget Sound)

10:45 - 11:15 Workgroup Updates (All)
11:15 - 12:15 Agency Updates (All)
12:15 - 12:20 Co-chair Final Comments
12:20 ADJOURN

MAY 19, 2004 MINUTES:

Dale Jensen (Ecology) and Captain Ellis (USCG) called the meeting to order at 1307 hours and conducted general introductions of participants, provided a brief overview of their agencies, and an explanation of the role of the RRT/NWAC.

SECURITY AND RESPONSE OPERATIONS AT THE PORT OF SEATTLE

Jim Searle (PoSEA Director of Security) provided an overview of the Port of Seattle organization, and discussed in detail the responsibilities of the Port of Seattle in running the seaport and the airport. He then introduced Ed Campbell (PoSEA Fire Department), who provided an overview of the history of the Port of Seattle Fire Department, its capabilities, and insight into the day-to-day operations of the PoSEA Fire Department. Ed Campbell fielded several questions including jurisdiction, firefighting foam, and the airport's runoff water treatment systems before passing the discussion back to Jim Searle to outline the operations at the seaport.

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Jim Searle passed out maps to participants and then described the geographic boundaries of the seaport. He described the location and types of terminals owned and operated by the PoSEA. He explained that the PoSEA does not have any organic response assets; rather it relies upon the Seattle Fire and Police Departments to provide HAZMAT/fire response and law enforcement support, respectively. Jim fielded several questions including the spill response plans at the seaport, available spill response resources for tenants at the seaport, and the relationship between the seaport and Seattle Fire Department.

WASHINGTON DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY'S DRILLTRAC PROGRAM

Elin Storey, the drill coordinator for the Washington Department of Ecology, introduced the DrillTrac Program, which was developed to ensure that all of Ecology's responders are adequately trained in critical response skills, including ICS and applicable regulations. The program has five parts; training, coaching, evaluation, exercise design, and outreach. Eventually Ecology hopes to expand the program to local agencies and industry partners. Please see the enclosed presentation for more information on this program. [Washington Department of Ecology's DrillTrac Program.ppt](#)

ECOLOGY'S NEW RULES AND LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITIES

Linda Pilkey-Jarvis (Ecology) talked to the group about new legislative authorities and those under development in Washington. The first legislative authority under development is the Contingency Plan Rule, which mandates requirements for spill contingency plans to be exercised and for response contractors to approve each contingency plan after evaluating its feasibility. The next item was the new Oil Spill Regulation, which adopts a zero-spill strategy, requires pre-booming during fuel transfers between vessels, adopts new notification protocols during spills, and requires the identification of shellfish habitat and tribal resources to expedite protection during spills. Linda then discussed the timelines for comment, draft, publication, and implementation of the new rules. [Ecology's New Rules and New Legislative Authorities.ppt](#)

PLANNING FOR TIRE FIRES IN EASTERN WASHINGTON

Mark Laymen, central region Washington Department of Ecology, introduced the hazards associated with waste tire pile fires. There are several waste tire disposal sites in eastern Washington and Mark outlined the limited response capability that exists within that region to respond, contain, and mitigate the hazards associated with these events. There was extensive discussion during the presentation about lessons learned at tire fires in the eastern United States, including the required containment strategies for the oil runoff generated during combustion, air monitoring and community air pollution notification protocols, and resources and techniques required to eventually extinguish the fires. [Klickitat County Tire Pile.ppt](#)

U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY CAPABILITIES

Cynthia Barton (USGS) and Marijke van Heeswijk (USGS) provided the RRT/NWAC an overview of the capabilities the USGS can provide before, during, and after regional responses. Cynthia outlined the mission and the specific capabilities of each of the four program areas; Water, Geology, Biology, and Mapping. Marijke van Heeswijk discussed the ways in which these USGS program areas can support the local, state, or federal incident commander. She outlined the GIS mapping, satellite imagery, watershed contaminant plume modeling, real-time stream flow data, and ecological and habitat information. There was discussion about the web-based tools under development for responders and partner agencies. [USGS Capabilities Briefing.ppt](#)

ADJOURNMENT

Matt Bernard (USGC) concluded the formal portion of the day's meeting at 1550 hours. The RRT/NWAC Meeting will reconvene at 0800 hours on May 20, 2004.

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MAY 20, 2004 MINUTES:

Matt Bernard called the meeting to order at 0810 hours and introduced all new participants for the second session of the RRT/NWAC meeting.

NATIONAL RESPONSE PLAN/NIMS UPDATE

Matt Bernard presented an overview of the National Incident Management System (NIMS), the contemporary to the National Interagency Incident Management System. The NIMS, which incorporates the requirements of Homeland Security Presidential Directive – 5 and the Homeland Security Act, standardizes response nationwide by using the basic structure and protocols of the Incident Management System. The NIMS also outlines emergency support functions (ESFs), which identify the federal agencies responsible for managing or supporting the response to various types of incidents. Currently, not all of the ESFs are complete.

Next, Matt Bernard provided an overview of the National Response Plan (NRP), currently under revision at DHS. When finished, the NRP will provide the concept of operations for nationally significant events, from preparedness, to prevention, then through response and recovery operations. The intent of the NRP is to provide a flexible plan that provides for a proactive response to catastrophic events. The second draft of the NRP was recently published for federal comment, with the goal to complete the final draft by the end of May 2004, and publish the final version by July 2004 with a 180-day implementation period, which makes it effective in January 2005. [NIMS-NRP Overview Briefing.ppt](#)

WASHINGTON OUTER COAST LOGISTICS PROJECT UPDATE

Scott Knutson (USCG) provided an overview of the progress made on the Washington Outer Coast Logistics Project. The objective of the project is to develop a communications network to support incidents along the isolated stretches of the Pacific Coast of Washington along the western side of the Olympic Peninsula. Ultimately, the Washington Outer Coast Logistics Project will produce an annex for inclusion in the NWACP that details the communications strategies. [Washington Outer Coast Logistics Project Update.ppt](#)

2004 SONS (SPILLS OF NATIONAL SIGNIFICANCE) EXERCISE OVERVIEW

Commander Bill Whitson (USCG) provided an overview of the recently completed SONS Exercise. He outlined the objectives of the exercise, which were to exercise the NRP in its entirety at all levels. He discussed the participants and their roles. He also discussed the lessons learned during the exercise, including the difficulty with communications and coordination, the fact that agencies are not used to working together, the challenges associated with using unproven incident action planning (IAP) software, the basic skill level of participants being different from region to region, and the lack of familiarity with the incident command system by the participants. Commander Whitson summarized by saying that he believed that this region is more prepared than most to respond successfully.

PUGET SOUND N-PREP EXERCISE UPDATE

Commander Mark Dix (USCG) discussed the industry-led tabletop exercise scheduled for June 7-15, 2004 at the Bell Harbor Convention Center near Pier 66 in Seattle. The industry partners sponsoring the event are British Petroleum and Olympic Pipeline. The scenario for the exercise involves a MTSA security tabletop exercise, followed by a simulated discharge of 30,000-barrels of diesel fuel with 30-hours of continuous simulated response actions, in which time IAPs will be developed for more than one operational period. The objectives of the exercise are to validate facility security plans, and practice inter-agency coordination with the unified command structure. [Puget Sound N-PREP Exercise Overview.ppt](#)

CANUSPAC CROSS-BORDER JRT EXERCISE

Matt Bernard provided an overview of the Joint Response Team (CANUSPAC) and discussed the exercise that took place on May 4-5, 2004 in Port Angeles, Washington, and Victoria, British Columbia. The objective of the exercise was to practice the mobilization of resources in support of an incident in the Strait of Juan de Fuca. Additionally, the exercise focused on the operation of incident command posts, including the incident command systems (ICS and RMS), coordinating and commuting with liaison

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officers, and establishing radio communications networks. There were difficulties with the communications throughout the event. As a result of the lessons learned during the exercise, the JRT established a Wildlife Response Workgroup and an ICS/RMS Workgroup. The JRT also incorporated recent changes in the organizational structure of the USCG and CCG, including the formation of the Canadian Department of Homeland Security. [CANUSPAC Cross-Border JRT Exercise.ppt](#)

OSC REPORTS

Beth Sheldrake introduced the On-Scene Coordinator Reports, providing a brief overview of the role of On-Scene Coordinators at both the state and federal levels. She then quickly provided a synopsis of the two response actions prior to introducing FOSC Dave Rees, SOSC Carl Anderson, and MST1 Corey King to brief the lessons learned.

KIRKLAND RICIN RESPONSE

Dave Rees, an EPA On-Scene Coordinator, provided an overview of the Kirkland Ricin Emergency Response, conducted at a residence in Kirkland, Washington, on April 9, 2004. The EPA provided technical assistance and decontamination support to the FBI, who were investigating a suspect accused of stockpiling and purifying ricin at his home with the intent to use it as a WMD. [OSC Report for Kirkland Ricin ER.ppt](#)

POINT ROBERTS VESSEL FIRE

MST1 Corey King (USCG) and Carl Anderson (Ecology) provided an overview of the Point Roberts vessel fires that occurred on January 1, 2004 near the U.S.-Canadian Border. Two yachts caught fire and burned in a small marina. Carl Anderson briefed the notifications that were made to various agencies, provided an overview of the response actions taken, discussed the issues related to responses along the border, and detailed the lessons learned from the response. [OSC Report for Point Roberts Vessel Fire.ppt](#)

WORKGROUP UPDATES:

COMMUNICATIONS

Mike Hammond (FEMA) discussed the approval of the communications plan by the Executive Committee. Jack Wylie and Mike Hammond discussed incorporating the Government Emergency Telecommunications System (GETS) into the communications plan for the RRT/NWAC.

GEOGRAPHIC RESPONSE PLANNING

Jack Wylie presented a detailed overview of the tasks that the GRP workgroup are completing. He explained that the Deschutes River GRP, the first inland GRP in Oregon, has been drafted and is available for comment on the RRT10/NWAC website through August 17, 2004. He also mentioned that the workgroup is continuing efforts to develop a plan for the Washington Outer Coast Logistics Project, which was briefed earlier. He briefed that the Middle-Columbia River GRP update was nearing completion and would be posted on the RRT website soon. Jack also explained that Rebecca Post (Ecology) is creating several Washington county GRPs, including those under development for Cowlitz, Clark, and Snohomish Counties in Washington. Idaho is also working on developing Lochsa, Clearwater, and Pend Oreille River GRPs. The Idaho GRPs are the first from the state, and drafts of these should be available in June.

Jack Wylie also discussed projects in progress and those planned. The GRP workgroup will be converting the Lower Snake River GRP to electronic format, a project scheduled for completion in 2005. Also, the Shoreline Database Update is in its preliminary stage of development. Dick Logan is working on Archaeological Issues, which DOI and Ecology have continued to move forward, making this project about 10% complete. This figure includes the training of archeological and cultural resources specialists, which has been conducted. Jack announced plans to develop written standards for the formatting of inland and coastal GRPs. The workgroup plans to finalize these standards before the next meeting of the RRT, for inclusion in the next revision of the NWACP. Finally, Jack announced that MSO Portland has provided financial support for updating the Oregon Coastal GRPs. With the additional funding provided, the work can progress over the next couple of years. [GRP Workgroup Update.ppt](#)

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HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCES

Beth Sheldrake presented an overview of the current projects in the Hazardous Substances Workgroup. The workgroup is working to complete revisions to Chapter 7000, Hazardous Substances, of the NWACP. The group is working to include WMD-specific information in Chapter 7000. Also including information derived from the Oregon Chemical Terrorism Plan, which was included in the 2004 revision of the NWACP, and to address the unique operational, logistical, financial, and administrative aspects of a WMD or hazardous substance response. USCG and EPA working together to develop these protocols. [Hazardous Substances Workgroup Update.ppt](#)

MARINE FIREFIGHTING

Commander Mark Dix (MSO-PS) stated that CWO Teachout, has been transferred to Dutch Harbor, AK. Lieutenant Toma has taken his place as the workgroup chair for the Puget Sound Marine Firefighting Workgroup. Commander Dix expects an update from Lieutenant Toma at the next RRT meeting.

Captain Paul Jewell (MSO-PDX) also updated the group on personnel changes. Lieutenant Aclin's last day of active duty workgroup of one, disband the Portland Marine Firefighting Workgroup. Captain Jewell expressed concern that it would be a duplication of effort to revive the group with the ongoing efforts of the Maritime Fire and Safety Association (MFSA), one of the most effective firefighting agencies in Portland. He has assigned an Ensign on his staff to maintain the planning effort.

PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Elin Storey (Ecology) briefed the status of the recently created workgroup, which has not officially convened. She was originally hoping to get staffing support from Ecology, but that has not materialized. Now she has received commitments from ODEQ and USEPA to provide PIO personnel to staff this workgroup. Elin expects to host a conference call or meeting with these participants in the near future to get the ball rolling. Expect progress on the JIC Manual and begin outreach to other agencies from this group prior to the next meeting in September

RESPONSE TECHNOLOGIES

Ruth Yender (NOAA) discussed the focus application of dispersant on open water. Coming event is the conduct of an Environmental Risk Assessments in progress by the USCG, with anticipated completion by next year. Preauthorization areas and risks and benefits for the use of dispersants. In addition, the workgroup endeavors to revise the existing dispersant checklist in the NWACP to make it more user friendly. Ruth also mentioned that the National Academy of Sciences is developing recommendations regarding the use of dispersants, which the workgroup will use to develop RRT/NWAC policies. Ruth also mentioned the goal of reviewing and revising the protocols for In-Situ Burning following inland oil spills.

STEERING COMMITTEE

Beth Sheldrake represented the Steering Committee, where she discussed the progress the committee was making on refining the Strategic Plan for the RRT/NWAC. The steering committee updated and published the 2004 NWACP in February 2004. Beth also discussed the multiple incident response issues. She mentioned the goals for the upcoming RRT/NWAC meeting on September 19-20 in Astoria Oregon. [Steering Committee Update.ppt](#)

AGENCY UPDATES:

U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

Chris Field discussed the recent rash of response actions that the EPA had supported in Oregon, including the Thermo Fluids Fire in Portland, and The Dalles Dam Transformer Oil Spill in The Dalles. Chris discussed the lessons learned and the unresolved issues resulting from these two complex

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responses. He talked about the joint letter that the USCG and EPA had sent to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in reference to The Dalles Dam Incident to ask about compliance with NWACP and noting discrepancies noted during the incident. In response to the aforementioned incidents, Chris also mentioned the emphasis the EPA has placed on ICS Training for their OSCs and for other response-oriented support positions. The regional office recently completed ICS 300 and 400-level training for these critical staff personnel. The EPA is also striving to develop nationally consistent standards for ICS in conjunction with state and regional agencies.

U.S. COAST GUARD, DISTRICT 13

Captain Boothe announced significant personnel changes, including the loss of Lieutenant Jerry Hubbard, the planning officer, who will move to port operations. Lieutenant Commander Randy Clark from MSO Portland will replace him. Also mentioned was the addition of Commander Jackie Stagliano, who is coming to join the USCG D13 staff in June. USCG D13 recently stood up IMATs within the region. They have been actively involved in training and exercises, including the recent SONS Exercise in San Diego. Regulations on the fast track prior to 9/11, which have since been deferred, including draft Marine Firefighting and Salvage Regulations, will be reopened for comments, with implementation no later than 2007. Vessel Response Plans for non-tankers, as required by MTSA, are in progress. USCG restructuring has shifted responsibility for regulations from response to regulatory agencies. Sector reorganization of field command structures is in progress, but no update to be given until the September meeting. Initiative to combine MSO-PS and Vessel Traffic Service-PS in Seattle, to form sector as consolidated command, also merging the Port Angeles into the Puget Sound, but no final decision has been made.

WASHINGTON DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY

Dale Jensen discussed the future of the Neah Bay tugboat contract. He also reiterated the timeline for the Contingency Planning Rule development process, and announced that after July the initial drafts will be published for comment. Trying to finalize that effort. Working with NOAA and Navy to develop environmental sensitivity indexing. Shooting for November to complete environmental risk assessments on the outer coast to address outstanding issues. Focusing inland on water booming on tributaries and inland waterways.

WASHINGTON STATE EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT DEPARTMENT

Mark Ligman, standing in for Mehling Uptals. Continue to work with Beth Sheldrake on the Hazardous Substances workgroup. Stated that the EMD noted and documented an increase in HAZMAT incidents in Washington during the first half of the year.

NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION

Mark Miller discussed an upcoming two-day coastal storms training exercise in September in Portland (Demian Bailey) for agency personnel to focus mapping and modeling releases of hazardous substances due to a storm. Similar to a coastal storms exercise conducted in Jacksonville a couple of years ago. NOAA is working with the University of Washington to create an on-line training course for CAMEO software to make available to first responders throughout the region. Additionally, NOAA recently completed the first draft of the environmental sensitivity index mapping for the Columbia River. Hope to have incorporated these comments by the end of the year. Mike Devaney is going out to sea and Dave Neander is replacing him in October. Mark also mentioned that NOAA was completing a complete mapping of the Columbia River for use in watershed modeling by the end of 2004.

FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY

Mike Hammond mentioned four upcoming drills that were planned for June. On June 16, 2004 FEMA planned to conduct a laboratory response drill in Portland, OR. On June 17, there will be another laboratory response drill in Shoreline, WA. On June 18, 2004, FEMA will be conducting a medical response drill at the Pasco Medical Center in Pasco, WA. On June 19, there will be an emergency worker assistance center drill in Richland, WA. Drill, June 19 – Emergency Worker Assistance Center Drill in

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Richland, WA. On the radiation front, there will be a drill coming in August. It will be a one day exercise with one week of supportive training and tabletop exercises at the Columbia Generating Station and Nuclear Power Plant from August 30-September 2, 2004.

IDAHO BUREAU OF HOMELAND SECURITY

Mary Halverson explained the reorganization underway to combine hazardous materials and disaster management within the Idaho Bureau of Homeland Security under Bill Bishop. She also mentioned the upcoming State Emergency Planning Conference to be held in Boise September 20-24, 2004. IDEQ is also working on their first two GRPs in Idaho, as previously mentioned by Jack Wylie.

DEPARTMENT OF INTERIOR

Preston Sleeper announced the fact that Allison O'Brien would soon be leaving for maternity leave. He announced that he would be sponsoring Cultural Resources Training in Portland on June 2, 2004. He will also become the co-chair of the JRT Cross-Border Wildlife Planning Workgroup. He plans to take the CANUSPAC plan and make modifications to synch it with national guidance and the NWACP. He also announced that the Migratory Birds Best Practices guidance document has been adopted by the DOI

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, U.S. FOREST SERVICE

David Summer announced the internal efforts to create a cohesive incident management team and establish roles to help support large or complex incidents. He announced the issues surrounding the removal of air tankers to be removed from the resource list due to airworthiness. The agency is experiencing a 6-8% budget reduction during the fiscal year in this region, which is hampering their efforts to support emergency services. Additionally he mentioned the leadership challenges upcoming related to anticipated retirements. He invited RRT/NWAC members to participate in any of the incident management teams as a professional development effort.

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

Tammy Brown working to bring SUPSALV equipment down from Alaska as a resource for the RRT/NWAC. She stated that ESI mapping is in progress throughout the region. Chris Spagnuolo (CTC) contracted to develop web-based program that displays a map interface that also enables the user to look at response strategies and other resources for spills in the Puget Sound, in conjunction with initial response information during a spill, also enabling an ICS form to be pre-filled using data on screen. Discussed the anticipated timeline for the software development process. Hoping to have the RRT/NWAC website host this software. [Navy Agency Update - Regional Spill Response Application.ppt](#)

OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH ADMINISTRATION

Steve Gossman (OSHA) explained the administration's efforts to develop standards for emergency response personnel safety and for conducting on-scene inspections during emergency responses. The agency is conducting training in ICS and their roles and responsibilities for supporting the incident commander during emergency responses. OSHA is also working to develop standards to assist Safety Officers in completing their health and safety planning during an incident. Outreach offered to assist with an incident is consultative versus an enforcement mode.

GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION

Ray Robbins mentioned that the GSA administrator has reviewed the NRP and determined that the GSA has a basic wildfire support capability, which could be expanded to support the upcoming wildfire season. He also briefed that the GSA is working to hire one emergency support coordinator in each region to develop and implement procedures for providing additional logistics support to the incident commander during large incidents.

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U.S. COAST GUARD, MARINE SAFETY OFFICE – PUGET SOUND

Captain Ellis discussed some of the recent response actions in the region. In January, a derelict fishing vessel found to be releasing fuel into waters off of Tacoma. The USCG recovered 12,000 gallons from this vessel. On Lake Union, a sunken fishing vessel with 70 gallons of fuel aboard, which was also recovered. The USCG also assisted with the relocation of the Kalakala Ferry out of Lake Union. A ship named the Frontier Mariner, ran aground during while being towed into port for repair. This grounding breached the sonar dome, which leaked 160 gallons of oil into the harbor, which the USCG recovered. On April 22, 2004, the USCG concluded 16 weeks of response efforts for the Point Wells Foss Spill. The Suquamish Tribe and Foss Maritime were conducting weekly beach walks to confirm that the beaches were cleared of any residual oil. Captain Ellis also mentioned the July 1, 2004 MTSA deadline for the approval of facility security plans for all Phase III Facilities. He said that he expects transfers and personnel movements to be occurring throughout the MSO.

U.S. COAST GUARD, MARINE SAFETY OFFICE – PORTLAND

Captain Jewell discussed the recent response actions, environmental crimes task force have continued success in finding and prosecuting a number of oil/water separator (OWS) cases on the river. The salvage team, one of the few remaining salvage vessels in the region, is now deployed to Gulf of Mexico after extensive repairs. Summer personnel transfers will be forthcoming, including Commander Lockwood being replaced by Commander Pippenger, and Chief Klarmann coming on board. Overall, the staff changes are relatively limited from USCG perspective.

OREGON DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

Chuck Donaldson discussed The Dalles Dam, including the shore-to-shore oil between The Dalles Dam and Bonneville Dam, and the Thermo Fluids fire, including the asbestos fire dispersion issue. ODEQ attended the Oregon Homeland Security Summit in which the Oregon Office of Homeland Security was created. ODEQ has liaison role in the new Office of Homeland Security. ODEQ has increased information technology and laboratory capabilities thanks to federal homeland security grants.

CO-CHAIR FINAL COMMENTS

Chris Field concluded the meeting by saying that he preferred having the Executive Session prior to the RRT/NWAC Meeting. Captain Booth thanked participants and welcomed them to participate in the upcoming meeting in September.

ADJOURNMENT

Matt Bernard closed the meeting at 1210.