# REGIONAL RESPONSE TEAM 10/NORTHWEST AREA COMMITTEE (RRT/NWAC)

# PUBLIC SESSION MINUTES

**0800 – 1630 WEDNESDAY 12 FEBRUARY 2014**

**US EPA 15th Floor Conference Room**

**1200 6th Avenue, Seattle, Washington 98101**

**Sign-in sheets can be viewed** [here](http://www.rrt10nwac.com/files/files/February%2012%202014%20Public%20Meeting%20Sign%20In.pdf)**.**

## Safety Briefing, Introductions, Opening Remarks

Ms. Heather Parker, US Coast Guard (USCG) District 13 (D13) gave a safety briefing and conducted introductions. Mr. Calvin Terada, US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) welcomed all the attendees to the EPA Regional Headquarters. CAPT Scott Ferguson, USCG Sector Puget Sound (SPS) welcomed the attendees and expressed his appreciation for the attendance of the industry partners and stated Region 10 has one of the best area plans in the nation due in part to the cooperation all the partners. CAPT Bruce Jones USCG Sector Columbia River (SCR) also welcomed the attendees and described the area in which SCR has response authority. Mr. David Byers, Washington State Department of Ecology (Ecology) welcomed the attendees and attributed the success of response in the region to creating a culture of success with all parties that are involved in a response. CDR Keith Donohue, USCG Pacific Strike Team introduced himself and gave a brief overview of his qualifications and some of the recent activities of the Strike Force. LCDR Kelly Thorkilson, USCG Incident Management Assistance Team (IMAT) introduced herself and gave a brief overview of the IMAT.

## NW Area Committee and NW Area Contingency Plan Overview

Ms. Parker gave a presentation on the NW Area Committee (NWAC) the Regional Response Team (RRT) and the Area Plan. The presentation can be viewed [here](http://www.rrt10nwac.com/files/files/01_2014%20Seattle%20WA%20RRT_NWAC%20Basics.pptx).

## Task Forces for 2014

Ms. Josie Clark (EPA) gave a presentation on the 2014 Task Forces that have been created to update the Area Plan for 2015. The 2014 Task Forces that were created are: Oil by Rail, ESA Section 7 – Emergency Consultation Tools, In-Situ Burn, Group V Oils Response, Shoreline Cleanup Assessment Technique (SCAT) Pre-Segmentation, Public Information Strategy [Outreach and Joint Information Center (JIC) Expansion], and Wildlife Rehabilitation. The presentation can be viewed [here](http://www.rrt10nwac.com/files/files/02_2014%20Task%20Forces-NWAC.pptx).

## Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council

Mr. Stephen Posner, Energy Facility Site Evaluation Counsel (EFSEC) gave a presentation of an overview of EFSEC roles and responsibilities. The web page for EFSEC is [www.efsec.wa.gov](http://www.efsec.wa.gov). The presentation can be viewed [here](http://www.rrt10nwac.com/files/files/03_EFSEC.ppt).

## On-Scene Coordinator Reports

### US Coast Guard Sector Columbia River

LT John Titchen, USCG SCR gave a presentation on the cases that have been responded to by USCG SCR. The presentation and movie can be viewed [here](http://www.rrt10nwac.com/files/files/05_SCR%20OSC%20Report.pptx).

### US Coast Guard Sector Puget Sound

LCDR Lance Lindgren gave a presentation on spills in Sector Puget Sound and significant cases since the last NWAC meeting. The presentation can be viewed [here](http://www.rrt10nwac.com/files/files/07_SPS%20OSC%20Report.pptx). CAPT Ferguson gave some additional closing remarks for his final NWAC meeting before his departure in March 2014.

### US Environmental Protection Agency

Mr. Mike Sibley, EPA On-Scene Coordinator gave a presentation on Emergency Responses in which EPA has had involvement over the first quarter of 2014. The presentation can be viewed [here](http://www.rrt10nwac.com/files/files/04_EPA%20OSC%20Report.pptx).

### Washington State Department of Ecology

Mr. Byers gave a presentation on proposed legislation in Washington State and responses in which Ecology has been involved. The presentation can be viewed [here](http://www.rrt10nwac.com/files/files/06_Ecology%20OSC%20Report.pptx).

## Volunteer Management Overview

LCDR Lindgren gave a presentation on the Federal use of Volunteers policies and guidelines. The presentation can be viewed [here](http://www.rrt10nwac.com/files/files/08_FED_Use%20of%20volunteers.pptx). Mr. Scott Knutson, USCG D13, concluded the presentation on current volunteer coordination efforts nationally and in the region.

## NOAA’s Navigation Services in the Pacific Northwest

Ms. Crescent Moegling, National Oceanic Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) gave a presentation on NOAAs navigation services in the Pacific Northwest. The presentation can be viewed [here](http://www.rrt10nwac.com/files/files/09_NOAA%20Presentation.ppt). All NOAA maps and products are available on-line at the following link <http://response.restoration.noaa.gov/ERMA>.

## New Washington State Derelict Vessel Legislation

Ms. Melissa Ferris, Washington State Department of Natural Resources (DNR) gave a presentation on the Washington Derelict Vessel Removal Program. The presentation can be viewed [here](http://www.rrt10nwac.com/files/files/10_DNR%20Derelict%20Vessel.pptx). She further noted that the Derelict Vessel legislation in Washington State was rewritten in 2013.

## GIS Tools for Response

Mr. Connor Keeney, Ecology, displayed the Western Response Resource List (WRRL) on the web that shows what equipment is staged around the region. A Geographic Information System (GIS) map has also been created by Ecology that shows the location of the equipment that is included in the WRRL.

Ms. Michele Jacobi, NOAA, gave a presentation on NOAA Environmental Response Management Application (ERMA). The presentation can be viewed [here](http://www.rrt10nwac.com/files/files/12_ERMA_PNW_RRT.ppt).

Following the presentations, a group discussion of other GIS-based tools that are used and could improve preparedness and response within the NWAC was conducted. One of the issues raised was the difficulty of going to various web pages to obtain information on various aspects such as endangered species, historically or culturally sensitive locations and the amount of time that it takes to gather this information. It was suggested that a common web application that collects and shares all of the information in one location be available for smaller responses in which NOAA may not be involved. Mr. Terada noted the Common Operating Picture was a proposed 2014 Task Force which was not activated this year. He suggested the proposed work product be refined and the Task Force should be proposed again at the Annual Summit for activation in 2015.

## Closing Comments

Mr. Terada thanked the attendees and thanked Captains Ferguson and Jones for their service on the Area Committee.