



## **Section 9703**

# **Initial Incident Objectives for Oil Spills**

**Overview**

The following information is provided as guidance by the Northwest Area Committee (NWAC) to assist as appropriate the Incident Commander (IC)/Unified Command (UC) when determining Objectives, Priorities, Critical Information Requirements, and Tasks (Tasks that are tracked on the Incident Command System [ICS] 233 Open Action Tracker).

The information is not prescriptive, and it is not the intention of the NWAC that all the suggested example items be utilized, unless warranted by incident specifics.

It is crucial for the IC/UC to quickly determine a set of clear, high level objectives during any incident or exercise and then convey those to Operations, who will then be able to expeditiously develop appropriate Strategies and Tactics from those Command Objectives.

**Incident Objectives:** Below is an example ICS 202 form which contains high-level objectives relative to incidents envisioned under the Northwest Area Contingency Plan. This list is not exhaustive; however, it does provide some Incident Objectives that would most likely be appropriate when responding to spills of oil. If the incident is more complex, it is expected by the NWAC committee that the IC/UC will expeditiously set additional Incident Objectives most appropriate to the incident or exercise. The NWAC recommends that the IC/UC refer to Chapter 4 of the 2014 United States Coast Guard (USCG) Incident Management Handbook for choosing the most appropriate Incident Objectives for each specific incident/exercise.

The NWAC also recommends that when IC/UC is preparing Incident Objectives, Priorities, and Critical Information Requirements that a large paper copy of the ICS 233 Open Action Tracker is posted for the IC/UC to add and assign tasks that will come up in IC/UC meetings.

1. Incident Name	2. Operational Period (Date/Time) From: _____ To: _____	INCIDENT OBJECTIVES ICS 202-OS
<p>3. Overall Incident Objective(s)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Ensure the Safety of Citizens and Response Personnel</li> <li>2. Control the Source of the Spill</li> <li>3. Manage Response Effort in a Coordinated Manner</li> <li>4. Protect Environmentally and Culturally Sensitive Areas</li> <li>5. Contain &amp; Recover Spilled Material</li> <li>6. Recover &amp; Rehabilitate Injured Wildlife</li> <li>7. Clean Up Product from Impacted Areas</li> <li>8. Keep the Public and Stakeholders Informed of Response Activities</li> <li>9. Minimize Economic Impacts</li> <li>10. Terminate the Response (Demobilization)</li> </ol>		

4. Objectives for specified Operational Period (Example)

**Ensure the Safety of Citizens and Response Personnel**

**Protect Environmentally and Culturally Sensitive Areas**

**Contain & Recover Spilled Material**

**Keep the Public and Stakeholders Informed of Response Activities**

<b>4. Objectives for specified Operational Period (Continued)</b>		
<b>5. Safety Message for Specified Operational Period</b>		
Approved Site Safety Plan Located at:		
<b>6. Weather</b>	See Attached Weather Sheet	
<b>7. Tides/Currents</b>	See Attached Tide/Current Data	
<b>8. Time of Sunrise</b>	Time of Sunset	
<b>9. Attachments (mark "X" if attached)</b>		
<input type="checkbox"/> Organization List (ICS 203-OS)	<input type="checkbox"/> Medical Plan (ICS 206-OS)	<input type="checkbox"/> Resource at Risk Summary (ICS 232-OS)
<input type="checkbox"/> Assignment List (ICS 204-OS)	<input type="checkbox"/> Incident Map(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Communications List (ICS 205-OS)	<input type="checkbox"/> Traffic Plan	<input type="checkbox"/> _____
<b>10. Prepared by: (Planning Section Chief)</b>		Date/Time
INCIDENT OBJECTIVES	June 2000	ICS 202-OS

**Key Decisions/Procedures, Priorities and Limitations/Constraints**

Another important function of the IC/UC is to identify and document IC/UC strategic direction and guidance through Key Decisions/Procedures, Priorities and Limitations/Constraints for use during the next operational period. This information is captured in an ICS202A form, an example of which is shown below. While these are all critical elements for the IC/UC to identify and capture, the Key Decisions/Procedures, Priorities and Limitations/Constraints are not Incident Objectives and should not be treated as such. The NWAC recommends the IC/UC refer to Chapter 4 of the 2014 USCG Incident Management Handbook for guidance on these key factors.

1. Incident Name	2. Operational Period (Date/Time) From:                      To:	Command Direction ICS 202A-CG
3. Key Decisions and Procedures:		
4. Priorities:		
5. Limitations and Constraints:		
6. Prepared by: (Planning Section Chief)		Date/Time

Command Direction

ICS 202A-CG (rev 03/2013)

**Additional TASKS/WORK ASSIGNMENTS**

In addition to operational and management objectives, the IC/UC will assign tasking not captured in the Incident Action Plan. These functional tasks and open actions are typically captured on an Incident Open Action Tracker (ICS 233-CG) during IC/UC meetings. Some examples of common tasks/work assignments can be found in Chapter 4 of the 2014 USCG Incident Management Handbook.

This form is used by the IC/UC to track time sensitive tasks/actions assigned to Incident Management Team personnel. This form is duplicated and provided to Command and General Staff members, giving them the open tasks/actions needing to be completed and a means to track what has been assigned.

The Planning Section Chief reviews and updates the ICS 233 Open Action Tracker at the following meetings: Command and General Staff, Tactics, and Planning. Below is an example ICS 233 form.

1. Incident Name		INCIDENT OPEN ACTION TRACKER ICS 233-CG						
2. No.	3. Item	4. For/POC	5. POC Briefed	6. Start Date	7. Status	8. Target Date	9. Actual Date	
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