

ANNEX A: INTRODUCTION

This “Unified” Federal/State Coastal/Inland Oil and Hazardous Substance Preparedness Plan represents a coordinated and cooperative effort by government agencies. This document contains information applicable to pollution response within the entire State of Alaska. The Unified Plan has been written jointly by the U.S. Coast Guard, Environmental Protection Agency, Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation, and members of the Alaska Regional Response Team. It meets the pollution response contingency planning requirements applicable to the State and Federal government and fulfills the requirements for a Federal Regional Contingency Plan and a State Master Plan. In addition, in Alaska Federal Area Contingency Plan (ACP) requirements are fulfilled through the combined use of the Unified Plan with the appropriate Subarea Contingency Plan (SCP). See Appendix II for details on planning requirements.

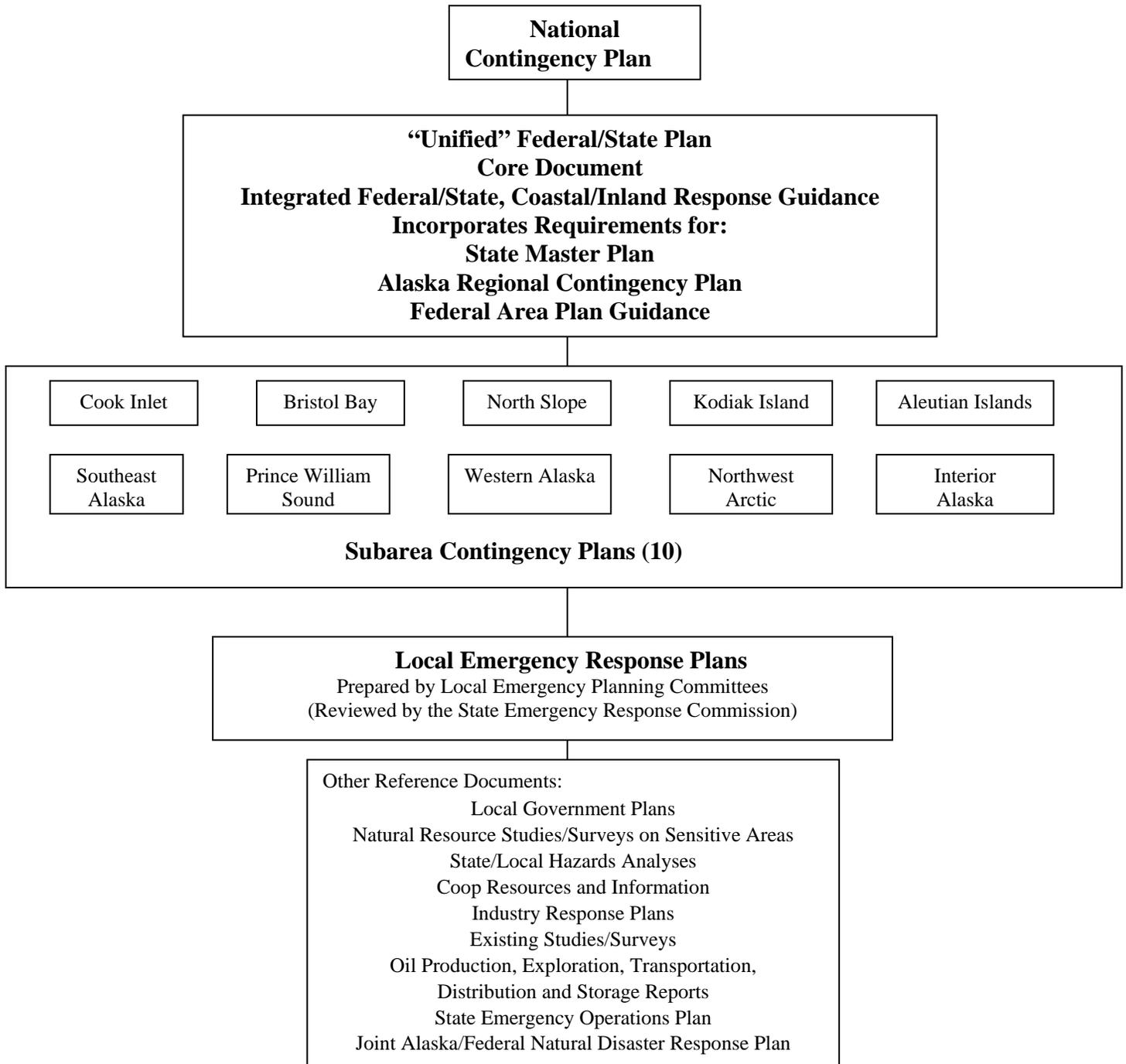
Information from the Unified Plan is supplemented by ten subarea contingency plans which apply to specific subareas within the state. The subarea contingency plans incorporate key provisions of local government response developed by Local Emergency Planning Committees and applicable information from industry facility/vessel response plans developed in accordance with Federal and State planning requirements.

Figure 1 illustrates the interrelationship and integration of local, state and federal planning efforts. The Unified Plan was developed using federal regional and area contingency planning guidance and satisfies the requirements for the Alaska Region Oil and Hazardous Substances Pollution Contingency Plan, as well as State statutory requirements for the State Master Plan. The ten subarea contingency plans satisfy the State planning requirements for the ten “regional master” plans.

Geographic Response Strategies (GRS) are included as a separate section within each SCP. GRS provide response strategies for the protection of selected sensitive areas to aid first responders to an oil spill. The strategies serve as guidance to the federal and state on-scene coordinators during an oil spill in the area covered by the GRS. They can save time during the critical first few hours of an oil spill response by showing responders where sensitive areas are located and where to place oil spill protection resources. The GRS are a valued aid in preplanning for a spill response and can provide excellent guidance during a spill response, but are not a mandate for specific action at the time of a spill. As part of the SCPs, they have been approved by the U.S. Coast Guard Sectors, the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation, and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

Industry facility and vessel response/contingency plans provide specific data regarding the responsible party’s (RP) containment, control and cleanup actions. Local Emergency Response Plans (LERPs, also known as Emergency Operations Plans, or EOPs) provide information regarding resources and emergency actions at the local community level. The subarea contingency plans provide Federal/State regional response capabilities and, together with this plan, constitute the overall Federal/State response guidance. The Unified Plan, Subarea Contingency Plans, LERPs, and industry plans are all critical elements of the coordinated Federal/State/Local and RP response effort to an oil or hazardous substance discharge/release.

**FIGURE 1:
Integrated Federal/State/Local
Coastal/Inland
Oil and Hazardous Substance Contingency Planning**



APPENDIX I – PURPOSE AND OBJECTIVE

This Unified Plan describes the strategy for a coordinated Federal, State and local response to a discharge, or substantial threat of discharge of oil and/or a release of a hazardous substance from a vessel, offshore facility, or onshore facility operating within the boundaries of **Alaska** and its surrounding waters (See Appendix IV for specific descriptions of these boundaries). Each of the ten subarea contingency plans addresses responses to an average most probable discharge, a maximum most probable discharge, and a worst case discharge, including discharges from fire or explosion. Planning for these three scenarios covers the expected range of spills likely to occur in Alaska. Hazardous materials response scenarios are also included, where appropriate.

For purposes of this plan and the ten subarea contingency plans, the average most probable discharge is the size of the average spill in the area based on the historical data available. The maximum most probable discharge is also based on historical spill data, and is the size of the discharge most likely to occur taking into account such factors as the size of the largest recorded spill, traffic flow through the area, hazard assessment, risk assessment, seasonal considerations, spill histories and operating records of facilities and vessels in the area. The worst case discharge for a vessel is a discharge of its entire cargo in adverse weather conditions. The worst case discharge for an offshore or onshore facility is the largest foreseeable discharge in adverse weather conditions. These scenarios are described in the individual subarea contingency plans which supplement this plan.

The Subarea Committee is a spill preparedness and planning body made up of Federal, State, and local agency representatives. The On-Scene Coordinators (OSCs) will coordinate the activities of the Subarea Committee and assist in the development of a comprehensive subarea contingency plan that is consistent with the National Contingency Plan (NCP) and this plan. The FOSCs and SOSCs for each subarea will identify the composition of the Subarea Committee in the respective subarea plan.

The Subarea Committee will also direct the activities of the Operations Work Group, the Logistics Work Group, and the Sensitive Areas Work Group. The Operations Work Group typically develops subarea-specific response tactics and strategies, and develops, maintains and updates the Response, Hazmat and Scenarios Sections of the subarea plan. The Logistics Work Group develops, maintains and updates the Resources Section of the plan. The Sensitive Areas Work Group's primary task is to develop, maintain, and update the Sensitive Areas Section of the subarea plan.

This plan shall be used as a framework for response mechanisms to evaluate shortfalls and weaknesses in the response structure before an incident. The review for consistency should address, at a minimum, the quality and quantity of federal, State, local and industry response equipment available within the state, available response personnel, protection strategies and personnel needs compared to those required.

APPENDIX II – EXISTING GOVERNMENT CONTINGENCY PLANNING REQUIREMENTS

TAB A: FEDERAL

The passage of the Oil Pollution Act of 1990 (OPA) expanded the existing **federal planning and response framework** in several ways. OPA created a new requirement for facility and tank vessel response plans and an "AREA-Level" planning and coordination structure to help supplement federal, regional, and local planning efforts. OPA amended the existing Clean Water Act (CWA) (Section 311(j)(4)), which established Area Committees and Area Contingency Plans (ACPs) as the primary components of this "AREA-Level" structure. The Alaska Regional Response Team's requirement to develop a federal Regional Plan has been satisfied by this Unified Plan. ARRT members working with the USCG, EPA, and ADEC have provided applicable information regarding their agency's roles, responsibilities and capabilities consistent with the provisions of the National Contingency Plan and the federal response system. Specific requirements for area contingency plans have likewise been satisfied through the development of the Unified Plan and the ten subarea contingency plans.

As established by OPA and CWA, Area Committees have three primary responsibilities (in addition to the protection of human health and safety):

- (1) Preparation of an Area Contingency Plan (ACP)
- (2) Working with state and local officials to enhance contingency planning and assure pre-planning of joint response efforts including appropriate procedures for:
 - mechanical recovery
 - dispersal
 - shoreline cleanup
 - protection of sensitive environmental areas
 - protection, rescue and rehabilitation of fisheries/wildlife
- (3) Working with state and local officials to expedite decisions for the use of chemical countermeasures and *in situ* burning and other mitigating substances and devices. This planning function does not supersede the FOSC/RRT "Authorization for Use" and preplanning provisions contained in the National Contingency Plan (NCP).

Federal law requires that each ACP:

- (1) When implemented in conjunction with the NCP is adequate to remove the Worst Case Discharge and mitigate a substantial threat of discharge.
- (2) Describe the area covered by the plan including:
 - presence & proximity of natural resources
 - environmentally sensitive areas including:
 - population concentrations
 - location of drainage/geographic and topographic features
 - location of water supplies
 - beaches, ports, recreational areas
 - areas of seasonal significance
 - migratory bird flyways
- (3) Describe in detail responsibilities of owner operators, federal, state, and local agencies in removing a discharge.

- (4) List equipment including personnel, firefighting, dispersants, in-situ burning, chemicals and other mitigating substances.
- (5) Describe procedures to be followed for obtaining an expedited decision regarding the use of dispersants.
- (6) Describe how the plan is integrated into other ACPs and vessel/facility response plans.
- (7) Include any other information the President requires.

To implement these statutory requirements, each ACP will include: a risk assessment identifying facilities in the geographical area; vessel traffic/oil transportation industry; and environmental characteristics (i.e., natural resources, wildlife surveys, waterways, shorelines, social and economic concerns, and public health and welfare concerns).

TAB B: STATE

In 1980, legislation was enacted which defined the **State's policies regarding oil spills**. In 1989 and 1990, following the T/V Exxon Valdez Oil Spill, further legislation was passed, which expanded and strengthened the State's oil spill response program. Specifically, AS 46.04.200 requires the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation (ADEC) to develop, annually review, and revise, as necessary, the State Oil and Hazardous Substance Contingency Plans (State Master & Regional Plans).

AS 46.04.200 requires the State's plan to clarify and specify the respective responsibilities of each of the following in assessment, containment, and cleanup of a catastrophic oil discharge or of a significant discharge of a hazardous substance into the environment of the state:

- agencies of the state
- municipalities of the state
- appropriate federal agencies
- operators of facilities and,
- private parties whose land and other property may be affected by a spill

In 1990 the law was revised again and required the State Master Plan to:

- (1) Consider the elements of an oil discharge contingency plan approved or submitted for approval as per state statute for a vessel or facility.
- (2) Include an incident command system that clarifies and specifies the respective responsibilities of each of the following for emergency response, assessment, containment, and cleanup of the various types and sizes of discharges of oil and/or a hazardous substance:
 - agencies of the state
 - municipalities
 - appropriate federal agencies
 - operators of facilities
 - private parties whose land and other property may be affected by oil or hazardous substances discharges

- (3) Identify actions necessary to reduce the likelihood of catastrophic oil discharges and significant discharges of hazardous substances.

State Regional Plans serve as annexes to the State Master Plan. These Regional Plans are not stand alone documents but fall under the umbrella of the State Master Plan. Regional Plans contain detailed, localized, information regarding:

- (1) Facility location;
- (2) Assessments of hazards posed by facilities;
- (3) Transportation corridors;
- (4) Environmentally sensitive areas;
- (5) Emergency spill response equipment and personnel; and
- (6) Information regarding local emergency response capability including the status of Local Emergency Planning Committees.

Although the Federal Area Contingency Plan requirements and State Regional Plan requirements do not mirror each other, they are essentially identical in intent.

TAB C: LOCAL

The Superfund Amendment and Reauthorization Act of 1986, Title III (SARA Title III) and the Alaska statutes (AS 26.23.073) require the establishment of Local Emergency Planning Committees (LEPCs) in Local Emergency Planning Districts (LEPDs). LEPCs must develop Local Emergency Response Plans (LERPs, also known as Emergency Operations Plans, or EOPs) that include:

- (1) Identification of facilities and transportation routes;
- (2) Establishing emergency response procedures for public notification and protection, including evacuation;
- (3) Establishing notification procedures for those who will respond;
- (4) Establishing methods for determining the occurrence and severity of a release;
- (5) Identification of emergency response equipment;
- (6) A program and schedule for training local emergency responders;
- (7) Establishing methods and schedules for exercises;
- (8) Designating a community emergency coordinator and facility emergency coordinators to carry out the plan;
- (9) An Incident Command System; and,
- (10) The integration with other existing plans and the consideration of the elements of a state-required and approved oil discharge plan.

Although the original federal requirements focused LEPC planning and preparedness efforts on Extremely Hazardous Substances (i.e., chemicals, not oil), on September 25, 1990, the Alaska Legislature and the Alaska State Emergency Response Commission broadened that focus to include oil and petroleum products.

Also, per AS 26.23.060 “(e),each political subdivision shall ensure that a written local or inter-jurisdictional disaster emergency plan for its area is prepared, maintained, and distributed to all appropriate officials. This disaster emergency plan must include a clear and complete statement of the emergency responsibilities of all local agencies and officials.”

APPENDIX III – AUTHORITY

TAB A: FEDERAL

Section 4202 of the OPA 90 amended Subsection (j) of Section 311 of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (FWPCA) (33 U.S.C. 1321 (j)) to address the development of a National Planning and Response System. As part of this system, Area Committees are to be established for each area designated by the President. These Area Committees are to be comprised of qualified personnel from federal, state, and local agencies. Each Area Committee, under the direction of the Federal On-Scene Coordinator (FOSC) for the area, is responsible for developing an Area Contingency Plan (ACP) which, when implemented in conjunction with the NCP, shall be adequate to remove a worst case discharge of oil or a hazardous substance and to mitigate or prevent a substantial threat of such a discharge from a vessel, offshore facility, or onshore facility operating in or near the geographical area. Each Area Committee is also responsible for working with state and local officials to preplan for joint response efforts, including designing appropriate procedures for mechanical recovery, chemical dispersal, shoreline cleanup, protection of sensitive environmental areas, and protection, rescue, and rehabilitation of fisheries and wildlife. The Area Committee is also required to work with State and local officials to expedite decisions for the use of dispersants and other mitigating substances and devices.

The functions of designating areas, appointing Area Committee members, determining the information to be included in Area Contingency Plans, and reviewing and approving Area Contingency Plans have been delegated by Executive Order 12777 of 22 October 1991 to the Commandant of the U.S. Coast Guard (through the Secretary of Transportation) for the coastal zone and to the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency for the inland zone. The term "coastal zone" is defined in the current NCP (40 CFR 300.5) to mean all United States waters subject to the tide, United States waters of the Great Lakes, specified ports and harbors on inland rivers, the waters of the Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ), and the land substrata, ground waters, and ambient air proximal to those waters. The term "inland zone" is defined in the current NCP to mean the environment inland of the Coastal Zone. These terms delineate an area of responsibility for response action. Precise boundaries are determined by existing federal and State agency memoranda of understanding/agreements (MOU/MOA). Annex K contains current MOUs and MOAs regarding coastal and inland zone response boundaries.

In a Federal Register Notice published on April 24, 1992, the EPA and USCG jointly announced the Designation of Areas and Area Committees under OPA for inland and coastal zones. Due to the split of jurisdiction and responsibilities between EPA and the USCG and the inherent differences in organizational structure of the two agencies, each agency took separate but compatible approaches in establishing initial designations. Nationwide, the EPA designated the existing 13 "RRT areas" as the initial areas for which ACPs must be prepared in the Inland Zone, while the USCG designated the coastal portions of the existing 49 Captain of the Port (COTP) zones as the initial areas for which ACPs must be prepared in the Coastal Zone. In Alaska this has the effect of initially establishing one statewide inland area by EPA and three coastal areas, corresponding to the boundaries of the three USCG COTP zones, by the USCG. Both the EPA and USCG have the authority and intent, if appropriate, to further subdivide initial Areas, both coastal and inland, into smaller, more localized areas for which ACPs can be developed. See Appendix IV to this annex for specific areas for planning.

Also, per the National Contingency Plan, the Department of Defense (DOD) and the Department of Energy (DOE) shall provide their own FOSCs, who will be responsible for taking all response actions to releases of hazardous substances, pollutants, or contaminants when the release is on, or the sole source of the release is from, any facility or vessel (including bareboat-chartered and operated vessels) under their jurisdiction, custody or control.

TAB B: STATE

The State Oil and Hazardous Substance Discharge Prevention and Contingency Plan (State Master Plan) was prepared by the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation (ADEC) as required by AS 46.04.200. The State Emergency Response Commission (SERC) reviews the plan as required by AS 26.23.077.

Under AS 46.03.020(10)(A), the ADEC is empowered to adopt regulations providing for the control, prevention, and abatement of all forms of pollution.

In 1980 legislation was enacted which defined the State's policies regarding oil spills. The purpose of this law is to provide for the safety and protection of human health and welfare of Alaskans from damage resulting from oil spills and to provide the ability to clean up a spill and restore damaged areas.

The **Findings and Intent** section of Chapter 116 SLA 1980 ("An Act relating to the prevention and control of oil pollution; and providing for an effective date") clearly sets forth state policy:

- (1) It is a matter of the highest urgency and priority to protect Alaska's coastal and inside water, estuaries, wetlands, beaches and land from the damage which may be occasioned by the discharge of oil;
- (2) The storage, transfer, transportation and offshore exploration for and production of oil within the jurisdiction of the State are hazardous undertakings; oil discharges may cause both short-term and long-term damage to the environment and the beauty of the State, to owners and users of affected property, to public and private recreation, to residents of the State and other interests deriving livelihood from fishing, hunting, tourism and related activities;
- (3) Assuring sufficient capability, among industrial and commercial interests, and the State and Federal governments, to contain and clean up discharges of oil is of vital public interest; weather conditions, logistic constraints and the relative paucity of labor and equipment resources in the State increase the difficulty of oil discharge containment and cleanup in Alaska, making imperative an active State role;

It is the policy of the State that, to the maximum extent practicable, prompt and adequate containment and cleanup of oil discharges is the responsibility of the discharger; it is therefore of the utmost importance to assure that those engaged in oil storage, transfer, transportation, exploration and production operations have sufficient resources and capabilities to respond to oil discharges, and to provide for compensation of third persons injured by those discharges; and

- (4) The State should continue its cooperative relationships with appropriate federal agencies, protecting its legitimate interests while working to remove any duplicative or potentially conflicting regulatory activities.

In 1989, legislation was enacted by the Alaska Legislature to further strengthen the state's capability to deal with oil spills:

Findings and purpose:

- (a) The Legislature finds that the March 24, 1989 oil spill disaster in Prince William Sound demonstrates a need for the State to have an independent spill containment and cleanup capability in the event of future discharges of oil or a hazardous substance.

(b) It is the purpose of this Act to provide assurance to the people of the State that their health, safety and well-being will be protected from the adverse consequences of oil and hazardous substance releases of a magnitude that presents a grave and substantial threat to the economy and the environment of the State.

In 1990, the law was revised again. In order to meet the goal of protecting Alaska's people and environment, AS 46.04.200 set forth required Plan elements:

1. To take into consideration the elements of an oil discharge contingency plan approved or submitted for approval under AS 46.04.030;
2. To include an incident command system that clarifies and specifies the respective responsibilities of each of the following for emergency response, assessment, containment and cleanup of various types and sizes of discharges of oil or a hazardous substances:
 - a) agencies of the State;
 - b) municipalities of the State;
 - c) appropriate federal agencies;
 - d) operators of facilities; and
 - e) private parties whose land and other property may be affected oil or hazardous substance discharges.
3. To identify actions necessary to reduce the likelihood of catastrophic oil discharges and significant discharges of hazardous substances.

Alaska Statutes, Sections 46.04.200-210 specify state requirements for Oil and Hazardous Substance Discharge and Prevention Contingency Plans. This Unified Plan is written with the goal that it will meet both federal and State planning requirements in Alaska.

APPENDIX IV – GEOGRAPHIC PLANNING BOUNDARIES

Planning boundaries for ten designated subareas have been delineated for the purposes of developing geographic-specific supplements to the Unified Plan. Within each of these subareas there are response boundaries for Federal and State On-Scene Coordinators (FOSCs and SOSCs). Each subarea contingency plan contains information on who are the Coastal and Inland FOSCs and which of the three pre-designated SOSCs has jurisdiction in that particular subarea.

This plan covers the entire state of Alaska and those offshore waters subject to State and federal jurisdiction. Due to this state's large size, the state is subdivided into ten subareas described below and illustrated in the following tab, which depicts all ten subareas. These regional boundaries are directed by State regulation (18 AAC 75.495).

Southeast Alaska Subarea: The Southeast Alaska Subarea is that area of the State east of 142 ° W longitude and south of a line just west of Icy Bay that connects the US-Canadian border with the Gulf of Alaska, including adjacent shorelines and State waters, and having as its seaward boundary a line drawn in such a manner that each point on it is 200 nautical miles from which the territorial sea is measured.

Prince William Sound Subarea: The Prince William Sound Subarea is the area of the state south of 63° 30' North latitude, west of the Southeast Alaska subarea, and east of the Cook Inlet Subarea, including adjacent shorelines and state waters, and having as its seaward boundary a line drawn in such a manner that each point on it is 200 nautical miles from which the territorial sea is measured.

Note: Whittier is located in the Prince William Sound Subarea. However, because the town is located immediately adjacent to the boundary with the Cook Inlet Subarea, information regarding Whittier has been included in both subarea plans in the event of an incident occurring near this location.

Cook Inlet Subarea: The Cook Inlet Subarea encompasses the boundaries of the Kenai Peninsula Borough, the Municipality of Anchorage, and the Matanuska-Susitna Borough, including adjacent shorelines, waters of Cook Inlet and waters having as their seaward boundary a line drawn in such a manner that each point on it is 200 nautical miles from which the territorial sea is measured.

Kodiak Island Subarea: The Kodiak Island Subarea encompasses the boundaries of the Kodiak Island Borough, including adjacent shorelines and State waters, and having as its seaward boundary a line drawn in such a manner that each point on it is 200 nautical miles from the baseline from which the territorial sea is measured.

Aleutian Islands Subarea: The Aleutian Islands Subarea encompasses the boundaries of the Aleutians East Borough, the Aleutians West Coastal Resource Service Area, and the Pribilof Islands, including adjacent shorelines and state waters, and having as its seaward boundary a line drawn in such a manner that each point on it is 200 nautical miles from the baseline from which the territorial sea is measured;

Bristol Bay Subarea: The Bristol Bay Subarea encompasses the boundaries of the Bristol Bay Coastal Resource Service Area, the Bristol Bay Borough, and the Lake and Peninsula Borough, including adjacent shorelines and state waters, and having as its seaward boundary a line drawn in such a manner that each point on it is 200 nautical miles from the baseline from which the territorial sea is measured.

Western Alaska Subarea: The Western Alaska Subarea includes that area north of the Bristol Bay Subarea, encompassed by the boundaries of the southernmost boundary of the Bering Straits Regional Corporation, and Iditarod and Kuspuk Regional Educational Attendance Areas, including adjacent

shorelines and State waters, and having as its seaward boundary a line drawn in such a manner that each point on it is 200 nautical miles from the baseline from which the territorial sea is measured.

Northwest Arctic Subarea: The Northwest Arctic Subarea encompasses the Northwest Arctic Borough and the Bering Straits Regional Corporation, including adjacent shorelines and State waters, and having as its seaward boundary a line drawn in such a manner that each point on it is 200 nautical miles from the baseline from which the territorial sea is measured;

North Slope Subarea: The North Slope Subarea encompasses the boundaries of the North Slope Borough, including adjacent shorelines and State waters, and having as its seaward boundary a line drawn in such a manner that each point on it is 200 nautical miles from the baseline from which the territorial sea is measured.

Interior Alaska Subarea: The Interior Alaska Subarea includes that area of the state not included in any of the subareas described above. Specifically, this is the area that is bordered by the North Slope Borough boundary to the north, the Northwest Arctic Borough boundary to the northwest, the Matanuska-Susitna Borough and Regional Educational Attendance Area (REAA) 11 to the south and southwest, including the area north of the 63°30' North Latitude line extending from the Canadian border to the northeastern boundary of the Matanuska-Susitna Borough. The Interior Alaska Subarea includes the Fairbanks North Star Borough, the Denali Borough, REAAs 12, 13, and 15, and part of REAA 16.

Useful Websites:

The following websites provide links to the subarea plans and additional maps and information regarding each subarea:

Unified Plan and Subarea Contingency Plans:

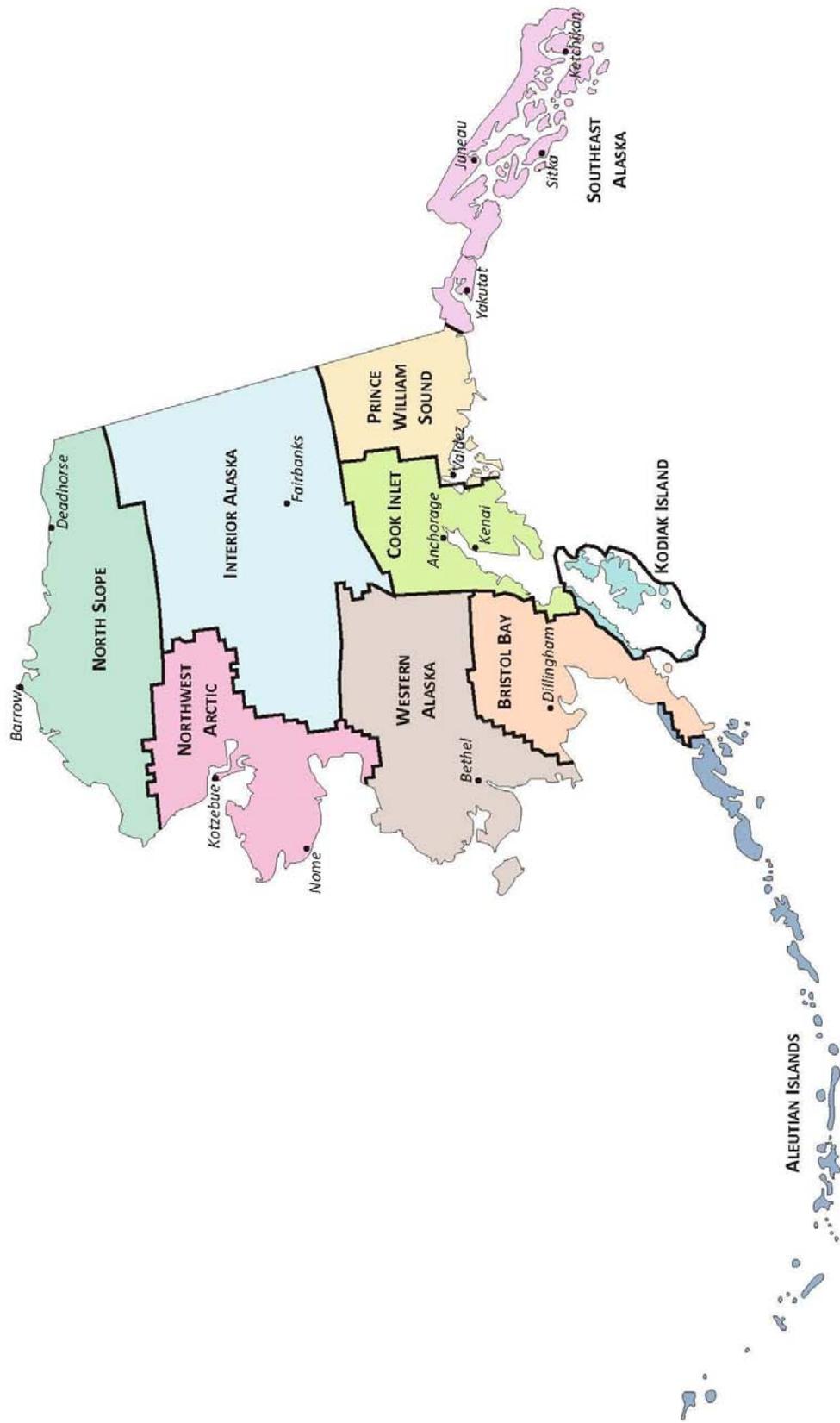
<http://www.dec.state.ak.us/spar/perp/plan.htm>

<http://www.akrrt.org/plans.shtml>

Maps and other useful information:

<http://www.asgdc.state.ak.us/maps/cplans/subareas.html>

Joint Subarea Contingency Plans



APPENDIX V – GEOGRAPHIC RESPONSE BOUNDARIES

Response boundaries exist to facilitate identification of and response by pre-designated Federal and State On-Scene Coordinators (FOSCs and SOSCs) in the event of a significant discharge of oil or release of a hazardous substance.

The pre-designated FOSCs are determined by the location of the incident (off-shore, coastal, inland, or federal lands along the Trans-Alaska Pipeline System).

Pre-designated SOSCs are also determined by the location of the incident: Northern, Central, and Southeast (i.e., the three pre-designated response areas of the state).

The following Tabs are provided to depict the Federal and State response boundaries:

Tab A - Federal On-Scene Coordinator Boundaries

Tab B - State On-Scene Coordinator Boundaries

TAB A: FEDERAL ON-SCENE COORDINATOR (FOSC) BOUNDARIES

An existing memorandum of understanding (MOU) between the US Coast Guard Seventeenth District and EPA formally establishes the emergency response boundaries for Coast Guard and EPA FOSCs. A copy of this MOU is provided in Annex K.

1. **COASTAL ZONE FOSC BOUNDARIES:** Per the MOU and the National Contingency Plan, the "coastal zone" is defined as "all United States waters subject to the tide and all land surface or land substrata, and ground waters, 1000 yards inland."
 - a. **Captain Of The Port (COTP) Southeast Alaska** (Commanding Officer, Sector Juneau, Alaska) is the pre-designated FOSC for the coastal waters of Southeastern Alaska. This area is southeast of a straight boundary line which starts at 60° 1.3" North latitude, 142° West longitude, and thence proceeds northeasterly to its end at the international boundary between the United States and Canada at 60° 18.7" North latitude, 141° West longitude.
 - b. **COTP Prince William Sound** (Commanding Officer, Marine Safety Unit (MSU) , Valdez, Alaska) is the pre-designated FOSC for the coastal waters of Southcentral Alaska that falls within the following boundary line: a line which starts at Cape Puget; thence northerly to a latitude 61° 30" North, longitude 148° 26" West; thence easterly to the international boundary between the United States and Canada; thence southerly along the international boundary to latitude 60° 18.7" North, thence southwesterly to the sea at latitude 60° 1.3" North, longitude 142° West, including those islands of the State of Alaska south of the described area located between longitudes 142° West and 148° 26" West.

A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) exists between the Department of the Interior's (DOI) Alaska Pipeline Office and the Department of Transportation (Seventeenth Coast Guard District). The MOU provides the specific delineation between Inland and Coastal Waters along the northern and southern portions of the Trans Alaska Pipeline System. A copy of this MOU is provided in Annex K.

- c. **COTP Western Alaska** (Commanding Officer, Sector Anchorage, Alaska) is the pre-designated FOSC for the coastal waters of Alaska, except those sections of Alaska covered by COTP Southeast Alaska and COTP Prince William Sound.

2. INLAND ZONE FOSC BOUNDARIES: Per the MOU, the "inland zone" is defined as "the environment inland of the coastal zone". Precise boundaries separating the coastal zone from the inland zone in Western Alaska are further defined in the MOU between the USCG and EPA for response zone jurisdiction.

- a. The **EPA, Alaska Operations Office** will provide the pre-designated FOSC for all inland incidents except for hazardous substance releases from DOD or DOE facilities or vessels. The inland zone includes all non-tidally influenced navigable waters, including wetlands.
- b. The **Trans Alaska Pipeline System:** EPA will provide the pre-designated FOSC for pipeline spills in the "Inland Zone." BLM will support the EPA (as resources allow) in accordance with the BLM/EPA MOU contained in Annex K of this plan.

3. FOSC FOR OFF-SHORE FACILITIES

The pre-designated FOSC for all spills from offshore facilities is the Captain of the Port for the area in which the facilities are located. Although the FOSC is provided by the Coast Guard, the DOI (MMS) retains exclusive responsibility for abatement of pollution from all offshore facilities regulated under the OCS Lands Act. These responsibilities are further defined in an MOU between the DOI and DOT dated August 16, 1971. (A copy of this MOU is included in Annex K.)

4. JURISDICTIONAL BOUNDARIES FOR OFFSHORE FACILITIES

The Department of the Interior's Minerals Management Service (MMS) is responsible for permitting and regulating oil and gas exploration and development on the Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) and for pollution prevention and response preparedness for all offshore oil and gas exploration and development, including activities on State of Alaska submerged lands. These responsibilities come from the OCS Lands Act and the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (as amended by the Oil Pollution Act of 1990).

The MMS has primary review and approval authority for oil spill contingency plans submitted for OCS activities and shares review and approval authority for oil spill contingency plans for offshore activities on State of Alaska submerged lands with the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation (ADEC). MMS and ADEC have signed a Letter of Agreement for the purpose of coordinating and implementing oil spill prevention and response preparedness on State of Alaska submerged lands. (A copy of this MOU is included in Annex K.)

Effective in February 1994, an MOU was entered between the DOI, DOT, and the EPA regarding the delegation of responsibilities related to spill prevention and control, contingency planning, and equipment inspections for oil and gas facilities. (A copy of this MOU is included in Annex K). The coastline, as defined in the MOU, is "the line of ordinary low water along that portion of the coast which is in direct contact with the open sea and the line marking the seaward limit of inland waters." This MOU gives EPA responsibility for non-transportation-related offshore facilities located landward of the coastline. DOT has responsibility for transportation-related facilities, including pipelines, located landward of the coastline. In addition, the Coast Guard has the responsibility for deepwater ports and associated seaward pipelines. This MOU gives DOI (MMS) responsibility for facilities, including associated pipelines, located seaward of the coastline. An exception

to this jurisdiction has been agreed to by MMS and EPA for Cook Inlet. In July 1994, EPA and MMS signed an MOU that gives MMS the responsibility for OPA 90 implementation for offshore oil facilities in Cook Inlet. (A copy of this agreement is included in Annex K.)

Also see Annex B, Appendix II, paragraph 3C(1) for more information regarding the FOSC.

See the map on page A-17 for Coastal and Inland FOSC areas of responsibility.

5. FOSC FOR DOD and DOE FACILITIES

Per the National Contingency Plan, the Department of Defense (DOD) and the Department of Energy (DOE) shall provide FOSCs who will be responsible for taking all response actions to releases of hazardous substances, pollutants, or contaminants when the release is on, or the sole source of the release is from, any facility or vessel (including bareboat-chartered and operated vessels) under their jurisdiction, custody or control.

TAB B: STATE ON-SCENE COORDINATOR RESPONSE BOUNDARIES

1. General. State On-Scene Coordinator (SOSC) response boundaries for the State of Alaska are depicted on the map shown on page A-19. Three area response teams are available for responding to oil and hazardous materials discharges/releases in their geographic area of responsibility. These teams and their areas of responsibility are as follows:

- Southeast Area Response Team: Southeast Alaska Subarea.
- Central Area Response Team: Prince William Sound, Cook Inlet, Kodiak, Aleutian Islands, and Western Alaska Subareas.
- Northern Area Response Team: Northwest Arctic, North Slope, Interior, and portions of the Prince William Sound Subareas.

2. Pre-designated SOSCs.

State On-Scene Coordinators have been pre-designated for responses to oil and/or hazardous substance releases within their area of responsibility. SOSC boundaries are shown on page A-18.

The Commissioner, Department of Environmental Conservation, may designate the Director of the Spill Prevention and Response Division or another individual to serve as the State On-Scene Coordinator for major incidents (see State Response Team, Type 1 Response Capability below).

3. Types of Incidents and Response Capability. In addition to the pre-designated SOSCs, ADEC maintains trained area response teams to manage minor (Type 4), medium (Type 2-3), and major (Type 1) incidents. These teams and their response capability levels are described below.

a. Area Response Team - Type 2-4 Response Capability

Area Response Teams are generally ADEC's first responders who respond to releases, or potential releases as part of the initial response to protect people, property, and the environment. Area response teams are trained to identify hazards, take defensive actions to contain the release from a safe distance, keep it from spreading, prevent exposures and secure the area. The most important function of area response teams is to make proper

notification to initiate the emergency response sequence when needed to deal with Type 2-4 incidents.

Type 4 Incidents are characterized as small incidents that can be managed with local resources (normally one response individual), involve no casualties or injuries, are limited in volume (generally < 55 gallons in the case of an oil spill), and have minimal impact.

Type 3 Incidents are characterized as regional incidents that may require activation of other area team resources, require a response staff of 2-10 personnel, involve a larger release volume (> 55 gallons in the case of an oil spill), and have potential for moderate impacts.

Type 2 Incidents are characterized as statewide incidents that will require activation of other area team resources, require a response staff of more than 10 personnel, involve a significant release volume (>100,000 gallons in the case of an oil spill), and have a high potential for moderate impacts. Type 2 incidents result in expenditures greater than \$100,000 and may cover large geographic areas.

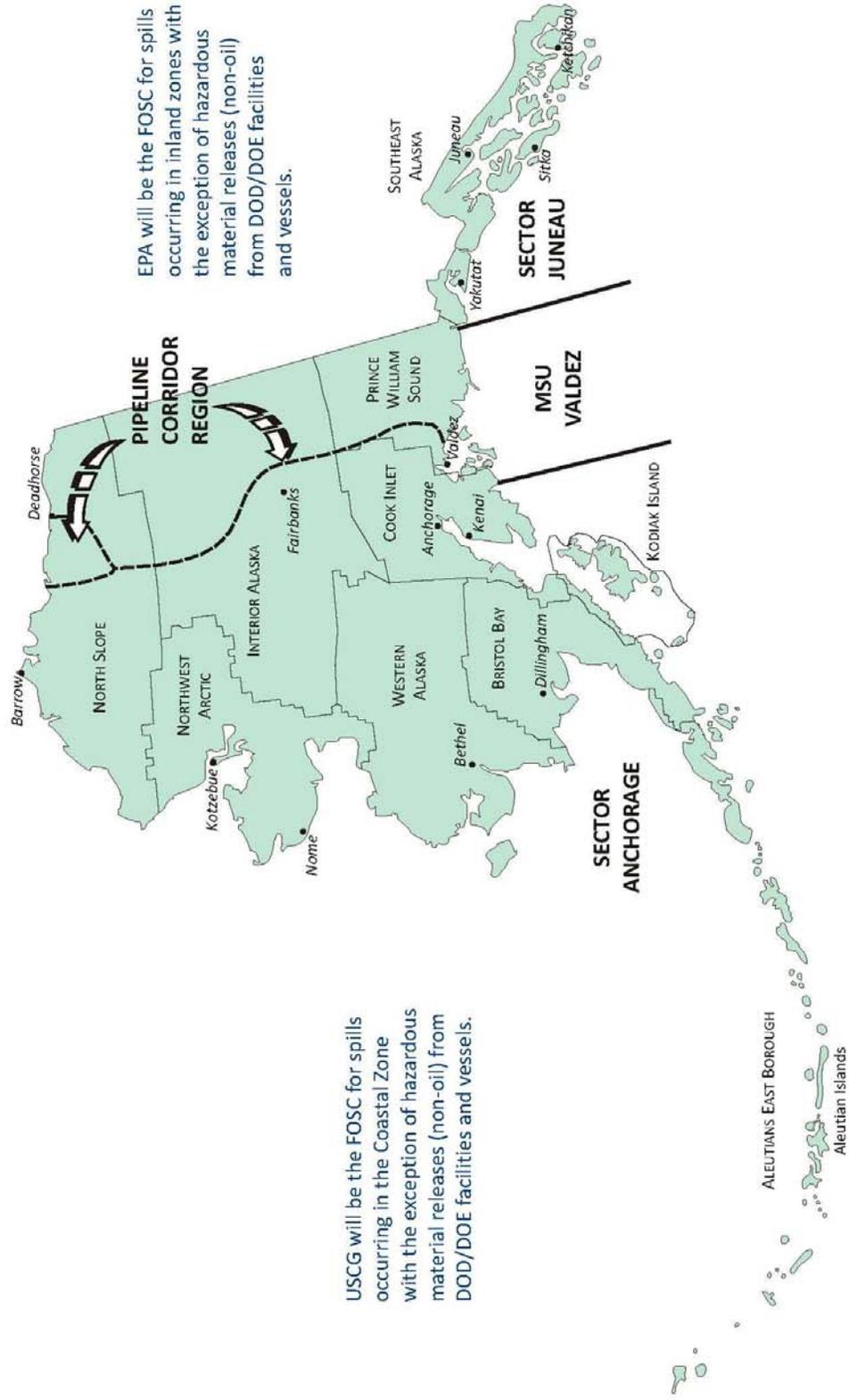
b. Statewide Response Team - Type 1 Response Capability

The Statewide Response Team (composed of members of the three Area Response Teams) is activated for large incidents requiring mobilization of statewide resources, participation of other State agencies and involvement of other jurisdictional interests. The Statewide Response Team is activated for Type 1 incidents and will be staffed by ADEC's most experienced and senior level personnel from the three Area Response Teams.

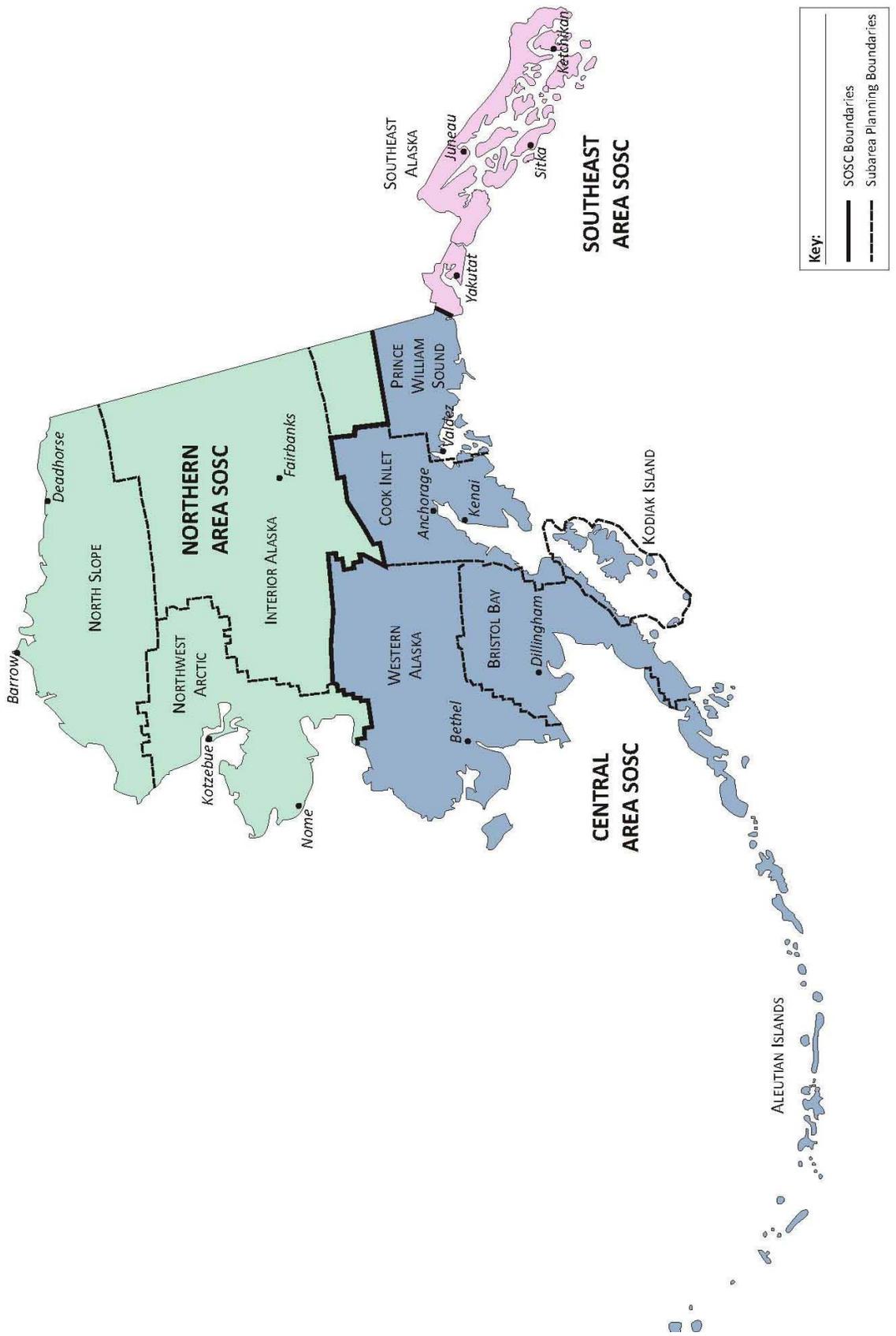
Type 1 Incidents are characterized as statewide incidents that involve oil spill volumes in excess of 1,000,000 gallons, require statewide resources and a very large response staff (> 20 personnel), and will result in severe impacts to the environment. Type 1 incidents result in expenditures greater than \$1,000,000 and may cover large geographic areas.

Also, see Annex B, Appendix II, of this plan for more information regarding the SOSC.

Pre-Designated Federal On-Scene Coordinators (FOSC) – Areas of Responsibility



OSC Response Boundaries



APPENDIX VI – RESPONSE SYSTEM AND POLICIES

TAB A: NATIONAL RESPONSE SYSTEM

The National Response System (NRS) was developed to coordinate all government agencies with responsibility for environmental protection in a focused response strategy for the immediate and effective cleanup of an oil or hazardous substance discharge. The NRS is a three-tiered response and preparedness mechanism composed of the National Response Team (NRT), the Alaska Regional Response Team (RRT), and the Subarea Committees. The NRS supports the pre-designated FOOSC in coordinating national, regional, and local government agencies, industry, and the responsible party during responses.

The NRS supports the responsibilities of the FOOSC under the direction of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act's federal removal authority. The FOOSC plans and coordinates response strategy on-scene using the support of the NRT, RRT, and responsible parties, as necessary, to supply the needed trained personnel, equipment, and scientific support to complete an immediate and effective response to any oil or hazardous substance discharge.

NRS and the Unified Command: The NRS is designed to support the FOOSC and facilitate responses to a discharge or threatened discharge of oil and/or a hazardous substance. The NRS is used for all spills, including a Spill of National Significance (SONS). When appropriate, the NRS is designed to incorporate a unified command and control support mechanism consisting of the FOOSC, the SOOSC, the Local On-Scene Coordinator (LOSC), and the responsible party's incident commander. The unified structure allows for a coordinated response effort that takes into account the federal, state, local and responsible party concerns and interests when implementing the response strategy. A unified command establishes a forum for open, frank discussions on problems that must be addressed by the parties with primary responsibility for oil and hazardous substance discharge removal. A unified command helps to ensure a coordinated, effective response is carried out and that the particular needs of all parties involved are taken into consideration. The FOOSC has the ultimate authority in a response operation and will exert this authority only if the other members of the unified command are not present or are unable to reach consensus within a reasonable time frame.

During hazardous substance release responses, local agencies usually assume a leading role and provide an LOSC to serve on the Unified Command. The LOSC will serve as the Incident Commander as long as there is a threat to public health and safety. Once this threat is nullified, the LOSC may continue to serve as a member of the Unified Command if local resources are involved and to maintain jurisdictional interest over the response. During responses to oil spills outside of their immediate jurisdiction, local agencies are not usually involved as part of the Unified Command. The local community may provide a Community Emergency Coordinator to serve on the Regional Stakeholder Committee (RSC) to interact with the command structure through the Liaison Officer.

It is important to note that LOSCs should be properly trained to coordinate an emergency response involving the containment and cleanup of hazardous substances to ensure public safety and minimize contamination spreading. Annex H contains training guidelines for LEPCs to assist community planners in understanding state and federal training requirements.

When a Unified Command is used, a Joint Operations Center and Joint Information Center shall be established. The Joint Operations Center should be located near and convenient to the site of the discharge. All responders should be incorporated into the Unified Command's response organization at the appropriate level.

I - National Response Team (NRT)

The NRT's membership consists of fifteen federal agencies with responsibilities, interests and expertise in various aspects of emergency response to pollution incidents. The EPA serves as chairman and the Coast Guard serves as vice-chairman of the NRT, except when activated for a specific incident. The NRT is primarily a national planning, policy, and coordination body and does not respond directly to incidents. The NRT provides policy guidance prior to an incident and assistance during an incident when requested by an FOSC via a Regional Response Team (RRT). NRT assistance usually takes the form of technical advice, access to additional resources and equipment, or coordination with other RRTs.

II - Regional Response Team (RRT)

There are thirteen RRT's, one for each of the ten federal regions in the continental U.S., plus Alaska, the Caribbean, and the Pacific Basin. Each RRT has federal and state representation. The EPA and the Coast Guard co-chair the RRTs. Like the NRT, RRTs are planning, policy and coordinating bodies, and do not respond directly to incidents. The Alaska RRT (ARRT) recommends changes to the regional response organization as needed, reviews the Unified Plan as needed, evaluates the preparedness of participating federal agencies and the effectiveness of subarea contingency plans for the federal response to discharges and releases, and provides technical assistance for preparedness to the response community. The ARRT *Alaska Region Oil and Hazardous Substance Pollution Contingency Plan* (the RCP) has been incorporated into the *Unified Plan*. The ARRT provides guidance for the subarea committees to ensure inter-area consistency and consistency of individual SCPs with the Unified Plan and the NCP.

The ARRT will be activated during any discharge or release upon a request to the ARRT chair by the FOSC or from any ARRT member. Requests for ARRT activation shall later be confirmed in writing. Upon receipt of a request, the Co-Chairs will assess the size and/or complexity of the incident to determine if ARRT activation is warranted. If the Co-Chairs agree that the ARRT should be activated, each representative, or an appropriate alternate, will be notified immediately that the ARRT is being activated. On incident-specific ARRTs, participation by the ARRT member agencies will relate to the specific nature of the incident, including its location. If the assistance requested by an FOSC exceeds an ARRT's capability, the ARRT may request assistance from the NRT. During an incident, the ARRT may either be alerted by telephone or convened. A current listing of ARRT members can be found at the following website:

<http://www.akrrt.org/members.shtml>

As an advisory body to the FOSC, the ARRT provides federal, State and local governmental agencies with the means to participate in responses to pollution incidents when no avenues for participation are available through the Unified Command's incident command structure. The two principal components of the ARRT are the standing team, consisting of representatives of specified federal agencies and a designated State representative, and the incident-specific team, formed from the members of the standing team when the ARRT is convened for a response. The standing team conducts regional planning and coordination of preparedness activities before a response takes place, and the incident-specific team coordinates assistance and advice for the FOSC during response actions, as well as providing resources and other available assistance from their respective agencies.

a. Roles/Responsibilities of Federal RRT Member Agencies:

The roles and responsibilities of the RRT member agencies are described below. Included are each agency's resources and types of assistance that may be provided to the FOSC. Each agency provides one member and at least one alternate member to the RRT.

(1) **The Department of Agriculture (USDA)** provides expertise in managing agriculture, forest and wilderness areas. The Soil Conservation Service can be helpful in predicting effects of pollutants on soil and their movements over and through soil. The U.S. Forest Service (USFS) has responsibility for certain federal lands. The USFS can provide local knowledge about communications, logistics, contractors, and equipment availability. They also have in-house radio communications, field housing, and air, land, and water transportation capability within their areas.

(2) **The Department of Commerce (DOC)**, through the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), provides support to the NRT, RRT, and FOSC with respect to living marine resources for which they have management authority, including marine fisheries, marine mammals, and certain endangered species. They provide meteorological, hydrologic, ice and oceanographic data for marine, coastal, and certain inland waters; tide and current information; charts and maps; and satellite imagery. In response to requests from the FOSC, NOAA provides on-scene scientific assistance for releases in coastal and marine areas through the regional Scientific Support Coordinator (SSC). (See Annex E, Appendix IV, Tab E for further SSC information.) NOAA acts on behalf of the Secretary of Commerce as a federal trustee for living and non-living natural resources in coastal and marine areas. Resources of concern to NOAA include all life stages, wherever they occur, of fishery resources of the exclusive economic zone and continental shelf; anadromous and catadromous species throughout their ranges; endangered and threatened species and marine mammals for which NOAA is responsible; tidal wetlands and other ecosystems supporting these living marine resources; and resources of National Marine Sanctuaries and Estuarine Research Reserves. For resources in coastal waters and anadromous fish streams, NOAA may be a co-trustee with the Department of the Interior, other federal land managing agencies, and possible Indian tribes, as well as the affected State. Other DOC resources and support that can be provided are described below:

(a) Through the **National Weather Service (NWS)**, DOC can provide information on the current and predicted climatological and meteorological conditions at the scene of a significant spill incident. They can provide hydrometeorological observations and forecasts, satellite imagery, and use of the NWS communications network and special-purpose aircraft. Site-specific forecasts are available to assist aircraft and ship operations or to provide real-time weather data for pollutant trajectory analyses. Weather Service Forecast Offices (WSFO) responsible for this region are located in Juneau, Anchorage, and Fairbanks.

(b) Through the **National Environmental Satellite, Data, and Information Service (NESDIS)**, DOC can provide satellite imagery of coastal regions. Data buoys can be tracked through the use of the NIMBUS F Satellite. NESDIS can also provide climatological data on marine weather, oceanic conditions, and water column characteristics.

(c) **The National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS)** provides a broad variety of biological and oceanographic services which can address the impact of spill contaminants and cleanup operations on marine organisms and the marine ecosystem. Such services include population assessments to determine mortalities, laboratory facilities for specific contaminant impact at sub-lethal levels on marine organisms, and a nationally recognized group of marine pathologists. The regional office maintains extensive contacts with the commercial fishing industry, marine recreational interest, and state fisheries agencies. Chemists and toxicologists may be consulted on properties and toxic potential of various hydrocarbon contaminants to provide information on marine fisheries, marine mammals, and certain endangered species to assist in identifying resources at risk and thus determine areas requiring priority protection. Regional personnel alert fishermen to oil slicks and other contamination hazards that may adversely affect fishing operations or equipment.

(3) **The Department of Defense (DOD)** provides representatives from the Alaskan Command and the U.S. Army Engineer District, Alaska to the RRT. Resources and assistance available from DOD agencies are outlined below.

(a) **The U.S. Army and U.S. Air Force** have various military facilities, vehicles, equipment, and in some cases, aircraft that can be made available in the event of critical incidents. In addition, construction-related equipment may be locally available.

(b) **The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE)** can provide expertise in all disciplines of engineering. USACE can provide assistance in the areas of dredging, surveying, supply vessels, and manpower. Their expertise can also be used for clearing channels and locating obstructions. The USACE also has authority for emergency removal of obstructions to navigation. Activation of USACE resources in support of an RRT activity would be in the form of a written mission assignment that outlines the parameters of work to be done and estimates dollar authority to accomplish the mission.

(c) **The U.S. Navy (USN)** is the federal agent most knowledgeable and experienced in ship salvage, shipboard damage control, and diving. The USN has an extensive array of specialized equipment and personnel available for use in these areas as well as for open sea pollution incidents.

(4) **The Department of Energy (DOE)** is the responsible agency for Federal radiological monitoring and assessment activities. The DOE maintains national and regional coordination offices as points of access to Federal radiological emergency assistance. Requests for federal radiological monitoring and assessment assistance will generally be directed to the appropriate DOE radiological assistance Regional Coordinating Office.

(5) **The Department of Health and Human Services (HHS).**

(a) HHS is responsible for coordinating direct and indirect assistance for chemical spills and emergencies in which there is a potential or actual threat to the public's health. Such assistance may include health related field guidance and coordinating access to toxicology data bases for health and medical data. Coordination of requests for biological sampling and testing and recommendations for environmental testing may also be provided.

(b) During an emergency response, the Federal On-Scene Coordinator may call upon the HHS representative to provide consultation and advice on whether potential or real threats to human health exist. HHS response capabilities include but are not limited to:

1. Reviewing available background information on the incident and with the assistance of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR) and the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) estimating the potential for human health exposure to hazardous substances on-site and to hazardous substances that may have migrated off-site via all pathways.
2. While on-site and in consultation with other health agencies, recommending any additional environmental sampling or monitoring procedures needed to define extent of exposure, including identification of persons at high risk or particularly high exposure.
3. Activating CDC's Emergency Response Coordination Group to promote accessing computerized toxicological data bases through remote video and hard copy terminals maintained by the CDC and the National Library of Medicine.
4. In consultation with CDC and ATSDR, providing advice concerning evacuation or other preventive measures.
5. Estimating the potential for toxic contamination of the food chain.
6. In consultation with NOAA and ATSDR, outlining potential pathways to human populations based upon soil kinetics and contamination, wind direction, aquifer contamination, and/or food chain involvement.
7. Obtaining and reviewing information regarding potential human illness associated with the incident.
8. Investigating health complaints reported by residents.
9. Coordinating appropriate health response with federal, state and local health agencies and the private medical community.
10. Providing advice and assistance as required by the FOSC on health matters in community and media relations.

(6) The **Department of the Interior (DOI)** manages approximately half of the lands in Alaska as well as certain wildlife species and national programs designed to document and protect cultural and natural resources of national significance. Within DOI, individual bureaus and offices have specific responsibilities and capabilities as described below:

(a) The **Office of Environmental Policy and Compliance (OEPC)** oversees and coordinates DOI preparedness and response activities for oil discharges, hazardous substances releases, natural disasters, and terrorism incidents affecting, or potentially affecting, DOI trust resources, and oversees compliance with federal, state and local environmental laws, directives, and requirements. OEPC activities include, but are not limited to, the following:

1. Serves as the DOI representative to the standing and incident-specific Alaska Regional Response Team (ARRT).
2. Serves as the chairperson for the ARRT Wildlife Protection Working Group; the ARRT Cultural Resources Working Group; the Pribilof Islands Wildlife Protection Contacts; and the Sensitive Areas Working Groups for each of the 10 subarea contingency plans.
3. Provides the DOI representative to the ARRT Science and Technology Committee and Places of Refuge Subcommittee, and other ARRT committees and work groups, as appropriate.
4. Serves as the DOI point of contact for preparedness training and exercises.
5. Provides information on training and exercises to appropriate DOI bureaus and offices.

6. Serves as the DOI point of contact for Federal OSC notification of oil discharges and hazardous substance releases and subsequent spill, pollution, and situation reports and other information.
7. Notifies appropriate DOI bureaus and offices of discharges and releases and provides contacts with subsequent spill, pollution, and situation reports and other information.
8. Coordinates DOI preparedness and response-related activities, as appropriate, with DOI bureaus and offices.
9. Provides (as appropriate) incident-specific information to the Federal OSC on DOI resources at risk and any requirements associated with responses affecting DOI resources (e.g., special use permits).
10. Provides consolidated DOI input to Federal OSCs on requests for in-situ burning, dispersant use, and/or places of refuge decision-making.
11. Provides technical assistance to Federal OSCs on historic properties protection, including implementation of the *Alaska Implementation Guidelines for Federal On-Scene Coordinators for the Programmatic Agreement on Protection of Historic Properties During an Emergency Response Under the National Oil and Hazardous Substance Pollution Contingency Plan (Alaska Implementation Guidelines)*.
12. Provides, following implementation of the Alaska Implementation Guidelines, monitoring of the Federal OSC Historic Properties Specialist activities.

(b) The **U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS)** has management authority for, and expertise on National Wildlife Refuges, anadromous fisheries on Federal lands, migratory birds, sea otters, walrus, polar bears, and specifically-designated threatened and endangered species. FWS authorizes and monitors response operations associated with deterring, capturing, handling, transporting, treating, and releasing wildlife species for which FWS has management authority. FWS also provides expertise on subsistence and cultural resources.

(c) The **Bureau of Land Management (BLM)** is responsible for certain Federal lands and minerals; and maintains official Federal land status and title records.

(d) The **National Park Service (NPS)** manages National Park System Units; administers the National Historic Landmark and the National Natural Landmark programs; and provides historical and archaeological expertise.

(e) The **Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA)** is responsible for providing input to response activities affecting Native allotment lands and trust townsite lots; and identifies and evaluates selected Native historical places and cemetery sites.

(f) The **Minerals Management Service (MMS)** is responsible for permitting and regulating oil and gas exploration and development on the Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) and for pollution prevention and response preparedness for all offshore oil and gas exploration and development, including activities on State of Alaska submerged lands. MMS is also responsible for abatement activities from OCS facilities. (See this Annex, Appendix V, Tab A, paragraph 4, Jurisdiction Boundaries for Offshore Facilities, for additional information.)

(g) The **U.S. Geological Survey (USGS)** provides expertise on natural hazards; geologic, hydrologic, and geochemical resources; ground and surface water properties; and biological resources.

(7) The **Department of Justice (DOJ)**, through the U.S. Attorney, provides legal advice concerning legal questions arising from discharges, releases, and Federal agency responses.

(8) The **Department of Labor (DOL)**, through the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA), provides advice, guidance, and assistance regarding hazards to persons involved in removal or control of oil or chemical spills. The OSHA representative to the ARRT has the responsibility for determining when fewer than 24 hours of HAZWOPER training is required.

(9) The **Department of State (DOS)** will lead in developing joint international contingency plans. It will help to coordinate an international response when a pollution incident crosses international boundaries or involves foreign flag vessels. Additionally, DOS will coordinate requests for assistance from foreign governments and offer U.S. proposals for conducting research at incidents that occur off other countries.

(10) The Department of Homeland Security (DHS).

(a) On behalf of DHS, the **U.S. Coast Guard** provides the pre-designated FOSCs for the coastal zone and chairs the RRT when it is activated during a coastal zone response. The Coast Guard provides representatives to the RRT when activated for inland spills. In the coastal zone, the Coast Guard will ensure that the NCP is effectively and efficiently implemented with optimum coordination among Federal agencies and will recommend changes in the Plan as necessary. For an inland zone response, the Coast Guard provides technical expertise and resources relative to environmental protection and mitigation during periods of RRT activation. The Coast Guard offers expertise in marine environmental protection, port safety and security, marine law enforcement, ship navigation and construction, and the manning, operation, and safety of vessels and marine facilities. For the purpose of planned RRT meetings, the Coast Guard co-chairs the ARRT with the EPA.

(b) The Coast Guard maintains facilities, vessels, aircraft, and vehicles which can be used for command, control, and surveillance of pollution incidents occurring in coastal areas. The USCG also maintains special forces and teams including the staff of the National Response Center (NRC), the National Strike Force (NSF), the Coast Guard District Response Group (DRG), the Coast Guard District Response Advisory Team (DRAT), and the Public Information Assist Team (PIAT). See Annex E, Appendix IV for further discussion of these special forces.

(11) The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

(a) The EPA co-chairs the ARRT and provides the pre-designated Federal On-Scene Coordinators (FOSC) for the inland zone. During an incident-specific activation of the ARRT, EPA chairs the RRT when activated for a release or potential release in the inland zone of oil or hazardous substances as indicated in the NCP. The EPA provides a representative to the RRT when activated for a coastal spill. The EPA will provide technical expertise and resources available within the agency to the FOSC relative to environmental protection and mitigation during periods of activation. This expertise can address the environmental effects of oil discharges or releases of hazardous substance, pollutants, or contaminants, and environmental control techniques. Additionally, the EPA can provide legal expertise on interpretation of CERCLA and other environmental statutes.

(b) The Alaska Operations Office, Anchorage has monitoring and sampling equipment, minor containment, cleanup and decontamination equipment for use should an incident occur. EPA maintains Level A & Level B response capabilities. In a major inland spill situation, additional personnel resources and equipment will be obtained from contractors in Anchorage, Alaska and Seattle, Washington; Region X personnel located in Seattle, Washington, the State of Alaska, federal and military sources in Alaska, industry, public municipalities, and local contractors.

(c) EPA resources available through the Alaska Operations Office are:

1. Sample analysis performed by the EPA laboratory in Seattle, Washington, or at commercial laboratories the Pacific Northwest and specialty laboratories throughout the U.S.
2. Environmental effects monitoring and advice to the FOSC on the use of chemical dispersants: The EPA will coordinate scientific interest for on-scene research and provide lab facilities.
3. Aerial photography over-flights for inland spills: The EPA has pre-established arrangements for rapid acquisition of commercial aircraft for aerial photographic services and for rapid processing of the resultant film.
4. Oil/hazardous substance disposal sites: The EPA Region X office maintains necessary liaisons with state and local governments to assist the FOSC in identifying suitable disposal sites for oil/hazardous substances recovered during a spill response.
5. The EPA maintains special forces to assist the OSCs including the Environmental Response Team (ERT) based in Edison, New Jersey; the Radiological Emergency Response Team (RERT) based in Las Vegas, Nevada and Montgomery, Alabama; the National Decontamination Team based in Cincinnati, Ohio. The EPA also maintains contractor services through the Superfund Technical Assistance and Response Team (START) and the Emergency and Rapid Response Services (ERRS) contracts. Currently there are START teams in Anchorage, Alaska with additional support from Seattle, Washington, and the ERRS contractor, based in Seattle, Washington has active subcontracts with Alaska-based companies. The Oil and Hazardous Materials Technical Assistance Data Systems (OHMTADS) is accessible by EPA. The EPA has also entered into a Memorandum of Understanding with the State of Alaska regarding spill prevention and response (See Annex K).

(12) The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA).

(a) FEMA provides coordination, as needed, to support other agencies with primary assignments stated in subsections (1) through (13) of this section (e.g., communications, public affairs, mitigation, off-site or interagency coordination).

(b) FEMA assists the FOSC to execute authority vested in the President in Section 104(a) of CERCLA to the extent it requires permanent relocation of residents, businesses, and community facilities or temporary evacuation and housing of threatened individuals not otherwise provided for.

(c) FEMA will advise and assist the FOSC in determining the need for and coordination with the Federal Coordinating Officer (FCO) regarding declaration of a major disaster or emergency under the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Recovery Act (P.L. 93-288).

(d) In the event the Federal Response Plan (FRP) has been or is anticipated to be activated for a concurrent radiological or other technological emergency, natural disaster, or other cause, FEMA will advise and assist the FOSC or RRT to coordinate with the response of the FCO under the FRP.

(13) The General Services Administration (GSA).

(a) GSA joined the Alaska Regional Response Team in 1991 to provide administrative and resource support during emergency responses. A Memorandum of Understanding between GSA, EPA, and DOT is presently nearing the signature stage at the national level. GSA is very experienced in providing disaster support to FEMA under the FRP and will provide similar support under this Unified Plan.

(b) GSA is able to provide space, telecommunications, and supplies and services. First priority is given to current inventory in the Federal system, but expeditious procurement under emergency conditions is also available.

(c) Examples of resources that can be provided include offices, warehouses, travel trailers, furniture, office supplies, chemical suits, computers, telecommunications equipment, and contracting officers for local purchases.

(d) Transportation of goods can be arranged either separately or in conjunction with DOT.

(e) When regional resources are insufficient, national and international sources of supply can be rapidly accessed.

(f) Coordination between the ARRT and GSA occurs through the GSA Regional Emergency Coordinator located in San Francisco. GSA has field offices located in the State of Alaska that can provide immediate assistance.

(g) Unlike most federal agencies, GSA relies on industrial funding for nearly its entire budget and does not have funds available to charge for later reimbursement. Therefore, before support can be provided, a fund cite must be given to GSA and/or bills must be sent directly to the requesting organization.

b. Roles and Responsibilities of the State of Alaska:

(1) The Governor of Alaska has designated the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation (ADEC) as the ARRT representative. ADEC ensures that the State Emergency Response Commission (SERC) is apprised of ARRT activities and that ARRT activities are coordinated with the SERC. ADEC also represents and coordinates the ARRT involvement of various other State, borough, and municipal organizations.

(2) ADEC provides the State On-Scene Coordinator (SOSC) for oil or hazardous substance incidents in accordance with this Unified Plan.

(3) ADEC has various functions, capabilities and resources both before and during a pollution incident. They include:

(a) Planning and preparedness for oil and hazardous substance discharges.

(b) Maintaining and making proper disbursements from the Response Fund.

(c) Maintaining a current listing of available containment and cleanup equipment.

(d) Providing on-scene oversight of all discharge cleanup activities for and coordinating technical expertise concerning the biological impact of a probable or existing discharge.

(e) Conducting actual cleanup of spills.

(f) Determining and approving the locations to be used as pollutant disposal sites.

- (g) Pre-planning and concurring on the use of dispersants, biological additives, *in situ* burning, or miscellaneous oil spill control agents for the State of Alaska. (See Annex F for additional details).
- (h) Providing notification of a hazardous material incident to the appropriate State, local, and federal agencies.
- (i) Providing a Public Information Officer (PIO) who compiles and disseminates media releases.
- (j) Arranging for emergency hazardous substance response with private contractors.

c. Alaska Regional Response Team:

(1) Planning and Preparedness Functions of the RRT.

- (a) Review regional pollution emergency response operations and equipment readiness to ensure adequacy of regional planning and coordination for combating discharges of oil and hazardous substances.
- (b) Develop procedures to promote the coordination of federal, state, and local governments, and industry groups and private agencies to respond to pollution incidents.
- (c) Provide information to the NRT on research requirements.
- (d) Maintain a readiness posture to respond to significant discharges of oil or other hazardous substances.
- (e) Recommend revisions of the National Contingency Plan to the NRT based on observations of response operations.
- (f) Recommend changes to the regional response organization as needed.
- (g) Revise the Regional Contingency Plan as needed.
- (h) Evaluate the preparedness of participating agencies and the effectiveness of Area Contingency Plans (Subarea Contingency Plans in Alaska) for the federal response to discharges and releases.

(2) Response and Coordination Functions of the RRT.

- (a) Monitor and evaluate reports generated by the FOSC, ensuring their completeness. Based on this evaluation, the RRT may recommend a course of action in combating a discharge.
- (b) Assist the FOSC in acquiring and employing response resources from Federal, State, and local governments and private agencies and provide technical assistance for preparedness to the response community.

- (c) Coordinate all Federal public information activities with the FOSC and act as the focal point for information transfer between the FOSC and the NRT, so as to minimize or prevent dissemination of spurious or incomplete information.
- (d) Submit Pollution Reports (POLREPs) to the NRT as determined necessary by the appropriate Co-Chair.

(3) RRT Activation.

- (a) The ARRT is comprised of two principle components: the standing team and the incident-specific team. The standing ARRT meets twice a year at various locations around the State as designated by the Co-Chairs. The incident-specific ARRT meets when activated by the appropriate Co-Chair. The key to successful response actions is prompt activation and implementation of this Plan. The ARRT members must, with no prior notice, be capable of responding to an incident and call out personnel and equipment from their agency in an expeditious manner.
- (b) The ARRT may be activated by the chair as an incident-specific response team when a discharge or release:
 - (1) Exceeds the response capability available to the OSC/RPM in the place where it occurs;
 - (2) Transects state boundaries;
 - (3) May pose a substantial threat to the public health or welfare of the United States or the environment, or to regionally significant amounts of property; or
 - (4) Is a worst case discharge, as described in §300.324. The Unified Plan shall specify detailed criteria for activation of the ARRT.
- (c) The ARRT also will be activated during any discharge or release upon a request from the OSC/RPM, or from any ARRT representative, to the chair of the ARRT. Requests for ARRT activation shall later be confirmed in writing. Each representative, or an appropriate alternate, should be notified immediately when the ARRT is activated.
- (d) The RRT may be activated by any means of communications, but will normally be activated by the proper Co-Chair using telephone notification to primary ARRT agency representatives. The activation call will specify the time of RRT activation, the meeting place if assembly is planned, and as much information about the incident and the requirements to be placed on the particular agency as are known. A full membership activation will normally be called whenever a major incident occurs. An incident specific activation may be called by either Co-Chair, whenever it is apparent that the service of only selected members are needed. All members should be notified of an incident specific activation regardless of whether they are needed at the particular activation.

- (e) The Co-Chair will determine if assembly of the RRT is advantageous or whether telephone activation and electronic mail is sufficient to respond to the incident.
- (f) Assembly of the RRT will normally occur whenever a major incident occurs; all members are activated; extensive briefings are necessary for members; or whenever a drill activation for training occurs. The assembly of the RRT will normally occur at the Regional Response Center (RRC) or alternate RRC site (See paragraph h, this section). Members are encouraged to provide all necessary contact lists, agency phone books, technical manuals, etc., necessary to implement the appropriate tasks assigned to the agency. In prolonged RRT activations, it is anticipated that members will return to their homes or place of business after the RRT assembly briefing to continue their RRT tasks with future RRT meetings at prescribed times.
- (g) Assembly of the ARRT will not normally occur when a lesser incident requires only limited membership activation and communications can be handled by telephone or electronic mail. Activated members will operate from their home or business location and will coordinate their agency's on-scene staff tasks and ARRT staff tasks from that point. The RRC will be staffed by USCG or EPA personnel and a contact system will be maintained with each activated member. Members will call into the RRC whenever the member needs to discuss matters with the Co-Chair or whenever the member is about to make a change of location and telephone contact number.
- (h) Deactivation of the ARRT will occur after mutual agreement by the senior USCG and EPA members. Deactivation will normally be by telephone notification unless the ARRT is assembled.

(4) ARRT Working Groups.

The ARRT has three standing working groups that provide technical expertise and contingency planning in the following areas:

- (a) Science and Technology Committee which has developed "Oil Dispersant Guidelines for Alaska" and the "In Situ Burning Guidelines for Alaska." (See Annex F, Appendices I and II).
- (b) Wildlife Protection Working Group, which has developed "Wildlife Protection Guidelines for Alaska" (See Annex G).
- (c) Cultural Resources Working Group, which has developed a document that addresses the implementation in Alaska of the nationwide "Programmatic Agreement on Protection of Historic Properties during Emergency Response Under the National Oil and Hazardous Substances Pollution Contingency Plan" (see Annex M).

(5) ARRT Meeting Schedule.

Regular meetings of the standing RRT will normally occur twice during a calendar year.

d. Regional Response Center (RRC).

- (1) The RRC is the regional coordination site for notification, communication, and inter-agency coordination during a pollution incident. The primary Regional Response Center is located within the Operations Center of the Commander, Seventeenth Coast Guard District and is staffed around-the-clock. The RRC may be contacted at (907) 463-2000. The alternate Regional Response Center is located in the EPA, Alaska Operations Office at Anchorage, and is staffed on an as-needed basis. The Alternate RRC may be contacted at (907) 271-5083.
- (2) Additional alternate sites for the Regional Response Center may be designated at the discretion of the appropriate Co-Chairman when needed. The State Emergency Coordination Center located at the Alaska National Guard Armory, Ft. Richardson can also be utilized as a RRC if the discharge is declared a disaster by the Governor of Alaska.

III – Subarea Committees

The primary role of the Subarea Committee is to act as a preparedness and planning body. Subarea Committees are made up of environmental and response representatives from federal, State, and local governmental agencies with definitive responsibilities for the area's environmental integrity. The core subarea committee members are identified in each of the ten subarea plans. Each member is empowered by their own agency to make decisions on behalf of the agency and to commit the agency to carrying out the roles and responsibilities as described in this plan. The pre-designated FOSCs and SOSC for the subarea will serve as co-chairs of the committee. They will select the committee members and provide general direction and guidance for the committee. The co-chairs should solicit the advice of the RRT to determine appropriate representatives from federal and State agencies.

The Subarea Committee is encouraged to solicit advice, guidance, and expertise from all appropriate sources and to establish subcommittees as necessary to accomplish the preparedness and planning tasks. Subcommittee participants may include local government representatives, tribal government representatives, facility owners/operators, shipping company representatives, cleanup contractors, emergency response officials, marine pilots associations, academia, environmental groups, consultants, response organizations, and concerned citizens. The co-chairs direct the Subarea Committee's development and maintenance of the Subarea Contingency Plan; they also direct the activities of the committee's Operations Workgroup, Logistics Workgroup, and Sensitive Areas Workgroup.

The ARRT provides guidance to the Subarea Committees, as appropriate, to ensure inter-area consistency and consistency with the Unified Plan and the NCP. To the greatest extent possible the Unified Plan will be coordinated with subarea plans, other State emergency plans, Title III local emergency response plans, and other local disaster plans. Such coordination will be accomplished by working with the Alaska State Emergency Response Committee.

TAB B: NATIONAL RESPONSE POLICY

Section 4201 of OPA 90 amended Subsection (c) of Section 311 of the FWPCA, and requires the Federal OSC to "in accordance with the National Contingency Plan and any appropriate Area Contingency Plan, ensure effective and immediate removal of a discharge, of oil or a hazardous substance:

- (i) into or on the navigable waters;
- (ii) on the adjoining shorelines to the navigable waters;
- (iii) into or on the waters of the exclusive economic zone; or
- (iv) that may affect natural resources belonging to, appertaining to, or under the exclusive management authority of the United States."

In carrying out these functions the FOSC may:

- (i) remove or arrange for the removal of a discharge, and mitigate or prevent a substantial threat of a discharge, at any time;
- (ii) direct or monitor all Federal, State, and private actions to remove a discharge; and
- (iii) recommend to the Commandant that a vessel discharging or threatening to discharge, be removed and, if necessary, destroyed."

If the discharge or substantial threat of discharge of oil or hazardous substance is of such size or character as to be a substantial threat to the public health or welfare of the United States (including but not limited to fish, shellfish, wildlife, other natural resources, and the public and private beaches and shorelines of the United States), the OSC shall direct all federal, State, and private actions to remove the discharge or to mitigate or prevent the threat of the discharge.

In carrying out this policy, the FOSC may use alternative techniques, countermeasures, or procedures consistent with the provisions of the National Contingency Plan and this plan.

TAB C: STATE RESPONSE POLICY

State government has broad statutory authority to oversee spill response in order to protect the human and physical environment. Furthermore, the State is required to maintain an independent response capability for those incidents where the responsible party is unknown, requests assistance, or fails to respond adequately. The Legal authorities are found in Appendix III to this Annex. 18 AAC 75.320 contains the criteria by which the State determines the adequacy of response.

State law pre-designates ADEC as the State On-Scene Coordinator (SOSC) for all spill responses. The State uses an incident command system (ICS) for spill response, and also clarifies the roles of all parties involved to ensure a coordinated approach to spill containment and cleanup. Annex B, Appendix II of this Plan describes the response role of the SOSC when the spiller is unknown or the spiller fails to adequately clean up the discharge.

State statute designates ADEC as the lead agency for State spill responses. ADEC has authority to assume control of containment and cleanup on behalf of the State when the SOSC determines that the spiller is unknown, or is not performing adequately.

State response roles fall into three general categories. The associated response structures are described and depicted in Annex B, Appendix II of this document.

1. **OVERSIGHT: The State assumes an oversight role for every spill.** State response activities will be limited to oversight when the SOSC determines that the spiller or Responsible Party (RP) is responding adequately to a spill, and the spiller neither requests nor needs supplemental assistance.

In the oversight mode, ADEC and other State agencies ensure that the spiller properly manages the initial response (containment), cleanup, disposal of contaminated debris, and that environmental restoration is acceptable to the State, local jurisdictions and the public. In its oversight capacity, ADEC may issue emergency orders directing the RP to take specific actions. In addition, ADEC is responsible for documentation, enforcement, and recovery of damages, including spill-related costs.

The number of State agencies involved in oversight depends on the size and complexity of the spill. If there is no federal response jurisdiction (and thus no Unified Command with an FOSC presence), Federal Trustee agencies may be involved along with state agencies under the coordination of the SOSC. Overseeing the containment and cleanup of a large spill, for example, could trigger the mobilization of all State agencies, described later in this section.

2. **SUPPLEMENTAL AUGMENTATION:** In addition to performing its oversight duties, the State may augment the efforts of the responsible party and/or the Federal government. Supplemental assistance may take the form of technical advice and/or adding State cleanup resources to combat a spill. The timely containment and cleanup of large spills may require that the RP tap all available resources and expertise, including the State's.

3. **TAKEOVER:** The State assumes command of containment, control and cleanup operations. The SOSC will command the mobilization and deployment of all State resources. In the cleanup mode, the State either participates in the actual cleanup effort, or assumes overall command. If the SOSC determines that the cleanup activities by the RP are inadequate, or that a RP cannot be located, the State may assume command of the cleanup function (if Federal jurisdiction is not an issue). ADEC will either deploy its own cleanup resources, or contract out much of the actual cleanup and focus its efforts on oversight and technical assistance.

I - Individual State Agencies

a. **Office of the Governor.** The Governor may declare a condition of disaster emergency if he finds that a disaster (AS 26.23.900) has occurred, is imminent, or threatened. The Office of the Governor is responsible for coordinating agency efforts, and resolving disputes between agencies. The Office of the Governor does the following:

- (1) Provides extra agency funding for emergencies.
- (2) Responds to press inquiries.
- (3) Controls video documentation and feeds to the press.
- (4) Determines if a Federal Disaster Declaration is warranted. If so, forwards a request for a Federal Disaster Declaration to the Federal Emergency Management Agency for processing.
- (5) Provides a liaison with local governments in major spills.
- (6) Controls access to the Disaster Relief Fund.

- b. **Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation (ADEC).** The ADEC is responsible for the prevention and abatement of water, land and air pollution, and leads the State's oil and hazardous substance spill response.

ADEC Spill Prevention and Response Division

The Spill Prevention and Response (SPAR) Division of the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation is responsible for the prevention of incidents involving the spill or release of oil and hazardous substances. In the event of spills or releases, the SPAR Division will be prepared to minimize the impact upon lives, property, and environment by responding decisively to secure, contain, and remove such discharges in accordance with the National Contingency Plan, this plan and the applicable subarea contingency plan. Included in the SPAR Division's mission is coordination of planning and response activities with federal and State agencies, local governments, and local responders.

Independent Spill Response Capability

The Legislature charged ADEC with developing a response capability independent of industry, local and federal capabilities. ADEC currently maintains a response team in three regions: Southeast, Central, and Northern (see map on page A-18). As discussed in Appendix V, Tab B, ADEC personnel respond with three area response teams for small (Type 4) incidents, larger (Type 2-3) situations, and Type 1 incidents, which requires activation of the Statewide Response Team.

The extent of an ADEC response depends upon local resources, circumstances concerning the responsible party and the degree of risk to public health and the environment. The precise location of a spill incident may fall beyond the jurisdictional boundaries of a local emergency response entity and response automatically will default to the responsible party, federal government and the ADEC.

ADEC has staffing, equipment and response/cleanup contractor resources to contain and mitigate most releases of oil or other hazardous substances. The department has developed policy for deploying their resources based on National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) guidelines for all Levels of Hazardous Materials Response. Recognizing the need to provide technical assistance, ADEC has trained 120 employees to the 40-hour General Site-Worker/HazMat Technician level.

In addition to spill response duties, ADEC response personnel review industry contingency plans and conduct drills and inspections to assess industry spill preparedness.

Nearshore Response Resources

The ADEC has pre-positioned nearshore response resources in several locations. The department's nearshore response assets include two high-speed response vessels (one in Ketchikan and one in Juneau) and a barge in Seldovia. Each location maintains a skimmer package, containment boom, and storage capability. Additional nearshore response capabilities have been acquired for Kodiak, Dutch Harbor, Naknek, and Upper Lynn Canal areas.

The strategy for nearshore response is to identify the optimum array of equipment that would be used in conjunction with local vessels-of-opportunity to respond, contain, control or cleanup orphan spills or oil spills that escape a primary containment effort and threaten nearshore coastal resources. The plan is designed to establish methods for developing nearshore strike teams within the State. These teams will consist of local individuals and owners of vessels of opportunity.

Local Response Resources

The ADEC is continuing to develop community response agreements with municipalities and/or boroughs which would provide for reimbursement of local costs for containment and cleanup of oil or hazardous substances as authorized under State law. Under AS 46.08.070(c) and 46.09.030, the department may reimburse a municipality for actual expenses, other than normal operating expenses, incurred in the abatement of a release or threatened release of oil or a hazardous substance if the municipality has entered into an agreement with the Commissioner. Also, under AS 29.60.510 and 560, grants are available to communities through the Department of Commerce, Community and Economic Development.

Additionally, the ADEC:

- (1) Is the predesignated SOSC and, for State-managed cleanups, serves as the Incident Commander.
- (2) Coordinates all State activities and represents the State's position on all spills.
- (3) Monitors adequacy of response.
- (4) Defines containment and cleanup parameters.
- (5) Assumes command if responsible party's effort is inadequate or if the responsible party is unknown and jurisdiction remains with the State.
- (6) Receives initial notification of the spill either directly or through the State Troopers.
- (7) Activates the State's spill response system, as necessary, including notification of other State agencies.
- (8) Provides local emergency responders with technical assistance and advises on necessary protective actions.
- (9) Coordinates all State actions with the Alaska Regional Response Team (ARRT) and the incident command system.
- (10) Advises and assists local emergency responders.
- (11) Attempts to locate the source and cause of the spill.
- (12) Identifies the responsible party.
- (13) Determines the nature, amount and location of the spill.
- (14) Activates the State Response Fund and contracts for cleanup, as needed.
- (15) Evaluates the environmental and public health implications of the spill and identifies priority areas for protection and cleanup in consultation with other State and federal agencies.
- (16) Provides advice and approves the responsible party's preferred methods of containment, abatement and cleanup.

- (17) Provides liaison with federal agencies, local governments, adjacent countries, other States, the private sector and the public as needed.
- (18) Coordinates public information.
- (19) Collects and analyzes water, soil, vegetation or tissue samples for response, cleanup and damage assessment.
- (20) Works with industry to ensure that cleanup is done to specified standards.
- (21) Provides advice and approves the responsible party's potential interim debris storage sites.
- (22) Provides advice and approves the responsible party's potential disposal sites and/or methods and ensures that contaminated materials are disposed of appropriately.
- (23) Pursues enforcement actions.
- (24) Assesses environmental damages.
- (25) Provides logistical support to State and local agencies.
- (26) Documents all aspects of the incident and subsequent response for cost-recovery, enforcement, response enhancement, and prevention.
- (27) Coordinates State permitting with the Department of Fish and Game (Habitat Division) and the Department of Natural Resources, when applicable.
- (28) Tracks and predicts spill movements.
- (29) Maintains liaison with fishermen's organizations and citizen's advisory groups for local knowledge, including weather patterns, currents, travel, logistics, and communications.
- (30) Issues and enforces permits for waste disposal, open burning, wastewater discharge, and incineration.
- (31) Issues permits for and monitors scientific studies for "set asides" and experimental discharges of oil.
- (32) Denies or approves applications to the ARRT for use of dispersants, bioremediation agents, or other chemicals.
- (33) Supports, advises, and monitors local response efforts.
- (34) Administers term contracts for cleanup contractors on unknown origin or inadequate response spills.
- (35) Analyzes samples to determine the responsible party of unknown or disputed origin spills.
- (36) Serves as the final State authority for cleanup standards.
- (37) Conducts spill drills.
- (38) Recovers the State's costs from the responsible party.
- (39) Ensures that the State Emergency Response Commission (SERC) is apprised of ARRT activities and that ARRT activities are coordinated with the SERC.

Authorities:

AS 46.03.740-865, AS 46.04.010-210, AS 46.08.005-080, AS 46.09.010-070.

c. **Alaska Department of Military and Veteran's Affairs, Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management (ADMVA/DHSEM).** The ADMVA/DHSEM prepares the State Emergency Operations Plan, which addresses all-hazards disaster response, and coordinates the State's disaster operations organization. When a spill results from a natural disaster, the ADEC will manage the spill response, but the spill response will be part of a larger overall disaster response managed by the State Coordinating Officer as appointed by the Governor. See Annex K for the existing Memorandum of Agreement between ADMVA/DHSEM and ADEC. (Also, see Annex K for the existing Memorandum of Agreement regarding peacetime radiation response.) The ADMVA/DHSEM:

- (1) Operates the State's Emergency Coordination Center (SECC).
- (2) Coordinates and provides logistics support during disaster emergencies including communications, air, ground and water transportation support, equipment and supplies, facilities, fuel and food, and assists with these functions for smaller spills at the request of the SOSOC.
- (3) May establish emergency response depots.
- (4) May establish a response corps.
- (5) Maintains the Alaska Emergency Operations Plan.
- (6) Participates and oversees the development of local and inter-jurisdictional disaster plans.
- (7) Maintains a roster of trained persons skilled in disaster prevention, preparedness, response and recovery.
- (8) Provides direct support to local communities in declared emergencies, including spills.

Authorities: AS 26.23, Alaska Disaster Act

d. **Alaska Department of Natural Resources (ADNR).** ADNR manages and controls State-owned lands and water including uplands, tide lands and submerged lands to the three-mile territorial limit and resources therein. ADNR is also responsible for the preservation and protection of historic sites and the management of State parks and recreation areas.

The ADNR:

- (1) Identifies sensitive resource protection priorities such as important public use and recreation areas, lease sites, anchorage sites, cultural sites, etc. Identification and protection priority setting is through membership and participation in a Sensitive Areas Work Group for each subarea.
- (2) Identifies land ownership and status and relevant land use plan policies.
- (3) Provides mapping and data management services.
- (4) Advises on resource protection priorities, protection measures, cleanup actions, disposal sites and restoration standards on affected State lands and resources. Identification and protection priority setting is through membership and participation in the ARRT Science and Technology Committee.
- (5) Issues new authorizations and monitors existing authorizations for use of state lands and waters, tidelands, submerged lands, state parks and for archaeological activities.

- (6) Issues and enforces permits for cleanup, monitoring and other activities on State lands, including intertidal and submerged lands.
- (7) Issues permits for boom and boom anchors, mooring buoys, and scientific and experimental studies associated with oil spill response on State lands and tidelands.
- (8) Assists the ARRT through participation in the ARRT Cultural Resources Work Group and in implementing and updating the “Alaska Implementation Guidelines for Federal On-Scene Coordinators for the Programmatic Agreement on Protection of Historic Properties During an Emergency Response Under the National Oil and Hazardous Substances Pollution Contingency Plan,” which includes developing and participating in appropriate historic properties training and exercises.
- (9) Provides consultation in accordance with the Alaska Historic Properties Protection Guidelines, through the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) following a spill or release where a Federal OSC activates a Historic Properties Specialist (HPS) in accordance with Alaska implementation guidelines for protecting historic properties (see Annex M). In spills or discharges where there is no Federal OSC, the SHPO will provide information on historic properties protection to the State OSC.
- (10) Evaluates and documents impacts on State lands, waters and resources in cooperation with other state, federal, and local agencies.
- (11) Provides logistical, equipment and personnel support including field monitors as necessary to support the response, and to ensure the protection of State resources. Provides DNR Division of Forestry personnel as available to assist in managing the Unified Command's ICS structure during Type 1 incidents.
- (12) Co-manages (with ADF&G) State refuges, sanctuaries, and critical habitat areas.
- (13) Manages common carrier pipelines through the State Pipeline Coordinator's office.
- (14) Issues and manages oil, gas, geothermal, coal leases, and mining claims.

Authorities:

AS 38.04.005, 38.04.060-065, 38.05.035, 38.05.850, 38.05.180, 38.35, 41.15.010-070, 41.21.020, 41.35.010-240 (supplemented by Chapter 16 of the Alaska Administrative Code)
National Historic Preservation Act (16 USC 470, as implemented via 36 CFR 800)

- e. Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G).** The ADF&G is responsible for the protection, management and enhancement of fish, wildlife and aquatic plant resources of the State.
The ADF&G:

- (1) Notifies ADEC and local emergency response personnel, if first on-scene.
- (2) Responds to incidents where fish and wildlife resources, habitat, or harvest activities may be affected, or when requested by the Incident Commander or the SOSC.
- (3) Advises SOSC on sensitive species and habitats and subsistence, recreational and commercial harvest activities, including commercial and recreational fishing advisories and closures.
- (4) Advises SOSC on resource protection priorities and measures, cleanup actions, disposal sites and restoration standards.

- (5) Provides logistical, equipment and personnel support for spill response monitoring.
- (6) Coordinates with FWS and NMFS on implementing the ARRT- approved Wildlife Protection Guidelines (Annex G) as appropriate.
- (7) Regulates and monitors activities in State game refuges, sanctuaries and critical habitat areas; and operations that could affect designated anadromous waters or could block fish passage.
- (8) Enforces Title 16 Statutes.
- (9) Issues special area, fish habitat, and fish and wildlife collection permits.
- (10) Regulates and manages harvest activities and State-operated hatcheries.
- (11) Conducts test fisheries for oil contamination potential.
- (12) Collects samples of subsistence foods to evaluate human health implications in coordination with ADEC, DHHS, and local communities.
- (13) Documents all ADF&G spill response, cleanup, resource management, damage assessment, and restoration activities, and the associated costs.

Authorities: AS 16.05.841, AS 16.05.871, AS 16.20

f. Department of Public Safety (ADPS). The ADPS protects life, property, and fish and wildlife. The ADPS:

- (1) Provides central spill notification through **1-800-478-9300**.
- (2) Provides law enforcement support including traffic and crowd control; evidence handling, collection and storage; criminal investigations; site security; and coordinates with the coroner on all death-related matters and deceased identification efforts, including next-of-kin notification.
- (3) Performs search and rescue operations outside of the spill area. The department does not have the equipment or training to conduct SAR operations within the spill area if the area is contaminated by vapors, liquids on the ground, or other hazardous materials. The Operations Section should coordinate SAR operations within the spill area with technical expertise only provided by ADPS.
- (4) Coordinates initial request for State fire defense resources for urban and structural fires and hazardous materials incidents, and also for marine firefighting.
- (5) Conducts investigations associated with criminal aspects of spills, including drug and alcohol testing, sabotage, and arson.
- (6) Serves search and inspection warrants to assist agencies.
- (7) Protects State equipment.
- (8) Responds to possible increases in crime, domestic violence, alcohol and substance abuse, etc., as a result of transient population increases and spill-related stress.
- (9) Monitors and enforces commercial fisheries closures and other fish and game emergency harvest regulations resulting from spills.
- (10) Coordinates use of ADPS vessels to assist with agency response.

Authorities: AS 18.65.080, AS 18.65.090, AS 18.60.120

g. Department of Commerce, Community and Economic Development. (ADCCED). The ADCCED coordinates State activities that affect communities and regions. ADCCED also supports industries possibly affected by potentially adverse publicity, especially the tourism and seafood industries, as supported by the Division of Tourism and the Alaska Seafood Marketing Institute. The ADCCED:

- (1) Assists affected community in identifying needs and response strategies.
- (2) Acts as a liaison between affected communities and State and Federal agencies.
- (3) Advocates on behalf of spill- and spill response-impacted communities.
- (4) Collects community-related data and documents social and economic issues and concerns related to spills and response actions.
- (5) Coordinates actions between communities.
- (6) Monitors the long-term impacts from the incident and provides coordination and assistance associated with long-term impacts to local communities.
- (7) Assesses socioeconomic impact of spills.
- (8) Provides grants to local communities to mitigate impacts from spills and spill response activities.
- (9) Provides technical assistance to local governments seeking reimbursement and socioeconomic damage compensation from spillers.
- (10) Provides assistance, training and funding for community electrical systems and bulk fuel storage and distribution.
- (11) Provides economic development assistance, training and funding to help communities recover from the effects of spills.
- (12) Manages occupational licensing of professionals responding to spills, such as physicians and paramedics.

Authority: AS 44.47.050

h. Department of Labor and Workforce Development (ADOL). The ADOL administers the Alaska Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) Program. The ADOL:

- (1) Mobilizes emergency manpower for essential use.
- (2) Provides oversight of all response activities to ensure the health and safety of all workers.
- (3) Controls industrial hygiene measurements of vapors and aerosols from dispersant or chemical spray operations.
- (4) Investigates accidents associated with spill response.
- (5) Determines standards for safety training, protective clothing and safety gear.
- (6) Inspects cleanup operations to ensure compliance with safety standards.
- (7) Inspects response facilities for compliance with plumbing, electrical and boiler codes.

- i. Department of Health and Social Services (ADHSS).** The ADHSS directs and coordinates the State's emergency medical and health services. The ADHSS:
- (1) Evaluates incident implications for public health and welfare.
 - (2) Recommends public health and welfare protection methods.
 - (3) Arranges for on-scene emergency medical support and victim transport as necessary.
 - (4) Determines availability and condition of health facilities.
 - (5) Coordinates public health information.
 - (6) Advises on response activities as they relate to public health.
 - (7) Collects and analyzes samples to identify human health problems in coordination with ADEC and ADF&G.
 - (8) Assesses damages to human health and welfare.
 - (9) Responds to disease and sanitation problems caused by overcrowding and stress on facilities and systems.
 - (10) Upgrades mental health care facilities in response to possible increases in substance and child abuse.
 - (11) Provides disaster psychology services.
- j. Department of Administration (ADOA).** The ADOA conducts centralized data processing, accounting and protection of vital records. The ADOA:
- (1) Authorizes procurement on behalf of the State's emergency response organization.
 - (2) Provides emergency management of State employee manpower pool.
 - (3) Provides, maintains and repairs emergency telecommunications, including:
 - (a) Extra telephone lines and systems
 - (b) VHF repeater systems and hand-held radios
 - (4) Develops streamlined emergency contracting and hiring procedures applicable to responses.
- k. Department of Law (ADLaw).** The ADLaw provides legal advice to State agencies and the Governor. The ADLaw:
- (1) Provides legal advice to the SOSC, State ICS sections, and involved State agencies.
 - (2) Conducts investigations and directs civil actions.
 - (3) Arranges legal documentation systems.
 - (4) Provides technical advice on witness interviewing, evidence gathering, storage and handling.
 - (5) Coordinates with the SOSC and activates the Environmental Crimes Unit, as necessary, to assist in enforcement issues.

- l. Department of Transportation and Public Facilities (ADOTPF).** ADOTPF maintains and operates State transportation facilities including airports, roads, highways, marine highways (ferries), bridges, and harbors, and manages most State buildings. The ADOTPF:
- (1) Provides transportation services and maintenance equipment as needed.
 - (2) Provides communications between ADOTPF facilities.
 - (3) Assesses damages to State transportation facilities and State buildings.
 - (4) Provides engineering services as needed.
 - (5) Closes State highways and re-routes traffic.
 - (6) Provides airport security, firefighting and safety facilities.
 - (7) Provides routine and emergency snow removal.
 - (8) Manages the road right-of-way that parallels the Trans-Alaska Pipeline System (TAPS).
 - (9) Operates airports.
 - (10) Provides ferries for transport, housing and general logistical support. Additionally, the new response ferry (M/V Kennicott) was placed in service in 1998. The response ferry is equipped with Command Centers for the Operations, Planning, Logistics, and Finance Sections, a Unified Command Conference Room, real-time communications with the Governor's Office and U.S. Coast Guard (both in Alaska and in Washington DC), and will also coordinate local response activities. Each Command Center is equipped with its own radio communication system. There is also a decontamination station below the car deck for responders returning from the field, a floating dock stored on the vessel that can be deployed for smaller vessels to tie up to and transfer personnel and equipment, and a helo pad capable of handling a Coast Guard rescue helicopter or a Bell 206.
 - (11) Assesses damage to road and airport pavement from overweight traffic and loads responding to spills.
 - (12) Issues overweight permits and operates weigh stations for truck logistical support.
- m. University of Alaska.** The University of Alaska may provide scientific support to assess damages and cleanup and restoration effectiveness. Sea Grant offices and staff provide support and information for local response.

II - State Emergency Response Commission and Local Emergency Planning Committees

- a.** The Alaska **State Emergency Response Commission (SERC)** was originally established by the Federal Government under the Emergency Planning and Community Planning portion (Title III) of the Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act (SARA) in 1986. That law gives citizens the right to know what hazardous substances are being used, stored, or manufactured in their communities and encourages them to prepare emergency plans for responding to releases. House Bill 566 passed by the Alaska Legislature during the 1990 session established SERC in State statute and provided funding for implementation. The definition of hazardous substance was broadened to include oil. During the 1994 legislative session, Senate Bill 33 was passed, which requires the SERC to address all hazards in addition to implementing SARA Title III. Senate Bill 33 also requires the SERC to review and make

recommendations about all State, interjurisdictional and local emergency plans. The primary purpose of this review is to ensure compliance with State and federal requirements.

- b. Local Emergency Planning Committees (LEPCs)** were also established in State law thru HB 566. LEPCs are appointed by the SERC with responsibilities to develop, in consultation with local communities and industries, the Local Emergency Response Plans (LERPs, also known as Emergency Operations Plans or EOPs).

State law requires LERPs to contain procedures for responding to release of hazardous substances or a release of substances on the list of extremely hazardous substances. AS 26.23.075 and Title III of the Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act of 1986 (SARA) set forth general requirements for LERPs.

LERPs must be submitted to the SERC for review. The LEPCs work with communities to prepare local plans. To facilitate coordination, local plans must use an incident command system (ICS) substantially equivalent to the ICS used in this Unified Plan. Initial actions of local responders will be consistent with those described in this plan for all first responders. LEPCs are responsible to ensure a Community Emergency Coordinator (CEC) is provided to the Regional Stakeholder Committee (RSC), whenever a Unified Command is utilized.

TAB D: LOCAL GOVERNMENT ROLES

Local governments may respond to a spill emergency to protect life and property, in some cases, assuming the role of Incident Commander until the immediate threat to public safety is abated. For example, local government may respond to a fire that results from a spill. After extinguishing the fire and mitigating any threat to public safety, local government will relinquish command to the RP, who would then clean up all oil and hazardous materials. If requested by the RP, the local emergency responder may provide supplemental assistance. The SOSOC will serve in an oversight role and provide technical assistance to ensure an adequate cleanup.

Local government response in no way diminishes the ultimate responsibility of the spiller who is legally and financially responsible for the cleanup.

Initial actions by local government may include the following:

- Local On-Scene Coordinator
- Notifications
- Initial hazard determination
- Communications
- Life saving/rescue/emergency medical care
- Fire fighting
- Security (traffic, crowd control, site perimeter)
- On-Scene liaison with other parties
- Providing public information
- Evacuation
- Shelter

Local government and citizens play a key role in spill prevention and, in some cases, initial response. Local government will be closely involved in all areas of the response as it pertains to their jurisdiction and community by providing an LOSC as part of the Unified Command and a Community Emergency Coordinator (when not provided by the LEPC) as part of the Regional Stakeholder Committee. It is important to note that LOSCs should be properly trained to coordinate an emergency response involving the containment and cleanup of hazardous substances to ensure public safety and minimize contamination spreading. Annex H contains training guidelines for LEPCs to assist community planners in understanding state and federal training requirements.

Descriptions of local government response policies are found in the ten individual subarea contingency plans, which supplement this core document. The applicable LEPC(s) in each subarea can provide the appropriate information regarding specific local spill response policies. In the absence of an LEPC, or a response from an LEPC, local government should be consulted.

TAB E: TRIBAL GOVERNMENT ROLES

One or more of the 229 Federally-recognized tribes in Alaska may be involved in the response to an oil spill or a hazardous substance release. Following an oil spill or hazardous substance release that has the potential to affect Tribal interests, the Federal On-Scene Coordinator will identify and notify the tribe(s) in Alaska that should be alerted to the spill or release. The appropriate Tribal representative(s) will then be afforded an opportunity to provide input into the response process. The role and involvement of each tribal entity will vary, based on the spill response resources and capabilities that exist in the Tribal government. The State On-Scene Coordinator, likewise, will notify the tribe(s) that may be affected by an oil spill or hazardous substance release.

TAB F: RESPONSIBLE PARTY RESPONSE POLICY

Prevention and response activities begin long before any spill. State and federal laws require that industries that produce, store or transport oil develop contingency plans that specify measures to prevent and respond to oil spills.

Whether or not there is an approved industry contingency plan, the spiller is responsible for containment, cleanup, and contaminated-debris disposal, including associated costs for restoration and damages. If the spiller is unknown, fails to respond, or the response is judged to be inadequate by the SOSC or FOSC, then the State or federal agency having jurisdiction has the authority to take over the response and recover expenses from the spiller.

Alaska statutes, AS 46.03.755 and AS 46.04.020, and Section 311 of the federal Clean Water Act require the responsible party (spiller) to report spills to ADEC and to the National Response Center. ADEC, in turn, will be responsible for relaying appropriate spill reports to applicable State agencies and other stakeholders. In addition, federal law (Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act of 1986, Title III) requires certain facilities producing or storing hazardous materials to file reports with local governments.

Under the federal Oil Pollution Act of 1990 (OPA), the responsible party has primary responsibility for cleanup of a discharge. The response shall be conducted in accordance with their applicable response plan. Section 4201(a) of OPA states that an owner or operator of a tank vessel or facility participating in

removal efforts shall act in accordance with the National Contingency Plan and the applicable response plan required.

As defined in OPA, each responsible party for a vessel or a facility from which oil is discharged, or which poses a substantial threat of a discharge, into or upon the navigable waters, adjoining shorelines or the Exclusive Economic Zone is liable for the removal costs and damages specified in Subsection (b) of Section 1002 of OPA. Any removal activity undertaken by a responsible party must be consistent with the provisions of the NCP, this plan, the appropriate subarea contingency plan, and the applicable response plan required by OPA. If directed by the OSC at any time during removal activities, the responsible party must act in accordance.

Each responsible party for a vessel or facility from which a hazardous substance is released, or which poses a substantial threat of a discharge, is liable for removal costs as specified in the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980 (42 U.S.C. 9601 et seq.).

Alaska Statute AS 46.04.030 requires **oil discharge prevention and contingency plans** for the following:

- oil exploration, production, and pipeline facilities;
- storage facilities having a crude oil storage capacity of more than 5,000 barrels or a non-crude oil storage capacity greater than 10,000 bbls;
- tank vessels and oil barges that transport oil as cargo;
- the Alaska Railroad; and
- non-tank vessels that exceed 400 gross tons.

There are some facilities and vessels that must demonstrate proof of financial responsibility to the State.

The facility and vessel contingency plans provide the first line of defense for preventing and responding to spills. Facilities and companies in a region may form response cooperatives to pool resources and increase collective response capabilities or to satisfy individual plan requirements.

The facility and vessel contingency plans must be consistent with the Unified Plan and the applicable subarea contingency plan(s). Contingency plan requirements direct each operation to identify personnel who will serve as command staff for a spill incident. For the purposes of this plan, the responsible party's designated commander will serve as the Responsible Party On-Scene Coordinator (RPOSC). For each incident, the RPOSC will direct the response activities of the spiller's response organization.

Authorities:

Federal Authorities:

National Oil and Hazardous Substances Pollution Contingency Plan (NCP)
Oil Pollution Act of 1990 (OPA 90)

State Authorities:

Oil Discharge Contingency Plans AS 46.04.030
State Master Plan AS 46.04.200
Regional Master Plans AS 46.04.210
Oil Discharge Contingency Plans 18 AAC 75.400-425
Discharge Exercises 18 AAC 75.485
Regional Master Plan Boundaries 18 AAC 75.495