

Aleutian Island Risk Assessment (AIRA) STATUS REPORT: 2nd QUARTER 2013



Nuka Research and Planning Group, LLC and Pearson Consulting, LLC are coordinating the implementation of Phase B of the Aleutian Islands Risk Assessment.

Overall Project Management and Coordination

- **Management Team Meetings:** The Management Team met via teleconference once during 2nd quarter of 2013 to oversee the implementation of the Phase B work plan, which was approved in November 2012.
- **Contact Management:** Contact lists for the Management Team, Advisory Panel, and interested members of the public were updated as needed.
- **Website Maintenance:** Public and internal websites were updated as needed. A project newsletter was sent to all project contacts at the beginning of each month.
- **Budget:** The budget has been modified to reflect the revised work plan, but the total amount of expenses did not change.

Task 1-2 Increase Rescue Tug, Salvage, and Spill Response Capability

- **Subtask 1-2A. Regulatory Resource Study**
The Regulatory Resource Study was completed and finalized following an April 18 Advisory Panel webinar. It has been posted to the project website and was distributed in the project newsletter. The report is available at:
<http://www.aleutiansriskassessment.com/documents/130502RegulatoryResourceStudy.pdf>
- **Subtask 1-2B. Response Gap Analysis**
A report “Characterizing Environmental Conditions in the Aleutian Islands” was finalized and circulated in the first quarter of 2013. It is available at:
<http://www.aleutiansriskassessment.com/documents/130225AIWeatherCharacterizationFINAL.pdf>

The data presented in this report is being used for the response gap analysis, with the results to be included in the final Task 1-2 report. The Analysis Team is currently reviewing the limits proposed for dispersant application and aerial surveillance. Limits for emergency towing and salvage will be discussed on Analysis Team calls scheduled for July 19 and 26, respectively. This task is on track to meet the needs of the Task 1-2 analysis and report; instead of being conducted in advance of the rest of the Task 1-2 analysis, as originally planned, the response

gap is being conducted concurrent with the development of the proposed system.

- **Subtask 1-2C. Emergency Towing Study**
The Glosten Associates, Inc. is analyzing the tug capabilities needed to serve the Aleutian Islands and the availability of tugs of opportunity to meet this need. This subtask is on track to be completed by the end of the 3rd quarter of 2013. Nuka Research met with the subcontractor in May. An update will be provided on an Analysis Team conference call scheduled for July 19.
- **Subtask 1-2D. Tug Location Study**
Work on this subtask has not yet started. It depends in part on the results of Subtask 1-2C. Work on this subtask will be conducted during the first three quarters of 2013.
- **Subtask 1-2E. Salvage Study**
Nuka Research and Pearson Consulting met with Moran Towing in May via conference call to discuss the salvage study. Subsequently, Moran Towing and Pearson Consulting reached out to salvage contractors in Alaska and nationally (Marine Response Alliance, Resolve Maritime, Don Jon/Smit, and Magone Marine) to build an understanding of the existing resources in the region and, resources that could be mobilized, input on what an optimal system would be, and associated costs. An update will be provided on an Analysis Team conference call scheduled for July 26.
- **Subtask 1-2F. Spill Response Study**
Nuka Research and Pearson Consulting met with Moran Environmental Recovery in May via teleconference to discuss the spill response study. An outline and proposed approach are being developed based on the discussions. An update will be provided on an Analysis Team conference call scheduled for July 26.
- **Subtask 1-2G. Management and Funding Study**
Nuka Research and Pearson Consulting met with Baldwin & Butler about this task via teleconference in May. A preliminary summary of existing financing options was circulated and reviewed. Pearson Consulting and Baldwin & Butler met in late June to work further on this subtask. An update will be provided on an Analysis Team conference call scheduled for August 6.
- **Subtask 1-2H. Optimal Response System**
Work on this subtask will be conducted during the fourth quarter of 2013.
- **Subtask 1-2I. Benefit-cost Analysis**
Work on this subtask will be conducted during the last two quarters of 2013 and the first quarter of 2014.
- **Subtask 1-2J. Reporting**
A preliminary draft outline of the final report has been developed and reviewed

by the Analysis Team. Further work on this task depends on products developed during the previous tasks, and will take place during the first three quarters of 2014.

Task 3 – Strengthen Aleutians Subarea Contingency Plan (SCP)

- **Subtask 3A. Subarea Committee and Plan Update**

On February 20, the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation (ADEC) and U.S. Coast Guard reconvened the Subarea Committee to identify updates and improvements to the Aleutian Subarea Plan. The meeting in Anchorage included representatives of local and tribal entities from the Alaska Peninsula and Aleutian Islands area, state and federal agencies, and other interested groups. A preliminary list of updates and additions to the plan was discussed, with further work to be done by workgroups moving forward.

The ADEC and U.S. Coast Guard issued letters to tribal, community and agency leaders that the Subarea Contingency plan is undergoing a review and they're soliciting comments from the period of April 1 to May 1.

- **Subtask 3B. Geographic Response Strategies**

The Geographic Response Strategies workgroup met on February 20 after the Subarea Committee meeting. The group began the process of prioritizing of areas for GRS development and strategizing opportunities for site visits this summer. A meeting of this workgroup will be held in the 3rd quarter of 2013.

- **Subtask 3C. Potential Places of Refuge**

Work on this subtask will be conducted in 2013.

Task 4 – Initiate Process for Establishing IMO Particularly Sensitive Sea Areas (PSSA) and Associated Protective Measures (APM)

- **Subtask 4A. Education/Communications Plan**

Based on an outline approved by the workgroup in December, a draft communications plan is under development.

- **Subtask 4B. Establish and Facilitate Aleutian Islands PSSA Workgroup**

The Particularly Sensitive Sea Area (PSSA) Workgroup met via webinar on May 29 to discuss information needs for an in-person meeting slated for August 29, 2013 (pending confirmations from key participants). The group reviewed information that Pearson Consulting and Cape International had compiled based on requests from the initial conference call in December 2012. A summary was circulated following the webinar.

- **Subtask 4C. Benefit-Cost Analysis of the PSSA APM**

Work on this subtask depends on previous tasks and will be conducted in 2014.

- **Subtask 4D. Application to IMO**
Work on this subtask depends on previous tasks and will be conducted in 2014.