

Aleutian Islands

Subarea Committee Meeting
Wednesday, August 27th 2014

9:00 AM ADT-Noon

ADEC OFFICE

555 Cordova Street, 1st Floor Conference Room

Anchorage AK



Summary - Final

Attendees: Christine Brummer, DOI; Philip Johnson, DOI; Ernie Weiss, Aleutian East Borough; LT. Matt Mitchell, Sector Anchorage; Nick Knowles, EPA; Tony McDade, Sector Anchorage; Doug Burn, ABSI LCC; Mary Tesche, City of Akutan; Jeanette Alas, ADFG; Lori Verbrugge, USFWS; Catherine Berg, NOAA; Tim Robertson, Nuka Research; Leslie Pearson, Pearson Consulting; Eric Vogel, Sector Anchorage; Rick Bernhardt, ADEC; Doug Limpinsec, NOAA; Gary Folley, ADEC; Steve Russell, ADEC; Jeff Williams, USFWS.

1. Purpose

To provide a briefing on the Aleutian Islands Risk Assessment Draft Optimal Response System Recommendation Report; Aleutian PREP Exercise, status of updates to the SCP and discussion about incorporating AIRA recommendations into the SCP.

2. AIRA Draft Optimal Response System Report and Recommendations (Tim Robertson, Nuka Research & Planning Group)

- Subarea Committee members were briefed on the AIRA Phase B draft report and recommendations. The briefing presentation is posted on the AIRA public website at: <http://www.aleutiansriskassessment.com/meetings.html>. The draft report is currently out for public review and comments. The AIRA project team is seeking letters and/or resolutions in support of the recommendations. Deadline for public comment is September 8th.

2. Overview of the Aleutian PREP Exercise 2014 (LT. Matthew Mitchell, Sector Anchorage)

- The Preparedness and Response Exercise Program is an OPA90 requirement and on a 4-year cycle where every other 4 years an exercise is either industry lead or government lead. The 2014 PREP exercise is a government lead. The Federal and State partners are initiating the exercise. The objective of the Aleutian PREP is to bring the response community into a Unified Command and jointly respond to an oil spill incident in a coordinated and effective manner. The exercise will occur in Dutch Harbor. If poor weather precludes participation from traveling, the contingency is have an Incident Command Post (ICP) exercise in Anchorage. The exercise is planned for the week of September 22 and will be a two day exercise on September 24-25th. The 24th will be an ICP exercise for 12-hours. There are 12 different agencies involved in the exercise (federal, local, state, North Pacific Fuels, Alaska Chadux). A Unified Command will be stood up. On September 25th, a field deployment of the Illiuliak River geographic response strategy will be conducted. There are 12 specific objectives for the exercise. The emphasis will be stakeholder engagement via a liaison, historic properties. The focus is on the outreach and cooperation with stakeholders. Establishment of the regional stakeholder committee is an exercise priority. Local input and involvement is critical and determining the impact on the community.

3. Status update to the Subarea Plan (Leslie Pearson, Pearson Consulting)

- The Resource section of the plan has been updated and is posted on the ARRT Internal website. The Sensitive Area section is still being updated. There are parts that need to be reviewed by the federal agencies. We have received updates from the state agencies. The

primary elements that need to be reviewed and updated are the populations/distribution tables for species at risk (seabirds, marine mammals). The file format of the Sensitive Area chapter is getting very unstable and will likely need to be converted into a new file. The Hazmat Section of the plan was recently reviewed by ADEC and updated. It's also been uploaded onto the ARRT internal website. The Background and Response Section have not been reviewed.

3. Incorporating AIRA Recommendations into SCP (Group Discussion)

- A proposed table of content for the Response Section of the SCP was provided to the committee members for review. The proposed table of content includes expanding Part 3.I Emergency Towing System by adding risk assessment data on the minimum required tug for the Aleutian Islands, Estimated response times for tugs of opportunity; best available technology and tug location study (save/no save). Currently Part 3.I only describes the ETS systems pre-staged in the region. Part 3.J-Marine Response and Salvage Recovery is currently listed as TBD in the SCP and can be expanded to include regulatory requirements, response gap analysis 2010 transits in Unimak Pass, oil spill response and salvage, and possibly elements of the management and funding reports from the risk assessment. We're proposing two new subparts as 3.K-Special procedures and 3.L Alternative planning criteria standards and risk assessment recommendations. Subpart 3.K would include the Dutch Harbor severe weather procedures and recommended routing measures and areas to be avoided.
- Discussion: APC requirements aren't exclusive to the Aleutian Island region and the criteria for meeting the requirements will be the same across all subareas. Since APC's are unique and currently only apply to Alaska there's a need to discuss further with the committee and exercise caution on how to incorporate the approval criteria into the SCP. Two separate items (1) incorporating risk assessment data into the SCP, and (2) APC approval criteria used to guide the COTP decisions for approval. For item (1) the risk assessment data and information should be incorporated into the SCP since it's specific to the region. Need additional input regarding format of including risk assessment information (2) recommend redistributing the guidelines and criteria to the committee for review and comment. APC criteria and guidance should be treated separately and not included at this time into the SCP.

ACTION ITEMS:

- Redistribute the current approval criteria for Alternative Planning Criteria to the members for comment/input.
- Distribute the proposed revised table of content for the Response Section of the SCP. Currently posted as meeting material on the following website:
<http://www.aleutiansriskassessment.com/meetings.html>
- Review format of the Prince William Sound SCP to ensure consistency of plan update.

Next Meeting:

- Proposed for late October/early November.