

POSPET Who, What, and Why

The Pacific Oil Spill Prevention Education Team, POSPET, evolved from the simple premise that small oil spills are a regional problem that can best be remedied through collaborative projects drawing from existing talent and resources. For over a decade, POSPET has served as a forum for exchanging information and outreach ideas about prevention of oil spills and other boater best management practices while providing boat and marina operators with a consistent and accurate pollution prevention messages. POSPET members include representatives from state and federal agencies, industry associations, and nonprofit groups from British Columbia, Washington, Oregon and California.

POSPET encourages networking to exchange ideas and to help its members adopt innovative approaches while avoiding inefficient replication and pitfalls in their respective pollution prevention programs. Through informal collaboration and access to beneficial member review and feedback, POSPET adds value and has improved the quality and reach of individual efforts.

In addition to its successful Spills Aren't Slick campaign, POSPET has also been instrumental in promoting the innovative 1-800-OILS-911 spill reporting number in British Columbia, Washington, Oregon, and California. This easy-to-remember number allows a boater reporting an oil spill to be automatically routed to the correct emergency response call center in any of those jurisdictions. The Pacific States/BC Oil Spill Task Force provides staff support for POSPET and maintains this valuable spill reporting number.