

Summary Notes¹
Pacific States/British Columbia Oil Spill Task Force
Summer Quarter Coordinating Committee Meeting
July 21, 2006
Red Lion Hanalei Hotel, San Diego, CA

ATTENDING: Larry Dietrick, Alaska Dept. of Environmental Conservation (ADEC); Ken Mayer, California Office of Spill Prevention & Response (OSPR); Curtis Martin, Hawaii Hazards Evaluation & Emergency Response (HEER); Duncan Ferguson, British Columbia Ministry of Environment; Jon Neel, Washington Department of Ecology; Mike Zollitsch, Oregon Dept. of Environmental Quality (ODEQ); Jean Cameron, Pacific States/BC Oil Spill Task Force. Sean Guerre of the TradeFair Group was also invited to meet with the Coordinating Committee.

DISCUSSION:

Annual Meeting Debrief

- The Coordinating Committee discussed elements of a survey to be sent to Annual Meeting participants, such as ranking the themes for each segment, asking for recommendations for future meeting themes, and asking for suggestions to the Task Force in general. They also suggested asking Sean Guerre (the Clean Pacific Conference organizer) to recommend two questions regarding Clean Pacific.
- The Coordinating Committee members were pleased with the Annual Meeting and said that the Task Force Members were interested in the afternoon panels but regretted that there was little time for questions/answers of the afternoon panelists. They recommended providing printed speaker bios rather than taking time from the sessions to read them.
- There was a broad discussion of issues associated with states' roles, authorities, and access to federal response funding during major and nationally significant incidents. This led to recommendations to add a new task to the 2006-2007 Annual Work Plan; see details below.
- The Coordinating Committee thanked OSPR for doing a great job as host agency!

Annual Report Debrief

- The Coordinating Committee was pleased with the report, although Duncan noted two dated references to the name of the Ministry. Jean will correct these in the PDF file to be loaded on the website.
- The Coordinating Committee recommended that the Data Workgroup identify trends in the 2002-2006 data for the 2007 report.
- Jean reported that the printer had delivered fewer copies than ordered; she will adjust the payment accordingly and may need to distribute fewer copies to the member agencies.

¹ NOTE: This is a meeting summary and is not intended as a verbatim record of all presentations or comments made during the meeting.

Jurisdiction information and Topics of Concern

- Larry reported that DEC's Vessel Traffic Study is on their website, but is being updated. He also noted that the Legislature appropriated \$250,000 to contract with the Marine Board to begin the risk assessment process for the Aleutians.
- Regarding the discussion of federal preemption issues during the July 19 Executive Session with the Task Force Members, Jon Neel noted that he will keep the Coordinating Committee members advised on developments regarding Washington's oil transfer regulations.

2006-2007 Annual Work Plan

- As noted above, the Coordinating Committee members discussed various issues associated with the roles of state response agencies during an "event of national significance" such as the Katrina and Rita hurricanes in the Gulf of Mexico last year. These issues included:
 - Response funding through either the Stafford Act or the OSLTF. For instance, what are the ramifications for states w/re to cost sharing and access? Curtis noted that ESF procedures don't match ICS functions.
 - It was also noted that there is a Compact Agreement under the Stafford Act to move resources for mutual aid; more information on this would be desirable.
 - The question also came up as to what Federal official is in charge, i.e., who becomes the "Principal Federal Official" and how would states interface? Committee members also wondered whether the National Response Plan had been revised based on Lessons Learned from the Gulf responses and whether states were part of any review/drafting process for such changes². Jon suggested that we request meetings with the U.S. Coast Guard and EPA, or request a meeting w/ the National Response Team on this topic. Jon and Mike recommended speaking with Chris Field at EPA R10 and Bill Devereux at the USCG D13. Jean will work with the Coordinating Committee to draft a new Task statement under the Preparedness/Response Objective in the Work Plan to address this issue.
- The Coordinating Committee also asked Jean to develop and maintain an "Event Calendar" on the website for conferences and workshops related to our mission. She'll add this to the Work Plan and act on it; the Coordinating Committee members will keep her advised of events sponsored by their agencies as well as events they hear of.
- Since "Green Port" issues were added to the Spill Prevention Topics of Concern, the Coordinating Committee asked Jean to draft a list of "Green Port" criteria used in other areas of the world for their review and comment. It was noted that this is a possible topic for a Clean Pacific Conference session.
- Jean reminded the Coordinating Committee that they still needed to provide additional information for Attachment C of the Annual Work Plan.
- The Coordinating Committee decided on the following schedule for their quarterly meetings:
 - Fall 2006: October 17-18; Vancouver, British Columbia
 - Winter 2007: January 10-11; Seattle, WA

² After this meeting, a notice in the 7/27/06 Federal Register announced that a Notice of Change to the National Response Plan is posted at www.dhs.gov/nationalresponseplan.

- Spring 2007: April 11-12; Olympia, WA

Clean Pacific Conference Planning

- Sean Guerre, President and CEO of the TradeFair Group (TFG), met with the Coordinating Committee to discuss Clean Pacific 2007. He provided them with a packet of information on Seattle meeting locations as well as a handout summarizing the status of planning and key decisions to be addressed.
- The event will be held the week of September 10-14 in Seattle. The exact dates will be based on which dates available at the venue chosen. TradeFair staff will be traveling to Seattle to tour and meet with staff of both the Washington State Convention Center and the Sheraton Seattle Hotel. TFG had also received a bid from a hotel in Redmond, WA, but the Coordinating Committee preferred the downtown Seattle locations. Regarding dates, they also counseled against ending on a Friday afternoon.
- Sean proposed a registration fee of \$345 (\$245 for early registration), with 25% discounts for government attendees and exhibitors. He also indicated that TFG will provide some free registrations to each OSTF agency, with more for the host agency.
- He also explained that TFG will establish a scholarship fund to cover registration and travel costs; the Program Planning Committee will review applications and make awards.
- Sean noted that he anticipated selling 60 booths at a rate of \$1495 each for a single exhibit space. He indicated that the Task Force and/or member agencies could have free booths. Jean and the Coordinating Committee noted that they may wish to share one booth, since that could make staffing easier.
- Sean clarified that the Pacific States/British Columbia Oil Spill Task Force will be the conference "Hosts." "Supporters" might include various U.S. or Canadian agencies; they would help staff the Program Planning Committee and actively support the event. In addition, corporate and industry "Sponsors" will be sought to underwrite the costs.
- The Task Force Members can hold their Executive Session on the afternoon prior to Conference; this is known as "Day 1" since other groups may hold related meetings and the exhibitors will be setting up.
- Key elements of the OSTF Annual Meeting - jurisdictional updates, the Task Force update, and the Legacy Awards - will take place during the first morning of the event (Day 2), which will be free to the public. Conference sessions will run the afternoon of Day 2 and all day on Day 3.
- The Coordinating Committee discussed inviting Washington Governor Gregoire to keynote, but noted the value of asking for a backup if she has a conflict. Ecology will extend the invitation if this is approved by the Program Planning Committee.
- The Coordinating Committee approved a "Clean Pacific" logo; it has a droplet similar to the Clean Gulf logo, but also includes stylized ripples. The Clean Gulf logo includes a map of the Gulf states, but Sean said that the vertical map of the West Coast states would not work for a logo that needs to be horizontal on printed materials. He also noted that TFG will set up a website at "CleanPacific.org." TFG is looking into copyrighting the name, but he expects that it's too generic to qualify.
- Sean will endeavor to schedule the Program Planning Committee meetings to coincide with the Coordinating Committee quarterly meetings (see above).

- Jon Neel requested that Sean send Jean and the Coordinating Committee members a letter providing:
 - An overview of the conference;
 - A summary of responsibilities for Trade Fair, the Task Force, and the hosting state; and
 - A description of price breaks and other benefits for the Host agencies.

This would help Task Force agencies with their internal and external communication. Jon would also like to provide the information to his contacts at the USCG, EPA, and to senior management at Ecology.