

Alaska Regional Response Team Biennial Work Plan: 2011 - 2013

Scope of the Plan

This is the biennial work plan as set forth in the Alaska RRT Charter, Article VI. It outlines planned work over the two-year period for the Alaska RRT and its committees and work groups. This is a living document subject to the needs of the Co-chairs and the OSCs.

Goals

- Improve the Federal and State capabilities to respond to an oil or hazardous substance incident.
- Maintain readiness of Alaska RRT members to support On-Scene Coordinators when called upon to respond to an incident.
- Exchange information on spill response technologies and procedures.
- Prioritize and coordinate resources and funding to meet the items in this strategic plan.

Scheduled Meetings

The Standing Alaska RRT will hold a 2-day meeting twice per year according to the following schedule/location: Winter meeting will be in Anchorage or Juneau. Summer meetings are “roadshow” outside of Anchorage/Juneau if funds allow.

- Winter 2011 in Anchorage & Barrow ([February 23 & 24, 2011](#))
- Summer 2011 in Valdez ([August 30 & 31, 2011](#))
- Winter 2012 in Juneau ([February 22 & 23, 2012](#))
- Fall 2012 in Fairbanks ([October 16 & 17, 2012](#))
- Winter 2013 in Anchorage ([February 20 & 21, 2013](#))

Preparedness Products

The Alaska RRT is responsible for development of the Regional Contingency Plan (the Unified Plan), while the Subarea Committees are responsible for development of the Subarea Contingency Plans (the 10 SCPs), in consultation with the Alaska RRT. Tasks for the next 2 year period are:

- Science and Technology Committee
 - Prepare and submit to the Alaska RRT for approval, revision #1 to the Dispersant Use Guidelines
- Wildlife Protection Committee
 - Prepare and submit charter to the Alaska RRT
 - Prepare and submit to the Alaska RRT for approval, revision #5 to the Wildlife Protection Guidelines

- ❑ Cultural Resources Committee
 - Prepare and submit charter to the Alaska RRT

- ❑ Subarea Committees
 - Prepare and submit final revisions for Alaska RRT review of the following Subarea Contingency Plans (SCPs) in 2011:
 - Northwest Arctic (Change #1) to incorporate GRS & PPOR sections and update all other plan sections as determined by the Subarea Committee
 - North Slope (Change #2) to review and/or incorporate GRS & PPOR sections, update the Scenarios section, and update other plan sections as determined by the Subarea Committee
 - Southeast Alaska (Change #2) to incorporate a Scenarios section and update other plan sections as determined by the Subarea committee
 - Prepare and submit draft revisions for Alaska RRT review of the following SCPs in 2011. (Note: Final publication expected in 2012 when GRS and PPOR sections are completed):
 - Bristol bay (Change #1) to incorporate GRS & PPOR sections and update all other plan sections as determined by the Subarea Committee
 - Western Alaska (Change #1) to incorporate GRS & PPOR sections and update all other plan sections as determined by the Subarea Committee
 - Begin revisions to the following Subarea Contingency Plans in 2012:
 - Interior (Change #2): update scope to be determined by Subarea committee
 - Prince William Sound (Change #3); update scope to be determined by the Subarea Committee

- ❑ Tribal Outreach & Consultation Work Group
 - Establish a Work Group, to include USCG (ARRT Coordinator plus Tribal Coordinator),, EPA (ARRT Coordinator plus Tribal Coordinators), and the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) and other interested parties. Prepare and submit to the Alaska RRT for approval, Alaska RRT Tribal Government Outreach & Consultation Guidelines. Draft guidelines are due by the Summer/Fall 2011 meeting and final guidelines will be submitted for approval by the February meeting of 2012.

- ❑ Alaska RRT Response Aids (EPA & USCG ARRT Coordinators lead)
 - Activation protocols
 - Guidelines for government/industry exercise designers for incorporating Alaska RRT participation in exercises
 - Guidelines for embedding EPA and DOI staff into the IMT for significant marine releases for dispersant decision-making

- ❑ Review of other RRT preparedness products for applicability to Alaska Other Alaska RRT Initiatives
 - USCG and EPA will initiate formal consultation requirements pursuant to the Endangered Species Act for the Unified Plan and 10 SCPs.

Preparedness Training

Encourage Alaska RRT members and Federal and State On-Scene Coordinators (and other responders, as appropriate) to attend the following training, as appropriate. (Note the ARRT Coordinators will distribute information to Alaska RRT members and Federal/State response organizations on the scheduling and availability of such training).

- Alaska Native Consultation and Coordination (1 day, lead: USCG, EPA, BIA)
- Historic Properties Protection during Emergency Response (1/2 day, lead: DOI, ADNR)
- Endangered Species Act Consultation during Emergency Response/Rat Response (1/2 day, lead: FWS, NMFS)
- NOAA SCAT (2 day, lead: NOAA with assistance from ADEC as appropriate)
- NPREP/ICS Coordination (lead: USCG)

Exercises

- The Alaska RRT will participate in an annual table-top exercise (TTX) of a “Worst Case Scenario” from one of the Subarea Contingency Plans at an Alaska RRT working session. Exercise results will be documented in the Alaska RRT meeting summary and considered by the Subarea Committee for use in updating the Subarea Contingency Plan, as needed. EPA and USCG will alternate as the lead for these exercises and will coordinate with ADEC in developing the TTX
- Annual, the Alaska RRT agrees to participate in at least one exercise sponsored by Federal, State, or industry via a live activation. FOSCs and SOSCs will evaluate their exercise schedules and make recommendations for exercises that are suitable for Alaska RRT participation. For example, FOSCs and SOSCs will identify Alaska RRT notification or activation as an exercise objective during the exercise design process.

Lessons Learned

During the OSC report-outs at each Alaska RRT meeting, each OSC will be asked to walk through their response to recent incidents and summarize issues and lessons learned from those incidents. The ARRT Coordinators will prepare a written summary of each incident and lessons learned (with recommendations for improvement) and distribute this to Federal/State response organizations and Alaska RRT members.

For significant incidents where a Unified Command is activated, the Alaska RRT will request that the OSC conduct a hot wash and document lessons learned as part of the demobilization process. The OSC will submit the lessons learned to the Alaska RRT and provide a briefing during the next regularly scheduled meeting. Examples of significant incidents may include, responses involving multiple federal/state/local agencies, high cost or resource expenditures, and high media or political interest. Each Subarea Committee will consider these lessons learned reports to update their respective SCPs as appropriate.