

# Alaska Regional Response Team Tabletop Exercise



**Tuesday, September 15, 2020**

## **Player Manual**

The purpose of this handbook is to provide exercise players with the information needed to participate in the exercise. This handbook takes the place of the more comprehensive type of exercise document called a Situation Manual (SitMan).

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# Exercise Goals and Objectives

## Goals

The goals of this exercise are to improve the ARRT’s ability to support the OSCs during a response through:

- Review of the Alaska Regional Contingency Plan (2020 Interim Draft);
  - ARRT and Alaska Area Committees Guidelines for Coordination and Consultation with Federally Recognized Tribes; and
  - ARRT Activation and Notification Procedures
- Assess ARRT Member Agency’s personnel and assets available to support a large response in a remote location
- Improve ARRT’s readiness to support a large response in a remote location via an Incident-specific ARRT

## Objectives

1. Validate the Regional Contingency Plan (Interim Draft 2020), in particular:
  - Transition of FOSC Authority (Part 1, D.)
  - Tribal Membership on the ARRT (Part 2, C.)
  - Agency Roles and Responsibilities (Part 9)
2. Validate roles and support provided by ARRT Member Agencies
3. Validate ARRT Tribal Coordination and Consultation Guidance
4. Validate ARRT Notification Process and Activation of Incident-Specific ARRT
5. Test the efficacy of virtual meeting technology for coordination of Incident-Specific ARRT.
  - Alert Warning System
  - Teleconference
  - Webconference



### DISCLAIMER:

THE FOLLOWING POLREP AND IAP ARE COMPILED FROM MATERIALS FROM ACTUAL INCIDENTS. THE SCENARIO IS FROM THE ALASKA SCENARIOS COMPENDIUM, WORST CASE DISCHARGE FOR INTERIOR ALASKA GEOGRAPHIC ZONE. NO RP/PRP LIABILITY OR FAULT IS EXPRESSED OR IMPLIED.

## Exercise Limitations

*The intent of this exercise is to test the RCP and logistical support to a very large crude spill and to focus on the role of the ARRT and its members. This exercise will not include elements that address or test the response tactics and on-scene operations or cause of the incident. As such, clean-up operations, strategies, tactics are out of the exercise scope, except for how they may relate to FOSC requests for support. The details of the cleanup operations are excluded from the POLREP and Incident Action Plan and other exercise scenario descriptions. Many ARRT member agencies may serve a role on the Incident Management Team (IMT) (such as supporting the Environmental Unit), these roles and responsibilities are also excluded from the scope of this exercise.*

In order to focus on the exercise goals and objectives, the following elements are also out of scope of this exercise:

- Cause(s) of Release
- Any Investigations or enforcement actions, including: Criminal (FBI/State), Civil (EPA/State), Infrastructure (PHMSA/USCG Bridges/BLM/ADNR/ADEC), Right of way/leaseholder (BLM/ADNR), and Employee Health and Safety (OSHA/AKOSH)
- RP/PRP Actions (Alyeska Pipeline Service Company)
- Endangered Species Act (Section 7) Consultation
- National Historic Preservation Act (Section 106) Consultation
- National Resource Damage Assessment and Restoration (NRDAR)
- Regional Stakeholder Committee and Multi-agency Coordination Systems (MACS)
- Non-mechanical tactics
- Coordination with Canada and First Nations (addressed in CANUS WEST North Joint Contingency Plan)

U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
POLLUTION/SITUATION REPORT  
DRILL: YUKON RIVER TAPS DISCHARGE, Crude Oil Spill -Removal Polrep



**UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY**  
**Region 10**

Subject: POLREP #3  
TAPS Yukon River Spill  
TAPS at Burbot Creek near Yukon River, AK  
Latitude: XX.XXX Longitude: -XXX.XXX  
To: Beth Sheldrake, EPA Region 10 (POLREP List)  
Dave Rees, EPA Region 10 (POLREP List)  
Greg Buie, NPFC (POLREP List)  
Sheila Fleming, EPA Region 10 (PolRep List)  
Tami Fordham, U.S. EPA Region 10 (POLREP LIST)  
Liza Sanden, EPA/START Anchorage (POLREP LIST)  
From: Matt Carr, OSC  
Date: 7/17/2020  
Reporting Period: 7/14/2020-- 7/16/2020

1. Introduction

**1.1 Background**

Site Number: XXXX	Contract Number: #####
D.O. Number:	Action Memo Date: #####
Response Authority: OPA	Response Type: Emergency
Response Lead: EPA	Incident Category:
NPL Status: Non NPL	Operable Unit:
Mobilization Date: 7/13/2020	Start Date: 7/13/2020
Demob Date:	Completion Date:
CERCLIS ID: #####	RCRIS ID: #####
ERNS No.: #####	State Notification: Yes
FPN#: #####	Reimbursable Account #####

## POLLUTION REPORT (POLREP)

### 1.1.1 Incident Category Oil Pipeline Discharge

#### 1.1.2 Site Description

At approximately 08:30 a.m. on July 13, 2016, APSC discovered that the TAPS has sustained a significant spill at the Yukon River Crossing. The TAPS main line sustained a catastrophic structural failure of a longitudinal weld, resulting in a guillotine cut in a section of aboveground pipe. APSC reported the spill to the National Response Center and ADEC at approximately 8:45 a.m. An estimated 60,000 bbls (2,520,000 gallons) of North Slope crude oil was released from the pipeline. The oil has spilled to land and a large amount has entered Burbot Creek, and subsequently the Yukon River, at approximately 1 mile downstream from the pipeline crossing.

The current in Burbot Creek flows at 0.25 feet per second. The Yukon River flows at 3 to 6 feet per second (2 to 4 miles per hour; mph), and the water levels are low at this time of year. The weather is fair, with temperatures between 50 and 70 degrees Fahrenheit, and winds are southwest at 8 mph. No precipitation is forecasted for the next five days. The distances and travel time to downstream communities, based on a 4 mph current.

**1.1.2.1 Location** Latitude: XX.XXX Longitude: -XXX.XXX

#### 1.1.2.2 Description of Threat

The potential threats posed to human health and the environment from this discharge of crude oil, a mixture of various petroleum hydrocarbons along with trace amounts of metals and hydrogen sulfide, include respiratory hazards.

No threatened and endangered species are present. Migratory waterfowl are present. A concentrated nesting habitat for the peregrine falcon and other raptors is located along the Yukon River downstream of the Yukon River Bridge. To protect raptors, human activities such as aircraft operations and construction are restricted after April 15. To date, there have been only 6 birds reported with observed impacts, none of which have been recovered. Chinook and chum salmon (*Oncorhynchus tshawytscha* and *O. keta*) are migrating up the Yukon River. Multiple other fish species are in the river as well, and a wide variety of waterfowl utilize the river and adjacent wetlands. Moose and bear are widely distributed in this area.

Drinking water intakes have been sampled and preliminary indications are that the water meets drinking water standards.

#### 1.1.3 Preliminary Removal Assessment/Removal Site Inspection Results

No report

## 2. Current Activities

### 2.1 Operations Section

#### 2.1.1 Narrative

#### 2.1.1 Narrative

ASPC has stopped the source of the discharge by shutting down the pipeline at the nearest valve. The site is now considered sufficiently stable to allow ingress/egress of workers conducting assessment, cleanup, and removal of contaminated surface material. ASPC is leading cleanup operations at the site and has established containment measures downstream on the Yukon.

Oil appears to have moderately impacted 20 miles of river shorelines, floodplains, and riparian areas. There are lightly impacted areas of shoreline, traces of emulsified oil, and soiled vegetation beyond this point and diminishing in frequency and severity to XXXXXX, AK, at about 45 river miles from the spill site.

#### 2.1.2 Response Actions to Date

## POLLUTION REPORT (POLREP)

As of July 17, 2020, XXXX bbls of oil has been recovered by vacuum trucks or absorbent materials. Assessments of the river indicate that the flooded river has washed away a significant fraction of that oil, that reached the river, with only limited amounts pooled in the floodplain or riparian wetland areas and substantial amounts of soiled vegetation and upland tracts along the river.

Daily aerial assessments are tracking the extent of contamination downstream. SCAT Teams are beginning initial surveys.

Approximately 150 ASPC personnel and contractors are on scene performing containment and collection activities.

### **2.1.3 Enforcement Activities, Identity of Potentially Responsible Parties (PRPs)**

[out of scope of exercise]

### **2.1.4 Progress Metrics**

To be determined

## **2.2 Planning Section**

### **2.2.1 Anticipated Activities**

START personnel will assess shoreline areas for oil accumulation and providing status updates on response operations.

#### **2.2.1.1 Planned Response Activities**

Oil recovery operations will continue in areas where oil is accumulating and access is safely obtained for cleanup crews. Additional crews will be available on July 18 and July 19.

#### **2.2.1.2 Next Steps**

Shoreline assessment is needed to determine effective strategies for recovering the oil. Sorbent boom deployment will be expanded, and where possible, other oil recovery and containment will be implemented. Monitoring the downstream extent of the impact is planned.

### **2.2.2 Issues**

Limited personnel logistics & support (transportation, lodging, etc.) have slowed overall resource deployment to the incident. However, mobilization has started and substantial increase in personnel is expected July 20. Lack of services at site, (beyond ASPC station, at capacity) requires establishment of self-contained work camp to support operations and personnel. Worker camp (contract) expected to be complete July 27. Additional staff required to support SCAT and downstream monitoring and.....

## **2.3 Logistics Section**

[ See 2.2.2 Issues]

EPA Logistics functions have been performed by the on-call OSC during the mobilization. This function will be performed on site under Unified Command.

## **2.4 Finance Section**

No information available at this time.

## POLLUTION REPORT (POLREP)

### **2.5 Other Command Staff**

#### **2.5.1 Safety Officer**

No report

#### **2.5.2 Liaison Officer**

No Report

#### **2.5.3 Information Officer**

##### **2.5.3.1 Public Information Officer**

Media contact has been made and the Phone Duty OSC provided an interview while EPA resources mobilized.

##### **2.5.3.2 Community Involvement Coordinator**

Need to be determined

### **3. Participating Entities**

#### **3.1 Unified Command**

Unified Command is being established with EPA, ADEC, and APSC

#### **3.2 Cooperating Agencies**

State and local agency participation is being developed.

### **4. Personnel On Site**

#### **4.1 Federal Resources:**

EPA: Three On-Scene Coordinators are on scene to oversee operations in support of the FOSC.

USCG: Pacific Strike Team members (4) have mobilized and will be on scene July 17.

EPA ERRS Contractor: approximately 50 personnel and river boats are being mobilized by EPA thru the ERRS contract.

EPA START Contractor: 2 START members are onscene and at least 2 more are deploying July 17.

EPA ERT: 1 ERT member will be mobilized July 17 and provide environmental assessment support.

#### **4.2 State Resources:**

ADEC: State On-Scene Coordinator, deputy SOSC, and 2 responders from Fairbanks are on scene. Additional ADEC staff are providing logistical and IMT support from Anchorage as well as Juneau.

ADNR: 2 DMLW responders, from Fairbanks, are on scene. Additional ADNR staff (SPCS/DMLW) are providing IMT support from Anchorage.

ADFG: staff are providing IMT support from Fairbanks and Anchorage.

#### **4.3 APSC Resources:**

150 clean up personnel on-scene



# Incident Action Plan (IAP)

<b>1. Incident Name</b> <b>DRILL: YUKON RIVER TAPS DISCHARGE</b>	<b>2. Operational Period to be covered by IAP (Date/Time)</b> From: <b>16 JULY 20 / 0600</b> To: <b>18 JULY 20 / 0600</b>	<b>IAP COVER SHEET</b>												
<b>3. Approved by Incident Commander(s):</b>														
<table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="text-align: left; border-bottom: 1px solid black; width: 15%;"><u>ORG</u></th> <th style="text-align: left; border-bottom: 1px solid black;"><u>NAME</u></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td style="border-bottom: 1px solid black;">FOSC</td> <td style="border-bottom: 1px solid black;">USEPA: Matt Carr _____</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="border-bottom: 1px solid black;">SOSC</td> <td style="border-bottom: 1px solid black;">ADEC: Sarah Moore _____</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="border-bottom: 1px solid black;">RPIC</td> <td style="border-bottom: 1px solid black;">Alyeska Pipeline Service Company _____</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="border-bottom: 1px solid black;"> </td> <td style="border-bottom: 1px solid black;"> </td> </tr> <tr> <td style="border-bottom: 1px solid black;"> </td> <td style="border-bottom: 1px solid black;"> </td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	<u>ORG</u>	<u>NAME</u>	FOSC	USEPA: Matt Carr _____	SOSC	ADEC: Sarah Moore _____	RPIC	Alyeska Pipeline Service Company _____						
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<h2 style="margin: 0;">INCIDENT ACTION PLAN</h2> <p style="margin: 5px 0 0 0;">The items checked below are included in this Incident Action Plan:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li style="margin-bottom: 10px;"><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ICS 202 (Incident Objectives)</li> <li style="margin-bottom: 10px;"><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ICS 202A (Command Direction)</li> <li style="margin-bottom: 10px;"><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ICS 203 (Organization List) – OR – ICS 207-CG (Organization Chart)</li> <li style="margin-bottom: 10px;"><input type="checkbox"/> ICS 204s (Assignment Lists) One Copy each of any ICS 204-CG attachments:</li> <li style="margin-bottom: 10px;"><input type="checkbox"/> ICS 205 (Communications Plan)</li> <li style="margin-bottom: 10px;"><input type="checkbox"/> ICS 206 (Medical Plan)</li> <li style="margin-bottom: 10px;"><input type="checkbox"/> ICS 208 (Site Safety Plan) or Note SSP Location</li> <li style="margin-bottom: 10px;"><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Map / Chart</li> <li style="margin-bottom: 10px;"><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Weather Forecast / Tides/Currents</li> </ul> <p><b>Other Attachments</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li style="margin-bottom: 10px;"><input type="checkbox"/> _____</li> <li style="margin-bottom: 10px;"><input type="checkbox"/> _____</li> <li style="margin-bottom: 10px;"><input type="checkbox"/> _____</li> <li style="margin-bottom: 10px;"><input type="checkbox"/> _____</li> <li style="margin-bottom: 10px;"><input type="checkbox"/> _____</li> <li style="margin-bottom: 10px;"><input type="checkbox"/> _____</li> <li style="margin-bottom: 10px;"><input type="checkbox"/> _____</li> <li style="margin-bottom: 10px;"><input type="checkbox"/> _____</li> </ul>														
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# Incident Action Plan (IAP)

	<b>Incident Objectives ICS 202</b>
<b>1. Incident Name:</b> DRILL: YUKON RIVER TAPS DISCHARGE	<b>2. Operational Period:</b> Date From: 16 JULY      Date To: 18 JULY Time From: 0600                                      Time To: 0600
<b>3. Objective(s):</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide for the safety and welfare of citizens and response personnel</li> <li>• Maintain situation awareness through a systematic and planned process for tasking, collecting, processing, analyzing, and disseminating information.</li> <li>• Manage a coordinated inter agency response effort that reflects the composition of the ARRT.</li> <li>• Identify all appropriate organization mandates, practices, and protocols for inclusion in the incident response effort.</li> <li>• Identify and address social, political, and economic issues.</li> <li>• Monitor and evaluate reports from the OSC and advise the OSC on the duration and extent of the response.</li> <li>• Recommend to the OSC specific actions to respond.</li> <li>• Request resources under existing authorities as needed.</li> <li>• Assist OSC in preparing information releases for the public and for communication with the NRT.</li> <li>• Submit POLREP to the NRC as significant developments occur</li> <li>• Provide facilities and personnel for communications, information storage, and other requirements for coordinating response as necessary.</li> </ul>	
<b>4. Operational Period Command Emphasis:</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Safety</li> <li>• Communications</li> <li>• Stakeholder outreach</li> </ul>	
General Situational Awareness:	
<b>5. Site Safety Plan Required?</b> Yes xx <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	
<b>Approved Site Safety Plan(s) Located at:</b>	
<b>6. Incident Action Plan</b> (the items checked below are included in this Incident Action Plan):	
X      ICS 203	X      Map/Chart <u>Other Attachments:</u>
X      ICS 204	X      Weather Forecast/Tides/Currents <input type="checkbox"/> _____
<input type="checkbox"/> ICS 205	<input type="checkbox"/> _____
<input type="checkbox"/> ICS 206	<input type="checkbox"/> _____
<input type="checkbox"/> ICS 208	<input type="checkbox"/> _____
<b>7. Prepared by:</b> Name: Yolanda Yellow, Planning Section Chief _____      Signature: _____	

# Incident Action Plan (IAP)

<b>1. Incident Name</b> <b>DRILL: YUKON RIVER TAPS DISCHARGE</b>	<b>2. Operational Period (Date/Time)</b> From: 16 SEP 20 / 0600 To: 18 SEP 20 / 0600	<b>Command Direction</b> <b>ICS 202A</b>
<b>3. Key Decisions and Procedures:</b>  <i>Enter operational guiding measures from the Unified Command. Provide and Procedures IMT process guidance for delegation of authority, agency cooperation, cost sharing, resource ordering and other administrative guidance.</i>  <u>Reporting Thresholds Notify the UC of any of the following events:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Any responder injured beyond first aid,</li><li>• Any major vehicle accident in or around the site,</li><li>• Any significant weather changes;</li><li>• ANY CHANGES IN TACTICS OR STRATEGIES;</li><li>• Source control achieved or escalates;</li><li>• If outside entities attempt to change tasking;</li><li>• Any wildlife impacts;</li><li>• Any encountering of cultural resources or human remains;</li><li>• Reportable environmental impacts;</li><li>• Changes in plans or hold point develop;</li><li>• Queries from stake holders; or</li><li>• Non-responder request for site access.</li></ul>		
<b>4. Priorities:</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1) To protect the life &amp; safety of all persons involved, incorporate this objective into all aspects of your response.</li><li>2) Protect environment as effectively as possible, ensure any contact with wildlife</li><li>3) is handled properly and with respect</li><li>4) Protect property to prevent the escalation of the incident</li></ol>		
<b>5. Limitations and Constraints:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Geography and terrain</li><li>- Limited specialized resources</li><li>- Staffing shortfalls</li><li>- Interagency communications</li><li>- Media coverage</li><li>- Public confidence and perception</li><li>- Potential for adverse economic or environmental impacts</li></ul>		

# Incident Action Plan (IAP)

<b>1. Incident Name</b> <b>YUKON RIVER TAPS DISCHARGE</b>	<b>2. Operational Period (Date/Time)</b> From: From: 16 JULY 2020/ 0600 To: 18 JULY SEP 2020/ 0600	<b>ORGANIZATION ASSIGNMENT LIST ICS 203</b>														
<b>3. Incident Commander(s) and Staff</b> Agency      IC                      Deputy <table border="1" style="width:100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width:50%;">USEPA Matt Carr</td> <td style="width:50%;">USEPA Bob Whittier</td> </tr> <tr> <td>ADEC: Sarah Moore</td> <td>ADEC: John Ebel</td> </tr> <tr> <td>RPIC Greta Green</td> <td>RPIC Bob Blue</td> </tr> <tr> <td> </td> <td> </td> </tr> <tr> <td> </td> <td> </td> </tr> </table> Safety Officer: _____ Information Officer: _____ Liaison Officer: _____	USEPA Matt Carr	USEPA Bob Whittier	ADEC: Sarah Moore	ADEC: John Ebel	RPIC Greta Green	RPIC Bob Blue					<b>7. OPERATION SECTION</b>  Chief _____ Deputy _____ Deputy _____ Staging Area Manager _____ Staging Area Manager _____ Staging Area Manager _____  <b>a. Branch – Division Groups</b> Branch Director _____ Deputy _____ Division Group _____ Division Group _____ Division Group _____ Division/Group _____ Division/Group _____  <b>b. Branch – Division/Groups</b> Branch Director _____ Deputy _____ Division/Group _____ Division/Group _____ Division/Group _____ Division/Group _____ Division/Group _____  <b>c. Branch – Division/Groups</b> Branch Director _____ Division/Group _____ Division/Group _____ Division/Group _____  <b>d. Air Operations Branch</b> Air Operations Br. Dir _____ Helicopter Coordinator _____					
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<b>4. Agency Representatives</b> <table border="1" style="width:100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="width:15%;">Agency</th> <th style="width:85%;">Name</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr><td>USCG</td><td> </td></tr> <tr><td>BLM</td><td> </td></tr> <tr><td>USFWS</td><td> </td></tr> <tr><td>NOAA</td><td> </td></tr> <tr><td>ADNR</td><td> </td></tr> <tr><td>ADF&amp;G</td><td> </td></tr> </tbody> </table>	Agency	Name	USCG		BLM		USFWS		NOAA		ADNR		ADF&G		<b>5. PLANNING/INTEL SECTION</b> Chief _____ Deputy _____ Resources Unit _____ Situation Unit _____ Environmental Unit _____ Documentation Unit _____ Demobilization Unit _____ Technical Specialists _____	
Agency	Name															
USCG																
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USFWS																
NOAA																
ADNR																
ADF&G																
<b>6. LOGISTICS SECTION</b> Chief _____ Deputy _____ <b>a. Support Branch</b> Director _____ Supply Unit _____ Facilities Unit _____ Vessel Support Unit _____ Ground Support Unit _____  <b>b. Service Branch</b> Director _____ Communications Unit _____ Medical Unit _____ Food Unit _____	<b>8. FINANCE/ADMINISTRATION SECTION</b> Chief _____ Deputy _____ Time Unit _____ Procurement Unit _____ Compensation/Claims Unit _____ Cost Unit _____															
<b>9. Prepared By: (Resources Unit)</b> _____		<b>Date/Time</b> _____														

## Incident Action Plan (IAP)

### WEATHER REPORT

The current in Burbot Creek flows at 0.25 feet per second. The Yukon River flows at 3 to 6 feet per second (2 to 4 miles per hour; mph), and the water levels are low at this time of year.

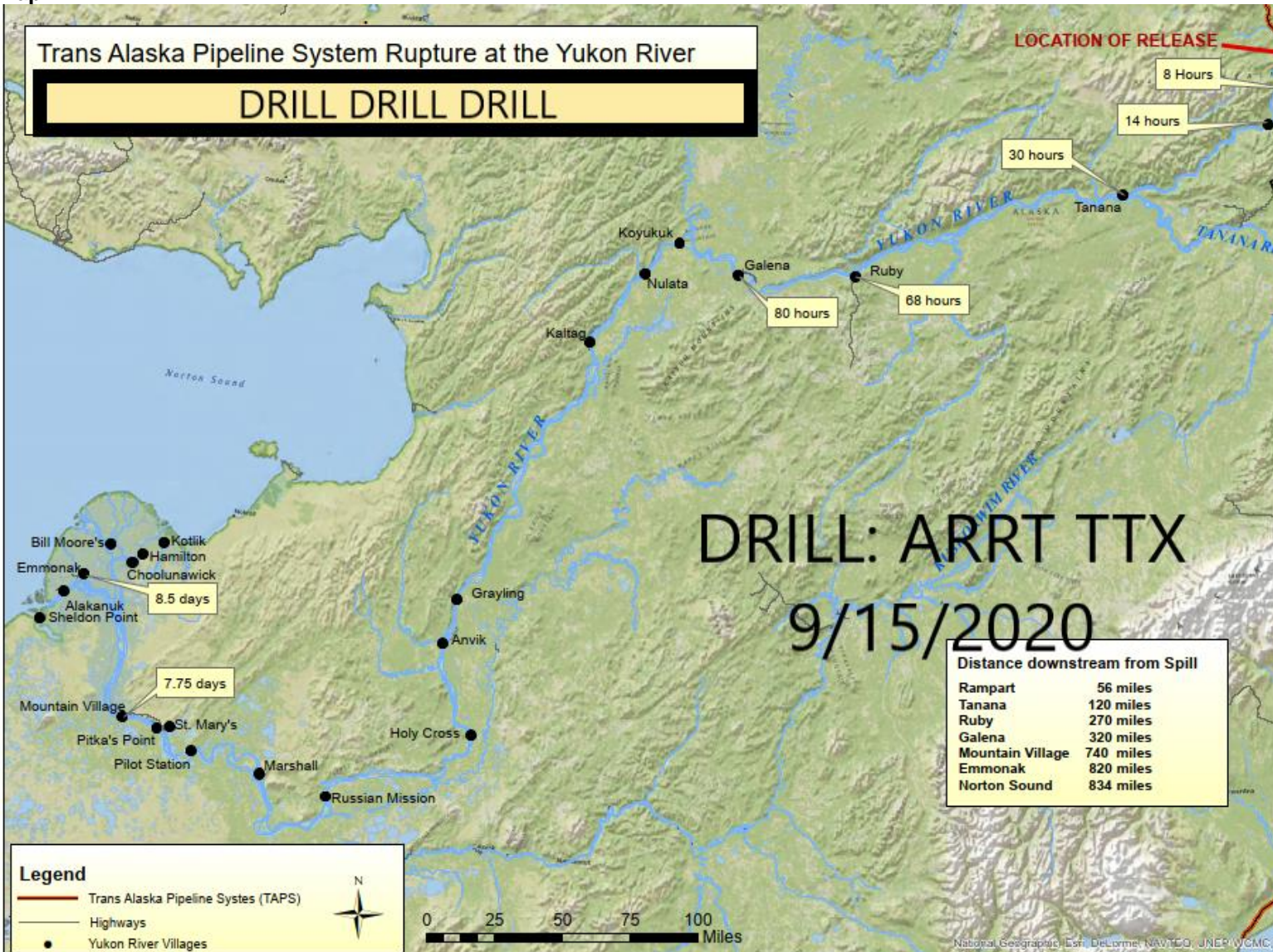
The weather is fair, with temperatures between 50 and 70 degrees Fahrenheit, and winds are southwest at 8 mph. No precipitation is forecasted for the next five days.

### MAP

DRILL DRILL DRILL

# Incident Action Plan (IAP)

Map:



## Incident Action Plan (IAP)

### Hotwash Questions:

1. **To OSCs:** Do you have any additional requests for support from the ARRT that were not addressed today?
2. **To Tri-Chairs:** Do you have any questions or comments on the resource requests addressed today?
3. **To ARRT Members:** Do you have any questions or comments on the resource requests addressed today?

DRILL DRILL DRILL