

## RRT 5 Spring Meeting, June 18-20, 2012

NOAA Great Lakes Environmental Research Laboratory (GLERL), Ann Arbor Michigan

### Welcome and Introductions

- Dr. Mary Colton-Director of GLERL Lab
  - 3 years ago moved in to the GLERL Lab.
  - NOAA wanted to bring in teams of people that reflect science to service/needs, work together in Great Lakes on behalf of citizens
  - She works on behalf of interagency task force
  - Regional coordination team lead for NOAA
  - 900 people across Regional NOAA across 8 states
  - Regional Coordinator Jennifer Day
  - Enbridge-how do we (NOAA) respond to emergencies? Call down/contact list. Regional coordination team brings them all together.
  - Cohesiveness and training for NOAA
  
- Capt Sugimoto
  - Jerry Popiel-new permanent Co-chair for USCG

### State and Federal Roundtable

- Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
  - Oak Creek and Ash Spill Case Studies
  - Participation in Emergency Preparedness Task Force (GLC)
  - Participation with Michigan-equipment and personnel
  - Thanks to EPA for training class-ICS and tabletop exercise. Hosting a Operations Training in August
  - Personnel loss-alternate RRT rep from Emergency Management retired.
  
- Michigan Department of Environmental Quality
  - Registry ER3 program-GLC doing to the workload
  - MI participated in NLE exercise June 6
  - Train derailment-1600 gallons of diesel-rail went thru fuel tanks and went right into ballast. FD thought it was nominal leak, some odor but not until engine moved did they realize full release.
  - Arson fire that burned shell of fertilizer depot.
  
- Ohio Environmental Protection Agency
  - Budget-diminishing-not funded by general revenue. Solid waste tipping fees which are down and cost recovery is where they get the state can get additional money.
  - Fracking-regulated by DNR-oil and minerals but working w/ emergency management for agencies involved. If it gets into the water, OEPA will respond

- Replacing spills database.
- DOT reinvigoration Quick Clear program-state wide office Traffic incident center.
- Spills-responding to transport incidents
- Training-OEPA-joint training w/ USEPA
- Ingestion zone exercise this fall. RAD training in June and September
  
- Indiana Department of Environmental Management.
  - March-mobilized to Clark County for F4 tornado outbreak
  - 3 home heating oil tanks
  - Southern Indiana-3 ethanol tankers left track and lost contents. Wetlands area impact
  - Difference between remediation consultants and spill response contractors-notice difference when spills into soil vs directly into waters.
  - Patoka wildlife refuge expanding-along river. Also where there is oil extraction/exploration going on. DNR regulates extraction of oil. Outreach being developed.
  - Cincinnati sub-area plan involvement
  - USCG Area Committee starting in Chicago
  - Removals in Indianapolis
  
- Illinois Environmental Protection Agency.
  - NATO summit was a non-event.
  - State transition-retirements. There were 9 responders. Now only 5.
  - Standby pay going away-whoever answers the phone will go. Evenings and weekends-may have to be catastrophic for them to go out.
  - Duty officer system maintained.
  - Funding for state emergency response-Robbie Francis, Kentucky DEP presentation from Fall, 2011 meeting.
  
- Department of Interior
  - Mike Chesik retirement.
  
- National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
  - Wrapped up working with EPA, USCG and other Agencies on Subpart J. Hope to go out for final review end of this month
  - Interim guidance for Subpart J chemicals and products.
  - Deepsea and prolongs dispersant applications
  - ADIOS being rewritten
  - Joint product funded by oil companies and fed government. Response options to calculate the amount of oil that will be removed.
  - ERMA
  - New MARPLOT model

- Under water threats RULET presentation
- National Parks Service
  - Contingency planning along the great lakes in draft final form.
  - Plans will be shared off line.
- USCG Sector Saulte Ste Marie (capt Mcginneess, Ralph Dollhopf)
  - Beaver Island Exercise-
    - Islanders are independent because they have to be.
    - Logistically-would be difficult to clean up if there is an incident
    - Scenario-2000 gallons of aviation fuel washes up on the island.
    - Large transport plane will not be able to land
    - Central MI University biological station-hotels and logistics available
  - USCG/EPA boundary PPT
    - First big spill-whose spill is it? EPA or USCG?
    - NCP/RCP/ACPs-lots of description but its still not clear.
    - Should be able to pull up a map that clearly delineates whose spill it is.
    - Spill in Lake Huron-Duncan Bay was clear who had jurisdiction but not always the case. For example, the Rouge River spill.
    - Going forward in N MI sub-area. Relationship with EPA/USCG will facilitate working it out.
    - Make it clear so when a reporter shows up that asks whose jurisdiction it is, its clear.
    - Sector Saulte Ste Marie volunteering to be the pilot Sector to get this done.
    - Captain Sugimoto comment-Need to be cautious. Jurisdictions based on federal law. Requiring RPs to do something that is not authorized, financial hardships. Have a jurisdictional letter preset and ready to go.
    - Ann-number of places where we could look into MOUs like D8-functional vs geographical. Ie Chicago-several hundred miles of commercial navigation that is in EPA zone (EPA is raising vessels)
- Navy
  - August Facility Response team exercise
  - October-Operation Citadel
  - Tour for bicentennial was of 1812 going thru great lakes
- US Forest Service
  - There are currently ongoing fires in the west.
  - Budget constraints so reorganization in Regions
  - Coincide with watershed boundaries
  - Forest Service has response plans for those properties that border the water

- USCG MSU Cleveland
  - GRP-boundary issues rewriting their response plan.
  - MSU will respond to spills.
  
- USCG Sector Detroit
  - Technology-rec for DHS-homeport app
  - GRP being updated as well
  - TTX pipeline spill in Saginaw Bay
  
- USCG MSU Toledo
  - Wildlife volunteers trained
  - Currently trying to get funding from CG thru remedial action program for additional training
  
- Environment Canada
  - Changes to EC-emergency program
  - Last budget reduced by 80%
  - Program is consolidated-used to work in the Regions
  - Response function moved to Montreal Office-main office and center for response activity
  - 1 staff person retained to continue partner and stakeholder relations and regional knowledge.
  - Mandate to provide science support, advice, chemical countermeasure, accessibility of modeling is still the same.
  - Montreal staff will go onsite if needed in a response.
  - Announcement made in April. Regional office are winding down.
  - Still involved with EPA/CG partners. Participation in exercises.
  - Regional exercises getting finalized but schedule will most likely be moved to this fall. Still committed to finishing.
  - Involved in marine plan exercises with US and Canadian CG. August-Arctic exercise, Spring-Canada, US exercise participation.
  - REET meetings-Asked by all partners-REET in response mode will happen from Montreal office. REET meetings/conferences, preparedness side-when Montreal office is fully functional, will engage with other Canadian departments, provincials, US and states. What will be the best way to convey these activities? Was not consistent before so asking partners to think about what they would like to see for REET.
  - Can pass on his contact information.
    - Marc-Etienne LeSieur  
Environmental Emergencies Division  
Environment Canada

351 Boul. St-Joseph Blvd., 17th floor  
Gatineau, Qc, K1A 0H3  
tel: 819-997-8069; fax: 819-997-5029  
Marc-Etienne.Lesieur@ec.gc.ca

- EPA update
  - Budget cuts 2012 remained like 2011.
  - NATO pre deployments 35 people-water and air sampling. ICS training exercise
  - IG audit on contingency plans. All plans reviewed.
  - R2R updates
  - 14 unannounced drills
  - 4 new OSC hires
  
- Waters of the US-Wendy Melgin (Powerpoint)
  - How to determine what is a Water of the US.
  - Proposed laws to clarify this have been tabled. Proposed guidance is out there now.
  - If in an area that is not so clear, Corps of Engineers has a website of Section 10 waters
  - Take pictures
  
- CANUSLAK 2012/VOSS Deployment-TJ Mangoni (Powerpoint)
  - CANUSLAK
  - International Liaison Officer-Good concept but also focus on Unified Command. Slowly integrate ICS-first allow SITL, the RESL. Big divider in the conference room to separate each contries ICS but slowly allow parts to integrate.
  - VOSS-have they looked at pneumatics in addition to hydraulics?
  - University of Wisconsin-building a research vessel and looking as another platform for VOSS deployment.
  - Mackinaw and Lake Guardian are the main deployment platforms currently for VOSS.
  - 2 other ships that have skimming systems. Port Huron, Duluth have skimming capabilities as well.
  - Swath rate for VOSS is small.
  - Navy has skimmers on Sup Salve
  
- NOAA Potentially Polluting Wrecks Assessment: Remediation of Underwater Legacy Environmental Threats Update-Lisa Symons, NOAA.
  - Episodic monitoring of the 5 vessels identified by RULET
  - Social media to get information on the sunken vessels. The word has been put out-2 trains of thought-1 to protect, 1 to bag wrecks (take pieces off of them). NOAA has looked at the various boards. Gone out to RRT, Sectors. If mystery spills are identified it may be a source in the other 10,000 that were culled out.

- 2 major operations done in Great Lakes that were reactive. RULET allows to be proactive.
  - Work with NPFC for spills and pollution threats addressed. No money available for monitoring of these threats.
  - For Sectors and Districts, once risk assessment packages are completed and shared, work into Area Contingency Plans.
- Habitat Fact Sheets-Ann Whelan, EPA R5 (will be made available on rrt5.org website)
    - Comments being accepted until June 30
    - Habitats along Mississippi River completed
    - Existing can be expanded.
    - Fact Sheets developed for the ones we have.
    - Kalamazoo River also done but names are not the same. Working to resolve this.
    - Interest in other Regions as wells. De facto manual for response/SCAT
    - 3 out, 7 in the queue.
    - Comment so far received-more pictures. Not good for paper version but thumbnails that can be identified by where it can be found in different parts of the country.
    - Comment – response methods piece is appreciated
    - Question – Did you look at the national wetlands maps? Used trustee created list
    - Stand alone fact sheet for noxious plants-poison ivy, poison oak, wild parsnip,
    - Tactics Manual-document associated with the habitat fact sheets. These are the description on the bottom of the habitat fact sheet.
    - Third phase-techniques tried at Enbridge looking for submerged oil. Tricia Edwards will be compiling them with pictures. Still trying to figure out how these will be incorporated into habitat fact sheets.
    - These documents are flexible for SCAT process, smaller spills with no SCAT going on, and for planning purposes.
    - Hydroponic plant lists are in draft-Corps of Engineers website. Some plants might not want to be kept-non-native species, invasive species which is a different component of this. They may be left during response and removed during restoration.
- GLERL presentation Powerpoint and tour of the facility-Dr David Schwab, Ms Paula Bizot, NOAA
- Oak Creek, Wisconsin
    - Collapse of bluff at WE Energies. Undergoing construction at the time.
    - Challenges
      - Safety-danger of another collapse? Instability of bluff
      - Initially a SAR for the first few hours. No injuries
      - Multiple operations needed to be done in a very small area. Scheduling was tight.
    - Strengths

- Unified command-WE Energies was not initially familiar w/ ICS but slow incorporation. Management by objections and strategies. Scheduling and competing demands. Identify priorities (Keep power plant running-WE, CG-no oil release, water quality)
    - Contractors and equipment was already on scene because the site was under construction.
  - Info management-Unified daily sitreps from the start.
  - How was IAP shared?-IAP was not shared significantly-just people on the ground, looked at objectives. Sit reps were shared by individual agencies.
  - Day 13-Balancing Priorities
    - Storage tanks was able to be moved.
    - Determined the bluff was stable (engineering done in house by WE )
    - Weather was favorable for marine salvage of the additional heavy equipment
  - Weather windows-favorable-could moor equipment at the facility. Unfavorable-had to move back to Milwaukee. Then would have to balance if it was worth bringing the equipment up for a few hours of work.
  - Day 126-Unified Command Stands down.
  - Players-WE, DNR, CG, EPA. CG concerned w petro potential. Authority was under OPA
- Wellington Ohio Pipeline Spill – Jeff Lippert, EPA R5 OSC
  - Pipeline break occurred January 12, 2012
  - Actions of Fire Chief potentially save millions of dollars by constructing 2 dams along the creek.
  - First 24 hours-concentrate on oil recovery
  - Operational periods were -000-1200hrs
  - Excavation to begin overnight but no work done.
  - 5 feet of excavation-took sample-if below 50 ppm, then stopped excavation.
  - Flushing worked at this spill because the spill was gasoline compared to Enbridge.
  - All workers on scene were Sunoco employees except for truck drivers. No cleanup contractors hired.
  - Sunoco called the NRC quickly.
  - Comment-Gasoline collection can be dangerous-any suggestion to not stop the flow?
  - Gasoline was also foamed
  - EPA costs-\$150K, Sunoco week 1-\$3 million. Potentially up to \$15million
  - Cleanup oversight turned over to Westlake office,
  - What did cleanup points tell you-sporadic hits. Workers were in Level C
  - 50 PPM-total VOCs. Agreed upon by county, state public health.
  - There were disposal issues. Roll off boxes collected but material was not disposed of quickly.
- Mitchell International Airport – Len Zintak, EPA R5 OSC
  - ~10,000 gallon jet fuel spill. Spill initially reported January 17, 2012.

- Initially started as a mystery spill in Wilson Park creek into Kinickinick River. Could eventually flow into Lake Michigan.
  - Shell Pipeline conducts pressure tests and realize there was a leak in their 10 inch pipeline that feeds 2 underground storage tanks.
  - IAP was task based, not by operational period. Presented multiple plans in the morning and wanted EPA signoff on the objectives.
  - Consent Order-Shell, Airport, EPA.
  - 260 feet of pipeline has been replaced where the leak occurred. Additional anomalies on the pipeline were found and are being addressed by Shell.
  - Where there leak detection records? Exact cause is still undetermined.
  - Airport continued to operate-never shut down. Fueling of planes was thru planes and has not affected operations.
- Stop Aquatic Invaders: Boat Disinfection at Spills – Lisa Williams, US Fish and Wildlife Service, Tracy Kesckmeti, MDEQ
    - FWS, DNRs go from waterway to waterway vs recreational boaters that stay in the same place.
    - Issue was raised early in Montana after being noticed after Marshall, MI spill.
    - Whose responsibility will it be? PRFA? Sample PRFA language.
    - Coordinating bodies for invasive species similar to RRTs and task force for invasive species which involves all federal agencies. Guidelines have been developed in draft form. Present to the group to make sure what is being done is consistent with that group. National aquatic task force.
    - Plants species are also being looked at as well. Inside boats, bilges, etc.
    - Phyllis Green, Isle Royale is working with Navy on a system for treating ballast water of ships in general but also accidental grounding. System is being inaugurated with Ranger 3 (NPS vessel)
    - Attorneys-litigation of RPs if they bring invasive species. Discussion has not been discussed with counsel. Informally discussed as part of NRDA process after a spill.
    - Out west, can inspect and quarantine boats if not in compliance. State authorities are doing this more and more. IN had invasive plant in internal lakes. States are looking to implement authorities.
    - Draft plan says boats and equipment.
- SCAT discussion (All)
    - Sponsor SCAT course for States. Webinar for classroom portions, done in house.
    - Moderator at each location.
    - Exercises done locally.
    - Cadre of people in each state ~6 people?
    - Process of finalizing coursework-2 separate levels.
      - 1 day-intro to SCAT certification
      - 3 day-full SCAT certification



- Responders are not the best people to take the class-they would be busy doing response work. But they should not be excluded, just in addition to them should be other groups.
  - Enbridge-wetlands people, hydrologists to identify areas that were sensitive. They did not know response though.
  - Comment-Opportunity to do the kind of advanced SCAT happens once in a responders life. Bigger issue is how to distribute the trainings. Take good training modules and spread out over a broader area that the RRTs represents. Science of Spill, Control of Invasive Species, Broken Ice (Kurt Hansen). Set up the technique first.
  - Would NGOs be able participate in the classes? Would enhance the classes-may not be SCAT but definitely other classes.
  - HAZWOPER training may be a prerequisite. Minimum training requirements?
  - State responders can be trained. Then they can be in responder cadre thru EMAC.
  - Moved to the training subcommittee. Appeal goes beyond SCAT trainings. Working on charter. Emergency Management. Scott Binko chairing, DOL-OSHA, Emergency Management, WI. Steve Lehman or Jay Lomnicky-NOAA. Training committee at NRT level.
  - Interest in distributed SCAT class. Interest in distributed training will be dealt with thru training subcommittee. Will solicit additional volunteers.
- Subcommittee report outs
    - FWSS
      - Prevention, SCAT, pipeline response, invasive species.
      - Sessions could be recorded.
    - Drills
      - PHMSA drills, industry drills
      - Overlap with training subcommittee
    - S&T-need a new chair.
    - Long term monitoring of submerged oils. Most likely will be part of damage assessment.
    - Inland S&T committee-
      - Put together a scoping committee-Jay Lomnicky-SSC, Max Michael-IDEM, Barbi Lee, Jerry Schulte-ORSANCO
- Oil in Ice Demonstration Project, St Ignace, Michigan – Kurt Hansen, USCG
    - West Coast interest in submerged oil
    - Started this project a couple of years ago
    - Started with workshops and then moved to demonstrations
    - Developing “one-pagers”
    - FY2013-another additional exercise planned. More coordination with D-9. Correlate with shoreline demonstration.
    - Discussed countermeasures but focused more on mechanical recovery
    - Chemical herders.
    - Look at Duluth, Thunder Bay for another location

- Intro to Canada-International incident-highlights the real world.
  - Jones Act for emergency conditions. Works for commercial assets as well. Not applicable for demonstration or exercises.
  - Look at cutter schedules and work with Kurt to determine location of the next exercise.
  - Water velocity-trajectory models were run.
  - Use of peat moss-would have to work with WI, MN to put into the waters of the State.
- Cincinnati Sub-Area and Mill Creek Spill Response Plan Overview – Steve Renninger, EPA R5 OSC
    - Add NOAA as resource trustee
    - Reach out to Wilmington office-go through Jay Lomnicky-SSC.
    - Annex to this plan could be habitat fact sheet.
    - All hazards plan-works its way up from local up to state and up. IAP is better for oil spill response. Allows for capture of those things that can come up on every oil spill.
    - W/ multiplicity of authorities and response agencies, the more simplistic we can make the plan, the more useful it will be.
    - Reach out to NOAA, COE (2 dams in the area). Will have buy in across the whole response area.
    - Section 106 compliance-State Historical Preservation. Historical Preservation phone numbers listed in the Communications plan
    - Endangered Species trustee listed in the Communication plan
    - GRP incorporation-Mill Creek has response strategies developed.
- DOE RAP and DHDO Mobile Detector Deployment Program – George Mosho, DOE
    - RAP team also does consultation.
    - Reach back to own organization to get information
    - Training is available.
    - Trailer and assets are needed-2 people will bring trailer, train the people that need to know, then will allow sign out of the equipment. They will stay in case equipment malfunction
    - Gamma is consequence management. Alpha is crisis management
    - NATO-2 flyovers, 2 weeks apart to get background data. Can that information be shared?
- Wrap-up – Co-Chairs
    - GIS-jurisdiction boundaries
      - CG has 8 GIS systems. CG will poll agencies to see what files are in use with the RRT agencies.
    - Review notes from the last meeting.
    - Next meeting in Madison, WI October 10-11.