

Boundary Blitz 08



PROGRAMS EXERCISED

- On 19 Sep 2008, Sector Detroit concluded the three day full scale exercise "Boundary Blitz", which included exercise components of Preparedness For Response Program (PREP), Area Maritime Security Training and Exercise Program (AMSTEP) and the Maritime Transportation Recovery Plan (MTSRP).

PURPOSE

- The exercises were conducted to improve the effectiveness of the Area Maritime Security Plan (AMSP), Preparedness for Response Area Contingency Plan (ACP) and the Maritime Transportation System Recovery plan (MTSRU).

EXERCISE FOCUS

- Awareness
- Prevention
- Response
- Recovery



OVERVIEW

- The Boundary Blitz exercise scenario began with a terrorist threat to the Energy Sector in the Detroit area. On 17 September, the day following the threat, a fictitious accidental release of oil occurred at a Waterfront Facility with product spilled in the Detroit/St. Clair River corridor. On the 18th of September we began the Security portion of our exercise.

PREP PRE-EXERCISE ACTIVITIES

Planning Meetings:

- C&O
- Initial Planning Conference
- Mid Planning Conference
- Final Planning Conference



PREP PRE-EXERCISE ACTIVITIES

PREP TTX:

- Completed initial response and notifications for FSE.
- Developed the ICS 201 (Incident Briefing) to kick off the FSE.



PREP PRE-EXERCISE ACTIVITIES

Training and
Preparation:

- ICS 320 (old mates).
- USCG Atlantic Strike Team Preparedness Assessment Visit (PAV).



PREP OVERVIEW

- On Wednesday, 17 Sep, a Unified Command consisting of USCG, Michigan Marine Terminal (RP), US EPA and MDEQ along with a CCG assigned liaison directed response activity for a fictitious major oil spill in the River Rouge spreading into the Detroit River and impacting U.S. and Canadian waters/shoreline. Boats from ANT Detroit, Station Belle Isle, USCG Auxiliary, Wayne County Sherriff's Department and Marine Pollution Control assisted with setting the boom and establishing a safety zone.

PREP ACTIVITIES

Unified Command

- Incident Command Post



PREP ACTIVITIES

Unified Command

Field Operations Elizabeth
Park, Trenton MI.:

- USCG Boom Deployment
- MPC Boom Deployment
- Downriver Emergency Response Team (DERT) Boom Deployment



PREP ACTIVITIES

Unified Command

Field Operations

Elizabeth Park:

- Operations Briefing



PREP ACTIVITIES

USCG Booming and oil collection operations near Elizabeth Park in Trenton, MI.

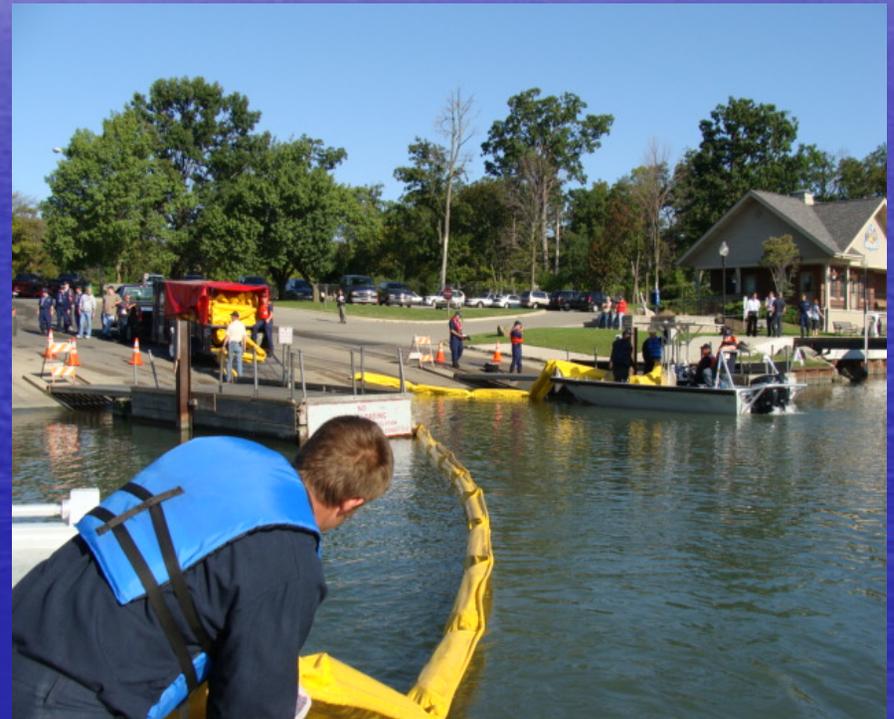


PREP ACTIVITIES



PREP ACTIVITIES

Marine Pollution Control
(MPC) Booming and
oil collection
operations near
Elizabeth Park in
Trenton, MI.



PREP ACTIVITIES



PREP ACTIVITIES

Shoreline assessment
teams on patrol at
various downriver
locations



PREP ACTIVITIES

Safety Zone set-up and enforcement



CANUSLAK ACTIVITIES

Exchange of Liaison
Officers ICP:

- Coordinated spill response.
- Resource tracking
- Best Practice sharing



CANUSLAK ACTIVITIES

“LORI” System
Deployment



"LORI" System Deployment



PREP PARTICIPANTS

- U.S. Coast Guard
- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
- Michigan Department of Environmental Quality
- NOAA
- U.S. Customs and Border Protection
- U.S. Border Patrol
- International Joint Commission
- Canadian Coast Guard
- Civil Air Patrol
- Wayne County Homeland Security/Emergency Management Division
- City of Trenton
- Marine Pollution Control
- Eastern Canada Response Corporation
- Salvation Army

MTSRU

- On Friday, the MTSRU convened and discussed actions required to reopen the river following simulated closure for the exercise events.

MTSRU ACTIVITIES

- Discussion based exercise with Maritime Transportation Recovery Unit focusing on restoring the Detroit River after the Major oil spill.



MTSRU PARTICIPANTS

- U. S. Coast Guard
- U. S. Border Patrol
- Canadian Coast Guard
- Transport Canada
- Windsor Port Authority
- Lake Pilots Association
- U. S. Steel

KEY SUCCESSES

- Ability to set up and use the Incident Command System.
- Integrated field operations, especially for PREP.
- Building on partnerships.
- Identified several areas for improvement.

Challenges

Actions not completed due to on –going
“real” operations (Hurricane Ike):

- EPA vessel “Lake Guardian” and USCG Strike Team did not deploy the Vessel of Opportunity Skimming System (VOSS) at the mouth of the Detroit River.

CONCLUSION

- The Boundary Blitz Full Scale Exercise (FSE) brought dozens of agencies together to evaluate response and recovery to a scripted exercise scenario that closely mirrored a real event
- The exercises met at least two or more major objectives in each program area and tested the AMSP, ACP and MTSRP.

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LESSONS LEARNED

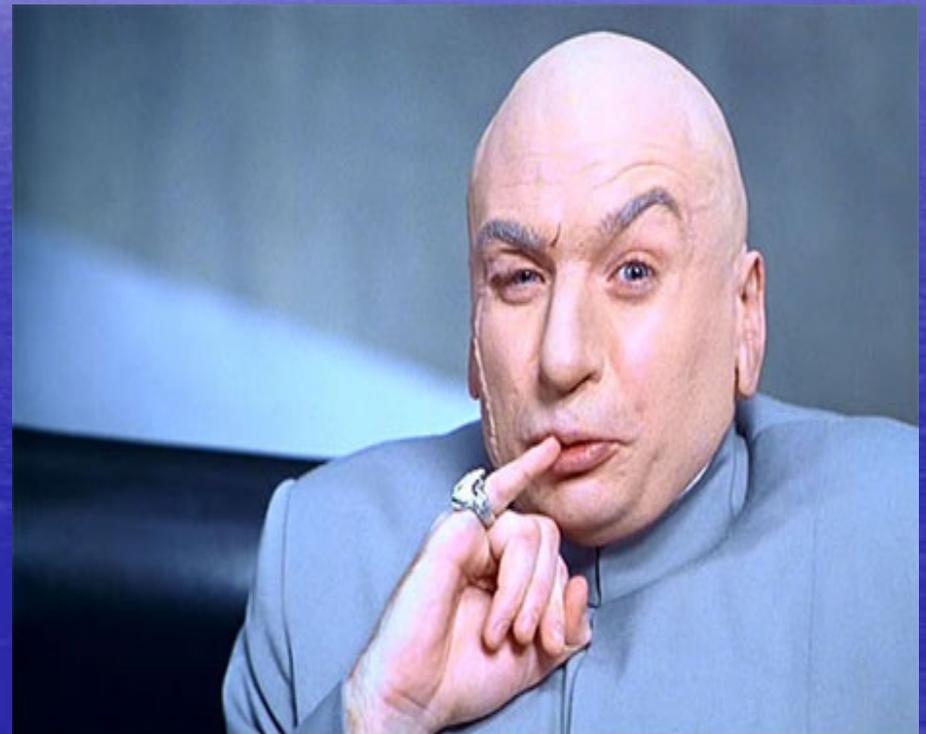
- Establishment of a field command post to coordinate efforts was outstanding.
- Development and use of a good communications plan kept everyone informed and made the exercise run smoothly.
- Continue Team Building ICS instruction with other agencies. Pre-determine partner agency ICS positions and qualifications.
- Use of pre-determined ICP worked very well. Communications Infrastructure in place.

LESSONS LEARNED

- Thorough understanding of CANUSLAK, better understanding about border issues with respect to contingency operations.
- Include a volunteer coordination plan in the ACP.
- Provide more detail on booming strategies in the ACP.

What's next

- Update Plans
- Get Ready for 2009!



QUESTIONS

