



# RRT5 Science and Technology Subcommittee

## *Updates and Activities Since Fall 2019*

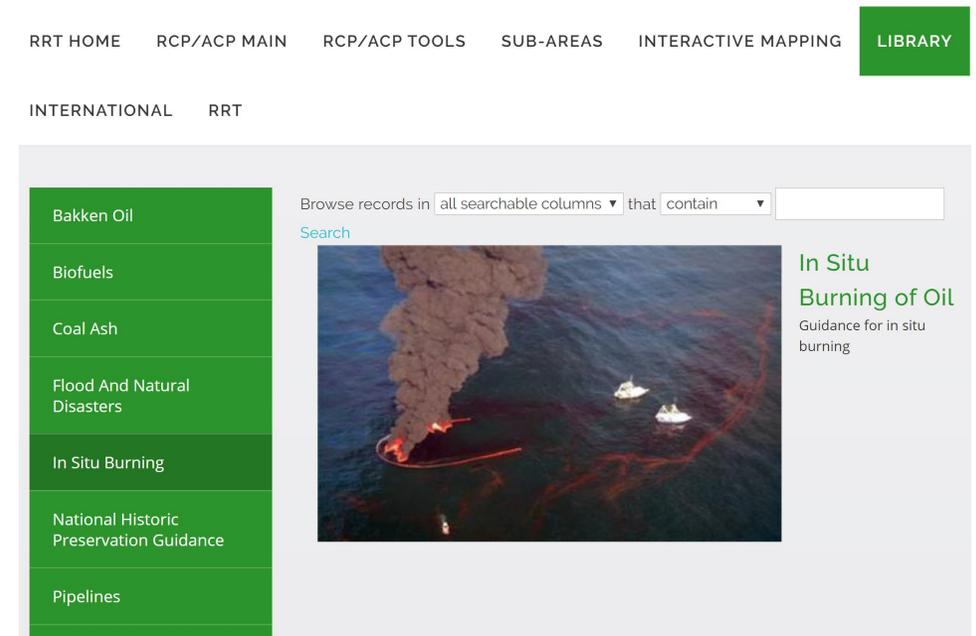
Chair: Faith Fitzpatrick [fafitzpa@usgs.gov](mailto:fafitzpa@usgs.gov)

*2020 Spring RRT5 Meeting, Webinar*

Mlive

# In Situ Burning (Scott Binko/Eric Pohl leads)

- ISB literature in RRT5 library under ISP tab, reports can be added there
- RDC/EPA large-scale experiment in Mobile. RDC freshwater report almost complete— plan to present at fall meeting
- MPRI offshore – DFO, NOAA, EPA, BSEE summer 2021.
- Meeting in Jan 2020 amongst RRT5 ISB workgroup to discuss path forward
  - EPA & USCG to develop written toolbox to facilitate and streamline future ISB proposals to RRT
  - Need to identify continuing knowledge gaps and gain understanding of State-specific expectations



# R&D Coast Guard (Scott Binko)

- Awaiting nonfloating oil report -- due in Jul/Aug
- Oil in Ice Center of Excellence – UAS application – sensor development, planning testing, maybe in Great Lakes for feb/mar 2021
- Research repository, library for RRT5 on web site
- ICCOPR virtual meeting – if interested contact Carol Baillie.
- ICCOPR Currently working on next R&T plan – the SOW is being routed for approval and should begin in a couple of months
- Oil Spill Response Challenge from Natural Resources Canada – Canada looking for international participation.

# Fate and Transport (Faith Fitzpatrick lead)

- Fate and transport workshop – spill tools, modeling, mapping – for planning and rapid response
  - Date of June 17-18 for webinar/call; 30-50 attendees, multiple agencies + ECCC
- DOI-IOSPP USGS Streamstats Time of Travel Tool – NRDAR webinar today at 2:00 CT
- EPA ICWater training postponed



# Unmanned Aerial Systems (UAS), EPA update:

## Current capability:

- Congress included a ‘fix’ in *FY20 budget* that allows CERCLA and Oil funding to be used for UAS. Congress would have to renew the budget fix annually or update the Acts for permanent solution.
- Allows for UAS missions now
- EPA Office of Research and Development has been developing “Kolibri” – UAS-based air monitoring
  - Available, but limited for emergency response

# Unmanned Aerial Systems (UAS), EPA update:

Ongoing policy and procedure development:

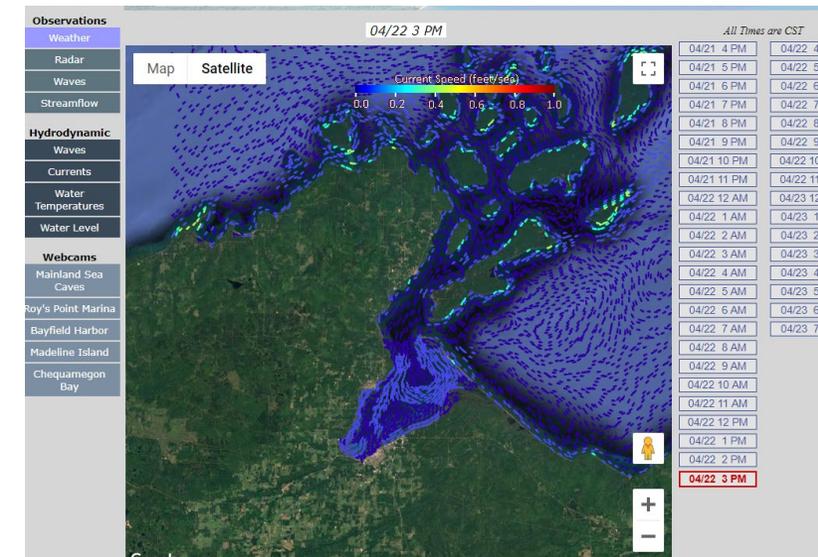
- EPA will be finalizing an Agency-wide UAS policy any day
- EPA Office of Land and Emergency Management (OLEM):
  - Issued 2/20 memo for Superfund and other Federal Programs
  - Established UAS Taskforce to work through delegation and sign off
  - Emergency Management Information Technology (EMIT) Workgroup: explored existing EPA contractor UAS capabilities; is working on standard UAS contract Scope of Work; working on data management standards, and more

# Great Lakes Coastal Highlights

- High frequency radar applications for currents/waves (MTU and Great Lakes Research Center)
- High water levels --  
[HTTPS://WWW.LRE.USACE.ARMY.MIL/ABOUT/GREAT-LAKES-HIGH-WATER/](https://www.lre.usace.army.mil/about/great-lakes-high-water/)
- Shoreline erosion example mapper  
[http://floodatlas.org/asfpm/oblique\\_viewer/](http://floodatlas.org/asfpm/oblique_viewer/)
- Nowcast/Forecast currents and waves – INFOS Apostles example  
<https://infosapostles.cee.wisc.edu/>



High-frequency radar towers, like the pilot tower shown here near Fort Michilimackinac in Mackinac City, Michigan, create maps an entire area rather than providing only a single point of data.



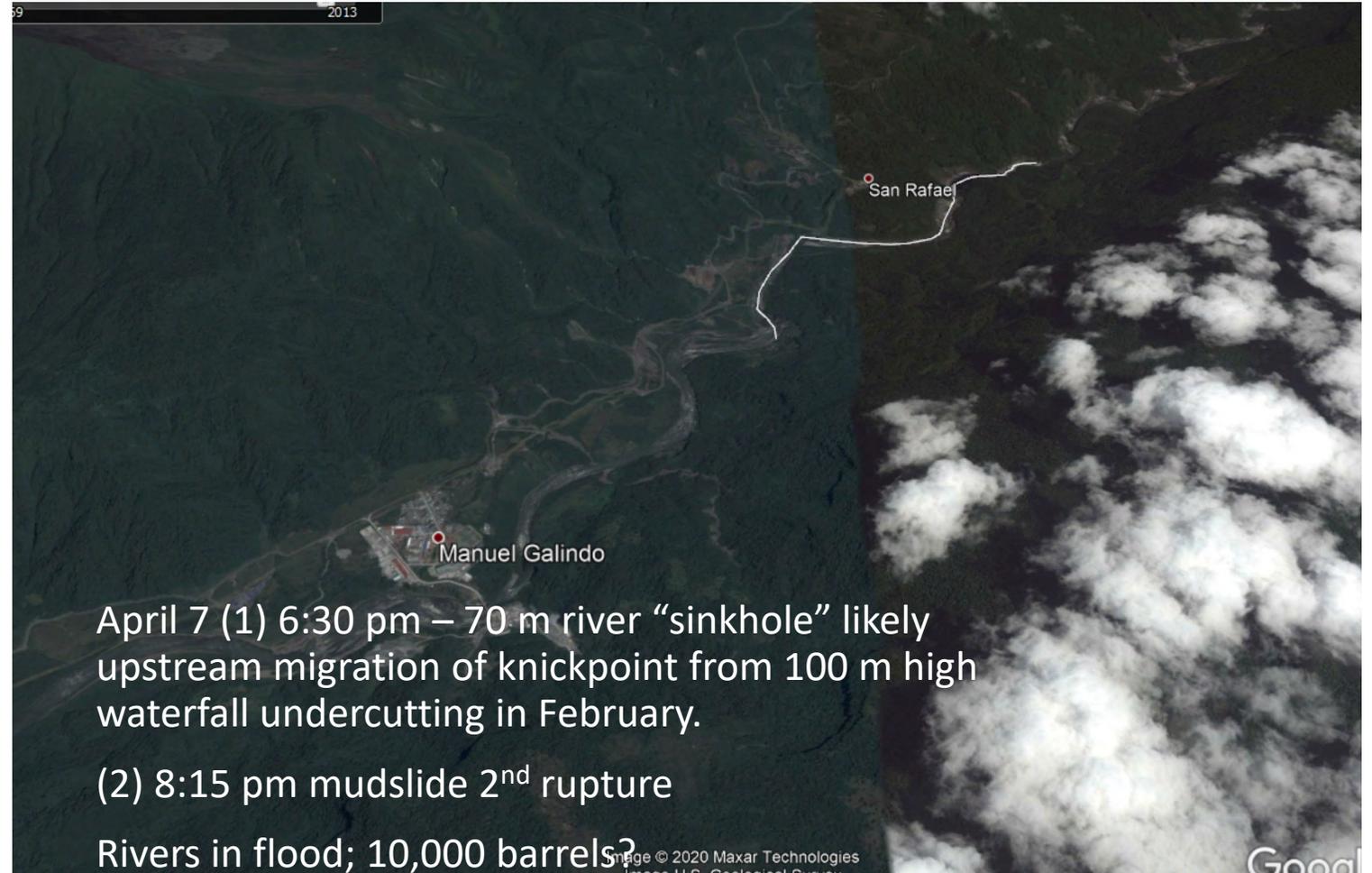
# Shoreline Cleaner Report (Jon Gulch lead)

- proposal to allow for a relaxing of the sampling requirements and for the decision to use be based on an on-site consultation with State and Federal OSCs (reaching out to other Stakeholders, if necessary based on presence of sensitive species/habitats)

# PFAS – EPA update

- EPA is sampling for PFAS when it is necessary for disposal approval.
- EPA is not specifically investigating PFAS sites, but will sample for it if wastes are co-mingled and we have knowledge it is present, after consultation with HQ.
- EPA will typically defer to the States for the lead on PFAS as many States have regulations for these compounds.

# Rio Coca, Ecuador Pipeline Rupture(s)



CNN, <https://www.cnn.com/2020/04/01/world/san-rafael-waterfall-gone-trnd/index.html>

Google earth