

FINAL 2016 Work Plan for Regional Response Team III

Mission

Our mission is to protect public health and safety and the environment by ensuring a coordinated, effective, efficient response to significant oil and chemical incidents within Federal Region III.

Vision

- We will provide prompt, reliable, knowledgeable, and competent assistance. Our actions will be decisive and purposeful.
- We will be recognized as a quality organization committed to adding value to federal, state, local, and industry efforts to mitigate the effects of oil, chemical, and other incidents covered by the NCP/NRF.
- Our membership will include all relevant segments of the regional response community. We will work as an efficient and effective team, pooling our talents and experience to provide the best possible assistance to pollution responders.
- We will be proactive and progressive in our deliberations so as to earn the respect of the entire response community for our resourcefulness and innovation.

Goals and Initiatives for 2016

1. We will enhance the quality and utility of the Federal Region III Regional Contingency Plan.

Regional Contingency Plan Rewrite Workgroup

- Updates to the RRT Regional Contingency Plan (RCP) will be completed as needed.
 - Maintenance of the RCP will be handled by the EPA and Coast Guard RRT III Coordinators and the Fifth Coast Guard District DRAT on the new RRTIII NRT Website.
2. We will provide training, information, communication, and coordination mechanisms to the Federal On-Scene Coordinators, Unified Commands, and the Area Committees.

Training Workgroup

- Provide opportunities for RRT members to participate in activities that benefit regional and local planning and response to oil, chemical, and other incidents covered by the NCP/NRF. Each RRT meeting may contain an excess of the 8 hours of training required by spill responders and managers under OSHA's 29 CFR to meet the refresher safety and health annual requirements.
- Periodically query the membership on topics of importance to maintain relevance of presentations and training opportunities. Make this list available to the other workgroup chairs to use for their sessions.
- Comply with the needs of each workgroup to maintain and achieve a balance of core workgroup meeting time to accomplish projects, training, and presentations at the workgroup chairs' control and discretion.

3. We will encourage the implementation of the Best Practices for Migratory Bird Care During Oil Spill Response within our region.

Wildlife Response Workgroup

- The proposed approach and steps entail FWS regional response personnel working with State Co-Trustees to develop area-specific wildlife response guidelines that would contain minimum and more advanced elements from the Best Practices to be included in Area Contingency Plans.
 - Assuming the FWS Headquarters concurs in the proposal and directs regional personnel to prepare the guidelines, the Wildlife Response Workgroup will offer assistance to the FWS in identifying State Trustee contacts and in reviewing draft guidelines.
 - Once the guidelines are complete, the Wildlife Response Workgroup will promote acceptance and implementation by Area Committees and dissemination to representatives of industry.
4. We will develop and implement policy regarding the Regional Response Team's (RRT's) relationship with Area Committees and SERCs.

SERC/LEPC/ACP Workgroup

This workgroup will be inactive until such time as the Executive Committee has tasks to be completed by the workgroup.

5. We will enhance the means to facilitate information management and effective decision making during an environmental response.

Information Management Workgroup

- Update and maintain POC list for resources for other federal agencies, states, and stakeholders.
 - Expand outreach contacts and invitations to the RRT meetings to appropriate agencies and organizations in the geographical area of the meeting locations.
 - Provide new and updated information on information management resources and related subjects.
6. We will develop and provide spill countermeasures strategies to assist the response community for spill response.

Spill Response Countermeasures Workgroup

- Review historic RRT guidance documents to be updated or revised.
- Provide presentations or training on any current issues/topics that may arise.
- Review and assess booming strategies in tidal areas, including rail/water and pipeline/water nexus points.
- Address spill response needs for spilled Bakken and Dilbit rail and vessel casualties – the differences relative to other oils spilled

- Update/revise Dispersant MOU and incorporate appropriate lessons learned from the Deep Water Horizon BP Oil Spill Response and any NRT directives/guidance that maybe issued.
7. We will facilitate coordination of planning issues between trustees and the response community in order to raise the visibility of NRDA and to facilitate efficient NRDA relations.

NRDA Workgroup

- Continue to provide NRDA training and presentations on NRDA case histories, and education opportunities to the RRT, industry, and other regional and local agencies to enhance familiarity with NRDA practices.
- Refine existing SCAT training modules, and develop NRDA SCAT training opportunities to assist natural resource agencies/trustees.
- Continue to coordinate incident-specific NRDA emergency restoration activities with wildlife rehabilitation workgroups, trustees, and response agencies.
- Provide a Shoreline Cleanup Assessment Team (SCAT) methodology training seminar opportunity as needed and requested by the RRT III response community.

General RRT Management - Executive Committee & RRT Support Personnel

8. We will develop and implement an outreach program to improve the awareness of RRT roles, responsibilities, and capabilities.
- Maintain the RRT III website and the RCP Homepage.
 - Reference the EPA Region 3 Dashboard on the RRT III website; incorporate web link into regular meeting notes.
 - Schedule, make logistical arrangements, and conduct two RRT meetings (May and November) during the year and two conference calls (February and August).
 - Prepare meeting minutes, annual report, and annual work plan.
 - Periodically review RRT progress against goals in RRT III Strategic Plan; make adjustments as appropriate.
 - Approve and utilize the training implementation plan outlining potential training opportunities for our future RRT meetings in the designated categories: best practices, assessment, response management, spill safety, decision making, and information management.
 - Coordinate with tribal interests within the region;

Concurrence:


DAVID T. ORMES, USCG CO-CHAIR

3/31/16
DATE


KEYIN BOYD, EPA, CO-CHAIR

3/31/16
DATE