**MEETING MINUTES**

**OCEANIA REGIONAL RESPONSE TEAM (ORRT) MEETING**

# *Video Teleconference Platform, Zoom for Government*

# *February 9th, 2022*

**1400 – 1700 Pacific Standard Time**

A meeting of the Oceania Regional Response Team (ORRT) involving representatives from 58 member agencies and regional stakeholders convened at 1400 on February 9th, 2022, via the Zoom video conference

## Agenda

* Welcome & Opening Comments – ORRT Co-chairs
* Featured Topic: Public Health Assessment Unit Case Study – Ben Castellana, FOSC, USEPA (presentation uploaded to [nrt.org/ORRT](https://nrt.org/ORRT))
* State and Territorial Agency Updates
* Federal Partner Agency Updates
* USCG and USEPA Updates (presentations uploaded to [nrt.org/ORRT](https://nrt.org/ORRT))
* Wrap-up
* Summary of key points and decisions, next steps and actions to be taken
* Alibis

**Agency Updates**

***GUAM EPA***

***Comments:*** Walter Leon Guerrero, Administrator, Guam EPA

* Cabras 1 generator exploded at the Cabras Power Plant Compound. Hazardous materials (HAZMAT) assessment underway to determine whether asbestos containing material (ACM) was released as a result of explosion. Clean-up started this week.
* Abandoned Derelict Vessels (ADV) Project – 11 removed with Task Force 73 2nd Team assessing the last one which is a military landing craft.
* Governor signed bill supporting Guam EPA building a new headquarters on 9.7 acres of property.
* Engaged Navy about Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS) and discussing preliminary assessment of properties they manage.

***Hawaii Department of Health Hazard Evaluation & Emergency Response***

***Comments:*** Adam Teekell, State of Hawaii On-Scene Coordinator

* Looking to expand *Chemical Safety Day* to *Chemical Safety Week*. Topics may include marine flares; battery disposal; fentanyl handling; etc. Working on details. Hope to deliver in 2022.
* Busy with Red Hill Drinking Water Emergency Response and other duties.

### Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP)

***Comments:*** Anthony Talouli, Acting Director, Waste Management & Pollution Control

* Continue Regional Workshop Compensation & Liability Convention. Phase I complete in October 2021. Phase II starts next week. Funded by International Maritime Organization.
* Pollution officer on board in early March who will be coordinating the Pac Plan Project with funding by the Australian government. Opportunities to collaborate will exist through Pac Plan Project Assistance.
* Project put forth to address WWII era wrecks which are potential pollution problems. The design and funding proposal was submitted to the Australian government. Funding requested in the amount of $2.1M Australian/$1.5M USD. The period of performance is 2 years 4 months. Hope for approval soon. Most wrecks are ticking time bombs, greater than 75 years old. The U.S. may potentially be able to support the project.

### City and County of Honolulu Emergency Response Office

***Comments:*** Robert (Bob) Harter, Hawaii State Emergency Response Commission

* Leadership change – New chair-person - Carlton Yamada, Honolulu Fire Department
* Next SERC meeting is 15 March 2022 from 0900-1100 on Zoom

### Federal Report Outs

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### U.S. Department of Interior (DOI)

### *Comments:* Janet Whitlock, Regional Environmental Officer

* Shout out to Hawaii Wildlife Center. Was on Hawaii Island and visited the Center. Director happened to be on site who provided a tour. They are doing great work!
* Review of *Quick Response Guides* for spill consultation produced by United States Coast Guard
* Recognize need for training on National Historic Preservation Act and Endangered Species Act

### DOI - US Fish and Wildlife Service Honolulu

## *Comments:* Michael Fry, Environmental Toxicologist, NRDA Coordinator

## Mapping of sensitive species. Have distribution maps for all endangered species in Guam and the Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas Islands (CNMI); Geographic Response Plan Maps for Guam; Need pipeline maps for Guam.

### Section 7 consultation reviewed dispersants stockpiled in Hawaii. Wrote letter to EPA that Corexit 9500 and Finasol OR52 use as dispersant compared to oil spill is not likely to adversely affect listed species. Finasol is less of a fire hazard and contains less petroleum hydrocarbons so may be preferrable.

### National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Office of Response & Restoration

## *Comments:* Ruth Yender, Scientific Support Coordinator for the Pacific Islands

### Involved in response support activities led by Coast Guard.

### Hawaii preparation and planning exercise for Hawaii scheduled for the end of March. Guam and CNMI are in the planning stages.

### Endangered Species Act and National Preparedness for Response Exercise Program (NPREP) for Hawaii upcoming.

### Reviewing documents

### Marine debris – ADV removal effort support

### Marine debris emergency response planning

### Continuing to largely work remotely

### US Forest Service

## *Comments:* Belinda Walker, Assistant Regional Environmental Engineer

### No comments

### Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Chemical Facility Anti-Terrorism Standards (CFATS)

### Comments: Marcie Stone, Regulatory Compliance, Region IX Chief, DHS - FEMA

### Cybersecurity & Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) launched CHEMLOCK a service/suite of services offered to non-regulated businesses who have high-risk chemicals on hand. The service offers support/guidance/advice/active shooter trainings.

### Planning to provide trainings at upcoming LEPCs meeting.

### USEPA Region 9

**Comments*:*** Jason Musante, Section Manager, Emergency Response Section II & Chris Myers, On-Scene Coordinator (OSC), United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA)

* Superfund Response and Technical Assistance in the Pacific Islands
* Multi-Site Chemical Removal, American Samoa (OSC Reiner)
	+ Waste chemicals will be evaluated, categorized, and neutralized on-site or packed for transportation and disposal.
	+ Waste located at: LBJ Hospital; Department of Agriculture; Multiple High Schools; American Samoa Community College.
	+ Work pending COVID-19.
* FAS Chemical Waste Removal (OSC Reiner)
	+ Removal of chemical wastes and other hazardous materials from labs and other facilities in Freely Associated States.
	+ Republic of the Marshall Islands, Federated States of Micronesia (Yap), Palau.
	+ US Department of State funded EPA to conduct this work for disaster resiliency.
	+ Work pending COVID-19.
* Dededo Waste Piles, Guam (OSC Johnstone)
	+ Site of former transfer station and private solid waste recovery operations.
	+ Main contaminant is Pb above RCRA hazardous waste levels with PCBs <50 ppm.
	+ Next Steps: Coordination with GEPA Targeted Brownfields Assessment; Cultural Resources Survey; Spring 2022 waste pile segregation and additional characterization.
* Harbor of Refuge ADVs, Guam (OSC Allen)
	+ 10+ ADVs in Piti, Harbor of Refuge were targeted for salvage.
	+ US Navy requested by Gov Guam to remove vessels.
	+ EPA to address hazardous waste and provide equipment and supplies.
	+ USCG is FOSCR.
	+ USN salvage team completed removal of 10 vessels.
	+ A new team has begun work on the 11th (a former military landing craft).
	+ EPA has profiled hazardous waste for disposal with Waste Management on CONUS.
	+ Guam Power and Port of Guam are coordinating debris disposal.
* Red Hill Drinking Water Emergency – Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam
	+ Background: 20 November 2021 – Release of an unknown quantity of at least several thousand gallons of JP-5 jet fuel in the Adit 3 tunnel of the Red Hill Facility; 28 November 2021 – First indications that there was a fuel-like odor in drinking water in homes served by the Red Hill Shaft, the well is turned off and the pumps are secured; 29 November 2021 – Hawaii Department of Health advises Navy water system consumers not to drink, consume tap water (Drinking Water Advisory); 17 December 2021 – Official formation of the Interagency Drinking Water System Team (IDWST).
	+ Operational Objectives: 1. *Red Hill Shaft Recovery*: Product Skimming and Recovery; Granulated Activated Carbon (GAC) System Installation and Operation; Determine Flow Regime at Release Point; Evaluate Pathway/Threat to Nearby Production Wells; Monitor Plume Extraction Progress and Reevaluate. 2. *Drinking Water System Recovery*: Distribution System Flushing; Residential Structure Flushing; Non-Residential Structure Flushing.
	+ Additional Information:

EPA - <https://www.epa.gov/red-hill/drinking-water-emergency-joint-base-pearl-harbor-hickam-honolulu-hawaii>

Navy – <https://www.cpf.navy.mil/JBPHH-Water-Updates/>

HDOH – <https://health.hawaii.gov/about/navy-water-system-quality-updates/>

Facebook (DoD) <https://www.facebook.com/JBPHH>

### US Coast Guard – Sector Guam

**Comments*:*** Commander Roxanne Jensen, Marine Environmental Preparedness & Response Program & Operations Manager

* Area Contingency Plan – The Mariana Islands Area Contingency Plan (MIACP) underwent its major five-year revision in 2021, a major effort by Sector Guam and the Guam and CNMI Area Committees. The MIACP will be reviewed by the Coast Guard National Review Panel (CGNRP) this summer. Prior to going before the CGNRP, it will be reviewed by District 14, Pacific Area, and CG-MER.
* ADV- Operation commenced 04 October 2021; Removed 10 of 11 ADVs by 15 December 2021; Completed the removal/destruction of 10 ADV’s to date. Due to crew swap out, CTF 73 is recommencing operation starting 01 February 2022; Last vessel to be removed is quite large. Salvage team has been practicing different techniques on best way to salvage vessel.
* Training – Exercises – Interagency Engagements
	+ Accomplishments: December 2021 Sector Guam submits Area Contingency Plan (ACP); 27 October-Present Sector Guam FOSCR PQS Training (2 members); 07 December 2021 Sector Guam completes Government-Initiated Unannounced Exercise (GUIE).
	+ Outlook: OSROCO FAM to be conducted at OSROCO on to be determined (TBD) date; DRAT Visit/VOSS Exercise for CNMI/Guam in May/June 2022; x-ray fluorescence (XRF) spectrometer training with Guam Environmental Protection Agency (GEPA) at a TBD location on a TBD date; Consultation Training to be conducted at D14 DRAT on a TBD date in 2022.
	+ LTJG Edward M. Oingerang, Chief, Incident Management Division, Phone: (671) 355-4951, Email: Edward.M.Oingerang@uscg.mil

### US Coast Guard – Sector Honolulu

**Comments*:*** Lieutenant Commander Jason Nguyen

* Honokohau Harbor GRS & Boom Deployment Exercise: Conducted from 4-6 January 2022; Participants - USCG Sector Honolulu & D14, Hawaii Department of Booming & Ocean Recreation (DOBOR), Hawaii Department of Aquatic Resources (DAR); Two booming strategies validated.
* Training – Exercises – Interagency Engagements
	+ Accomplishments: 4-6 January 2022 GRS-Hawaii conducted at Honokohau; 25 January 2022 GRS-Kauai conducted at Nawiliwili Harbor.
	+ Outlook: 15 February 2022 GRS-Maui to be conducted at Ma`alaea; TBD March 2022 Area Committee Meeting to be held at a TBD location; 28 March – 01 April 2022 Preparedness Exercise Program (PREP) exercise to be conducted at Pearl Harbor.
* LCDR Jason Nguyen, Chief, Incident Management Division, Phone: (808) 271-9721, Email: Jason.d.nguyen@uscg.mil

### US Coast Guard – District 14 Response Advisory Team (DRAT)

**Comments*:*** Lieutenant Eric Juback, DRAT Supervisor

* Equipment Laydown & Status – 07 Boom Locations in Hawaii; 02 VOSS (Guam/American Samoa)
* Completed FY22 Equipment Exercises – Big Island and Kauai Boom Deployments completed, GRS update in progress for each location.

4 January 2022 - Boom Deployment Exercise & GRS Validation - Honokohau Harbor, Hawaii

25 January 2022 - Boom Deployment Exercise & GRS Validation – Nawiliwili Harbor, Kauai

* Planned FY22 Equipment Exercises – 16 February 2022 – Boom Deployment Exercise & GRS Development – Ma`alaea Harbor, Maui; 23-27 May 2022 – Boom Deployment Exercises & GRS Development – Tinian & Rota, CNMI; 30 May – 03 June 2022 – Guam VOSS Exercise – Apra Harbor, Guam; 01-05 August 2022 – ADDS Exercise – Oahu; 16-18 August 2022 – Mobil FSE (no DRAT equipment exercised) – Saipan. Date changes for Guam, CNMI, and American Samoa Exercises. Mobil FSE dates confirmed; DRAT participating.
* Consultation *Quick Response Guides* *(QRG)* & *Biological Evaluation (BE)/Essential Fish Habitat Assessment (EFHA)* Form – Endangered Species Act (ESA) & Essential Fish Habitat (EFH) Consultation Quick Response Guide (QRG). QRG on consultation circulated to Services (US Fish and Wildlife Service [USFWS] and National Marine Fisheries Service [NMFS]) for review. Thanks to D14, US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), and the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) for assistance with consultation process.
* Developing/Borrowing Quick Response Guide on National Historical Preservation Act.
* Area Contingency Plan for Guam/CNMI revamp was completed towards the end of 2021. Area Committee has reviewed and issued their stamp of approval on updated plan as submitted. Will be in front of National Review Panel this summer.