

RRT-III MEETING NOTES

May 18 and 19, 2022

Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, Blacksburg, Virginia

Wednesday, May 18, 2022

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Welcome and Rollcall

Cindy Santiago welcomed all participants and partners, introduces EPA contractors. Beth Lohman informed all of parking app, door locks, and restroom locations.

Additional Sessions

The IAC, CNRDA, and RCP Re-Write Workgroups met on Tuesday, May 17th. The SRC Workgroup, state, and Coast Guard sessions scheduled for the 17th did not meet due to the absence of some members.

Additionally, the Executive Committee Meeting was held on May 18th. However, the RRT3 Co-Chairs, Coordinators, and START meeting scheduled for the 18th was rescheduled to a later date TBD in the interest of time.

Roundtable Discussion

Hosted by Myles Bartos, EPA, and Brian Moore, PADEP

- EPA-VIPER, Survey 1-2-3
 - Myles gave a basic introduction to VIPER and Survey 123. See presentation for additional details.
 - Basic components of hardware and software.
 - Overview of instruments that can be used.
 - Overview of capabilities.
 - Examples of an offline deployment view with an explanation of viewing real-time data.
 - Examples of data graphs.
 - Brian Moore asked how many people respond with VIPER deployment?
 - Myles said it is very dependent on the complexity and the size of the site or response. 3-4 people seems to be sufficient. It is helpful to find out ASAP what your needs are, especially if there are special needs to prepare.
 - Comment from Sector Del Bay about whether VIPER can be used with the Chem Responder software.
 - Myles's response is that although he had never used Chem Responder, he believes VIPER can be utilized with it.
 - ACTION ITEM: Myles follow up with ERT and Sector Del Bay about Chem Responder and Viper.
 - Frank Csulak asked if there are applications outside of air monitoring for Viper.
 - Myles mentioned that they mainly use it for air monitoring, but it could be used for XRF too.
 - Question about if the Survey 123 SCAT forms are the NOAA forms.

- The response was that the form can be created to look like whatever is needed.
 - Question about form complexity and how much time it takes to create.
 - It will take more time to build a more complex form. It is very important to understand what information needs to be collected.
 - Question about how to access the EPA version of Viper or Survey 123 whether in or outside of a declared disaster.
 - EPA can grant access to an individual via email. The user must be registered to the site.
- NOAA/USCG- ERMA, DIVER virtual presentation
 - Robb Wright discussed the ERMA application and its capabilities. See presentation for additional details.
 - Data management.
 - Trajectory modeling.
 - Overflight and oiling observations.
 - Environmental sensitivity index.
 - Coastal and some inland GRS.
 - Weather and storm data.
 - Maps and dashboards.
 - Robb discussed DIVER application uses and capabilities.
 - Authoritative repository for a response.
- Implementing and sharing data at a federal and state level.
 - Brian Moore and Megan Kelly led this discussion. See presentation for additional details.
 - Brian started the dialogue of the many different agencies and their tools and applications. The goal of the presentation is to begin a discussion of the practical knowledge of the tools and setup, how do we use them, at what point and time is it appropriate to use them, and what are the challenges.
 - An example of a consideration might be: How do we share data?
 - What are the limitations in each agency?
 - Tools and platforms being used:
 - Esri
 - ERMA
 - DIVER
 - Scribe
 - VIPER
 - ER Cloud
 - Is there a place to access these templates?
 - No, but yes. Beth Lohman discussed the need for a central place for all of the forms to be stored across agencies for easy access and sharing.
 - What is the difference between Survey 123 and Collector?
 - Survey 123 is more form based, while Collector (soon to be Field Maps) is more locationally based.
 - There are many tools that are similar. It doesn't matter what tool the agency uses as long as they can then share the data.
 - Data sharing capabilities and limitations.
 - Form relationships before it is needed to understand data sharing limitations ahead of time.

Presentations

- Unmanned Aircraft hosted by the VDEM and VA Tech
 - Mike Keefe discussed VDEM drone capabilities, including aerial photograph examples.
- Seals in Delaware given by Ben Anderson.
 - Update on the seal populations outside of Delaware and some of the considerations and monitoring by the state.
- RULET Vessels update given by Lisa Symons, NOAA
 - Explanation of the RULET Vessel program findings and capabilities.
- Endangered Species Consultation/Job Aide Walk Through given by Elisha Cook, USCG and Frank Csulak, NOAA
 - Discussion of the new tool and how to use it.

Concluded on 5.18 at 1600.

Thursday, May 19, 2022

Convene, Introductions, and Co-Chairs Opening Remarks

- Mike Towle, EPA Region III, noted how wonderful the venue is. Looking forward to great productivity.
- Dave Ormes, Fifth Coast Guard District, mentioned that it is great to be in person, looking forward to a productive meeting.
- Dave Pugh, Fifth Coast Guard District, welcomed all and Admiral Shannon Gilreath, new to the 5th district.
- Kevin Boyd, EPA Region III, not present.

The group then went around the room and each person introduced themselves.

Welcome to Virginia

- Dr. Daniel Givens, Dean of Virginia Tech Veterinary School presented the Welcome to Virginia.

RRTIII Coordinator Report

Cindy discussed the other RRTs and their meeting dates:

- RRT 1
 - Meeting June 16.
 - Fall date TBD.
- RRT 2
 - Date TBD.
- RRT 3
 - Meeting December 6-8 in Delaware.
- RRT 4
 - Cindy was unable to find information on RRT4.

- RRT 5
 - Met virtually April 27-28.
 - Tentative meeting set for October 12-13 in Chicago.
 - Planning a joint meeting in the spring with RRT7 in Saint Charles.
- RRT 6
 - Met virtually May 4-5.
- RRT 7
 - Met March 23-24 in Kansas City.
 - Meeting Sept 21-22 in Kansas City.
- RRT 8
 - Meeting October 12-13 in Denver.
 - Meeting April 19-20 in Denver.
- RRT 9
 - Met virtually April 13.
 - Next meeting date TBD.
- RRT 10
 - Met March 10 with a hybrid in-person/ virtual setting.
- Alaska
 - Met virtually February 2022.
 - Meeting September 9 in Anchorage.
- Oceania
 - Meeting virtually June 28.

Other Events

- New Jersey Emergency Preparedness Association Conference
 - Held May 2-6, 2022 in Atlantic City.
- The International Oil Spill Conference (IOSC)
 - Held virtually May 10-14, 2021.
 - The next conference date is TBD.
- Interspill
 - The next conference will be June 21-13 in Amsterdam.
- International Hazardous Materials Response Teams Conference
 - Held June 21-24, 2021.
 - The Pre-Conference was June 8, the conference was June 9-12, 2022 in Baltimore.
- Clean Pacific Conference
 - Held August 17-18, 2021 in Renton, Washington.
 - The next conference will be August 23-24, 2022 in Renton, Washington.
- Clean Waterways Conference
 - Held April 5-7, 2022 in Louisville.
 - The next conference will be April 11-13 in Denver.

Community Engagement Presentation

Beth Lohman discussed Virginia Tech's programs, specifically about working with students from the public health program. See presentation for more details.

- Beth described the community engagement piece of the Eastern Shore exercise.
 - DEQ and its planning partners recognized the input of the community stakeholders is of the utmost importance.

- The framework identified stakeholders, identified engagement options, and developed strategies for disseminating technical information.

Out briefs

- MV EVEFORWARD Grounding – David O’Connell, Sector Commander of Sector MD NCR.
See presentation for details.
 - 1,100 ft Container Ship stuck in the Chesapeake March 13 – April 17.
 - 505 containers removed.
 - 213,486 cubic yards of dredge material removed.
 - 6 Salvage Plans Developed.
 - 17 agencies involved
 - He discussed how the response developed, the vessel and cargo, risks, environmental considerations, the timeline of events.
 - Key takeaways from the event
 - Early Vessel Response Plan activation
 - Unity of Effort
 - Strong relationships/ communications with responders, port stakeholders and public.
- Navy E2 Crash, Eastern Shore, Virginia – Cdr. Erica Elfguinn, Chief of Response, Sector VA.
See presentation for details
 - Chincoteague Plane Crash, March 30 – April 13, 2022
 - Discussed the situation overview, incident response, and event outcome for pollution response and salvage efforts.
 - John Giese added his input:
 - The Navy Seminar held that January paid off for prep considering how smooth this incident response was.
 - Lessons that we can, in part, operate virtually.
 - Allen Curtluck also gave his comments:
 - Nice to see how fast unified command clicked in.
 - Things went well under the circumstances.
 - He appreciates all efforts.
 - Jo Ann Banda added that it was helpful to have an environmental unit because it brought the wildlife community together to address wildlife concerns. Others concerned with wildlife were able to add input and added focus on a variety of species, not only those in FWS jurisdiction.
 - John Nelson noted that he appreciated all of the unified command getting an environmental unit operational so quickly.
 - Also, he appreciated how they reached out to the stakeholders and community and really considered their concerns and comments.
 - Frank Csulak stressed how important it is for sectors to get relationship with stakeholders and understand local resources.
- Upcoming PREP exercises in Region 3 – Dave Pugh
 - There haven’t been any full-scale prep exercises due to Covid.
 - Opportunity to engage RRT presence in some of the exercises.
 - Sector MD
 - Prep exercise next spring, still in planning stages.

- A prep exercise was planned for this March, but they had the EVERFORWARD incident.
 - Planning to have a lessons-learned during the Area Committee meeting June 2.
- Sector VA and NC were scheduled for full prep exercise for 2023.
 - Discussion about combining.
 - Initial planning phases.
 - Will be an offshore incident.
 - Would impact RRT3 and RRT4, however, not enough capacity for a full RRT exercise.
- Myles discussed the third phase of the joint Region 2 and Region 3 Exercise based in the upper Delaware River.
 - The first 2 were tabletops focusing on communication and sensitive areas.
 - This one will be full scale exercise on the river in October.

FOSC Reports

- EPA Region III
 - Evaluated 496 NRC reports
 - 7 federalized
 - 1 case of interest – WV disposal facility fire
 - 3 future exercises
 - Smokey Mountain Tabletop
 - Full Scale Exercise 2022
 - R3 and R3 full-scale exercise
 - Current multi-agency exercise
- Sector Delaware Bay
 - 149 NRC
 - 107 coastal zone cases
 - 4 letters of warning
 - 7 federalized responses
 - Notable cases:
 - Spill of #6 oil into Delaware River
 - Possible ruptured pipeline
 - Diesel fuel discharge
 - Two 55-gallon drums floating
 - Philadelphia Office of Emergency Management Pipeline Response Seminar and Tabletop
 - Marine Firefighting Practical Training
 - NJ Emergency Management Conference
 - EOC Nuclear Powerplant Response Exercise
 - Hurricane Functional Exercise
 - Defense Urban Terrain Exercise
 - Oil Spill Tabletop Exercise
- Sector Maryland-National Capital Region
 - 219 NRC
 - 11 federal cases
 - 4 notice of violations

- 29 letters of warning
- 202 notice of federal interests
- Notable cases:
 - Sinking of a tug
 - 2 GIUEs
- 3 people leaving with replacements
- June 2 upcoming meeting
- Full scale exercise 2023

- Sector Virginia
 - 126 pollution
 - No federalized cases
 - Notable cases:
 - Plane crash incident
 - 35,000-gallon spill of #6 oil on power plant
 - Oil Spill Response Seminar
 - Area committee Meeting in Virginia

- Sector North Carolina
 - GIUE issue trainings
 - Notable Cases:
 - Many grounded vessels
 - Mystery sheen in Oriental Harbor
 - CERCLA discharge of 200,000-gallon tank of sulfuric acid into secondary containment

- Sector Buffalo
 - 136 pollution reports
 - 5 federalized cases
 - 0 criminalized cases
 - Notable cases:
 - Vessel sunk at pier overnight
 - Harbor oil spill from onsite oil transfer pipe

- MSU Pittsburgh
 - 184 NRC reports
 - No federalized or criminalized cases
 - Training often
 - GIUE exercises
 - Notable case:
 - CG regulated facility had a land base spill

- MSU Huntington
 - 20 cases for Region 3
 - No federalized or criminalized cases
 - Notable cases:
 - Vacuum gas oil discharge from tank barge
 - Trans mix discharge out of facility
 - Oil discharge at a facility

- Event – community member dropping bombs onto barges and tugs.
- Training often
- Boom deployment Exercise with meeting to follow

Federally Recognized Tribes Presentation

Susan Bachor presented on the federally recognized tribes, focusing on the point of view of Delaware Tribes.

- Included some background, how to address the tribal nations, contact information of tribal nations in Region 3, historic properties, and when consultation is required.
- She discussed practices and laws in place to preserve today's Lenape Heritage.
 - Archaeological Resources Protection Act (ARPA)
 - National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA)
 - National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)
 - Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act
 - Freedom of Religion Act (ARFA)
- John Nelson asked if there is a resource for people to use if a tribe is no longer present but should be contacted.
 - Susan replied that the TDAT system through HUD can be used but is not completely accurate.
 - BIA would be a resource to start one off with who is where. Then one could contact each specific nation to find out their area of interest.
 - ARC GIS map has a comprehensive view of tribe locations prior to contact.
- Elisha asked how areas of interest are determined.
 - Susan replied that areas of interest are determined through research. Use historical records to determine where they have been historically, where they went after removal. If a site is uncovered that has cultural materials, it will be added

State/Commonwealth Reports

- Delaware
 - In the early spring, NOAA acquired a grant to look into ecological and economic impacts of offshore oil spills. A modeling study was conducted, and results were presented on MARCO's Webinar. <https://youtu.be/ATS226LYQbo>
 - Noted concerns of offshore windfarms.
 - Noted issues finding contractors for a response.
- Maryland
 - The secretary has been replaced.
 - There will be a presentation about methylene dichloride.
 - Trucks spilling.
- Pennsylvania
 - Contractor issues for a response.
 - They had 2,000 calls so far this year.

- Fires at scrap yards and tire piles.
- A floating lid on a 5-million-gallon tank of Naphthalene sank into the liquid at United Refining. Only vapor was released and there were concerns about benzene and hydrogen sulfide in concentrations that would become public health concerns.
- Virginia
 - They managed 2,321 pollution reports since Jan 2022.
 - Personnel shortages leads to transportation related incidents, and mistakes of delivery of materials. Resulted in a reaction and an evacuation of the community.
 - The Virginia Abandoned and Derelict Vessel Workgroup concluded yearlong review of the issue of ADVs in coastal communities and freshwater lakes. They published a report on the evaluation of ADVs, where the policy stands now, and where they could go in the future.
- West Virginia
 - Issues with contacting parties.
 - An acid tanker leaked and was unable to pump material due to terrain. A secondary contractor was able to successfully remove the material without a release.
 - A hydrochloric acid tanker failed in transit. It threatened an adjacent stream, but the material did not enter the water.
 - In Preston County, a tote fell off a trailer and threatened the stream but was taken care of. The responsible individual was identified and will be receiving violation notices and invoices from the state.
 - They had 837 DEP reports, 3 of which were federalized cases.
- District of Columbia was not present.

Agency/Partner Reports

- DHHS/CDC – Mr. Bob Helverson
 - Return to regular site travel.
 - Attending community outreach opportunities.
 - Long process of paperwork for travel – need some lead time.
 - Laura Werner has moved to PA Delaware County Health Department.
 - Call (770)488-7100 for ATSDR duty officer to reach them for support.
 - United Refining Incident in PA.
- DHS – (CFATS) – Not present
- DHS – (Protective Security Advisor – DE District) and Mr. Dave – not present
- Johnston (Western MD District)
- DHS – Mr. Dick Polley (FEMA)
 - Spring Risk will be in June- Hybrid virtual and in-person
 - Hurricane rehearsal of Concept key takeaways:
 - Successive non-catastrophic events almost become more complicated and resources might be less prioritized.
 - Be sure resources that are anticipated are still available.
 - Development of Biological Incident Annex.
 - Who within EPA determines how clean is clean enough to close out a biological incident, and how is the determination made?
 - Developing a Cyber Playbook. Done at national level, happening at regional level.
- DOC – Mr. Frank Csulak (NOAA SSC)

- Upcoming trainings:
 - Science of Oil Spills Class, July and September
 - Science of Chemical Releases, June
 - You Don't Know What You Don't Know monthly webinars
 - Third Thursday of each month
 - Salvaging Solutions to Abandoned and Derelict Vessels monthly webinar
 - North Carolina, Virginia, Maryland, Delaware, and New Jersey Marine Debris Emergency Response Guides
- 177 incidents
- CAMEO Chemical Database has been updated.
- 2 new ESIs being produced for St. Mary's and Saint Lawrence Rivers
- New National Marine Sanctuary
- DOD – (NAVY MIDLANT NOSC) – not present
- DOD – (USACE) – nothing significant to report
- DOE – Mr. Bruce Young (Argonne National Lab)
 - Offer OSC Training Course
- DOI – Mr. John Nelson and/or Ms. JoAnn Banda (USFWS)
 - Encourage anyone with a spill that might impact trust resources, migratory birds, threatened or endangered species, or historic properties, feel free to reach out to DOI or USFWS
 - Inland Oil Spill for DOI Response Webinars
 - Inland Oil Spill Preparedness funds
- DOJ – not present
- DOL – nothing to report at this time.
- DOT – Rob Cox –
 - enforcement actions for safety
 - Issues with counterfeit shipments
- GSA – Kathleen Peek
 - Hurricane preparedness trainings
 - Interagency exercise in July, cyber event scenario
 - Federal acquisition has a new emergency acquisition basic ordering agreement.
 - Instruments of understanding used for expediting contracting activities in advance of the need.
- USDA – Mr. Travis Haas
 - No activations to report
 - Quarterly Coordination Meeting topic Regional Response Team Guidance
- ORSANCO – Mr. San Dinkins
 - Monitoring statement had a detection of benzene and toluene. Detections went as far as 700 miles downstream.
- Other Partners (i.e., Tri-State, Industry, OSROs, etc.)
 - Sector Maryland visited for a workshop
 - USFWS updating best practices for migratory birds during oil spills
 - Include them in any exercises if they're in the contingency plans
 - Tri state bird rescue added this link to the chat: Tri-State Bird 24 hr. Oiled Wildlife Hotline 1-800-261-0980 email oilprograms@tristatebird.org
- VIMS – nothing at this time

Workgroup Report Outs & Project Status Updates

- RCP
 - Dave Ormes pointed out Elisha's reorganization of appendix 9 in the ESA Consultation Process.
 - Work with EPA to find someone on RCP workgroup.
- Information Management and Outreach
 - Mr. Moore stated they held a larger workgroup meeting with communication exercises, addressed notification issues, outdated RRT3 website design. There will be a smaller group to address the website designs.
- Training
 - The EPA went through training topics, triaged, and reprioritized some presentations for the future.
- CNRDA
 - Frank Csulak discussed the ESA and EFH consultation guidance and stated it was finalized and submitted to the RRT3 executive committee. It was approved in February.
 - John Nelson noted the Oil Spill Quick Reference Guide for Tribal Leadership and the Tribal Engagement and Region 3 document. The group submitted them to the executive committee during the last meeting and will be resubmitting for adoption.
 - Future work includes the inland portion of the consultation guidance, the review of documents contained in the Region 3 RCP Appendix 9, Development of the RRT3 Oil Spill Best Management Practices Library, and the review, update, and finalization of the RRT3 NHPA Guidance.
- Spill Response Countermeasures
 - Dave Pugh explained the comprehensive biological evaluation necessary.
 - Updating the in-situ burn agreement.

Closing Remarks

- Dave Pugh reminded everyone to send Cindy their personnel changes. He noted that the next meeting is targeted for Bethany Beach, Delaware.
- Mike Towle noted how our first hybrid meeting was successful and recognized START and Steve for the help to make it run smoothly. The facility and location were great.

Meeting concluded at 1240.

Meeting Attendance Roster	
Attendee Name	Attendee Organization
Bryan Alonso	Resolve Marine
Ben Anderson	DNREC
Joann Aufforth	Not specified
Susan Bachor	Delaware Tribes
David Bailey	Tetra Tech
Jo Ann Banda	USFWS
Sheena Bannon	USCG
Sabina Bastias	US EPA
Myles Bartos	US EPA
Jamie Bethard	DNREC
Kevin Boyd	US EPA
Jaime Brady	USCG
Mike Cavanagh	USCG
Matthew Childs	USCG
Eli Connell	VA DEQ
Elisha Cook	USCG
Robinson Cox	DOT
Frank Csulak	NOAA
Valincia Darby	DOI
Steve Davis	US EPA
Sam Dinkins	ORSANCO
Jason Dorval	USCG
Erica Elfguinn	USCG
Steven F	VA DEQ

Lieschen Fish	GES
Mandy Fischer	Tri State Bird Rescue and Research
Mo Gadde	Tetra Tech
Chelsea Gallen	GSA
Joe Gawarzewski	US EPA
Kevin Gaynor	US EPA
John Giese	VA DEQ
Shannon Gilreath	USCG
Bob Gowing	USCG
Travis Haas	USDA
Emily Hein	VIMS
Robert Helverson	ASTDR/CDC/HHS
Paul Hewett	Argonne National Lab
John Hielscher	NRCC
Kevin Higgins	USCG
Jeff Hurst	VA DEQ
Ian Johns	USCG
Rusty Joins	WV DEP
Megan Kelly	Tetra Tech
Mike Keefe	VDEM
Ken Kochnozer	VT ME
Alan Lacy	VA DEQ
Elizabeth Lohman	VA DEQ
Mark Miller	VA DEQ
Brian Moore	PA DEP
Katlyn Muse	Tri State Bird Rescue and Research

John Nelson	US DOI
David O'Connell	USCG
Alex Olbert	USCG
Craig Oravitz	USCG
Lauren Pillow	VA DEQ
Richard Polley	FEMA
Dave Pugh	USCG
Todd Pitsenberger	VA DEQ
Mickey Sandes	USCG
David Sanders	GSA
Cindy Santiago	US EPA
Ruth Scharr	US EPA
Lawrence Schmidt	USCG
Margot Shrift	Tetra Tech
Silvia Sigler	USCG
Lisa Symons	NOAA
Jennifer Stockwell	USCG
Steve Touw	US EA PA
Mike Towle	US EPA
Tracy Townsend	OSHA
Thomas Tregle	BSEE
Eric Velez	USCG
Dom Ventura	US EPA
Ryan Wartick	NOAA
James Weeks	Development Monitoring
Joshua Weidman	Not specified

Shawn Weimer	VA DEQ
Jennifer Welcher	VA DEQ
Dony Whitehurst	VT ME
Jon Wickersham	Colonial Pipeline
Jay Wilkinson	MSRC
Rebecca Wiseman	WV DEP
Christopher Woolheater	Not specified
Bruce Young	Argonne National Lab