1000 INTRODUCTION

TOOLS AND RESOURCES
General: • Statutory Guidance Tool • Laws, Regulations and Directives, Federal • EPA NCP Overview

The response to oil and hazardous substance spills operates within a specialized regulatory framework that is deeply intertwined with public trust. Pursuant to the National Oil and Hazardous Substances Pollution Contingency Plan (NCP) (40 Code of Federal Regulations [CFR] Part 300), the National Response Team (NRT) and 13 Regional Response Teams (RRTs) are responsible for national and regional planning and preparedness activities before a response action and support to the Federal On-Scene Coordinators (FOSCs) and State On-Scene Coordinator (SOSC) when activated during a response. RRT membership consists of designated representatives from key federal response and support agencies together with affected states.

National and regional planning and preparedness activities require a rapid, aggressive, and well-coordinated response from federal, Tribal, state, and local agencies, and responsible parties (RPs). Although different agencies have distinct planning processes, the various planning bodies and their plans work together to enhance response planning and execution for the Northwest Region.

In the Northwest Region (defined as the Coastal and Inland Zones of Idaho, Oregon, and Washington), the RRT has published this Regional Contingency Plan (NWRCP):

1. To provide for orderly and effective implementation of response actions to protect the people, natural resources, and property of the Coastal and Inland Zones of the Northwest Region, which includes the states of Washington, Oregon, and Idaho, from the impacts of a discharge or substantial threat of discharge of oil or a release or substantial threat of a release of a hazardous substance from inland and marine sources.

2. To promote the coordination of and describe the strategy for a unified and coordinated federal, state, Tribal, local, potentially responsible party (PRP), response contractor, response cooperative, and community response to a discharge or substantial threat of a discharge of oil or a release or substantial threat of a release of a hazardous substance from inland and marine sources.

3. To be consistent with the NCP and to be adopted as the Regional Contingency Plan (RCP) for the Northwest Region.

4 To help inform and guide on Regional Response Team 10 (RRT10)-specific policies for the Coastal and Inland Area Contingency Plans (ACPs)

5. To provide guidance to all holders and viewers of the Facility Response Plan and Vessel Response Plan to ensure consistency with the NWRCP and ACPs.

This plan is intended for use as a guideline for the coordination of spill response actions and to ensure consistency in response to spills. Federal and state rules require that a RP, or spiller, must be able to manage spills with a pre-designated response management organization that accommodates a Unified Command (UC) structure in recognition of federal, state, Tribal, or local jurisdiction.

If an oil or hazardous material spill happens in the context of a Presidentially Declared Disaster, the response may be conducted under the National Response Framework (NRF).

In the Northwest Region, the Area Committees are committed to:

- Timely notifications;
- A bias toward a rapid, aggressive, and well-coordinated response when discharges or incidents occur;
- Making decisions through an inclusive Unified Command;
- Engaging in collaborative decision-making within RRT10;

- Ensuring coordinated planning processes across the region;
- Maintaining regionwide expertise regarding the RCPs and ACPs and serving as full participants in the planning process; and
- Ensuring organized transitions occur when key personnel turnover happens within the RRT10 and any of the Area Committee agencies.

1010 AUTHORITY

TOOLS AND RESOURCES
General: • Statutory Guidance Tool • Laws, Regulations and Directives, Federal • EPA NCP Overview
REFERENCE LIBRARY
• FEMA National Response Framework • Idaho Hazardous Materials/WMD Incident Command and Response Support Plan • State of Oregon Emergency Management Plan

The Federal Water Pollution Control Act (FWPCA) (33 United States Code [USC] 1321 et seq.) and the Comprehensive Emergency Response Compensation and Liability Act of 1980 (CERCLA), or Superfund, address development of a National Planning and Response System.

The RRT and Area Committees are given the responsibility for working with the response community to plan for joint response efforts, including spill containment; mechanical recovery; use of dispersants; in situ burning; shoreline cleanup; protection of sensitive areas; and protection, rescue, and rehabilitation of fish and wildlife.

1011 Federal

As outlined in 40 CFR 300.115 of the NCP, the four major responsibilities of the RRT are Planning, Response, Training, and Coordination. §300.210 (b) of the NCP requires RRTs to develop an RCP to ensure that the roles and responsibilities of federal, state, local, Tribal, and other organizations at an incident are clearly defined in advance. This RCP also outlines when an incident-specific RRT should be activated, and the role of RRT10 in supporting the

FOSC. RCPs also delineate the Inland and Coastal Zones upon which the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the United States (U.S. Coast Guard (USCG) have agreed.

1012 Washington State

The Washington State Department of Ecology (Ecology) is required by law (Revised Code of Washington [RCW] 90.56.060) to prepare a statewide master oil and hazardous substance spill prevention and contingency plan. Ecology has adopted four contingency plans to meet this requirement; the NWRCP, Sector Puget Sound (SPS) ACP, Sector Columbia River (SCR) ACP, and Northwest Inland Area Contingency Plan (NWIACP). These plans guide the activities of all state and local agencies when responding to spills or potential spills of oil or hazardous substances.

By statute (90.56.020), Ecology is the lead state agency for spill prevention, response, and cleanup. The Ecology Director serves as the head of the state's Incident Command System (ICS) in response to a spill of oil or hazardous substances and they coordinate the response efforts of all state agencies and local emergency response personnel. The Ecology SOSC also serves as the state's principal spokesperson in the IC as an advocate for all state interests. If an RP fails to respond in a manner deemed reasonably consistent with the NWRCP or applicable ACP, the FOSC or Ecology may assume full or partial control of the response in consultation with UC.

1013 Oregon State

Lead Agency

Oregon Revised Statute (ORS) 468.B establishes the primary authority of the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality (ODEQ)-appointed SOSC to compel cleanup of oil or hazardous material spills. Under ORS 468B.300(28)(a)] (29)(a) the "State On-Scene Coordinator" means the state official appointed by ODEQ to represent the department and the State of Oregon in response to an oil or hazardous material spill or release or threatened spill or release and to coordinate cleanup efforts with RPs; federal, state, and local agencies; and Oregon Tribes. ODEQ works in partnership with the Oregon Department of the State Fire

Marshal (OSFM), the Oregon Department of Emergency Management (ODEM), the Oregon Health Authority (OHA), the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, and others to represent Oregon's interests with a Unified Command response.

ODEQ is the lead state agency on the RRT and applicable Area Committees (SCR ACP and the NWIACP) and provides the lead for oil and hazardous substance spill prevention efforts, contingency planning, and cleanup oversight for spills affecting state air, water, or land resources.

Adoption of the NWRCP as the State of Oregon's Hazardous Materials Emergency Response Plan

The NWRCP has been adopted as the state's Oil and Hazardous Materials Response Plan in the State of Oregon Emergency Management Plan (Emergency Support Function [ESF] 10 – Oil and Hazardous Materials Response). The NWRCP replaces the Oil and Hazardous Materials Spill Contingency Plan for the Oregon Coast, Columbia River and Willamette River to Willamette Falls (Volume II), which is required under Oregon Revised Statutes (ORS) 468B.495-500 and 466.620. This plan also satisfies ORS 401, 453.347 (Hazardous Material Emergency Response System), and 466.605 to 469.680 (Spill Response and Cleanup of Hazardous Materials).

Cooperation with Other Governmental Entities

Beyond the responsibility to coordinate cleanup response with state and local agencies established in ORS 468.B 300(28)(a) above, ODEQ has additional commitments for coordinating with Tribal governments, state and federal partners, and the public. During a response, every attempt is made within a developing incident to identify those with responsibilities and/or interest in the protection of human health, environmental conditions, or resources that may be threatened by the release.

1014 Idaho State

The Idaho Hazardous Materials/Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD) Incident Command and Response Support Plan, in conjunction with this plan and the NWIACP, supports the Idaho Emergency Operations Plan (IDEOP). These plans may be activated independent of the IDEOP. The primary purpose of these plans is to provide effective, coordinated emergency response support to local government by federal, state, and private agencies for incidents involving the release or potential release of oil and hazardous substances in Idaho. The Idaho Hazardous Materials/WMD Incident Command and Response Support Plan defines the support role of specific state agencies. The NWRCP focuses specifically on how federal and state agencies will work together during cleanup operations. These plans can be initiated at the request of local governments when their capabilities have been exceeded. Authority for implementation of the IDEOP and The Idaho Hazardous Materials/WMD Incident Command and Response Support Plan is derived from Executive Order 96-01; the Idaho Environmental Protection and Health Act (Idaho Code §39-101 et seq.); the Hazardous Waste Management Act (Idaho Title 39 Chapter 44); the Idaho Hazardous Substance Emergency Response Act (Idaho Title 39, Chapter 71); and the Disaster Preparedness Act (Idaho Title 46, Chapter 10).

1015 Tribal Governments

Tribal governments are sovereign governments recognized under federal law that possess inherent governmental authority, subject to congressional limitations and applicable federal statutes. Tribal governments may exercise authority to protect the health, safety, welfare, natural resources, cultural resources, and trust and treaty-reserved rights of their members consistent with federal law.

Pursuant to CERCLA §126(a), the governing body of Tribes are afforded substantially the same treatment as states for response-related purposes, including notification of releases, consultation on remedial action, access to information, public health authorities, and roles and responsibilities under the NCP. Additionally, CERCLA §107(f)(1) and the Oil Pollution Act (OPA) §1006(c)(3) authorize Tribal governments to act as natural resource trustees for

resources under their jurisdiction. This designation authorizes Tribes to assess damages, participate in restoration planning, and seek compensation from RPs. Further, the NCP requires the FOSC of a response to notify any natural resource trustee when any resources for which they are the trustee may be impacted by a release. These provisions authorize Tribal governments to play a critical role in protecting public health and the environment during hazardous substance releases and oil spill incidents.

However, there are often barriers to Tribes being able to carry out the roles they're authorized for. Federal and state partners have a trust responsibility to ensure Tribal rights and resources are recognized, considered and protected. Trust responsibility, a well-established legal obligation, consists of the highest moral obligations that the United States (U.S.) must meet to ensure the protection of Tribal and individual lands, assets, resources, and treaty and similarly recognized rights.

Individual Tribes may develop their own Tribal Response Plans consistent with the ACPs and RCP. As sovereign nations, Tribes may have policies that further guide their participation in a response.

1020 Regional and Area Planning Structure and Process

1021 National Response Structure

The NCP (40 CFR 300) outlines a coordinated National Response System (NRS) that ensures oil and hazardous substance planning and response are effectively managed through its network of planning partners and plans. There are three general levels of planning and response embedded in the NRS- national (NRT), regional (RRT), and area (OSC). The NRS coordinates all government agencies with responsibility for human health and environmental protection in a focused response strategy for the immediate and effective cleanup of an oil or hazardous substance spill. It is a three-tiered federal response and preparedness system that supports the pre-designated FOSC and SOSC in coordinating national, regional, state, Tribal, and local government agencies, industry, and the RP during a response.

The NRS does not remove the primary responsibility of initiating and completing a proper response by the RP. The NRS is used for all spills. When appropriate, the NRS is designed to incorporate a UC and control support mechanism consisting of the FOSC, the SOSC, the RP's IC, and, when appropriate, Tribal and local representatives.

1022 National Response Team

The NRT consists of 16 federal agencies with responsibilities, interests, and expertise in various aspects of emergency response to pollution incidents. EPA serves as chair and the USCG as vice-chair of the NRT, except when activated for a specific incident, when the lead response agency representative serves as chair. The NRT is primarily a national planning, policy, and coordination body and does not respond directly to incidents. The NRT provides policy guidance prior to an incident, as well as assistance during an incident as requested by an FOSC via an RRT. NRT assistance usually takes the form of technical advice, access to additional resources/equipment, or coordination with other RRTs.

1023 Regional Response Teams

TOOLS AND RESOURCES
Regionwide Guidance and Policy: • Incident Specific RRT10 Activation Quick Response Guide

There are 13 RRTs, one for each of the 10 federal regions and Alaska, the Caribbean, and the Pacific Basin. Each RRT has federal and state representation. EPA and the USCG co-chair the RRTs. RRTs are planning, policy, and coordinating bodies and may be activated during a major incident to assist the FOSC with resources. They also provide guidance, support, and approval for pursuing certain response strategies.

The role of an incident-specific RRT is determined by the operational requirements of the response. An incident-specific RRT may be activated when the response exceeds the capabilities of the area where it occurs, transects state boundaries, or may pose a substantial threat to public health or welfare or the environment. An incident-specific RRT may also be activated upon request by the FOSC or any RRT representative. Generally, the RRT may be used to assist the FOSC in obtaining additional federal resources. If the

assistance requested by an FOSC exceeds an RRT's capability, the RRT may request assistance from the NRT. During an incident, the RRT may either be convened or alerted by telephone or email. Activation procedures for RRT10 may be found in the "Incident Specific RRT10 Activation Quick Response Guide" available on the Tools and Resources page of the RRT/NWAC website. The incident-specific RRT may also monitor and evaluate reports from the FOSC, advise the FOSC on the duration and extent of the response, recommend specific actions related to the response, assist the FOSC in preparing information for the public, and, if necessary, recommend the appointment of a different FOSC for the response.

For situations not addressed by pre-authorization plans, the EPA RRT representative may authorize the use of products listed on the NCP Product Schedule or burning agents. As appropriate, this authorization should be given with the concurrence of the affected state(s) and in consultation with the U.S. Department of the Interior (DOI) and the U.S. Department of Commerce (DOC). It should be noted that the FOSC may authorize the temporary provisional use of an NCP Product Schedule substance without the concurrence of the EPA RRT representative when the use of the product is necessary to prevent or substantially reduce a hazard to human life.

Figure 1000-1 illustrates the relationship of the RCP to other plans, as outlined in the NCP.

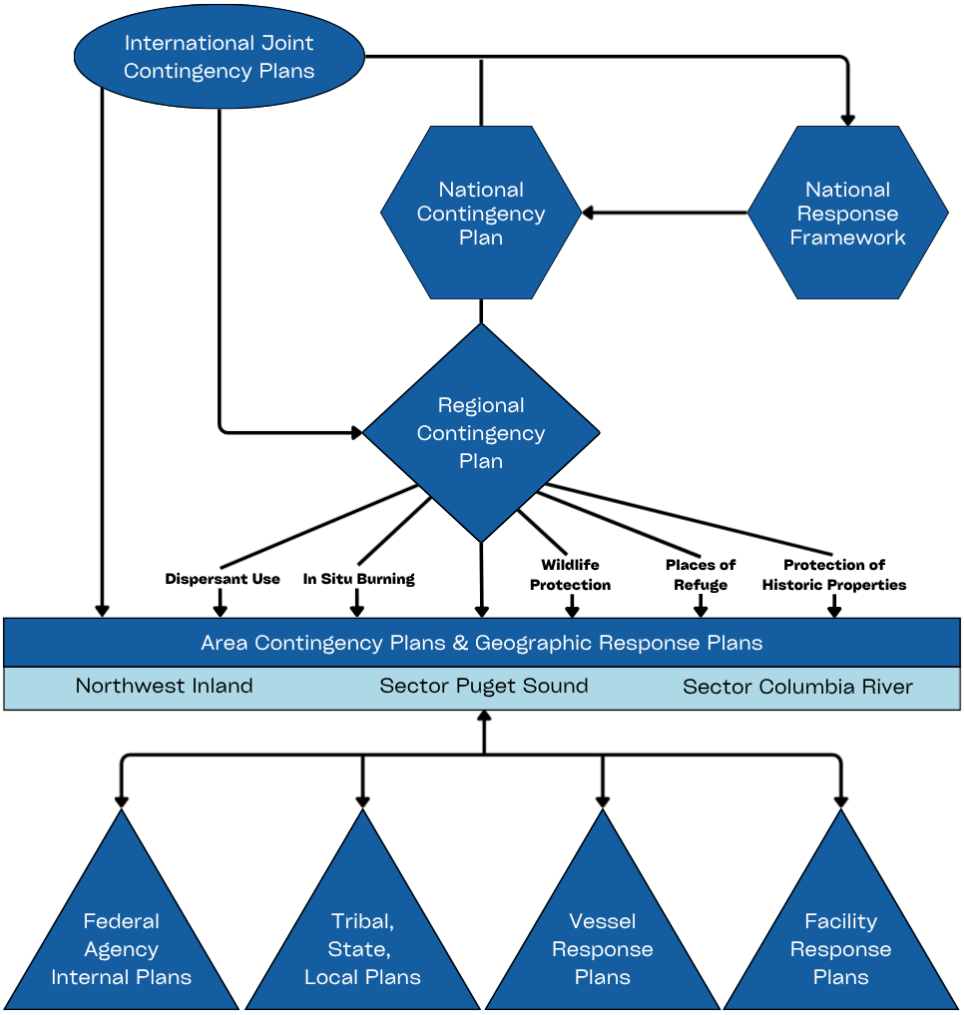


Figure 1000-1: Contingency and Response Plans

1024 Standing and Incident-Specific Regional Response Teams

The NCP (40 CFR Part 300) states that regional planning and coordination for preparedness and response actions shall be accomplished through the RRT, which has two components: a standing RRT and an incident-specific RRT. The standing RRT is co-chaired by EPA and USCG Northwest District. The standing RRT addresses regionwide communication systems and procedures, planning, coordination, training, evaluation, preparedness, and related matters. In the Northwest Region, these activities are conducted concurrently with the Area Committees.

Subpart J (40 CFR §300.900; Use of Dispersants and Other Chemicals) outlines specific roles and responsibilities of the RRT, Area Committees, or certain RRT representatives, regarding specific response technologies. Under 40 CFR §300.910, the RRT and Area Committees shall address through the planning process the appropriate use of dispersants, surface washing agents, surface collecting agents, bioremediation agents, other miscellaneous oil spill control agents listed on the NCP Product Schedule, and burning agents. They may also develop pre-authorization or expedited approval plans for those substances. The NCP also states that the EPA RRT representative, the affected state(s), DOI, and DOC must approve all pre-authorization plans. For situations not addressed by pre-authorization plans, the EPA RRT representative may authorize the use of products listed on the NCP Product Schedule or burning agents, as appropriate, with the concurrence of the affected state(s) and in consultation with DOI and DOC. However, the FOSC may authorize temporary provisional use of an NCP Product Schedule substance without that concurrence when necessary to prevent or substantially reduce a hazard to human life (40 CFR §300.910(d)).

When activated for a response, the incident-specific RRT is chaired by the member agency providing the OSC/RPM in accordance with 40 CFR §300.115(c). Participation by member agencies depends on the technical nature of the incident and its geographic location. When the RRT is activated, state government representatives and Tribes have the same status as any federal members of the RRT. The incident-specific RRT may be deactivated when the RRT chair determines that the FOSC no longer requires RRT assistance. See the “Incident Specific RRT10 Activation Quick Response Guide” for activation procedures.

1030 Regional Response Teams (RRTs)

There are 13 RRTs, one for each of the 10 federal regions, plus Alaska, the Caribbean, and the Pacific Basin. Each RRT has federal and state representation and is co-chaired by EPA and the USCG. RRTs function as planning, policy, and coordinating bodies and may be activated during major incidents to assist the FOSC with resources, guidance, and approval of certain response strategies. The NCP, 40 CFR Part 300 establishes two components of the RRT:

- **Standing RRT** – Handles regionwide planning, coordination, training, preparedness, and evaluation of communication systems and procedures. In the Northwest Region, these activities are conducted in coordination with Area Committees.

- **Incident-Specific RRT** – Activated when a response exceeds local capabilities, crosses state boundaries, or poses substantial threats to public health, welfare, or the environment. Activation may occur at the request of the FOSC or any RRT representative. During a response, the RRT may be convened or alerted by telephone or email. Procedures for RRT10 activation are outlined in the Incident Specific RRT10 Activation Quick Response Guide" tool.

When activated for response actions, the chair is the member agency providing the FOSC/RPM, per 40 CFR §300.115(c). Participation by member agencies depends on the technical nature and location of the incident; state governments and Tribes have the same status as federal members. An incident-specific RRT can be deactivated when the RRT chair determines that the FOSC no longer requires assistance.

Incident-specific RRT responsibilities may include:

- Assisting the FOSC in obtaining federal resources or requesting support from the NRT if additional capacity is needed;

- Monitoring and evaluating FOSC reports, advising on the extent and duration of the response, recommending response actions, and supporting public information efforts; and

- If necessary, recommending the appointment of a different FOSC.

1040 Use of Dispersants and Other Chemicals

TOOLS AND RESOURCES
Alternative Technologies: • NCP Subpart J Product Schedule

Under Subpart J (40 CFR §300.900–910), RRTs and Area Committees must address through the planning process the appropriate use of dispersants, surface washing agents, surface collecting agents, and bioremediation agents listed on the NCP Product Schedule and the appropriate use of burning agents. They may also develop pre-authorization or expedited approval plans for their use. All such pre-authorization plans require approval from the EPA RRT representative, the affected state(s), DOI, and DOC.

For situations not addressed by pre-authorization plans, the EPA RRT representative may authorize use of NCP Product Schedule substances or burning agents, with concurrence from the affected state(s) and consultation with DOI and DOC. However, an FOSC may independently authorize temporary provisional use of such products without EPA concurrence if necessary to prevent or substantially reduce a hazard to human life, pursuant to the requirements of 40 CFR § 300.910(d).

1050 Coordinated Planning

The RRT10 and the Northwest Area Committees (NWACs) provide a coordinated framework for oil and hazardous substance planning and response in Washington, Oregon, and Idaho. This structure includes two coastal Area Committees, one inland Area Committee, and the RRT10. Membership consists of federal, Tribal, and state representatives with jurisdiction over preparedness and response activities.

Key planning documents for the region include the NCP, the NWRCP, SPS ACP, SCR ACP, and NWIACP.

Each ACP is aligned with the NWRCP, which in turn aligns with the NCP, ensuring consistency in preparedness and response from the local to the national level. In cases of conflicting

guidance, the higher-level plan is followed until differences are reconciled. These plans provide guidance for responders but do not alter statutory or regulatory authorities.

The coordinated planning model in the Northwest supports alignment of policies, facilitates interagency collaboration, and ensures effective communication across a large and diverse geographic area. This structure promotes consistent preparedness and response strategies while providing a forum for sharing expertise and lessons learned.

1060 MEMBERSHIP

1061 Regional Response Team 10 Membership

RRT10 is a diverse, collaborative body that effectively supports responses to environmental emergencies. The membership structure promotes a comprehensive and coordinated approach to incident management, drawing upon the unique expertise and resources of each member. The RRT10 is jointly chaired by EPA Region 10 and the USCG Northwest District. Each agency appoints a representative to serve as RRT Co-Coordinators to coordinate RRT's preparedness and planning responsibilities. The membership of the RRT is outlined in 40 CFR 300.115 and includes the parties listed in Figure 1000-2.

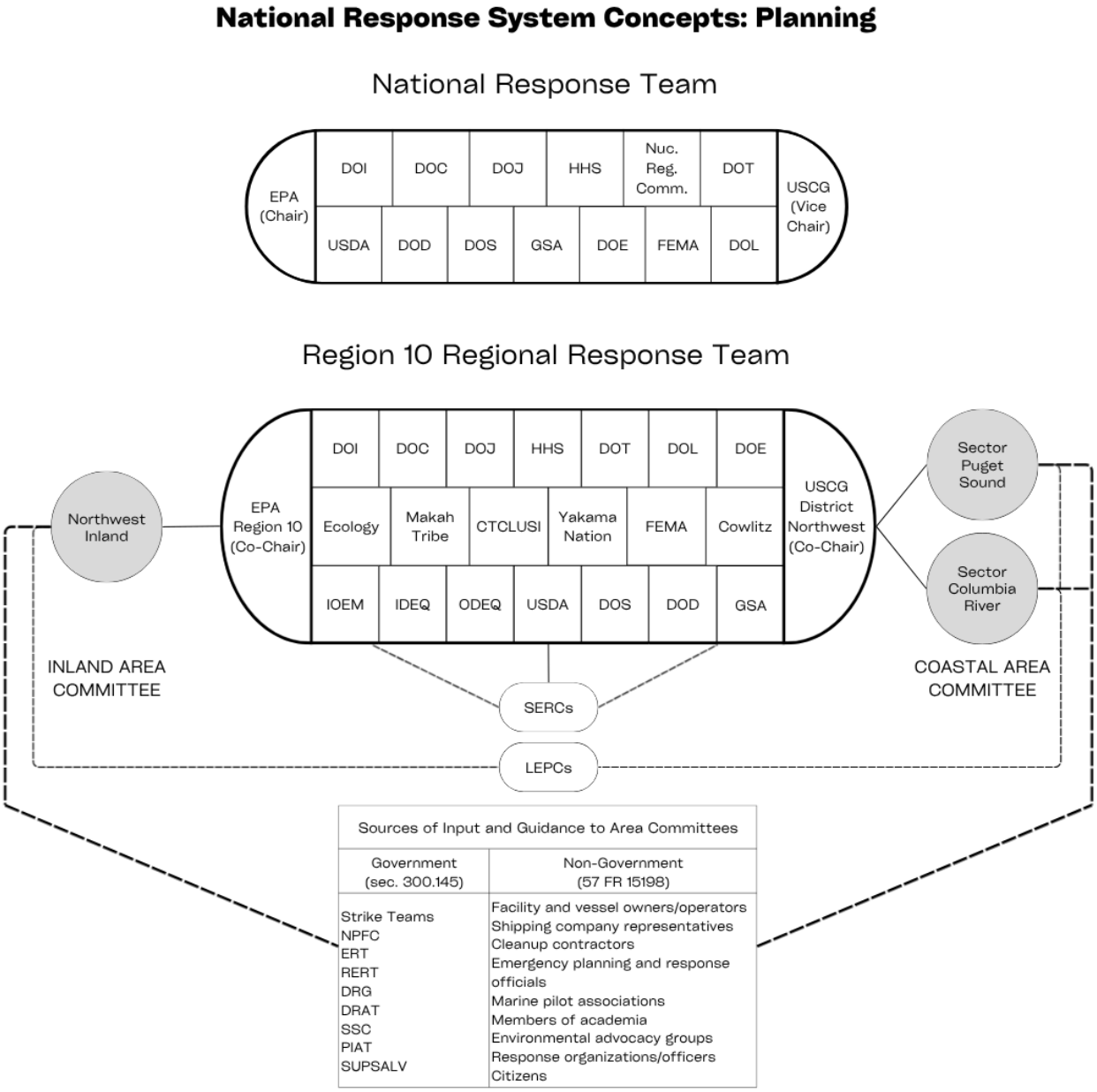


Figure 1000-2: RRT10 National Response System Concepts: Planning

The members of the RRT10 include:

- U.S. Coast Guard (USCG) Northwest District;
- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Region 10;

- U.S. Department of Commerce (DOC); National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA);
- U.S. Department of Defense (DOD) (United States Navy);
- U.S. Department of Energy (DOE);
- U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS);
- U.S. Department of the Interior (DOI);
- U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ);
- U.S. Department of Labor (DOL); Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA);
- U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT);
- Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA);
- General Services Administration (GSA);
- Idaho Office of Emergency Management (IOEM);
- State of Oregon, Department of Environmental Quality (ODEQ);
- State of Washington, Department of Ecology (ECY);
- Makah Tribe;
- Yakama Nation;
- Confederated Tribes of Coos, Lower Umpqua, and Siuslaw Indians (CTCLUSI); and
- Cowlitz Indian Tribe.

RRT10 has also requested the following additional agencies, at a minimum, participate in RRT10 activities, including all RRT meetings. Additional agencies may be identified, as appropriate:

- USCG Sector Columbia River (SCR);
- USCG Sector Puget Sound (SPS);
- U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE);

- Washington State Military Department –Emergency Management Division (WEMD);
- Washington State Department of Health (WA DOH);
- Oregon Department of the State Fire Marshal (OSFM);
- Oregon Health Authority (OHA);
- Oregon Department of Emergency Management (OEM);
- Idaho Department of Health and Welfare (IDHW); and
- Idaho Department of Environmental Quality (IDEQ).

1062 Area Committee Membership

TOOLS AND RESOURCES
Federal Agency Guidance: • EPA ACP Handbook • USCG Coastal ACP Handbook

The SPS, SCR, and Northwest Inland Area Committees each maintain their own standalone ACPs and rely on the NWRCP for regional guidance. Area Committee membership is defined within the respective ACPs. Area Committee membership is typically composed of:

- USCG FOSC (Coastal Zone Area Committees);
- EPA FOSCs (Inland Zone Area Committee);
- State environmental, public safety, and public health agencies;
- Local government agencies and Local Emergency Planning Committees (LEPCs);
- Tribes;
- Nongovernmental organizations;
- Nonprofit organizations;
- Industry; and
- Response contractors.

Area Committee chairs and vice-chairs act as representatives of their agencies for their respective ACPs. They ensure that the subcommittees, workgroups, and task forces are

enhancing response capabilities and that responses adhere to the established suite of plans. They also ensure the ACPs meet various regulatory and policy requirements for their respective agencies.

1063 Relationship between Regional Response Team 10 and the Northwest Area Committees

The RRT10 plays a vital role as outlined in the NCP with two primary responsibilities:

1. Assist the FOSC and UC during incident-specific activations to ensure an organized and effective response.
2. Promote comprehensive regional planning and preparedness to enhance readiness for potential incidents, including providing guidance to Area Committees to ensure inter-area consistency and consistency of individual ACPs with the RCP and NCP.

The term "Northwest Area Committees" encompasses the SPS, SCR, and Northwest Inland Area Committees. Each of these committees operates independently, yet collectively, and works in coordination with RRT10 to ensure a fully integrated approach to multi-agency planning and preparedness initiatives.

The primary focus of the RRT is to prepare for incident-specific activations and to provide robust support to the FOSCs and to the Unified Command. To foster collaboration and maintain strong relationships, RRT Co-Chairs and all RRT members are encouraged to actively participate in Area Committee meetings and other activities. This engagement helps to ensure ongoing familiarity with the issues and concerns faced by both the FOSCs, and SOSCs, ultimately strengthening regional preparedness and response efforts.

1070 Summary of Regional Response Team and Northwest Area Committees Organizational Groups

1071 Northwest Area and Regional Leadership

The leadership (Co-Chairs, Chairs, and Vice-Chairs) of the NWACs and RRT10 ensure that the suite of area and regional plans, policies, and procedures address critical spill response preparedness matters and appropriately incorporate the expertise and capabilities each

agency provides. The leadership, with the assistance of RRT Coordinators, track high-level goals, objectives, and action items to ensure regionwide progress towards shared goals. The status of these items, as well as any response or planning issues or concerns, are discussed at the Northwest Area and Regional Leadership Meeting.

1072 Regionwide Planning Committee

The Regionwide Planning Committee (RWPC) plays a vital role in area and regional planning by facilitating robust coordination among RCP and ACPs, Area Committees, and the RRT. The RWPC is dedicated to promoting consistency among plans and ensuring that contingency plans are practical and effective response tools for local, Tribal, state, and federal responders throughout the region.

The RWPC is composed of representatives from EPA; the USCG, including USCG Northwest District, SPS, and SCR; the states of Idaho, Oregon, and Washington; the Cowlitz Indian Tribe, Makah Tribe, Yakama Nation, and the CTCLUSI. The Co-Chair positions are held by the RRT Coordinators from EPA and USCG Northwest District.

Under the guidance of Northwest Area and Regional Leadership, the RWPC is tasked with reviewing and enhancing the comprehensive suite of plans. This includes conducting outreach initiatives aimed at raising awareness and understanding of these plans. The RWPC actively provides recommendations to the RRT and Area Committees concerning planning and preparedness activities, ensuring that these strategies remain aligned with evolving needs.

In addition, the RWPC oversees the coordination of area and regional task forces and workgroups, ensuring that all assigned tasks are executed efficiently. The primary responsibilities of the RWPC include:

- Working with the RRT and NWACs to identify and manage work priorities and a schedule for completion;

- Coordinating the development of new regionwide task forces and workgroups as needed and as directed;
- Ensuring each regionwide task force/workgroup has an appointed contact on the RWPC;
- Tracking regionwide task force and workgroup progress;
- Reviewing issues elevated by task forces, workgroups, and subcommittees when differences in interpretation, policy, priorities, or operational approaches require coordination;
- Coordinating RRT, Northwest Area and Regional Leadership, Area Committee meeting locations when meetings are co-located;
- Developing Northwest Area and Regional Leadership and RRT meeting agendas;
- Deconflicting and reviewing Area Committee and RRT meeting agendas when meetings are co-located; and
- Coordinating and developing the agenda for Joint Area Committees meetings.

1073 Subcommittees

Subcommittees address specific subject areas that necessitate ongoing attention to refine both ACPs and the RCP and enhance the functionality of the RRT and NWACs. Subcommittees may work for the RRT or an Area Committee depending upon the nature of the assigned work. They will work under a signed charter and may be assigned a sponsor. Subcommittees will regularly report their progress to the planning body that they fall under. Subcommittees are not time-bound and may be indefinite. A list of current subcommittees is available on the RRT/NWAC website.

1074 Workgroups

Workgroups focus on key subject areas requiring continuous improvement to enhance both the ACPs or RCP, as well as the function of the RRT and NWACs. They may not have a defined scope or endpoint but they could be used for longer-term projects. Workgroups will regularly

report their progress to the RWPC. A list of current workgroups is available on the RRT/NWAC website.

1075 Task Forces

Task forces concentrate on issues with a defined scope and clear endpoint. Task forces will report their findings and progress to the RWPC and will be led by a member from either an Area Committee or an RRT member agency or Tribe. Area planning developments should be coordinated with the RWPC to ensure continuity between plans and avoid duplication of effort by other Area Committees.

1080 Organizational Expectations and Information Management

All RRT, Area Committee, RWPC, and associated organizational groups are expected to support effective governance through transparent communication, systematic information management, and adherence to established meeting timelines and milestones. Each organizational group is responsible for maintaining accurate documentation of its activities, including documenting meeting notes and attendance records, tracking action items, and logging key discussions and decisions. Meeting agendas should be developed in advance, aligned with established priorities, and distributed with sufficient lead time. Agenda items should clearly identify the topics, presenters, and any required decisions or actions. Meeting records and supporting materials should be managed in accordance with regional information management practices to ensure accessibility, transparency, and continuity across planning bodies. This documentation supports institutional knowledge, facilitates coordination among groups, and provides a clear record of progress toward regionwide preparedness goals.

1081 Regional Response Team and Area Committee Meetings

REFERENCE LIBRARY
• Pacific Northwest Oil Spill and Hazardous Substance Planning Framework

In July 2024, the Northwest Area and Regional Leadership signed the Pacific Northwest Oil Spill and Hazardous Substance Planning Framework. This framework intends to enhance

collaborative planning by co-locating the semi-annual RRT meetings alongside coastal and inland Area Committee meetings. While these meetings serve distinct purposes, their simultaneous scheduling facilitates travel and promotes greater participation at the local, Tribal, state, and federal levels.

Meeting Structure

See a brief overview of the two-day geographically co-located meetings below:

Day 1: Area Committee Meeting

- Host: Area Committee Chair
- Facilitated by: Area Committee Secretaries
- Audience: Area Committee members, local responders and officials, and the public.
- Objective: To fulfill annual requirements, engage with the public, local officials and responders, and address regional issues and concerns. For detailed information, see the respective ACP.

Day 1: Northwest Area and Regional Leadership Meeting (Post Area Committee Meeting)

- Host: No host
- Facilitated by: RRT Coordinators and Co-chairs
- Audience: Area and regional plan signatories, the RWPC and their executive-level representative.
- Objective: This invite-only session emphasizes accountability for ongoing high-level projects and task forces, while providing a secure environment to discuss sensitive regional topics. It serves as a collaborative platform for area and regional leaders to collectively assess alignment and progress towards shared objectives.

Day 2: RRT10 Meeting

- Hosts: EPA and USCG Co-Chairs
- Facilitated by: RRT Coordinators
- Audience: RRT 10 members; the public is invited to observe this business meeting.
- Objective: Engage with NCP designated RRT members, state and Tribal regional planners, and Area Committee Chairs. The focus is on fostering coordinated and effective response efforts across the region, addressing rising issues from Area Committees, and discussing emerging technologies and response trends.

This structured approach not only strengthens communication and collaboration but also ensures that all stakeholders are informed and actively engaged in maintaining effective spill response strategies across the Pacific Northwest.

1082 Joint Area Committees Meeting

A Joint Area Committees meeting, consisting of all three Area Committees, will be convened annually. This meeting provides a forum for coordinated discussion of regionwide planning priorities, emerging response issues, and cross-area considerations that benefit from collective engagement. Outcomes of the Joint Area Committees meeting include the identification of shared plan update priorities, opportunities for alignment across Area Contingency Plans, and coordination with the Regionwide Planning Committee to support consistent and effective regional preparedness efforts.

1090 Relationship Among the Regional Response Team, Northwest Area Committees, and Tribal Nations

The term Tribe or Tribal Nation in this context refers to federally-recognized Tribes except where otherwise stated.

1091 Tribal Nations

Tribes are sovereign governments with jurisdiction over lands and waters across the region, with some Tribes holding off-reservation hunting, fishing, and gathering rights reserved through treaties. Tribes also have interest in protecting cultural and natural resources significant to the Tribe in designated geographic areas. The federal government has a trust obligation to Tribes to protect and collaboratively manage both Tribal jurisdictional lands and culturally significant resources off Tribal jurisdictional lands. Federal agencies have an obligation under federal executive order, federal law, and agency policies to uphold treaty-protected rights and to consult with Tribes to ensure that their actions consider the impacts to Tribal lands, cultural resources, and the health and welfare of Tribal citizens.

Federal agencies' trust responsibility requires Tribal engagement and actions to improve planning and decision-making, responder safety, and environmental protection in the region. Tribal members and staff have detailed, unique, and deep local knowledge that is essential in response. As sovereign governments, Tribes decide how to organize and implement emergency response for their jurisdictional lands, as well as for resources at risk outside Tribal jurisdiction. Tribes may maintain their own emergency plans.

Tribes, as trustees for their natural and cultural resources, are entitled to protection during emergency responses. The FOSC is responsible for notifying affected Tribes as soon as practicable regarding oil spills or chemical releases that could impact Tribal interests. DOI may assist in identifying potentially impacted Tribes and locating contact information.

On-scene coordination, either with the FOSC or in the Incident Command Post, can be performed directly with Tribal representatives. Spill response can involve volunteers, in addition to hiring contractors. If a spill is on Tribal land, the Tribal government will have authority to decide whether volunteers will be included in the response.

Federally recognized Tribes may elect to send a Tribal On-Scene Coordinator (TOSC) for any incident over which they have governing interests. Governing interests are defined within each treaty or executive order. The FOSC(s) should defer to a Tribe's interpretation of their

governing interests if there is doubt. If further clarification of a treaty right is requested, legal counsel for the FOSC agency should work with legal counsel for the impacted Tribe. Governing interests include reservation land; Tribal trust land; usual and accustomed (U&A) fishing, hunting, food and medicinal gathering areas, and culturally significant areas; and governing interests may exist within ceded lands.

1092 Area Committee Participation

Any Tribe, federally recognized or non-federally recognized, may attend and participate with any of the three Area Committees in the Pacific Northwest and any associated Task Forces/Workgroups/Subcommittees.

1093 Regional Response Team Participation

Federally recognized Tribes in the Pacific Northwest may join the RRT as members. RRT members are also able to join the Northwest Area and Regional Leadership meeting and Regionwide Planning Committee if they choose. Increasing the participation of Tribal governments in all spill planning and preparedness activities in the Northwest, including the RRT10, is a long-standing goal in the region, supported by several years of Tribal Task Forces and now a permanent Tribal Engagement Subcommittee. The participation of Tribal governments in both the standing and incident-specific RRT supports these responsibilities and can be mutually beneficial for both Tribes and the federal and state response community. For example, Tribal participation in the standing RRT allows both Tribes and the federal and state response community to ensure that Tribal perspectives are incorporated into regional policies and decision-making – ensuring smooth implementation in the event of an incident. It also facilitates relationship-building and capacity-building among Tribes and federal and state response decision makers through consistent participation. Any federally recognized Tribe may request membership in the RRT by submitting an official letter via email to the RRT Co-Chairs.

Current Tribal government members of RRT10:

- The Makah Indian Tribe; RRT member since 2008;

• The Confederated Tribes and Bands of the Yakama Nation; RRT member since 2016;

• The Confederated Tribes of Coos, Lower Umpqua and Siuslaw Indians; RRT member since 2019. The Tribe holds an Estuary Response Plan for its jurisdictional lands; and

- The Cowlitz Indian Tribe, RRT member since 2025.

Regardless of formal participation in the RRT or Area Committees, Tribal governments are essential response partners. It is important to note that the membership status of Tribes in the RRT does not determine their ability to represent their sovereign government as a TOSC (and throughout the ICS structure) in the event of an incident.

1100 Relationship between Regional Response Team, Northwest Area Committees, and State Agencies

1101 State of Washington

The State of Washington is represented on RRT10 by Ecology. Ecology vice-chairs the SPS Area Committee, SCR Area Committee, and Northwest Inland Area Committee. Ecology also participates in county and regional LEPCs.

WA DOH and WEMD also participate in RRT10. These agencies, along with the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife and the Washington Department of Natural Resources are strong partners in regional and area planning processes.

1102 State of Idaho

The State of Idaho is represented on the Regional Response Team (RRT) by the IOEM, who works closely with the Idaho Department of Environmental Quality (IDEQ), which is also an active participant in RRT10. IDEQ also serves as vice-chair for the Northwest Inland Area Committee and assists in the development of the NWIACP and NWRCP.

The Idaho Hazardous Materials/WMD Incident Command and Response Support Plan is the primary mechanism for initial response to hazardous material incidents in Idaho and supports the IDEOP. This plan may be activated independently of the IDEOP. The plan's

primary purpose is to provide effective, coordinated emergency response support to local government by state, federal, and private agencies for incidents involving the release or potential release of hazardous materials/WMD in the State of Idaho.

1103 State of Oregon

The State of Oregon is represented on the RRT by ODEQ's Emergency Response Program. ODEQ shares the responsibility for protection of public health with the Oregon Health Authority (OHA) and the response to hazardous materials releases with the OSFM who also participate in RRT10. ODEQ's Emergency Response Program assists in the development of the NWRCP. The NWRCP has been adopted as the State of Oregon's plan for response to hazardous materials releases, as an appendix to the State of Oregon Comprehensive Emergency Response Plan. ODEQ's Emergency Response Program also participates in the SCR and Northwest Inland Area Committees as vice-chair, county/regional LEPCs and various watershed-based response planning organizations in Oregon.

1110 Geographic Boundaries

TOOLS AND RESOURCES
Mapping and GIS: • Pacific Northwest Jurisdiction Mapper

The geographic boundaries of this plan are the states of Washington, Oregon, and Idaho, which include COTP Zones for Puget Sound, Columbia River, and the Inland Zone of EPA Region 10, excluding Alaska. All waterways that mark the boundary between two states (e.g., the Columbia and Snake Rivers) are the joint, shared responsibility of both states. Spills affecting, or with the potential to affect, shared water must be reported to both states, and both states will normally participate in the unified response.

1111 United States Environmental Protection Agency/United States Coast Guard Federal On-Scene Coordinator Jurisdictional Boundary

The boundaries between the USCG and EPA areas of responsibility (AOR) within the Northwest Region are shown in Table 1000-. For an interactive tool showing jurisdictional boundaries, see the Interactive Mapping page available on the RRT/NWAC website.

The section describes the geographic area within the USCG Northwest District, as defined in 33 CFR Subpart 3.65. It specifically addresses the jurisdictional boundaries between the Coastal and Inland Zones within the COTP Puget Sound AOR, as defined by 33 CFR §3.65-10, and the COTP Columbia River AOR, as defined by 33 CFR §3.69-15.

As outlined in the NCP, 40 CFR §300.5, the "Coastal Zone" is defined as "all United States waters subject to the tide, specified ports and harbors on inland rivers, waters of the contiguous zone, other waters of the high seas subject to the NCP, and the land surfaces or land substrate, ground waters, and ambient air proximal to those waters."

The "Inland Zone" is defined as "the environment Inland of the Coastal Zone excluding specified ports and harbors on inland rivers."

In areas where precise boundaries are not defined, the boundary will generally default to the high-water mark. In locations where navigable waterways feed into the ocean, the boundary will generally default to the high tide mark. This policy will help to ensure that response is not delayed because EPA and the USCG each believe a spill is located within the boundaries of the other's jurisdiction. In the case of oil and hazardous substance, pollutant, or contaminant releases from shoreline facilities and for those releases that threaten or have resulted in sediment, soil, ambient air, or other shoreline contamination, EPA and USCG phone duty officers will need to consult to determine the appropriate lead agency.

Table 1000-1Area of Responsibility Boundaries between EPA and USCG for Major Oregon and Washington Waters

River Name/Body of Water	Boundary
Oregon	
Alsea River	Line North from Mouth of Eckman Slough
Chetco River	Route 101 Bridge Brookings to Harbor
Clatskanie River	Spokane, Portland, and Seattle Railroad Bridge One Mile North of Clatskanie
Columbia River	Bonneville Dam
Columbia River: Columbia Slough	North Lombard Street Bridge

River Name/Body of Water	Boundary
Columbia River: Lewis & Clark River	Highway 101 Business Bridge
Columbia River: Scappoose Bay	Line East of Milton Creek
Columbia River: Skipanon River	Warrenton - Astoria Highway (East Harbor Drive Bridge in Warrenton)
Columbia River: Youngs River	Highway 101 Business Bridge
Coos Bay: Catching Slough	Permanent bridge on Coos River Road (junction of Coos River and Catching Slough)
Coos Bay: Coalbank Slough	Highway 101 Bridge
Coos Bay: Coos River	First Bridge on Coos River, upriver from Catching Slough
Coos Bay: Haynes Inlet	Mean High Water Mark of Haynes Inlet
Coos Bay: Isthmus Slough	Bascule Bridge at Bunker Hill
Coos Bay: Kentucky Slough	East Bay Drive Bridge
Coos Bay: North Slough	Mean High Water Mark of North Slough
Coos Bay: South Slough	South Slough - Mean High Water Mark on South Slough
Coos Bay: Joe Ney Slough	South Slough - Bridge at Crown Point Road
Coos Bay: Willach Slough	East Bay Drive Bridge
Coquille River	Route 101 Bridge in Bandon
Elk River	Route 101 Bridge
Little Nestucca River	Route 101 Bridge
Multnomah Channel	The entire channel is in USCG jurisdiction
Nehalem River	Highway 101 Bridge
Nestucca River	Pacific Avenue in Pacific City – Bridge
Rogue River	Route 101 Bridge Wedderburn to Gold Beach
Sandy River	Interstate 84 Bridge at Troutdale
Scappoose Bay	McCoy Estates Road, east of Columbia River Highway
Siletz River	Route 101 Bridge Kernville to Gleneden Beach
Siuslaw River	Line South from Cushman
Tillamook Bay	Mean High Water Mark
Tillamook River	Netarts Highway Bridge

River Name/Body of Water	Boundary
Umpqua River	Line North of Scholfield Road/Umpqua Highway intersection
Umpqua River: Smith River	First Bridge Upstream of Confluence with the Umpqua River
Willamette River	Oregon City Falls
Yachats River	Route 101 Bridge
Yaquina Bay	Mean High Water Mark
Yaquina River	Butler Bridge at Toledo
Yaquina River: Depot Slough	Bridge on Old Toledo - Yaquina Road
Yaquina River: King Slough	Mean High Water Mark
Washington	
Big Quilcene River	North Quilcene Avenue Bridge
Chuckanut Creek	Highway 11 Bridge
Chehalis River	Route 107 Bridge South of Montesano
Clallam River	State Highway 112 Bridge
Columbia River	Bonneville Dam
Columbia River: Elochoman Slough (Cathlamet)	USCG Jurisdiction Throughout
Columbia River: Lake River	Bridge at Ridgefield, WA
Columbia River: Vancouver Lake Flushing Channel	Flood control gate at NW Lower River Road, Vancouver, WA
Columbia River: Washougal River	Railroad Bridge at Washougal
Cowlitz River	Route 4 Bridge at Kelso
Deep Creek	State Highway 112 Bridge
Deep River	State Highway 4 Bridge
Deschutes River	4th Avenue Bridge at Olympia
Dosewallips River	Route 101 Bridge
Duckabush River	Route 101 Bridge
Dungeness River	Dungeness Bridge in Sequim
Duwamish River	Pacific Highway South Bridge
East Twin River	State Highway 112 Bridge
Ebey Slough	I-5 Bridge in Everett
Elwha River	State Highway 112
Grays River	Route 4 Bridge at Roseburg
Hama Hama River	Route 101 Bridge

River Name/Body of Water	Boundary
Hoko River	State Highway 112 Bridge
Hoquiam River	Route 101 Bridge
Humptulips River	Route 109 Bridge
Kalama River	Interstate 5 Bridge
Lake Washington Ship Canal (Lake Washington/Lake Union)	Montlake Bridge in Seattle
Lewis River	Interstate 5 Bridge at Woodland
Little Quilcene River	Rogers Street Bridge
Naselle River	Route 101 Bridge
Nisqually River	I-5 Bridge
Nooksack River	Slater Road North of Marietta
North River	Route 105 Bridge
North Nemah River	Route 101 Bridge at Nemah
Palix River	Route 101 Bridge
Puyallup River	I-5 Bridge
Pysht River	Bridge Northwest of Pysht, North of Highway 112
Queets River	Route 101 Bridge at Queets
Quillayute River	Entrance of Dickey River
Quinault River	Quinault River Bridge East of Taholah
Sail River	State Highway 112 Bridge
Salt Creek	Bridge on Camp Hayden Road
Sekiu River	State Highway 112 Bridge
Skagit River, North Fork	Route 511 Bridge Five Miles Southwest of Mount Vernon
Skagit River, South Fork	Bridge at Conway
Skokomish River, South Fork	Route 106 Bridge
Snohomish River	Interstate 5 Bridge
Sooes River	Bridge Approximately 1 Mile South of Mukkaw Bay entrance
Steamboat Slough	I-5 Bridge Near Everett
Stillaguamish River	Great Northern Railroad Bridge at Silvana
Union River	State Highway 300 Bridge
Waatch River	Bridge East of Makah Air Force Station
Whatcom Creek	Holly Avenue Bridge in Bellingham
West Twin River	State Highway 112 Bridge

River Name/Body of Water	Boundary
Willapa Bay: South Fork Willapa River	Highway 101 Bridge
Willapa Bay: Willapa River	Highway 101 Bridge
Wishkah River	Route 12 Bridge at Aberdeen

1120 First Federal Official On Scene

According to Section 300.135(b) of the NCP, the first federal official (FFO) affiliated with an NRT member agency to arrive on the scene of a discharge or release should coordinate activities under the NCP. The FFO is authorized to initiate, in consultation with the pre-designated FOSC and prior to the FOSC's arrival on scene, any necessary actions normally carried out by the FOSC. Arrival of the FFO on scene does not affect the designation of the appropriate FOSC. If the FFO determines that the FOSC should be from the other agency, that FOSC will generally accept the transfer of authority. Once that transfer has occurred, the FOSC will need to coordinate with the National Pollution Fund Center (NPFC) to ensure that only one Federal Project Number remains open for that case, as appropriate.

1130 Release or Discharges Affecting More than One Zone Determination of Federal On-Scene Coordinator

According to Section 300.140(b) of the NCP, if a discharge or release affects more than one zone, determination of the FOSC should generally be based on the area vulnerable to the greatest threat. If the area vulnerable to the greatest threat cannot be determined, the UC may want to consider establishing an Area Command that can adequately provide for effective response in both zones.

Funding

If a spill occurs across both sides of the EPA-USCG FOSC boundary, and both an EPA FOSC and a USCG FOSC are responding, then two Federal Project Numbers (i.e., one for each FOSC) might be appropriate. If the spill is on the USCG side and the USCG FOSC is responding with EPA assistance, then EPA should be allowed to use the accounting line from

the USCG Federal Project to set up a site in the EPA financial system to charge against. In such a circumstance, EPA would likely not need to obtain a Pollution Removal Fund Authorization from the USCG FOSC, but EPA would need a ceiling and a statement of work. Likewise, if the spill is on the EPA side and the USCG is assisting EPA, the USCG should be able to charge against EPA's Federal Project accounting line. For further clarification, the NPFC should be consulted, at 703-872-6000.

1140 Modifications to Notification Requirements

TOOLS AND RESOURCES
96 Hour Plan: • Incident Notification Matrix • Notification List

For incidents that fall within the jurisdictional boundary of one agency and pose a threat of impact to an area within the other agency's jurisdiction, the USCG and EPA expect each agency to be notified. Duty officers and watchstanders making notifications must be informed of the need to notify both agencies for incidents that may impact both jurisdictional boundaries.

1150 United States Environmental Protection Agency and United States Coast Guard Overlapping Jurisdiction

There are geographic areas covered by this ACP in which EPA has NCP FOSC authority, but where the USCG has COTP authority. Examples of these overlapping areas include, but are not limited to, the Columbia River above the Bonneville Dam, the Willamette River above Oregon City Falls, and Lake Washington. If an incident occurs in these areas, the EPA FOSC must consult and coordinate with the USCG COTP or COTP's representative to ensure that both agencies are appropriately engaged in the response based on their respective authority. During a response in these situations, each agency retains its statutory authorities but must consult with the other throughout the response or incident to ensure that both agencies are appropriately engaged in the response. The nature of response generally does not allow complete separation of the maritime casualty response from the pollution response. In these overlapping areas, the general practice will be to allow the EPA FOSC to determine

whether the incident requires an NCP response, after consultation with the COTP or the COTP's representative.

When a spill occurs in an area where it is initially unclear which agency has FOSC authority, USCG and EPA duty officers will immediately consult to ensure that a timely response takes place. Once it is determined which agency, if any, will have FOSC authority, both agencies will continue to consult with each other to ensure that the non-FOSC agency provides adequate and appropriate support to the FOSC agency. Such support could include anything within the non-FOSC agency's statutory authority, such as on-scene observation, maritime technical advice, surface and air resources, and staffing at the UC Post. It is recommended that the position of Operations Section Chief be held by a representative of the agency with the greatest statutory responsibility for the incident risk during the current operational period.

1160 Oil Discharges Originating from Inland Facilities

The authority to respond to releases or threats of a release of oil is derived from the Clean Water Act (CWA). The determination of the pre-designated FOSC for oil spills from land shall be determined based on the areas vulnerable to the greatest threat. If the release or threat of a release does not impact or threaten navigable water, neither EPA nor the USCG has the authority to respond.

1170 Hazardous Substances, Pollutant, or Contaminant Incidents Originating from Inland Facilities

The authority to respond to releases or threats of a release of hazardous substances, pollutants, or contaminants is derived from CERCLA and is not predicated on impacts to navigable water.

1180 National Response System

TOOLS AND RESOURCES
General: • Response Partners Roles and Contacts

1181 Federal On-Scene Coordinators

USCG SPS and SCR maintain and manage emergency response teams for response to discharges of oil and hazardous substances in the Coastal Zone. These teams vary in size based on the nature of the incident. In all cases, they are tasked with assessing the discharge to determine response measures, monitor and supervise pollution countermeasures, deploy pollution control equipment as available and necessary until a contractor arrives, document all phases of the response, conduct investigations, and act for the FOSC until their arrival.

The EPA Emergency Management Program consists of emergency response FOSCs located in the regional office in Seattle, Washington, and field offices in Boise, Idaho and Portland, Oregon. Additional FOSCs for EPA Region 10 are located in Anchorage, Alaska, but they may respond to any location throughout the region, or throughout the country, as needed. The FOSCs are responsible for determining the source, cause, and RP, as well as initiating source control and enforcement actions as appropriate. Additional responsibilities include ensuring that containment, cleanup, and disposal are carried out adequately; notifying all Natural Resources Trustees; and coordinating activities with federal, state, Tribal, and local agencies to monitor their performance. EPA also has access to technical assistance contractors who can provide technical oversight and other resources at spills and uncontrolled hazardous waste sites. In some cases, EPA's technical assistance contractor may arrive on scene prior to the FOSC. Prior to arrival of the EPA OSC, the EPA contractor will cooperate with on-site agencies but will take direction through the EPA OSC only. EPA's contractor has technical response personnel and equipment located in Seattle and Portland.

Both EPA and USCG FOSCs have access to all federal response agencies and special response teams. EPA can deploy the Environmental Response Team or the Radiological Emergency Response Team from Las Vegas, Nevada. The USCG can deploy the Pacific Strike Team from Novato, California. For a list of special teams and federal response agencies and their roles during an oil/hazardous materials incident, see the "Response Partner Roles and Contacts" tool.

1182 Washington State Response System

The Washington State Response System provides coordinated state agency response, in cooperation with federal, local, and Tribal governments to respond effectively to oil and hazardous substance spills.

Washington State Department of Ecology: Ecology acts as state IC for spills or threats of spills to state waters, providing 24/7 response through teams in Olympia, Seattle, Bellingham, Vancouver, Spokane, and Yakima, and may deploy SOSCs to an incident. Ecology receives and confirms spill notifications, identifies causes and RPs, and assumes management if the RP is absent, unresponsive, or unknown. The agency sets and enforces cleanup standards; ensures containment, cleanup, and disposal; monitors responder safety; and initiates enforcement actions as needed. Ecology also coordinates through National Incident Management System (NIMS)/Incident Command System (ICS), establishes Joint Information Centers (JICs), inspects vessels and facilities, provides maritime expertise, and leads the Natural Resource Damage Assessment (NRDA) team with other state agencies. Ecology also notifies resource trustees of injuries to natural resources.

Washington State Patrol (WSP): WSP acts as the IC for spills on state highways. WSP supports local jurisdictions with law enforcement, evacuations, and communications; represents local jurisdictions as designated IC, conducts aerial reconnaissance and radiological monitoring; coordinates with state agencies; and directs fire resources during hazardous substance emergencies.

Washington State Military Department – Emergency Management Division (WEMD): WEMD provides 24-hour notification to Ecology, WSP, and other agencies, activates and manages the State Emergency Operations Center, coordinates resource procurement, provides public information officer support, and maintains communication links.

Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife: The Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) is a trustee of fish, shellfish, wildlife, and associated habitats. WDFW is also a trustee of wildlife management lands and public access sites. WDFW should be engaged in responses where a potential exists for impacts to trustee resources. WDFW's areas of expertise include environmental sampling, identifying natural resource protection needs, oiled wildlife rescue, and NRDA.

Local Jurisdictions: Local governments are usually first responders to oil and hazardous substance spills and releases. They designate a local IC agency (often the fire department) or may delegate to WSP. LEPCs assist with planning, training, and interagency coordination. Local jurisdictions may activate local Emergency Operations Centers to support field operations and resource requests.

For a list of Washington State response agencies and their roles during an oil/hazardous materials incident, see the "Response Partners Roles and Contacts" tool.

1183 Oregon State Emergency Response System

Notification and Initial Response

The Oregon Emergency Response System (1-800-452-0311) is the statewide notification system for incidents that could impact Oregon. This system is staffed 24/7/365 to pass along notifications of significant events or incidents to the relevant state agencies that are involved in emergency response. All hazardous materials incidents are passed to the ODEQ's duty officers (and other state agencies as appropriate) for triage, and escalation if warranted. If stabilization to protect the public from hazardous materials releases is warranted, local fire departments may request support from the OSFM's network of hazardous materials

response (HAZMAT) teams. The teams are equipped and trained by the state and staffed primarily by individuals from local fire departments and other emergency providers. ODEQ may respond by sending an OSC, sending the state's response contractor, or coordinating with local responders or the RP and their contractor.

On-Scene Incident Response

The first emergency responder to arrive at the scene becomes the IC until relieved, or until the incident is over. ODEQ, through its designated SOSC, is the Lead Agency of the State of Oregon during the cleanup phase of oil and hazardous material incidents. ODEQ may relieve the IC (typically fire or HAZMAT Team) when the life safety portion of the emergency response is complete and the focus of the effort is on containment and cleanup of oil or hazardous materials.

The parties responsible for spilling or releasing hazardous materials are also responsible to conduct cleanup under the oversight of the ODEQ. If there is no identified RP, or if the RP is unable or unwilling to conduct an appropriate response to stabilize and cleanup operations in a timely manner, ODEQ may conduct investigation, stabilization and cleanup actions itself or through its contractor.

ODEQ oversees and coordinates the conduct of emergency response cleanup operations with appropriate federal, Tribal, state and local emergency responders as appropriate to the incident. ODEQ determines when the cleanup of released hazardous materials meets state standards and the state's oversight is complete. ODEQ has developed expertise in areas of EUL and staffing, Geographic Information System/Situation Unit support, liaison, and public information/communications to support the SOSC in conducting effective cleanup operations. ODEQ partners with Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife to incorporate their authority and expertise into spill responses.

The OHA (Public Health Division) is the lead state agency for all incidents involving hazards to human beings, communicable disease agents, and radiation emergencies not originating from transportation accidents. The Oregon Department of Energy is the lead state agency

for radioactive materials transportation incidents. The lead state agency will provide an SOSC to direct the state response and assist the FOSC. Requested assistance from the state may include guidelines for disposal of oily waste, identification and prioritization of vulnerable resources, local geographic and environmental information, advice on cleanup and restoration standards, medical and toxicological information from state health officials; and identification of unknown pollutants.

For a list of Oregon State response agencies and their roles during an oil/hazardous materials incident, see the "Response Partners Roles and Contacts" tool.

Funding of Incident Responses

ODEQ has several funding sources that can be utilized for particular incident types:

- The Oil and Hazardous Materials Fund may be used by ODEQ to contract for emergency removals of materials presenting public health and environmental risk if the owner, property owner, or RP is unable to act. This assistance may be provided on a cost reimbursement basis.
- The Drug Laboratory Cleanup Fund can be leveraged to reimburse Oregon law enforcement agencies through requests to ODEQ.
- The Hazardous Substances Remedial Action Fund can be used to cover ODEQ and contractor costs for emergency responses to hazardous materials releases where no RP is known, or where RPs are not able/willing to conduct a response.

Other state agencies have funding mechanisms specific emergency response actions, such as the Oregon Division of State Lands funding for removal of abandoned vessel, and HAZMAT Team response funding through the OSFM for stabilizing hazardous materials threats within the terms of their respective contracts.

ODEQ administers a statewide contract with local emergency response contractors who can be utilized by other state and local agencies to conduct assessment, stabilization, response, and disposal of hazardous materials using their own dedicated funds. For a full list of Oregon State response agencies and their roles during an oil/hazardous materials incident, see the "Response Partners Roles and Contacts" tool.

1184 Idaho State Response System

Local fire departments and departments of emergency management are the primary response authority for all oil spills and hazardous material releases. It is the state's intent to supplement local response activity, not supplant it. This plan and the Idaho Hazardous Materials/WMD Incident Command and Response Support Plan are to be implemented when local capabilities have been exceeded by the incident. The ICS, when implemented by local government during initial response, will allow the state to become part of the response network without disrupting local efforts.

1190 Pacific States/British Columbia Oil Spill Task Force

EXTERNAL RESOURCSES
• Pacific States/British Columbia Oil Spill Task Force

The Pacific States/British Columbia Oil Spill Task Force was established to provide cooperative and coordinated oil spill response and prevention efforts. Since its formation in March 1989, it has grown to include the states of Alaska, Oregon, Washington, Hawaii, and California, and the Province of British Columbia, Canada. The environmental agencies of the five western states and British Columbia have agreed to work together to improve coordinated spill response in the following ways:

- Sharing state resources and assisting SOSCs during major spills if requested.;
- Observing state spill drills and response activities;
- Conducting joint spill drills to better coordinate trans-boundary response efforts;
- Debriefing after major spills or drills to determine changes necessary for improving spill prevention or response across state and national boundaries;
- Meeting regularly to share information and coordinate state and provincial policies with federal agencies;
- Coordinating implementation efforts, such as making rules and regulations as consistent as possible; and
- Collaborating on regional initiatives to address such issues as coastwise vessel traffic, spill data collection, and places of refuge.

West Coast Mutual Aid

During major and catastrophic spills on the West Coast, it may be necessary to expedite the cross-boundary transfer of additional response capabilities that can only be provided by private contractors. Many of these contractors have signed commitments with facility and/or vessel operators that, if released to another spill, would place them out of compliance with their federal or state/provincially-approved spill contingency plan.

The members of the Pacific States/British Columbia Oil Spill Task Force are the primary state and provincial spill prevention and response agencies for Alaska, Province of British Columbia, Washington, Oregon, California, and Hawaii. To expedite and enhance the response to major West Coast spills, the Pacific States/British Columbia Oil Spill Task Force members preapproved and signed the 1993 mutual aid agreement, which will be activated by the UC if additional resources are needed. The purpose of the agreement is to establish conditions under which contingency plan holders may meet temporarily reduced response standards so their response equipment remains available for mutual aid. This agreement thereby ensures that most of the spill response equipment on the West Coast will be available to respond rapidly in the event of a major spill.

Some West Coast states set planning standards and allow plan holders and response contractors to determine how they will be met. All major contractors have commitments under several contingency plans, which makes equipment “cascading” more difficult. To implement this mutual aid policy, task force members have adopted minimum requirements for resident, non-cascadable resources. These requirements ensure that plan holders can initiate an effective response at their facility or vessel if a spill occurs while part of their response capability is out of the region for mutual aid.