- Contain the oil or hazardous substance spilled or released and protect the environment, with a particular emphasis on sensitive areas;
- Provide input relative to cleanup priorities (i.e., waste minimization);
- Perform timely and effective cleanup;
- Dispose of oil, oily waste, and hazardous substances;
- Restore damaged environment/natural resources;
- Communicate with local, state, and national response agencies and organizations;
- Communicate with media;
- Pay for damages;
- Take steps to prevent reoccurrence of spills or releases; and
- Collect and care for wildlife, in conjunction with responsible state, local, and federal agencies.

The RP has the opportunity to conduct damage assessment when required by the state/federal agencies and/or when appropriate given the RP's available resources as determined by the UC.

1300 PLAN REVIEW AND PROCESS

1310 REVIEW AND APPROVAL PROCESSES

1311 Regional Contingency Plan

The NWRCP will be reviewed and updated annually by the Regionwide Planning Committee (RWPC). In addition, the RWPC has established a staggered approach for in-depth review of all NWRCP chapters over a period of five years. With each annual review, all significant updates will be published for public review and comment. Comments on the plan can be submitted at any time to the RWPC through the RRT/NWAC website.

The RWPC is responsible for conducting an annual review of select sections of NWRCP contents in accordance with a predetermined schedule. The goal is to review the plan in full over a 5-year period. RRT Co-Chairs facilitate RRT member review of the proposed RCP

updates as needed. This review includes oversight of policies governing the use of tools and resources relevant to regional preparedness and response, but does not extend to the tools themselves.

If any additional content or tools outside of the review schedule are identified as candidates for update or revision, they must be proposed individually to the RWPC. The RWPC will assess the proposed tools and resources and determine whether to address the update directly or delegate the matter through the formation of a task force. The RWPC will also determine, at its discretion, whether any proposed updates to tools or associated resources warrant a full public comment period to align.

Any content identified for update must be submitted to the RWPC. Upon receipt of content update proposal, the RWPC will:

- Determine whether to address the update internally, or
- Establish a task force to evaluate and recommend actions.
- The RWPC will assess whether the nature and scope of the proposed update warrant a public comment period.
- If deemed necessary, the RWPC will initiate a public engagement process in accordance with established guidelines.

There are Annexes in the RCP. Each of these annexes is produced and maintained by the RRT Coordinators and designated RRT committees, subject to their own public review process, as appropriate.

Plan reviews occur annually per EPA area planning guidance, USCG policy, and/or state statutes. Plan reviews may include validation that involves checking or proving the accuracy of plan elements, such as contact information and worst case discharge (WCD) scenarios. Plan reviews also may include incorporation of lessons learned from exercises or incidents and identification of any gaps in the plan. Plan reviews may trigger plan modifications that

follow the plan review process. For purposes of regional and area plans in the region, all changes, updates, and/or fact corrections to content within the RCP or ACPs shall be defined as modifications to the plan. Modifications are incorporated into the applicable plan via two different modifications categories, Category I and Category II described below.

The RRT established the two modification categories to define the level of effort associated with any plan review, to ensure consistency across agencies and Area Committees, and to easily identify which plan reviews trigger a 30-day public review requirement. The RWPC determines the category for each modification to the RCP. For the ACPs, each Area Committee determines the review category for ACP modifications. Category I Modifications are those proposed modifications to the RCP or ACPs of routine data, format, grammar, and/or hyperlinks. These proposed modifications do not automatically trigger a 30-day public review requirement. For example, proposed modifications to contact information, such as telephone numbers and email addresses within the plan, are incorporated as a Category I Modification. Additionally, proposed modifications due to new or updated regulations or statutes that have already been subject to a public review are not a significant modification to the plan and, therefore, do not trigger a second public review. However, if the statutory or regulatory update to the plan changes response processes in such a way that it becomes a significant modification to the plan as defined in this document, a 30-day public review is required.

Category II Modifications are defined as a change when substantive revisions are required to the RCP or ACP and trigger a 30-day public review requirement. Examples of significant modifications to the RCP or ACPs include the following:

- A change in response policy or agency guidance established by the plan (and not external policy or guidance changes);
- Changes in how agencies conduct a pollution response; and
- Logistical changes that increase or decrease agency response resources.

During a plan review, including the public review period, all or part of the plan can be the focus of the review. The scope of a plan review is set by the RRT or Area Committee, as appropriate.

Both the RCP and ACPs incorporate other plans and guidance documents by reference. These plans generally have their own review schedules, separate from the annual ACP/RCP review.

1312 Area Contingency Plans

The SPS ACP and SCR ACP will each be reviewed annually. The coastal ACPs must also be reviewed by the District Commander and the National Review Panel every 5 years. The Northwest Inland ACP will be reviewed annually, in accordance with EPA planning guidance. All significant updates to ACPs will be published for public review and comment. Additional details on the review process can be found in each ACP.

1313 Tools and Resources

Proposed additions to the Tools and Resources page are submitted to the RWPC for review. The RWPC evaluates each proposal to determine:

- Whether it should be incorporated into the RCP, ACPs, or both;
- Whether it constitutes a modification and, if so, the applicable category;
- The appropriate placement and reference within the RCP and associated plans; and
- The appropriate location for posting on the official website.

Any item approved for inclusion on the Tools and Resources page should also be referenced within the relevant plans. If a proposed addition is not incorporated into the RCP or ACPs, it may be posted to the Reference Library. The RWPC shall exercise discretion on a case-by-case basis to determine whether Reference Library items require cross-referencing within the plans. Updates to the Tools and Resources page will be presented at RRT10 meetings.

1314 Sponsorship Model

To improve efficiencies with limited resources (personnel and budget), the RWPC, in consultation with the Area Committees, have developed a 'sponsorship model' for the development or revision of plan content or to address a specific topic. Under the sponsorship model, an Area Committee or the RRT10 will establish a task force to address a specific issue or topic. This task force may consist of members from outside the sponsoring committee, including representatives from the RRT member agencies or other Area Committees, subject matter experts and other interested stakeholders. The products of the task force are then shared with other Area Committees and the RRT via the RWPC. Each Area Committee can elect to incorporate any new plan content or references into their ACP – either by insertion into the plan or incorporation by reference. Each Area Committee is responsible for following federal and state plan revision requirements, including public review as appropriate for modifications to ACPs. Documents that are recommended by either the RWPC or Area Committees to be available as tools for the use of all will be posted on the RRT10 website.

1320 Plan Implementation

RRT10 agencies are encouraged to use this plan in all response training and to establish an annual training program within their agencies to ensure that all parties:

- Understand and are fully aware of their respective roles and responsibilities;
- Understand their role in the UC System;
- Understand how they coordinate and communicate with other parties and agencies;
- Understand what and where their assignments will be at a spill scene;
- Understand the overall level of commitment they are to devote to spill response operations; and
- Understand how they will be notified and when to respond to such notification.

Agency spill responders and key personnel are required to read this plan on an annual basis. Each agency is responsible for regular review of this document.

1330 EXERCISES

TOOLS AND RESOURCES
ICS Resources: • FEMA ICS Forms
REFERENCE LIBRARY
• Northwest Area Committee Exercise Schedule (NACES) • National PREP Guidelines

Region 10 has adopted exercise policies consistent with the National Preparedness for Response Exercise Program (PREP). PREP is a unified federal initiative that satisfies the exercise requirements of multiple agencies, including the USCG, EPA, Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA), and Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement (BSEE). For more information on this program, see the National PREP Guidelines.

The RRT10 Exercise Subcommittee has been established to serve as a resource on regional exercises and to promote coordination and communication on scheduling, designing, and participating in drills among RRT member agencies.

1331 Exercise Scheduling

Effective exercise scheduling is critical to the success of national and regional preparedness efforts. While larger exercises require significant resources and coordination, advance planning ensures participant availability and allows for budget alignment.

Exercise scheduling is handled in several ways:

- Quadrennial Area Exercises are coordinated through the National Strike Force Coordination Center in partnership with regional agencies and industry stakeholders.
- Annual PREP drills are implemented through industry-led WCD exercises. All drills should be submitted to the Northwest Area Committee Exercise Schedule (NACES) for coordination amongst area partners. The regional drill schedule is available at the NACES website.

- The FOSC may conduct Government-Initiated Unannounced Exercises (GIUEs) to independently assess industry response capabilities. The states also have authority to conduct GIUEs. These unannounced events provide an important measure of preparedness and plan effectiveness.

- ODEQ and Ecology require regulated plan holders to coordinate with an agency planning representative when designing and scheduling required drills.

1340 Geographic Response Plans

TOOLS AND RESOURCES
Operations: • Geographic Response Plans Guidance **Mapping and GIS:** • Oregon GRPs • NOAA ERMA • Washington GRPs
REFERENCE LIBRARY
• GRP Booming Strategy Points – Standardized Data Format

Geographic Response Plans (GRPs) contain oil spill response strategies for marine and inland waters of Washington, Oregon, and Idaho. Each GRP has two priorities: 1) to identify natural, cultural, and significant economic resources in a specific geographic region, and 2) to describe and prioritize response strategies to minimize damage to these resources during an oil spill. GRPs can be located on the RRT/NWAC website.

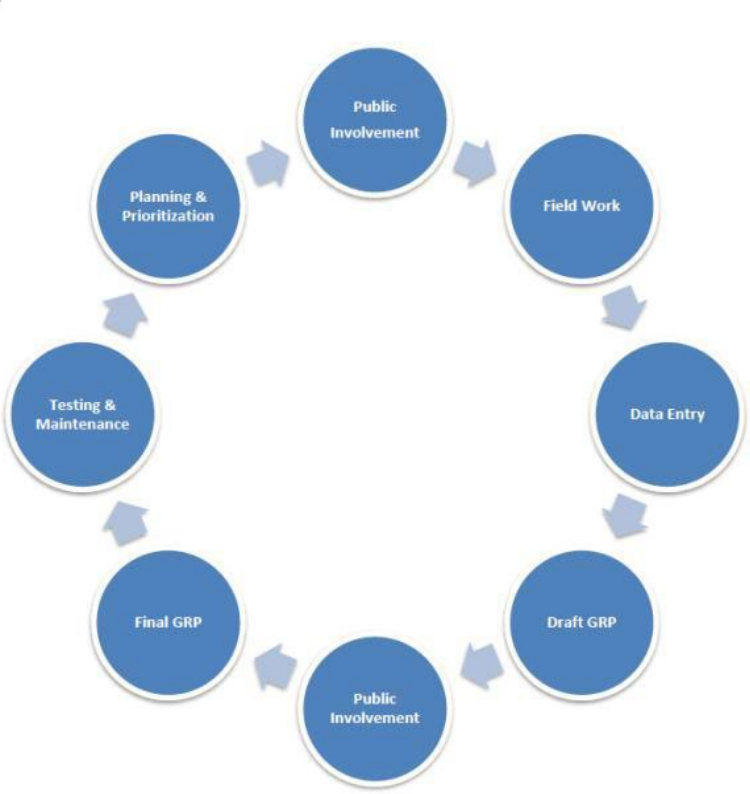
Each GRP has several chapters that contain:

- Introduction to the plan;
- Site descriptions, including physical features, hydrology, climate, risk assessment, and literature references;
- Reference maps, notification strategies, and prioritized tactical strategies;
- Resources at risk, including endangered species, and shoreline information; and
- Staging area and boat launch information for the area.

1341 Process to Develop Geographic Response Plans

Development of GRPs in the Northwest is a collaborative process coordinated through the regional GRP Subcommittee. GRPs are developed through workshops and field work involving federal, state, and local oil spill emergency response experts, as well as representatives from Tribes, local governments, industry, ports, environmental organizations, pilots, and response contractors. Workshop participants identify resources, develop operational strategies, help prioritize the strategies, and pinpoint logistical support. It is important to involve local governments and local communities in the GRP development process. Field work is conducted to visit the selected sites, confirm the existence of the resource at risk, and further refine the operational strategies.

Figure 1000-3 – GRP Development and Update Cycle



1342 Agencies Responsible to Develop and Maintain Geographic Response Plans

Key RRT10 and NWACs agencies have committed resources to manage the development and maintenance of GRPs, as described below.

- Marine GRPs in Washington State are co-managed by Ecology and the USCG.
- Inland GRPs in Washington State are co-managed by Ecology and EPA.
- Marine GRPs in Oregon are co-managed by ODEQ and the USCG.
- Inland GRPs in Oregon are co-managed by ODEQ and EPA.
- Inland GRPs in Idaho are co-managed by the State of Idaho and EPA.

1343 Testing Geographic Response Plans

GRP strategies are tested during drills and spills or during the plan development process. Testing of the strategies is an important priority for the northwest response community.

Deployment provides an opportunity for response contractors, plan holders, and agencies to verify the effectiveness of the strategy, deploy equipment, and train personnel to ensure that they are prepared for a real oil spill. GRP strategies are updated based on the results of the drills.

Comments on GRPs and the testing of GRP strategies during deployments can be made on the RRT10/NWACs website, through the “Submit Comments” page.

1350 Spill Scenarios

An important part of contingency planning is anticipating the effects of a spill and preparing in advance for the response to spills likely to occur in the area. ACPs address responses to WCDs of oil or hazardous substances, and mitigation or prevention of a substantial threat of discharge from a vessel, offshore facility, or onshore facility. These scenarios are described in the individual ACPs.