

Alaska Regional Response Team

Oil and Hazardous Substance Contingency Planning & Response

CULTURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE CHARTER

Purpose: The Alaska Regional Response Team (RRT) Cultural Resources Committee (Committee) assists the RRT in implementing the *Programmatic Agreement on Protection of Historic Properties During Emergency Response Under the National Oil and Hazardous Substances Pollution Contingency Plan* in Alaska.

At the request of the Alaska RRT, the Committee prepares, maintains, and revises, as necessary, the *Alaska Implementation Guidelines for Federal On-Scene Coordinators for the Programmatic Agreement on Protection of Historic Properties During Emergency Response Under the National Oil and Hazardous Substances Pollution Contingency Plan (Guidelines)*. The *Guidelines* are included in Annex M of *The Alaska Federal/State Preparedness Plan for Response to Oil and Hazardous Substance Discharges/Releases*.

Activities: The Committee maintains and revises, as appropriate, the *Guidelines* to ensure they are current, consistent with cultural resources-related “best practices” and/or other national guidelines, and incorporates appropriate lessons learned from incidents and/or exercises.

Representation: The Committee is comprised of representatives from Alaska RRT agencies with jurisdiction and/or cultural resources expertise. These include the U.S. Department of the Interior (DOI)-Office of Environmental Policy and Compliance, DOI-Fish and Wildlife Service, DOI-National Park Service, DOI-Bureau of Land Management, DOI-Bureau of Indian Affairs, U.S. Department of Agriculture-U.S. Forest Service, U.S. Department of Defense (DOD)-U.S. Air Force, DOD-U.S. Army, and Alaska Department of Natural Resources-Office of History and Archaeology (ADNR-OHA). Other members of the Alaska RRT (e.g., U.S. Coast Guard, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Department of Commerce-National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, and Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation) and representatives of Federally-recognized tribes and stakeholder groups (e.g., tribal, local governments, regional citizens’ advisory councils, oil industry, and oil spill cooperatives) may also each identify an individual to provide advice and input to the Committee from their respective interest. Each Committee member and each representative of other participants will be responsible for coordination and consultation with their respective constituency.

Work Products/Decision-Making: All revisions to the *Guidelines* will be submitted to all Committee members and other participants for review. Following concurrence by all Committee members, *Guidelines* revisions will be submitted to the Alaska RRT for action. The goal of the Committee will be decision-making by consensus (i.e., unanimous consent). If unanimous consent is not possible, the Committee Co-Chairs will present the resulting information to the Alaska RRT for action.

Leadership: The Committee will be co-chaired by a representative of both DOI and ADNR-OHA. The Co-Chairs will be responsible for activities including, but not limited to: scheduling and chairing meetings, communicating Committee-related information to Committee members and other participants, tracking progress on action items, preparing and maintaining appropriate records, and reporting progress to the Alaska RRT as noted below.

Meetings: The Committee will meet as needed to fulfill its purpose as outlined above or as requested by the Alaska RRT. All Committee members and other participants providing input to the Committee will be provided timely notice of meetings and review periods for copies of drafts and final work products that allow for coordination and consultation with their respective constituencies.

Records: The Co-Chairs will be responsible for preparing and distributing Committee records in accordance with Article VII, Section 7 of the Alaska RRT Charter.

Approved by the Alaska RRT on October 17, 2012