

Summary notes from Puget Sound Partnership Oil Spill Work Group meeting on May 30, 2013

Meeting began at 9am at TAGRO in Tacoma, with introductions by Work Group members and other attendees.

Attendance:

Work Group members present:

Chair – Tom Leschine, Professor and Director: School of Marine and Environmental Affairs, University of Washington

Lead Staff – Todd Hass, Program Manager: Marine and Nearshore Special Projects, Puget Sound Partnership

Formal Members –

- PSP Leadership Council – Diana Gale
- Tribal Government – Chad Bowechop, Makah Tribe
- Local Government – Mike Doherty, WA Association of Counties
- Public Ports – Johan Hellman, WSPP
- Business sectors
 - Oil refining – Frank Holmes, WSPA
 - Cargo and other shipping – Mike Moore, PMSA
 - Pilots – Jonathan Ward, Puget Sound Pilots
- Environmental organizations
 - Bruce Wishart, Washington Environmental Council
 - Jerry Joyce, Seattle Audubon Society
- Recreational Boating – Lee Roussel, Citizens for a Health Bay

Ex Officio Representatives –

- WA Department of Ecology – Dale Jensen (Jon Neel, Linda Pilkey-Jarvis, Nhi Irwin)
- WA Department of Fish and Wildlife – Dan Doty
- WA Department of Natural Resources – Shane Cothorn
- U.S. Coast Guard – Robert McFarland (D13) (Scott Knutson, Lance Lindgren, Meridena Kauffman)

Others in attendance:

- Josie Clark, US EPA
- Melissa Ferris, DNR
- JD Ross Leahy, UW-SMEA
- Fred Felleman, WAVE Consulting
- Lovel Pratt
- John Veentjer, Marine Exchange
- Tom Callahan, WSMC

Highlights from agenda, with links to supporting materials:

- I. Chad Bowechop reviewed elements of the Makah/US Coast Guard MOA (MOA attached)
- II. Bob McFarland reviewed progress on the US/Canada Comparability Analysis, moving the High Volume Port line to Neah Bay, and 2012 USCG Authorization Act
 - a. More info on oil sands products from NOAA/Center for Spills in the Environment - http://crrc.unh.edu/workshops/oil_sands_washington/index.html
 - b. Northwest Area Committee and RRT have created multiple 2013 Task Forces, including "Emerging Risks" - <http://www.rrt10nwac.com/taskforce.aspx>
- III. Todd Hass reviewed progress and next steps with Vessel Traffic Risk Assessment (VTRA) (pdf attached)
 - a. PSP now lead owner for Puget Sound Action Agenda Near Term Action (NTA) C 8.1.2
 - b. VTRA report to Makah satisfies NTA C 8.1.1
- IV. Linda Pilkey-Jarvis reviewed progress on Ecology's Oil Spill Contingency Plan rule implementation (Chapter 173-182) (pdf attached)
- V. Dale Jensen reviewed (pdf attached):
 - a. New patterns in oil transportation and spill risk
 - b. Last few slides outline potential 2014, 2015 Legislative actions for Ecology Spills Program
 - c. Provided copy of Ecology/USCG MOU (pdf attached)
- VI. Frank Holmes reviewed forecasts for North American shale oil, gas and oil sands during the scheduled public comment period (pdf attached)
- VII. Melissa Ferris reviewed recent activity of the Derelict Vessel Removal Program at DNR
 - a. OSWG members can participate in DNR's rulemaking for HB 1245, contact melissa.ferris@dnr.wa.gov
 - b. Contact Melissa re: Puget Sound Derelict Vessel Task Force (evolution of Col. R. DVTF)
- VIII. Hass posed several questions to OSWG (attached). Consensus answers/decisions follow:
 - a. OSWG agreed that the role of group continues to be building consensus to advance unresolved and emergent oil spill policy issues (statewide), especially as they pertain to State programs
 - b. Use the name "Puget Sound Partnership Oil Spill Work Group" going forward
 - c. Next unresolved & emergent policy issues, where group may "add value" include:
 - i. Oil by rail
 - ii. Transboundary issues/comparability analysis results
 - iii. Ecology Contingency Plan Rule implementation
 - d. Next steps for OSWG
 - i. Meet in fall to hear results of VTRA, decide how/whether to engage during Phase 4 (informing Risk Management Strategy)
 - ii. Continue to monitor changes in oil transportation, especially by rail
 - iii. Evaluate priorities with respect to those identified by Governor Inslee
 - iv. Hass will work to fill vacancies in OSWG membership, and ensure participation by relevant stakeholder groups depending on issues, continue to coordinate with Tom Leschine
- IX. Meeting adjourned at 1:35pm