

Maine and New Hampshire Area Committee
2022 Goals and Objectives/Work Plan – Jan 2022 Update

1. **Enhance ACP: Develop, update and maintain an effective Area Contingency Plan (ACP) to guide the containment and recovery of a worst case (or other size) oil/chemical discharge from a vessel, facility or other source along the ME/NH coastline.**
 - a. Make any updates required to 2020 ACP based on Lessons Learned and new input
 - i. WB reached out to DOI, NOAA, USFWS, ME DEP and NH DES in early DEC 2021 and requested updates based on end of year review. Updates received have been entered as draft Change 04 to the 2020 version of the ACP. Modifications to the ACP based on Areas for Improvement and Lessons Learned from the Sep 2021 have also been made.
 - b. Support development of RRT1 shoreline bird annex
 - i. Cornell Rosiu of D1 is following up with SEC LIS & SEC SENE –may include as RCP annex. Sent email to Cornell on 21 DEC 2021 requesting an update.
 - c. Continue to promote update of RRT1 Dispersant and Insitu Burn Plans
 - i. Decision matrix developed by NNE adopted, D1 advancing policy update and MOA with each New England states for incorporation into Region 1 RCP
 - d. Reviewing ESA Section 7 requirements to identify if updates to the ACP are required.

2. **Complete Response Planning: Pre-plan response efforts including mechanical recovery, dispersant, shoreline cleanup, protection of sensitive areas and rescue and rehabilitation of birds and wildlife, public affairs, etc.**
 - a. Complete template for Liaison/External Affairs Implementation Plan
 - i. WB to pursue with SNNE reps and D1 External Affairs – per email from LCDR Bourbeau on 21 DEC 2021 - LOFR External Affair Plan Template 90% complete – will wrap up in Feb-Mar 2022.
 - b. Continue to update, test, validate and maintain ME/NH AC Website, Equipment List and GRSs
 - i. **Jason Weigle has stepped in for Ginger coordinating the ME/NH AC Website. Working on streamlining the site. Significant new material to be added. Looking at Pacific NW RRT website as a template.**
 - ii. Updated GRSs added in Dec 2021. Additional updates to GRSs?
 - iii. **ME DEP updating Equipment List for March 2022. Updates are now being requested via email versus via letter and formats have been streamlined and new database engine is being considered to enable easier searching of the database. More NH based equipment may also be added.**

- c. Develop Incident Command Post options.
 - i. Italian Heritage Center and Hutchinson Center tested in 2021. Rusty Scupper ICP to be tested for AMS exercise in 2022. Enhancements to the NH DES ICP planned for 2022 including procuring a large printer/copier.
- d. PlumKit cellular-based Portable Data Network needs additional testing in 2022
 - i. Test of this capability completed in May 21, employed in Pen Bay FS exercise.

3. Promote ICS: Promote the use of the Incident Command System (ICS) to manage marine oil spill response under a coordinated/unified command.

- a. Develop SNNE Incident Management Team's qualifications
 - i. **SNNE providing monthly ICS training for IMT members and PQS sign-offs.**
Will continue to strongly promote IMT's ICS training and qualifications.
- b. Provide Just-In-Time ICS training and coaching
 - i. Plan to again engage USCG Incident Management Assist Team, Public Information Assist Team, Strike Team and others to provide ICS training during "Just In Time" training day as well as coaching for key staff during smaller NH DES FSE in Sep 2022.
- c. Provide ICS training and support for other agencies
 - i. WB and others continue to be available to provide USCG ICS training and job aids with partner agencies and industry.
 - ii. WB touched base with G-OEM program managers and was informed that the USCG's online ICS 300 training cannot be made available to other agencies.

4. Conduct Training: Sponsor training in the Incident Command System, On-water boom deployment, Science of Spills, Shoreline Cleanup Assessment Technique (SCAT), and similar topics to enhance responder preparedness.

- a. Conduct ICS Incident Management Team Training in April 2022 in Portland for Area Maritime Security partners.
- b. Conduct spill response training in conjunction with Sep 2022 NHDES Exercise
 - i. Just in time training day in Sep 2022 planned. Will develop training schedule as part of exercise planning.
- c. Virtual SCAT training held in Nov 2021 as well as field component at Wells National Estuarine Research Reserve, Wells, ME.
- d. NOAA will provide 1 hour ERMA familiarization training for IMT members and additional training for reps who need to add data to ERMA

5. Encourage Coordination and Outreach: Host engaging Area Committee Meetings and connect with new response partners and stakeholders.

- a. Host Executive Steering Committee Meetings on Jan 25 and Jun 8, 2022
 - b. Host Full ME/NH Area Committee Meetings on Apr 13 and Oct 18, 2022
 - c. Welcome and integrate new ME DEP Response Director and other new response partners/stakeholders.
 - d. Conduct outreach to terminal managers and other prospective new members
- 6. Conduct Exercises: Oversee a comprehensive exercise program including quarterly notification and unannounced facility deployment drills (GIUEs), annual spill management team exercises, annual equipment deployments, and quadrennial full scale exercises.**
- a. Major focus on mid-sized NH DES Full Scale Exercise on Sep 21, 2022
 - i. Current Plan is to try and hold the exercise in person and on schedule to the extent possible even if members need to be masked and with limited participants in the actual ICP due to COVID-19 restrictions.
 - ii. Will apply Go/No Go criteria and risk mitigation strategies for holding various components of the exercise and holding it at various scales. The ESC will reconsider at scheduled July ESC meeting.
 - iii. Exercise Planning Team will move forward with exercise planning. One of the unique objectives is to develop and test electronic information sharing tools including TEAMS and possibly the USCG's Information Management Software System (IMSS).
 - iv. Field deployment based –possibly on the Belamy River. Include Div/Group supervisors in the field. Rapid Assessment Teams. Try and engage Tri-State Bird and Fish and Game. Potentially deploy a Drone.
- 7. Support POSRWG: Support the Portsmouth Oil Spill Response Work Group's (POSRWG's) efforts to improve response capabilities and maximize preparedness in the NH and southern ME coastal areas.**
- a. MSD Portsmouth has the lead for the POSRWG this year. They plan to host quarterly meetings and keep the subcommittees going. Several committee leader positions need to be filled. Quarterly meetings planned including in April 2022
 - b. The emphasis will be on holding several smaller exercises this year.
- 8. Support PROPAC: Support the Penobscot River Oil Pollution Abatement Committee's (PROPAC's) efforts to enhance response capabilities on the Penobscot River and Penobscot Bay.**
- a. Focus on increasing SNNE and ME DEP attendance at PROPAC meetings. Share lessons learned from SEP 2021 Pen Bay FSE.

9. Continue to maintain and enhance NNE spill response equipment capabilities

- a. NH DES is replacing the large “Eastern” towing boat with an upgraded inboard/outboard with a larger cabin and has applied for a grant to complete enhancements to the Portsmouth ICP including an improved sound system and virtual conferencing
- b. NH DES is making upgrades to the Portsmouth ICP.
- c. ME DEP is replacing its oil spill recovery vessel and procuring a new mobile ICP trailer. ME DEP also purchased a new boom trailer and is recapping their SCBA gear.
- d. NH DES is repowering 2 skimmers, purchased 3,500’ of new boom, new transfer pumps, new gas meters and a new trailer.
- e. SNNE will continue to test its newly procured PlumKit cellular-based Portable Data Network to provide internet capabilities at remote ICPs.
- f. Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS). SNNE is looking into the feasibility/processes of obtaining UAS technology. Sector SENE IMD already has a UAS program as do a few other Sectors. Maine DEP is looking into UAS technology as well. Not sure if NH DES is looking into UAS. SNNE IMD plans to reach out to NH DES as well. Friends of Casco Bay also has grant funding and plans to train and qualify a UAS pilot for use in Casco Bay. Obviously, there are many hurdles to overcome regarding training, licensing, procurement, etc.
- g. **Coast Guard Pollution Trailers.** SNNE currently has 6 pollution trailers throughout the Sector AOR. SNNE is looking at a cost/benefit analysis (i.e. training/maintenance vs. actual need/use). Do we still need all 6 of them where they are? Relocating and/or divesting any Coast Guard pollution trailers will require discussion with the Area Committee.

The general consensus was that the USCG should prioritize continuing to maintain pollution trailers in locations with few alternate sources of response equipment, including Eastport, Jonesport and potentially Southwest Harbor. ME DEP encouraged the USCG to reach out to Harbormasters and see if they are interested in taking over these trailers – if possible.