Geographic Response Plan Mapping and Digital Area Contingency Plan

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**Background**

Oil Pollution Act of 1990  

- Legislation passed after the 1989 Exxon Valdez Oil Spill
- Required that companies must have a "plan to prevent spills that may occur" and have a "detailed containment and cleanup plan" for oil spills. These are termed Vessel and Facility Response Plans.
- Established the National Contingency Plan (NCP) and National Response Team (NRT), Regional Response Teams (RRTs), Regional Contingency Plans, Area Committees, and highly detailed localized Area Contingency Plans (ACPs).
- Established Command and Control and Funding Mechanisms for Managing Oil Spill Responses – The Incident Command System (ICS)
- The Area Contingency Plan (ACP) is a detailed plan for response to oil spills for a given region (usually a Captain of the Port Zone, the designated area of responsibility and authority for a USCG Captain of the Port).
- The Area Committee lead by the USCG writes and administers the plan. The plan is a document outlining response organization and administration (command), policy, overall objectives in response, logistics, finance, and operations.
- Detailed logistics and tactics are expected to be current and accurate, so the ACP is revised every three years.
Digital ACPs Created for USCG District 7 & 8

Digital ACP Regions and ESI Map Grid
Area Contingency Plan

• Area Committee’s plan for oil spill protection in the USCG Sector Captain of Port Area of Responsibility

• USCG typically writes and leads updates

• Living document updated 3-5 years

• Follow a common format and structure

• Outlines details of response for area

• Federal, State, and Local stakeholders

• Relationship building*

• Detailed localized information
Digital Area Contingency Plans
http://ocean.floridamarine.org/acp

- Digitize any geographic information in ACP
- HTML based frontend (Website and DVD)
- Documents (USCG, RRT, NOAA, USFWS, EPA, FWC)
- Spill planning & response applications (Adios2, Aloha, Spill Tools, Cameo, Marplot, Gnome, ICS Forms)
- Geodata (GIS, Google Earth, Metadata)
- Maps (GRP, ESI, TIPS, Local plans)
- Contact Information
- Links
  (Weather, Agencies, Reference, Webcams)
- Help
  (User guides, Videos, Read me instructions)
What is a GRP?

- Geographic Response Plan
- 1 to 72 hr response tool
- Responder’s essential tool for quickly identifying sensitive areas
- Combines strategy for protection with biological and socio-economic resources
- Details the most important features of environment and strategic access points

- These are your maps and can be designed accordingly
- Hyperlinked and pre-ordered so you can print all that you need
- GRP maps and Sensitive site reports are what we need updated
- Edits will be captured digitally (locations) and as hardcopy (written reports)
Geographic Response Plan Map

- Priority Protection Areas (ESA)
- Boom & Skimmer Placement
- Oil Spill Risk Sites
- Equipment Storage locations
- Access information
- Staging Areas (Marinas/Boat Ramps)
- Collection Points
- Natural Collection Areas
- Special Resource Areas: turtle beaches, rookeries, etc
- Water Intakes
- Public Beach Access
- Coast Guard stations
- Aquaculture sites
- Tidal Inlets
- Managed Areas
Geographic Response Plan Workshop

- Brings stakeholders together
- Consistent format
- Priority & Protection developed by consensus
- Transparency
- Accountability
Priority Protection Areas

• The most oil spill sensitive areas

• A’s are more sensitive than B’s and B’s are more sensitive than C’s

• They are protected in that order

• The definition of the A, B, and C dictate where the sensitive areas should be located

• Prioritize is the key word here, resources are typically limited

• We have to keep the responders in mind, all sites cannot be an A.
GRP Sensitive Site Prioritizations

NOTE: “You can’t protect it all”

Priority for Protection in Spill Response

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A – Protect First - In all cases, Human Health and Safety is Highest Priority

• Inlets, tidal creeks, and passes which would convey oil to high priority habitats/areas
• Species of special concern, threatened, or endangered species and their critical habitats/facilities (breeding, nesting, spawning areas, some seasonal)
  • Mangroves
  • Salt-, Brackish-, Fresh-Water Wetlands (Tidal & Non-Tidal)
    • Coral Reefs, shallow (<3 meters deep)
    • Seagrass, shallow (<1 meter deep)
    • Hard "live" bottom, shallow (<1 meter deep)
  • Public utilities water intakes
• Aquaria, and aquaculture facilities (inclusive of intakes and shellfish beds)
  • Cultural (historical, archeological) resources

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B – Protect After A Areas

• Coral Reefs, deeper (>3 meters deep)
• Seagrass, deeper (>1 meter deep)
• Hard "live" bottom, deeper (>1 meter deep)
• Breeding, nesting, spawning areas, some seasonal for species not identified in “A”
  • Rocky shores
  • Tidal flats (sand/mud; no vegetation)
• All other natural shores (including sand beaches) within
  • conservation areas
  • Riprap shoreline

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C – Protect After B Areas

• Man-made canal systems (w/o riprap shoreline)
• Stormwater outfalls (due to tidal influx)
# Oil Spill Sensitive Site Report

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<th>Resource Section</th>
<th>Response Section</th>
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**Report produced by:** [Facts in Feed](http://factsinfeed.com) - Fish and Wildlife Research Institute.

**For additional information, please contact:** [WGAC/PFMR Center for Spill Analysis](123) 555-5555.
ESI Maps

• Environmental Sensitivity Index

• Larger Format maps – 11 X 17

• Created by RPI

• The excellent biological resource map for the entire area

• Depicts the biological information for the known species and important times of life cycle

• RAR # links map to resource table

• Includes the state and federally threatened or endangered species

• Needs to be updated (1996), but are very expensive

• ESI has been updated, and we have the draft data
Tidal Inlet Protection Strategies (TIPS)

- Created by RPI, first released around 1994/95, updated in 2011
- Guidance from USCG, FDEP, FWC, MSRC
- Potential protection strategies for Tidal Inlets along Florida coast
- Based on at hand waves and tidal currents or inferences from geomorphology
- Inlet protection summary
- Collection point information
- Complete for four Florida USCG Sectors
- Panhandle TIPS coming soon
- [http://ocean.floridamarine.org/acp/tips](http://ocean.floridamarine.org/acp/tips)
Tidal Inlet Protection Strategy Maps

Collection Point Description

Inlet: St. Lucie Inlet, Martin County, Florida

Site Name: Collection Point #1

Relative Location: Beach north of the north jetty.

Latitude: 27° 10' 11.827" N
Longitude: 80° 9' 11.597" W

Currents: Flood currents along shore to the south up to 1.5 knots during high tide.

Shoreline Description: Fine-grained sand beach

Access: Shore developed with private property. May be able to access undeveloped for at the south end of the island. Otherwise, by watercraft in the main inlet channel. And still it would be about 300 yards to the CP.
Updates and Uploads

• Web Mapping Application (Flex)
• http://ocean.floridamarine.org/acpgrp

• Sector SharePoint Site
• http://share4.myfwc.com/SEOILSPILL/default.aspx
• Sensitive Area Update Form
Thank You

Digital ACPs – [http://ocean.floridmarine.org/acp](http://ocean.floridmarine.org/acp)
GRP Data Viewer – [http://ocean.floridmarine.org/acpgrp](http://ocean.floridmarine.org/acpgrp)

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