

Regional Response Team IV Annual Report 2014

Mr. Mike Faulkner
National Response Team
USEPA Headquarters
OEM/MC 5104A
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20460

Dear Mr. Faulkner

Section 300.115 of the National Contingency Plan requests that the Regional Response Teams (RRT) provide letter reports to the NRT, summarizing recent activities, organizational changes, operational concerns and efforts to improve state and local coordination. The RRT IV report is submitted for the period January 1 to December 31, 2014

Executive Summary

Regional Response Team IV was very active in 2014. Our semi-annual meetings in Mobile, AL and Louisville, KY allowed us to better understand the broad range of response capabilities and concerns at the local level in our region. State and local participation at these meetings was very good and provided the opportunity for the development of relationships across the different governmental levels.

We actively participated in training and exercises throughout the region. Our Science and Technology (S&T) Committee continued with the task of updating our Dispersant Use Plan, In-situ Burn Plan and the creation of a Vessel Decontamination Plan. We also continued to develop our relationship with Regional Response Team VI as we forged ahead with the development of our plans to ensure a more cooperative response across the Gulf of Mexico. The RRT launched the Inland SCAT training program. This class was developed with support from NOAA and EPA personnel from Region's 4, 5 and 10. The class was presented four times across the country this year. RRT IV began the process of developing standard operating procedures (SOP) for the implementation of Executive Order 13650. A subcommittee was established to develop the SOPs. Upon completion they will be delivered to the Regional Working Group and an organizational structure established outside the RRT will guide their implementation.

Updating the Dispersant Use Plan proved quite challenging. The S&T Committee Chair led committee members from both RRT IV and RRT VI in updating the plan with the intention that the final product would be similar documents in both RRTs. The updated plan was offered for comment to all of the member states, tribes, and the Department of the Interior and Department of Commerce representatives from the RRT. The recommended changes were incorporated before forwarding the document to EPA's Office of Emergency Management (OEM). The comments provided by OEM have since been addressed in the document. A new biological assessment (BA) and consultation are required for the plan. RRT IV has been working to develop a clear understanding of the exact requirements for the BA and consultation, and to assemble the resources necessary to carry out the process.

I. MAJOR ACTIVITIES

A. MAJOR/NOTEWORTHY RESPONSE ACTIVITIES

Ohio River MCHM Spill

On January 15, 2014, OSC Art Smith mobilized to the ORSANCO offices in Cincinnati, OH, at the request of the Kentucky Department for Environmental Protection (KDEP). The purpose of the deployment was for EPA to better understand the issues associated with the contaminant plume in the Ohio River, which originated from a spill of Methylcyclohexanemethanol at the Freedom Industries facility in Charleston, WV on January 19, 2014. EPA's response to this incident involves monitoring the status of the drinking water plants in Kentucky, and to respond to any requests for assistance from KDEP. The OSC deployed the EPA Environmental Response Team (ERT) to assist with evaluation of analytical methods for detecting MCHM in water. The OSC also deployed the Region 4 Superfund and Technical Assistance Team (START) contractor, Tetra Tech, to compile data produced during this incident and to map the plume as it traveled downstream.

Lessons learned included:

- All incidents affecting the Ohio River are multi-jurisdictional in nature.
- Contingency planning efforts should take this into account and more work needs to be done to ensure coordination of spill response efforts across regional boundaries.

Best practices derived from the incident:

- Organizing the Region 4 response with ORSANCO as the focal point.
- ORSANCO was the hub of information regarding MCHM concentrations encountered at drinking water intakes along a 300 mile stretch of the Ohio River.
- ORSANCO kept other agencies apprised of potential impacts to drinking water utilities affected by the spill and assisted with their recovery from the incident.

OSC Art Smith, 502-582-5161, Smith.Art@epa.gov

McDavid (Q60127) Train Derailment

At approximately 2040 on January 28, 2014, 23 railcars derailed in and around Fletcher Creek in Escambia County, Florida. Four railcars, containing 12,000 gallons each of ninety-six percent phosphoric acid, were derailed into Fletcher Creek. Three of these cars were breached, losing 24,000 to 30,000 gallons of product during the incident. The severe winter weather delayed clean-up operations. Highways needed to move the heavy equipment for the response were iced over and some were closed. A Unified Command was established with EPA, Florida Department of Environmental Protection and CSX Transportation. Key activities addressed include:

- Agency and stakeholders interactions
- Creating multiple access roads
- Tank car damage assessment
- Railcar recovery and staging
- Product transfers
- Surface water protection and mitigation

OSC Chris Russell, 850-274-1575, Russell.Chris@epa.gov

New Augusta Train Derailment

At approximately 0800 hours on January 31, 2014, a Canadian National Railway (CN) train derailed in New Augusta, Perry County, MS. On-Scene Coordinators (OSC's) Francendese, Garrard and Franco were mobilized to the scene to oversee and direct response actions. The U.S. Coast Guard Gulf Strike Team (USCG GST) was asked to support. Eighteen cars labeled "fuel oil" and one car containing methanol derailed. The methanol car was leaking as were a number of the "fuel oil" cars. A drainage ditch was impacted with an estimated 50,000 gallons of "fuel oil." The Leaf River was ½ mile away. Local responders evacuated a one half mile radius due to the methanol. OSC Francendese formed a Unified Command with CN, Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) State On-Scene Coordinators (SOSC), and the Perry County Emergency Management Agency. Initial objectives included:

- Berm drainage to Leaf River
- Stop methanol release
- Transfer product from damaged cars
- Solidify released petroleum
- Re-rail tank cars

Petroleum product was not "fuel oil," but a crude from Saskatchewan, Canada.

OSC Leo Francendese; 404-606-2223, Francendese.Leo@epa.gov

Eden NC Coal Ash Spill

EPA North Carolina outpost OSC (On-Scene Coordinator) received a phone call from North Carolina Department of Environment and Natural Resources at 4:45 pm on February 3, 2014 requesting assistance in responding to a coal ash pond release that occurred on February 2, 2014.

The release of coal ash occurred at the Dan River Steam Station (Duke Energy) north of Eden, NC in Rockingham County. The estimated volume of ash released is between 50,000 tons and 82,000 tons. Also, approximately 27 million gallons of ash pond water waste released. The released ash and water was discharged to the Dan River. Attempts to secure release were reported to be unsuccessful. NC DENR requested an EPA presence for technical assistance.

Given proximity to the spill site and the potential impact of VA waters, Region 4 requested crossover support from its backup Region (EPA Region 3). Per our request, Region 3 deployed OSC Chris Wagner to the scene (about 3 hours away). Kevin Eichinger and Jose Negron, R4, were deployed from Atlanta.

A 48" slip-joint concrete and corrugated steel storm sewer line that runs under the ash pond failed. Coal ash and ash pond water flowed into the failed section of the line, and then to the Dan River. The 48" sewer line and a 36" sewer line that both run under the coal ash impoundment have been sealed. Crews are currently removing accessible coal ash from the Dan River and sampling drinking water, surface water and river sediments. OSC Kevin Eichinger, 404-562-8258, Eichinger.Kevin@epa.gov

Air Gas HCL Release

On May 12, 2014 a cylinder trailer transporting liquefied anhydrous hydrogen chloride arrived at the South Carolina DOT weigh station south of Anderson with one of the cylinders venting uncontrollably. The truck was isolated, and local responders and the responsible party, Airgas, attempted to stop or control the release. Due to the prolonged uncontrolled circumstances of this

situation, an evacuation of nearby residences was implemented. Based on the ongoing release, R1 OSC Stilman was deployed to the scene. R4 Duty Officer also dispatched START and EPA Warehouse personnel and equipment to support response efforts. OSC Terry Stilman, 404-562 8748, Stilman.Terry@epa.gov

Knoxville College

The A.K. Stewart Science Hall, a three story brick building, was used as an undergraduate chemistry, biological sciences, and physical sciences teaching facility and was reportedly abandoned in 2007. The chemicals and other hazardous materials/substances were left in place. Tennessee Department of Environmental Conservation (TDEC) performed an initial evaluation and found multiple leaking and damaged containers of hazardous substances and hazardous wastes throughout the three story facility. TDEC observed many instances of incompatible and improper storage. The facility is unsecured and there were overt signs of trespassing and scrapping. Multiple windows are broken and the exterior doors were unsecured. The facility is directly adjacent to residential neighborhoods. OSC's met with the President of the College in the late afternoon of June 5, 2014 and were granted access to the building. The College President stated that the College does not have the financial resource to address the situation or to secure the facility.

EPA emergency response personnel and contractors conducted multiple entries into the building to size-up the situation and to determine the magnitude and the threats on Friday, June 6, 2014. Crew observed thousands of chemical bottles ranging in size from 5-gallons to milliliter volumes. There were 39 rooms and laboratories containing varied amounts of hazardous substances. Many of the containers were damaged, leaking, unlabeled, or otherwise compromised. Hazards included flammable, combustible, oxidizing, toxic, air reactive, corrosive, biological, and radioactive materials as well as incompatible storage. Crews also found elevated mercury levels throughout the building. Crews monitored the air outside of the building and did not detect any radiation levels, mercury levels or other hazardous substance levels. Crews secured the building to prevent access.

EPA mobilized equipment, supplies and specialized personnel to begin addressing and removing the hazardous substances starting Monday, June 9, 2014. OSC Kevin Eichinger, 404-562-8258, Eichinger.Kevin@epa.gov

Kinder Morgan Pelham

NRC report #1093064 identified a possible release coming from a pipeline in Pelham, Shelby County, Alabama. OSC Booth and Garrard were mobilized to the site on August 22, 2014 to meet with ADEM personnel and Kinder Morgan (RP). A leak in the pipeline on Double Oak Mountain migrated towards the south impacting a tributary of Peavine Creek. Vapors from the petroleum product posed concern for nearby residences. The RP had already mobilized several contractors to start recovery operations of the product in the creek and reconnaissance of the source of the pipeline leak by the time the OSC arrived on site. Recovery operation continued around the clock to address the estimated 38, 956 gallons of diesel and gasoline released from the pipeline. OSC Jason Booth, 404-562-9058, Booth.Jason@epa.gov

Bekaert Plant Fire

At approximately 16:15 on November 19, 2014 EPA Phone Duty Officer was notified of a fire at the Bekaert Wire Plant in Rome, Ga. Local officials instituted a 0.5 mile evacuation of the

surrounding neighborhoods and businesses. Based on the inventory of chemicals being stored at the facility OSC Eichinger was mobilized to assist local officials. At approximately 1400 hours that day, facility workers observed a fire in a molten lead bath. The fire extended from the molten lead bath up through a ventilation hood and ignited the facility's roof. The roof system was reported to be a PVC material that was recently installed. Facility personnel attempted to extinguish the fire and then evacuated the building. The Rome Fire Department responded and initiated fire-fighting operations. A 1/2 mile, down-wind evacuation zone was ordered by the Rome Fire Department and Floyd County Emergency Management Agency. The fire involved a section of the facility that contained large quantities of Copper Pyro-Phosphate, Copper Sulfate, Petroleum Distillates, Hydrochloric Acid, Molten Lead, Lead Oxide and Sulfuric Acid in process vats, tanks and containers. Large volumes of water were used to extinguish the fire causing potential run-off of hazardous substances, pollutants, and contaminants. Large volumes of particulate matter and other products of combustion were release to the air. OSC Eichinger joined the Unified Command on scene. In coordination with the in support of Unified command and in coordination with State OSC Barton, Eichinger deployed Superfund Technical Assessment and Response Team (START) assets to conduct air monitoring in and around the facility and community. START personnel and State OSC Barton also conducted monitoring in Silver Creek and local detention basins. OSC Kevin Eichinger, 404-562-8258, Eichinger.Kevin@epa.gov

B. RRT MEETINGS

February 11-13, 2014 Mobile, AL

The RRT convened at the NOAA Disaster Response Center. Key members of RRT VI joined us during the committee meetings and General meeting. The Management Committee of both RRT IV and VI listened to a special working group report on the existing plans for the Gulf of Mexico. It was determined to move forward creating one plan for the Gulf of Mexico to be utilized by both regions. The New Boundary Line MOA was presented. OSC presentations on Aliceville Train Derailment and the USACE SAD overview and debris management were highlights.

October 15 – 17, 2014 Louisville, KY

A multi-agency presentation on the response to the MCHM spill emphasized the importance of all levels of government to train and share information. DOI (NRT) rep Behler provided a much needed presentation and discussion on the Bakken oil issues. EPA's Eric Mosher (R2) presented his region's pilot Program results for the EO Implementation. Subsequently R4 established its EO subcommittee and began work on the development of the SOPs for our region.

January 10, 2014, Incident Specific RRT Activation,

Methylcyclohexane Methanol.

The State of Kentucky requested activation of the RRT to discuss the potential impacts of the MCHM spill into the Elk River in West Virginia. The release had the potential to impact the Ohio River. A call was set up with the Incident specific R4 RRT, the representatives from RRTs 3 and 5. This initial call involved a briefing by the West Virginia State On-Scene Coordinator and an opportunity for questions by the RRTs. Coordination of communications was established. This activation supported the subsequent response by Region 4 agencies to ensure the protection of the drinking water intakes and the public along the Ohio River. The Kentucky Department of Environmental Quality, ORSANCO and EPA Regions 4 and 5 implemented a monitoring program of drinking water intakes and coordinated measures to ensure the protection of water resources. This incident specific RRT met several times to receive updates and to assist in the coordination of resources for OSC Smith.

C. COMMITTEE AND WORKING GROUP UPDATES

Science and Technology Committee

A joint working group between the RRT 4 and RRT 6 S & T committees was formed to pursue the development of a Gulf of Mexico wide dispersant application and In-situ burn plans. The plans were developed and prepared for review by the signatories. Consultation issues still stood in the way of completion of the project. The committee completed draft versions of the Dispersant Use Plan, In-Situ Burn Plan, and Vessel Decontamination Plan. They were submitted to OEM for comment. The Committee is now coordinating with RRTVI for Gulf wide planning purposes. Their immediate task is a joint comparison of the above regional plans.

Consultation Work Group

This work group met formally for the first time in St. Petersburg, FL February 25 – 27. USCG Co-chairs from RRT 4 and 6 led the discussion.

Consultation Summit

Regional Response Team 4 (RRT 4) Co-Chairs, Coordinators, and Science and Technology Committee Chair met with representatives from the National Park Service, US Fish and Wildlife Service, National Marine Fisheries Service, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and the National Pollution Funds Center. During the meeting participants discussed biological assessment requirements and the consultation process required for updating response tools that can be used in the Gulf of Mexico, Caribbean and Atlantic by Federal On-Scene Coordinators. Don't forget Region 6 RRT and CRRT Reps

This work group was organized late in the year to address the RRT's needs relative to completing biological assessments and obtaining the needed consultation for pre-authorization plans. The intent of this meeting will be to discuss and establish a path forward in the development of appropriate biological assessments (BAs) and to update, where required, past consultations conducted within our respective AOR's. As we are now completing major rewrites and digitalization of the ACPs in RRT IV and the CRRT, we need to decide, as the core group of the RRT's, the most efficient way to bring our plans and agreements up to date and in regulatory compliance. A few of our goals will be to establish consensus and specific guidance and job aids for updating the existing BAs and consultations to ensure that the preauthorization of several response methodologies is possible. Current RRT agreements and elements of the existing ACPs that require BAs and consultation include: Dispersant Use, In-Situ Burning, Vessel Decontamination, and Solidifier Use. We will be identifying key personnel from specific agencies in both Region IV and the Caribbean to participate in this work group. An initial organizational conference call was held with a face to face meeting scheduled for 25-27th of February 2014 in St. Petersburg Florida.

Executive Order 13650 SOP Development Subcommittee

This subcommittee was established during the October RRT meeting. It is led by representatives from DHS, OSHA and EPA with EPA OSC Art Smith as the Chair. The membership includes representatives from all states and several federal agencies. The subcommittee held several meetings determining their goals and timelines and reviewing the SOPs developed in the R2 Pilot Program. Monthly meetings are held. Purpose is to develop the SOPs that will be used in the region to implement the EO. The SOPs will be delivered to the RWG. The RWG will then oversee the implementation through a structure separate from the RRT. Survey to Region 4 asking for input.

II. GENERAL PREPAREDNESS AND CONTINGENCY PLANNING

A. TRAINING

Sector Charleston: In conjunction with CGC OAK and D7 staff, completed a VOSS/SORS deployment drill as well as HAZWOPER training. D7 certified a Sector Charleston MER member as the Sector HAZWOPER trainer. HAZWOPER & Pollution Responder refresher training was conducted for all stations personnel. MER participated in three Industry Led Oil Spill Exercises. Sector Charleston has qualified two FOSCRs as well as five Pollution Responders in 2013.

MSU Savannah: April 15 – 19, 2013 MSU Savannah hosted an ICS 381L leadership course for critical partners within our zone. The class provided an opportunity to place key members of our response community into a simulated and at times stressful environment with role players and events that steered the participants toward the development of a team construct and management system necessary to manage a multifaceted response event. Internally, we continue to hone our response skills with internal training, six personnel attending pollution incident response C schools, and one member attending HAZMAT Incident Response C School.

Sector Jacksonville: Jacksonville has sent personnel to Sector St. Petersburg's ERMA training, conducted webinar training w/ MSL on oil samples, completed Chlorine Emergency Response training, attending Clean Gulf, Jacksonville Fire & Rescue Fireboat training, site visits to OSROs: SWS and Jacksonville Pollution Control, RRT IV meeting held in Raleigh, NC, and the upcoming meeting in Mobile, AL.

Sector Miami: Sector Miami, USCG Auxiliary Flotilla 5-2, FL DEP, and Towboat US, Port of Palm Beach Prep Equipment Deployment Drill. An eight hour HAZWOPER training class was held also at Sector Miami (AD, RES, and AUX). The following ICS classes 300a and 341 were also held during 2013.

Sector St. Petersburg: Led efforts to conduct FOSCR/Pollution Responder qualification training as well as Pollution Incident Response Training resulting in the qualification of five Pollution Responders, three Federal On-Scene Coordinators and two Auxiliary Initial Pollution Responders under the Neptune Trident Shield Program. Training events included joint agency SCAT (CG, DEP and FWC) and Gulf Strike Team trailer familiarization. Training was also conducted for Vessel Response Plans and Salvage and Marine Firefighting to increase knowledge of SSP members. Utilized several state sponsored ICS courses (ICS 300, 346, 400 and 449) to provide no-cost training for SSP members.

Sector Key West: Sector Key West conducted an annual boom deployment with Station Key West, using pre-staged boom to deploy portions of the SFL-5 Geographic Response Plan (GRP). Additionally, a Vessel of Opportunity Skimming System (VOSS) exercise was conducted aboard the CGC HUDSON in conjunction with Sector Miami personnel. Sector Key West hosted ICS 300a Intermediate ICS and ICS 320 Intermediate Incident Management Team for Coast Guard and Area Committee members. The Coast Guard Auxiliary continued to support the ACP's Volunteer Management Program by qualifying nine additional Auxiliary Pollution Responders (totaling 24) and 240 Florida Keys residents in Hazardous Waste Operations and Emergency Response (HAZWOPER) First Responder Awareness, for a total of 550 trained volunteers.

Sector Lower Mississippi River: Several Sector personnel have attended various pollution response/prevention trainings throughout the year. FOSCR, Pollution Incident Responder, TAD

for additional pollution experience, ICS 320 training provided to CG (AD, RES, Aux) members, local emergency responders and local industry partners.

Sector Mobile: Training has included NOAA instruction on Oil Spill Aerial Observer Training, ERMA training, NWS training on weather services and topics, ICS 300a, FOSCR training. Shipment of Hazardous Materials Training, District funded Oil Spill Response Training. Sector Mobile provided HAZWOPER refresher for Sector personnel, IMD provided monthly training for over 8 months to qualify 05 Auxiliarists as Pollution Responders.

USCG/EPA MOA

In late October the Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) between U.S. Coast Guard Districts Five, Seven and Eight along with EPA Region 4 was signed. The MOA outlined response boundaries for oil and hazardous substance pollution incidents and Federal OSC responsibilities. EPA has committed to providing digitalized maps in the next couple of months.

District 8 and District 7 Boundary Changes

Coast Guard District Seven and Coast Guard District Eight along with Florida State and County representatives have been planning and discussing the potential change to the boundary line between Coast Guard Districts. Background: On February 4, 2011, Taylor County Florida expressed concerns regarding the current boundary line dividing Coast Guard Districts Seven and Eight which runs through Taylor County. These concerns came to light as a result of coordinated response efforts following the Deepwater Horizon Incident of National Significance. In response to these concerns, Taylor County requested aligning the District boundary with Taylor County's boundary to simplify future response activities. Proposed, Sector St. Petersburg will extend coverage to all of Taylor County as Sector Mobiles AOR will geographically align with Taylor County's boundaries. This request requires no significant shift in resources, but does require an amendment to the Code of Federal Regulations. Drafted changes have been submitted for review. We are currently looking at another boundary change within D7. The boundary between Sector Miami and Sector Jacksonville has been looked at as well. The proposed boundary change would realign with the southern Brevard County line as opposed to splitting the county between Sectors. The work on this has only been a proposed idea.

B. EXERCISES/WORKSHOPS

Sector Charleston: Sector Charleston: Conduct PREP notification drills on a quarterly basis. Participated in Industry-Led Full Scale PREP Exercise to test facility procedures and OSRO's response procedures as outlined in the Facility Response Plan (FRP). Unified Command was established and participants included: AC members, Defense Fuel Depot Management personnel, CG, state, county & local response personnel.

MSU Savannah: MSU Savannah conducted four qualified individual notification drills, one Government Initiated Unannounced Exercise (GIUE), and one functional exercise (FE) in conjunction with the Savannah Spill Response Corporation. Sponsorship for Industry Lead Full Scale Exercises continues to be a challenge. Documentation of the collected body of work, exercises and real world responses over sometimes extended periods of time is required to complete all objectives within the PREP program.

Sector Jacksonville: The Sector conducted PREP notification drills on a quarterly basis. They conducted a GIUE at Blanchard Terminal. The Sector participated in several Industry exercises;

including Marathon Petroleum, Volusia CO TTX, Crowley Maritime, JAXPORT's Recovery and Restoration of Trade TTX, Jacksonville Fire & Rescue Marine Response TTX.

Sector St. Petersburg: The Facilities, Incident Management and CPFR Divisions participated in numerous PREP Exercises: TECO Energy, Tampa International Airport, Collier, Lee and Charlotte Counties. Used real-world pollution response efforts conducted during the CFV SKYE MARIE incident to receive credit for our 2013 PREP Exercise. Facilitated annual boom deployment exercises and training with Auxiliarists and crews from Stations (Yankeetown, Cortez, St. Petersburg and Fort Myers Beach). Conducted four interagency with the EPA to ensure timely arrival and deployment of response equipment/ assets.

Sector Miami: Ten exercises or drills were conducted during the CY 2013 including Emergency Notification, GIUES, and PREP Equipment Deployment. Miami Dade County Emergency Management and Florida Power and Light lead the Nuclear Power Plant Plume Exercise. The Nuclear Power Plant exercise was evaluated by FEMA. This Exercise reviewed and tested section 9000 of Sector Miami's ACP.

Sector Key West: The Florida Keys Area Committee conducted four notification drills, an industry-led, full-scale exercise for PREP; an equipment deployment exercise with Station Key West, and a Vessel of Opportunity Skimming System (VOSS) exercise with the CGC HUDSON in conjunction with Sector Miami

Sector Lower Mississippi River: The Sector conducted PREP notification drills on a quarterly basis. They participated in Valero's Full Scale Oil Spill Exercise to test facility procedures and the OSRO's response procedures as outlined in the Facility Response Plan (FRP). Unified Command was established and participants included: Valero personnel, local fire & police departments, and Sector LMR personnel. SLMR held unit level FOSCR exercise targeting Prevention Dept. personnel.

Sector Mobile: Recently completed TTX with Chevron to test Worst Case Discharge scenario of crude pipeline blow out. Held TTX in April 2013 with Shell and EPA tested OSRO response capabilities and facility response plan. Sector Mobile submitted all quarterly PREP drills/notifications for CY 2013.

RRT IV: The RRT also planned/supported/participated in the following:
Arden Sentry 2013
Florida Hurrex 2013
RRT IV Dispersant Use Plan TTX

C. FEDERAL, STATE, and LOCAL PLANNING AND COORDINATION EFFORTS

AREA COMMITTEE ACTIVITIES:

Sector Charleston: Currently holds two meetings annually which are well attended (50-60 members). Key focus this year was on bulk Hazmat and aviation fuel transported and stored in the Marine Transfer Facility Area of Responsibility. This year's Industry-Led Full Scale PREP exercise was conducted by Charleston Defense Fuel Depot. The exercise scenario involved a worst-case discharge of aviation fuel stored on facility. Sector is currently evaluating the digitalized ACP for volume and appropriateness of information. The Area Committee approved the reduction of OPA 90 First Aid Response trailers from four to one in inventory. Sector Charleston is coordinating with Coast Guard District Seven to relocate or dispose of the trailers

that have been identified for reduction. In utilizing one of the OPA 90 First Aid Response trailers, CG personnel deployed 450 ft of the unit's 18" boom in Georgetown, SC in response to a fire that occurred on the waterfront on 25 Sep 13.

MSU Savannah: The MSU Savannah Area Committee convenes quarterly - twice in Savannah and twice in Brunswick. ACP updates commenced in 2013 and are continuing with a focus on GRP validation and a SCAT segment design and definition project that is scheduled to conclude by July 2014. This project is being conducted in partnership with the Florida Fish and Wildlife Research Institute with support from the Area Committee partners, city and county government EMA/GIS assistance, Georgia State DNR, EPA and USCG contributions. We have synchronized our meeting schedule with Chatham and Glynn county LEPC meeting cycles to leverage common objectives and reduce meeting fatigue on our limited partner resources. Our efforts continue to focus on coastal port counties based on risk but we are seeking to expand Area Committee participation into the interior counties.

Sector Jacksonville: Area Committee meets on a quarterly basis. Participation has greatly increased due to moving the meeting to one central location (Volusia County EOC, Daytona Beach) for both Port Canaveral and Jacksonville members. The fourth quarter meeting conducted Aug 14, 2013, included a RULET overview provided by Mr. Forest Willis (D7), Mr. Brad Benggio and Mrs. Lisa Symons from NOAA, and Mr. Doug Campbell (Sector Jacksonville) displayed an ACCESS web tool that could be used in risk analysis of abandoned vessels or other potential sunken pollution sources not covered by RULET. The first quarter meeting conducted Jan 9, 2014, included a brief from Mr. Richard Knudsen (Florida Fish & Wildlife Research Institute) who provided a brief via adobe connect on the Florida Oil Spill Commission Report & Lessons Learned from DWH for the State of Florida. There are two LEPCs in the AOR but little to no involvement with the AC, still looking to increase interface with LEPCs.

Sector St. Petersburg: Area Committee Meetings are held quarterly in Tampa, FL, typically in conjunction with the Tampa Bay Spill Committee Meetings. All meetings are well attended, but funding constraints for Panhandle Counties occasionally limit their attendance at Area Committee Meetings. In addition to Area Committee Meetings, we actively partner with multiple LEPCs in the AOR on joint projects. We continue to work to resolve the boundary line issue between SSP and Sector Mobile (D7 and D8). The proposed boundary line will modify SSP's AOR to include all of Taylor County and Jefferson County. Once the boundary line issue is resolved, SSP's CPFR Division will hold meetings with the Emergency Managers of Taylor County and Jefferson County.

Sector Miami: Miami held four Area Committee meeting in 2013 in the Broward County area, with one of the meetings at the Broward EOC. There are currently 178 listed members on the Area Committee (last year's member list 158 members). There were four workgroups this year that were specifically involved in areas to help improve implementation of the ACP. The four workgroups; Volunteer Management, Marine Fire Fighting, OSRO, and Marine Mammals. The Marine Firefighting workgroup conducted an annual review/update of Section 8000 – Marine Firefighting Plan. The Marine Mammal workgroup conduct a review/update of Section 3000 (Operations) and Section 4000 (Planning). FL Dept of Environmental Protection Coral Reef Conservation initiatives provided an update on coral reefs, with a total of 140 coral reef projects 127 of them have been completed.

Sector Key West: The Florida Keys Area Committee held four quarterly meetings in 2013. Two meetings were held at Sector Key West, one at NOAA's Eco Discovery Center, and an end of the year wrap-up teleconference. The teleconference was a cost and time efficient way to supplement in person meetings. It garnered widespread support from committee members and was identified as a best practice to counteract the effects of budgetary constraints. There were no major plan updates this year as a full review and update of the ACP was completed in 2012.

Sector Lower Mississippi River: Currently hold multiple meetings per year with Area Maritime Security Committees (AMSC) from Memphis, Western Mississippi, Ouachita/Red River, Arkansas and Oklahoma. Meetings with Memphis AMSC are held monthly, with quarterly teleconferences held for the other four AMSCs. Memphis AMSC members participated in Mass Rescue Operation (MRO) table top exercise, attended by private and public sector committee members. Increased partnerships by holding joint LE training with AMSC partner's drug/bomb dogs.

Sector Mobile: Coordinated four Area Committee Meetings in CY2013. Two in Florida, one in Mississippi, and one in Alabama. The Digital ACP was completed in December. Subcommittees are currently being formed in Florida, Mississippi and Alabama to evaluate and update the ACP data viewer. GRP Workgroup established and also active in updating GRP data. AC meetings are well attended with numbers ranging from 30-60 depending on location. LEPC meetings are attended monthly and quarterly. There are over 10 LEPC's in the Sector Mobile AOR.

D. MAJOR BEST PRACTICES FROM RESPONSES, TRAININGS, EXERCISES/WORKSHOPS AND OTHER RRT ACTIVITIES

None to report

III. PERSONNEL CHANGES/ORGANIZATIONAL CHANGES

During the October 2014 meeting in Louisville, the standing members approved the creation of the Executive Order 13650 Chemical Facility Safety and Security subcommittee. The subcommittee is chaired by EPA OSC Art Smith and includes membership from DHS, USCG and OSHA as well as each state. The subcommittee's purpose is to develop standard operating procedures for the implementation of the EO in Region 4.

IV. ISSUES OR OPERATIONAL REQUIREMENTS REQUIRING NRT ATTENTION

Updating the Dispersant Use Plan and In-Situ Burn Plan has been slowed due to delays in receiving guidance documents, understanding the consultation process that is required and obtaining funding for the biological assessments. We are still awaiting news on proposed changes to Subpart J that may cause us to alter our plans further.