

Summary Notes¹
Pacific Oil Spill Prevention Education Team (POSPET) Meeting
April 1, 2005
Washington Department of Ecology

Attending: Eric Olsson, Washington SeaGrant; Mary Ellen Voss, Washington Dept. of Ecology; Jyll Smith and Kristen Feindel, Oregon Marine Board; Fran Recht, Pacific States Marine Fisheries Council Habitat Program; Chris Wilke, Puget Soundkeeper Alliance; John Boettner, Washington Dept. of Natural Resources; Jean Cameron, Pacific States/BC Oil Spill Task Force. Attending by speaker phone: Vivian Matuk, California Coastal Commission

Discussion Notes

- Eric reviewed POSPET's philosophy, goals, and objectives, noting that POSPET promotes a consistent message to boaters that move between our jurisdictions. POSPET helps us avoid duplicate efforts and extends the reach and quality of each member program. Eric will be drafting a one-page POSPET statement for the members' review².
- The group discussed tracking spill data from marinas in order to measure the success of our outreach programs.³
- Vivian Matuk of the California Coastal Commission (CCC) described her current work with Contra Costa County (the County) and the California Department of Boating & Waterways (DBW). Last year, Contra Costa County Public Works received a Proposition 13 (State Water Resources Control Board and CA Bay-Delta Authority) funded program, "Keep the Delta Clean. You Play In It, You Drink It Too!" (Program). Due to the technical nature and shared goals encompassed within the program, the County, the Commission and DBW are working together in the development and implementation of this program. The County is the lead agency. The Program uses education and pollution prevention infrastructure to preserve and protect, drinking water quality, recreational activities and environmental health in the Delta. The components of the Program generally fall within the categories of outreach/public education and pollution prevention services (infrastructure).
- One of the educational components of the program was to develop the Sacramento - San Joaquin Delta map. The map shows marinas and the environmental services they provide. She had sent a draft copy, which everyone reviewed as she explained the map:
 - The map includes 77 marinas in the central and southern part of the Delta and 43 Used Oil certified Centers.
 - The Program will provide five Delta marinas (Sugar Barge marina, Lauritzen yacht harbor, LazyM Marina, Discovery Bay Yacht Harbor and Bethel Harbor) with absorbent pad distribution and collection, fish-cleaning stations (2), pet waste stations, and three marinas will become State Certified used Oil Collection Centers. These three marinas will be collection marine batteries, used oil, used oil filters and empty used oil bottles from boaters and the public for free. The county will also set up a collection route; once the pads are collected, the oil will be extracted and recycled.

¹ NOTE: This is a meeting summary and is not intended as a verbatim record of all presentations or comments made during the meeting.

² Eric sent a draft on 4/29, which was eventually incorporated into a POSPET brochure developed by Mary Ellen Voss, to be printed by OSPR.

³ The PS/BC Oil Spill Task Force Data Dictionary includes marinas and pleasure craft as sources, but the spill threshold for the regional database is one barrel, so it's too high for small spills to be recorded. POSPET members should work with the spill databases managers in each state to collect small spill information, since it is required to be reported.

- The map includes the 1-800-OILS-911 number and covers such environmental and safety issues as spill reporting, first aid, invasive species, carbon monoxide risks, and mercury in fish.
 - The Commission, the County and DBWplan to distribute the maps at boat shows and events in the delta and in the Delta boater kits. The delta boater kits will be mainly distributed through the Delta Dockwalkers, program staff and will be also available at delta marinas. Stanley the Striped Bass is the delta Program's spoke fish; a coloring book for kids will also be available as part of this Program.
 - Vivian agreed to send copies of the final map to all POSPET members.
 - CCC plans to extend this campaign to the other counties in the San Francisco Bay and Delta in the future., if funding is available.
- Jyll Smith and Kristen Feindel of the Oregon Marine Board explained that they are developing a Clean Marina program.
 - Kristen is working with a stakeholder group to design a guidebook for marinas, yacht clubs, houseboat marines, and boatyards, based on the Maryland model. Marinas will be the primary focus. They noted that boatyards deal with a wider range of hazardous materials, so are a more complicated challenge.
 - The Marine Board will run a verification program. Fran Recht advised them to consider a wide range of environmental issues, such as impacts on salmon, recycling, and air quality.
 - They were also encouraged by POSPET members to make certified Clean Marinas preferential for Marine Board grants.
 - Eric stated that state agencies should provide technical assistance and grants to help marinas achieve the Clean Marina standards.
- John Boettner of the Washington Dept. of Natural Resources (DNR) noted that his agency has 15 "land managers" who would be happy to help distribute educational materials to Washington marinas with DNR leases. At this time, Best Management Practices (BMPs) are not a lease requirement, however.
- Eric Olsson offered to check the status of the Rhode Island effort to compile marina BMPs and will report back to POSPET.
- Chris Wilke of the Puget Soundkeeper Alliance (PSA) provided literature and an explanation of King County's EnviroStar's program for small quantity hazardous waste generators, specifically the "Checklist for Marinas." His organization is doing outreach to marinas as part of the program; the NW Marine Trade Association is also involved. He'd like to call it a Clean Marina Program and incorporate the EnviroStars program as one aspect.
 - Chris also provided copies of PSA's Boaters' Guide for Puget Sound, which covers sensitive resources, a pump-out location map, fuel docks, information on cleaning products and boat maintenance, and a list of permitted boatyards.
- Fran Recht explained that the Pacific States Marine Fisheries Council Habitat Program works with watershed councils to protect and develop fish habitat. She can help distribute POSPET literature through her outreach efforts with the councils and with the fishing industry.
- Eric Olsson of Washington SeaGrant reported that he works with fishing vessels, tribes, and coastal communities to promote a spill prevention message. He does outreach to marinas through the Pacific Coast Congress of Harbormasters, which includes port managers as well as several hundred public and private marina operators.
 - WA SeaGrant sponsored a Shellfish Conference that stress the need to protect water quality as well as oil spill prevention and response.
 - Eric noted the value of involving kids in educational outreach, since "no one can say NO" to them! He used a Harbormasters' grant to help middle school kids in Sequim, WA with their spill prevention outreach program.
- The group noted that marinas and recreational boaters are our "end users" and brainstormed a list of possible target audiences who could create demand for clean marinas and boating, as follows:
 - Boat retail shops
 - School environmental camps

- Kids
 - Tribes
 - Power Squadrons
 - US Coast Guard auxiliary
 - Fishing clubs
 - Environmental groups
 - The media
 - Boating, sailing, kayak, canoeing classes
 - Marine programs at Junior colleges
 - Outdoor stores
- POSPET members should work together to design outreach programs to reach these audiences.
- Current POSPET projects were then reviewed, as follows:
 - Mary Ellen Voss is designing graphics for the "Spills Aren't Slick" campaign materials and working with other POSPET members to determine orders. Rob Hughes of OSPR has offered to get quotes and hopes that his agency will cover the printing costs. He hopes to have the materials printed in this fiscal year, which ends June 30th.
 - It was recommended that POSPET members track where the material is distributed; Mary Ellen offered to compile this information if others will send it to her.
 - Jean Cameron reviewed the POSPET web page, which is available on the Task Force web site. Members suggested that she see if it could have a direct address established, but she later determined that using the keyword "POSPET" in a web search would take you directly there.
 - Jean also provided a report on OILS 911 usage from July 2004 through February of 2005 which indicated that a total of 275 calls had been made on the system during that period, including 112 in BC, 10 in Washington, 9 in Oregon, and 144 in California. Jean attributed the higher numbers to better information distribution, especially through the CCC outreach in California.
- Eric led a discussion regarding potential POSPET partners. US Coast Guard reserves and auxiliary, other state agencies, and marine trade associations were identified. Eric will contact USCG District 13 regarding someone from Reserves or Auxiliary to join POSPET. Mary Ellen Voss will recruit other WA agencies to join POSPET as appropriate. Chris Wilke will contact the NW Marine Trade Association.
- Members agreed to collaborate on a "POSPET" article for a trade publication; Fran recommended SEA magazine, and offered to find a previous article regarding clean boating and forward it to Eric, who will pull together an article on "green boating" with a POSPET sidebar. Chris offered to send information on SEA magazine to Eric.
- Regarding legislation and public policy of note, Eric commented that both the Pew Commission and the Oceans Commission reports had noted the population pressures on our coasts and the non-point source pollution which results. Boater education/licensing laws provide opportunities for spill prevention education; the big spills get all the media attention, but they do create an awareness of oil spills as bad for the environment.
- Eric Olsson agreed to contact POSPET members in BC before the Harbormasters' event there, and to serve as the POSPET chair for another year.
- All POSPET members agreed to distribute signs and decals once received.
- The meeting adjourned at 3pm.