

**SUMMARY NOTES**  
**Pacific Oil Spill Prevention Education Team (POSPET)**  
**2012 Spring Meeting**  
**March 15, 2012**  
**Hosted by the Washington Department of Ecology**  
**Lacey, WA**

**ATTENDING:** Eric Olsson, Washington Sea Grant (POSPET CHAIR); Mary Ellen Voss, Washington Department of Ecology; Aaron Barnett, Washington State Parks; Barbara Owens, Puget Soundkeeper Alliance; Jean Cameron, Pacific States/British Columbia Oil Spill Task Force

**PARTICIPATING BY PHONE:** Ray Hoy, Oregon Department of Environmental Quality; Rachel Bullene, Oregon State Marine Board; Rachel Lord, Cook Inletkeeper; Scot Tiernan, Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation; Pete Garland, USCG District 13 Auxiliary; and Vivian Matuk, California Coastal Commission and California Department of Boating and Waterways

**UPDATE EMAILED:** Charles Martin, City of Des Moines Marina

**MEMBER REPORTS:**

Vivian Matuk, California Coastal Commission and California Department of Boating and Waterways

- By way of background, Vivian explained that the Boating Clean and Green Program, which began in 1997, promotes environmentally sound boating through education and by working with marinas and local governments to increase availability of environmental services for boaters. The program was started by the California Coastal Commission. In April 2006, the Department of Boating and Waterways (DBW) assumed a lead role in the Program. DBW and the Commission are now working in partnership to implement the program. Vivian further explained that the “Clean Marina” program in California is industry-run.
- In 2011, her program developed and distributed 5,250 boater kits and conducted seven statewide Dockwalker volunteer trainings. More than 150 new volunteers were trained to conduct face-to-face boater education about clean and safe boating practices. Their 2012 handouts will include bilge pads in a folder with various publications.
- Vivian noted that she relies heavily on the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary to help with the Dockwalker training. She also works with agencies that do outreach to boaters regarding spills, sewage and invasive species.
- In partnership with the Santa Monica Bay Restoration Foundation and the Keep the Delta Clean Program (partners), Vivian’s program released the [2007 – 2009 California Boater Survey Final Report](#), based on a survey of motorized boaters about their attitudes, opinions and knowledge of boating related issues. A total of 5,735 surveys were completed. Based on the survey results, the Partners plan to focus future education and outreach efforts on preventative engine maintenance, use of pollution prevention tools, recognition of the used oil collection center and sewage pump-out logos, and sewage discharge regulations.
- They continued to set up recycling stations for monofilament fishing line in areas with the highest recreational fishing activity in the state, an effort that was launched in 2008 in partnership with the Boat U.S. Foundation. Thirty-nine new stations were installed in 2011. Staff developed a Google map showing the location of the existing 81 stations throughout the state; this is available at <http://g.co/maps/brqvk>. To date, the stations have collected about 600 pounds of fishing line.
- The Boating Clean and Green Program has distributed 10,000 copies of the [San Francisco Bay Area Clean Boating Map](#) at boat shows and boating events. Due to its popularity, a new updated map will be printed in 2012. This free map features locations of marina-based pollution prevention services.
- *The Changing Tide* is the quarterly publication of the three chapters of the CCBN (California Clean Boating Network – a forum of members from the boating industry, government agencies and environmental groups).

In 2011, they distributed three issues (11,000 copies each). The newsletter focuses on new trends in clean boating practices and environmental services for boaters. See:

[http://www.coastal.ca.gov/ccbn/ccbnhomenew.html#Changing\\_Tide](http://www.coastal.ca.gov/ccbn/ccbnhomenew.html#Changing_Tide)

- The Boating Program brought together several state and federal agencies, the California Department of Toxic Substances Control, CalRecycle, California EPA, CalEMA, the San Francisco Department of Public Health and the Coastal Commission's Water Quality Unit, along with Orion (the biggest marine flare producer in California), to explore options for the boating community on how to properly dispose of expired flares. With an estimated 174,026 out-of-date flares generated annually by boaters in California, it is essential to find proper and convenient disposal options.
- It is important for government agencies involved in oil spill planning and response to engage with the representatives of marinas and yacht clubs in order to garner their assistance and cooperation in the event of a spill. To address this need, the Boating Program is leading a working group in the Bay Area comprised of representatives from OSPR, the U.S. Coast Guard, CalEMA, the Office of Emergency Services, the Port Captains and Harbormasters Association, the Marina Recreation Association, the Clean Marinas Program, the Pacific Inter-Yacht Club Association and the San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission. This working group will develop a list of involved agencies and their contact procedures in order to make this list and other resources available to marinas and yacht clubs. A long-term goal for this group is to plan an oil spill drill for marinas and yacht clubs on the Bay. In partnership with the U.S. Coast Guard, the group held a free 8-hour HAZWOPER training at the Bay Model in Sausalito, which was attended by 50 marina and yacht club operators.
- Vivian reported that the Program staff is also working with the Department of Toxic Substances Control, the Office of Pollution Prevention and Green Technology, representatives from the boatyard industry, the Sea Grant Extension Program, and others to develop a guide to Best Management Practices for boatyards.
- In 2011, staff started participating in the America's Cup 34 task forces to identify ways to encourage boaters and marine facilities to utilize environmentally sound practices for the expected increase in business generated by these events.
- In 2011, staff conducted a pilot program partnering with two yacht clubs (Port Royal in Redondo Beach and Sequoia Yacht Club in Redwood City) during Coastal Clean Up Day (CCD) 2011. The purpose was to collect information on how the program can be expanded to involve more boating facilities. Combining the efforts from both yacht clubs, 63 volunteers collected 1,267 pounds of trash and recyclables. Staff developed a [Toolkit](#) for marinas and yacht clubs that will assist these facilities in planning and organizing their participation in Coastal Cleanup Days as well as the Adopt-the Beach Program. See: [http://www.coastal.ca.gov/publiced/ccd/ccd\\_marina.html](http://www.coastal.ca.gov/publiced/ccd/ccd_marina.html)
- Vivian also worked with the NOAA Marine Chart Division to include clean boating information in NOAA's California full-size print on demand charts and Pocket charts. A second component of this partnership involves staff developing a clean boating section for NOAA's Coastal Pilot Book, which covers the entire Pacific region. For the last 12-month period, people have downloaded the Coastal Pilot Book 8,084 times. In addition, 4,552 Coastal Pilot Book books are printed and distributed throughout the year. Distribution includes sales to the public, the military and government agencies.

#### Ray Hoy, Oregon Department of Environmental Quality (ODEQ)

- Ray explained that 80-90% of the spills in Oregon occur on the highways or from vessel traffic. However, he feels that POSPET is an important partner with ODEQ when it comes to public education regarding spills.
- ODEQ State On-Scene Coordinators (SOSCs) are helping distribute the *Spills Aren't Slick* signs.
- Ray also noted that the Legislature had just lifted the statewide hiring freeze, so the Emergency Response program will begin a search to replace the program manager who recently retired.

### Rachel Bullene, Oregon State Marine Board

- Rachel reported that one new marina has been certified in Oregon's Clean Marina program, bringing the total to 51 statewide. An additional 24 marinas are pledged; some have been in this status of years, but two are very close to certification.
- Five thousand boater spill kits have been given to the certified Clean Marinas for distribution and Rachel plans to order another 5,000. The certified marinas also get dockside spill kits from the Marine Board, which are refilled as needed. These contain 50 feet of boom, 50 absorbent pads, two recovery bags and nitrile gloves.
- Rachel has scheduled several marina visits this spring, including one to a boatyard in Charleston, OR. The program may be tiered in the future to customize programs for boatyards, houseboats, moorages, and both small and large marinas.
- She has been working with the U.S. Coast Guard and ODEQ to develop a spill response-training program for marinas; they would like to host one workshop in the Metro area and one on the Coast. These would most likely take place this fall.
- Rachel also noted that the State Marine Board is submitting legislative concepts based in part on the recommendations that have come out of the Derelict Vessel Task Force.
- Rachel reported that clean boater bags and surveys were distributed at the Portland Boat Show; in addition, 55 surveys were completed there. She noted that she has enough materials for 2,700 clean boater bags but will not have funding for more until the 2013 – 2015 biennium.



*Clean Boater Bag*

- Rachel noted that clean boating is part of the educational messages provided through the mandatory education course, both online and in-person (called Boat Oregon). In addition, clean boater bags are given to customers that sign the pledge while doing business in the Salem, Oregon Marine Board office.

### Scot Tiernan, Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation (ADEC)

- ADEC's primary spill concerns over the winter focused on spills from home heating oil tanks, as well as spills from recreational boats "SAD" from the weight of snow. (SAD = Sunk at dock)
- ADEC has made 10-20' Conex Containers filled with response equipment available to the Harbor Masters in Alaska, Scot explained. The challenge for the agency is to keep the Harbor Masters trained and to keep the containers restocked. Some of these containers are in small, remote communities.
- He asked the other POSPET members to send him lists of the items in their spill kits.
- Scot will be retiring this July; Sara Moore is likely to be ADEC's new representative to POSPET, he noted.

### Rachel Lord, Cook Inletkeeper

- Alaska's Clean Harbors program has received some federal funding that will cover the next three years, Rachel reported
- The harbors in Homer and Seward on the Kenai Peninsula are now certified; Valdez will probably be the next certified "Clean Harbor." Rachel is also working with a private marina (most marinas in Alaska are municipal and are called "harbors") on Big Lake, north of Anchorage. She'd like to setup a dock walker program at Big Lake to help spread the word about clean boating.

- Rachel participates on an advisory committee to the Alaska Harbormasters; other committee members include ADEC, the National Park Service, the Department of Natural Resources, Alaska Sea Grant and NOAA.
- Rachel has borrowed ideas from other POSPET members to assemble a boater kit; 200 were distributed at the Anchorage Boat Show and another show is coming up in Kodiak.
- She's collaborating with watershed groups, boating fleets and harbor facilities to get the clean boating word out.
- Rachel and Barbara Owens of the Puget Soundkeeper Alliance will co-present at the River Rally Conference in Portland, OR in May regarding their clean boating programs.
- She explained that one challenge in Alaska is outreach to small communities with limited resources as well as limited interest in "outside" input. Giving them equipment and training is the best approach, since it enables these communities to care for themselves.

#### Barbara Owens, Puget Soundkeeper Alliance

- Washington's Clean Marina program is a collaboration of Washington Sea Grant and EnviroStars, with some funding from the State, which has now been cut. The program does get funding from State Parts for Clean Boater outreach, which includes the Clean Boater kit.
- There are 61 certified Clean Marinas in Washington and the program has added a Clean Boatyard program funded by the NW Marine Trade Association's Clean Boating Foundation.
- Barbara explained that the Puget Soundkeeper Alliance (PSA) encourages its members to report oil spills to them, which they will then relay to appropriate authorities. Other POSPET members pointed out that Washington and the U.S. have laws that require oil spills to water to be reported immediately to both the state and to the National Response Center; they were concerned that spill reports to PSA might delay this legal reporting.
- Barbara is also hoping to re-activate a Dockwalker program organized by the Washington State University beach walker program.

#### Aaron Barnett, Washington State Parks

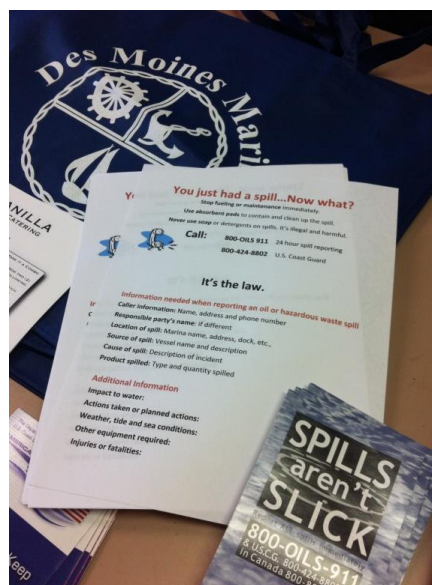
- Aaron explained that he does outreach to boaters regarding water pollution, with an emphasis on bilge and sewage pump-outs facilities. He works with the USCG Auxiliary, sheriffs' offices, etc., to educate boaters on the Clean Vessel Act.
- He has distributed sewage and bilge pump out information in various handouts, as well as conducted surveys. His surveys indicate that 60-75% of respondents are aware of the problem and would use pump-outs if they were available.
- Aaron would like to distribute adapters for sewage pump-outs.
- He's also interested in making better use of the media.
- Aaron will be talking to boaters at an upcoming boat show in Eastern Washington.

#### Mary Ellen Voss, Washington Department of Ecology

- Mary Ellen explained that she moved last year from the Prevention Section to the Preparedness Section in Ecology's Spills Program, so her work involves more emphasis on the Program's website. She's added Clean Marina outreach as well as a "tips" page for boaters and marinas. She's synchronizing news releases with posting these "tips," as well as developing social media formats to distribute clean boating information.
- Washington has had quite a few groundings and "SAD" boat incidents this winter, she noted.
- Ecology staff and SOSCs distribute clean boating information and oil spill kits, as well as *Spills Aren't Slick* material to Class 4 marinas, where oil transfer operations are regulated under state law.
- Mary Ellen is considering a clean boating theme for Earth Day 2012 (April 22).

### Charlie Martin, Des Moines Marina

- The Des Moines Marina was busy during the off-season. In preparation for the upcoming season, they are looking very closely at our seasonal workers training program; specifically, how to teach staff to prevent spills at their fuel dock as well as the proper way to inform boaters of their responsibility to report any spills they cause. This has always been a touchy subject, but with the right attitude and our 'Oops' (WDOE-sanctioned) cards, they feel that the message will be conveyed effectively.
- They are also in preventative maintenance mode for their fuel dispenser equipment. Their nozzles and hoses are showing their age, so they are replacing them prior to any failure in order to prevent spills and high season downtime. They believe that the minimal expense of replacing hardware prior to any failure is an effective component of their spill prevention strategy.
- Their outreach efforts will be ramped up as approximately 25 yacht clubs start visiting this season. The Marina always provides welcome bags with literature about local business and sightseeing opportunities. This season, they will add spill prevention materials to emphasize the "Spills Aren't Slick" message. They will also include a larger version of their "Oops" card to remind boaters of the regulations. See below:



### Eric Olsson, Washington Sea Grant

- Eric explained that he works for the University of Washington Sea Grant (WSG) program with a focus on vessel safety training, as well as on promoting clean boating and clean marinas. Eric is also an Incident Commander on call for the Washington State Maritime Cooperative (WSMC).
- In addition, he guides 2 – 3 students a month through an online Oil Spill Preparedness, Planning and Response course hosted by the University of Alaska SE in Sitka. The course is geared towards marina operators. He is working with the Boat U.S. Foundation to design a similar course for them.
- As part of his fishing vessel safety outreach for Washington Sea Grant, he emphasizes “a clean boat is a safe boat.”
- Eric also takes his safety and clean boating messages to tribes along the Washington coast and in the Columbia River basin. He’s recently taught classes in Westport and Neah Bay.
- He will also be representing WSMC and WSG at a marine resource workshop in Friday Harbor. In addition, Eric reported that he will be at the Pacific Coast Harbormasters’ conference in Nanaimo, British Columbia in April; he chairs their training and education committee.
- Also, Washington Sea Grant plans to sponsor a “working waterways” conference; he anticipates outreach opportunities at that event as well.

- Eric also noted that he would be co-chairing a session at the Clean Pacific Conference on “Response Issues and Operational Challenges.” He’s co-author of a presentation in that session focused on the need for improved spill reporting and initial assessments.

Jean Cameron, Pacific States/British Columbia Oil Spill Task Force

- Jean reported that summary notes of a summit of West Coast Harbor Safety Committee Chairs, which the Oil Spill Task Force co-hosted with the California Department of Fish and Game, are available on the Task Force website. In addition, notes from an Oil Spill R&D conference call hosted by the Task Force are posted on the website and include links to a wide variety of oil spill research projects in both the U.S. and Canada.
- Jean reported that the Task Force is currently supporting a workgroup that will produce a training video focused on best bunkering practices for the Pacific region.
- The Oil Spill Task Force recently sent letters to the U.S. EPA, the U.S. Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA), and to the U.S. Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM), petitioning them to initiate rulemaking that would increase the limits of liability for oil handling facilities that they regulate.
- Since Jean is retiring July 1, 2012, the Task Force is currently interviewing candidates for her replacement. The Task Force Members also recently chose the winners of their 2012 Legacy Awards, which she announced, proudly noting that Eric Olsson is one of the 2012 Legacy Award winners for his spill prevention outreach.
- Jean will be busy with the Clean Pacific Conference, which the Task Force hosts and which serves as their annual meeting for 2012. She encouraged POSPET members to attend.

Pete Garland, U.S. Coast Guard District 13 Auxiliary

- Pete reported that he will be assuming Harry Ota’s responsibilities in respect of POSPET

**POSPET ADMINISTRATIVE TOPICS**

POSPET website

- Mary Ellen brought the *Spills Aren't Slick* web page up for everyone to view, while Jean explained that she had made the formatting changes requested at the October meeting.
- In addition, Oregon’s Clean Marina and Clean Boating program is now the “featured program” on the website.
- Jean also noted that the summary notes from POSPET’s October 2011 meeting were posted on the site.
- See <http://www.oilspilltaskforce.org/pospet.htm>.

1-800-OIL S911 usage and trends

- A total of 277 calls were made using the spill reporting number 1-800-OILS-911 from July 2011 through February of 2012. That total included 16 in British Columbia, 99 in Washington, 11 in Oregon, and 151 in California.

Ongoing Pacific States/B.C. Oil Spill Task Force support

- Jean assured the POSPET members that the Oil Spill Task Force will continue it’s support of both the 1-800-OILS-911 number and of POSPET’s meetings and webpage. She will review the tasks involved in POSPET support when she trains her replacement, who will begin on July 1<sup>st</sup>.

*Spills Aren't Slick* campaign and materials

- Mary Ellen reported that the following *Spills Aren't Slick* materials were distributed in March of 2011:

**DECALS**

4,500 decals (Calif/OR)	estimate \$780.19 plus tax [P7006]
4,500 decals (WA)	estimate \$780.19 plus tax [P3600]

**FUEL TAGS**

2,500 (WA, OR, CALIF) estimate \$1550 plus tax [P3600]

**SIGNS (11"x17")**

380 (Calif/OR) estimate \$1930 plus tax [P7006]

500 (WA/Canada) estimate \$2540 plus tax [P3600]

**BROCHURES**

3,200 brochures (Calif/OR) estimate \$500 [P3600]

5,500 brochures (WA/Canada) estimate \$750 [P3600]

- These printing costs were paid by the Washington Department of Ecology and the Oil Spill Task Force, but neither has funding available this year for additional printing.
- Rachel Bullene offered to print more *Spills Aren't Slick* signs (the Oregon/California version) for this year.
- Jean will survey POSPET members to find out how much *Spills Aren't Slick* outreach material they will need for 2013.
- Mary Ellen will email Jean a new PDF file for the *Spills Aren't Slick* brochure posted on the web page.

**Surprise Party!**

- Jean was surprised with a chocolate cake baked by Mary Ellen and a "goodbye" card signed by everyone!

**Fall 2012 meeting date**

- The new Executive Coordinator will contact Eric in August to begin the process of selecting a date for the Fall meeting.