

**SUMMARY NOTES - FINAL**  
**Pacific Oil Spill Prevention Education Team (POSPET)**

**2014 Fall Meeting**  
**November 18, 9:30-3:00**  
**Seattle, WA**

**Attendees**

In person

Aaron Barnett, Washington Sea Grant  
Lisa Isakson, WA State Dept of Ecology  
Brian Kirk, Washington Sea Grant  
Rachel Lord, Cook Inletkeeper  
Hilary Wilkinson, Pacific States/BC Task Force

On the phone:

Vivian Matuk, California State Parks Division of Boating and Waterways and California Coastal Commission  
Steve Gonzalez, covering for Alexia Retallack, OSPR  
Michelle Young, Georgia Strait Alliance, BC

**WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS**

- Meeting notes from spring 2014 meeting were approved. Notes will be finalized and distributed to POSPET as well as posted to POSPET webpage.
- Brian Kirk is new to Sea Grant and will begin participating in POSPET meetings.

**REVIEW TASKS/NEXT STEPS FROM SPRING 2014 MEETING**

**Dockwalkers Conference Call**

- Occurred in Summer 2014; a lot of interest of different POSPET members. Vivian to schedule a follow-up call Winter 2015.

**Changing Tide newsletter**

- Nothing to report

**Clean marine classroom**

- Aaron and Lisa jointly reported the following.
  - The lead from Michigan has moved to Texas, so Michigan program is no longer a viable option for participation/emulation by POSPET.
  - Soundkeeper, SeaGrant and Ecology will be updating the WA Clean Marina manual – it hasn't been updated in a long time.

- Rachel Lord noted that she recently got access to the Michigan program and partnered with the University of Alaska-SE to develop a marina-training program in AK. Highlights include:
  - She has just started working with them to develop a clean harbors course. Al Storm has done several of the courses.
  - They are taking their clean harbors guidebook online
  - She is working with their instructional design folks
  - She is looking to try to make participation in the class a requirement as a certification for clean harbors
  - Class will be online
  - She is under a tight timeline - the class needs to be done by May.
  - Two levels of course:
    - one aimed at management Registration will be \$195/student.
    - The second class is much less expensive - \$25/\$30/person. Aimed at operational people. No instructor – quizzes, but no feedback.
  - She is working on getting them to develop a website.
  - Rachel will continue to share details with POSPET as this project evolves.
- **FOLLOW UP**
  - Spring POSPET meeting – try to schedule for post-May when this class will be available
  - Check with Andy re: sitting on advisory committee

### Spills 911

- A robust discussion about the Spills 911 program occurred. Members agreed they are not in direct contact with the individuals responsible for tracking calls to the 911 line, and have no real sense of the level of activity to the lines, types of spills reported, and what kind of follow up occurs. A feedback loop is needed in order for the story to be told. Members would like to have a focused discussion on Spills 911. Invite in people that are actually managing the number. Group agreed to invite in a few of the Spills 911 responders to participate in a future POSPET meeting to discuss how effective the line is in various member states, and what improvements can occur. Agreed to have a round table focused on the Spills 911 sometime in Feb/March.
- It's possible that technology has moved beyond a reporting line. It could be that social media, and the ability to share pictures and texts could be more effective than a call. People communicate differently today than when the number was created. WA Sea Grant has someone who came up with an app for derelict gear, and something like that could work here.
- **FOLLOW UP**
  - Will be a major topic of discussion at Spring 2015 meeting

### Hazwoper training

- Aaron is going to take this class

### Hydraulic spills

- Rachel recently looked into this issue and noted that there is no information on what do if you do have a spill.
- Aaron noted that hydraulics are unique – they are under incredible amounts of pressure – in environments that are commercially operated.
- Rachel – works with commercial fleet; from educational/outreach perspective it's an opportunity to be useful. Would also be helpful to have data.
- Seed oil based hydraulic fluid is available – sold in Tukwila.
- Aaron will pull together some info on this issue
- Aaron – maybe include on brochure – what is oil? Maybe incorporate in materials.
- **FOLLOW-UP:**
  - Ask Sarah re: feasibility of collecting hydraulic spills data with spills data project
  - Aaron to pull together additional info on this subject

### Volunteer management guidelines

- WA – Lisa reported that one of her goals for 2015 is to get more traction on this. She brought the issue up with the Area Committee – it wasn't a priority for them in 2014, but WA is going ahead with it because the legislature directed Ecology to create VOO program and develop a registration system. State was divided into different regions. Program is very prescriptive. WA has a website: Oilspills101.gov.
  - Rachel – interested in knowing where WA is going with this. Lisa will follow up on this. Also, as part of response plans, is community engagement a part of that? She thinks in AK that regional response plan has been amended to cut the community participation piece out. Lisa – theirs aren't excited about it. Steve – for CA – it is required and it has become a big deal after Cosco Busan.
- CA - also has a robust program for spill response volunteers. If a spill occurs, volunteer website would be initiate. Individuals get directed based on skill set – e.g., fork-lift operators etc.
- **FOLLOW UP**
  - Hilary to contact Cindy Murphy – perhaps she can do a presentation on this (per Steve – she's with OSPR)
  - VOO. Anyone from the outside can get tapped.
    - Hilary – to include links to CA and WA programs on OSTF website
  - Hilary to brief OSTF on issue with volunteer management

## Speaker list

- Lisa is making a speaker matrix. Hilary will send it out along with the meeting notes and request that POSPET members begin to populate it.

## MEMBER UPDATES

### Michelle Young – Georgia Straits Alliance - BC

- Half FTE to clean marine BC. Lots of things outside her expertise.
  - At spring POSPET meeting had talked about expanding membership of POSPET. Would really like a Ministry of Environment rep at the Task Force meetings. Hilary offered to ask Graham/Laurie (members of Coordinating Committee from BC Min of Env't).
  - Three new marinas since last meeting for a total of 25. Nine are certified. Lots of pre-certifications in progress.
  - Boat show coming up in January 2015.
  - Will be attending Boating BC conference week of Nov. 24.
  - Wants to participate in Vivian's Dockwalker program.
  - Questions:
    - Do you reach out to any marinas in interior BC? Response: right now focus is on coastal waters. Currently focused on S Vancouver Island (around Victoria).
    - Where does funding for clean marina come from? Response: They are a charity – get funding from BC Association and Victoria Foundation. Also get funding from provincial government through gaming operations (lotteries etc). Program not fully funded.

### Steve Gonzalez – OSPR - California

- Earlier this year, Governor signed legislation that OSPR will go statewide to address issues related to crude by rail. Currently doing outreach with pipeline facilities and small businesses in Central California. Bringing their skills inland. Have done scoping meetings in Bakersfield and LA. Putting together regulations right now. Currently, there are emergency regs in place in case of an inland spill. At beginning of year, will finalize, then will revise.
- They are charging 1/6 penny/gallon. Any oil coming in through railroad or pipeline through traditional marina will collect money. Adding 38 new positions to OSPR.
- CA is getting sued by the RR industry. Industry says they are already covered by other federal regulations.
- Trying to put together a worst-case spill scenario for the railroads. Have all their plans for marine – and tankers/ships – have to identify animals.
- Questions
  - Will OSPR be handling spills to land as well as water? Response: it's just spills to CA waters – but they anticipate they will be responding to any wildlife affected by that spill – land or water.

### Lisa Isakson- Ecology - Washington

- Oil by rail is causing structure of Washington's program to evolve
  - Increase in train traffic – legislature required a statewide study on marine and rail oil transportation and what impacts would look like. Started focusing on it in June; draft report to be issued on Dec. 1. March 1 is final. Have also had experts; public meetings which turned into anti-rail meetings. Had two public meetings on the study – 300 people showed up for E WA meeting and 700 for Olympia meeting.
  - Ecology has no authority over whether oil comes through community or not. Have added new people to develop geographic response plans. Were initially given one year to develop inland plans – but have asked for an extension.
  - Washington is trying to change tax structure because rail and pipeline is exempt from barrel tax.
- Ecology and Sea Grant have redefined relationship – one issue, update Clean Marina Manual. Last updated in '08 (first printing '97).
- Working with NRC and NRSC to work with VOO (vessels of opportunity) program.
- Lisa has done lots of presentations on oil spill volunteer registration.

### Aaron Barnett – WA Sea Grant - Washington

- Sea Grant will be doing a lot of presentations (with Andy) for Clean Marinas in E WA this spring
- Biggest update: added small spills work to workload. Are tying it in to clean vessel pumpout work. Will talk to 4,000-5,000 people/year. Slowly bringing oil spills into that narrative. He has given away ~2,000 spill kits and pads.
- Seafair update – hydroplanes use old helicopter engines that drip a lot of oil. Sea Grant had worked w Seafair on sewage stuff - they have pumped out boats at the logboom (~6,000 gallons in 3 days). Did it for free. As part of that effort, they gave away a lot of spill pads. Will get even more involved in Seafair next year. One result of that effort was an invitation to come to an “antique hydro” event on Lake Chelan.
- WA powerboat association is very hungry for the info.
  - Navy is committed to using 50% renewable fuels by 2020.
- Sea Grant has had reorganizational shifts over the past two years. Resource manual needs attention. Puget Soundkeeper Alliance will probably take over more of the lead on that effort.
- WSG might be looking into hydraulics. Some of their people run workshops for fishermen and others – electrical wiring/safety wiring etc. Natural fit there.
  - Rachel – sees opportunities in all of those avenues to do best practices from a clean marina perspective. Clean vessel BMPs. Best to deliver messages together.

### Rachel Lord, Cook Inletkeeper - Alaska

- Alaska has three certified harbors – Homer, Seward and Haines. She is currently working with Sitka and Kodiak for certification. Anticipate having both of them certified by spring 2015. She is also working with Cordova, Valdez, Dillingham and Bethel (all municipal marinas).
- Have a grant through Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) for clean harbors. Alaska hadn't received CVA funding because hadn't spent previous allocation. They are now in the process of spending it to do education/outreach. Working with harbor masters and starting to work with boaters. Will be developing video. AK or WA Sea Grant did one (Aaron recommends creating your own).
- Doing outreach in inland waters – listed as impaired due to boating – increasing in certain areas of the state.
- Vivian's materials and experience has been really helpful. Has been difficult emulating the dockwalker program. (Lisa noted that WA has had similar issues). Can't do it with her time allocation.
- Has been facilitating a statewide abandoned/derelict fishing gear task list with AK clean harbors. Have all the resources and minutes on clean harbors website.
- Will be sharing a booth with Puget Soundkeeper Alliance at this week's expo. She's very interested in fuel dock outreach – primarily with PETRO (large companies, not small)
- Participating in potential formation of Cook Inlet Harbor Safety Committee.
- Alaska is developing their first spill response information. Will have three different signs for three different DEC reporting regions.
  - Rachel – will send me the pdf of the spills #.
- Pacific Marine Expo – started doing online surveys at boat shows last year.
- **FOLLOW UP:**
  - Aaron and Rachel will talk more about their experiences here

### Vivian Matuk- California Coastal Commission

- **Boating Clean and Green Program (BC&GP)** The BC&GP is a statewide boater education and technical assistance program. This program began in 1997 by the California Coastal Commission (Commission), and as of 2006, the Department (now the Division under CA State Parks) of Boating and Waterways assumed a lead role in the Program. DBW and the Commission are now working in partnership to implement the program. The program objectives are:
  - Educate boaters about environmentally sound boating practices; both directly and by assisting local boater education efforts.
  - Provide technical assistance to marinas and local governments to increase availability of environmental services for boaters.

The four main components of the program are:

- Research
- Networking

- Technical Assistance
- Education and Outreach
- **Boater Kits and the Dockwalker Program.** In 2014, the Boating Clean and Green Program developed and distributed 6,700 boater kits and conducted 12 statewide Dockwalker volunteer trainings in which more than 160 new volunteers were trained to conduct face-to-face boater education about clean and safe boating practices.
- **Boat Shows, Boating Events and Clean Boating Seminars.** Staff participated in 5 boat shows and boating events and conducted 4 clean boating seminars. These boating events and seminars provide a great opportunity to reach out to over 1500 boaters, conduct face-to-face education about environmentally sound boating practices and distribute boater kits.
- **Fishing Line Recycling Stations.** With support from the BoatUS Foundation, the program has installed a total of 148 monofilament fishing line recycling stations throughout the state since 2009. To date, approximately 1,033 pounds of fishing line have been collected and properly recycled. Stretched out, this line would stretch from San Francisco, California to Rector, Arkansas. The California stations can be seen at:  
<http://www.dbw.parks.ca.gov/Environmental/CleanGreen/TrashDebris.aspx#MONOFILAMENT>
- **Changing Tide Newsletter.** The Changing Tide is the quarterly publication of the three chapters of the CCBN (California Clean Boating Network – a forum of members of from the boating industry, government agencies, and environmental groups). In 2014, the program distributed three issues (10,000 copies each). The newsletter focuses on new trends in clean boating practices and environmental services for boaters. You can see all the newsletter at  
[http://www.dbw.ca.gov/Environmental/CleanGreen/CCBNHomeNew.aspx#Changing\\_Tide](http://www.dbw.ca.gov/Environmental/CleanGreen/CCBNHomeNew.aspx#Changing_Tide)
- **Marine Expired Flares Working Group.** Staff continues to work with the California Department of Toxic Substances Control, CalRecycle, California EPA, California Office of Emergency Services, San Francisco Department of Public Health, the Coastal Commission’s Water Quality Unit, and Orion (the biggest marine flare producer in California) to explore options for the boating community on where 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 safe and convenient disposal options.
- **Marinas and Yacht Clubs Oil Spill Preparedness Workshops.** From 2010 to 2012 Boating Clean and Green staff led a working group comprised of representatives from OSPR, the Coast Guard, California Office of Emergency Services (CalOES), the Port Captains and Harbormasters Association, Marina Recreation Association, the Clean Marinas Program, Pacific Inter-Yacht Club Association and the San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission, which among other things developed the [Marinas and Yacht Clubs Spill Response](#)

[Communication Packet](#). The packet is designed to help boating facilities access needed information in the event of an oil spill. In 2014, staff, OSPR and CalOES conducted two workshop for boating facilities in San Diego and Redondo Beach to introduce the packet. The workshops were attended by 80 marina and yacht club operators. In addition, staff conducted a boom training in partnership with OSPR and CalOES for the Bay Area and Delta marine industry representatives. This workshop was attended by 36 boating facilities operators. Staff is currently planning additional workshops for Ventura and Long Beach areas.

- **Clean Boating Videos.** In 2013, the BC&GP developed two clean boating videos in partnership with the San Francisco Estuary Partnership, the Keep the Delta Clean Program and the Bay Foundation. The purpose of these videos is to increase environmental awareness and clean boating practices related to oil and fuel management. The videos are posted on YouTube at:
  - Oil pollution Prevention Video:  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xNwKSOXCBBY&feature=youtu.be>
  - Fuel Pollution Prevention Video:  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=V5Jx8m9hY3g>
  - In addition, the videos are also posted on the Program's website [www.BoatingCleanAndGreen.com](http://www.BoatingCleanAndGreen.com) (look for DBW TV).
- Coastal Cleanup Day for Boating Facilities: This year, thirty-eight boating facilities participated in CCD, involving 818 volunteers, who cleaned 48 miles of shoreline and collected approximately 7,032 pounds of trash and recyclables on land and from 158 non-motorized vessels. More information about this program as well as our Coastal Cleanup Day Guidebook for Boating Facilities can be seen at: <http://www.coastal.ca.gov/publiced/ccd/boating.html>
- **FOLLOW UP**
  - Vivian will send a link to the packet. Hilary to share with follow-up email.

## CLEAN PACIFIC 2015

- Hilary reported on the Communications workshop that is in development by Veda, in partnership with OSTF. She requested that POSPET be involved in the review/input phase once the workshop planning/agenda/curriculum occurs. POSPET members expressed strong interest in helping and made the following comments:
  - This is a good venue to address the volunteer issue
  - Need to convey why it is important since many not keen on it conceptually
  - Possible idea to develop a toolkit – news release for a spill.



## NEW AND REVISITED PROJECTS AND TOPICS

### Boat cleaning products

- A discussion regarding applicability to boat cleaning products occurred. New products are not as effective against algae and there is a need to better understand the harm. It's an issue that crosses jurisdictional lines. There is no clear guidance or policies on it. Could be helpful to have POSPET members join forces to identify possible actions.

### OSTF work plan/POSPET work plan

- Members discussed desirability of developing a prioritized POSPET work plan. POSPET component of OSTF work plan is very basic. More details would be helpful. Would help POSPET members because of broader applicability.

### Derelict Vessels

- Michelle Young brought up the issue of derelict vessels. It is very challenging in Canada - all levels of government have been hands-off. Currently there is no information on derelict vessels – from where they are located to who is responsible for addressing them. Four boats have sunk just in her in her small community recently. There is a bill in Canada to try to address it. She's trying to do some work in media to get support from this.
- Hilary noted that Dale Jenson at Ecology has been very involved in this issue in WA and will put Michelle in touch with him.

### POSPET issues

- POSPET is usually referenced as recreational boater outreach, which does not fully address the chronic, small spills that are a huge problem and that most POSPET members are involved with. There is a need for freshening up some of the language that describes POSPET activities.
  - There is a U of Calgary study on small spills and their collective impact. Michelle will send the link.
- Infrequency of POSPET meetings is challenging. Would be better to meet more frequently.
- **FOLLOW UP**
  - POSPET members will review the POSPET write-up on the OSTF website and make suggestions for how to improve it. Ideas – include commercial element; articulate difference in focus between Task Force (large spills) and POSPET (small spills) and how the two efforts are complementary.
  - Invite Task Force agencies to participate in POSPET. Ecology and OSPR already regular participants. Invite BC Ministry of Env't, Alaska DEC and Oregon DEC.
  - So for spring – have a meeting where tackle one of the issues.

## Follow-up and summary of key decisions

### Future POSPET meetings

- Beginning in 2015, there will be three meetings per year. Total meeting hours will equal current meeting hours, but will be spread across three one-half day meetings versus two all-day meetings.
- Member updates will be submitted in writing one week in advance of POSPET meetings. Members will be asked to review all updates prior to meeting.
- Meetings will be primarily working meetings. An opportunity to ask questions of members regarding updates will occur, but it will not be the focus of the meeting (as it currently is).
- Schedule Spring POSPET meeting for post-May when the Alaska Clean Harbors class is completed and available - Hilary
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### Other

- **Notes from Spring 2014** meeting will be finalized and distributed to POSPET as well as posted to POSPET webpage. – Hilary
- Get Rachel Eric Olsen's new contact info - Hilary
- Check with Andy re: sitting on advisory committee for **Alaska Clean Marina class**. - Rachel
- **Spills 911**. Group agreed to invite in a few of the Spills 911 responders to participate in a future POSPET meeting to discuss how effective the line is in various member states, and what improvements can occur.
  - Schedule a round table in Feb or March to address this issue. - Hilary
- **Hydraulic fluids**
  - Ask Sarah re: feasibility of collecting hydraulic spills data with spills data project – Hilary
- Send members an outline of what it would mean to chair POSPET – Hilary
- Vivian will send a link to the [Marinas and Yacht Clubs Spill Response Communication Packet](#). - Vivian. Hilary to share with follow-up email. - Hilary
- Hilary to talk to Michelle re: reaching out to Graham/Laurie for BC Ministry of Environment participation in POSPET. Call scheduled for 12/4. –Hilary and Michelle
- **Dockwalkers** -Aaron and Rachel will talk more about their experiences here
- Rachel – will send me the pdf of the spills # materials for AK when ready.
- There is a U of Calgary study on small spills and their collective impact. Michelle will send the link.
- Hilary will follow up: put Michelle in touch with Dale Jenson.
- Hilary include links to CA and WA volunteer management programs on OSTF website.
- Hilary will send key issues to group and ask for weigh-in on 2015 priority topics to tackle in meetings

- **Hilary** will look into possibility of social gathering with POSPET and OSTF – Executive Cmte and Coordinating Cmte at Clean Pacific 2015.
- **Everyone** will send pictures and bios if they haven't already.

**Meeting email follow up**

- Draft notes
- Speaker matrix per Lisa