Pacific States British Columbia Oil Spill Task Force

Abandoned and Derelict Vessel (ADV)
Blue Ribbon Program

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VMSX

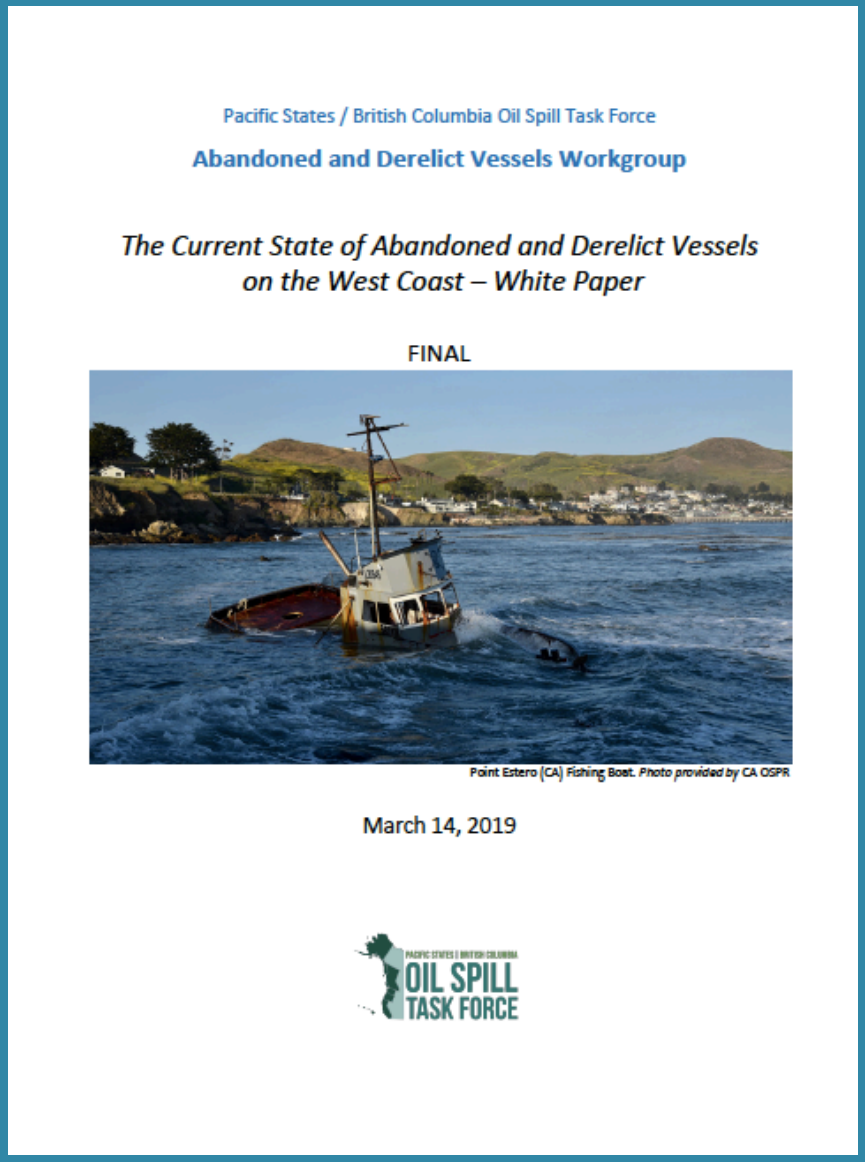
Point Estero, Cayucos State Beach, CA. Photo credit: CA OSPR

Abandoned and Derelict Vessel Workgroup

Task 1: White Paper

Goal:

- Quantify scope and scale of problem across west coast
- Identify what is working elsewhere



Pacific States / British Columbia Oil Spill Task Force

Abandoned and Derelict Vessels Workgroup

The Current State of Abandoned and Derelict Vessels on the West Coast – White Paper

FINAL

Point Estero (CA) Fishing Boat. *Photo provided by* CA OSPR

March 14, 2019

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Task 2:
Blue Ribbon Program

Goal:

Create the framework for a model program that that can be adopted by west coast states

Model Program Components

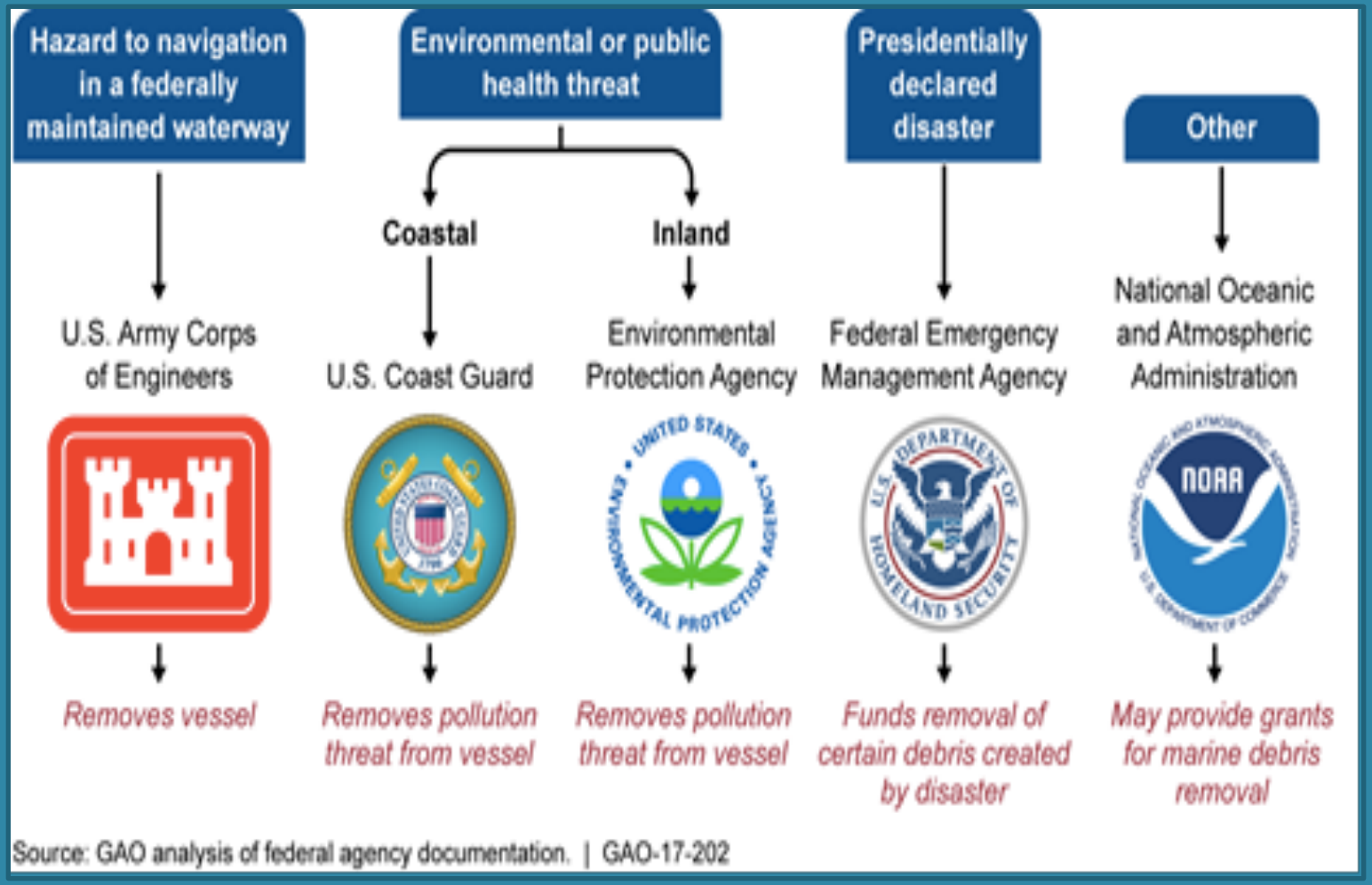
1. Authorities – Troy
2. Prevention - Troy
3. Funding - Steve
4. Removal and Deconstruction - Steve
5. Public Outreach and Education - Hilary

Photo: Michael Penn, Juneau Empire

Blue Ribbon Program Recommendations:

1. Authorities

- The legal ability of a governing body to act.
- Define the issue and its components. Not all governing agencies have the same definition describing “abandoned” or “vessel.” Is a paddle-board a vessel?
- Establish a legal process for seizing, impounding and removing ADV’s. Jurisdiction, due process, emergency seizures, disposal options etc.
- Know the gaps in authority between private property owners, state and local governments and other authorities.


Hazard to navigation in a federally maintained waterway
Environmental or public health threat
Coastal
Inland
Presidentially declared disaster
Other
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
U.S. Coast Guard
Environmental Protection Agency
Federal Emergency Management Agency
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
Removes vessel
Removes pollution threat from vessel
Removes pollution threat from vessel
Funds removal of certain debris created by disaster
May provide grants for marine debris removal
Source: GAO analysis of federal agency documentation. | GAO-17-202

Blue Ribbon Program Recommendations:

2. Prevention

- One of the biggest challenges faced by jurisdictions.
- Establish a vessel registration system.
- Track ADV reports through a comprehensive database.
- Secondary liability on the sale of high risk vessels.
- Establish Vessel Turn-in Programs (VTiP's).
  - Prevent future ADVs from entering the "pipeline" and can significantly reduce removal costs.
  - Enable state authorities to dismantle vessels that do not yet meet definition of "derelict" or "abandoned", but are likely to become so in the near future.

Blue Ribbon Program Recommendations:

3. Funding

- Larger sums (> $5M/yr.) initially to address backlog of legacy vessels; lower levels (< $5M/yr.) once prevention programs are in place.
- Funds must be able to move quickly from state to local governments to contractors before vessels further deteriorate and sink.
- Funds should be available for **both** commercial and recreational vessels.
- Funding mechanisms may include registration fees and bonding requirements for large commercial vessels.

Blue Ribbon Program Recommendations:

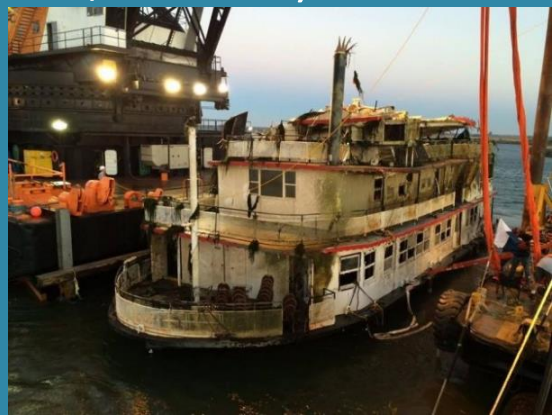
4. Removal and Deconstruction

- Address permitting needs in advance. Encourage development of temporary but long-term permitted facilities for vessel deconstruction, including large commercial vessels.

- Address contracting procedures in advance. Coordinate with USCG to establish a practice of “passing” contractors from USCG employment during the *pollution control phase of a response*, to state or local control for the *vessel salvage and deconstruction phase*.

- Publish and maintain a list of qualified (licensed, bonded, insured) vessel removal/recycling contractors.

- Identify secure and appropriate places for vessels to be stockpiled for bulk deconstruction and disposal.



Blue Ribbon Program Recommendations:

5. Public Outreach and Education

- Develop a comprehensive outreach and education program specific to ADVs
- Build on/expand the numerous outreach/education programs already in place within Task Force jurisdictions.
- Host community-wide ADV removal events to leverage the cost of a single mobilization of contractor(s).

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aren't
SLICK
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& U.S.C.G. 800-424-8802 or
in Canada 800-889-8852
Be a good steward of your waters.

WA State Reporting App: MyCoast

https://mycoast.org/wa/boat/photos

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