

**SUMMARY NOTES**  
**Pacific Oil Spill Prevention Education Team (POSPET)**  
**2011 Fall Meeting**  
**October 13, 2011**  
**Hosted by the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality**  
**Portland, OR**

**ATTENDING:** Eric Olsson, Washington Sea Grant (POSPET CHAIR); Mary Ellen Voss, Washington Department of Ecology; Rachel Bullene, Oregon State Marine Board; Ray Hoy and Don Pettit, Oregon Department of Environmental Quality; Shayne Cothorn, WA Department of Natural Resources; Charles Martin, City of Des Moines Marina; Jean Cameron, Pacific States/British Columbia Oil Spill Task Force

**PARTICIPATING BY PHONE:** Scot Tiernan, Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation; Harry Ota, USCG D13 Auxiliary; Fran Recht, the Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission; and Vivian Matuk, California Coastal Commission and California Department of Boating and Waterways

**UPDATES EMAILED BY:** Rachel Lord, Alaska Clean Harbors and Barbara Owens, Puget Soundkeeper Alliance

**MEMBER REPORTS:**

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

- The California Coastal Commission and California Department of Boating and Waterways continue their Dockwalker program; 150 new volunteers were involved in 7 training events this year. Budget cuts and related mandates prohibited distribution of “free” items like the boater kits, so the Dockwalkers distributed publication packets only; altogether, 5200 packets were distributed. The Dockwalkers had a 43% reply rate to their boater surveys. Vivian has applied for an exemption for the absorbent pillows from the prohibition noted above.
- Vivian emailed the following link for the 2007 – 2009 California Boater Survey Final Report, a statewide examination of boating habits, environmental awareness and overall outreach and education program evaluation (July 2011): <http://www.coastal.ca.gov/ccbn/materialsforeducators.html>. She noted that many boaters had reported engine leaks into bilge water, so they surveyed boater practices regarding oily bilge water. In an effort to determine whether efforts were resulting in behavior changes, Vivian estimated that 8-13% of boaters who were familiar with the Clean and Green program knew more about “best practices.”
- Vivian has provided leadership in finding solutions to the problem of disposal of expired marine flares; now EPA, U.S. DOT, USCG and state agencies are involved and the CA Department of Toxic Substances Control is taking the lead.
- Vivian helped organize San Francisco Bay oil spill working groups, primarily so that marinas and yacht clubs can understand their roles/responsibilities regarding oil spill emergency plans. She’s working with the California Office of Spill Prevention and Response to put together guidelines for marinas dealing with either a spill originating at their facility or one that could impact them. She’s also coordinated with the U.S. Coast Guard to provide spill response workshops for these working groups in the Bay Area; she hopes to arrange for more events on the California Coast.
- Vivian is also working with the America’s Cup organizers to coordinate Clean Boating outreach programs with the America’s Cup events in San Francisco Bay in 2012 and 2013.
- Vivian reported that she has initiated a partnership with the California Clean Marina program, which is an industry-led program.

Scot Tiernan, Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation

- Scot Tiernan reported that ADEC is working with the SE Alaska Petroleum Resource Organization (SEAPRO) on clean marina outreach; they plan to place barrels of boom at marinas if funding can be secured.

- DEC has placed response containers in larger communities in Alaska.
- Scot explained that most state regulations focus on the large storage and production facilities, so DEC is encouraging U.S. EPA to cover smaller facilities through their SPCC program.

Fran Recht, the Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission (PSMFC)

- Fran reported that she has been focusing on marine debris lately, working through the West Coast Governors' Association. Their efforts are primarily focused on "head of pipe" actions, although derelict fishing gear such as nets is also being addressed.
- She noted possible opportunities for POSPET to coordinate with the PSMFC's estuary project, which focuses on water quality for fish protection.
- Fran also noted that EPA grants may be available to federally-recognized tribes for oil spill work.

Harry Ota, USCG D13 Auxiliary

- Harry reported that People for Puget Sound (PPS) is working to designate Puget Sound as a "no-discharge zone."
- He also recommended that People for Puget Sound(PPS) participate in POSPET; Jean encouraged him to extend an invitation to them and to let her know who a point of contact would be for PPS so she can follow-up.

Rachel Bullene, Clean Marina Program Coordinator, Oregon State Marine Board:

- Rachel reported that Oregon's Clean Marina Advisory Committee met April 13; the Advisory Committee agreed to continue to meet once/year to evaluate program effectiveness, suggest and approve changes to the program and assist with publicizing the program, identifying new incentives and certifying new facilities.
- Rachel conducted 27 site visits to marinas around the state from April to October. This includes 14 preliminary visits (recruiting or pre-certification), 10 re-certifications, and 3 new certifications. Ten new Clean Marina pledges were obtained and two facilities declined to pledge or be evaluated at this time (Crescent Lake Resort and Shelter Cove Resort). Evaluations (Clean Marina Checklists) were done for 25 facilities.
- Currently, there are 50 certified Clean Marinas and 22 pledged facilities in Oregon; 25% of all Oregon marinas are now certified. This represents 50% of boat slips at marinas in the state.
- One marina was de-certified due to regulatory violations (compliance with regulations is a condition of certification).
- Rachel has distributed 20 *Spills Aren't Slick* signs and fuel tags to marinas; in addition, she distributes fuel bibs, fuel socks and the no-spill bottle that is placed over fuel vents while fueling; see photo to the left.
- Rachel has also distributed 5000 Boater Spill Kits and 2800 Clean Boater Kits.
- Funding for her program comes from Oregon's fuel tax and boater registration fees.
- Rachel is working with ODEQ to update the Fuel/Oil Spill Response Plan recommendations for Clean Marinas as well as to develop an OSRO resource list for marinas.
- She's also working with marinas to help them update their SPCC plans (facilities that store less than 10,000 gallons on site don't need an engineer's review). Rachel noted that some have encountered problems handling used oil.
- She is also working with the USCG Auxiliary to promote Clean Boater outreach. She would like DEQ or USCG to help her organize hazmat awareness workshops for marina operators.



- Rachel created a new “Clean Marina Resources” webpage for certified and pledged Clean Marina Facilities. The page includes links and downloadable forms for rules templates, Spill Prevention, Control, and Countermeasure Plans, the Community Right to Know Act and other environmental compliance information: [http://www.boatoregon.com/OSMB/Clean/CM\\_resources.shtml](http://www.boatoregon.com/OSMB/Clean/CM_resources.shtml).
- A dataset of “Certified Clean Marinas” and an interactive Clean Marina Map were created on the new data.Oregon.gov platform. This allows for more publicity for our certified facilities and allows for anyone to download or embed the clean marina dataset on their own website: <http://data.oregon.gov/Natural-Resources/Oregon-Clean-Marinas/hess-zt33>.
- She also created a dataset for pumpout/dump stations in Oregon and an interactive map for the CVA webpage.

#### Ray Hoy and Don Pettit, Oregon DEQ

- Don shared a map produced by Portland State University showing spill locations in Oregon; he and Ray also explained that DEQ is developing a ticketing program for violations related to smaller spills.
- Ray reported that 15 *Spills Aren't Slick* signs were distributed by DEQ; they noted that they need to coordinate their outreach efforts with the Oregon Marine Board.
- They also reported that DEQ and the U.S. Coast Guard will host a Town Hall meeting on Oil Spill Response in Newport, Oregon on 11/14/11.
- They explained that the Derelict Vessel Task Force members include representatives from the Oregon Marine Board, DEQ, WA DNR, Ecology, the Army Corps of Engineers, the USCG and EPA; USCG Sector Columbia River is the lead agency. They've identified and prioritized 13 vessels, although one sank recently.

#### Shayne Cothorn, Washington Department of Natural Resources (DNR)

- Shayne reported that he has been working with Ecology to distribute *Spills Aren't Slick* signs. He is interested in establishing a Dockwalker program for Washington.
- He explained that DNR is supporting Washington's Clean Marina program by ensuring that Best Management Practices are addressed in DNR's aquatic land use authorizations (e.g., habitat conservation, replacing creosote pilings, baseline sediment sampling, and maintaining spill response kits on site).

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

- Mary Ellen led boating outreach by Ecology on Earth Day, at the beginning of the boating season, and again in the fall (cleanup and maintenance). She conducted a boater survey from their website during the Earth Day outreach; boaters who responded got a Clean Boating Kit.
- Mary Ellen explained that, like ADEC, Ecology has also placed containers with spill response equipment in multiple locations around the state. Local responders were trained with the expectation that they would maintain their HAZWOPER certifications. Ecology maintains and restocks the supplies.
- Mary Ellen maintains the following web pages for Ecology:  
[Clean, Green Boating](#)  
[TIPS FOR BOATERS & MARINAS](#)

#### Charlie Martin, Des Moines Marina

- Charlie reported that he's reviewing his marina's policies regarding tenants' insurance coverage in order to ensure that oil spill response costs are covered.
- Marina staff are increasing the number of inspections of tenants' boats with emphasis on appearance – “a clean boat is a safe boat.”
- Since they've dealt with some minor spills over this past year, Charlie noted that he better understands the response process and has found POSPET and Ecology's resources to be valuable.
- His tenants like the spill kits on every dock; these include basic instructions and PPE gear; they can use them or call marina staff. Marina staff refill/maintain the kits.

- Charlie recommended more outreach to small marinas. This was a discussion topic for everyone, who acknowledged that the larger marinas are more accessible and provide slips for more boats; on the other hand, outreach to smaller, more remote marinas is also needed.

#### Eric Olsson, Washington SeaGrant

- Eric is doing outreach to NW tribes in Neah Bay and along the Columbia River; he includes the “clean boat is a safe boat” message in his safety training.
- He’s currently training six students through the University of Alaska’s oil spill training course.
- Eric has discussed the possibility of developing marina spill response videos with Susan Shingledecker of the BOAT U.S. Foundation.
- As an Incident Commander for WSMC, Eric has seen many small spills involving hydraulic oils (from larger vessels).
- The Pacific Coast Harbormasters meeting in late October in Olympia will include representatives from the USCG Sector Puget Sound, he reported.
- Eric noted that 70% of boats in Washington marinas are now covered by the Washington Clean Marina program; he is doing outreach to marinas in Eastern Washington and along the upper Columbia River.
- Sector Puget Sound trained 15 Auxiliary members to do pollution and safety inspections of “uninspected passenger vessels,” Eric noted.
- Washington SeaGrant has conducted a pumpout program through Washington State Parks; the emphasis was on education and outreach.
- He explained that Washington and Oregon SeaGrant programs are collaborating to host a “working waterfront” conference with an emphasis on balancing development with environmental sustainability. He’s also working with the Alaska SeaGrant program to develop oil spill materials.
- Eric noted that he’ll have a booth at the Pacific Marine Expo in November.

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

- Jean encouraged the POSPET members to view videos of the presentations at the Task Force’s Annual Meeting in August, which are available on the website: [www.oilspilltaskforce.org](http://www.oilspilltaskforce.org).
- She also noted that the Task Force will be hosting another Clean Pacific Conference May 16-17, 2012 in Long Beach, CA and encouraged POSPET members to submit an abstract and/or attend. Eric noted that he will be a member of the Clean Pacific Program Committee.
- Jean explained that the Task Force is paying the monthly fee to support the POSPET Listserve.

#### Rachel Lord, Cook Inletkeeper emailed this Alaska Clean Harbors update:

- To date in 2011 we have developed an Advisory Committee to help oversee the Alaska Clean Harbors program and secured 3 years of funding for the program beginning in late-2011.
- The Homer Harbor (in Homer, Alaska) submitted the first application for certification as a Clean Harbor and the advisory committee began the review process on October 13.
- Rachel is working with Burkeshore Marina, one of a handful of private marinas in Alaska, north of Anchorage on Clean Harbors certification. Funding for that work is through the Alaska DEC, as the marina is located on a waterbody (Big Lake) which is listed as impaired for petroleum hydrocarbons.
- Harbors in Seward and Valdez, Alaska are next on the list for dedicated efforts towards Clean Harbors certification.
- During last week’s Alaska Association of Harbormasters and Port Administrators Annual Conference, Rachel gave a presentation on Clean Harbors and handed out packets to 23 participating harbormasters from around the state.

Barbara Owens, Puget Soundkeeper Alliance emailed this update:

- Clean Marina Washington has 59 certified marinas. We continue our participation with the EnviroStars program in seven counties; we are working on major revisions to the Clean Marina application to make it easier for applicants.
- We will be attending/presenting at the NW Marine Trade Association conference in November in LaConner.
- We continue Clean Boating outreach under contract with Washington Sea Grant at various boat shows and festivals. We conducted a Dockwalker training over the summer and hope to do more in the future.

### **POSPET ADMINISTRATION**

The POSPET webpage (<http://www.oilspilltaskforce.org/pospet.htm>)

- Rachel Bullene will send text and photos so that Oregon's Clean Marina Program can be featured on the *Spills Aren't Slick* website.
- Photos will be integrated with text throughout the web page.
- A right-hand column will be added with a list of the contents of the webpage

*Spills Aren't Slick* materials, inventory, distribution needs and funding

- *Spills Aren't Slick* materials have been funded by the Task Force and the Washington Department of Ecology over the past few years, but Jean reported that there was no funding for this in the Task Force budget for 2011-2012. Likewise, Mary Ellen does not expect that Ecology will have funding for *Spills Aren't Slick* materials in the next fiscal year.
- Jean encouraged Eric to investigate the possibility of using NOAA grants as called for in Section 705, *Prevention of Small Oil Spills* of the 2010 USCG Authorization Act.

1-800-OILS-911 usage and trends

- Usage data for July through September of 2011 shows that 5 calls were made in British Columbia using OILS-911, 34 in Washington, 3 in Oregon and 59 in California.
- Jean noted that Mary Ellen compiled data on OILS-911 usage and trends from 1999-2010; graphs and a table on this data are now available on the POSPET webpage.

Spring 2012 meeting date

- No date was set; Jean will survey the group in February regarding a possible meeting date in April.