

**The Pacific Oil Spill Prevention Education Team (POSPET)
2007 SPRING MEETING
Washington Department of Ecology, 3/29/07**

Attending:

Fran Recht, Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission; Eric Olsson, WA SeaGrant; Mary Ellen Voss, WA Department of Ecology; Danielle Renoud, USCG Sector Seattle; Chris Wilke, Puget Soundkeeper Alliance; Kurt Torgerson, USCG Sector Portland; Jean Cameron, Pacific States/British Columbia Oil Spill Task Force. **Participating by phone:** Vivian Matuk, California Coastal Commission and the California Department of Boating and Waterways; Gary Foley, Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation; Glen Dolphin, Oregon Marine Board.

Member reports:

California Coastal Commission and the California Department of Boating and Waterways

- Vivian Matuk reported that she spends about 60% of her time working on the *Keep the Delta Clean* program, which has support from the State as well as Contra Costa County. In addition to the existing pollution prevention "infrastructure," this year the program will add 13 oil exchange stations, 50 pet waste stations, and 13 locations for recycling monofilament fishing line.
- She spends her remaining time on the statewide Clean Boating program, which includes a newsletter and the Dockwalker program, among others.
- Vivian noted that they have new posters featuring "Reilly the Rainbow Trout." Two of each of five designs are being provided to marinas for free; go to www.coast4u.org and click on the Boating Clean & Green site to meet Reilly.
- Vivian reported that these programs were featured in an article in *International Watercraft* magazine.

Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation (ADEC)

- Gary Foley explained that ADEC was interested in small spill prevention as a result of their outreach to fishermen, since 91% of their diesel spills are from fishing vessels.
- The Cook Inlet Regional Citizens' Advisory Council is cooperating, and is seeking an industry grant for the work.
- Gary expected that the larger marinas will be easier to reach and work with than the smaller marinas.

Oregon Marine Board

- Glenn Dolphin explained that the OR Marine Board program has certified 13 Clean Marinas; 12 of which are in the St. Helens to Portland area. He also noted that 11 are private and 2 are public. He's targeting outreach to marinas on the coast and the Columbia River east of Portland; workshops are planned for Arlington, Florence, and Portland.
- He's also made presentations on the program to law enforcement officers (the Oregon Marine Board funds county river patrols).
- Glen noted that getting "pledged" marinas to commit to a timeline for certification is a challenge.

- Each certified marina gets a plaque, flag, and 2 *Spills Aren't Slick* signs. They also receive a spill kit in cooperation with the Lower Columbia River Estuary Partnership (a drum w/locking lid and 50 pads, 2 pillow bags, rubber gloves, and 110' absorbent boom). Marina staffs are advised to get hazmat training.
- Glen Dolphin is also helping them draft environmental rules for their tenant contracts, and has developed a one-page fact sheet for this.
- The Oregon Marine Board has established a 16-member stakeholder advisory group which includes 11-12 marina operators. They help with site visits every year, and also work with Glenn to conduct renewal visits every 3 years.
- Oregon's Clean Marina program is funded from boater registration fees and a marine fuel tax.
- He does outreach at the Portland Boat Show and the Sportsman show, handing out spill kits and the Clean Boating guide.
- Glenn and Chris Wilke have an informal network with other clean marina programs nationwide.

Puget Soundkeeper Alliance

- Chris Wilke reported that Washington's Clean Marina program has certified 24 marinas. He's cooperating w/Ecology and Washington SeaGrant to develop and implement the program. Ecology gave them a 2-year grant to take the program statewide; they've identified approximately 250 marinas in Washington State.
- Chris will do 3 regional workshops to introduce the program. He also hopes to add a Dockwalker program modeled on the one in California.
- Certified marinas get plaques, flags, and a news release.
- They recently certified the Port of Everett marina w/2000 slips.
- Chris noted that *Waggoners' Cruising Guide* is now listing Clean Marinas.
- He plans to set up a Clean Boating website for hazardous materials linking to Earth911; certified marinas can also add their links. He's also considering posters to supplement the Clean Boating Guides.
- Chris reported that Puget Soundkeeper Alliance received a BoatUS Foundation grant to develop an environmental guide for do-it-yourself types at boatyards.

The Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission

- Fran Recht of is doing outreach to fishermen on the West Coast regarding invasive species, so she's also doing *Spills Aren't Slick* outreach (info and decals) at the same time, since it's all about good vessel management practices.
- She handed out *Spills Aren't Slick* decals at the sportsman show.

USCG Sectors (Portland and Seattle)

- The USCG is distributing *Spills Aren't Slick* materials through their boating safety programs, as well as through boatshows and sportsman shows.
- LT Daniel Renaud reported that Sector Seattle is working through their Sea Partners program, which also includes oil observation and reporting. She suggested that they could partner with the Washington dockwalkers to do spill prevention outreach.
- Kurt Torgerson with the USCG Auxiliary for Sector Portland does product safety outreach to dealers, so he can also provide them with clean boating and *Spills Aren't Slick* materials.

- Kurt noted that product recall information is available on www.uscgboating.org.
- An ongoing challenge for the USCG auxiliary is to integrate the pollution prevention message with the boating safety message, since not all printed material or classes put as much emphasis on this as we might like!

Washington Department of Ecology

- Mary Ellen Voss reported that, in addition to working on Clean Marina Washington, she is doing outreach to marinas covered by their new oil transfer regulations, and distributing *Spills Aren't Slick* materials in the process.
- She also passed around a draft "rack card" for Washington Clean Marinas to use as counter handouts or to send with billings.

Georgia Strait Alliance (email report)

- Mike Richards reported that they distributed over 450 Bilge Pad Kits in Vancouver. He has also partnered with the False Creek Harbor Authority, the Royal Vancouver Yacht Club, and Canadian Power and Sail Squadrons to distribute a further 4,550 kits in Vancouver.
- Their Clean Marina project (entitled Clean Marine-BC) has received some initial funding from the Victoria Foundation and they have strong support (but no money as yet) from Environment Canada, Fisheries and Oceans Canada-Small Craft Harbor Authority and the BC Marine Trades Association.
- He will be attending the Victoria Floating Boat Show and will have displays at the Nanaimo Boat Show and the Vancouver Wooden Boat Festival.
- Georgia Strait Alliance is also involved in the push for more pump-out stations in BC and has been working on several fronts to accomplish that. New regulations coming into force in Canada are expected to create a large demand for pump-out facilities, but no agency is taking the lead on it yet, Mike noted.
- Mike noted that he would be presenting at the Georgia Basin Puget Sound Research Conference on the Greenboating Program and its projects, including their involvement in the *Spills aren't Slick* Campaign. In addition, he has about 6 presentations lined up during the year on green boating issues.

Washington SeaGrant

- Eric Olsson is working with the WA Clean Marina program as well as the Pacific Coast Congress of Harbor Masters, which has a meeting in Friday Harbor in April. The Island Oil Spill Association will conduct an oil spill response demonstration.
- He's also working with the University of AK "distance learning" program to develop an oil spill prevention, preparedness, and response course.
- Eric reported that he continues to work with the shellfish industry regarding oil spill prevention.

POSPET Web Page:

- Jean Cameron reviewed the POSPET web page, which is on a *Spills Aren't Slick* link from the Oil Spill Task Force home page. On the POSPET site are the following:
 - POSPET's revised mission statement;

- *The Spills Aren't Slick* PDF files;
- New photos;
- Member information, including their organizations' websites; and
- Meeting notes.

OILS 911 Usage Report

- Jean reported that, from July 2006 through February 2007, 77 calls had been placed from British Columbia, 11 from Washington, 6 from Oregon, and 145 from California, for a total of 239 calls on the 1-800-OILS-911 system.
- Jean noted that the *OSPR NEWS* for Fall 2006 had included directions to "Report All California Oil Spills to 800-OILS-911." Mary Ellen noted that a similar statement was in Ecology's 2006 Annual Report.

***Spills Aren't Slick* Materials for the 2007 outreach season**

- The group discussed needs for additional material; Jean had facilitated "exchanges" a few months ago, and additional exchanges were brokered at this meeting.
- However, more brochures and decals were needed. Jean will contact Rob Hughes to see if he can do another printing; Mary Ellen Voss will also see whether Ecology can cover the printing of these materials.

POSPET Enhancement Options

- The group discussed inviting representatives from the recreational boating industry, marinas, the Washington Oil Spill Advisory Council, and USCG Power Squadrons to meet with POSPET and share information.
- The group recommended having the POSPET website "feature" member organizations. Jean asked the members to send her material (statements, photos, and links) to post.

Oil Spill Prevention Technology

- It was recommended that we use the POSPET listserv to share information regarding products.
- Neither POSPET nor its members should either endorse or disparage any product.

Clean Pacific Conference

- Jean explained that the Pacific States/British Columbia Oil Spill Task Force would be hosting the inaugural Clean Pacific Conference as its 2007 Annual Meeting. This will be in Seattle, WA on September 13-14.
- Mike Richards is serving on the Program Committee and has agreed to chair a session on small spill prevention. Eric Olsson and Glenn Dolphin will join Mike in giving presentations at the session.

Fall 2007 Meeting

- Eric will contact POSPET members this summer to set a date. The possibility of meeting in Oregon was discussed.