

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

2018 Winter Meeting via conference call

March 15, 2018  
10 am to noon

## Attendees

Andy Gregory, Puget Soundkeeper Alliance  
Mike Lynch, WA Ecology  
Franji Mayes, WA Ecology  
Hilary Wilkinson, Pacific States/BC Oil Spill Task Force  
Troy Wood, WA DNR  
Michelle Young, Georgia Strait Alliance

## Welcome and Introductions

Hilary called the meeting to order and led participants in a round of introductions. Two guest speakers – Troy Wood of WA DNR and Mike Lynch of WA Ecology were introduced.

## Recap and status of next steps from Fall 2017 Meeting

Hilary reviewed the status of follow-up items from the Fall 2017 meeting. Follow up actions that have been completed include:

- Andy, Franji and Hilary met via conference call to discuss next steps for **file-sharing platform**. Google drive is no longer an option as some member agencies cannot use it. Box.com is the likely candidate and will be discussed at our June meeting.
- Vivian shared a link to their new **on-line and in-person boater quiz**.
- The **SPILLS 911 RACK card** has been finalized and is available on the Task Force website. POSPET members will have to do their own printing. Thanks to everyone who weighed in during the process to develop this!
- Andy convened a conference call with Franji and Michelle to discuss the **WA Pollution Prevention Guidebook**.

## Featured Topic: Abandoned and Derelict Vessels (ADV)

### BC/States Task Force ADV Workgroup Update

Hilary provided the following updates regarding the newly formed BC/States Task Force ADV Workgroup:

- The Workgroup has met once and agreed to its membership and high-level goals and objectives
- A draft workplan has been developed and will be reviewed/finalized at the next meeting (March 20). Two areas of interest in the workplan, from a POSPET perspective, include:
  - Outreach and Education, including workshops
  - Model program for use across west coast jurisdictions
- Franji and Hilary are on both POSPET and the ADV workgroup and so can serve as liaisons to ensure that POSPET can help support the ADV workgroup's outreach efforts, and also has an opportunity to weigh in on outreach needs and ideas.

### WA DNR's ADV Removal Program Overview

Troy Wood, Derelict and Abandoned Vessel Removal Program Manager, WA DNR, provided an overview of his agency's ADV program. Highlights include:

- The program address problems with ADVs.
- They work closely with Ecology, USCG, and ports, counties and cities.
- They promote prevention through the vessel turn-in program, as well as an insurance requirement.
- Their authority comes from the WA Legislature. They can remove/dispose of vessels up to 200'.
- Funding comes from the derelict vessel removal account – there is a \$3/boat recreational boater registration fee, as well as \$1/ft on certain commercial vessels.
- They have a database for all ADVs reported since the program began. Vessels are listed by priority category.
- Their program serves as a national model.
- 750 vessel removals by 50 agencies since Jan 2003.
- They have some great outreach materials.

Highlights of Q/A/Discussion include:

- Michelle would like to discuss outreach materials and usability in BC. She and Troy will connect off-line.
- Andy noted that he hears pushback from boaters that there isn't enough funding to address problems when they are called in. Response: they have only \$200K per biennium; it is better to call early in the biennium.
- How can POSPET members support this program? Response: help with outreach and messaging.
- How many vessels are in the database? Tens of thousands. 170 are vessels of concern. Have 40 removals underway currently.
- Ideas for outreach:
  - Develop testimonials
  - Have interactive activities

- Compelling posters – using concept from meth users (over span of 10 years, how it impacts them). Same concept could be applied here.
- Have POSPET be a central location to direct people. (Troy shared that NOAA has a great marine debris website with lots of information – this could be duplicative)
- Target shoreline property owners for local fundraising since they are directly impacted.
- BC has some funding to develop outreach materials and could work on BC-specific materials.

## Featured Program – “Fatigue Bites” – WA Ecology’s PSA on Boater Fatigue

Franji Mayes and Mike Lynch discussed WA Ecology’s recently released PSA on boater fatigue<sup>1</sup> featuring Capt. Russ Eager. They focused on challenges encountered while developing the PSA, as well as distribution/outreach efforts. Highlights include:

- One challenge was addressing the issue of fatigue, and how it is perceived as a “weakness” among the fishing community. This had to be addressed carefully.
- Had to be careful about messages from Ecology – this audience not necessarily receptive to these messages. Having USCG as a partner (including the logo at end of video) was really helpful.
- Captain Eager was a natural storyteller, but they did not know this going in. They ended up making both a one-minute video and a 5.5-minute video (the latter allows for the full story to be told more clearly). Interestingly, there have been more views of the latter than the former.
- USCG and Sea Grant both helped distribute the PSA, using their own introductory language. This helped boost distribution.
- They also created a webpage on the topic and have google analytics so can track exactly how each aspect of the page is being viewed.
- This issue is pervasive everywhere and this PSA should in theory be useful throughout the Task Force jurisdictions. Hilary will work to get POSPET members outside of WA and BC to distribute it.
- Michelle will forward it to the T Buck Suzuki Environmental Foundation – they work with recreational boaters and can help distribute the message.

Highlights of Q/A/Discussion include:

- Very positive feedback from POSPET members.
- A companion PSA on watchkeeping could be really useful.

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<sup>1</sup> Available at: [www.ecology.wa.gov/fatiguebites](http://www.ecology.wa.gov/fatiguebites)

## Member Updates

### British Columbia

#### **Michelle Young, Georgia Strait Alliance**

- The number of certified clean marinas continues to grow and has increased from 23 to 30.
- Funding has been allocated for abandoned/derelict vessel cleanup in B.C.

### Washington

#### **Andy Gregory – Puget Soundkeeper Alliance**

- Work is underway to update the Boater's Guide. It will include information on pumpout locations, maintenance issues, and choosing clean marinas. Expected publication date is June 2018.

#### **Franji Mayes – WA Dept. of Ecology**

- Printed rack cards and they turned out really well.
- Working on vessel traffic risk assessment in Grays Harbor. Staff are holding a workshop with various fishing industry representatives to review the history of spills there. Will use it as an opportunity to promote the Fatigue Bites video.
- They are working on having spill prevention information translated into Spanish. It will air on Spanish Radio on March 19.

## Clean Marina Certifications

Updated numbers are as follows:

- WA: 72
- BC: 30
- CA: 82
- OR: 63
- AK: 4

## Misc., Including 2018 Meeting Schedule

The 2018 meeting schedule is as follows. Note: all meetings are from 10 AM to Noon PDT unless otherwise noted.

- June 19, **1-3 PM PDT** (coincides with Clean Pacific and TF Annual Meeting). See below.
- September 20
- November 15

## Next Steps (Summary)

- **Next POSPET meeting is scheduled for June 19 from 1-3 PM (PDT).** It will coincide with Clean Pacific and the Task Force Annual Meeting being held in Portland, OR. Possible topics include:
  - Box.com update
  - Review ADV Workgroup Workplan -outreach topics and provide feedback; brainstorm POSPET role in advancing ADV outreach efforts
  - WA Boater Guide update
  - Need featured program!!
- **Michelle** would like to discuss with **Troy** the outreach materials his program has developed on ADVs and get hints and tips for undertaking this in BC. They will connect off-line.
- The issue of boater fatigue is pervasive and this PSA should in theory be useful throughout the Task Force jurisdictions. **Hilary** will work to get POSPET members outside of WA and BC to distribute it.
- **Michelle** will forward the Fatigue Bites PSA to the T Buck Suzuki Environmental Foundation – they work with recreational boaters and can help distribute the message.
- **Andy** will work with Hilary to identify and address hurdles to POSPET participation from AK and OR (primarily).