

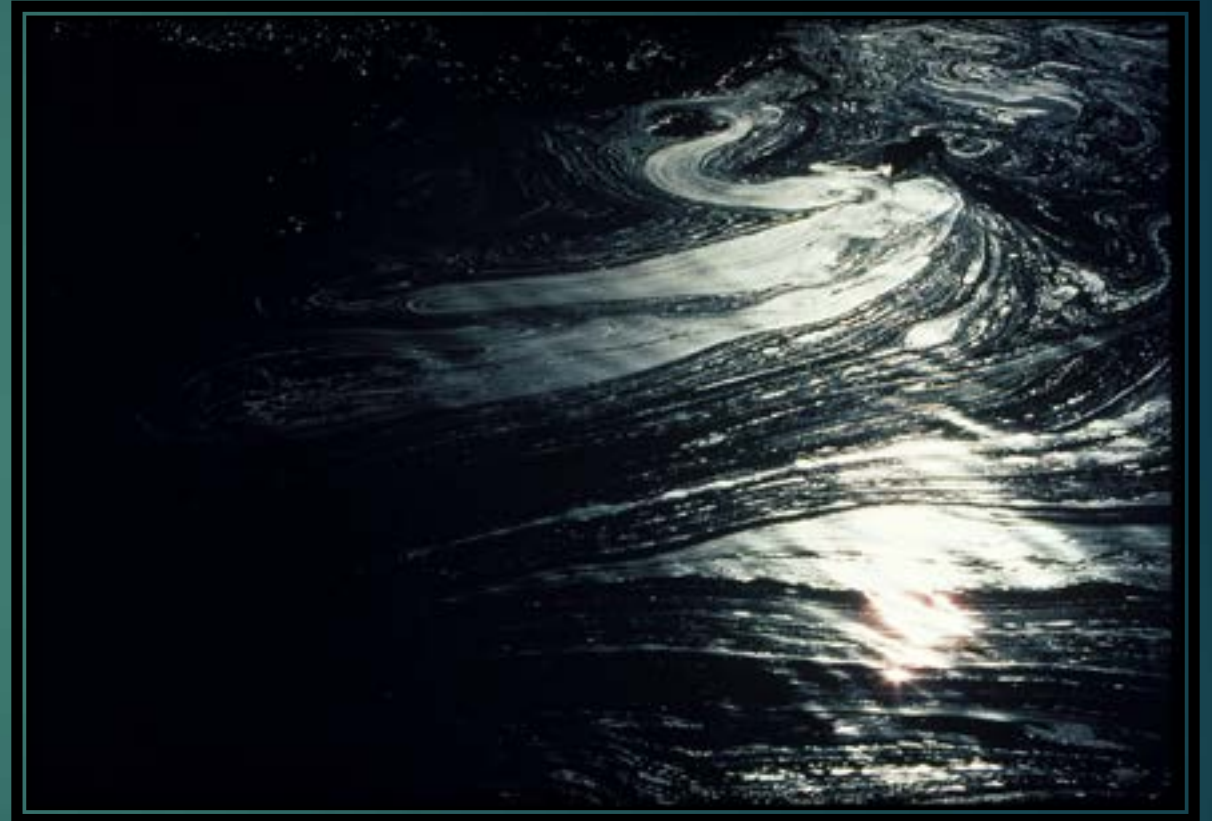
30 Years Later: Oil Spill Policy and Response Changes since *Exxon Valdez*

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Disaster Strikes

- ▶ March 24, 1989: Exxon Valdez runs aground
- ▶ Limited regulatory structure
- ▶ Unable to meet the state planning response standards
- ▶ ADEC issued an Emergency Order: required RP to develop an Interim Spill Plan
- ▶ Lawmakers, regulators, industry were motivated to prevent this from happening again



House Bill 567 – Contingency Plans



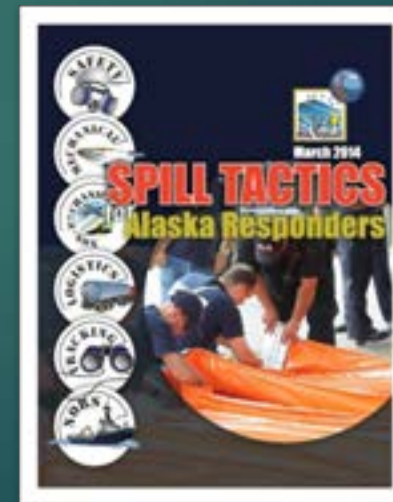
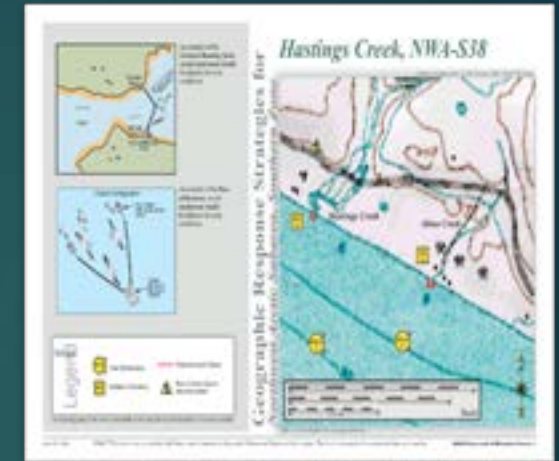
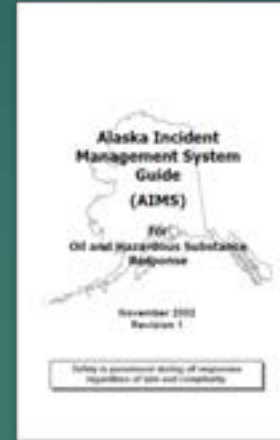
Response Fund



- ▶ DEC's expenses for oversight of the clean-up added up quickly, even with an identified Responsible Party
- ▶ .05 per barrel on oil coming through the pipeline
- ▶ Increased the response fund from \$1 million to \$50 million
 - ▶ DEC is required to recover expenditures from the fund

Response Tools

- ▶ Oil Discharge Prevention and Contingency plans
- ▶ Geographic Response Strategies
- ▶ Spill Tactics for Alaska Responders (STAR) manual
- ▶ Alaska Incident Management System (AIMS) Guide



Prevention Improvements

Then

- Limited ship escorting through the Valdez Narrows
- DEC generalists in Valdez
- No vessel booming while at berth



Now

- Ship escort system (SERVS) in place, with 100% of tankers being escorted through the sound
- ADEC prevention and response specialists located in Valdez
- Mandatory booming of all vessels while loading at the Valdez Marine Terminal



Prevention and Contingency Planning Improvements

Then

- Basic oil discharge contingency plan developed
- Only minimal response equipment was required
- No full-time spill response organization or management system required



Now

- Detailed oil discharge prevention and contingency plans developed for immediate response to spills
- Plans are based on meeting the Response Planning Standard (RPS)
- Plans use a systems approach to comply with Best Available Technology (BAT) regulations
- Full time commitment to prevention and response action contractors required

Training, Drills and Exercises

Then

- No major drills conducted
- Minimal requirements for training



Now

- Requirements for spill response drill conducted annually
- Increased requirement prevention and response training
- Stakeholder and multi-agency involvement in drill development

Moving forward - Consistency & local knowledge



Thank You!

