

POSPET Meeting – FINAL NOTES

Thursday, Nov. 12, 2020

10 – 12 AM - Pacific Time

Participants

Jasmin Adams, WA Ecology
Aaron Barnett, WA Sea Grant
Ty Keltner, WA Ecology
Glenn Dolphin, Oregon Marine Board
Vivian Matuk, CA State Parks - California Coastal Commission
Hilary Wilkinson, OSTF
Michelle Young, Georgia Strait Alliance

Member Updates

California

Vivian Matuk, CA State Parks - California Coastal Commission

- Have been working hard to pivot boater education outreach tools to online environment.
- 13 Dockwalker trainings have been completed in 2020: three were held in-person (pre-COVID) and the rest were online. Trained 183 partners, all of whom received boater kits. Not all could utilize the online resources due to various restrictions.
- Distributed 1,861 boater kits this year and had a return rate for boater questionnaire of 22%, which is great. Next year, time-sensitive materials (tidebooks, boater questionnaire, etc.) will be replaced. They will be incorporating a new item: a 10% discount coupon for non-pyrotechnic USCG Approved flare for boaters.
- Next year, moving forward with virtual trainings.
- After Nov. 16 will select/honor the most active Dockwalkers. They will be rewarded with lifejackets and donations from several supermarkets.
- Completed a six-week online boating campaign using a new approach in which one question was asked per week for six weeks. Initial goal: 4,500 quiz completions. They achieved 5,700 quiz completions. The quiz asked things like gauging understanding of local environmental laws.
- All workshops related to spill response communications were held via webinar.
- They are also doing Team Boating (Virtual) Happy Hours – tonight's will be the fourth; they have been averaging 20 people.

- One of their more recent efforts has been to develop Fuel Dock BMPs. The goal is to distribute it next year directly to fuel docks. Vivian will share with POSPET once getting approval from the CA Office Of Spill Prevention and Response.
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Oregon

Glenn Dolphin, Oregon Marine Board

- He has been conducting site visits for clean marinas to renew three-year certifications. Since August, when Covid safety protocols were approved and put in place, he has visited 15-18 marinas.
- In 2020, the Oregon Marine Board made addressing ADVs a priority. The issue of ADVs is spiraling out of control (the problem extends throughout the state, from Portland to Astoria, across to Hood River, and more). Recently, the state completed a cleanup of abandoned boats outside of a marina. It cost them \$70K to address multiple sunken boats. If you go to any year-round marina in the state, you'll find significant numbers of derelict boats. They may be paying moorage fees, but they are not seaworthy.
- The Clean Marina program got a marine debris removal grant. Had applied for one year of funding, but NOAA offered to double the funding and make it two years. Highlights include:
 - The target for the program is clean marinas. Previously, addressing ADVs was not part of clean marina evaluation.
 - During clean marina recertification efforts, they found that marina managers were not enforcing rules on the docks, such as the requirement to have a current registration. He'd find registration stickers that had expired 6-8 years ago). They also found that marina managers were getting limited assistance from local law enforcement on the issue. So, the Oregon Marine Board is working closer with marina managers to deal with it, believing that if they can get these boats out of the water, they can reduce future ADVs.
 - The Clean Marina program is starting to require clean marinas to aggressively enforce seaworthiness requirements and state registration requirements. They are also requiring insurance and make sure these policies stay in place. It is definitely going to be a challenge.
 - They are currently developing their "brand" program documents. Once completed, they will have clean marinas apply for funding to remove ADVs. Will develop removal list for summer 2021. RFPs for contractors in spring.
 - During visits this past summer, he was able to recertify the clean marinas, with the expectation that they would address ADVs.

Washington

Jasmin Adams, WA Ecology, Aaron Barnett, WA Sea Grant, Ty Keltner, WA Ecology

- Sea Grant, with Ecology funding, has been working to develop spring and summer boater education messaging. They have finalized the design on summer ads and have started to distribute fuel bibs. They are also developing summer social media posts and will continue distributions during the summer. They have also finalized and distributed the survey.
- Aaron will start teaching an online boater education card class that will include 20-30 min. on oil spill prevention. This will start in Dec. 2020 or Jan. 2021.
- Vivian will share the language for their fuel bibs with Aaron.

British Columbia

Michelle Young, Georgia Strait Alliance

- Boater outreach work this past quarter focused more on 1) risks to boaters and whales when boating in area of large whales and 2) protecting eelgrass from boating impacts.
- The Canadian power squadron conference was online this year.
- There have been no changes in clean marina certification numbers, but they do have a new certification underway. They postponed site visits due to Covid, but these are underway again.
- Michelle will be speaking at the Boating BC (Virtual) Conference and will talk about Clean Marine BC, as well as their work with PSOPET.
- Will do first marine spill response training online Dec 4th.

Green Boating Webinar

Michelle reported on progress from the Green Boating Webinar subcommittee (comprised of Jenny East from OR Sea Grant, Vivian, Michelle, and Aaron).

They have come up against a number of hurdles and cannot take further action until they are resolved. These include:

- Coordination challenges with lining up speakers
- Restrictions on what agencies can be involved with the webinar and topics they can cover
- Concerns from members that it is too challenging and confusing for boaters to have multiple jurisdictions represented with different laws etc.

- Issues with outreach tools like the app for sewage issues – there are privacy issues and it cannot be used in Canada yet, for example.

The group agreed to do a pilot Green Boating Webinar for the Salish Sea region only and involve only BC and WA. This will allow the team to work out these challenges before going broader.

Hilary will work with Michelle and Aaron primarily; Vivian will be involved to see how it goes.

ADV Digital Toolkit

Hilary updated the team on progress in developing the ADV Digital Toolkit. She promised to share the current outline for content to solicit feedback from POSPET members. Michelle has specific materials that can/should be included. Melanie del Rosario (from Veda) is taking the lead on developing this toolkit.

Covid outreach

POSPET members shared updates about how outreach and communications work is progressing in the time of Covid. Highlights include:

- In CA: they are talking to organizers for boat shows – whenever people go to the boat show, they receive a ticket to get a flier from with links to the questionnaire and a chance to receive a CA boater kit.
- In WA: Sea Grant has expanded its Coastal Radio Show to twice monthly. They are also doing a lot of mailers and phone calls. Also, the Seattle Boat Show is virtual.
- In BC: Vancouver Int'l Boat Show is cancelled – Michelle is working with them to try to do presentations online.

OSTF and Other Updates

- OSTF Annual Meeting – scheduled for Nov. 18 via Zoom. The focus is impacts to spill prevention, preparedness and response as a result of Covid. Several POSPET members are able to join this year for the first time since it is virtual.
- SPILLS 911 number. The group reviewed the graph to review and discuss an interesting development: since 2017, there has been a huge increase in calls from WA while the numbers in CA have dropped significantly. Explanations included:
 - CA: suggestion to crosswalk with calls to the National Response Center. People are asked to call both SPILLS 911 and the NRC; most people more familiar with the latter, and probably are only calling that number. (not sure if NRC calls also recorded in graph?)
 - WA: spike is probably the result of the effort to get calls for land-based spills in 2018. The increase is likely the result of increases in calls to report land-based spills.

POSPET – 2021 Meeting Times and Topics

Members agreed to the following four meeting times for POSPET for 2021. (all meetings are 10 AM to NOON Pacific Time)

- Thursday, Feb. 11
- Thursday, May 13
- Thur. Sept 9
- Thur., Nov 18

In terms of useful topics, members shared the following:

- It is incredibly helpful to share what is and isn't working in small spill outreach/education. POSPET is invaluable for this opportunity and these types of updates should be a focus.
- One specific focus that would be helpful is to help each other problem solve. A POSPET member could bring a challenge forward and use the POSPET group to brainstorm solutions.
- Another topic: share procurement approaches and see if there is an opportunity to collaborate around procurement in the future to save money/time for everyone. (will address at Feb meeting)