



Pacific States/British Columbia Oil Spill Task Force Mutual Aid Agreement

For the:

State of Alaska
Province of British Columbia
State of Washington
State of Oregon
State of California
State of Hawaii

Revised 2024
Revised 2011
Original 1996

Pacific States/British Columbia Oil Spill Task Force Mutual Aid Agreement and Statement of Authority

The member jurisdictions of the Pacific States/British Columbia Oil Spill Task Force are committed to assuring a best achievable response to oil spills in our coastal and inland environments. To further this goal, it may be necessary to rapidly move spill response resources from one jurisdiction to another during spill events. Therefore, the Task Force member jurisdictions agree to:

1. Implement the mutual aid policy with the intent of streamlining the movement of equipment, resources, and personnel and maximizing the availability of private and public sector response resources during oil spills where assistance is requested;
2. Maintain relative equivalency among member jurisdictions' approaches to mutual aid, to assure effective reciprocity; and
3. Keep other Task Force member jurisdictions apprised of policy and procedural changes affecting this Mutual Aid Agreement.

This agreement was adopted on 06 March 2024 by the following Pacific States/British Columbia Oil Spill Task Force Executive Team:

Teresa Melville, Director, Division of Spill Prevention and Response Director, Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation

Laurel Nash, Assistant Deputy Minister, British Columbia Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy

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Pacific States/British Columbia Oil Spill Task Force Mutual Aid Agreement

SECTION 1. PURPOSE, BACKGROUND, AND SCOPE

1.1 Purpose

The purpose of this document is to establish the policies and procedures whereby the member jurisdictions can:

- Support each other upon request for government personnel or equipment.
- Support the movement of response contractor personnel and equipment resources that are obligated to contingency plan holders.

This document includes details that clarify personnel and equipment resources which may be available via mutual aid requests through Task Force member jurisdictions. Additionally, the document provides details about each member jurisdiction's legal authorities and responsibilities influencing the movement of response contractor personnel and equipment that are obligated to contingency plan holders. The varied legal authorities of the West Coast States, the Province of British Columbia, federal agencies, and the complex network of private sector response contracts and agreements complicate establishing a streamlined policy and procedure. This document should be reviewed and updated following lessons learned from drill exercises and spill responses with the goal of continuous improvement in support of our mutual objective of ensuring a rapid, aggressive, and well-coordinated response to spills in the region.

1.2 Background

1.2.1 Pacific States/ British Columbia Oil Spill Task Force

In 1988, the tank barge *Nestucca* ran aground off the coast of Washington (WA) spilling 230,000 gallons of bunker oil that eventually spread north into British Columbia (B.C.). At the time, no agreement was in place between WA and B.C. to share equipment and personnel during such an incident. The opportunity to develop clear protocols and coordinated spill response actions led to the creation of the Pacific States/British Columbia Oil Spill Task Force (Task Force), which later grew to include Oregon, California, Alaska, and Hawaii.

1.2.2 Mutual Aid Agreements

The Task Force adopted a Mutual Aid Plan in July 1993 in which the member jurisdictions agreed to expedite all decisions relating to mutual aid requests within the Task Force membership. Under that Plan, mutual aid requests by Task Force member jurisdictions could result in aid ranging from technical assistance and sample analysis to extensive cross-boundary deployment of state/provincial personnel and equipment. However, that plan was limited to reciprocal efforts by the Task Force member jurisdictions and did not affect private sector response resources or plan holders.

In preparation for the 2011 update to the Mutual Aid Agreement, the Task Force established a Mutual Aid Workgroup, which included members from the private and public sectors. The consensus recommendation of the workgroup was that, if possible, mutual aid policies in each jurisdiction should approve the release of private response equipment with a minimum of conditions beyond establishing requirements for resident equipment which would always remain available for immediate access by the plan holder. The 2011 and 2022 revisions to the Mutual Aid Agreement include the consideration of private-sector resources along with state-owned resources and personnel.

1.2.3 Regulatory Structures and Process Informing Mutual Aid of Contractor Resources

The Task Force member jurisdictions and the Canadian and United States federal agencies set standards for spill preparedness and response applicable to regulated vessels, facilities, pipelines, and railroads. The standards require that the regulated entities prepare contingency plans to implement these standards. During some spills, it may be necessary to expedite the mobilization of additional equipment and personnel response capabilities from outside the jurisdiction, which are only available through private contractors. Many of these contractors have signed commitments with facilities and/or vessel plan holders that would require incident-specific approval to mobilize personnel and equipment from member jurisdictions. This situation could result in limitations to accessing key equipment or delays in the "cascading" of response equipment and personnel to the spill site. This document attempts to facilitate reasonable movement of personnel and equipment to support mutual aid for spill responses between member jurisdictions (Refer to Appendix A for Individual Jurisdictions Statements.)

1.3 Basis for Mutual Aid

In the event of a catastrophic oil spill, Task Force members acknowledge that it may be necessary to rapidly deploy spill response resources from one jurisdiction to another to achieve a more effective response.

1.4 Scope

This Agreement represents the policy of the signatory jurisdictions and does not supersede federal, state, or provincial laws and regulations. This Agreement does not address mutual aid by federal agencies and does not supersede any private contractor emergency response plans or private sector contracts currently in place. In addition, any private sector response resources over and above those committed to fulfilling the legal requirements of a facility/vessel response plan are not affected by this Agreement. Task Force member jurisdictions do not have authority to require that private spill response contractors support the movement of response contractor personnel and equipment resources across state or national boundaries that are obligated to local contingency plan holders. The Task Force intends to work closely with all parties during the response to spills for which out-of-region equipment or personnel support are requested.

An exception to this Agreement may occur in cases where a spill in one jurisdiction is likely to impact the adjacent jurisdiction. In such cases, the Unified Command requesting mutual aid will collaborate with their counterparts on system deployment and may not invoke this agreement

with the adjacent jurisdiction. Task Force members will ensure a coordinated response using all necessary resources.

1.4.1 Compensation and Cost Recovery

This Mutual Aid Agreement provides the conditions and procedures through which the member jurisdictions can request and provide mutual aid during an emergency spill response.

Compensation for personnel and/or equipment will be addressed after mutual aid has been approved through this Agreement; it is anticipated that the typical approach would be for the incident Unified Command to request the resources needed through mutual aid and that the compensation and other logistics would be addressed by the Finance Section Procurement Unit.

SECTION 2. POLICY AND PROCEDURES

2.1 Task Force Policy Statement

It is the policy of the Task Force member jurisdictions to maximize the availability of response resources during oil spills by detailing the member jurisdictions' capabilities and documenting and streamlining the processes necessary to approve mutual aid between member jurisdictions. This agreement applies to state and provincial resources as well as private sector response resources.

Task Force member jurisdictions have different standards for allocating resources for mutual aid. These are the standard requirements for resident response systems to assure the ability of plan holders to initiate effective response action at their facility/vessel in the event that a spill occurs while a portion of their response capability is responding to a spill outside of the jurisdiction. Furthermore, each Task Force member agency will work with any plan holders and response contractors affected by the movement of response equipment for the purpose of cascading resources to ensure that spill response needs are adequately met. This policy applies to all oil spills within the member agency's area of responsibility.

This Agreement provides for reciprocal mutual aid among the Task Force member jurisdictions during oil spills; it does not authorize mutual aid to other coastal states and provinces other than signatories to this Agreement. Decisions on specific requests for aid from other jurisdictions will be made on a case-by-case basis.

For all mutual aid responses that involve international travel, members will attend to appropriate documentation (passports, visas, work agreements) that will be necessary to travel between the United States and Canada. Refer to the Joint Contingency Plans between the US and Canada for procedures for customs and Immigration clearances and exemptions.

2.2 Mutual Aid Procedures and Resources

The Task Force members hereby adopt the following procedures to expedite mutual aid decisions during West Coast oil spills. These procedures are illustrated in the following sections (2.3 through 2.7) and the Appendices A-C.

Appendix	Description	Pages
A	Jurisdictional Policy Statements	8-15
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2.3 Notification, Requests, and Approval

2.3.1 Notifications

Prompt notification is critical for the rapid deployment of aid. Notifications should be considered for spills or potential spills ahead of a formal aid request or during incidents in which a request is being considered. Specific information for individuals and contact information is included in Appendix A.

2.3.2 Requests

The decision to request additional response resources may come from:

- The Task Force member jurisdiction requesting mutual aid to the jurisdiction from whom aid is being requested (lending jurisdiction) OR a regulated contractor to cascade equipment out of the region. This notification will formally invoke this Agreement.
- The Responsible Party (RP) or other Unified Command (UC) member to the Oil Spill Response Organization(s) (OSRO) and other response contractors whose assistance is requested.
- The OSRO requested to move equipment to the plan holders to which they are obligated under contract.
- The plan holder whose OSRO equipment is requested to leave the area to the Task Force member agency whose area is affected.

The Task Force member agency will work with the plan holder and the OSRO to resolve their concerns and establish other response coverage and spill prevention measures as necessary. Where appropriate, the requests will be coordinated with the Area Command and other regional decision-making bodies.

2.3.3 Approval

All mutual aid requests will be directed to the Task Force Executive Team for the jurisdictions involved. The Task Force Executive Team will be the final authority to approve OSROs reducing their local response capability to meet State or Provincial requirements. They are also the final authority to approve jurisdictionally owned or managed resources to join the response. Specific position titles and corresponding contact information are outlined in Appendix A.

The Executive Members do not have the authority to release OSROs fulfilling federal requirements but will work closely with their federal counterparts should such a decision need to be made.

2.4 Non-Task Force Member Requests

Requests for mutual aid from non-signatories will be handled on a case-by-case basis by the Task Force member jurisdictions.

2.5 Communication During Response

Ensuring communication during the response is a critical component of spill responses and sharing of mutual aid. A communication plan must be proposed with the initial request for mutual aid and agreed upon by the lending jurisdiction at the time of approval.

2.6 Demobilization

A demobilization plan should be proposed with the initial request for mutual aid through the mechanism identified in Section 2.3.2 and agreed upon by the lending jurisdiction. Priority will be given to the demobilization of equipment, resources, and personnel provided from other member jurisdictions as mutual aid (i.e., requested using this agreement). An exception may be made for equipment, resources, or subject matter experts that are only available through the lending jurisdictions or equipment that has been proven to operate more effectively than other available resources.

Demobilization may be initiated if the lending jurisdiction determines that mobilized resources should be returned for purposes of achieving compliance with planning requirements or ensuring best achievable protection within their jurisdiction. Similarly, if the lending state advises their plan holders or OSROs that they need to resume compliance to achieve minimum requirements, demobilization may be initiated.

2.7 Post-Response Evaluation

After each event, the loaning and requesting Task Force member jurisdictions will together debrief the effectiveness of the mutual aid process and policy. This information will be shared with all member jurisdictions for the purposes of self-evaluation and increasing collective preparedness for future events.

Appendix A: Jurisdictional Policy Statements

Appendix A includes individual policy statements by jurisdiction. Policy statements are ordered geographically, from north to south (Alaska, British Columbia, Washington, Oregon, California, and Hawaii). Each statement follows a standard format:

- 1) *Overview*
- 2) *Notification - Invoking the Mutual Aid Agreement*
- 3) *Mutual Aid Policy*
- 4) *Transfer or Release of Resources*
- 5) *Measures to Offset Risk*

Alaska Specific Policy

1) *Overview*

The Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation (ADEC) Division of Spill Prevention and Response (SPAR) protects public safety, public health, and the environment, and ensures that producers, transporters, and distributors of crude oil and refined oil products prevent oil spills and are fully prepared materially and financially to clean up spills. The extent of ADEC's response depends on local resources, circumstances concerning the Responsible Party/Potential Responsible Party, and the degree of public health and environmental risk. ADEC has staffing, equipment, and contractor resources to contain and mitigate most oil and hazardous substances releases.

2) *Notification - Invoking the Mutual Aid Agreement*

Following a catastrophic oil spill, a Task Force member agency requiring mutual aid from Alaska can request support via the following steps:

1. Unified Command to contact SPAR Program Manager/Coordinating Committee Member Graham Wood during regular business hours (Alaska Standard Time) at 907-269-7680 or the ADEC Response Team during non-business hours at 1-800-478-9300. Unified Command must provide a resource request that details the amount and type of resources required, a reasonable estimate of the length of time the resources will be deployed, and the proposed staging area for the resources.
2. The SPAR Program Manager will assess the resource request and determine if SPAR can provide immediate support.
3. The SPAR Program Manager will inform the requesting Unified Command of Alaska's ability to provide mutual aid.

3) *Mutual Aid Policy*

ADEC fully supports mutual aid among the Task Force jurisdictions per this agreement and according to State of Alaska statute.

4) Transfer or Release of Resources

The emergency transfer of response resources between contingency plan holders within Alaska, or to another person¹, is regulated under 18 AAC 75.470. Under this agreement, SPAR may consider permitting plan holders to share resources with Task Force jurisdictions. To facilitate mutual aid with other signatories of this agreement and comply with 18 AAC 75.470, Alaska contingency plan holders should request written pre-approval from SPAR of an emergency transfer. Alaskan contingency plan holders must clearly identify- in advance- the specific response resources intended for emergency transfer.

If a proposed equipment transfer would reduce the quantity or quality of response resources used by a plan holder (or group of plan holders) for demonstration of compliance with an approved contingency plan, SPAR may attach temporary terms and conditions, where practicable, as compensating measures to prevent spills or to reduce the magnitude of potential discharges (18 AAC 75.470(b)(1)(E)). To expedite mutual aid in the event of an emergency outside of Alaska, contingency plan holders should negotiate these terms and conditions in advance with SPAR as part of their mutual aid proposal.

Materials that cannot be replaced, such as sorbent boom, or items that are broken during the response must be reordered at the time when they are removed from Alaskan inventory or when SPAR is notified of the damage to ensure prompt resupply.

5) Measures to Offset Risk in Alaska

Any request for mutual aid will be approved on a case-by-case basis. Alaska spill response resources cover the nation's largest state and longest coastline. Sufficient response coverage must be maintained at all times to ensure readiness in the event of a spill within the state. Alaska will not be able to release spill response resources if it is experiencing a concurrent catastrophic spill event. The Coordinating Committee member and SPAR director will make that determination when the requesting Incident Commander approaches them to invoke this agreement.

British Columbia Specific Policy

1) Overview

The Environmental Emergency Branch (EEB), British Columbia Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy (ENV), leads the province's response to hazardous material spills and other environmental emergencies. ENV regulates aspects of the transportation of hazardous materials via pipelines, railroads, and trucking in B.C., while federal organizations regulate oil handling facilities, ship-source, and mystery-source spills of liquid petroleum in the marine environment.

2) Notification - Invoking the Mutual Aid Agreement

Following a catastrophic oil spill, a Task Force member agency requiring mutual aid from B.C. can request support via the following steps:

¹ 'Person' is broadly defined and may include an entity outside Alaska.

1. Unified Command to contact the Director of the Environmental Emergency Branch (EEB), Rod Allen, during business hours at (1-250-676-2069), or via the Emergency Management and Climate Readiness spill reporting line during non-business hours at (1-800-663-3456). Unified Command must provide a resource request that details the amount and type of resources required, a reasonable estimate of the length of time the resources will be deployed, and the proposed staging area for the resources.
2. The EEB Director will assess the resource request and determine if EEB can provide immediate support.
3. The EEB Director will inform Unified Command what support B.C. will be able to provide.

3) *Mutual Aid Policy*

B.C. ENV fully supports the Task Force Mutual Aid Agreement. A strong, viable mutual aid plan will ensure rapid assistance to all member jurisdictions in the event of a large oil spill and reduce the impacts of an environmental emergency. In the event of a major spill, B.C. commits to providing mutual aid to the Pacific States-British Columbia Task Force member jurisdictions by sharing B.C. provincial personnel, information², subject matter expertise and equipment.

ENV also agrees to actively support the cascading of any federally mandated response capabilities, as outlined in the Canadian National Emergency Response System, to achieve a high level of marine oil spill preparedness on the Pacific West Coast. ENV will coordinate with the Canadian Coast Guard and industry (e.g., response organizations) to encourage and facilitate a decision compatible with the spirit of this agreement.

It is the requesting organization's responsibility to ensure that B.C. personnel are aware of workplace safety requirements within their jurisdiction. B.C. personnel will only undertake work in which they are qualified and, regardless of the safety training provided, have the right to refuse work if they feel it endangers their safety.

Except when B.C. specifically requests, a requesting Task Force member agency will not be required to compensate B.C. for the costs of providing aid. This Mutual Aid Agreement supports a polluter pays principal and the provisions of this agreement shall not be interpreted as, in a way, prejudicing the rights of the Parties to recover from third parties any costs related to response to environmental emergencies.

4) *Transfer or Release of Resources*

This section is not applicable to B.C.'s regulatory framework.

5) *Measures to Offset Risk in British Columbia*

If mutual aid is requested of B.C., the Province will strive to maximize the amount of assistance provided to the impacted jurisdiction while ensuring there is sufficient coverage for the province.

² Any information exchanged between the B.C. and Task Force member jurisdictions will be kept strictly confidential, unless otherwise stated.

However, ENV is legislated under the *BC Ministry of Environment Act* to protect the welfare of the public in the event of an environmental emergency or disaster. If a concurrent environmental emergency in B.C. requires support, ENV may not be able to provide resources to the requesting jurisdiction.

Washington Specific Policy

1) Overview

The Washington State Department of Ecology (Ecology) acknowledges that the Pacific coastal region's unique sensitive environments, cultural, and economic resources are benefited by a rapid, aggressive, and well-coordinated response system with effective mutual aid and equipment cascading policies. The Washington state oil spill contingency planning regulations (WAC 173-182 and WAC 173-186) establish baseline personnel and equipment planning standards applicable to regulated contingency plan holders (vessels, facilities, pipelines, and railroads).

2) Notification - Invoking the Mutual Aid Agreement

The requesting party should contact the Program Manager during business hours at (360) 763-2038 and via the Washington State Emergency Management Division at 1-800-258-5990 outside of regular business hours. The Program Manager will work with the Preparedness Section to discuss requests for PRC/OSRO equipment and potential impacts to regulated plan holder planning standards, or the Program's Crisis Management Team for call out of Ecology Incident Management Team (IMT) Staff.

3) Mutual Aid Policy

In the event of a major spill, Ecology commits to providing mutual aid to the Task Force member jurisdictions by offering state Incident Management Team personnel and equipment support, as well as facilitating the cascading of primary response contractor resources (PRC/OSRO) that are home-based in Washington State.

4) Transfer or Release of Resources

The regulations define benchmark equipment requirements and a process for evaluating oil spill contingency planning standards. Ecology uses a GIS-based model to evaluate if oil spill plans have access to the required response equipment and personnel to respond to a worst-case spill. Under the regulations, response contractors must notify Ecology within 24 hours of a change in their response readiness and provide both a schedule for the prompt return of the plan to full operational status and identify the potential need to backfill key equipment. The GIS model can be used to rapidly evaluate requests for aid and facilitate decision-making. Once a specific mutual aid request is submitted to Ecology by a Task Force member agency, unified command, or response contractor the department will use the GIS model to evaluate the impact of the equipment move with the goal of maximizing the amount of assistance that can be provided. After approval we will document any agreed upon equipment backfills and prevention measures, track the return of the equipment, and collect performance information or lessons learned.

After this agreement has been invoked, Washington state may use the authority given by state laws and rules and as described in the contingency plan to allow plan holders to operate under a temporary decreased response capability, for those owners/operators of facilities and vessels whose PRC provide(s) oil spill response resources to Unified Command located in the affected member state or province.

5) *Measures to Offset Risk in Washington*

On a case-by-case basis, the need for enhanced spill prevention efforts may be required when response capability is temporarily reduced. Each request for equipment is evaluated to identify if the equipment is necessary to meet the planning standards or if moving it out of the area will have no impact on the regulated plan holders. Examples of measures Washington may use to offset risk can be reviewed in the Summary of Spill Response Capabilities by Task Force Jurisdiction document which is available on the Task Force website.

Oregon Specific Policy

1) *Overview*

The Oregon Department of Environmental Quality has approximately 10 full-time emergency response staff who are trained and ready to respond to an incident. During a large spill additional staff may be assigned from other sections of DEQ to increase this number if necessary. DEQ's drill and exercise program regularly rotates interested staff into positions for training, and those staff become available in real world emergencies once they have obtained the necessary HAZWOPER & ICS training. Some of these staff may be available for out-of-state work on a case-by-case basis.

DEQ's oil spill contingency planning program monitors equipment requirements for regulated vessels and certain petroleum pipelines, facilities, and railroad lines. Some of these equipment requirements may be waived if another state requests equipment, which is discussed in detail below.

2) *Notification - Invoking the Mutual Aid Agreement*

The requesting party should contact:

- Wes Risher - DEQ Emergency Response Manager, 503-347-0092, wes.risher@deq.oregon.gov
- Michael Kucinski, Interim Administrator, Land Quality Division, Oregon Department of Environmental Quality 503-804-5692, Michael.KUCINSKI@deq.oregon.gov
- Oregon Emergency Response (OERS), 800-452-0311 – request that the DEQ duty officer call the DEQ Emergency Response Coordination Cell (ERCC) member on duty.

3) *Mutual Aid Policy*

DEQ has an existing agreement with the Washington State Department of Ecology for coordination and cooperation on spill response, drills and exercises, and facility or vessel inspections (DEQ Agreement #049-18/I).

4) *Transfer or Release of Resources*

ORS 340-141-0150 contains specific response times for covered vessels, facilities, and petroleum pipelines to have specific equipment available for planning purposes. If another state has a request for equipment which is covered under a response plan, a waiver for the 24- and 48-hour response standards may be approved based on measures to offset operational risks for those facilities and vessels whose response contractor is affected by requests for mutual aid from a Unified Command. Decisions on mutual aid beyond 30 days will be made on a case-by-case basis.

When a request for mutual aid comes to an Oregon State private response contractor or Cooperative from a Unified Command in another jurisdiction, the contractor or ORSO/Cooperative may respond directly to the spill with equipment beyond the 12 hours resident equipment capacity. This policy does not directly affect private sector contractual obligations, nor does it relieve plan holders from notifying the DEQ within 24 hours of changes to their response capabilities.

5) *Measures to Offset Risk in Oregon*

Non-Cascadeable Equipment Requirements

Plan holders must meet the 12 hour and lower hourly response standards (6 hours, 2 hours, 1 hour) at all times. The 12-hour response standard is designated as the "resident" response capability. This resident capability will ensure that an effective spill response will be maintained until additional resources cascade into the region, even though some resources may have temporarily left the area.

California Specific Policy

1) *Overview*

The California Department of Fish and Wildlife's Office of Spill Prevention and Response (OSPR) supports mutual aid among the members of the Pacific States/British Columbia Oil Spill Task Force.

2) *Notification- Invoking the Mutual Aid Agreement*

Invocation of this agreement requires approval by the OSPR Administrator. To initiate approval, the affected state or province that is party to this agreement shall contact one of the following:

- OSPR Response Technology Branch Chief - Greg McGowan (916) 508-2863, who serves as the emergency mutual aid point of contact and is available during business and non-business hours.
- OSPR Administrator (Acting) - Julie Yamamoto (916) 616-0721
- OSPR Assistant Deputy Administrator – Amir Sharifi (916) 698-0889

3) *Mutual Aid Policy*

Evaluation & Determination

In California, certain facility and vessel owners and operators are responsible for maintaining a minimum level of oil spill response equipment and personnel at all times. If there is a request for private-sector response equipment and personnel to mobilize to a spill outside of California, the facility or vessel owners/operators that otherwise would rely on the equipment or personnel will

need to demonstrate to the OSPR Administrator that there is sufficient coverage remaining in California.

The OSPR Administrator will evaluate how plan holders can remain in compliance with state oil spill planning requirements and still provide the best achievable protection for the state should equipment and personnel be mobilized to the incident. The Administrator's evaluation may consider mitigation measures on a case-by-case basis to offset identified risk created by response resources leaving the State. The OSPR Administrator may consult with affected government entities, including the U.S. Coast Guard, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, the U.S. Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement, and other state or federal agencies as appropriate, prior to making the determination.

Mobilization

Once the OSPR Administrator has made a determination that equipment and personnel may be released, the Unified Command for the incident may directly make a request to the owner of the response resources. Note, the OSPR Administrator's determination does not create, supersede, release, impair, or otherwise alter private sector contractual relations. Also, the determination is not a directive to respond or a guarantee that the owner of the response resources will respond.

4) Transfer or release of resources

No additional information was provided.

5) Measures to Offset Risk

No additional information was provided.

Hawaii Specific Policy

1) Overview

The Hawaii Department of Health fully supports mutual aid among the members of the Pacific States/British Columbia Oil Spill Task Force.

2) Notification - Invoking the Mutual Aid Agreement

Only members of the Pacific States/British Columbia Oil Spill Task Force may invoke the Mutual Agreement. The requesting party shall contact the Coordinating Member, the Hawaii Department of Health, Emergency Preparedness and Response Supervisor, during business hours at (808) 586-4249 and via the Hawaii State Department of Health Dispatch at (808) 236-8200 during non-business hours.

Movement of oil spill response personnel and/or resource from Hawaii to another member state or province shall be approved by the Executive Member from Hawaii.

3) Mutual Aid Policy

Once this agreement has been invoked, the Unified Command of the affected member state or province may directly request response resources located in Hawaii. It does not guarantee that the oil spill response organization(s) (OSRO) contacted by the Unified Command will respond to the

request for mutual aid. Oil Spill Response Organizations (OSROs) operating in Hawaii will be bound by current member agreements and previously agreed upon company mutual aid policies. This policy has no bearing on any notification requirements that may exist in contracts between OSROs and owners/operators of marine facilities and vessels.

4) Transfer or Release of Resources

No additional information was provided.

5) Measures to Offset Risk in Hawaii

Any request for mutual aid will be approved on a case-by-case basis. Hawaii needs to ensure that there is sufficient coverage for the State. Furthermore, USCG may be consulted to ensure that any oil spill resources that leave Hawaii will be offset by appropriate mitigation measures.

Appendix B. Other Jurisdictional Resources

The following resources are shared among Task Force member Jurisdictions. These resources will be updated annually and separately from the MOU.

Summary of Spill Response Capabilities by Task Force Jurisdiction

Last revised June 2022

Roster of ICS Certified and Trained Staff

Last revised June 2022

Examples of Prevention and Response Preparedness Measures

Last revised February 2022

Appendix C. Mutual Aid Recommendations

To improve West Coast mutual aid during major oil spills, the Task Force hereby adopts the following recommendations:

- **Private sector agreements between member jurisdictions** – It is recognized by all parties that this procedure and policy will not be fully effective without the public and private sector establishing and testing equipment cascading among US Oil Spill Response Organizations (OSROs) and Canadian Response Organizations (ROs) and between plan holders and their OSROs/ROs. The Task Force recommends that the private sector continue to pursue mutual aid agreements among major response contractors, and between plan holders and their response contractors.
- **Inventory of response equipment** – It is recommended that public sector and private sector response organizations maintain an inventory of response capabilities on the West Coast which can be immediately accessed in the event that mutual aid is needed. In the Pacific Northwest, the Worldwide Region Response list (WRRL) exists for this purpose. The WRRL is an inventory and directory of equipment maintained by equipment owners. Anyone can access the WRRL as a guest at www.wrri.world. The Department of Ecology also maintains an interactive map showing equipment staging locations as listed on the WRRL at https://fortress.wa.gov/ecy/coastalatlasc/storymaps/spills/spills_sm.html?CustomMap=y&BBox=-15076386,4230146,-11016051,6798430&Tab=nt7&Opacity=1&Basemap=esriLightGray
- **International transboundary spills** – The Task Force undertook – with the help of a Stakeholder Workgroup – a comprehensive review of the status of marine oil spill planning and response capacity for the Pacific Coast transboundary areas: the Alaska-British Columbia Dixon Entrance Geographic Annex (CANUSDIX) and the Washington-British Columbia Pacific Geographic Annex (CANUSPAC).

The U.S./Canada Transboundary Project Report, published in April of 2011, addresses over 36 topics, including those listed above, and offers recommendations for improvements that we endorse. This report was reviewed in 2017 and the status of the original recommendations were tracked and reported. Both the original report and the 2017 review are available on the Task Force website: <http://oilspilltaskforce.org/ourwork/transboundary/>.