WORDS FROM THE STATEWIDE AREA COMMITTEE

On April 14th, representatives from the Los Angeles-Long Beach Area Committee attended the statewide area committee meeting. Those in attendance viewed a presentation by Ocean Imaging, received an update from the volunteer subcommittee from San Francisco and heard updates from each sector.

Jeff Slusarz, the Statewide Area Committee Coordinator passed on the information that Capt Doug Kaup will be replaced as Coast Guard District 11, Chief of Planning by Capt Gwen Johnson in April 2009. Capt Kaup will be taking over as Commanding Officer of Air Station Astoria, Oregon, and we wish him the best of luck. Capt Johnson is coming to District 11 having had previous assignments in Alameda, California. Her most recent assignment is Sector Delaware Bay in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

Questions, Comments, Concerns…send to LTJG Stephanie Young, at stephanie.m.young@uscg.mil

Next Area Committee Meeting

When: Tuesday, August 13, 2009 from 10:00-12:00  Where: Northern Sector, TBD  On the Agenda: Sub-Committee Updates, drill planning
COSCO BUSAN has changed the way we as responders view oil spill response in Southern California. The below recommendations were presented as part of the COSCO BUSAN Incident Specific Preparedness Review (ISPR). The ISPR was convened in November of 2007. The process, including the scope and membership is outlined in the Coast Guard Marine Safety Manual. While the report came out some time ago, we have never addressed the recommendations as an Area Committee. While most of the recommendations are above the local area level, the below specifically address Area Committees as a whole.

**Update Area Contingency Plans**

**Communications**
- Pre-identify internet communication tools and their application to improve communication.
- Establish a priority communication network to ensure OSRO observations are communicated to the Situation Unit for UC and FOSC consideration without delay.

**Resources**
- Maintain a current list of available response resource equipment.
- Include Special Team request protocols.
- If applicable, determine the resource capabilities local commercial fishing assets can bring to the UC to support the response.
- Maintain a list of all qualified local responders and their training level.
- Unified Command Post organization
- Pre-designate JIC members.
- Consider how to facilitate auditor activities in the command post.

- Develop before-hand ICS 232 forms for the first 24 hours of a response.
- Differentiate shoreline field observers and formalize SCAT operations.
- Clarify the role of the NRDA liaison in the Incident Management organization and reaffirm alignment with the ACP.

**General**
- Update plans after each exercise.
- Address applicable weather-specific considerations
dependant on the area. Align with other local plans including the Local Emergency Planning Committee.

**Coordinate with Area Committees**
- Pre-designate liaison officers as part of a first responder team.
- Test and improve notification procedures on a consistent basis with all stakeholders.
- Engage the fishing community, regulators, and local experts to participate in area committee meetings.
What SCCOOS is
The Southern California Coastal Ocean Observing System (SCCOOS), aims to synthesize environmental observations into products that will provide a scientific basis for evaluating and improving management, guardianship, response to the ocean environment and its resources. Included in these goals, is the aid in response to maritime operations such as harbor safety, oil spill response, and search and rescue. Specifically for the oil spill community, utilities have been developed to address risk assessment, real-time oil spill response, and impact assessment.

How Observations can Aid Oil Spill Activities
* Real-time surface currents and trajectories allow the tracking of spills to aid clean up efforts.
* Real-time wind and wave fields assist oil spill response personnel in deploying and managing operational assets (booms, spill response vessels, etc.)
* Accurate observations of ocean circulation and water column biota provide the necessary data to accurately estimate natural resource damage assessment on a per spill basis.
* Data constrained model forecasts provide accurate predictions of where oil will be transported.
* Statistical descriptions of circulation, wind, and wave fields can be used for assessing risk to existing and future sites where spills have a high probability of occurring.

Partnerships in San Diego
Throughout 2005-2006, Scripps Institution of Oceanography collaborated with the California Department of Fish and Game - Oil Spill Prevention and Response (DFGOSPR) in the experimental design, execution, and analysis of a field experiment off the coast of San Diego. The experiment was designed to simulate a dispersed oil plume and attempt to track and sample it. Tracking of the plume included near real-time current measurements. The experiments and analyses were to evaluate the California Dispersed Oil Sampling Plan. The goals of the project included measuring small-scale transport processes and developing/validating oil-spill model algorithms for effectively modeling subsurface dispersion of naturally-entrained and chemically-dispersed oil. Agreement was obtained between HF radar, surface drifters, and SIMAP predictions in first experiment, and recent data is currently being analyzed.

Application of SCCOOS in Drills and Exercises
More recently, SCCOOS members supported an oil spill response exercise conducted in accordance with the National Preparedness for Response Exercise Program Guidelines (NPREP) in June 2008. Participants included Coast Guard, Office of Spill Prevention and Response (OSPR), NOAA HAZMAT, Office of Emergency Services (OES), Navy Region Southwest, and Chevron. The exercise focused on effective communications and response in the event of a marine oil spill. HF radar derived near real-time surface current measurements were integrated into the NOAA HAZMAT operational models as well as particle tracking based on optimally interpolated currents. Shape files were also created on an automated basis for California OSPR GIS specialist Judd Muskat and his team so they could include maps of ocean currents with their integrated on-scene GIS products. As a result of the success of the exercise, Jordan Stout of NOAA HAZMAT has invited SCCOOS members to participate in future California training exercises to help raise awareness of surface current mapping technology for oil spill response. In December 2008, SCCOOS personnel responded to two oil spills, providing gap filled data to both OSPR and NOAA HAZMAT for integration into their models. SCCOOS plans to continue to support and foster relationships with the maritime operations community.

For Further Information
If you have questions or personal stories related to the utilization of ocean observing information, please email us at info@sccoos.org.

More information about SCCOOS and near real-time data can be found at www.sccoos.org.

Left: SCCOOS maps allows the user to access real time data within Southern California. Observation map is available at www.sccoos.org.
### Upcoming Drills and Exercises

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Agency</th>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>05/14/09</td>
<td>TBD</td>
<td>S-FRT/LOS ALAMITOS</td>
<td>Meeting</td>
<td>Southern California</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>05/15/09</td>
<td>0800</td>
<td>ConocoPhillips</td>
<td>SED</td>
<td>San Francisco Rodeo, CA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>05/20/09</td>
<td>0730</td>
<td>Chevron Products Co.</td>
<td>SED</td>
<td>Santa Monica Bay</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>05/20/09</td>
<td>1000</td>
<td>Chevron Pipeline Co.</td>
<td>SED</td>
<td>San Francisco Refinery Rodeo, CA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>06/10/09</td>
<td>1300</td>
<td>Tesoro Refining and Marketing, Inc.</td>
<td>SED</td>
<td>Tesoro Refinery, Wilmington, CA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>06/17/09</td>
<td>TBD</td>
<td>DCOR, LLC</td>
<td>SED</td>
<td>Santa Barbara Dock</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>07/09/09</td>
<td>0600</td>
<td>DCOR, LLC</td>
<td>SED</td>
<td>Seal Beach</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For more information on drills, go to the spill drill calendar at: [http://www.dfg.ca.gov/ospr/index.html](http://www.dfg.ca.gov/ospr/index.html)

### New and Future Business:

- Please ensure you provide feedback to the Volunteer Plan. The draft is available at homeport.uscg.mil. Go to “Port Directory” and click on “Los Angeles—Long Beach.”

- If you have anything that you would like to add to the next AC newsletter, or something to be discussed at the next meeting please let us know so we can have it added to the agenda.

Questions, Comments, or Concerns about the AC newsletter? Contact LTJG Stephanie Young, USCG Sector LA-LB
Stephanie.M.Young@uscg.mil