

## **MEETING OF THE SEWARD ZONE GRS WORKGROUP**

**March 7, 2002  
AVTEC, Seward, Alaska**

Ms. Anne Castellina, Kenai Fjords Nation Park, opened the meeting and John Kwietniak, Tesoro Alaska, reviewed the agenda. Tim Robertson gave a presentation on the GRS process.

Dale Gardner, ADEC, led a discussion of oil spill risks in the Seward Zone. Among the risks identified were:

- Large cruise ships that visit Seward in the summer (90 to 110 per year),
- Smaller cruise ships and tour boats operating in the zone,
- Bulk fuel storage facilities in Seward,
- Large fishing vessels and tenders,
- Coal ships and other ships coming to Resurrection Bay,
- Alaska State ferries
- The Seward ship yard,
- Ships passing along the coast and
- Oil entering the zone from a spill in Prince William Sound.

The group concluded that the area within the zone having the highest risk of oil spill impact was Resurrection Bay.

Dr. John Whitney, NOAA, gave presentations on the prevailing currents and winds in the Seward Zone. He reviewed the trajectory of the Exxon Valdez spill and the currents and wind events that influenced it. There is a counterclockwise gyre in the Gulf of Alaska, the Alaska coastal current runs east to west along the coast for ten to 20 kilometers from the coast and the winds are primarily from the south and southwest. The work group was asked to take the prevailing wind and current conditions into consideration when selecting GRS sites.

Doug Mutter, DOI, led the group in a review and revisions of the Draft Site Selection Matrix. Five additional sites were added to the candidate list and numerous additions were made to the resources in the matrix. The trustee agencies agreed to provide additional resource information for the matrix by the next meeting.

**Seward Zone Geographic Response Strategies Workgroup**

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The workgroup then preliminarily selected the following 20 sites for GRS development:

<b>Site No.</b>	<b>Name</b>
8, 9, 10 combined	Beauty Bay / Shelter Cove
17	Ariadne Cove
19	James Lagoon
20	Nuka East Arm
22	Delight Lake Stream
33	Head of Taroka Arm
38	Northwestern Lagoon
41	Cataract Cove
46	Pederson Glacier Spawning Stream
74	Bulldog Cove / Bear Glacier
78	Tonsina Creek
83	Fourth of July Creek
84	Thumb Cove
93	Day Harbor
100	Johnstone Bay Spawning Stream
105	Quicksand Cove Lagoon
106	Abra Cove
107	Northwestern Lagoon Moraine stream
108	Head of Thunder Bay
109	Granite Passage

Steve Howell, Cook Inlet RCAC, will conduct a process to inform the public about the GRS process and gather public comments on the sites preliminarily selected. The next meeting of the Seward Zone GRS Workgroup was scheduled for Tuesday, May 28, 2002 in Seward, location to be announced. The purpose of the meeting will be to review public comments and finalize the sites selected.

The following members of the workgroup volunteered to be on the Operations / Tactics Subgroup, which will design response strategies for the selected sites:

Mark Delosier, SERVS  
Gary Foley, ADEC  
Dale Gardner, ADEC  
John Kwietniak, Tesoro  
Mike Munger, Cook Inlet RCAC

Terry Murphy, Alaska Chadux  
Mark Plone, QualiTech  
Buzz Rome, CISPRI  
Mike Tetreau, NPS

**Attachments:**

- Agenda
- Candidate Site Maps
- Draft Site Selection Matrix
- Tim Robertson Presentation Slides