

North Slope Borough: An Oil Spill Workshop

Inupiat Heritage Center

Barrow, AK

November 8-9, 2012

Goals:

To discuss community involvement in spill response, natural resource damage assessment (NRDA) and restoration/recovery

- To integrate local community knowledge into Environmental Response Management Application (Arctic ERMA®)
- To enhance relationships between local communities & government agencies regarding planning and preparation for potential oil spill response, NRDA and restoration/recovery

AGENDA - DAY 1

- 9:00 AM **Opening Prayer**
Welcome - North Slope Borough
- 9:05 AM **Welcome, Overview and Goals of Meeting**
Nancy E. Kinner, *UNH Director, Coastal Response Research Center*
- 9:25 AM **Report on the Northwest Arctic Borough Oil Spill Workshop**
Ukallaysaaq Tom Okleasik, *Northwest Arctic Borough*
- 9:40 AM **Participant Introductions & Expectations**
- 10:20 AM **Break**
- 10:30 AM **Overview of Spill Response**
Dale Gardner, *Alaska Dept. of Environmental Conservation, Division of Spill Prevention & Response*
- Overview of Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation's Role in Spill Response**
Thomas DeRuyter, *Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation*
- Overview of North Slope Borough's Role in Spill Response**
Gordon Brower, *North Slope Borough, Community Planning Division*
- 11:15 AM **Introduction to Arctic ERMA®**
Amy Merten, *NOAA, Assessment and Restoration Division, Spatial Data Team*
- 12:00 PM **Lunch (provided)**
- 1:30 PM **Small Group Breakout Session I: Discussion of Oil Spill Response & Arctic ERMA®**
Theme: Logistics of spill response, concerns and how local communities can most effectively participate and how ERMA® can help
- Breakout Group Questions:**
- What specific concerns do you have relative to planning and preparation for spill response?
 - What specific concerns do you have relative to spill response implementation and management?
 - What are best practices for community involvement in spill response, planning, and preparation?
 - What are your initial reactions to Arctic ERMA®?
 - How could the tool be useful for community involvement in spill response?
 - What information would you like to see included in the tool to support response decisions?
- 2:30 PM **Break**
- 2:45 PM **Group Reports to Plenary Session**
- 4:30 PM **Adjourn meeting**
- 5:00 PM **Presentation: "How can science improve decision-making in the Arctic?"**
Fran Ulmer, *U.S. Arctic Research Commission*
(Reception to follow—Library)

AGENDA - DAY 2

- 8:30 AM **Opening Prayer and Announcements**
Nancy Kinner
- 8:45 AM **Introduction to Natural Resource Damage Assessment (NRDA), Restoration/Recovery**
Mary Baker, *NOAA, Assessment & Restoration Division*
- Arctic ERMA[®] in NRDA and Restoration/Recovery**
Amy Merten, Mary Baker
- 10:15 AM **Small Group Breakout Session II: Discussion of NRDA and ERMA[®]**
Theme: Logistics of NRDA, concerns, how local communities can most effectively participate, and how ERMA[®] can help
- Breakout Group Questions:**
- What effects of oil spills most concern you (for example, health and use of natural resources)?
 - ◊ Marine mammals
 - ◊ Birds
 - ◊ Fish
 - ◊ Crab or other shellfish
 - ◊ Land mammals
 - ◊ Other cultural concerns (for example, education, language, arts)
 - Are there special habitats or specific areas that you are most concerned about? (for example, sensitive areas, historical sites, camp areas)
 - Given the changing Arctic environment, what background/baseline information do you think we need to consider about the health of the environment before a spill occurs?
 - How could the ERMA[®] tool be useful for evaluating effects of spills?
 - What information would you like to see included in the tool to support evaluation of effects?
 - What are best practices for community involvement in evaluating effects?
- 11:45 AM **Lunch (provided)**
- 12:45 PM **Small Group Breakout Session III: Discussion of Restoration & Recovery and ERMA[®]**
Theme: Exploring restoration options and how ERMA[®] can help
- Breakout Group Questions:**
- What specific concerns do you have relative to restoration and recovery?
 - Are there examples of habitat areas that could be improved?
 - Are there other sources of contamination that could be controlled?
 - What traditional methods of restoration and recovery are practiced?
 - What could be done to sustain cultural and subsistence practices that might be affected by oil?
 - What are best practices for community involvement in restoration and recovery?
 - How could the ERMA tool be useful for planning restoration?
 - What information would you like to see included in the tool to support restoration planning?
- 2:45 PM **Group Reports to Plenary Session**
- 3:15 PM **Wrap Up**
- 4:00 PM **Adjourn**