**XXX River**

**Geographic Response Plan**

**Chapter 1 – Introduction**

This Geographic Response Plan serves as the federal and state on-scene-coordinators’ and first responder guidance during the initial phase of an oil spill response in the NF American River and Donner Lake area. This plan has been approved by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife’s Office of Spill Prevention and Response and U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (Region 9). Changes to this document are expected as more testing is conducted through drills, site visits, and actual use in spill situations. We value your input and hope that you’ll let us know how the plan might be improved. Please submit comments online at <http://www.rrt10nwac.com/Comment>. Comments may also be emailed to us at GRPs@ecy.wa.gov or submitted by mail using the forms and information provided in Appendix “C” of this document.

Geographic Response Plans (GRPs) are being developed for the inland waters of California. They are prepared through the efforts and in cooperation with the California Dept. of Fish and Wildlife’s Office of Spill Prevention and Response (OSPR), the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), other state and federal agencies, tribal, local governments, industry, oil spill response organizations, environmental non-governmental organizations, and emergency responders. GRPs are developed through committees, workshops and meetings with federal, state, and local oil spill emergency response experts, oil spill response contractors, tribal representatives, industry, local governments, and environmental and conservation organizations. Participants identify resources that may be at risk of injury from spills, develop oil spill response strategies to minimize injury to those resources, and provide information needed to support logistics during a spill response.

After compiling information on sensitive resources in the area, site visits are conducted to gather data and determine if spill response strategies near those resources should be added, modified, or deleted. In this, the anticipated effectiveness of existing strategies are reviewed, modifications made as determine necessary, potentially unsafe or ineffective strategies removed, and new strategies added to the plan. Unfortunately, the dynamics of marine and inland water environments and the present limitations of response technology make the development of strategies for all resource locations impracticable. An updated (draft) plan is produced after site visits are completed. Comments on the draft plan are provided by trustee agencies, stakeholders, and the public. A final version of the GRP is produced and published. A responsiveness summary is also published that addresses all public comments received during the GRP update process.

This plan has been developed for the waters of Donner Lake and the North Fork American River. It encompasses an area of approximately 34 square miles and is bordered by the cities of Seattle to the west, Bellevue and Kirkland to the east, Kenmore to the north, and Renton to the south. The plan fully resides within the limits of King County. The planning area includes Andrews Bay, Fairweather Bay, Juanita Bay, Meydenbauer Bay, Moss Bay, Pontiac Bay, Union Bay, Wolf Bay, Yarrow Bay, Cozy Cove, and shoreline areas of Mercer Island. Downstream portions of Coal Creek, Juanita Creek, Kelsey Creek, Lyon Creek, May Creek, McAleer Creek, Ravenna Creek, Taylor Creek, Thornton Creek, Yesler Creek, and the Cedar and Sammamish Rivers are also included within this planning area.

An area site description and information on physical features, hydrology, river conditions, winds, climate, and risk are included in Appendix A (Site Description) of this document. Oil spill response strategy descriptions, response priorities, and area and sector maps are located in Chapter 4 (Response Strategies and Priorities). Information on natural, cultural, and economic resources at risk of injury from oil spills are in Chapter 6 (Resources at Risk), with a list of economic resources in Appendix 6a. Chapters 3 (Response Options and Considerations), Chapter 5 (Shoreline Countermeasures), and Chapter 7 (Logistics) haven’t been developed for Lake Washington. Therefore, they are noted as “reserved” in this plan.