XXX River

Geographic Response Plan

Chapter 2 - Emergency Management/Operational and Response Considerations

## Chapter Introduction

## 2.1 Site safety

### 2.1.1 First Responder and Public Safety

### 2.1.2 Isolation/Deny Entry

### 2.1.3 Area Assessment

2.1.4 Traffic and Access:

2.2 Public Health

2.3 Response Equipment Stockpile Locations:

**2.4 Water Supplies for Firefighting Operations:**

* **Include foaming operation capabilities from the RP’s**

### 2.5 On-site Considerations:

Before Deploying a GRP Strategy (Questions to Ask)

* Are conditions safe? Response managers and responders must first determine if efforts to implement a response strategy would pose an undue risk to worker safety or the public, based on conditions present during the time of the emergency. No strategy should be implemented if doing so would threaten public safety or present an unreasonable risk to the safety of responders.
* Has initial control and containment been sufficiently achieved? Source control and containment of the spill at or near the source of a spill are always higher priorities than the deployment of GRP response strategies, especially when concurrent response activities are not possible.
* How far downstream or out into the river environment is the spilled oil likely to travel before response personnel will be ready and able to deploy GRP response strategies?
* Are permits required? Consult the Northwest Area Contingency Plan Permit Summary Table ([NWACP Section 9401](http://www.rrt10nwac.com/NWACP/Default.aspx)) for information specific to your location and circumstance.
* Will equipment or vehicles need to be staged on or near a roadway? If so, traffic control may be required. Contact the Washington State Patrol, the Oregon State Police, or local, county, municipality, or tribal police for assistance. At minimum, [Washington Department of Transportation (WADOT) guidelines](http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/Publications/Manuals/M54-44.htm) for work zone traffic control should be followed when working on or near a roadway. Contact information on Contact Sheet at beginning of document.

During Strategy Implementation (Things to Remember)

* On-scene conditions (weather, river stage and flow, waves, and debris) may require that strategies be modified in order to be effective. There is a significant chance that weather and conditions experienced at a particular strategy location during an actual spill event will be different from that when data was gathered during field visits. Response managers and responders must remain flexible and modify the strategies provided in this chapter as needed to meet the challenges experienced during an actual response.
* Certain strategies may call for access points or staging areas that are not easily reached at all times of the year or in all conditions.
* Oil containment boom must be free of twists, gaps, and debris in order to remain effective.
* The GRP response strategies provided in this chapter were designed for use with persistent heavy oils that float on water and may not be suitable for other petroleum products or hazardous substances.

After Strategy Implementation (Things to Understand)

* Oil containment boom should be maintained and periodically monitored to ensure its effectiveness. Changes in river stage and flow will likely require modifications to boom deflection angles (see Table 4.1). Depending on conditions, some booming strategies may require around-the-clock tending.
* Although designed for implementation during the initial phase of an oil spill, GRP strategies may continue to be deployed and implemented throughout the entire lifespan of a response, as determined appropriate and necessary by the Incident Commander or Unified Command.
* Transitioning from initial response to a Unified Command:

### 2.6 Crossing Jurisdictional Boundaries and Exceeding Local Response Capabilities: Short paragraph on MOU, State, Country

### **General Response Priorities**

The following list provides the order of response priorities after an oil spill into the NF American River or Donner Lake area.

* Safety is always the number one priority. Do not implement GRP strategies or take actions that will unduly jeopardize public, worker, or personal safety.
* Notify local public health and safety personnel.
* Control and contain the source of the spill; mobilize resources to the spill location. Source control and containment are always a higher priority than the implementation of GRP strategies.
* Do less harm than good…..
* Determine the priority or order GRP strategies should be implemented based on the location of the spill or affected area. Priorities based on Potential Oil Spill Origin Points are included in this chapter and should be used unless the situation or circumstances dictate otherwise (see Section 4.3.2).
* As response resources become available, implement the GRP Strategies in order of priority.

### **Strategy Priorities Based on Incident Location**

The steep terrain and limited access on the North Fork and Middle Fork of the Feather River will dictate the highest priority response strategy relative to the location of the release. The first priority is always control and containment of the release at the release location, as soon as it is safe to do so. Regarding containment and collection, in establishing response priorities, the downstream movement of released material and the time it takes to mobilize and deploy response resources should drive strategy selection. Generally, GRP strategies should first be implemented downstream, well beyond the furthest extent of the spill, and then continued upstream towards the spill source following the data in 4.1.2 and 4.1.3 above.

Table 2-1: Strategy Priorities Based on Incident Location (Gray’s Harbor and FR examples: Matrix)