Historic Properties Support Available to On-Scene Coordinators

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Cultural Resources

- Tangible remains of past human activities

- Archaeological sites – prehistoric and historic

- Structures

- Objects (artifacts)

- Cemeteries and burial locations

- Locations with traditional religious and cultural significance

Historic Properties Protection

- **Requirement**: Compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA)

- Compliance with the NHPA is an FOSC responsibility

- The NHPA and the associated Programmatic Agreement uses the term "*historic properties*":

  Any prehistoric or historic districts, sites, buildings, structures, or objects included in, or eligible for inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places.

Historic Properties

- Finite, irreplaceable, non-renewable resources that are part of our heritage

Fuel header – Attu Island

Historic Properties

- Historic properties include pre-historic archaeological resources.

- Dealing appropriately with archaeological resources demonstrates respect for the Alaska Native people

- Most areas in Alaska have not been surveyed

Historic Properties – Native artifact

A spear thrower recovered from an Alaska shoreline, mixed with other beach debris

Historic Properties – Yupik village

Historic Properties – Submerged lands

Japanese ship *Borneo Maru*
Kiska Island

Potential Response Action Impacts

- Physical destruction, injury, or alteration

- Looting of artifacts or vandalism by spill workers

- Contamination resulting in inability to radiocarbon date

Potential Response Action Impacts

- Trampling

- Mechanical recovery on land

- Deploying or removing boom anchors

Potential Response Action Impacts

- Dry tilling

- Beach washing

Potential Response Action Impacts

- Excavation and trenching activities

Potential Response Action Impacts

- Construction of:

  - Temporary roads
  - Worker camps
  - Helipads
  - Staging areas
  - Berms
  - Dikes

Programmatic Agreement

The PROGRAMMATIC AGREEMENT ON PROTECTION OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES DURING EMERGENCY RESPONSE UNDER THE NCP

"1997 PA"

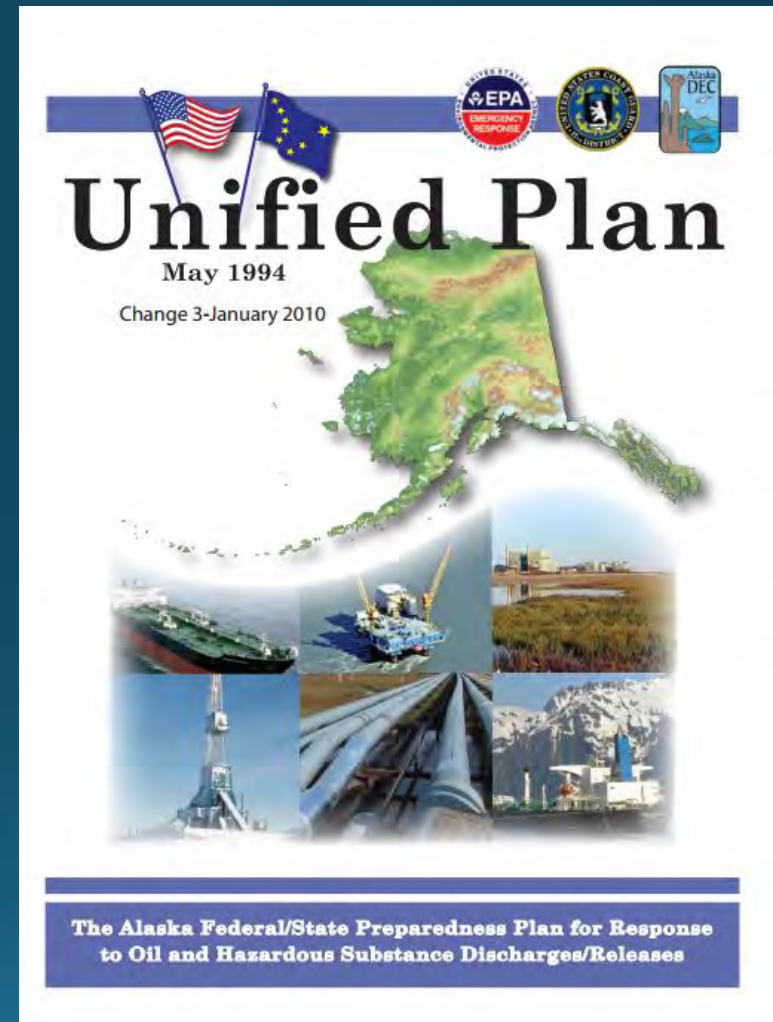National Conference of State Historic Preservation Officers

Programmatic Agreement

- Emergencies occur

- Meet intent of the NHPA by identifying and avoiding impacts to historic properties

- Goal is to minimize impacts *without slowing the response*

Programmatic Agreement on Protection of Historic Properties During Emergency Response Under the National Oil and Hazardous Substances Pollution Contingency Plan

Unified Plan

- Introduction

- Operational Administration

- Guidelines for Places of Refuge Decision-Making

- Alaska Regional Response Team Dispersant Use Plan for Alaska

- *In Situ* Burning Guidelines for Alaska

Alaska Implementation Guidelines:

Annex M (Unified Plan) -
Historic Properties Protection for Alaska Federal On-Scene Coordinators

http://dec.alaska.gov/spar/perp/plans/uc/Annex%20M%20(Jan%2010).pdf

**ALASKA IMPLEMENTATION GUIDELINES
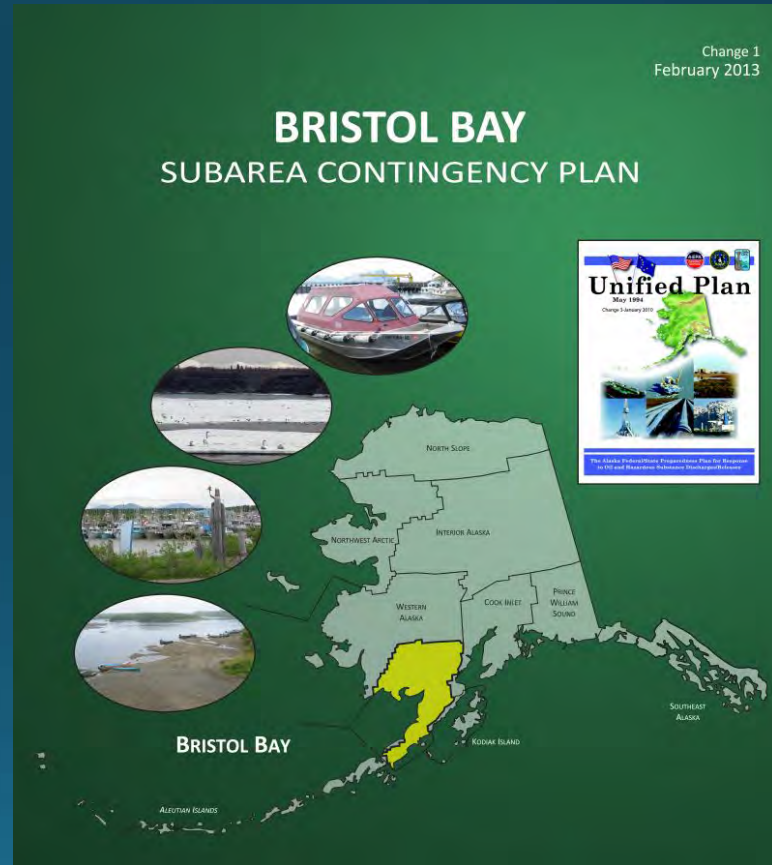FOR FEDERAL ON-SCENE COORDINATORS**

FOR THE

**PROGRAMMATIC AGREEMENT ON PROTECTION OF
HISTORIC PROPERTIES DURING EMERGENCY RESPONSE
UNDER THE NATIONAL OIL AND HAZARDOUS
SUBSTANCES POLLUTION CONTINGENCY PLAN**

**U.S. Coast Guard
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
U.S. Department of the Interior
U.S. Department of Agriculture
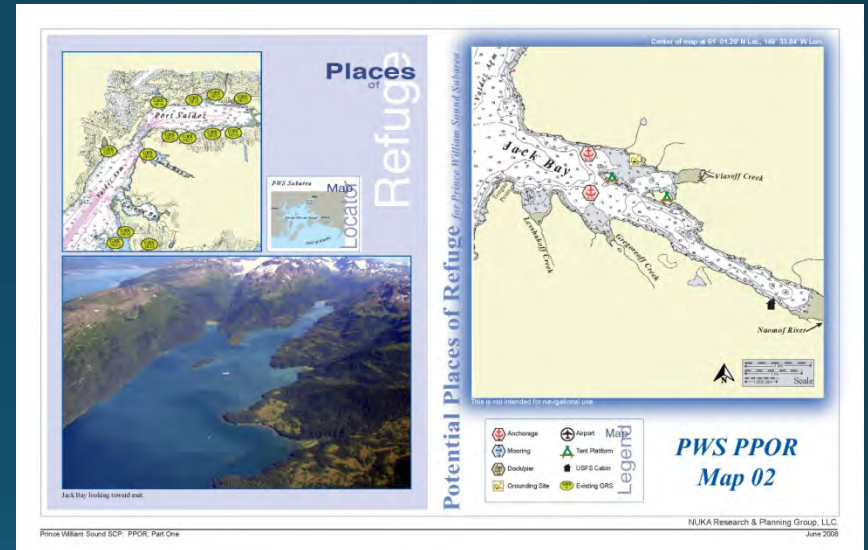Alaska Department of Natural Resources
Alaska Inter-Tribal Council**

Area/Subarea Plans

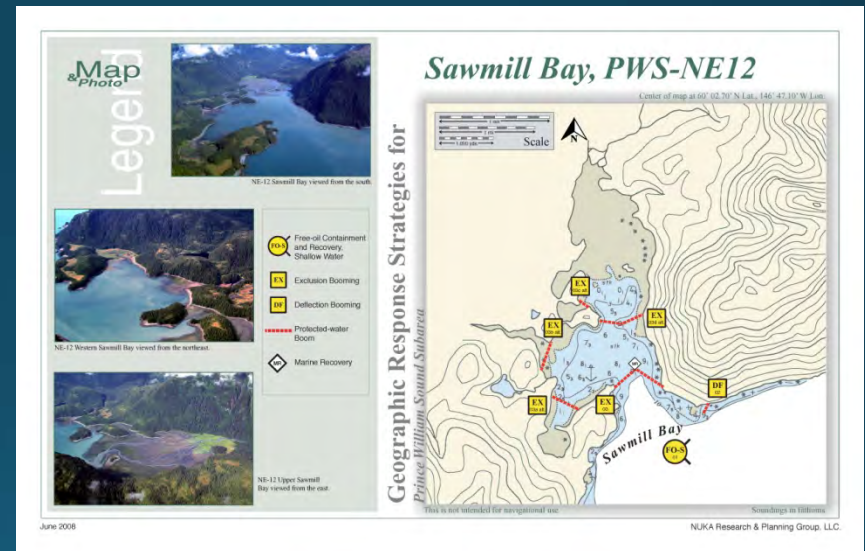- Typically discussed in the Sensitive Areas chapter or section

Potential Places of Refuge

Typical wording:
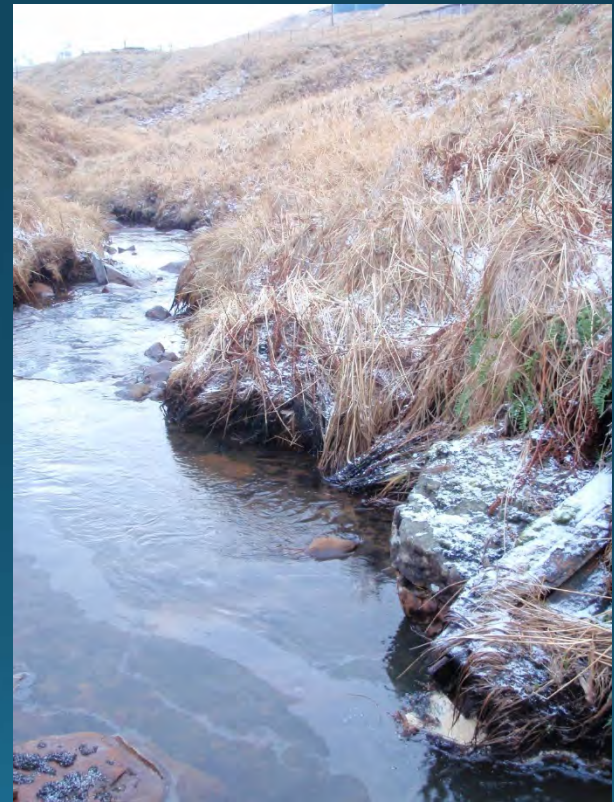
Historic properties are found throughout the area

Geographic Response Strategies

- REPORT any cultural resources found during operations to the FOSC Historic Properties Specialist

- FOSC Historic Properties Specialist should INSPECT site prior to operations

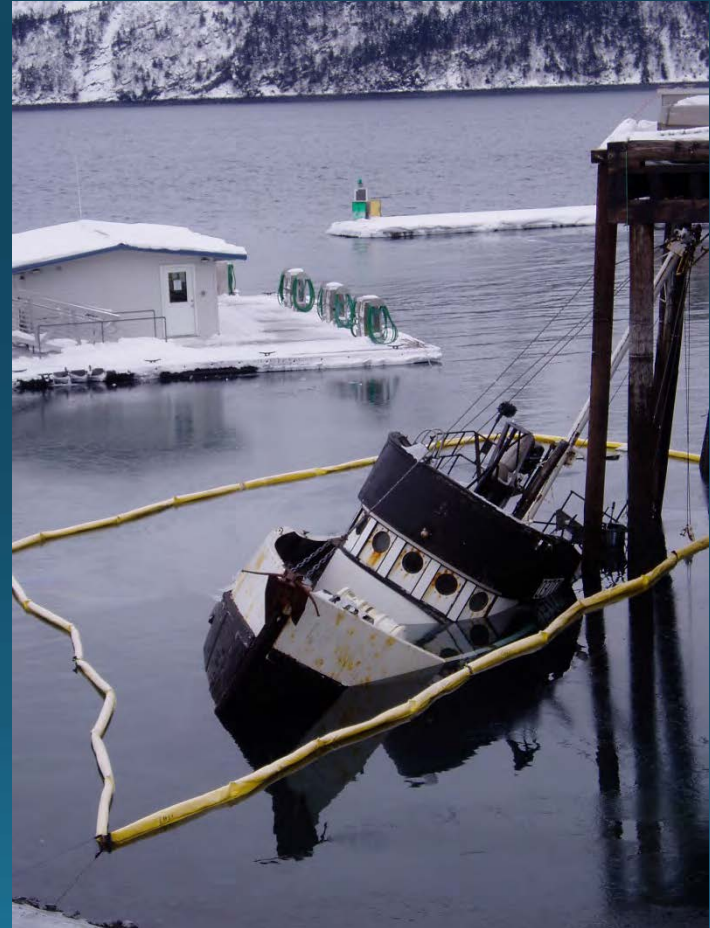- FOSC Historic Properties Specialist should MONITOR on-site operations

FOSC Decision to Activate a Historic Properties Specialist (HPS)

- Receive spill notification

- FOSC determines if historic properties need to be addressed

- HPS serves as an adviser to the FOSC

- If categorically excluded – activation typically not required

Categorically Excluded Spills

- Pollution does not reach shore or submerged lands

- Responses that avoid land or submerged land disturbance

- Do not affect historic properties (generally older than 50 years)

Categorically Excluded Spills

- Human constructed areas – with no oil migration. Examples:

- Gravel pads
- Artificial islands
- Roads
- Drilling pads
- Existing runways
- Lined pits
- Borrow pits
- Concrete structures

Alaska - Unique Categorical Exclusions

- Alyeska Pipeline Terminal complex

- Fenced areas of Trans-Alaska Pipeline System (TAPS) pump stations

- Rarely invoked – HPS Activation during TAPS responses (per EPA)

Alaska – Activation of HPS

- If spill/release is not categorically excluded

- Spill is greater then 100,000 gallons

- FOSC determines need even if categorically excluded

Alaska – Activation of HPS

- Alaska State Historic Preservation Officer (Office of History and Archaeology - OHA) notifies FOSC that a categorically excluded spill has potential to affect a significant historic property

- Representative of a federally-recognized tribe notifies FOSC that a categorically excluded spill has potential to affect a significant historic property

Historic Properties Specialist - Activation

- FOSC Activates a qualified Historic Properties Specialist (HPS)

- The HPS works for the FOSC and is not contracted by the Responsible Party - compliance with the National Historic Preservation Act is a federal responsibility

Alaska Examples – HPS activation

Notifications - Incident specific

- OHA
- DOI
- Department of Agriculture
- Department of Defense
- Federally-recognized tribes
- Alaska Native regional and/or village corporations
- Private landowners

Historic Properties and Cultural Resource expertise

- Alaska OHA

- Tribal and local governments

- Universities and museums

- Federal land management agencies

- Experts under contract to a responsible party

- HPS may convene a technical team to advise the FOSC

Exercises

- Historic properties protection included in drill objectives?

- Will a HPS be activated or simulated?

- HPS present at drill vs. remote support?

- Funding support needed?

Questions?