WCSS OVERVIEW

WCSS

Western Canadian Spill Services Ltd.

2013

www.wcss.ab.ca

WCSS Role

- WCSS supplements the upstream petroleum industry's spill preparedness program in Alberta, N.E. British Columbia, and Area 1 in Saskatchewan.
- Our goal is to assist members with meeting spill compliance requirements and help prepare them to safely and effectively respond to an oil spill.

Membership Responsibility

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- Petroleum licensees must assess the risk that their operations pose to the environment, and
- Be prepared to provide an effective response capability
- Typically higher risk operators have their own comprehensive programs and rely on WCSS for support

WCSS Model

- Non-profit incorporated in 1996 under Canada Business Act following an amalgamation of the regional management group and Coops established in 1972
- Owned and directed by shareholders – CAPP, EPAC, pipeline companies and independent representatives.

Model (continued)

- Volunteer based with contract management group and service providers.
- Geographic area is divided into 6 Zones with 2 or more Coops in each Zone; total of 18 Oil Spill Coops.

Organizational Structure and Cooperative Boundary Map

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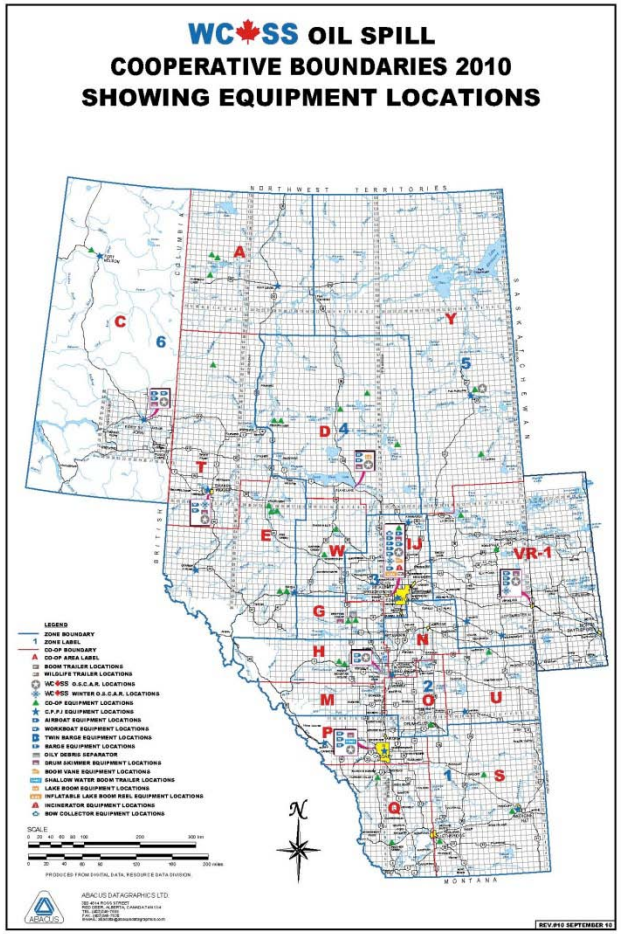

WCSS Membership

- WCSS members include 588 licensees of wells and pipeline
- Members provide funding through a cost sharing formula
- Membership services – contingency plans, equipment, training, continuous improvement, recognition and spill support

Oil Spill Contingency Manual

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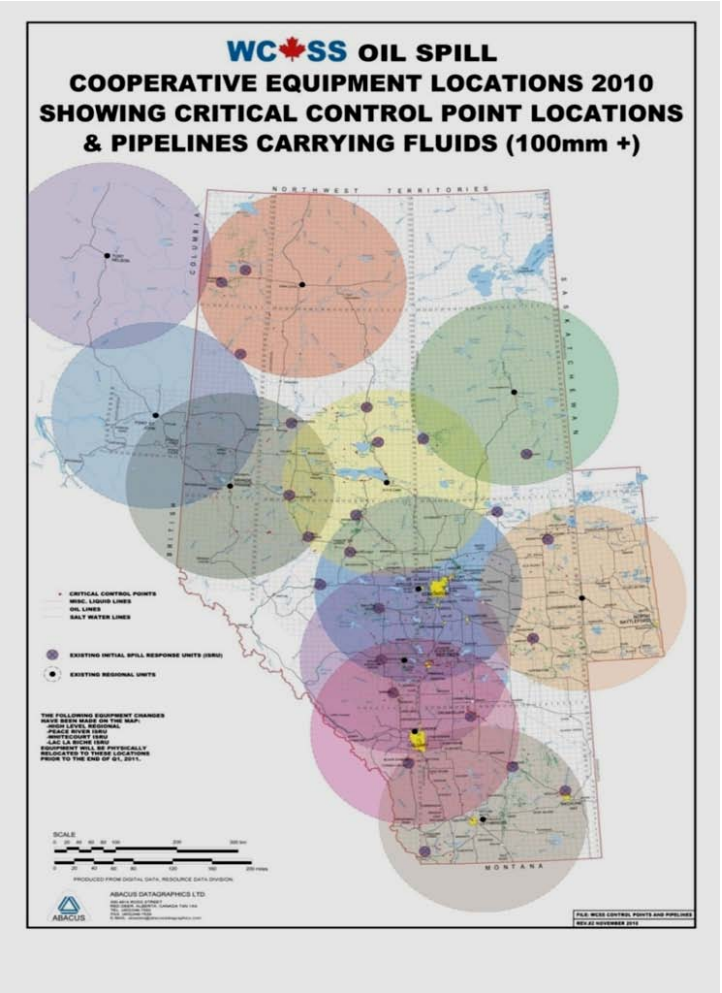
- Supplemental to corporate ERPs
- Unique to each Coop area
  - contacts, control point maps
- Updated in real time; members can download updates on-line

Equipment

- Minimum of one initial spill response unit in each Cooperative (total 21)
- Minimum of one regional OSCAR in each of the six zones(total 11)

Equipment Coverage

- Radius from regional equipment locations 170km
- Initial spill response units enhances coverage



Specialized Equipment

- Boats – air boats, jet and small vessels
- Skimmers – advancing bow skimmer, brush and drum, weir skimmers
- Lake boom and bulk boom in sea cans
- Wildlife response units
- Winter units
- Air curtain incinerator
- Shallow water response equipment

Specialized Equipment

Equipment (continued)

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Equipment Usage

- Members are responsible to sign agreement, pay to transport equipment, consumables and repair or replace damaged equipment.
- Members charged 1/3 of rental rate if equipment used outside of our jurisdictional area.
- Non-members are charged rental rates.

Training

- Annual Coop exercises; minimum 1 annual exercise per Coop based on 5 year training objective cycle
- Exercise type - minimum 3 equipment deployment exercises in 5 year cycle
- WCSS open registration courses (Spill Responder, Land Spill Response, Incident Commander at Oil Spills, MED A3, Boat Handling and Awareness

Training (continued)

- WCSS also does contract training for individual companies; open registration courses or custom designed.

Field Improvement

- Annual program focused on field testing of equipment and identification of new or improved spill response techniques.
- Goal of program is to improve industry's spill response capability.
- 2013 – focus on heavy oil skimmers, effects and behaviour of DilBit in fresh water and nets/fabrics to recover submerged oil.

Testing a Heavy Oil Skimmer

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Education and Communication

- Goal of program is to improve communications with volunteers and stakeholders, and recognition of the industry's commitment to environmental protection linked to spill preparedness and response.

A6 THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 2005 ALBERTA EDMONTON JOURNAL

River spill drill a slick performance

Every Alberta oil firm must participate in emergency exercises

HANNEKE BROOYMANS
Journal Staff Writer
DEVON

Glen Pullishy plucked out the first numbered ball to reach him on the North Saskatchewan River and yelled "B6," prompting laughter among the dozens of people watching from the bank.

It was a rare moment of levity during a serious oil spill drill.

The brightly coloured balls were meant to represent an unplanned leak of oil into the river.

About 150 men and women from 100 oil companies were gathered near Devon to learn the proper strategic response to such a spill, including the use of equipment.

"Every company in Alberta has to participate in one spill exercise per year," said Darin Barter, an Alberta Energy and Utilities Board spokesman.

"If they don't, they're in non-compliance and can ultimately be shut down."

Spill response is a topic getting a lot of attention since the Aug. 3 CN derailment and oil spill at Wabamun Lake. About 800,000 litres of fuel oil and pole treating oil escaped from the ruptured tanker cars.

Western Canadian Spill Services was formed by industry to help its members prepare for spills.

ED KAISER, THE JOURNAL

The Energy and Utilities Board conducted a spill exercise on the North Saskatchewan River on Wednesday.

There are 18 co-operatives in Western Canada and each of them conducts at least one drill per year using pooled equipment.

On Wednesday, two enormous trailers filled with equipment stood next to the south bank of the river. One belonged to the co-op. The other was brought by Pembina Pipelines Corp.

Normally, the co-op would have more equipment available, but a lot of their gear is still being used at the Wabamun Lake cleanup.

At Devon on Wednesday, several boats roared up and down the river laying out a length of bright yellow containment boom downstream of the theoretical oil spill.

The boom was anchored and gradually dragged in an arc toward shore by five green ropes pulled by people situated on the shore. A second length of boom protected the shore.

A skimmer was attached to the downstream end of the boom. The boom funnelled the contamination to the skimmer, which sucks up the oil, along with water and pours it into a portable tank.

The oil is eventually transferred into trucks and transported to disposal or recycling sites.

Once everything was set up at the site on Wednesday, the balls were released into the river.

Barter was a bit disappointed that all the balls were easily captured by the boom and skimmer system.

"If something is going to go wrong, this is where we want it to go wrong," he said. "It's a learning exercise."

Employees from Epcor and the City of Edmonton emergency response department were also on hand.

"Our area of responsibility with hazardous materials is to protect Edmonton's environment and the people of Edmonton, so we like to be familiar with what these guys are doing," said Davy Loewen, Edmonton's chief of dangerous goods.

After gathering up all the bingo balls, Pullishy, who is superintendent of Pembina Pipelines, waded out of the water.

Pembina has more than 8,000 kilometres of pipeline in Alberta and British Columbia, he said.

"We have quite a few significant water crossings under the North Saskatchewan River," he added.

Ten of the company's 30 Edmonton field staff were at the training exercise.

Members of the Environmental Protection Commission, appointed by Alberta Environment Minister Guy Boutilier, also were invited to the spill exercise.

"I thought it would be a good opportunity to see, when everything is perfect, how they can deploy these things," said David Schindler, a commission member who observed the drill from the river bank.

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Advantages of Cooperative Approach

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- Satisfies legal requirements
- Enhances response capability
- Provides continuity
- Cost effective
- Provides focus
- Establishes priorities
- Fosters positive relationships

Principles for Establishing an Oil Spill Cooperative

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- Identify the need for a Coop, area of coverage, key stakeholders and general requirements
- Obtain industry commitment and Government support
- Develop legal framework – legal status, articles, by-laws, resolutions, shareholders

Establishing Cooperatives (continued)

- Develop skill profiles and job descriptions for personnel, volunteers and contractors
- Develop a governance manual, membership charter and policy
- Develop regulations that support a Cooperative approach and provide options for exemption.

Operating a Cooperative

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- Identify specific membership requirements
- Conduct a strategic planning session and develop an operational plan
- Determine budget requirements and a membership fee structure
- Implementation of the operational plan
- Develop performance criteria
- Stewardship reporting