

Omaha/Council Bluffs Sub-Area Committee Meeting Minutes

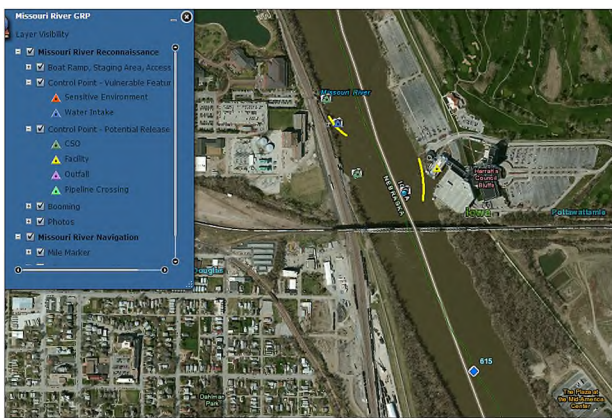
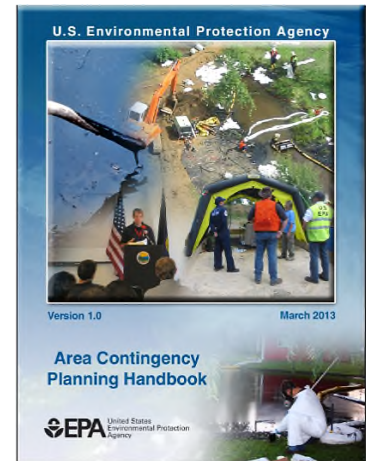
March 24, 2015

Omaha, Nebraska

The Omaha/Council Bluffs Sub-Area Committee (SAC) convened at 1 p.m. on March 24, 2014, at the National Park Service's Midwest Regional Offices at 601 Riverfront Drive, Omaha, Nebraska (NE) 68102. On-Scene Coordinator (OSC) Megan Schuette of U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 7 and Eric Deselich of Tetra Tech, Inc. facilitated the meeting. A telephone conference line was established for the meeting, and two SAC members participated remotely by phone. A list of meeting participants is on page 3.

Schuette began by introducing herself and welcoming the group. She recognized OSC Janice Kroone's past work and reported that she looked forward to her new assignment as SAC Coordinator. Schuette indicated that she was somewhat new to sub-area outreach activities but she had participated in exercises and training events conducted in other Region 7 sub-areas. After member self-introductions, Deselich directed the group's attention to the first agenda item.

Sub-Area Purpose, Objectives, and History. Deselich overviewed preparedness activities promulgated through the Oil Pollution Act of 1990 (OPA 90) and the EPA's role as the lead agency for oil spills/discharges in the inland areas. He also described the purpose and content of the Region 7 Regional Integrated Contingency Plan, as well as the Omaha/Council Bluffs Sub-Area Contingency Plan (SACP). Deselich reported that the SACP was last updated in 2009 and reviewed several types of planning information that are currently missing from the plan. The EPA's Area Contingency Planning Handbook provides guidance on the content of sub-area plans.



The group then reviewed geographic information systems (GIS) tools that had been available to the SAC. Deselich explained that the Google Earth™ (GE) developed in 2009 for the group was no longer supported and that ESRI® web-based GIS products are now being developed for sub-areas within Region 7. Deselich said that the geospatial data needed to populate a similar tool for the SAC was readily available and a new web-based GIS viewer could be developed rather quickly. The group went on to discuss some of the new features available through the new tools, including geographic response plans (GRP) and booming strategies developed by EPA and with partner agencies.

Project Discussion. After a short break, the group discussed potential projects that could be initiated to raise awareness and garner broader participation in the SAC. Deselich reviewed a list of trainings and exercises that had been conducted in other sub-areas. Although several project ideas were discussed, the group decided that an update of the SACP should be a priority. The group also agreed that development of modern web-based GIS application should be initiated to replace the now inoperable GE viewer.

Tonya Ngotel of Nebraska Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) suggested the SACP update activities could culminate in a larger SAC kick-off meeting. At the meeting, attendees would explain their respective roles in the SAC and perhaps discuss specific information of interest in the SACP. The group was receptive to the idea and Schuette indicated this approach could be implemented for the next meeting. Deselich said that the SACP could be updated and distributed to member agencies to review/validate information before the next meeting. He also indicated that a pilot version of the web-based GIS application could be ready for demonstration in the next month or six weeks.

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Reports on Other Local Incidents. No recent hazardous materials or oil incidents were report by the SAC members.

Upcoming Events. The following upcoming events were cited by SAC members:

Spring 2015 Region 5/7 Joint RRT Meeting*	April 21-23	St. Charles, Missouri
2015 Region 7 LEPC/TERC Conference	August 6-8	Nebraska City, NE

The following events are part of the NEMA's TERREX series involving incident response to Bakken crude oil:

Seminar/Workshop	August 12	Fremont, NE
Linked Tabletop Exercise	September 2	Fremont, NE
Seminar/Workshop	August 19	Winnebago, NE
Linked Tabletop Exercise	September 23	Winnebago, NE
Seminar/Workshop	August 26	Tecumseh, NE

Notes:

* Travel reimbursement available through NEMA for qualifying agencies.

LEPC Local Emergency Planning Committee

RRT Regional Response Team

TERC Tribal Emergency Response Committee

Only eastern Nebraska exercise locations are listed above. Contact Tonya Ngotel for more details.

Schedule Next Meeting and Adjournment. The group decided the date/location of the next SAC meeting will be determined after some additional outreach is conducted among past SAC member agencies. The meeting adjourned at 15:15.

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SAC Meeting Attendee List

Name	Organization	Phone	E-mail
Allen, Eric	National Park Service	402-661-1880	eric_l_allen@nps.gov
Alward, Aaron	Omaha-Douglas County EM Agency	402-504-6845	aaron.alward@douglascounty-ne.gov
Conroy, Jim	National Park Service	402-661-1708	jim_conroy@nps.gov
Deselich, Eric	Tetra Tech, Inc.	816-665-9088	eric.deselich@tetrattech.com
Gareau, Anthony	National Park Service	402-661-1852	anthony_gareau@nps.gov
Meints, Mark	Nebraska Department of Roads	402-479-3878	mark.meints@nebraska.gov
Mena, Lourdes *	USFWS	308-382-6468	lourdes_mena@fws.gov
Monte de Ramos, Alan	Offutt Air Force Base	402-294-0443	alan.monte_de_ramos.1@us.af.mil
Ngotel, Tonya	NEMA	402-471-7176	tonya.ngotel@nebraska.gov
Olson, John	Omaha Fire Department	402-444-7626	ohn.olson@cityofomaha.org
Pook, Bill	Region 5/6 HLS/EM	402-727-2785	wpook@region5-6.org
Richard Esparza *	Offutt Air Force Base	402-294-9543	richard.esparza@us.af.mil
Schuette, Megan	EPA Region 7	913-551-7630	schuette.megan@epa.gov

Notes:

* Participated remotely by phone
 EM Emergency Management
 EPA U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
 HLS Homeland Security
 NEMA Nebraska Emergency Management Agency
 USFWS U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

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