



Refugio Response – Local Perspective

Santa Barbara County OEM

Robert Troy, Interim Director
Santa Barbara County Office of Emergency Management

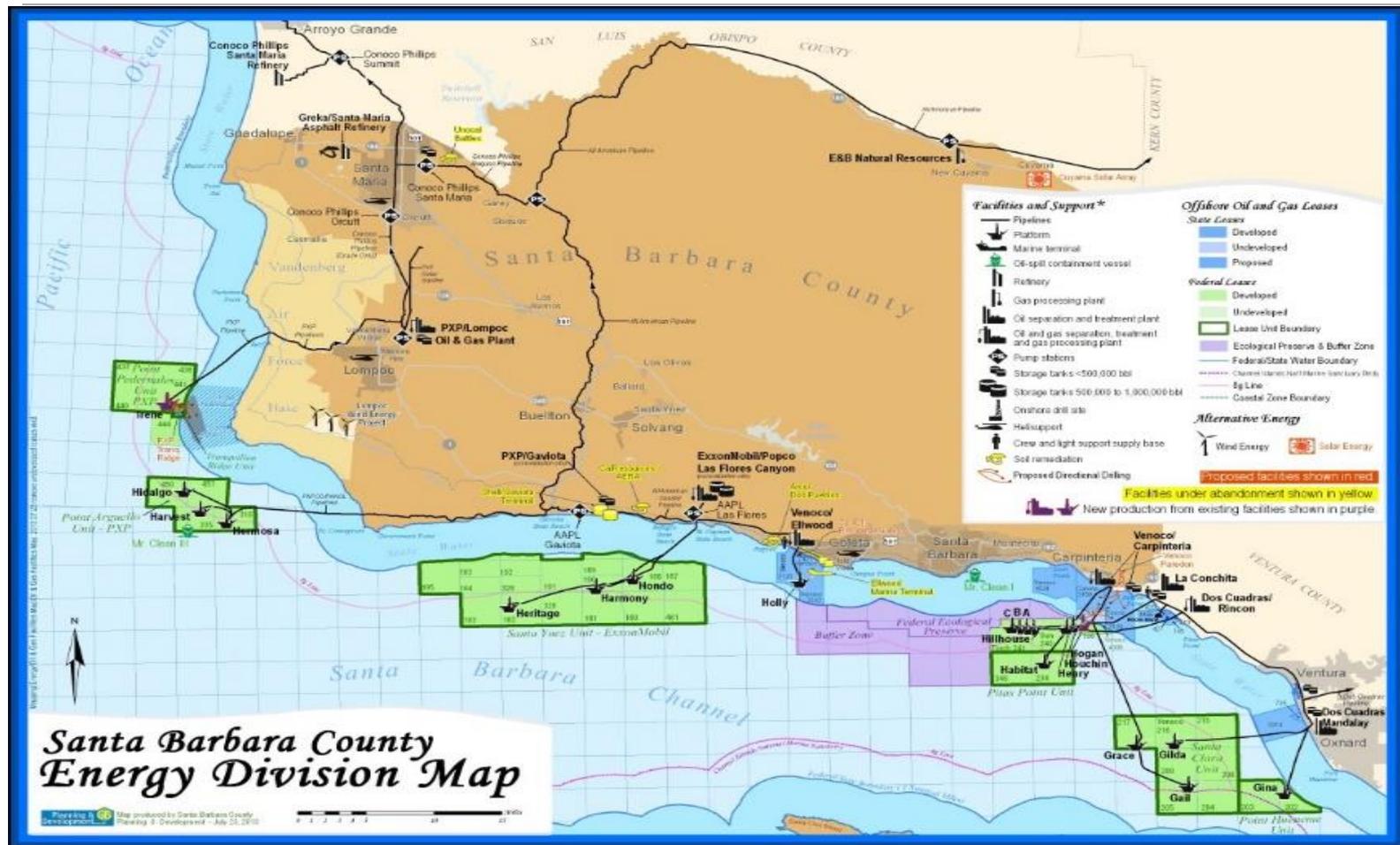


Local History

- The 1969 Santa Barbara offshore spill released at least 80, 000 barrels (2, 520, 000 gallons)
- National outcry was the genesis of the regulatory and legislative framework of the modern environmental movement.



Energy Map





Impact





Impact





Impact





Impact





Response Operations and Assets

- County Fire – initial response
- Public Health – assess threat to public health
- OEM as LOSC
- Local personnel integrated into SCAT teams
- Majority of response assets either State, Federal, or contracted by the Responsible Party (RP).



Local Involvement

- County Fire, GS, SO – Logistical Support (food, response, external facilities, County facilities, vehicles, security, etc.)
- County OEM - LOSC
- Finance (OA impact)
- Executive Support (elected officials)
- Peripheral – Joint Information Center
- Role of the ICP vs. EOC



ICP Operations

- Housed in County EOC for 13 days
- 62 government agencies and 600 ppl
- 54 contractors and 500 ppl
- 150 unknown
- Up to 325 per day



Response Operations and Assets





Response Operations and Assets





Response Operations and Assets





Response Operations and Assets





ACP - MOU

Santa Barbara Operational Area

Oil Spill Contingency Plan

**Memorandum of Understanding
Relating to Oil Spill Response and Management
Between the State of California, Office of Spill Prevention and Response
And the Santa Barbara County Operational Area**

WHEREAS, the Administrator of the Office of Spill Prevention and Response (hereinafter referred to as "OSPR") and the Santa Barbara County Operational Area (hereinafter referred to as "County") are interested in ensuring a unified and coordinated effort between OSPR and all local governments within the County through appropriate mutual aid in the event of an oil spill incident and the coordinated and informed representation within the Incident Command System ("ICS") as prescribed by the Standardized Emergency Management System (SEMS); and



ACP - MOU

§ 300.305 Phase II—Preliminary assessment and initiation of action.

(a) The OSC is responsible for promptly initiating a preliminary assessment.

(b) The preliminary assessment shall be conducted using available information, supplemented where necessary and possible by an on-scene inspection. The OSC shall undertake actions to:

(1) Evaluate the magnitude and severity of the discharge or threat to public health or welfare of the United States or the environment;

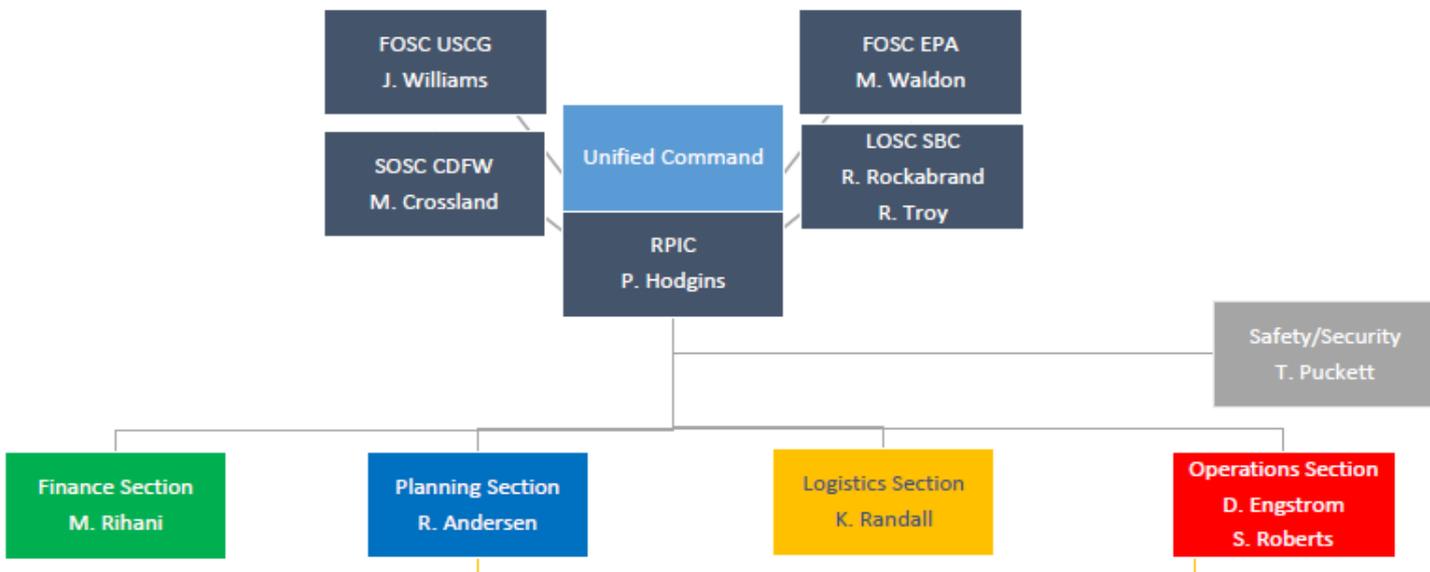
(2) Assess the feasibility of removal; and

(3) To the extent practicable, identify potentially responsible parties.

(c) Where practicable, the framework for the response management structure is a system (e.g., a unified command system), that brings together the functions of the federal government, the state government, and the responsible party to achieve an effective and efficient response, where the OSC maintains authority.



Org Chart





Transition to Unified Command





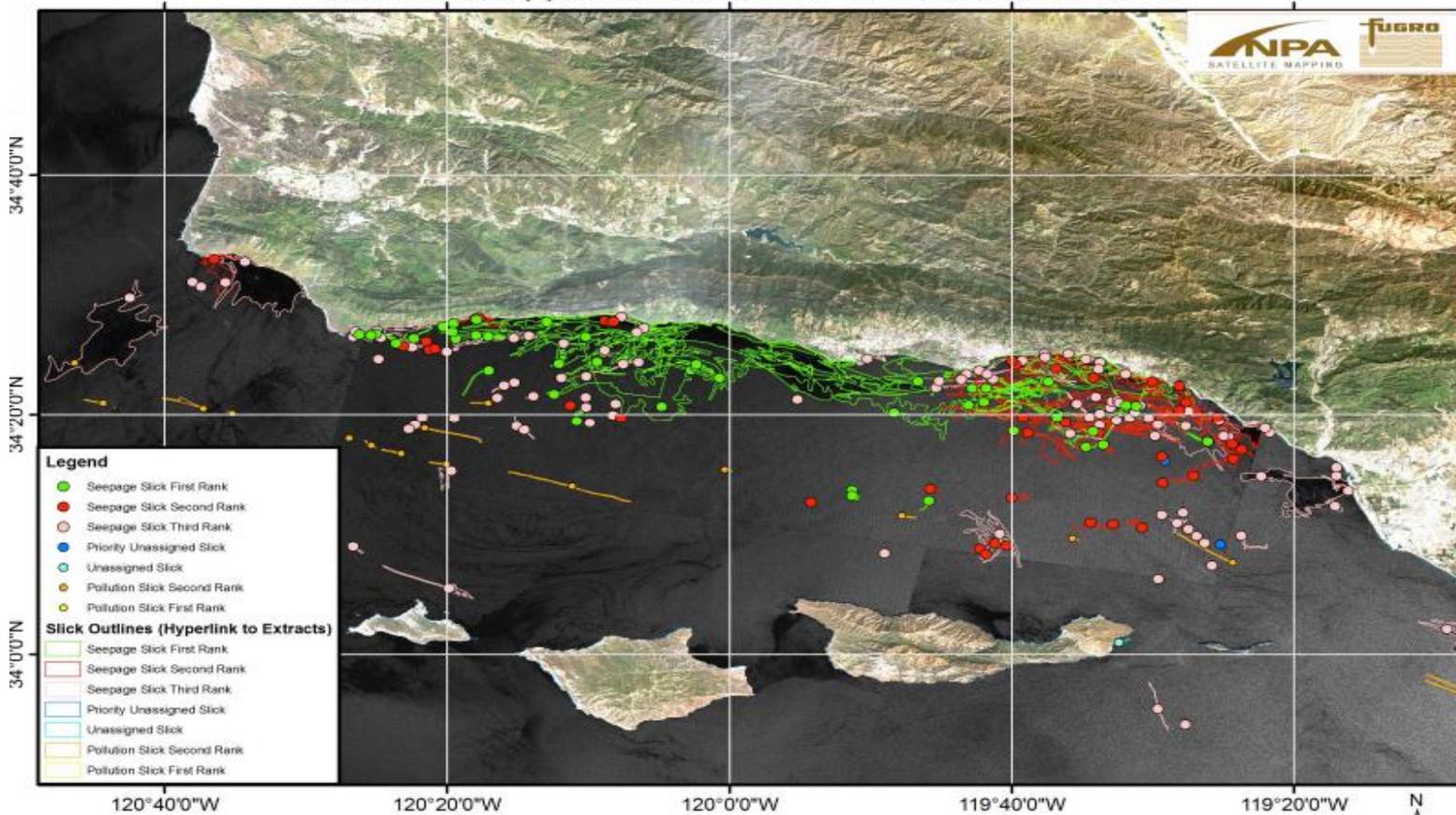
Challenges

- LOSC represents entire Operational Area (County, local jurisdictions, NGOs, etc.), and their varied interests
- UC focused primarily on response
- RP part of Unified Command
- Natural Seeps
- Cultural
- Historical
- Safety



Challenges

Oil slicks mapped from satellite SAR, Santa Barbara

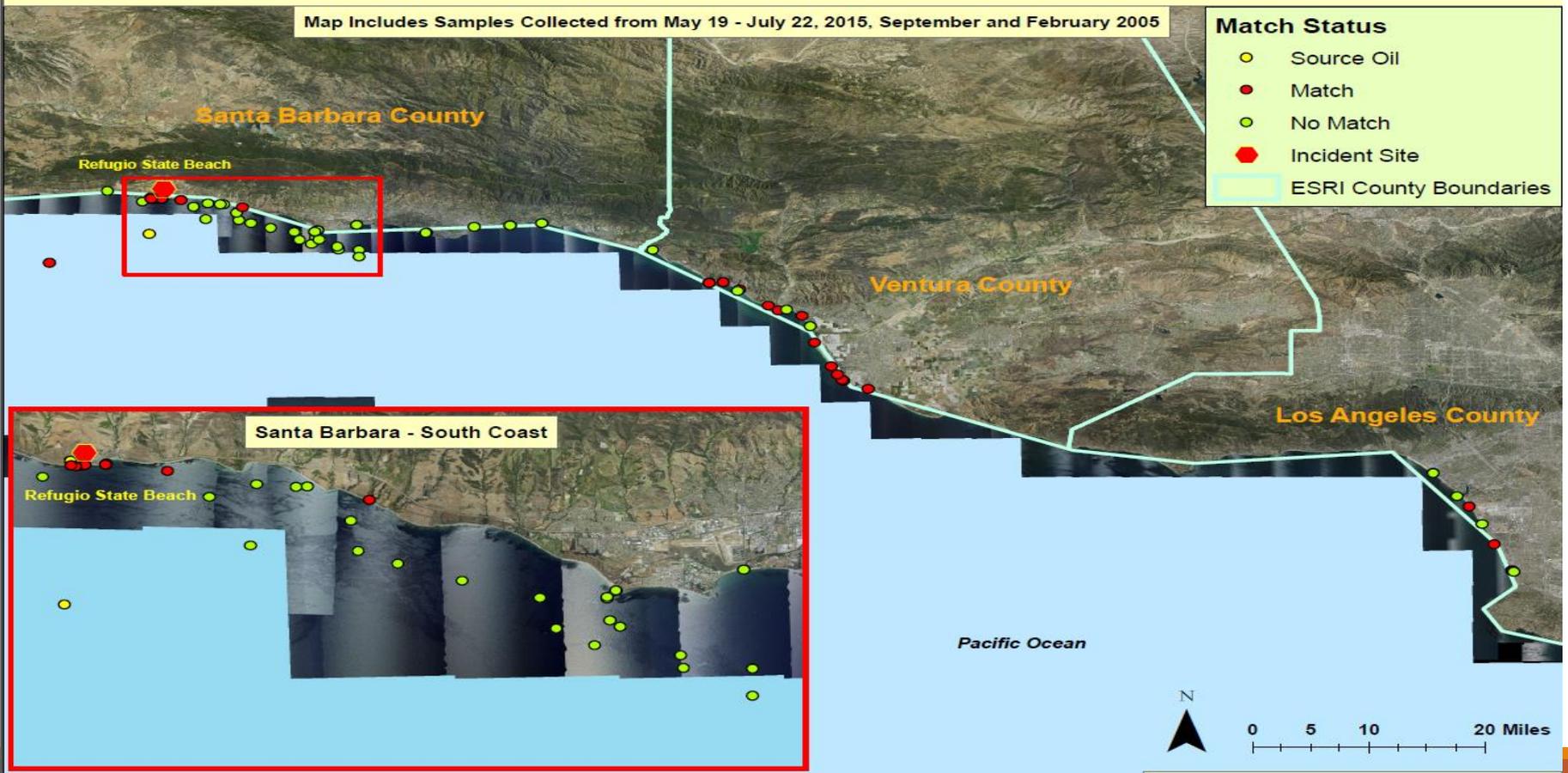




901 Impact - Fingerprints

Refugio Sampling Results - Santa Barbara, Ventura, LA Counties

Map Includes Samples Collected from May 19 - July 22, 2015, September and February 2005



Map Created by Tylor Headrick - June 7, 2016
Santa Barbara County Office of Emergency Management
Datum: WGS 1984



Cost Accounting

- Different than traditional Federal Disaster Declarations
- Incremental cost vs. Total Cost (undefined)



Facility Impact Fees

- Comparable private sector costs?
- Internal costs?
- Damages/Wear?
- Loss of facility use?
- Cost of a turnkey 11, 000 sf., state of the art secure facility, with 60 workstations, offices, meeting rooms, communications, multimedia tools, back-up generation, parking, 24 hr. access, etc?
- Discussion



Lessons Learned – Other Spills

A Comparison of the National Response Framework and National Contingency Plan during a Major Oil Spill Incident

Analysis and Recommendations for
Improvement

Final – November 8, 2012





Lessons Learned – Other Spills

“The purpose of this report is to compare and contrast the two organizing federal authorities for oil spill response, the National Response Framework (NRF) and National Contingency Plan (NCP), and make recommendations to clarify roles, reduce redundancy, align the processes, and recommend changes to provide for the most effective and efficient response.”



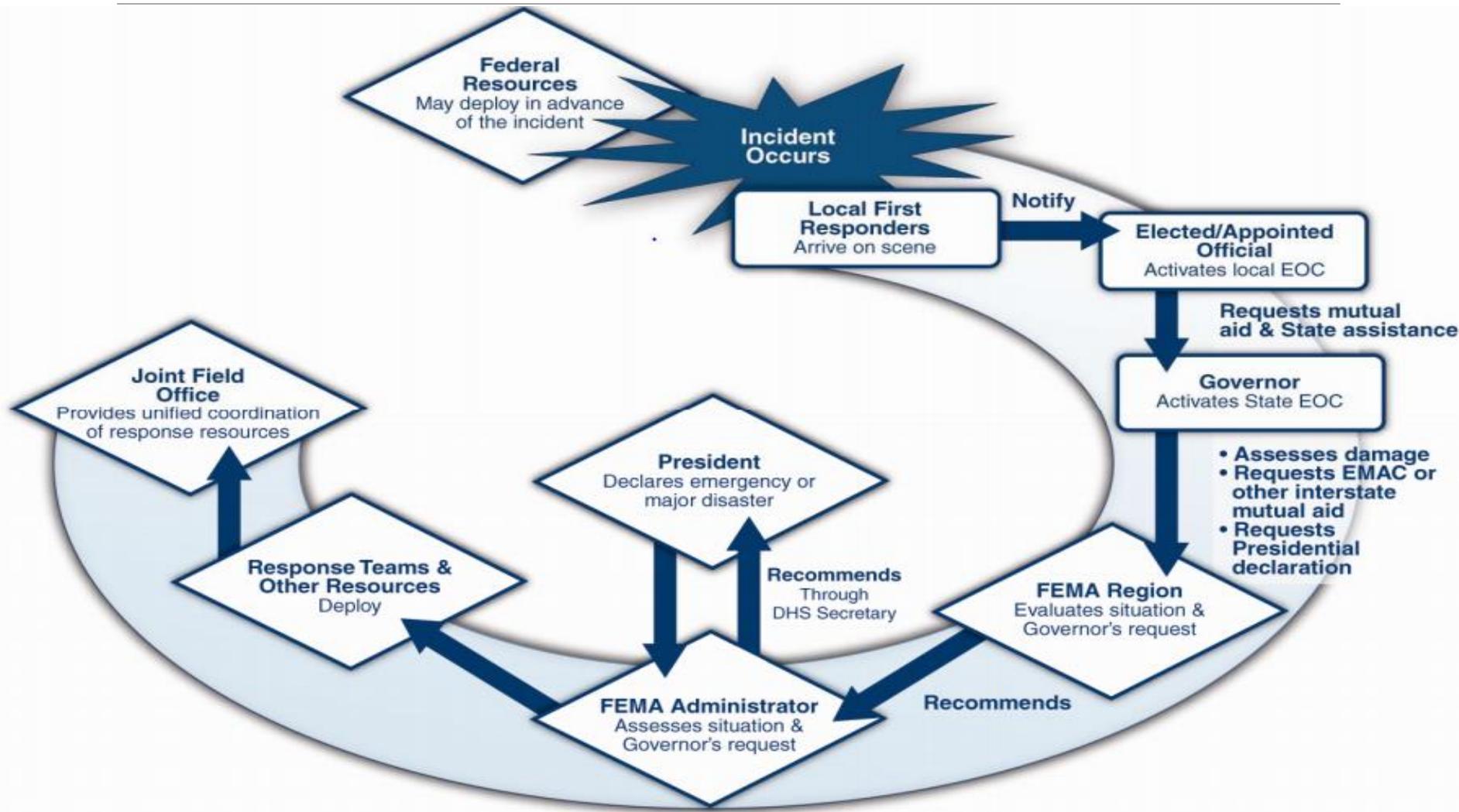
Lessons Learned – Other Spills

“The NCP should be updated to create a larger and clearer role for state and local officials in oil spill response.”

“State and local officials should receive mandatory training on the NCP in relation to oil spill response.”



Lessons Learned – Other Spills





Path Forward

2015 Refugio Oil Spill

After-Action Report and
Improvement Plan

July 6, 2016



Common Issues with Previous Oil Spill Response Operations

In addition to the common issues and recommendations identified by the County, OSPR, and USCG, it is important to note there are similarities between the experiences and findings of the County as well as those of other stakeholders during response operations to the Cosco Buscan oil spill in the San Francisco Bay (2007) and Deepwater Horizon in the Gulf of Mexico (2010). **Information sharing, establishing a unified message, managing volunteers, incorporating local stakeholders, and increasing support to local stakeholders as it applies to scientific and environmental issues are common findings and recommendations.** As of January 2016, the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) who maintains the National Contingency Plan, had a **proposed rule change in the Federal Register to align the National Contingency Plan with the National Response Framework (NRF) and National Incident Management System (NIMS).** These changes, however, do not alter the authorities outlined in the National Contingency Plan granted to the FOSC in 40 CFR Part 300, nor do the changes adjust UC to include local representation beyond the State.



Path Forward

Synergy with State and Federal After-Action Reports

While this report is focused on the County, it is important to note that there is synergy in the recognized strengths, opportunities, and recommendations between the County, State, and Federal government. Across capabilities, the County, OSPR, and USCG identified similar areas for improvement and recommendations; collaboration to address these recommendations can enhance future response operations, both for the County and jurisdictions across the State of California. Common recommendations include:

- **Improvement in engagement of local government and NGO partners.** Across AARs, the County, OSPR, and USCG recognize the opportunity and strengths that can enhance future response offered by local and NGO partners. These recommendations include leveraging resources offered through local partners, formalizing structures to engage NGOs, and increasing planning inclusiveness as it applies to cultural resources representatives.
- **Clarifying the role and responsibilities of the LOSC.** The County, OSPR, and USCG also agree that the role and responsibility of the LOSC should be clarified. All stakeholders concur that this should include clarity on the decision-making process utilized by UC and the respective authority of each representative, including the LOSC, to improve the overall operation of UC.
- **Enhancing public engagement, including use of volunteers.** Stakeholders across the County, OSPR, and USCG agree that there are opportunities to improve public engagement. All three AARs include recommendations to improve volunteer management through planning, including a focus on non-wildlife volunteers, spontaneous volunteers, and trained volunteers. In addition, all AARs recognize the value of open house and community events to support community engagement, with recommendations associated with future planning and implementation during future oil spill response.
- **Improvement in operations of the JIC.** While the recommendations among stakeholders vary, the County, OSPR, and USCG recognize opportunities to improve public messaging through the JIC. One common observation, however, is that staff identified to support the JIC should have greater continuity to enhance coordination of operations.



Path Forward





Path Forward

FOSC	SOSC	LOSC
1. Information Management :	1. Information Management:	1. Information Management:
a. The absence of pre-existing public information management framework exacerbated public information challenges.	a. Plan for earlier community engagement and improve public information protocols	a. Opportunities for engagement from the public were limited
b. The presence of multiple PIOs and the limited experience of JIC personnel delayed coordinated release of public information.	b. JIC members had irregular schedules which led to confusion as to whether tasks were completed.	b. Local County, State, and Federal counterparts did not effectively integrate in a JIC
2. Command and Control	2. Command and Control	2. Command and Control
a. Formalize in the LA/LB ACP the prerequisites and desired authorities for consideration as an LOSC.	a. Work with local agencies to support the practice of assigning local staff with decision-making authority to LOSC positions.	a. Develop into plans processes to select LOSC along with quals, required training, duties, responsibilities, authorities etc.
b. Engage Tribal governments and integrate their lessons and recommendations in the Los Angeles-Long Beach Area Contingency Plan.	b. Establish OSPR Tribal Liason to work with Operations and Planning to address tribal concerns in ICS process.	b. Align and include cultural resources in the revised Santa Barbara Operational Area Oil Spill Contingency Plan.
3. Operational Needs	3. Operational Needs	3. Operational Needs
a. Include in Sample Coordinator job aid a section for evaluating and sampling natural seep sources during oil spills in known natural seep areas.	a. Include in Sample Coordinator job aid a section for evaluating/sampling natural seeps sources during spills in known natural seep areas.	a. Develop pre-event contracts with scientific and environmental subject matter experts to increase subject matter expertise offered to County personnel and offer the County independent sampling.



Path Forward



**SANTA BARBARA
OPERATIONAL AREA
OIL SPILL CONTINGENCY PLAN**

(REDACTED COPY)

September 2011

Approved by the California Department of Fish and Game,
Office of Oil Spill Prevention and Response

Questions?



rtroy@sbcoem.org