



Geographic Response Strategy Development Project – Moosehead Lake Region in ME August 1, 2024 – 10:00 AM – 11:00 AM Held virtually via Zoom Meeting

Final Work Group/GRS Review Meeting Summary

Nuka Research and Planning Group, LLC, has been contracted by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 1 to develop up to ten (10) Geographic Response Strategies or GRS, for the Moosehead Lake Region in Maine. GRS are map-based plans tailored to protect specific sensitive areas from oil spill impacts. They show first responders where sensitive areas are located and where to place oil spill protection resources to protect those areas. GRS can save time during the critical first few hours of an oil spill response.

A multi-agency, multijurisdictional workgroup consisting of members of Federal, State, and local environmental emergency response partners, the Penobscot Nation, and the Passamaquoddy Tribe have identified candidate area(s) for the development of these GRS. This project will be completed in August 2024.

This served as the final meeting of the Moosehead Lake Region GRS Work Group. The purpose of this meeting was to review the 10 Moosehead Lake Region draft GRS documents and gather additional information and feedback to capture on the tactic maps or in the GRS.

Participants

- Maine DEP: Ann Hemenway, Robert Shannon
US EPA: Karen Way, Cosmo Caterino
Maine Land Use Planning Commission Greenville: Stacey Benjamin
Maine Inland Fisheries & Wildlife: Don Katnik
Nuka Research: Sam Butler, Olivia Norton, Haley Griffin

Agenda

Introduction and Opening Comments:

Sam Butler (Nuka Research) opened the meeting by introducing himself and thanking participants for attending the meeting, as well as those who attended the site surveys. He then provided a brief overview of the milestones achieved in this GRS Development project and remaining components of the project.

Review of Site Surveys and Tactics Meeting: Site surveys were conducted on May 29 and 30, 2024 and included personnel from EPA Region 1, Maine DEP, Nuka Research, Maine Land Use Planning Commission, and the Penobscot Nation. Draft tactics for each GRS site were then created, and a tactics meeting was held on June 24, 2024, to review and gather feedback from the site survey group. During the tactics meeting, Google Earth was used to provide an overview of all sites selected during the survey process.

Moosehead Lake Region Draft GRS Review Comments:

Sam began by providing a brief review of the format and iconography typically used in GRS.

ML-ME-01 Greenville

- Don Katnik: Is there bathymetric data available for the lake?
Ann Hemenway: Hasn't seen any maps but hasn't looked for them. This area has sufficient depth for vessels, but it might be important to look for bathymetric data for the other locations.

ML-ME-02 Moose Bay

No comments.

ML-ME-03 Moosehead – Kennebec River East Outlet

- Ann: It was discussed that bringing in a load of gravel might be necessary to enable vehicles towing vessels to navigate over the final bedrock outcrop near the southernmost staging location where shoreside recovery is located. Dumping of gravel will further level the area, enabling crews to initiate shoreside recovery operations.
Sam: This can be noted in the Special Considerations section of the GRS.

1 Site surveys were based on the site survey schedule sent to the Work Group on May 22, 2024, and published on the project website.



- Ann: Will look into the logistics required to get gravel to this site.

ML-ME-04 Indian Pond North

No comments.

ML-ME-05 Indian Pond South – Harris Station Dam

- Ann: Shoreside recovery for the DV01a tactic may be difficult on the island.
- Sam: Shoreside recovery would likely need to be completed by a vessel crew. We can change the label of this tactic to “DV01b” and DV01b to “DV01a” to show that this tactic (along eastern edge of island) is a secondary tactic.

ML-ME-06 Rockwood – Brassua Lake Dam

No comments.

ML-ME-07 Misery Stream

- Ann: Sent a few photos over of Misery Stream bridge location.
- Haley Griffin: Nuka will replace a photo on the third page of the GRS with one of Ann’s photos since they show a better view of the bridge where the deployment would take place.

ML-ME-08 Little Brassua Lake

- Haley: Suggested adding to the Special Considerations or Navigational Hazards sections to notify vessel operators to launch work boats from Brassua Lake using the boat ramp off of Jackman Rd.

ML-ME-09A Jackman – Wood Pond North/Moose River

- Karen Way: Should we be identifying shorter lengths of boom in these GRS? In previous GRS testing exercises, it was observed that boom lengths may need to be adjusted (and are often made shorter) due to changes in water levels and water flow.
- Sam: We can consider adding this language to Special Considerations/Navigational Hazards sections.

ML-ME-09B Jackman – Wood Pond South

No comments.

ML-ME-10 Passamaquoddy Trust Land – Moose River

- Sam: Water conditions are low in this area, which can be noted in the Special Considerations.

GRS Development Process & Project Timeline

At the conclusion of the GRS review, Sam indicated that additional feedback is welcome until the post-review comment deadline of **August 16, 2024**, when EPA Region 1 and Nuka Research will finalize each document and post them on the RRT1 website for public access. These documents will also be incorporated into the Inland ACP.

Final Comments and Suggestions

Karen thanked everyone for their continued input and participation in the project and informed the group that EPA has renewed their contract with Nuka to continue similar work for the next three years. Sam thanked the group for their participation in the project.

Action Items:

Nuka Research will:

- a. Post the meeting summary on the project site and accept feedback on each GRS until August 16, 2024.
- b. Make edits identified during this final work group meeting to the draft tactic maps and GRS.
- c. Finalize all Moosehead Lake Region (ML) GRS documents and all GIS data and deliver them to the US EPA by August 27, 2024.

Contact persons for additional information:

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