



<p>Geographic Response Plan Development Project – Connecticut River in New Hampshire & Vermont</p>		<p>August 18, 2021 – 1:00 - 2:00 PM</p> <p>Held via Zoom Video Conference</p>
<p>Connecticut River Tactics Sub-Group Meeting</p>		
<p>Project Overview: Nuka Research and Planning Group, LLC has been contracted by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 1 to develop ten (10) Geographic Response Plans or GRPs, for the Connecticut River in New Hampshire and Vermont. GRPs 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. GRPs can save time during the critical first few hours of an oil spill response.</p> <p>A multi-agency, multijurisdictional workgroup consisting of Federal, State, and local environmental emergency response partners will identify the candidate area(s) for the development of these GRPs. Nuka Research will facilitate the workgroup and the GRP development process. This project should be completed in December 2021, and we anticipate two (2) workgroup meetings to be held over the life of this project.</p>		
<p>Workgroup Membership and Purview: Members of the workgroup will represent state and federal agencies, local governments and organizations, stakeholder groups, the oil industry, and spill response professionals. The workgroup process is open to the public, and public participation is welcomed and encouraged.</p>		
<p>Purpose of Meeting: This meeting served as a preliminary review of the draft tactic maps developed subsequent to the site surveys conducted on June 23-24, 2021. Tactics Sub-Group members reviewed the draft tactic maps for the twelve site areas visited, recommended changes and edits, and made collaborative decisions on identifying the 10 sites for final GRP development.</p>		
<p>Participants</p>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New Hampshire DES • Vermont DEC • US EPA • Nuka Research <p>For a complete list of participants, contact Olivia Norton at Olivia@nukaresearch.com or Mike Popovich at Popovich@nukaresearch.com.</p>		
<p>Agenda</p>		
<p>Introduction and Opening Comments: Mike Popovich (Nuka Research) opened the meeting by thanking the participants for attending the site surveys.</p> <p>Project/Tactic Review Process Overview: Mike Popovich then provided a general project overview of all the sites selected and visited during the site survey process on Google Earth. He then presented to the group the draft tactic maps for review.</p> <p>Review of Site Survey Delineation, Priorities & Resources at Risk: Site surveys were conducted on June 23-24, 2021 with a group of experienced spill responders including personnel from EPA Region 1, MassDEP, Moran Environmental Recovery, New Hampshire DES, Vermont DEC, and the Windsor Fire Department. Following the site surveys draft tactics maps were developed and the following changes were made to the previously identified mapping areas. The original mapping areas were:</p>		

Connecticut River Sites:

- Rhymes Facility
- Lancaster Rd.
- Littleton Dam Area
- Bath/Ryegate/Woodsville/Wells- 15 Mile Falls
- West Lebanon- White River Junction (WRJ)
- Charlestown/Springfield/Rockingham
- N. Walpole/Bellows Falls
- Hinsdale/Brattleboro

Note: For each GRP developed, a site name and numbering convention is used. As indicated above, site names can be determined by workgroup members as late as the final GRP review meeting at the end of the project. Since the beginning of this EPA Region 1 Inland River GRP development project series (2013), GRPs have also been given a unique letter/number identifier consisting of a two-letter river designator and a two-digit sequential number for each GRP. EPA Region 1 and Nuka Research created a new numbering convention using four-letter designator and two-digit number to account for GRP development on the same river system but in different states. For this project, the GRP numbering will be *CR-NH-XX*.

- *CR = Connecticut River*
- *NH = New Hampshire (the Connecticut River lies completely within New Hampshire with the state border being along the western side of the river.*
- *XX = Sequential number*

The new mapping areas, GRP numbering, and naming agreed upon during this tactic meeting are as follows:

- **CR-NH-01 North Stratford/Brunswick**
- **CR-NH-01 Johns River**
- **CR-NH-03 Moore Reservoir**
- **CR-NH-04 Barnet/Monroe**
- **CR-NH-05 McIndoe Falls**
- **CR-NH-06 Woodsville/Wells River**
- **CR-NH-07 White River Junction (A & B)**
- **CR-NH-08 Charlestown (A & B)**
- **CR-NH-09 Bellows Falls (A & B)**
- **CR-NH-10 Brattleboro (A, B, & C)**

NOTE: All current GRP names are tentative and subject to change up to the conclusion of the final workgroup meeting

Connecticut River Draft Tactic Map Comments:**CR-NH-01: North Stratford/Brunswick**

- No comments

CR-NH-02: Johns River

- No comments

CR-NH-03: Moore Reservoir

- A workgroup member noted that this site is logical in terms of protecting the dam and the water system attached.
- James with Vermont DEC mentioned the Dodge Hill Boat Ramp as a staging area for the reservoir. Nuka to potentially add the boat ramp location as an inset map.



CR-NH-04: Barnet/Monroe

- It was mentioned that this site is private property. Nuka to include this as a note in the GRP.

CR-NH-05: McIndoe Falls

- No comments

CR-NH-06: Woodsville/Wells River

- No comments

CR-NH-07: White River Junction (A & B)

- No comments on either tactic map

CR-NH-08: Charlestown (A & B)

- Nuka to replace the exclusion boom (EX02) with a diversion boom (DV) leg and a shoreside recovery icon and then add Passive Recovery (PR) along the shoreline of Black River up to the Hoyt's Landing boat ramp.
- There were no comments on Charlestown B

CR-NH-09: Bellows Falls (A & B)

- No comments

CR-NH-10 Brattleboro (A, B, & C)

- No comments on Brattleboro A
- Nuka to change satellite base map for Brattleboro B
- Nuka to replace the existing deflection boom (DF03) with a longer leg anchoring from the western shoreline of the mainland to the northern part of the island at the Brattleboro Rd. bridge. Nuka to change the diversion leg (DV01) to an alternative tactic (DV01alt).

GRP Development Process & Project Timeline

Following the review of the draft tactic maps, Mike Popovich indicated that the next phase in the GRP development process will be to draft the GRP documents and prepare for a final workgroup meeting. Nuka Research is in the process of transition from the current GRP template Word documents to a new three-page GRP template using Excel. This three-page template will include the existing information that is on the current GRP as well as new information and verbiage. Nuka will draft these documents with the new template within the next few weeks and send them to the workgroup for feedback.

Comments and Suggestions

There were no additional comments made by the sub-group.

Next Steps:

Nuka Research will:

- a. Post meeting summary on project website and accept feedback within a set comment period.
- b. Post documents and presentations used in this meeting on the project website.
- c. Make edits to the draft tactic maps identified at this sub-group meeting.
- d. Determine a final workgroup meeting timeframe based on workgroup feedback and schedule the virtual Zoom meeting accordingly.
- e. Prepare the draft Connecticut River GRP documents and send them to the entire workgroup for feedback prior to the final workgroup meeting.

Project Website: <https://www.inlandgrpne.com/connecticut-river-nh-vt>

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