

From: Joyce, Marilyn
Sent: Wednesday, October 24, 2007 3:45 PM
To: Adkins, Bruce <AdkinsBr@pac.dfo-mpo.gc.ca>; Reid, Bruce (Pacific) <ReidBru@pac.dfo-mpo.gc.ca>
Subject: FW: 2007 10 03 Robson Bight CCG response

Bruce and Bruce,

Can we have a discussion on DFO's role v.v. the sampling and responsibilities to the REET.

Marilyn

-----Original Message-----

From: Ross, Peter (Pacific)
Sent: October 24, 2007 10:25 AM
To: Joyce, Marilyn; Adkins, Bruce; Brown, Robin; Colwell, Steven; Ellis, Graeme; Ford, John (Pacific); Knight, Joe; Lee, Tatiana; Lewis, John; Paike, Larry
Cc: Macdonald, Robie; Brown, Robin
Subject: RE: 2007 10 03 Robson Bight CCG response

Thanks Marilyn-

regretfully, the position below has completely pre-empted the provision of advice from DFO Science. We have several Research Scientists expert in the area of transport and fate of contaminants, including hydrocarbons, in the marine environment. In addition, we have been working on two studies to evaluate hydrocarbon signatures in BC (SARA-funded sea otter/habitat; Federal Contaminated Sites Action Plan-funded baseline survey of hydrocarbons in sediments). Diesel remains a complex mixture, containing some components that are short-lived, and others that remain behind for extended periods of time. In addition, many of the observed 'half-lives for hydrocarbons' are based on an outdated view that 'dissipation' (dilution) solves the problem. More recent evidence points to long-lasting signatures remaining behind in certain (vulnerable) environmental compartments.

In addition, the position below ignores the responsibility that the Government of Canada has to ensure a safe food (traditional) supply for First Nations communities. Any assessment of human health risk, and subsequent advice, must originate from Health Canada, and be based on data generated from DFO, EC, the province, or themselves (depending on the nature and source of the contaminants).

I would strongly suggest that advice/positions be left to those responsible for such assessments, as our agency remains liable for decisions made during such incidents.

Peter S. Ross, PhD
Research Scientist
Institute of Ocean Sciences (Fisheries and Oceans Canada)
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Conducting science in support of healthy oceans and healthy marine mammals

-----Original Message-----

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From: Joyce, Marilyn

Sent: Tuesday, October 23, 2007 11:39 AM

To: Ross, Peter (Pacific); Adkins, Bruce; Brown, Robin; Colwell, Steven; Ellis, Graeme; Ford, John (Pacific); Joyce, Marilyn; Knight, Joe; Lee, Tatiana; Lewis, John; Paike, Larry

Subject: FW: 2007 10 03 Robson Bight CCG response

-----Original Message-----

From: Zazzi, Marian [PYR] [mailto:Marian.Zazzi@ec.gc.ca]

Sent: October 16, 2007 7:22 AM

To: Adkins, Bruce; Alex Grant; Beech, Fred [PYR]; Bernie Mackay; Brodeur, Micheline [PYR]; Dawes, Les; Doug Aberley; Duncan Ferguson; Emergencies [PYR]; Graham Knox; Hollebone, Bruce [NCR]; Toxopeus, Jamie; Joyce, Marilyn; Karin Maier; Kathy Campbell; Kay, Bruce [PYR]; Khelifa, Ali [NCR]; LaRusic, Adam [PYR]; Linda Philipp; Madeline McDonald; McDonald, Ken: INAC; Michael Berry; O'Hara, Patrick; O'Keefe, Aaron: INAC; Ross, Paul [PYR]; Ross, Peter (Pacific); Smith, Dave [PYR]; Wilson, Larry

Subject: FW: 2007 10 03 Robson Bight CCG response

From: Grant, Alex ENV:EX [mailto:Alex.Grant@gov.bc.ca]

Sent: Monday, October 15, 2007 2:46 PM

To: Zazzi, Marian [PYR]

Subject: FW: 2007 10 03 Robson Bight CCG response

Marian,

Please forward to the REET distribution list.

Alex Grant, B.Sc.

Environmental Emergency Response Officer

BCEnvironment

Nanaimo

Phone: 250-751-3191

Pager: 250-755-8397

Fax: 250-751-3103

From: Rodden, Don [mailto:RoddenD@pac.dfo-mpo.gc.ca]

Sent: Mon, October 15, 2007 1:04 PM

To: Wilson, Larry; Beech, Fred [PYR]

Cc: Grant, Alex ENV:EX; Dawes, Les; Toxopeus, Jamie

Subject: RE: 2007 10 03 Robson Bight REET Update_Final_.pdf

Fred,

At this time, CCG has not requested the RP to put in place a monitoring program to *“establish baseline information on the current state of hydrocarbon contamination in sediments, biota and water column”* where the object of the proposed monitoring program is to *“achieve a state where hydrocarbons are non-detectable within any media”*

NOAA's Fact Sheet on Small Diesel Spills states that *“Diesel oil is readily and completely degraded by naturally occurring microbes, under time frames of one to two months”* and REET's report that *“The impact of the spill on these species has not been detected and no bird or marine mammal fatalities have been attributed to the release”* combined with the fact that this is an area of heavy traffic where illegal discharges are rarely report. (See attached photo taken yesterday by TC's pollution plane

where no pollution report was submitted by either the polluter or public. The estimated volume was 4.5 litres which far exceeds the sum total of the amounts observed at the incident site over the past six weeks) have lead us to conclude that any anomalies noted by such a program could not reasonably be attributed to the RP

For the above reasons, CCG does not support REET's recommendation.

However, CCG's Standing Order to its vessels and aircraft to Observe, Record and Report any sightings will remain in place.

Don

-----Original Message-----

From: Wilson, Larry

Sent: Monday, October 15, 2007 7:36 AM

To: Beech, Fred [PYR]

Cc: Grant, Alex ENV:EX; Rodden, Don; Dawes, Les

Subject: RE: 2007 10 03 Robson Bight REET Update _Final_.pdf

Morning Fred,

I was on leave last week so I'm not certain if any action was taken.

By cc of this to Don Rodden & Les Dawes....I'm hopeful they can advise us later today.

Regards

Larry

Larry Wilson

Special Advisor to the Commissioner

(613) 990-6518 Ottawa

(604) 775-8800 Vancouver

(902) 471-6882 Cell

-----Original Message-----

From: Beech, Fred [PYR] [mailto:Fred.Beech@ec.gc.ca]

Sent: October 12, 2007 1:24 PM

To: Wilson, Larry

Cc: Grant, Alex ENV:EX

Subject: 2007 10 03 Robson Bight REET Update _Final_.pdf

<<2007 10 03 Robson Bight REET Update _Final_.pdf>>

Larry.

We met last week to determine a path forward on the Robson Bight follow-up.

You stated that the recommendations made by REET on October 5/07 would be directed by Coast Guard to the Responsible Party for action and reply.

Could you advise me if this has taken place and when we might expect a formal response?

Thanks for your assistance in resolving these outstanding issues. There is a need for

some urgency as oil still appears to be surfacing over the site.

Fred Beech
Regional Environmental Emergency Coordinator
Environment Canada
Pacific and Yukon

12 October 2007