

Interagency Coordinating Committee on Oil Pollution Research (ICCOPR)

FACT SHEET



Background

Section 7001 of the Oil Pollution Act of 1990 (OPA 90) established the Interagency Coordinating Committee on Oil Pollution Research (the Interagency Committee). The purpose of the Interagency Committee is twofold: (1) to prepare a comprehensive, coordinated Federal oil pollution research and development plan; and (2) to promote cooperation with industry, universities, research institutions, State governments, and other nations through information sharing, coordinated planning, and joint funding of projects. The Interagency Committee provides a biennial report to Congress on its activities. The Interagency Committee is referenced in two pieces of legislation: the original Public Law that mandated its creation and its periodic updates in the United States Code. Consequently, it is cited as: *Oil Pollution Act of 1990, § 7001, 104 Stat. 484, 559-564 (1990) (33 U.S.C. 2761)*

Membership

The Interagency Committee is comprised of 14 members representing federal independent agencies, departments, and department components. The Coast Guard chairs the Interagency Committee and NOAA, BSEE, and EPA rotate assignments as the vice-chair every two years.

Oil Pollution Research and Development Technology Plan

Section 7001(b) of the Oil Pollution Act of 1990 requires the Interagency Committee to prepare an Oil Pollution Research and Technology Plan. The Interagency Committee prepared the original Oil Pollution Research and Technology Plan to define the roles of each Federal agency involved in oil spill research and development. The plan was submitted

to Congress in April 1992. The National Research Council's Committee on Oil Spill Research and Development under the auspices of the Marine Board reviewed the plan. Using input from the Marine Board, the Interagency Committee revised the plan in May 1993 to address spill prevention, human factors, and the field testing/demonstration of developed response technologies. The current version of the plan, still based on Marine Board recommendations, is dated April 1997. The Interagency Committee is updating the plan and expects to be finished in Fiscal Year 2013.

Present-day Activities

The Interagency Committee continues to serve as a forum for its federal members to coordinate and maintain awareness of ongoing oil pollution research activities. Members of the Interagency Committee interact in a number of venues, including conferences, workshops, meetings of the National Response Team Science and Technology Subcommittee, and through formal meetings. Formal meetings of the Interagency Committee are normally scheduled on a quarterly basis. Please visit www.iccopr.uscg.gov for more information.

- United States Coast Guard (USCG)
- National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)
- National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST)
- Department of Energy (DOE)
- Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement (BSEE)
- Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM)
- United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS)
- Maritime Administration (MARAD)
- Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA)
- United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE)
- United States Navy (USN)
- Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)
- National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA)
- Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)
- United States Fire Administration (USFA)