



# Welcome to the U.S.-Mexico Inland Joint Response Team Meeting

---

## Border 2012: Emergency Preparedness and Response Border-wide Workgroup

South Padre Island, Texas  
September 1, 2009



# U.S.-Mexico Border 2012 Emergency Preparedness and Response Border-wide Workgroup

---

- **Border 2012 created Emergency Preparedness and Response Border-wide Workgroup (BWWG) to coordinate and implement Goal #5:**
  - Enhance Joint Readiness for Environmental Response
- **BWWG works on federal border-wide issues**
- **BWWG functions as the steering committee of Joint Response Team (JRT)**
  - JRT established by Annex II of the 1983 La Paz Agreement
  - JRT co-chaired by U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Mexican Federal Attorney General for the Protection of the Environment (PROFEPA) and the Office of Civil Protection (Protección Civil)



# U.S.–Mexico Border 2012 Emergency Preparedness and Response JRT Partners





# Action Items from the 2006 U.S.-Mexico Inland JRT Meeting

---

- **Revisions to the U.S.-Mexico Joint Contingency Plan (JCP)**
  - Mexican and other U.S. Federal agencies within our workgroup will be reviewing the proposed changes to the JCP
  - Comments due by March 1 from the JRT meeting participants
  - Incorporate PROFEPA/SEMARNAT new emergency notification protocol for Appendix A
  - U.S. and Mexico are aiming to finalize the JCP by the end of April 2006 for the National Coordinator's Meeting
- **Establish a coordinated schedule of Mexico and U.S. cross-border exercises/drills**



# Action Items from the 2006 U.S.-Mexico Inland JRT Meeting (continued)

---

- **Expediting cross-border emergency responses**
  - EPA will coordinate with US CBP and identify the broad categories of response equipment and likely personnel (EPA and contractors) that may respond to a cross-border emergency
  - Procedures for notifying Mexico will be established with the National Response Center
  - U.S. and Mexico customs officials, PROFEPA, and EPA will set up a meeting in March 2006 to identify next steps with Aduanas
- **Provide support in establishing an emergency training academy in Region VI**
- **Location for next JRT meeting**

# Action Items from the 2006 U.S.-Mexico Inland JRT Meeting (continued)

---

- **Invigorate the JRT by working in strengthened partnerships with US and Mexico federal, state and local offices**
  - Work with USCG, DHS CBP, NorthCom and all other JRT members
  - Mexico will work in partnership with Protección Civil, CENACOM, and Aduanas
- **Encourage Tribal Nations to actively participate in the Border 2012 Emergency Preparedness and Sister City Plan Programs**

# Emergency Preparedness and Response Border-wide Workgroup Accomplishments since the 2006 JRT

---

- Signed and implemented 15 binational local Emergency Response Plans (Sister City Plans)
- Finalized the revision of the U.S.–Mexico Joint Contingency Plan (JCP)
  - Sister City Plans may reference all kinds of releases
- **Trinational Emergency Preparedness Plan (#16):**
  - The Tohono O’odham Chair Ned Norris and Governor Napolitano of Arizona and Governor Bours of Sonora Mexico signed this tri-national sister city agreement on June 14, 2008

# Emergency Preparedness and Response Border-wide Workgroup Accomplishments since the 2006 JRT

---

- **Designed and conducted several high-profile hazardous material tabletop and full field exercises**
- **Developed and conducted bilingual workshops through Region 9's Baja California Emergency Management Institute**
- **EPA-NorthCom MOA's Knowledge Exchange events:**
  - FEMA's Emergency Management Institute, Nov. 2007
  - EPA OEM HQs Washington, DC, June 2008
  - EPA OSC Readiness Training, San Diego, Feb. 2009



# Emergency Preparedness and Response Border-wide Workgroup Recent Initiatives

---

- **Established interagency coordination to:**
  - Facilitate border crossing for federal responders and their contractors (U.S. Customs and Border Protection)
  - Provide for more training, capacity building, exchange of information and resources for response equipment (DOD, NorthCom)



# Emergency Preparedness and Response Border-wide Workgroup Recent Initiatives (continued)

---

- **Identifying insurance coverage for federal government vehicles as well as U.S. local emergency responders when crossing borders**
  - Working with OAM to identify vendors interested in securing EPA's emergency response vehicles
  - Exploring use of rental cars by government staff, with contractor transport of specialized equipment
  - Proposing revisions to existing local responder policies to allow coverage of cross-border incidents

# Emergency Preparedness and Response Border-wide Workgroup Contacts

---

- **Procuraduría Federal de Protección al Ambiente (PROFEPA/SERMANAT):**
  - Ing. Gustavo G. González, Co-presidente  
gugonzalez@profepa.gob.mx
  - Ing. Enrique Ortiz, Director de Emergencias  
eortiz@profepa.gob.mx
- **Secretaría de Gobernación, Coordinación General de Protección Civil (SEGOB):**
  - Lic. Laura Gurza, Coordinadora General  
lgurza@segob.gob.mx
  - Lic. Ana Lucia Hill, Directora General  
ahill@segob.gob.mx

# Emergency Preparedness and Response Border-wide Workgroup Contacts

---

- **EPA Headquarters (Washington, DC):**
  - Dana Tulis, Co-Chair, Tulis.Dana@epa.gov
  - Mark Mjones, Mjones.Mark@epa.gov
  - Beatriz Oliveira, Oliveira.Beatriz@epa.gov
- **EPA Region 6:**
  - Ragan Broyles, Broyles.Ragan@epa.gov
  - Jim Staves, Staves.James@epa.gov
- **EPA Region 9:**
  - Dan Meer, Meer.Daniel@epa.gov
  - Kay Lawrence, Lawrence.Kathryn@epa.gov
  - Melanie Morash, Morash.Melanie@epa.gov