

# **Cooperation and Collaboration in the Service of Natural Resource Protection During Pollution**

## **Response:**

**Agencies Working Together in Region IX**

**Submitted by the Department of the  
Interior**

**Office of Environmental Policy and  
Compliance, Oakland**

**Presented by Patricia Port,**

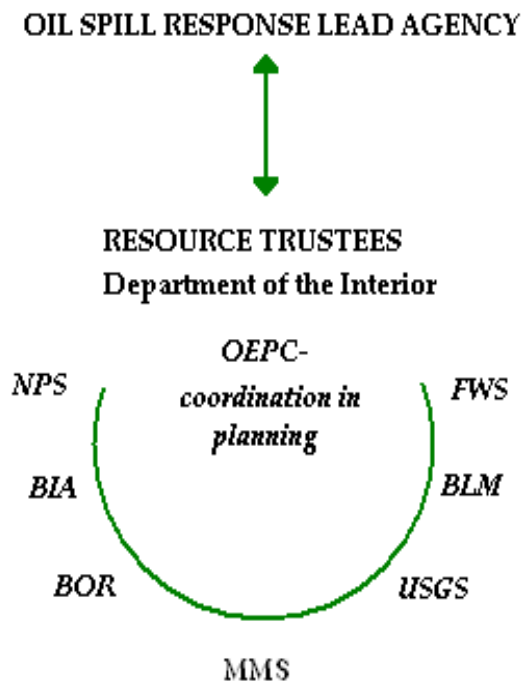
**Regional Environmental Officer**

# Protecting our Resources

- Funding & personnel time very limited due to shrinking budgets & expanded mandates
- Collaboration Improves Quality and Efficiency
  - Federal
  - State
  - Local Communities



# Resource Trustees



- Preparedness planning is aligned with Department of the Interior's (DOI) mission
- As resource trustees, the Bureaus within DOI have information & special training to contribute to contingency planning
- The Office of Environmental Policy and Compliance (OEPC) provides coordination between the bureaus within DOI

# Office of Environmental Policy and Compliance, Region IX

- Protecting resources & providing environmental policy guidance in the public's interest
- Coordinates between diverse bureaus to provide clear & consistent resource information & priorities to contingency planners



# US Bureau of Reclamation

protect water and related resources in an environmentally

and economically sound manner in the interest of the American public



- Waterways can carry a spill & increase damages if not contained quickly
- BOR can provide information about water flows, reservoirs, & possible equipment



# US Fish & Wildlife Service, Region IX



working with others to conserve, protect and enhance fish, wildlife, and plants and their habitats for the continuing benefit of the American people



- Threatened & Endangered Species
- Migratory Bird Flyways
- Knowledge, Experience, Priorities

# US Bureau of Indian Affairs, Region IX

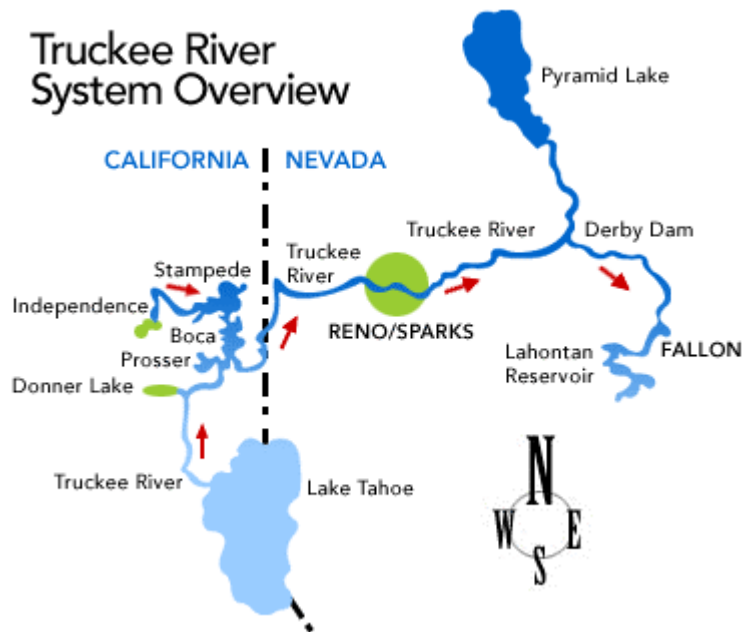
fulfill its trust responsibilities and promote self-determination on behalf of Tribal Governments, American Indians and Alaska Natives



- BIA can supply information about land ownership, populations at risk in the case of a spill, & provide coordination between tribes & US government
- BIA ensures that tribes have a voice in the planning process



# Case Study Region IX: Truckee River Geographic Response Plan



- Recently completed by EPA
- Developed through collaborative workshops
- Identify resources that require protection
- Develop operational strategies
- Pinpoint logistical support

# Case Study Region IX: Lower Colorado Area Contingency Plan

- Early coordination between bureaus in DOI
- List of bureau contacts
- Participated in planning activities



## Case Study Region IX: Upper Sacramento Area Contingency Plan



- Upper Sacramento River is a priority for DOI – high number of spills increases vulnerability of resources in area
- Transportation routes near or over rivers increases risk of spill impacting public resources
- Cantara Loop, one of 107 crossings of the Sacramento River has a history of spills

# A Need for Updates



- Many Area Contingency Plans in Region IX are 10+ years old
- Updating provides changes in information such as:
  - Changes in land status
  - Improvements in technology
  - Changes in agency roles or staff
  - Up-to-date information on equipment & resource priorities

# US Bureau of Land Management

sustains the health, diversity, and productivity of the public lands

for the use and enjoyment of present and future generations



- **A Need for Updates:**  
Changes in Land Status
- National Monuments:  
management plans

# US Geological Survey

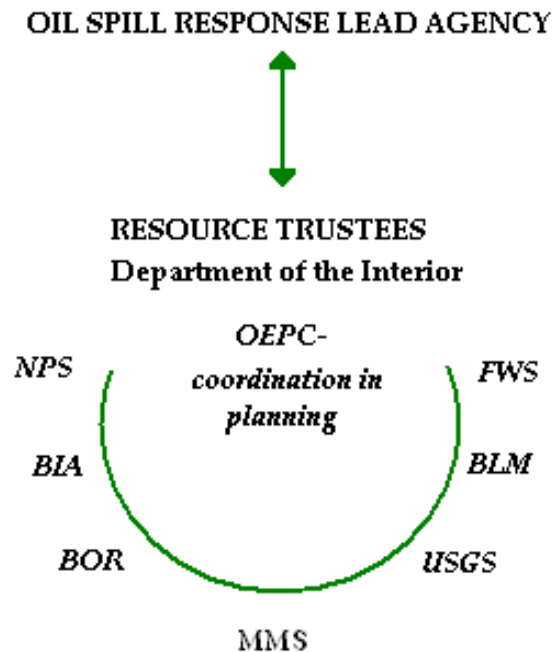
providing reliable scientific information to describe and understand the Earth; minimize loss of life and property from natural disasters; manage water, biological, energy, and mineral resources; and enhance and to protect our quality of life



- **A Need for Updates:**  
Technological Advances
- USGS utilizes new mapping technology & data collection techniques that will improve contingency planning documents



# Collaboration, Cooperation, Success



- Spill Response Preparedness aligns with all agency goals:
  - DOI
  - All DOI bureaus
  - OEPC
- Coordination and sharing of information
- Continued revision and updates

# Office of Environmental Policy and Compliance

## Regional Environmental Officers

### Albuquerque

REO Stephen Spencer  
(505) 766-3565

### Anchorage

REO Pamela Bergmann  
(907) 271-5011

### Atlanta

REO Gregory L. Hogue  
(404) 331-4524

### Boston

REO Andrew L. Raddant  
(617) 223-8565

### Headquarters

Director Willie Taylor  
(202) 208-3891

### Denver

Robert F. Stewart  
(303) 445-2500

### Philadelphia

Michael Chezik  
(215) 597-9845

### Portland

REO Preston Sleeper  
(503) 231-6157

## Cooperation and Collaboration in the Service of Natural Resource Protection During Pollution Response: Agencies Working Together in Region IX

Patricia Port,  
Regional Environmental Officer, Region IX  
(510) 817-1477  
[OEPCSFN@aol.com](mailto:OEPCSFN@aol.com)

Thank you for your time

