

The Partnership Between Tribes and EPA's Emergency Response Program Region 9



Who am I?

Amanda Pease

Region 9 Emergency Response

Tribal Liaison

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415-301-1503



Presentation Overview

- How can tribes contact us?
- What do we do?
- What are some response limitations?
- What trainings can we offer to tribes?



How can tribes contact us?



Contacting R9 Emergency Response

- Region 9 Duty Officer, 24/7
 - Call for emergencies
1-800-300-2193
- Amanda Pease, Tribal Liaison
 - Call/email for general support
1-415-301-1503



Sign-up for National Response Center Notifications!

- Apply for an NRC agreement with the Coast Guard by:
 - Emailing nrc@uscg.mil
 - Faxing (202) 267-1322
 - Calling Bill Jones at EPA Region 9 for assistance: 619-806-6737



What do we do?



EPA Emergency Response

- Emergency Response
- “Time-Critical” Removal Action
- “Non Time-Critical” Removal Action
- Disaster Response



Types of EPA Support

- **Provide technical assistance to tribal response efforts**
- **Provide notification about emergencies where tribes may have interest**
- **Assist tribal environmental programs/cultural monitors with integrating into a unified command structure**
- **Tribes request EPA-lead emergency response or removal actions**



Example EPA Responses, and a Tribal Case Study



Oil Spills



Drum and Cylinder Cleanups



Mixed Chemical Sites



Mercury Spills



Lead Cleanups



Federally Declared Disasters



Federally Declared Disasters



San Carlos Herbicide Investigation – 2018 to present

- San Carlos Apache Tribe requested that EPA assess barrels used throughout reservation
- Thought to be associated with herbicides used in Agent Orange
- EPA collected barrels from over 100 homes and analyzed soil for herbicides



San Carlos Herbicide Investigation (cont.)



Some EPA Emergency Response Limitations

- Generally, \$2 million and 12-month limitations on removal actions
- Generally respond to “hazardous substances” and “oil”
- Respond only to oil spills that may impact “Waters of the United States”
- Limitations related to naturally occurring substances and commercial products
- Do not directly handle federally illegal drugs (work with law enforcement)



What trainings can we offer to tribes?



EPA Recommendations for Tribal Responders:

- First Responder Awareness
- First Responder Operations
- Incident Command System
- HAZWOPER Compliance Assistance



Specialty Courses

- Oil Spill Response and Booming
- Mercury Response and Cleanup
- Chemical Identification
- Radiation
- Drum and tank sampling
- Many more!



Questions?



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