

# **2012 California Environmental Protection Agency (Cal/EPA) Emergency Response Management Committee (ERMaC) Accomplishments Report**

## **MEMBER AGENCIES**

California Environmental Protection Agency (Cal/EPA)

Air Resources Board (ARB)

Department of Pesticide Regulation (DPR)

Department of Resources Recycling & Recovery (CalRecycle) (by Memorandum of Understanding)

Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC)

Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment (OEHHA)

State Water Resources Board (SWRCB)

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## I. INTRODUCTION

The California Environmental Protection Agency (Cal/EPA) Emergency Response Management Committee (ERMaC) coordinates preparedness for and responses to environmental emergencies in California under assigned statutory authorities. ERMaC is comprised of appointed representatives and alternates from each board, department and office (BDO) and is chaired by the Assistant Secretary for Emergency Response appointed by the Agency Secretary. ERMaC members have fully delegated authority, within respective BDOs to activate and direct resources and personnel to affect timely and appropriate response to disasters and large-scale emergencies.

Cal/EPA complies with the National Incident Management System (NIMS) for emergency preparedness and operates as a state agency with specific jurisdiction under the Standardized Emergency Management System (SEMS), as coordinated by the California Emergency Management Agency (CalEMA).

ERMaC's mission is to manage public health and environmental consequences of emergency events through effective, coordinated agency-wide preparedness, response, recovery and mitigation activities. ERMaC is responsible for emergency planning and training, and coordinates all Cal/EPA entities in emergency response and recovery actions. It serves as the forum for developing and maintaining the Cal/EPA collective Administrative Orders and emergency response plans.

The California Hazardous Materials and Oil Emergency Function 10 (EF-10) is an annex to the State of California Emergency Plan. The Annex defines the California Environmental Protection Agency (Cal/EPA) as the lead for the organization, scope, and coordination of response and emergency management activities of the stakeholders and partners in a disaster or large scale oil and hazardous materials incident.

The California Hazardous Materials and Oil Emergency Function (EF-10) provides for a coordinated response from agencies and governmental entities with jurisdictional and regulatory authority to conduct all phases of emergency management in the response to and recovery from a release of oil or hazardous materials. The primary and supporting agencies named in the EF-10 Annex will work together within their respective authorities to effectively and efficiently mitigate, as well as prepare for, respond to, and recover from emergencies involving the release of oil and/or hazardous materials.

## II. INCIDENT RESPONSE & RECOVERY ACTIONS

This section contains several highlighted incident response and recovery actions performed by the California Environmental Protection Agency's (Cal/EPA) Emergency Response and Management Committee (ERMaC) in 2012.

### A. Food and Animal Disposal

Incident Name: *Bovine Spongiform Encephalitis (BSE) Infected Animal Carcass Disposal, April 2012*

The Emergency Food and Animal Carcass Disposal Workgroup was formed from Cal/EPA's ERMaC with participants from Air Resources Board (ARB), Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment (OEHHA), and Department of Resources Recycling & Recovery (CalRecycle). The Workgroup was contacted by California Department of Food and Agriculture's (CDFA) Animal Health Branch in response to a bovine animal that tested positive for BSE. This animal was in combination with 90 other animals that required emergency disposal. Therefore, all of the affected animals needed to be euthanized and several disposal options were examined taking into consideration the FDA prioritization list. The prioritization options considered were incineration or burial. Because of the time constraints, especially with the carcass integrity, the encapsulated burial option was chosen. The animal carcasses were packaged at the rendering facility and transported to a landfill in California that accepted the material for burial. In addition to disposal issues, the Workgroup provided scientific literature reviews of fate of transport and disposal options of prions and disposal guidance to the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) and the California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) regarding dead and diseased animals.

### B. Fire Response and Recovery

Between mid-June and mid-September of 2012, Cal/EPA's ERMaC assisted with wildfires throughout Northern California. Member agencies primarily Air Resources Board (ARB) Office of Emergency Response (OER), State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB), and Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) provided technical assistance including smoke monitoring, data coordination, public health information, water-quality monitoring and impacts, field inspections for water quality, water-related mitigation, hazardous materials and debris management. Specific mission tasks were assigned by the California Emergency Management Agency (CalEMA) for smoke monitoring and the deployment of air monitors by the ARB's OER.

## **1. Air Monitoring:**

Incident Name: *Mill Incident, Mendocino National Forest, Colusa County, July 2012*

- Provided wildfire smoke monitoring on behalf of Colusa County air district in the community of Stonyford and at Fire Camp/Incident Command Post; and monitoring on behalf of Lake County Air District in the city of Clearlake.

Incident Name: *Robbers Fire, Placer County, July 2012*

- Provided wildfire smoke monitoring on behalf of El Dorado County Air District in the communities of Cool and Georgetown and at the Blodgett Forest headquarters. CalEMA Mission Task No. RIMS2012-INL8004.

Incident Name: *Chips-Ponderosa-Reading Fires, August 2012*

- Provided wildfire smoke monitoring, troubleshooting, and data coordination on behalf of Butte, Tehama, Shasta, Siskiyou, and Lassen County Air Districts and Plumas County Environmental Health Department. [Mission Tasks: #2012-INL-8005 (Butte), #2012-INL-8006 (Plumas), #2012-INL-8008 (Tehama), #2012-INL-8009 (Shasta), #2012-INL-8010 (Siskiyou), #2012-INL-8012 (Lassen).].

Incident Name: *Waldo Canyon Fire, Colorado Springs, CO, July, 2012*

- Out-of-state request for technical assistance: ERMaC member agencies provided ash and wildfire smoke exposure information and consultation with El Paso County and State of Colorado environmental health officials on indoor and ambient monitoring for residents after returning to burned area.

## **2. Water Monitoring:**

Incident Name: *Redding Fire, Shasta County, August 2012*

- Conducted post-Burned Area Emergency Response assessment meeting and field inspections.

Incident Name: *Salt Fire, Calaveras County, September 2012*

- Met with PG&E regarding mitigations suggested by the United States Forest Service Burned Area Emergency Response team.

Incident Name: *Ponderosa Fire*, Shasta and Tehama Counties, August 2012

- Conducted field inspection and coordinated installation of six water quality monitoring stations.

Incident Name: *Bagley Fire*, Shasta County, August 2012

- Coordinated with USFS staff regarding water quality impacts of fire suppression activities.

Incident Name: *Mill Incident*, Mendocino National Forest, Colusa County, July 2012

- Processed amendments to timber harvest plans for harvest of substantially damaged timber due to fire and conducted field inspections.

Incident Name: *Chips Fire*, Plumas County, August 2012

- Processed amendments to timber harvest plans for harvest of substantially damaged timber due to fire and conducted field inspections.

### **3. Household Hazardous Waste Removal**

Incident Name: *Chips-Ponderosa-Redding Fires*, August 2012

- Provided technical assistance with hazardous materials and debris management issues at the Local Assistance Center. Also provided technical assistance to Tehama County Environmental Health regarding removal of hazmat from the homes destroyed as a result of the wildfires.

### **4. Multi-agency Task Force**

Incident Name: *Chevron Refinery Fire*, Richmond, CA, August 2012

- CalEMA's Warning Center contacted the Air Resources Board (ARB) regarding the refinery release with situation information. Cal/EPA and ARB were asked to and work with a multi-agency task force coordinated by the Governor's Office to enhance community-based emergency air monitoring in the four air districts where major refineries are located. This work is ongoing and will be coordinated with the local Certified Unified Program Agencies (CUPA) and industry partners. ARB additionally was asked to review analytical data from air samples collected by the Bay Area Air Quality Management District and Contra Costa County Health-HazMat Unit during the incident.

### **C. Hazardous Waste Removal**

Member agencies of ERMaC in 2012 also responded to a variety of hazardous waste removal incidents. The Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) was the primary department within Cal/EPA responding to these types of events. DTSC provided assistance to local agencies by removing and disposing of hazardous materials at 132 illegal drug lab incidents and 79 emergency response hazardous materials incidents in 2012. The total costs exceeded \$1,055,000.

Incident Name: *Abandoned tractor-trailer, Barstow, CA, March 2012*

- Staff oversaw the cleanup of an abandoned tractor-trailer in Barstow, CA. The deceased owner had accumulated over 200 containers of highly concentrated topical bleach that had begun to corrode the containers resulting in soil contamination to the surrounding area. The removal action took four days to complete and cost \$80,000.

Incident Name: *Private Residence, Mariposa County, CA, June 2012*

- Staff responded to an assortment of abandoned chemicals at a private residence in a remote area of Mariposa County. Both owners were deceased and the chemicals were discovered by family members who were cleaning the property. The removal action took two days and costs \$25,000.

Incident Name: *Mobile Smelting, near Mojave and Rosamond, CA, September – December 2012*

The Mobile Smelting site consisted of 12 acres of storage contaminated with corrosives, metals, dioxins, and furans. Members assisted DTSC remedial staff by readying the site for long term remedial waste management by improving site security and by conducting a removal action for the waste on site not eligible for long term management. The removal and remediation occurred over three months and costs \$200,000.

Incident Name: *Custom Chrome and Bumper, Yuba City, CA, Summer 2012*

Staff assisted Sutter County CUPA with a removal action of deteriorated tanks, drums, and structures at a previous electroplating shop. The emergency removal action conducted included pumping plating solutions into 275 gallon totes, containerizing all spilled materials, over-packing all non-transportable containers, transportation and disposal of all hazardous wastes. Soil samples were collected and analyzed for possible referral to US EPA. This removal action took four weeks and cost \$225,000.

## Oil Spill Response

ERMaC member and partner agencies, primarily the Office of Environmental Health Hazard (OEHHA) and the Department of Fish and Wildlife's (DFW) Office of Oil Spill Prevention and Response (OSPR) serve a unique role in oil response. OEHHA determines the potential risk to human health of consumption of marine life impacted by the oil spills and can suspend all fishing until determination of risk is made.

In 2012, OEHHA was notified of 13 oil spills or potential oil spills in marine waters. Of these, nine did not meet the criteria for OEHHA to evaluate (one barrel or more of product, uncontained, in areas where fishing or aquaculture takes place). Four spills met the criteria, but OEHHA found that there was not likely to be a public health threat resulting from consumption of seafood in the affected area. Thus, Department of Fish and Wildlife's Office of Oil Spill Prevention and Response did not close the fisheries.

### D. Debris Removal

Incident Name: *Japan Tsunami Marine Debris (JTMD), 2012* (ongoing from 2011)

On March 11, 2011, a magnitude 9.0 earthquake hit Japan. The earthquake generated a tsunami that affected the Pacific Region. The Japanese Tsunami Marine Debris (JTMD) Workgroup was formed to address the potential impacts of tsunami debris along the coast of California. Cal/EPA participated in a multi-agency stakeholder group that convened in February 2012 to raise situational awareness on the debris. Cal/EPA established a multi-agency response coordination group to address debris impacts. This technical group was formed to support the broader stakeholder group. The technical group included the United States Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA), the California Environmental Protection Agency (Cal/EPA), the California Emergency Management Agency (CalEMA), the United States Coast Guard (USCG), the California Conference of Directors of Environmental Health (CCDEH), and the California Conservation Corps (CCC). These groups:

- Developed JTMD Contamination Assessment and Volunteer Beach Cleanup Guidelines.
- Coordinated with Cal EMA on development of multi-agency Joint Information Center (JIC) website and posted the guidelines and other info on the website: <http://disasterdebris.wordpress.com/>.
- Provided input to Cal EMA on development of the CA Concept of Operations Plan on JTMD.
- Conducted extensive outreach to fed/state/local park agencies, county hazmat agencies, and coastal tribes to ensure they had access to the JIC website and other resources.

- Provided specific state- and local-level training on marine debris at the Annual CUPA Conference (February 2012, Burlingame, CA) and at the Continuing Challenge HazMat Workshop (September 2012, Sacramento, CA).
- Provided resources on our webpage for Tsunami Marine Debris Recovery: <http://www.calepa.ca.gov/Disaster/Tsunami/default.htm>

**I. EMERGENCY FUNCTION FOR HAZARDOUS MATERIALS AND OIL SPILLS (EF-10)**

The California Hazardous Materials and Oil Emergency Function (EF-10) is an annex to the State Emergency Plan. EF-10 is a framework for agencies with jurisdictional or regulatory authority to conduct all phases of emergency management for threatened or actual releases of oil or hazardous materials. The lead, primary, and supporting agencies named in the EF-10 Annex work together within their respective authorities to, among other actions:

- Minimize, contain, and monitor a release or spill.
- Coordinate or oversee the removal of hazardous materials, oil, or debris.
- Set or recommend evacuation, re-entry, clearance and remediation levels.
- Develop guidance and recommendations for response activities.

**A. Annex Interim Draft**

The EF-10 Workgroup, a subcommittee under ERMAC, was reconvened in early 2012 to revise the September 2011 draft of the EF-10 Annex to better reflect participating agency authorities, current guidance, and changes to the EF-5 (Emergency Management) Annex. Workgroup members representing DFG-OSPR, Cal EMA, CalRecycle, DTSC, ARB, DPR, and OEHHA met regularly and finalized a 2012 Interim Draft which was transmitted to Cal EMA from the Acting Assistant Secretary for Emergency Response in August 2012.

The Interim Draft is currently under review by both the Cal EMA Preparedness Branch and by SAIC, who is under contract to Cal EMA to update the EF Annexes to use uniform formatting and language and to be consistent with the updated federal National Response Framework.

It is expected that the EF-10 Workgroup will again be reconvened in 2013 and update the Interim Draft based on comments from Cal EMA and SAIC, as well as from stakeholders who attended a series of workshops in 2012, as described below.

## **B. EF-10 Interagency Workshops**

The EF-10 Workgroup in coordination with the Emergency Response Coordinating Committee (ERCC) organized a workshop to introduce the EF-10 primary and supporting agencies to the Annex for Hazardous Materials and Oil Spills and the planned EF-10 organization and structure during all phases of emergency management.

The workshop, held on October 30, 2012 at Cal EMA, was an opportunity for state and federal agencies which have responsibilities for responding to hazardous materials and oil spill emergencies to meet and share their input on the Annex. The morning session was designed to walk the participants through all aspects of the Annex and the afternoon session offered a facilitated discussion of a major Bay Area earthquake and how each participating agency would respond and coordinate under EF-10 to assist the affected jurisdictions.

Following the workshop, all attendees and stakeholder were contacted to solicit any additional feedback on the Interim Draft Annex. The EF-10 Workgroup will be using these comments to guide updates to the plan in 2013. All materials from the Workshop, as well as EF-10 documents, are posted on the Cal/EPA Emergency Response webpage at [www.calepa.ca.gov/disaster/hazmatoil/default.htm](http://www.calepa.ca.gov/disaster/hazmatoil/default.htm).

Additionally, the EF-10 Annex will be presented to local agencies at the upcoming Certified Unified Program Agencies (CUPA) Conference on February 6, 2013. Feedback received from this presentation will also be incorporated into any revisions of the Interim Annex.

## **C. Cross-Emergency Function Projects**

As part of the development of all 18 Emergency Functions under the State Emergency Plan, several ERMaC members act as liaison in the development of additional EF plans, including EF-3 (Construction & Engineering), EF-5 (Management), EF-7 (Resources), EF-8 (Public Health and Medical), and EF-11 (Agriculture & Natural Resources). This participation includes reviewing and commenting on:

- Various Emergency Function (EF) plans
- California Statewide Multi-Agency Coordination (MAC) System Guide
- State Emergency Plan
- Emergency Animal and Food Disposal Guidance (in progress; EF-8, EF-10, and EF-11)
- CONOPS (Concept of operations) for Radiation and Nuclear Incidents (EF-8, EF-10, EF-11, and Radiation Preparedness Branch at Cal EMA)

## II. TRAINING & EDUCATION

Throughout the 2012 calendar year, ERMaC member agencies conducted or attended the following training and exercise events.

- February 7, 2012: Presentation, Certified Unified Program (CUPA) Annual Meeting. "California Air Response Planning Alliance", Burlingame, CA. Shelley DuTeaux (ARB) and John Kennedy (U.S. EPA).
- February 21, 2012 and April 12, 2012 Training, California Air Response Planning Alliance (CARPA). "GC/MS and Infrared Technologies for Field-Based Emergency Air Monitoring Training". ARB's Monitoring and Laboratory Division, Sacramento, CA. Training provided by ARB's Office of Emergency Response in conjunction with Smiths Detection and GasMet Technologies.
- March 2012: Poster Presentations, Society of Toxicology Annual Meeting. "Development of Preliminary Indoor Clearance Levels for Chemical Warfare Agents for Emergency Preparedness" by Karen Riveles (OEHHA) and "Airborne Radiation Monitoring in California following the 2011 Fukushima Disaster." By Shelley DuTeaux, (ARB), San Francisco, CA.
- March 20-21, 2012: Training, Air Monitoring for Emergency Response, Training provided by US EPA Region 9 at US Coast Guard, Hamilton Field Station with U.S. EPA.
- April 2012: Cal/EPA, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, and the United States Coast Guard training on the Japanese Tsunami Debris Response planning and coordination effort.
- April 17-19, 2012: Presentations, "Social Media in Hazmat Emergency Response," "Incompatible Chemicals" and "Regulatory Agency Matrix for Transportation Emergencies." Coastal Region Hazardous Materials Response Organization (CRHMRO) Hazardous Materials Transportation Training and Exercise Conference. Richmond, CA.
- May 24, 2012: Health and Safety Training for Ammonia Release Emergencies, Salinas Valley Ammonia Safety Day for commercial growers and first responders, Salinas, CA.
- May 24, 2012: Roseville Fire / Placer County Mass Casualty Incident (MCI) Exercise. -Members of Cal/EPA's ERMaC participated as players and subject matter experts in an exercise in Roseville, California involving an ammonia spill including air monitoring, modeling, meteorology, and toxicology consultation. Roseville, CA.

- May 31, 2012: Presentation, “Volcanic Health Effects and Risk Assessment.” coordinated by California Air Response Planning Alliance and presented by Drs. Bernadette Longo (University of Nevada-Reno) and Margaret Mangan (United States Geological Survey).
- June 2012: Training, Annual HazMat Technician/Specialist Level B Refresher class at CSTI, San Luis Obispo, CA.
- September 2012: Presentations, “You have Cal/EPA in your ICS”, “Tsunami Marine Debris Response: What’s in Store for California?”, “Emergency Public Communication Workshop, and “Public Health Assessment Following Chemical Releases” Continuing Challenge HazMat Workshop, Courses presented by ERMaC members. Sacramento, CA.
- October 18, 2012: Drill Great California ShakeOut Earthquake Drill, Cal/EPA, Sacramento, CA.

### **III. PUBLICATIONS, PLANS, GUIDANCE DOCUMENTS & REVIEWS**

- August 2012 Submitted application for Homeland Security Grant Application 2012 for CalEMA.
- December 2012: Finalized report “California Preliminary Clearance Values for Chemical Warfare Agents”.
- Ongoing: Developing Guidance Document, “Emergency Animal and Food Disposal Guidance”.
- Guidance Document, “Japan Tsunami Marine Debris (JTMD) Contamination Assessment Guidelines:”  
<http://www.calepa.ca.gov/Disaster/Documents/Tsunami/JapanAssess.pdf>
- JTMD Volunteer Beach Clean Up Guidelines:  
<http://www.calepa.ca.gov/Disaster/Documents/Tsunami/JapanRemoval.pdf>
- The California Cascadia Subduction Zone Earthquake and Tsunami Response Plan
- The Climate Adaptation Strategy
- The Emergency Management Mutual Aid Plan

## Webpages:

- Cal/EPA Emergency Response webpage. Significant updates and a new design for ERMaC's emergency response "disaster" webpage including information on: animal disposal, avian influenza, California HazMat and Oil Emergency Function (EF-10), debris removal, drought declaration, fire response and recovery, heat alert information, tsunami debris information, and resources and document library with a useful links section. (<http://www.calepa.ca.gov/Disaster/>)
- Japan Tsunami Marine Debris (JTMD) webpages: Cal/EPA workgroup created webpages with partner agencies.
  - Joint Information Center: <http://disasterdebris.wordpress.com/>
  - National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration JTMD: <http://marinedebris.noaa.gov/tsunamidebris/>

## IV. APPENDICIES

### APPENDIX A: ACRONYM GUIDE

ARB	Air Resources Board
BAER	Burned Area Emergency Response
BDO	Board, Department, or Office
BSE	Bovine Spongiform Encephalitis
CalEMA	California Emergency Management Agency
Cal/EPA	California Environmental Protection Agency
CalRecycle	Department of Resources, Recycling, and Recovery
CCC	California Conservation Corps
CCEDH	California Conference of Directors of Environmental Health
CDFA	California Department of Food and Agriculture
CDPH	California Department of Public Health
CESA	California Emergency Services Act of 2006
CONOPS	Concept of Operations
CUPA	Certified Unified Program Agencies
DFW	Department of Fish and Wildlife
DPR	Department of Pesticide Regulation
DTSC	Department of Toxic Substances Control
EF-3	Construction and Engineering Emergency Function Workgroup
EF-5	Management Emergency Function Workgroup
EF-7	Resources Emergency Function Workgroup

EF-8	Public Health and Medical Services Emergency Function Workgroup
EF-10	Hazardous Materials and Oil Emergency Function Workgroup
EF-11	Agriculture and Natural Resources Emergency Function Workgroup
ERMaC	Emergency Response and Management Committee
HazMat	Hazardous Materials
JIC	Joint Information Center
JTMD	Japan Tsunami Marine Debris
MAC	Multi-agency Coordination
MCI	Mass Casualty Incident
NIMS	National Incident Management System
OEHHA	Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment
OER	Office of Emergency Response
OSPR	Office of Oil Spill Prevention and Response
PG&E	Pacific Gas and Electric
RAPID	Railroad Accident Prevention and Immediate Deployment
SEMS	Standardized Emergency Management System
SEP	State Emergency Plan
SWRCB	State Water Resources Control Board
USDA	United States Department of Agriculture
U.S. EPA	United States Environmental Protection Agency
USFS	United States Forest Service

## **APPENDIX B. ERMaC Member and Supporting/Collaborating Agencies:**

### ***Member Agencies:***

#### **Cal/EPA**

Cal/EPA, the Office of the Secretary, currently has a retired annuitant (RA) filling the position (half-time) as the Cal/EPA Emergency Response Manager. This manager position coordinates and administers Cal/EPA's Emergency Response Management Program, which requires the coordination between Cal/EPA's six (6) Boards, Departments, and Offices (BDOs) emergency preparedness and response activities, the preparation of Agency and BDO emergency plans and coordination between other state, federal and local agencies to effectively mitigate, prepare for, and cohesively respond and rapidly recover from major disasters involving hazardous materials emergencies throughout State. The Cal/EPA RA also serves as the Chairperson of the Cal/EPA Emergency Response Management Committee (ERMaC), and as the Lead Agency coordinator for oil and hazardous materials response and recovery actions under the Emergency Function 10 (EF-10) Hazardous Materials and Oil Emergencies Annex to the State Emergency Plan (SEP). The ERMaC was established to ensure that Cal/EPA's BDOs carry out emergency response planning, preparation, and incident response functions in a coordinated and effective manner.

#### **Air Resources Board (ARB)**

ARB is focused on protecting both first responders and downwind communities in the event of an unanticipated airborne chemical release or other emergency that impacts air quality. ARB provides technical assistance to federal, state, and local response partners including the collection and analysis of air monitoring and sampling data and providing meteorological and plume modeling forecasts. ARB is also a founding member of the California Air Response Planning Alliance (CARPA), an ad hoc governmental alliance with the mission of increasing California's capacity to respond to toxic airborne events.

#### **Department of Pesticide Regulation (DPR)**

The mission of DPR is to protect human health and the environment by regulating pesticide sales and use, and by fostering reduced risk pest management.

#### **Department of Resources Recycling & Recovery (CalRecycle) (by MOU)**

CalRecycle is responsible for the regulation of solid waste facilities in California to include landfills, closed disposal sites, transfer stations and other solid waste processing facilities. CalRecycle's regulations are enforced by Local Enforcement Agencies which are generally County & City Environmental Health Programs. CalRecycle provides technical expertise to LEAs and other government agencies on the management of disaster debris including characterization, reduction/recycling processes, transportation and disposal. In some special cases

(Governor's Office Direction), CalRecycle has managed debris removal operations (Angora, San Bruno) through its Solid Waste Clean-up Program contracts.

### **Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC)**

The mission of DTSC's Emergency Response Program (ERP) is to provide statewide response to actual and potential releases of hazardous substances that pose an acute threat to public health and/or the environment, including clandestine drug labs. The ERP interacts with a number of other state, federal and local agencies in carrying out these emergency response activities. The Emergency Response Program responds statewide to calls requesting DTSC assistance for emergency removals from illegal/ clandestine drug labs and other Hazardous Materials (HazMat) emergencies. Requests for assistance are handled by the ERP's Emergency Response Duty Officers.

### **Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment (OEHHA)**

OEHHA provides toxicological expertise and public health recommendations during all phases of emergency management. OEHHA aids in emergency situations by providing emergency personnel with information on the health effects of chemical agents and characterizing the risk to the public and environment from chemical releases. OEHHA also identifies different exposure scenarios and potential health effects and provides information about exposure levels and assistance with decisions about sheltering-in-place, evacuation, and re-entry.

### **State Water Resources Board (SWRCB)**

The State Water Resources Control Board's mission is to ensure the highest reasonable quality water and divide it to achieve a balance of beneficial uses. The joint authority of water allocation and water quality protection enables the State Board to provide comprehensive protection for California's water. The State Water Board works in coordination with the Regional Water Boards to preserve, protect, enhance and restore water quality.

## ***ERMaC Supporting and Collaborating Agencies:***

### **California Emergency Management Agency (Cal EMA)**

CalEMA promotes collaboration between Cal/EPA and other State agencies by offering insight to State-wide emergency response and emergency management perspectives in relation to planning, operations, training, reporting and financial assistance.

### **California Department of Food & Agriculture (CDFA)**

CDFA emergency preparedness and response functions address health-related incidents potentially effecting the state's food supply and commercial agricultural interests, including incidents effecting dairy, livestock, poultry, feed and crop production. Agricultural emergencies involve disposal of livestock carcasses and food during natural disasters, livestock specific disasters, and other incidents involving disease or contamination. CDFA monitors these incidents, provides updated information to the involved agencies, and coordinates activities as necessary.

### **Department of Fish & Wildlife (DFW) Office of Oil Spill Prevention & Recovery (OSPR)**

Protecting fisheries and wildlife habitats, DFW wardens act as incident commanders and investigators on numerous oil spills and hazardous material incidents throughout California.

### **California Department of Public Health (CDPH)**

Members of the CDPH Division of Environmental and Occupational Disease Control (DEODC) and the Emergency Planning and Preparedness Team (EPP Team) serve as liaisons between Cal/EPA and CDPH by providing insight into public health perspectives in relationship to hazardous materials incidents.

### **U.S. EPA Region IX**

U.S. EPA Region IX's Emergency Response Program - with federal on scene coordinators (OSCs) based in San Francisco, Signal Hill and Carson City, NV - responds to environmental disasters, hazardous materials releases, time-critical removals, and inland oil spills that threaten human health or the environment. OSCs bring considerable federal authority and resources, as authorized under their governing statues (CERCLA, OPA, and CWA), to assist state and local agencies in emergency response, removal, and recovery incidents.

## **APPENDIX C: ERMaC HISTORY & AUTHORITIES**

### ***History***

In its relatively brief history Cal/EPA has risen to the challenge of major environmental emergency events. The beginnings of its interdisciplinary approach to emergency response can be traced back to the year of the Agency's formation in 1991. That year, the Cantara Loop, five miles north of Dunsmuir was the site of a tragic train derailment and toxic chemical spill into the upper Sacramento River. The public outcry for improved response from emergency responders to such incidents gave rise to the Railroad Accident Prevention and Immediate Deployment (RAPID) program. ERMaC owes its origin to RAPID. Though the RAPID program was eventually disbanded, ERMaC has evolved in its place as the interdisciplinary forum of choice for coordinating Cal/EPA's emergency response and recovery efforts.

In 1998, Gerald G. Johnston, Cal/EPA's then-Deputy Secretary for Law Enforcement and Counsel, called for Agency BDOs to designate representatives to the Cal/EPA Emergency Response Multi-Agency Coordinating (ERMaC) Group. His memorandum provided the initial mission statement and objectives for ERMaC. Subsequent to Governor Davis's issuance of Executive Order D-3-99, the ERMaC focused on preparation for the Y2K calendar change.

With the Westley Tire Fire disaster in 1999, Undersecretary Brian Haddix refocused the working group on traditional disaster response scenarios. This iteration of ERMaC was known as the Emergency Response Management Advisory Committee. Later, under the leadership of current Assistant Secretary Don Johnson, ERMaC focused on developing administrative orders and emergency plans for the BDOs with the assistance of CalEMA. After several years of effective service and realizing a role that was far more than advisory, ERMaC was renamed as the Emergency Response Management Committee (ERMaC). It adopted its first operating charter in 2004.

### ***Statutory & Administrative Authorities***

The California Emergency Services Act of 2006 (CESA) enacted a major update and consolidation of the State's pre-existing emergency preparedness and response laws and executive orders. It required that all State agencies carry out activities assigned by the Governor and CalEMA (formerly the Office of Emergency Services). State agencies must cooperate with one another, CalEMA and other political subdivisions to prepare for, respond to, and mitigate the effects of regional and statewide emergencies, as declared by the Governor. The statutory duties of ERMaC members under CESA are aligned with their routine functional responsibilities for environmental protection.

## **APPENDIX D: Administrative Orders**

The primary tools for defining CESA responsibilities are BDO-specific Administrative Orders. Administrative Orders refer to documents approved by Cal/EPA and CalEMA describing the roles, responsibilities, and authorities of the respective agencies during State emergencies. Administrative Orders, prepared under the authority of the Governor's Executive Order W-9-91 and subsequent law, expand upon and consolidate emergency assignments of State agencies. Cal/EPA and its BDOs first developed collective Administrative Orders in 2002.

Each agency and BDO also develops an Emergency Response Plan that must be consistent with the provisions of the applicable Administrative Orders and the statutory authorities of the individual agency. CalEMA also reviews and approves these plans, in accordance with California's Standardized Emergency Management System (SEMS) and the National Response Framework, to accomplish assigned emergency management tasks. Agency plans may delegate authority and assign responsibilities to divisions, bureaus, field offices, or other elements of the agency. State agencies must ensure that all personnel assigned specific responsibilities in support of this plan are adequately trained and prepared to assume those responsibilities.

Cal/EPA and the BDOs chartered ERMaC in 2004 as the forum for developing and maintaining the Cal/EPA collective Administrative Orders and Emergency Response Plans. ERMaC's mission is to effectively manage the public health and environmental consequences of emergency events through coordinated, agency-wide preparedness, response, recovery, and mitigation activities. ERMaC is responsible for emergency planning and training, and coordinates all Cal/EPA entities responding to and recovering from emergencies.

ERMaC's 2012 Work Plan includes reviewing and recommending updates to the Administrative Orders and Emergency Response plans, consistent with CalEMA's ongoing update of the State Emergency Plan.