

# **FISCAL YEAR 2009 PROJECT Waste Site Cleanup & Brownfields**

## **Oil Spill Act Implementation**

Project Strategy: Improve response to coastal oil spills through strategies to protect sensitive coastal resource including: training of local and state staff, improved planning and preparedness; increased coordination of federal, state, and local response capabilities; and local access to response equipment.

Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (Mass DEP) has engaged NEWMOA and other contractors to assist in implementing a recently enacted Oil Spill Prevention and Remediation Law. The law includes preventive measures addressing marine oil transport safety and provides funds to assist with planning, equipment, and training to protect sensitive coastal resource areas with rapid local response and improved coordination with existing federal and state response programs. NEWMOA has been providing Mass DEP with administrative, technical, and staff support to:

- select, appoint, and support an advisory committee
- develop and implement a training plan for state and local staff
- develop and implement a plan for selecting, purchasing, deploying, and maintaining equipment
- develop and implement plan for updating and validating Geographic Response Plans and providing appropriate technical support capabilities
- facilitate interstate cooperation and coordination

During FY 2007, NEWMOA organized a day-long meeting of state oil spill response program directors; assisted with organizing two Oil Spill Advisory Committee meetings and two Subcommittee meetings by arranging meeting facilities, preparing meeting materials, and recording the proceedings. NEWMOA also assisted with development of the Interim Implementation Plan for the Massachusetts Oil Spill Act. During FY 2008, NEWMOA organized an Oil Spill Advisory Committee meeting in October and an oil spill containment equipment deployment exercise for 15 Buzzards Bay communities. NEWMOA also assisted in developing an Oil Spill Act Strategic 3-5 Year Plan; organized and supported several Subcommittee and Advisory Committee meetings; and provided management, technical, and other staff support to the various activities included in the Strategic Plan.

In FY 2009, NEWMOA will assist MassDEP with: procuring a contractor to provide rescue tug services for tugs and double-hulled oil barges navigating in Buzzards Bay and the Cape Cod Canal; development of a proposed stipend program to mitigate the costs to municipalities of training first responders; updating the 3-5 Year Strategic Plan; organizing Oil Spill Advisory Committee meetings, and planning and implementing response training.

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