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Canadian Coast Guard initiatives

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Canadian Coast Guard Initiatives - Oceans Protection Plan
Initiatives under the Oceans Protection Plan

- Prevention: Managing Waterways for Safety
- Response: Preparing for and Responding to Emergencies
- Preserving and Restoring Marine Ecosystems
- Indigenous Partnerships
- Stronger Evidence Base

- Oceans Protection Plan initiatives range across the four priority areas.
- Some initiatives involve multiple departments/agencies.
- Many are linked to other initiatives.
- Complex environment; will use a variety of methods to engage.
More radar capacity for safer navigation

• Six new RADAR sites will be constructed to address coverage gaps in existing Vessel Traffic Service zones. This will improve the vessel traffic picture along the BC Coast.

• Engagement will continue throughout project activities.
Response Planning

• Collaboratively developing Response Plans throughout the Coast that clarifies roles and responsibilities, is driven by science and local knowledge and reflects Coast Guard’s retention of incident command
Enhancing 24/7 response capacity

- CCG already maintains 24/7 Search and Rescue, Marine Communications, Environmental Response and other program operations.

- 24/7 capacity is being established in Coast Guard’s three Regional Operations Centres (ROCs) in Victoria, BC, Montreal, Quebec, and St. John’s, Newfoundland. The ROC in Victoria has already commenced limited 24/7 operations. The 24/7 posture is bolstering on-water monitoring, coordination and support to programs.
Response: Preparing for and Responding to Emergencies

Modernize response equipment
- Upgrade assets like booms, vessels, and clean-up technologies
- New mobile command posts and communications equipment

New logistics depot
- In Port Hardy, to house environmental response staff and equipment for rapid response to spills

Enhanced search and rescue capacity
- Four new lifeboat stations on the west coast
Indigenous Community Response Teams

- Training for Indigenous communities to gain skills in search and rescue, environmental response, and incident management.

Expand duties and training of the Canadian Coast Guard Auxiliary

- A new chapter of the Coast Guard Auxiliary, a network of volunteers that supports maritime search and rescue, will be created in BC to support Indigenous communities.
Increased Emergency Tow Capacity

- This project will strengthen proactive monitoring and response capacity on the water via increased towing capacity by:
  - leasing two towing capable vessels for operations on the West Coast. The first vessel will be in service in 2018 and the second in 2019.
  - Having towing equipment available for major CCG Vessels
Abandoned Boats / Vessels of Concern

- Several related initiatives with the objective of reducing the number of abandoned and wrecked vessels
- Focus on preventing occurrence, & clean up of existing problem
- Two funding programs launched

Next steps - New legislation fall 2017, targeted national engagement 2017/18, development of national inventory
Indigenous Partnerships

• Advancing reconciliation by building partnerships with Indigenous groups in a number of areas including:
  – understanding the effects of shipping;
  – creating local vessel control areas to minimize safety risks and/or environmental impacts;
  – updating and modernizing regulations and other tools to respond to community issues related to marine traffic;
  – setting habitat restoration priorities;
  – taking the most appropriate measures when monitoring clean-up, in the event of a spill; and
  – developing training programs to increase participation of Indigenous group members, particularly women, in marine safety jobs.
Questions & Contacts

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