

PROPS Committee Update

The Prevention, Response, Operations and Safety (PROPS) Committee met in Nikiski at the Cook Inlet Spill Prevention and Response, Inc. facility on August 15. At the meeting, Hilcorp Alaska presented their annual voluntary sub-sea pipeline report and the committee elected a chair and vice chair, as well as designated voting directors.

The Committee also received an update by staff on the most recent Ice Forecasting Network camera installation, as well as industry updates from Furie Operating Alaska, Hilcorp Alaska, Crowley Marine, and Apache. Following the meeting, the committee toured the Cook Inlet Spill Prevention and Response Inc. (CISPRI) facilities in Nikiski.



Ice Forecasting Camera Network

With an appropriation from the State of Alaska, staff is seeking to update and expand the camera network: two cameras that fit the criteria to be updated are cameras mounted at the ASRC and OSK (Offshore Facility Kenai) facilities. Remaining funds will be used to cover recurring expenses for operating the system and maintenance.

Installing a camera on the Kenai River

The Alaska Ocean Observing System (AOOS) has also approved funding for a camera at the mouth of the Kenai River to provide images of freshwater ice exiting the River. This camera will be the first within the ice camera network to make images publicly accessible. Other partners on the Kenai River camera project include the City of Kenai, for providing the best location for the camera, power and internet service; and Homer Electric Association (HEA) for providing a utility pole for the camera to be mounted on. Cook Inlet RCAC has also been approached by the Marine Exchange of Alaska about installing an Automatic Identification System (AIS) transmitter and weather sensor on the same pole. AIS transceivers receive and re-broadcast information from vessels in the immediate vicinity, allowing them to be easily identified by other mariners and to track vessel movements. The weather sensor collects real-time weather data to give mariners nearly live weather observations for the area. Both components will add a new level of awareness and safety for vessels transiting the Inlet.

Industry

Furie has begun installing a gas platform with **Crowley Marine** running the marine operations.

Cook Inlet RCAC staff observed a series of drills conducted by **Hilcorp Alaska**, to test their Exploration, Operation and Production plans.

Apache has been conducting seismic work in the Inlet, although they suspended operations during this year's drift fleet fishing season. Apache plans to continue seismic work in 2015, with the possibility of beginning exploration drilling.

For more information about the PROPS Committee, contact Steve "Vinnie" Catalano at 907-283-7222 or by email at catalano@circac.org.