



Dispersant Use Position Update

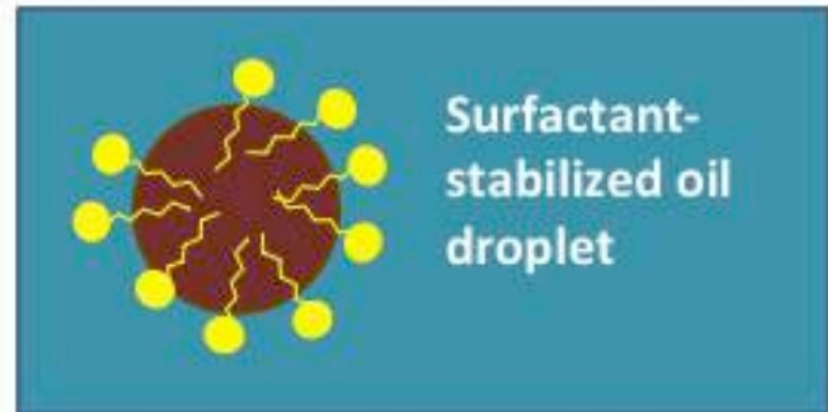
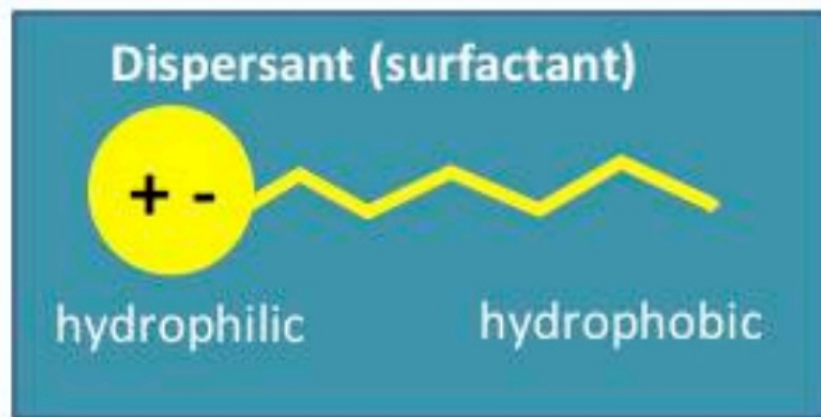
Project Update to PWSRCAC Board of
Directors May 6, 2022

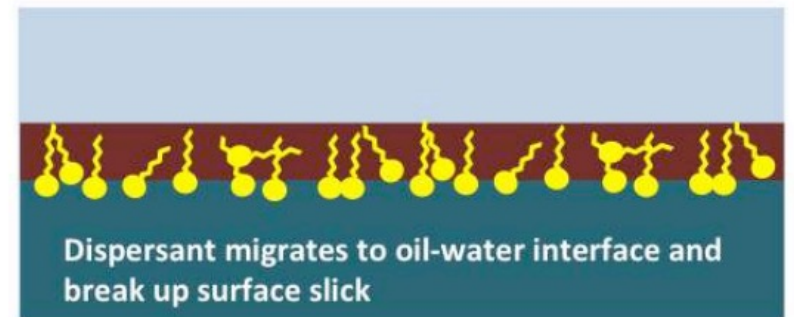
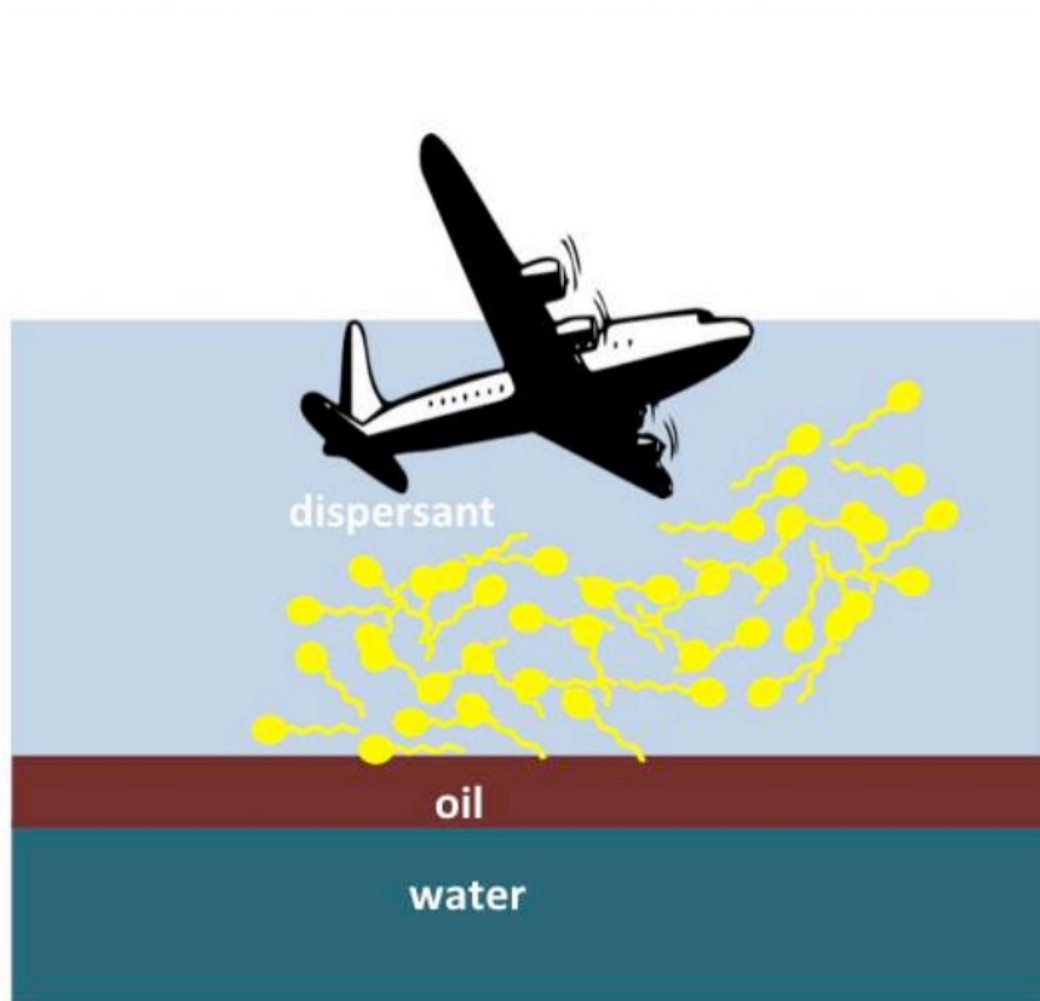
Project Orientation

- Background & Context
- Recap of March 10th Board Workshop
- Follow-up Workshops (May-June 2022)
- Timeline and milestones for updating PWSRCAC Dispersant Use Position and supplemental materials



Introduction to Dispersants







Why Update Position?

- 25 years of Dispersant Literature Reviews
- 12 years of science since Deepwater Horizon
- 9 years since last SAC review of supporting materials
- 16 years since last Board position update

Project Approach

- Long timeline
- Multiple opportunities to discuss, engage, consider
- Present all sides of the issue
- Ensure all Board Members have level of comfort with updated position
- Evidence-based rationale for position
 - Written supporting materials



Board Workshop Recap

- March 10th – half day Zoom
- 9 Board members (including 1 *ex officio*)
- Pre-workshop survey to understand starting point
- Workshop Objectives:
 - Review current Council position on Dispersant Use
 - Review recommendations from Dispersants Project Team and SAC
 - Consider position update options

Topics for Follow Up Conversation

- **Understanding the science**

- How do dispersants work?
- What happens once dispersants and dispersed oil enter the marine environment?
- How settled and certain is the science?
- What have we learned since Deepwater Horizon?

- **Pros and cons of dispersant use vs. mechanical recovery**

- What are the “trade-offs” that decision-makers consider?
- Is dispersed oil ever really “gone” from the environment?
- What are the factors that make dispersants more or less effective?

Position Options Discussed at Workshop

1. Retain existing position with expanded documentation on scientific rationale for opposing dispersant use
2. Retain existing position with expanded rationale on why mechanical recovery is preferred response method
3. Retain existing position with focus on dispersant effectiveness in the EVOS region
4. Expand on current position to establish thresholds for dispersant use in EVOS region
5. No longer advocate for or against dispersant use

Varying levels of support for 1-4.
No support for 5.

Next Steps

1

May – June 2022

Workshop series to explore issues of interest to Board

2

Summer 2022

Follow-up meetings with Project Team & SAC

3

September 2022

Draft position statement for *review and discussion*

4

Fall 2022

Draft position statement and supporting documents refined by Project Team & SAC

5

January 2023

Dispersant Use Position and supporting materials *for approval*

Workshop Series



**Workshop #1: The
Room Where it
Happens**



**Workshop #2:
Evaluating Trade-offs**



**Workshop #3:
Demystifying
Dispersant Science**

Workshop #1: The Room Where it Happens



Provide insight into the decision-making mindset within Unified Command when dispersants are being considered as a response option.

May 25, 1:00pm – 3:00pm

Guest Participants: Dispersant Decision-making Subject Matter Experts from ADEC, NOAA, USCG, and EPA

Workshop #2: Evaluating Trade-offs



Explore the topic of trade-offs by considering various decision-making factors through a series of hypothetical scenarios and “what if” questions.

June 2, 10:00am – 12:00pm

Workshop #3: Demystifying Dispersant Science



Review the major themes from PWSRCAC dispersant science literature reviews in order to focus PWSRCAC's position on strong evidence-based support.

June 10, 1:00pm – 3:00pm

Guest Participants: Facilitated Q&A session with Dr. Merv Fingas and Gary Shigenaka



Questions?
