



"The mission of the Council is to represent the citizens of Cook Inlet in promoting environmentally safe marine transportation and oil facility operations in Cook Inlet"

*Members*

*Alaska State  
Chamber of  
Commerce*

*Alaska Native  
Groups*

*Environmental  
Groups*

*Recreational  
Groups*

*Aquaculture  
Associations*

*Fishing  
Organizations*

*City of Kodiak*

*City of Kenai*

*City of Seldovia*

*City of Homer*

*Kodiak Island  
Borough*

*Kenai Peninsula  
Borough*

*Municipality  
of Anchorage*

PRESS RELEASE

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CIRCAC ANNOUNCES NEW OIL SPILL RESPONSE TOOL PROTOTYPE

Cook Inlet Regional Citizens Advisory Council (CIRCAC) is pleased to showcase the prototype for the Geographic Response Information Network (GRIN) and invite those interested in spill response to review the latest enhancements at: [www.nukaresearch/grin](http://www.nukaresearch/grin).

GRIN provides reference information to oil spill response personnel about resources, capabilities, and infrastructure along Alaska's coastal communities. The GRIN Project takes existing information from a number of sources, supplements that information as needed, and compiles both electronic and paper documents that allow the user to easily locate and view logistical information relevant to oil spill response in coastal Alaska.

During larger coordinated responses, some personnel may arrive at the scene unfamiliar with the local conditions and resources. The first days of a response are critical and spending that time gathering basic logistic, safety, and contact information can frustrate personnel and diminish the effectiveness of the response. Much of the information compiled in GRIN is available publicly through web sites, phone directories, and local emergency response manuals. However, GRIN improves on this by sifting through the information and compiling it in a familiar form that matches the Incident Command structure used in a response. Information in the GRIN is also organized by community so incident personnel assigned to a specific area can access a broad range of community-specific information in one central location.

Instead of relying on text-only descriptions of resources, GRIN uses maps, photos, and diagrams to provide responders with a visual reference to accompany textual information. CIRCAC contractor Nuka Research developed GRIN with funding and support from both CIRCAC and Tesoro Alaska. The prototype is available online and the final product will be both web-available and portable via CD or DVD so responders can use the tool without web access.

We look forward to developing this valuable project throughout the region and invite those interested to view the first completed site at [www.nukaresearch.com/grin](http://www.nukaresearch.com/grin).