

# Geographic Response Strategies

Geographic Response Strategies (GRS) are oil spill response plans tailored to protect a specific sensitive area from impacts following a spill. These map-based response plans show responders where sensitive areas are located and where to place spill protection resources.

GRS sites are selected by a workgroup often comprised of scientists, government representatives, and area stakeholders. The workgroup bases each selection on the following criteria:

- Environmental sensitivity
- Risk of impact from an oil spill
- Feasibility of protecting the site

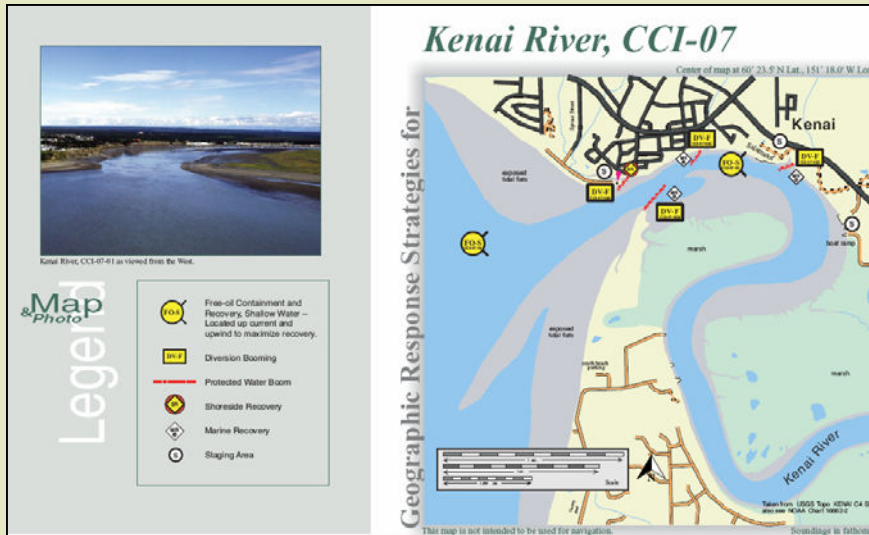
Once GRS site selection is finalized the workgroup develops the appropriate strategy to protect the location. Often, the strategy is ground tested by deploying spill response equipment and personnel as though an actual spill has occurred.



## Harbor Specific GRS

By utilizing the templates of GRS and the Clean Harbors and Marinas initiative, Cook Inlet RCAC is developing a program that will facilitate pollution response within harbor areas. The program will enable responders, users, managers, and regulators to clean up the harbor areas efficiently and will aid in the prevention of future incidents.

When established, this program will provide a cleaner harbor environment and will provide a template for other small harbors and marinas around the state or nationwide.



## GRS Statewide



Map from [www.dec.state.ak.us](http://www.dec.state.ak.us)

Cook Inlet is not the only region utilizing the GRS model. GRS sites have been developed, or are in development, in 9 of 10 subdivisions across Alaska.

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