

**S O S**

# **Seldovia Oil Spill Response Team**

**A Local Emergency Response  
Team**

**1989-Present**

**WE ARE STILL HERE.**



## Background

- Membership organization
- Volunteer board-7 members
- One part-time underpaid staff

- Fishing/tourism based economy
- Exxon Valdez
  - Seldovia mobilized
  - Made 40,000 ft. boom
  - Developed a skimming task force
  - 100K gallons of oily waste
- SOS formed by workers
- State-wide support

# INTRODUCTION

The Mission of the Seldovia Oil Spill Team (SOS Team) is to serve as a community-based response team dedicated to protecting the environment through oil spill education, prevention, preparedness, and response.



The Vision of the SOS Team is that an effective and efficient network of community-based response teams exist along the Alaska coast to protect the sensitive resources of the coastline and to aid each other, the State, USCG and other local, regional and industry oil spill cooperatives in times of need.

## Purpose

The purpose of this Business Development Plan (hereinafter called the "Plan") is to chart a way forward for the Board of Directors to achieve the organizational goals set forth below. These goals are structured in such a way so as to ensure a fully funded and functional response team continues in the community of Seldovia.

This Plan restates the mission and vision of the SOS Team, establishes goals and lists objectives to be accomplished, serves as a measurement tool in accomplishing these goals, and outlines a suggested method to facilitate a conversation with the rest of the oil spill response community in Alaska about the need and role for community-based response teams.

## Background

The Seldovia Response Team is a not-for-profit oil spill response organization located in Seldovia, Alaska, 14 miles southwest of Homer and across Kachemak Bay.

Seldovia was established as a center of commercial fishing in the late 1800s and is one of the oldest towns in Alaska. Seldovia remains a "fishing village" but in recent years tourism has become an important part of the economy for this community of 300 residents. Seldovia is also home to the Seldovia Village Tribe of Alaskan Natives that have lived in the area for thousands of years. The people of Seldovia hold strong feelings about the coastal shoreline and waters that have provided the townspeople with their subsistence, livelihood, recreation and lifestyle for as long as anyone can remember.

In 1989, crude oil from the grounding of the *Exxon Valdez* threatened the coast and waters around Seldovia on the southern Kenai Peninsula. The town fathers responded to the approaching spill by organizing virtually everyone in

## Mission:

To serve as a community based response team dedicated to protecting the environment through spill education, prevention, preparedness, and response.

# Actions

- 35+ responses
- F/V American Eagle
- F/V Susitna
- M/V Husky II
- KPBSD School Spill
- Battery Retrieval
- Harbor sinkings
- Home heating tanks
- Hazwoper training
- GRS Deployment

# GOALS

The SOS Team has established four primary and five complementing goals to successfully complete its mission. These goals are listed below and discussed in detail later in this Plan.

## Primary Goals:

1. Continue to train and maintain an effective oil spill response team in Seldovia.
2. Acquire and maintain equipment needed for a community-based oil spill response depot, including boom, skimmers, sorbents and recovered oily liquids storage systems.
3. Train and maintain an Incident Management Team.
4. Educate the community on oil spill prevention, preparedness and response strategies.

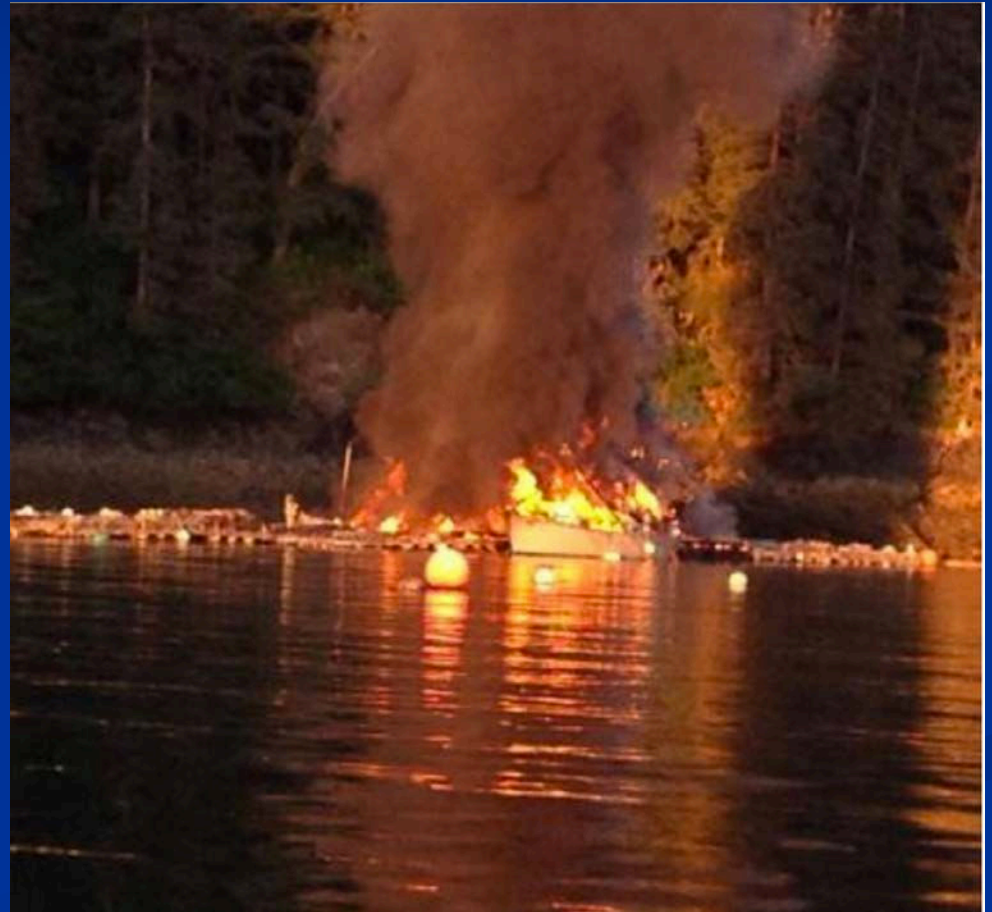
## Complementing Goals:

5. Develop and grow a financially viable and accountable non-profit oil spill response cooperative.
6. Provide assistance to other community response teams and local, state and federal emergency response agencies.
7. Maintain a positive public image.
8. Continue to develop an effective Board of Directors.
9. Provide job and volunteer opportunities for local residents.



- Continue to train and maintain an effective spill response team
- Acquire and maintain equipment needed for a spill response depot
- Train and maintain an Incident Management Team
- Educate the community

# Trained and Effective Local Response





# Thors Hammer gets Hammered

May, 23 2015- spill in Cook Inlet

May, 24 2015- Alaska Chadux mobilizes SOS Response Team







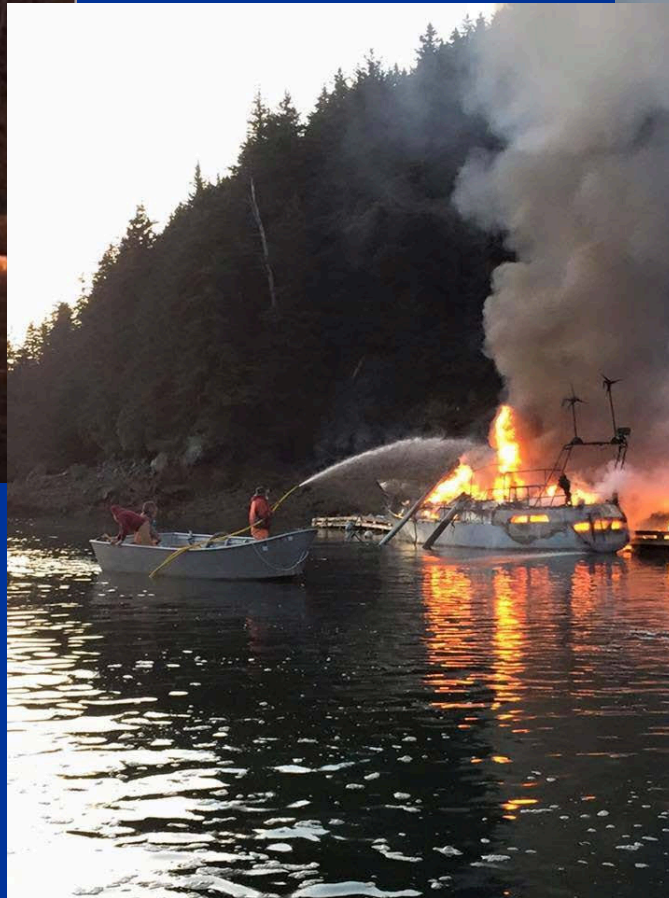
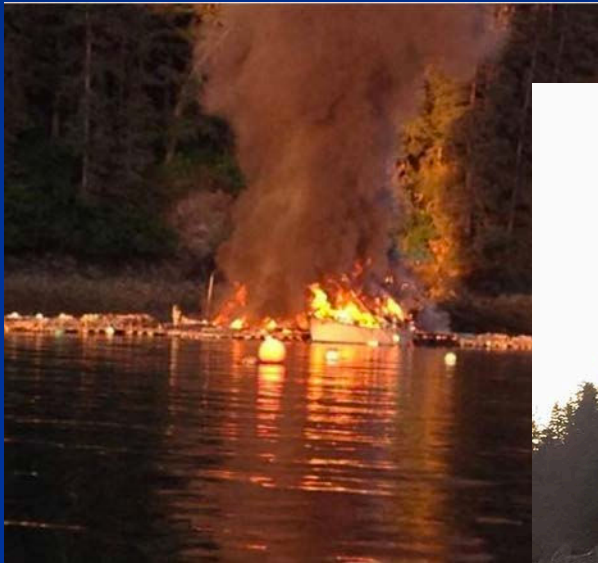




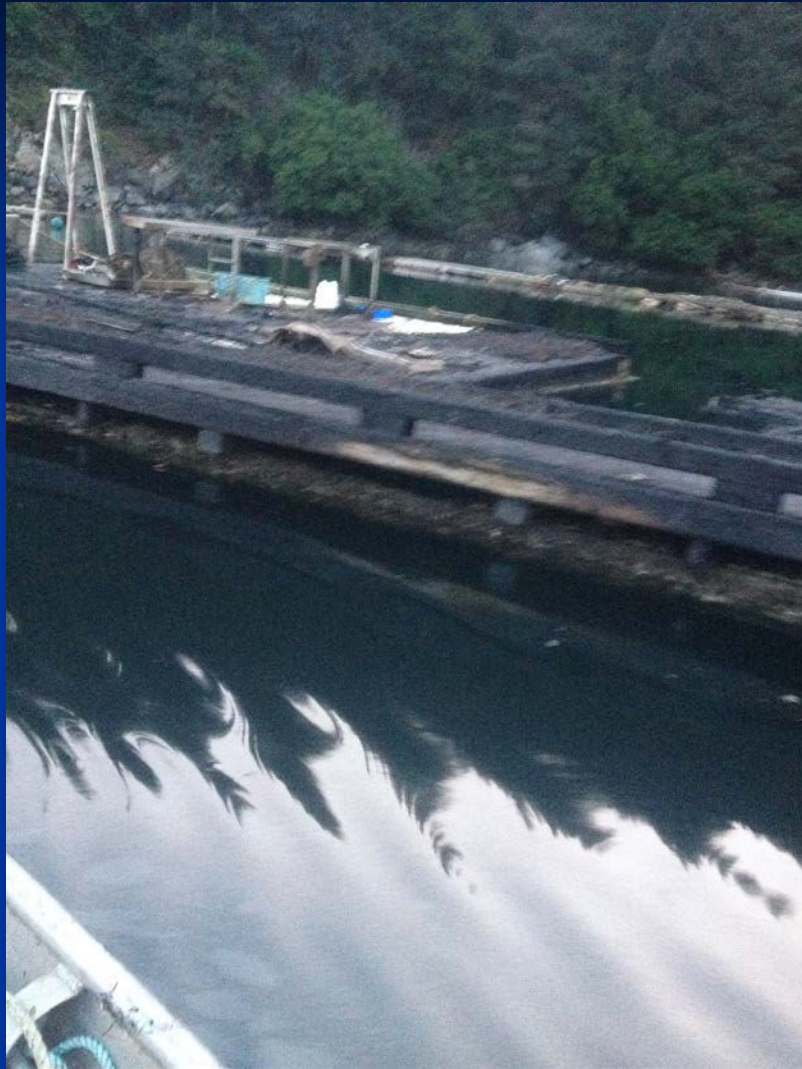


# Jakolof Bay Float Fire

July 19, 2015









# Training Helps



# FUNDING STRATEGY

The first source of funding for the SOS Team has always been from its membership and volunteer Board of Directors. This year, forty members have paid dues totaling over \$1,000.00 and the Board of Directors has committed hundreds of volunteer hours to develop and continue the organization. The City of Seldovia has always supported the SOS Team and will continue to provide in-kind services and some funding through the Local Response Agreement. As detailed above, some of the funding for the organization can be obtained through services performed.

The Board of Directors will encourage others to join in the SOS vision and assist in accomplishing the SOS mission. It is anticipated that the Kenai Peninsula Borough will continue to support the first response capabilities developed by the SOS Team. The SOS Team will continue to work with agencies, such as ADEC, USCG, EPA and the MMS, who have a responsibility to ensure that a response capability exists to protect the sensitive natural resources in Kachemak Bay and the lower Kenai Peninsula.

The Board of Directors will also seek tax-deductible contributions from individuals, institutions, and corporations that support protecting the environment through a grass-roots approach.

Events that cause oil spills are not predictable but the need for spill prevention and response preparedness is constant. The Board of Directors will seek additional funding from the State Legislature, the Alaska Congressional Delegation and others to ensure the long-term capability to carryout the mission of the SOS Team.



Cash Asset-  
+\$50,000

Income by type-

- Response fees
- CISPRI SORC Contract
- Training
- Grants





# Questions?

