U.S. COAST GUARD

District Seventeen

ARCTIC OPERATIONS

Conducting Coast Guard Statutory missions in the Arctic 365 days a year, 7 days a week, 24 hours a day
Success Factors for response efforts with Alaska partners:

- Within Coast Guard mission set (SAR, oil spill response, etc.) generally very good/mature policy, strong common understanding of command/control responsibilities
- Solid, long-term relationships with partners (big State, manageable number of partners)
- Strong spirit of cooperation - both with responders and stakeholders (tribes, state/local govt’s, citizen advisory groups, etc.)
MANAGEMENT OF MARITIME INCIDENTS
(LARGE AND SMALL)

• Challenges to effective cooperative responses:
  • Communications with local community responders
  • Distances involved often preclude resources getting on scene as quickly as anyone would want/expect
  • Extreme/unpredictable weather
  • Limited infrastructure/easily overwhelmed
  • Reduced whole-of-government response capacity

• In a large response, all of these challenges are amplified
MANAGEMENT OF MARITIME INCIDENTS
(LARGE AND SMALL)

• What Coast Guard can bring to the table:
  • Ongoing and persistent presence in the maritime domain
  • Long experience with operating in the Alaskan environment
  • All operational CG forces in Alaska are directly under my control, meant to be deployed regularly in a mobile and expeditionary manner
  • I have reach-back to additional CG assets/capabilities (but it will take a while for them to get here)
  • We are stationed in/provide support to rural Alaska communities every day
Thank You
…and Recap of AS2019 Operations

Mass Rescue Training w/ local responders

FOL Kotzebue Training Flt Diverted for SAR Case, 3 Lives Saved

Kotzebue Commercial Fishing Vessel Safety Enforcement

Logistics Support Flight to establish FOL

Hoist Demo for North Slope SAR

SAR Agency Assist