

INCIDENT BRIEFING (ICS 201)

1. Incident Name:
2025 Boston/Winthrop GRS EX

2. Incident Number:
BW-25

3. Date:
14MAY2025

4. Tactic Map/FR Deployment Drills



5. Situation Summary and Health and Safety Briefing (for briefings or transfer of command):

An oil spill has occurred that threatens **Belle Isle Marsh**. Personnel from **Boston** Fire Department Hazmat Unit, **MassPORT**, and the **Boston** and **Winthrop** Police Departments/Harbormasters will utilize common Geographic Response Strategy (GRS) tactics to protect sensitive resources in **Belle Isle Marsh** and the surrounding area.

6. Prepared by: MassDEP

Position/Title: Exercise Controller

ICS 201, Page 1

Date/Time: 14MAY2025

Updated by MassDEP 2/2023

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7. Current and Planned Objectives:

Program Objective: Demonstrate first responders' ability to execute initial response actions within the first 4-6 hours of an oil spill incident by deploying response equipment and implementing common MassDEP Geographic Response Strategy (GRS) tactics.

Exercise Objective: Complete the deployment of 500 ft of diversion boom with shoreside anchoring on the MassPORT property adjacent to Saratoga Street, as outlined in Section 4.

Tidal Information (approx.) for Boston, MA on 14MAY2025							
HIGH				LOW			
AM	ft	PM	ft	AM	ft	PM	ft
12:48	10.0	1:28	8.8	7:13	0.4	7:18	1.6

Wind Speed	Wind Direction	Wind Average	Air Temp	Sky Condition
10-15 mph	SSW	13 mph	78	Partly cloudy

8. Current and Planned Actions, Strategies, and Tactics:

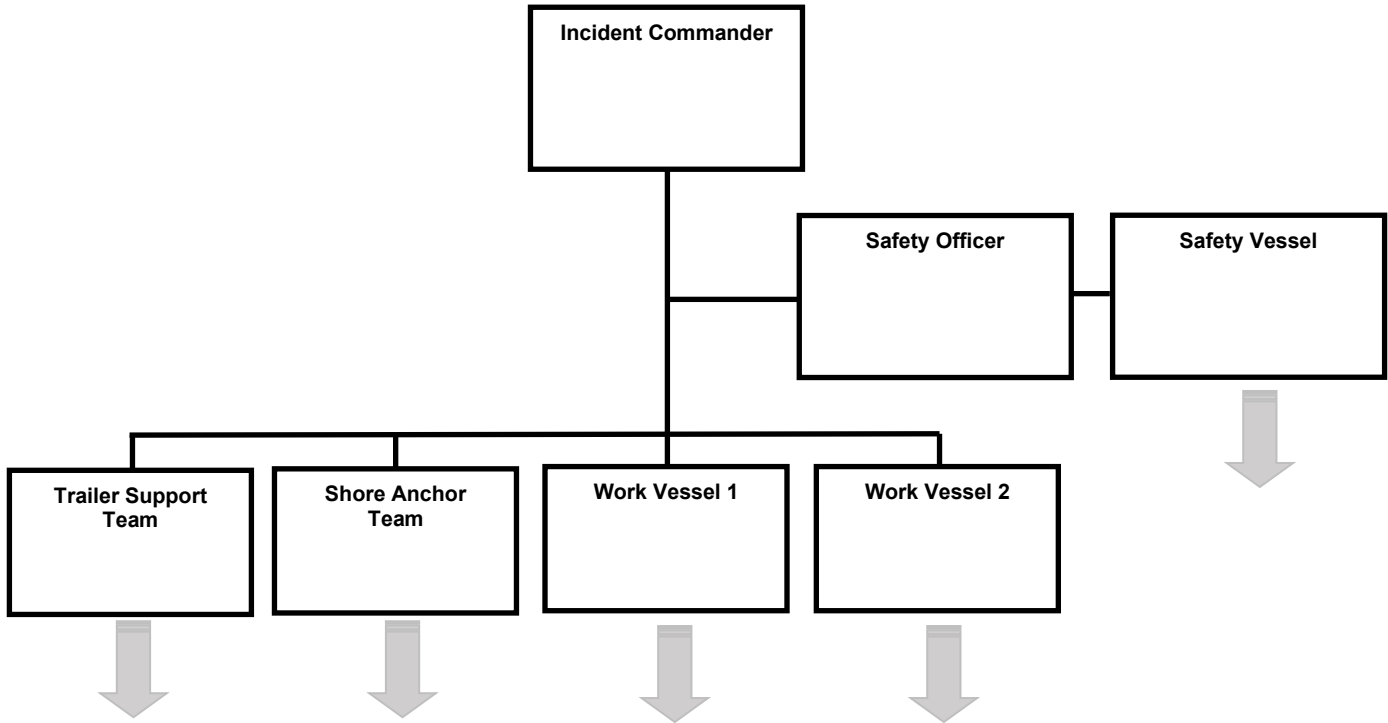
Time:	Actions:
0830	All Personnel Mobilize and Stage Equipment: Orient Heights Yacht Club (61 Bayswater St, East Boston)
0900	Intro, Sign-In, and Exercise Overview
0915	Classroom Session
1015	Trailer Equipment Familiarization and Hands-on Training
1115	LUNCH
1145	Final Safety and Operational Brief
1200	Deploy 500 ft of Diversion (DV) Boom with Shoreside Anchoring on the MassPORT Property Adjacent to Saratoga Street
1345	Demobilize, Rinse, Repack Equipment
1415	Conduct Hot Wash
1430	Secure from Exercise

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ICS 201, Page 2	Date/Time: 14MAY2025

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9. Current Organization (fill in additional organization as appropriate):



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ICS 201, Page 3	Date/Time: 14MAY2025

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10. Resource Summary:		
Resource:	Resource Identifier:	Notes (location/assignment/status):
Boston FD HAZMAT	Personnel	8-10
Boston PD/HM	Personnel	5-7
Winthrop HM	Personnel	2
MassPORT	Personnel	9-11
USCG Sector Boston	Personnel	TBD
MassDEP/MassDEP NERO	Personnel	3-5
Nuka Research	Personnel	2
MER	Personnel	2-3
Marine Unit 2 (20')	Vessel	Boston FD
Center Console (27')	Vessel	Boston PD/HM
Center Console (25')	Vessel	MassPORT
Center Console (25')	Vessel	Winthrop HM
Boom Rinse	Support	Hose on site at Orient Heights Yacht Club
Radios	Support	TBD
MassDEP Trailer – Boston FD HAZMAT	Response Equipment	Deployment and Trailer Training
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ICS 201, Page 4	Date/Time: 14MAY2025	

SAFETY MESSAGE/PLAN (ICS 208)

KNOWN SAFETY HAZARDS:

- **Lines under tension** Boom towing and shoreside anchoring.
- **Pinch points** Connecting boom, boom towing, vessel operations.
- **Heavy lifting** Boom and anchors - observe safe lifting practices.
- **Entanglement** - Working around lines, anchors, and boom during shoreside and on-water deployment operations. Do not stand in the bight of lines or where boom is flaked out for deployment.
- **Loose clothing and jewelry** - Refrain from wearing loose clothing that may snag or become entangled on equipment. Jewelry including necklaces and rings should be removed.
- **Slips, trips, and falls** - Exercise caution in wet, muddy, and rocky areas and when working on piers, docks, or boat ramps near water. When working in, on, or near equipment trailers during boom retrieval and deployment, special precautions must be taken to avoid injury. For example, caution tape (provided in each trailer) should be tied to trailer ramp cables to mark their location.
- **Crushing injuries** - Exercise caution when working with anchors, while driving shoreside stakes with sledge or slide hammers, and when working alongside other vessels to avoid crushing injuries.
- **Vessel Operations** - Exercise caution when working near other vessels in boom deployment, towing, and rigging operations. Use caution when working near outboard motors and propellers.
- **Flotsam and debris** - Exercise Safety Officers shall conduct shoreside walkdowns to identify and remove dangerous objects (glass, sharp materials, or debris washed up on shore) that may endanger participants and/or impede exercise activities. Medical waste should only be retrieved by on-scene medical personnel. Flotsam should only be removed if it can be done safely and only if it impedes exercise activities.
- **Hypothermia** - Dependent on water temperature. If a participant is immersed in water, extricate safely and quickly, and treat them as appropriate.
- **Heat Stress/Stroke** - Dependent upon air temperature and humidity. Exposure may put participants at risk for heat stress, which can result in heat stroke, heat exhaustion, heat cramps, or rashes. Participants exhibiting heat stress symptoms must be treated immediately.

SPECIFIC PRECAUTIONS:

- An Exercise Safety Officer will be identified and responsible for all participant safety.
- First-Aid equipment should be made available. EMTs/Paramedics will be available on-scene.
- Personal Flotation Devices (PFDs) are required for all vessel crews and all shoreside personnel working along shorelines, boat ramps, and piers.
- All working personnel shall wear the appropriate foot gear during operations (waders, steel-toe boots)
- Sufficient personnel shall engage in loading and unloading boom from trailers to prevent injury.
- Hearing protection should be worn when working around generators and air compressors.
- Vessel operators shall conduct a safety brief with passengers to review vessel-specific safety precautions.
- An on-vessel spotter shall be assigned to provide guidance to the vessel operator.
- Utilize fenders when mooring alongside piers/docks and when rafting with other vessels.
- Person overboard - vessel spotter must maintain constant visual contact with the person overboard and provide position and direction assistance to the vessel operator. "Emergency" phrases must be communicated to all exercise participants via radio. Incident Commander will halt all exercise activity.
- Vessel load balancing - Each vessel operator must ensure that personnel and equipment are stationed and distributed appropriately on deck.
- Vessel occupancy – Vessel operators must adhere to the vessel's occupancy limits to avoid overloading.
- Hydration – Participants should ensure they remain properly hydrated throughout the exercise, especially in extreme heat situations. Water will be provided.
- Sunscreen – Participants should ensure proper sunscreen application based on weather conditions.

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ICS 208, Page 1

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Appendix A: Saratoga Street Property Map

The purple outline on the map below indicates all gated areas within MassPORT's Saratoga Street property. Responders should avoid operating in these zones. Shoreside anchoring crews are advised to approach the shoreline directly from their vessels and conduct anchoring operations from that position.

