Safety Plan Update & Discussion

Arctic Safety Waterways Committee
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Background

- Safety Plan initiated when AWSC started in 2014
- Intended to complement existing regulations by advising mariners of conditions and requirements in Arctic Waterways
- Standard of Care Research Vessel Operations was a focus for 2016 and 2017
- Progress slowed in 2018
- Developed plan to complete Plan
Current Status of Safety Plan

- **Section A - Introduction**
  - Purpose
  - Members
  - Geographic Area
  - Indigenous Food Security

- **Section B – General Information**
  - Relevant Regulations
  - Vessel Routing Considerations
  - Communication System and Protocols

- **Section C – Standards of Care**
  - Research Vessels

- In good shape – only minor cleanup
- Needs a lot of work
- Researcher complete
  Need to update general vessels
Section B
Relevant Regulations

- Laws and regulations
  - International, federal, state, local
    - Polar Code
    - Marine Mammal Protection Act
    - Endangered Species Act
    - Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act
    - Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act

- Agencies
  - NOAA, BOEM, BSEE, USCG, EPA
  - DEC, DNR
  - NWAB, NSB

- Organizations/Councils/Commissions
  - AMMC, AEWC, NPFMC
Section B Update
Vessel Routing Considerations

- Sub-sections to be updated
  - Marine Exchange
  - Protected Areas
  - Fishing Areas
  - Oil and Gas Industry
  - Places of Refuge
  - Subsistence Use Areas
  - Time Area Closures/Buffers

- Resources
  - Subsistence mapping projects:
    • Audubon Alaska
    • Stephen Braund & Associates
    • Northwest Arctic Borough
    • Kawerak
  - Indigenous Knowledge
  - Local knowledge (Crowley, Teck, Marine Exchange, other industry, etc.)
  - Conflict Avoidance Agreements
  - SOC for Researchers
  - Recent EISs
  - Publications

Area of Focus
Coast Pilot Updates
Missing Pieces

- Existing written resources
- Process for obtaining community information
  - Prepare and distribute questionnaire
  - Emails and teleconferences
  - AEWC meeting in July
  - Community visits
  - Send draft documents for review by same groups
  - Send draft documents to AWSC committee (industry, other) for review
Timeline

- **Safety Plan**
  - Assume start Jun 1
  - Update regulations section by Jul 1
  - Prepare and distribute questionnaire by Jul 15
  - Update subsistence section Jul 15
    - For review at AEWC Convention

- **Challenges/Opportunities**
  - Funding
    - ADAC, NPRB, NSF, waterway users
  - Information from communities
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