



Department of Marine Safety & Environmental Protection

Executive Summary

July 2006

Mission statement:

The Marine Safety and Environmental Protection ("M") Department is responsible for the planning and administration of Auxiliary programs to support the Coast Guard's Marine Safety and Marine Environmental Protection ("M") Directorate's Programs. This includes support for such things as: marine environmental response assistance, port safety and security compliance inspections, commercial vessel safety and security compliance inspections (Uninspected Tow Vessel, Uninspected Passenger Vessel, Commercial Fishing Vessel Examinations and other Foreign and Domestic Vessels), container inspection assistance, mariner licensing/documentation/course audits, public affairs, area contingency planning, waterways management, Maritime Domain Awareness/America's Waterways Watch, Maritime Information System Law Enforcement (MISLE) support, and environmental education.

First 200 Days CY 2006 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Increased Auxiliary CFV examinations to comply with NMFS issued mandate
- Continue participation in Coast Guard Headquarters business plan development meetings for Commercial Fishing Vessel Safety.
- Obtain final approval of the proposed Auxiliary Commercial Fishing Uninspected Vessels Policies & Procedures Guidelines
- Participate in the planning and execution of the Coast Guard's Commercial Fishing Vessel Safety and Survivability Training Pilot in District 5
- Coordinated efforts in having Auxiliary Interpreters translate the existing CFV Federal Regulations from English language to Spanish, Vietnamese, and Portuguese
- REC Surge Support project begun
- Finalization of AWMSC pilot program
- Discover Boating Tour
- Deployment of AWW Table Top Displays

- AWW Program Materials
- AWW Program Videos
- Fully engaged in planning and exercise design efforts leading up to SONS07
- Continued support of G-MSO-4's Aquatic Nuisance Species (ANS) Outreach Five Year Plan for Auxiliary
- M Department website update

CY 06 PROJECTS

- Obtain final approval of the proposed Auxiliary Commercial Fishing Vessel Policies & Procedures Guidelines
- Participate in the planning and execution of the Coast Guard's Commercial Fishing Vessel Safety and Survivability Training Pilot
- Continue participation in Coast Guard Headquarters business plan development meetings for Commercial Fishing Vessel Safety
- REC Surge Support Project
- Develop a detailed proposal to fund and write a comprehensive Maritime Safety and Prevention Policy manual
- Boating World Magazine Centerfold for AWW
- AWW PSA Activity
- Complete the rewrite and update of "M" Department's Policy and Procedures Guide
- Revision of Personal Qualification Standards
- Develop initiatives to encourage Auxiliary support of contingency planning including qualification to assist with Coast Guard contingency planning, working with Coast Guard units to include the Auxiliary in their contingency plans and encouraging Auxiliary units to develop their own contingency plans.
- Work with the Information Services Department to include the Auxiliary Personal Qualification Standards approved in 2005 and Coast Guard Personal Qualification Standards applicable to the "M Pro" pin in AUXDATA



Department of Marine Safety & Environmental Protection

OPCOM July 2006 Report

Mission statement:

The Marine Safety and Environmental Protection ("M") Department is responsible for the planning and administration of Auxiliary programs to support the Coast Guard's Marine Safety and Marine Environmental Protection ("M") Directorate's Programs. This includes support for such things as: marine environmental response assistance, port safety and security compliance inspections, commercial vessel safety and security compliance inspections (Uninspected Tow Vessel, Uninspected Passenger Vessel, Commercial Fishing Vessel Examinations and other Foreign and Domestic Vessels), container inspection assistance, mariner licensing/documentation/course audits, public affairs, area contingency planning, waterways management, Maritime Domain Awareness/America's Waterways Watch, Maritime Information System Law Enforcement (MISLE) support, and environmental education.

First 200 Days CY 2006 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Increased Auxiliary CFV examinations to comply with NMFS issued mandate requiring vessels that are under observer coverage to have a Coast Guard decal issued prior to engaging in fishing. This is a monumental step toward overall safety. The fishermen have until May 1, 2006 to obtain the decal. Efforts have been made by the First District to accommodate the surge of last minute requests for voluntary dockside examinations by the fishermen in the Northeast region.
- Continue participation in Coast Guard Headquarters business plan development meetings for Commercial Fishing Vessel Safety. In 2005 the Commercial Vessel Division of the "M" Department was invited by G-MOC now G-PVC to actively participate in their development of a new business plan for Commercial Fishing Vessel Safety. This has been a year-long project and is still continuing.

- Obtain final approval of the proposed Auxiliary Commercial Fishing Uninspected Vessels Policies & Procedures Guidelines. In 2005 the Commercial Vessel Division of the “M” Department developed a policy and procedure guideline document to help ensure standardization of activities in the Auxiliary Commercial Fishing Vessel Examination program across the country. This document was submitted to G-PVC for review and approval December 2005. In 2006 this document was revisited and G-PVC decided that the Uninspected passenger and Uninspected towing vessels should be included.
- Participate in the planning and execution of the Coast Guard’s Commercial Fishing Vessel Safety and Survivability Training Pilot in District 5. Last summer a pilot program for safety and survivability training was submitted to G-PVC for review. G-PVC is now ready to plan for implementing the pilot program.
- Coordinated efforts in having Auxiliary Interpreters translate the existing CFV Federal Regulations from English language to Spanish, Vietnamese, and Portuguese. Currently G-PVC is coordinating editing and final efforts for reproduction.
- REC Surge Support – The MS Division added a branch to support Regional Examination Center surge operation needs. This branch is responsible for encouraging Auxiliary support of Regional Examination Centers during their surge needs while all Merchant Mariners are required to appear at RECs to give fingerprints and present identification. This branch will also facilitate sharing of Best Practices.
- Finalization of AWMSC pilot program – The Auxiliary Waterway Management Security Coordinator pilot program was finalized and report submitted. The program was turned over for District implementation and oversight. The MS Division will continue to facilitate sharing of Best Practices.
- Discover Boating Tour: This opportunity, not specifically identified in the PMP is an excellent example of “Cross Functional Support” described in the PMP. A partnership has emerged with the national marketing department which resulted in having the AWW display added to the Discover Boating Tour which visits over 15 cities during the months of March through November and is viewed by almost 8 million people.
- Deployment of AWW Table Top Displays: Table top displays are being made available to each of the Districts as a tool to support AWW activities at a local level. To date, we have shipped these units to about half of the Districts. Our challenge has been finding people willing to store and care for the units.
- AWW Program Materials: Beginning last fall, all materials were reviewed and a decision was made by the AWW project office to consolidate the brochures and decals into one image which presents a consistent message. Stocks of the previous materials are being used until they run out. Stocks of the new materials, which display the AWW logo have been reprinted with some minor changes.

Adequate stocks of materials are currently in place to support the next 12 to 18 months. A Spanish language brochure is in the queue for printing. New supplies of wallet cards were also printed and available. Also in the queue is a new smaller poster, waterproof, for use dockside and in marinas. A new item added last fall is a literature bag with the AWW message printed on it.

- AWW Program Videos: New program and training DVD's were prepared and are available from ANSC. The new program video is 6 minutes in length and the Train the Trainer video is about 16 minutes. They both feature an introduction by the Commandant.
- Fully engaged in planning and exercise design efforts leading up to SONS07. Attended the Initial Planning Conference in November 2005 and the Middle Planning Conference in February 2006. Provided comprehensive reports of these meetings along with detailed suggestions for how the Auxiliary can best engage in this drill.
- Continued support of G-MSO-4's Aquatic Nuisance Species (ANS) Outreach Five Year Plan for Auxiliary. The plan is proceeding on schedule.
- M Department website. – New webmaster has made numerous updates to website, removing broken links, replacing missing information. He has also reorganized the site to facilitate location of materials.

CY 06 PROJECTS

- **Obtain final approval of the proposed Auxiliary Commercial Fishing Vessel Policies & Procedures Guidelines**
During 2005 the Commercial Vessel Division of the "M" Department developed a policy and procedure guideline document to help ensure standardization of activities in the Auxiliary Commercial Fishing Vessel Examination program across the country. This document was submitted to G-MOC for review and approval. This document is under final review and signing is anticipated before NACON.
STATUS: Completed. Policy Letter signed by CAPT Karr 19 July 2006
- **Participate in the planning and execution of the Coast Guard's Commercial Fishing Vessel Safety and Survivability Training Pilot**
Participate in the planning and execution of the Coast Guard's Commercial Fishing Vessel Safety and Survivability Training Pilot in District 5. Discussion and coordination between CVE division and District 5 CFV Coordinator is underway to initiate the training pilot plan. Timing of the pilot will be dependent upon District 5 CFV Coordinator and CVE Division schedule.

STATUS: 50% complete. Planning completed; implementation dependent on CFV Coordinator schedule.

- **Continue participation in Coast Guard Headquarters business plan development meetings for Commercial Fishing Vessel Safety**
During 2005 Coast Guard Headquarters began a thorough review of the Commercial Fishing Vessel Safety program. The goal is to develop a comprehensive business plan that reflects current conditions in this industry. The Auxiliary has been included in this process via the “M” Department’s Commercial Vessel Division and will continue this effort.
STATUS: Ongoing – no completion date given by Headquarters
- **REC Surge Support Project**
The MS Division added a branch to support Regional Examination Center surge operation needs. This branch is responsible for encouraging Auxiliary support of Regional Examination Centers during their surge needs while all Merchant Mariners are required to appear at RECs to give fingerprints and present identification. This branch will also facilitate sharing of Best Practices.
STATUS: 2 months into an 18 month project. BC has been appointed and is gathering information regarding REC Coordinators. She has not been able to determine if a Coordinator has been appointed for REC St Louis or REC Memphis. All other RECs requesting assistance have Auxiliary Coordinators assigned. Response by RECs varies widely from “unsure of Auxiliary use” to very enthusiastic.
- **Develop a detailed proposal to fund and write a comprehensive Maritime Safety and Prevention Policy manual**
In 2005 the “M” Department was given the opportunity to include “M” programs in the Operations Policy Manual, however, the time allotted was not sufficient to develop more than descriptions of the programs. It did however; show that we needed to develop specific policies and procedures regarding “M” programs. The ultimate goal is to develop a manual that can eventually be merged with the Operations Policy Manual. This is the first step in the process. It is anticipated that this will be a multi-year project. In June 2006, the M Department was informed that the Ops Policy Manual would begin revision in the fall of 2006 and was invited to include M-related materials.
STATUS: 10% complete. Topics for inclusion and estimated number of pages have been developed.
- **Boating World Magazine Centerfold for AWW**
In partnership with national marketing, AWW has prepared a centerfold display for Boating World Magazine which appears in the July 06 issue along with a article written by John Whelan telling the AWW story.
STATUS: Complete
- **AWW PSA Activity**

WBZ news radio (Boston) approached the AWW Program Office soliciting PSA business and were directed to the Auxiliary who were put in contact with a benefactor in the Boston who sponsors these type of PSAs. The PSAs are being drafted by national marketing and when approved will be aired on WBZ news radio.

STATUS: PSAs currently being aired

- **Complete the rewrite and update of “M” Department’s Policy and Procedures Guide**

All organizations are dynamic and changing and the “M” Department is no different. In late 2005 we began to review and update existing policies and procedures to better reflect the current organization and its missions. We anticipate completing this project during the first quarter of 2006. While major revisions have been completed, this is a living document and will continue to be monitored for needed changes.

STATUS: Complete

- **Revision of Personal Qualification Standards**

Three projects, renaming of Port State Boarding Team Assistant, update of MEES PQS and updating of PQSs to add elements related to MTSA, have been put on hold at the request of G-PC pending finalization of changes to Coast Guard Qualification Standards. The updates to the Coast Guard standards are anticipated to be completed by November 2006. At that time, revisions to Auxiliary PQSs to bring them in alignment with new Coast Guard standards will be begun.

STATUS: On hold at request of CG Headquarters G-PC pending changes to CG qualifications due to be completed November 2006. Revised target completion of project is 2nd quarter 2007.

- **Develop initiatives to encourage Auxiliary support of contingency planning including qualification to assist with Coast Guard contingency planning, working with Coast Guard units to include the Auxiliary in their contingency plans and encouraging Auxiliary units to develop their own contingency plans.**

Hurricanes Katrina and Rita demonstrated the increasing need for contingency planning within the Auxiliary. Many Auxiliarists have civilian and/or military backgrounds in this area that can be utilized not only by the Auxiliary in developing their own plans, but also by the Coast Guard to assist with their planning activities. In addition, it became apparent in some areas that the Auxiliary was not written into the contingency plans of the active duty, or that the Auxiliary was not aware of what was expected of them.

Emergency Response planning has, for many years, been a responsibility of the “M” Department; however, emphasis has been on responding rather than planning. During the reorganization of the Department, renewed emphasis has been placed on Contingency Planning. A new position for a Branch Chief for

Contingency Planning was created. This position has been filled. Primary emphasis for this position at this time is with SONS 2007

In addition, the M Department is working with the O Department to create an OMS Directorate website which emphasizes Contingency Planning
STATUS: 30% complete. BC for Contingency Planning has been filled.. OMS website scheduled to be active August 2006.

- **Work with the Information Services Department to include the Auxiliary Personal Qualification Standards approved in 2005 and Coast Guard Personal Qualification Standards applicable to the “M Pro” pin in AUXDATA**

When the Coast Guard’s active duty “M Pro” pin was announced, it allowed for Auxiliarists to earn the device. This required completion of 4 active duty Personal Qualification Standards (PQSs) from a specific list. None of these PQSs, or the device itself, can currently be tracked in AUXDATA. Also, the 6 Auxiliary specific PQSs approved in May 2005 are not currently in AUXDATA. These oversights must be corrected. The “M” Department proposes to work with the Information Services Department to correct this problem.

STATUS: 75% complete. One Auxiliary PQS is still not in AUXDATA. A list of that PQS and all applicable Active Duty PQSs has been forwarded to I Department for inclusion.

- **Work with Information Services Department to develop a tracking method for instructor hours relating to Marine Safety and Environmental Protection training for both Public Education and Member Training**

As with all Auxiliary funding from the Coast Guard, funding for “M” programs is dependent upon Auxiliary participation. While most “M” activities may be tracked, instructors conducting classes in “M” programs, either to the public or as member training, can be tracked only as either a “M” mission or Instructor in Public Education or Member Training. The “M” Department proposes to work with the Information Services Department to find a solution to allow tracking of the “M” activity while giving instructor credit to the person conducting the training.

STATUS: In conceptual phase. Not started. Anticipate sending proposal to I Department 4th quarter 2006.