



February 2, 2022

CSI Client Advisory 02-2022

SUBJECT: California Spill Management Team Regulations Implementation Overview

Overview: California's Office of Administrative Law (OAL) has approved regulations for certification of Spill Management Teams (SMT) within California. The regulations become effective April 1, 2022. This Advisory provides notice to our clients of the regulations and related actions.

Background: In October 2017, the State of California passed Assembly Bill (AB) 1197, mandating a certification process for SMTs representing oil spill contingency plan holders (C-Plans) in California. California Department of Fish and Wildlife's Office of Spill Prevention and Response (OSPR) was required to adopt regulations establishing the number of people on a certified SMT, mobilization/arrival timeframes for SMT personnel, minimum SMT training & experience requirements, certification of drill/exercise objectives, and a certification program. After a lengthy rulemaking process, OAL approved the regulations in December 2021.

Under the regulations, SMTs will need to be certified to be cited in C-Plans within the State of California. Companies whose vessels transit state waters for arrival in California ports will need to identify a certified SMT within their C-Plan. CSI can fulfill this requirement for you. While the regulations become effective April 1, 2022, the required timeframe for full SMT certification is essentially 3+ years.

As you know, CSI was recently acquired by Gallagher Marine Systems (GMS). Through this acquisition, CSI now falls under the SMT umbrella of GMS, which gives us access to the resources necessary to achieve this certification. Please note that we will be updating your existing response plans noting that GMS will serve as your SMT. This in no way changes our existing relationship as QI nor does it preclude our role in facilitating emergencies under the SMT process that you very familiar with. GMS has the resources to achieve the highest-level classification (Tier I) in all 6 geographic "Response Planning Areas" in California and is actively pursuing achievement of full SMT certification at the earliest date permitted after the regulations become effective.

Actions: As a C-plan holder, you will not need to take any action as we achieve the required SMT certification to enable you to list our team in your plan. You can anticipate that we will coordinate submission of any applications on your behalf. We will develop further advisement on the SMT Application support process as well as the progress of us achieving the Tier I SMT Certification either via our advisory process or direct contact with you.



COLONIAL COMPLIANCE SYSTEMS, INC.
MARITIME REGULATORY CONSULTANTS

Important Dates/Timeframes:

- April 1, 2022: SMT regulations become effective.
- Beginning April 1, 2022: Owner/operators submitting NEW C-Plans for review must submit an Application for SMT Certification application with the C-Plan. We will assist with this requirement.
- By June 30, 2022: Owner/operators with currently approved (existing) C-Plans must submit an Application for SMT Certification. We will assist with this requirement.
- Within 180 calendar days after receipt of an application, OSPR will review and verify the application. If the application is evaluated as satisfactory, OSPR will issue an interim certification.
- By December 31 of the 3rd full calendar year from issuance of the interim certification the SMT must achieve full certification. References: To view the SMT certification regulations-associated documents please visit the DFW OSPR websites listed in the below.

References:

SMT Certification Rulemaking Documents:

<https://wildlife.ca.gov/OSPR/Legal/Proposed-Regulations/SMT-Certification>

California DFW OSPR SMT Website:

<https://wildlife.ca.gov/OSPR/Spill-Management-Teams>

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