

**Caribbean Regional Response Team, Spring Meeting
St. Thomas, USVI
May 19-21, 2026**

Agenda

Tuesday, May 19, 2026

Time (AST)	Topic	Presenters
0730-0800	Westin Frenchman's Reef- Set up/IT check	
0800-0830	Area Committee Sign-In located in Harbor I Conference Room	Sector San Juan Area Committee Meeting Members Only
0830-0900	Opening & Introductions	USCG & USEPA
0900-0930	Area Contingency Plan Review	USCG
09:30-0940	New Business/Open Floor	USCG/EPA/PR/USVI State Reps
0940-0950	BREAK	
950-1150	Oil Spill Risk Assessment St. Thomas- Part 2	USCG
1150-1200	Closing Remarks for the Sector San Juan Area Committee Meeting	USCG & USEPA
1200-1300	CRRT Sign-In located in Harbor I Conference Room	Start of the CRRT Meeting
1300-1315	Opening Remarks / Introductions/ Co-Chair Reports	Rich Lavigne (USCG) & Shawna Hoppe (USEPA)
1315-1330	Sector San Juan FOSC Report	Elvin Rodriguez (USCG Sector San Juan)
1330-1415	Federal Agency Reports	All Federal Agencies attending
1415-1500	PR/USVI Reports <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Puerto Rico: PREMB, PR DNER, PR DOH • USVI: USVI DPNR, USVI WMA, USVI Fire Service, VITEMA USVI Tier II Report	PREMB, PR DNER, PR DOH, USVI DPNR, USVI WMA, USVI Fire Service, VITEMA, and any other State Agency attending
1500-15:15	BREAK	
1515-1700	Dispersant Use Refresher & Facilitated Discussion: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policies & Updates (Subpart J) • Dispersant Overview • Dispersants and SMART monitoring • Dispersant Use 101 Panel Discussion 	Michael Beuthe (USEPA) [Virtual] Commander Matt Richards (USCG) [Virtual] Brad Benggio (NOAA) CWO Richard Baynor (NSF)
1700	Closing Remarks-Networking Event at The Lobby Bar at Westin's Frenchman's Reef	Rich Lavigne (USCG) & Shawna Hoppe (USEPA)

Wednesday, May 20, 2026

Time (AST)	Topic	Presenters
0830-0900	Westin Frenchman's Reef-Sign-In located in Harbor I Conference Room	
0900-0930	Opening Remarks	Rich Lavigne (USCG) & Shawna Hoppe (USEPA)
0930-1015	EPA On-Scene Coordinator <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EPA Caribbean Environmental Protection Division (CEPD) efforts regarding HHM collection done during hurricanes • Case Study on active Caribbean removal sites • WBC Pre-deployment 	Carlos Huertas, On-Scene Coordinator, USEPA Eduardo Ortiz, On-Scene Coordinator, USEPA
1015-1045	Sub-Committee Briefs <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Debris Management Subcommittee • CRRT Policies and Procedures Subcommittee • Li-ion Battery Response Subcommittee 	Chairs: Eduardo Gonzalez (EPA), George Patrick (DPR), Denise E. H. Lewis (VIWMA), Lori Ann Loughran (USCG), Carl Pellegrino (EPA), Felix Lopez (FWS), Brad Benggio (NOAA), & Eric Daly (USEPA)
1045-1100	BREAK	
11:00-1215	Li-ion Battery Vessel Response Royal Caribbean Li-ion Case Studies	Dalina Thrift-Viveros (NOAA) [Virtual] Arthur Loughran (Royal Caribbean Cruise Line) Ravi Mehta (Royal Caribbean Cruise Line)
1215-1315	Lunch	
1315-1345	NOAA Marine Debris Program, NOAA Office of Response & Restoration Program, and NOAA Southeast & Caribbean Region Team Program Resources	Yaritza Rivera-Torres (NOAA)
1345-1445	Caribbean Disaster Preparedness & Recovery <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Disaster Debris (Vegetative, HHW, and others) • Considerations of Air Curtain Incinerators • Medical Waste Debris Management <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Status of hospitals acquiring autoclaves - Are USVI & Puerto Rico agencies prepared to manage future disaster events? • Puerto Rico Disaster Research Network 	VITEMA, USVI DPR, PREMB, PR DNER, PR DOH, and other participating agencies Sara Belligoni (Emergency Management at CUNY John Jay College) Fernando Rivera (UCF Puerto Rico Research Hub)
1445-1515	Virgin Islands State Historic Preservation Office (VISHP)	Sean Krigger, USVI DPR, VISHP Director
1515-1530	BREAK	
1530-1700	Public Affairs Training- USCG Public Information Assistance Team USCG National Strike Force Capabilities Brief	Ryan Fischer (USCG) [Virtual] CWO Richard Baynor (USCG)
1700	Closing Remark- End of the CRRT Meeting	Rich Lavigne (USCG) & Shawna Hoppe (USEPA)

Thursday, May 21, 2026

Time (AST)	Topic	Presenters
0800-0900	Westin Frenchman's Reef-Sign-In located in Harbor I Conference Room	
0900-0915	Welcome / Introductions	Keith Glenn (USEPA) & Steve Simonetti (USEPA)
0915-1015	Lithium-ion Battery Response Considerations: Awareness	Keith Glenn (USEPA) & Steve Simonetti (USEPA)
1015-1030	Break	
1030-1100	Lithium-ion Battery Response Considerations: Disposal	Keith Glenn (USEPA) & Steve Simonetti (USEPA)
1100-1115	Break	
1115-1200	Lithium-ion Battery Response Considerations: Classroom (DOT)	Eddie Murphy (US Department of Transportation) Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Administration (PHMSA)
1200-1300	Lunch	
1300-1500	Lithium-ion Battery Response Considerations: Tactical Considerations	Keith Glenn (USEPA) & Steve Simonetti (USEPA)
1500-1530	Break	Travel to Fire Station for Battery Burn Demonstration
1530-1700	Lithium-ion Battery Burn Demonstration Fortuna Fire Station - Tango Company, 8-1 Fortuna Rd, Fortuna, St Thomas 00802	Keith Glenn (USEPA) & Steve Simonetti (USEPA)