FOREWORD

This tactics manual is the first volume of three manuals that make up the Alaska Clean Seas Technical Manual providing ACS member companies with a unified response plan for spills in the North Slope oil fields, both onshore and offshore, and from Pump Station 1 to Pump Station 4 (Milepost 167) of the Trans-Alaska Pipeline System:

Volume 1: Tactics Descriptions
Volume 2: Map Atlas
Volume 3: North Slope Incident Management System

The Technical Manual grew out of the work of the Industry/Agency North Slope Spill Response Project Team, which consists of government and industry personnel representing the following organizations: Alaska Clean Seas, Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation, Alyeska Pipeline Service Company, ARCO Alaska, Inc., BP Exploration (Alaska) Inc., North Slope Borough, U.S. Coast Guard, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, and U.S. Minerals Management Service. This team was formed in the spring of 1997 in response to the concerns of both agencies and industry that spill response capability for the North Slope needed to be re-evaluated in light of proposed new offshore development such as Northstar and Liberty. Also, both agency and industry felt that industry should develop a unified North Slope response plan under the auspices of Alaska Clean Seas. The Project Team was supported by the Tactics Team, consisting of technical representatives from agencies and industry. The Project Team developed nine scenarios covering a variety of spill situations, conditions, and seasons. The Tactics Team used the scenarios to develop tactics, which became the basis for the tactics descriptions in the Technical Manual.

This manual contains descriptions of the tactics that Alaska Clean Seas can use to respond to a spill. This manual is not intended to present all possible tactics for spill response. The tactics presented have been developed by ACS operations personnel and are the tactics they are prepared to use. Other tactics may be added, and these tactics revised as appropriate based on operational experience.

The tactics are designed to be used as building blocks for ACS member companies to develop facility-specific response scenarios in their contingency plans and for responders to develop response strategies for training and for spills. The technical information can be used to prepare a scenario that demonstrates the ability to recover the facility’s response planning standard (RPS) volume in 72 hours — the key requirement of Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation contingency plan regulations.