

CN Incident: 2007 Update and Future Steps Wabamun Lake, AB

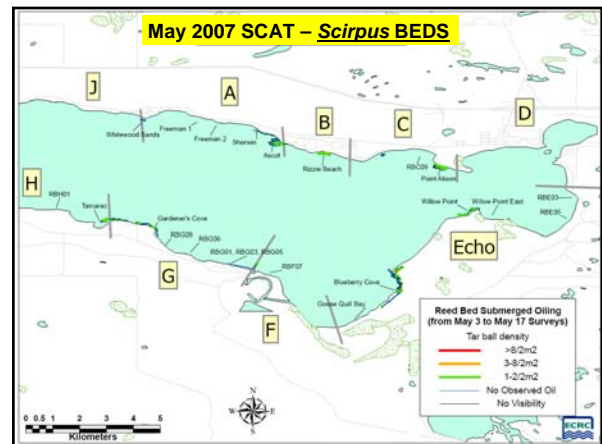
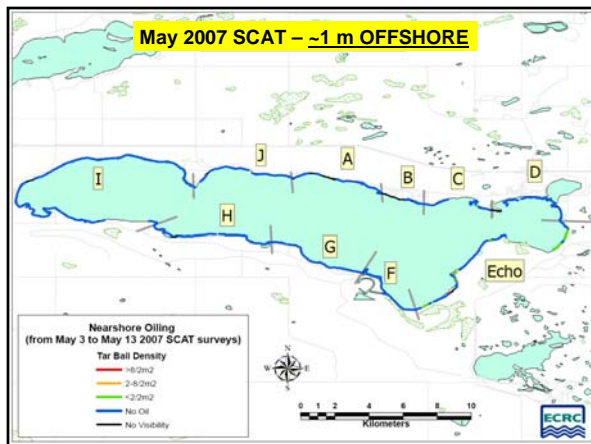
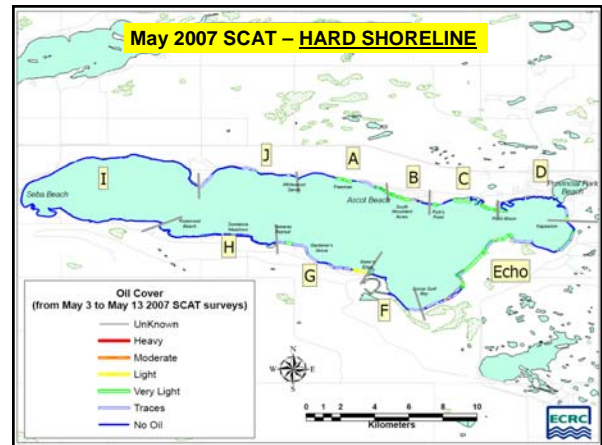
Craig Emmerton, Limnologist
Alberta Environment
Presentation to Wabamun Residents' Committee
September 19, 2007

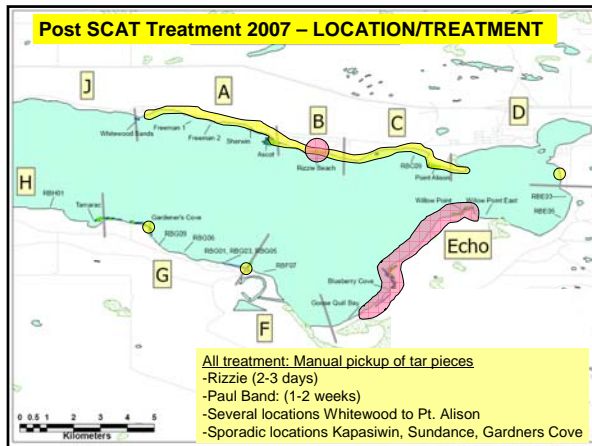
Overview

- 2007 SCAT Results & Post SCAT Treatment
- 2007 Summer monitoring program & results
- Regulatory update
- Recent study information and publications
- Programs update: Groundwater, fish
- Future steps

May 2007 SCAT & Treatment

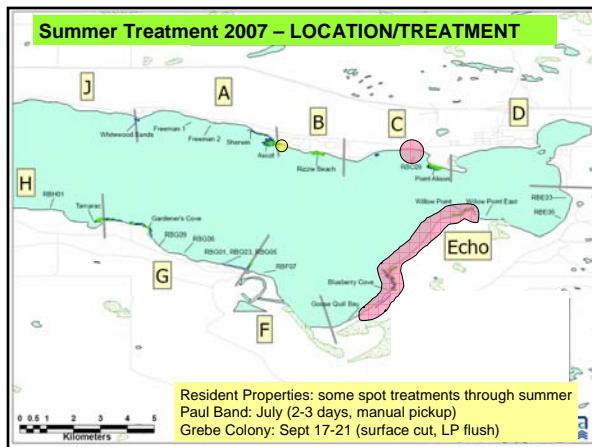
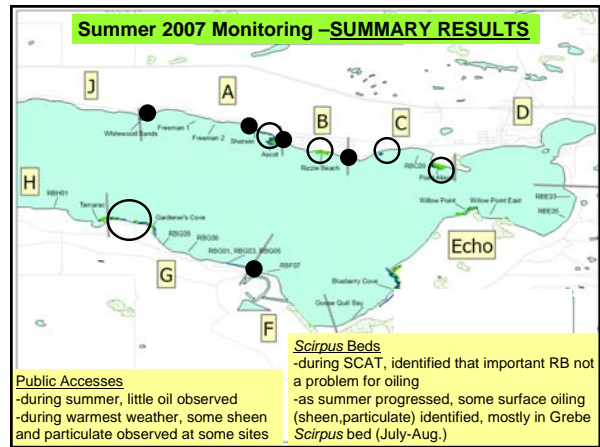
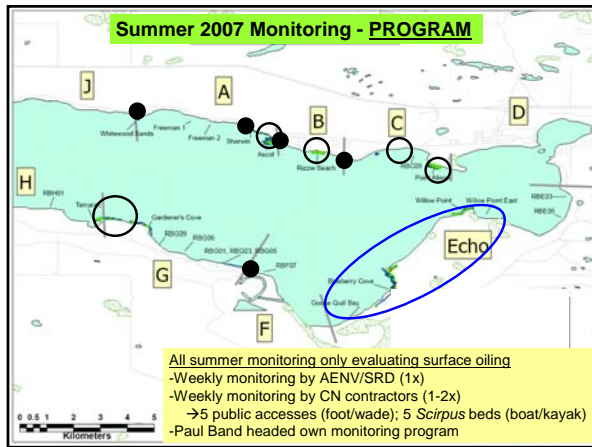
- 2007 Shoreline Cleanup Assessment Technique (SCAT) occurred from May 4-17, 1 week after ice-off
- Multi-stakeholder evaluation including AENV, EC, SRD, ECRC, PFN, Residents' Committee





Water Levels - Spill Remediation

- Water overtopped Wabamun weir on May 4th
- Alberta Environment installed a protective barrier to prevent residual Bunker C from entering Wabamun Creek



AENV EPO & CN

- AENV's Environmental Protection Order (Aug 12, 2005) continues to apply to date
- CN continues work at the lake under the EPO

HEALTH ADVISORIES

- Currently in place: human contact, fish consumption, domestic use, wildlife advisory
- Agencies and watershed group working with CH to evaluate and update advisories in timely manner

Recent Studies/Publications

- AENV Ambient monitoring program continues
- UofA/AENV reed bed study
- AENV plankton data being worked up for future publication/effects of oil spill
- SRD 'SPMD' experiment to evaluate contaminant uptake in fish tissue
- CN/Golder released assessment of state of aquatic ecosystem health in January 2007, paper in Sept
- Another investigation into contamination of sediment/bottom animals to commence in Sept/October by Golder

Groundwater

- Well monitoring and remediation continues at Whitewood Sands to track levels of PTO
 - Liquid product on water table effectively absent
 - Dissolved product remains an issue
- Capital Health continues to issue a drinking water advisory for well water in the area
- Monitoring of groundwater at Whitewood to continue by AENV for foreseeable future

*Contact Steve Wallace AENV (780) 960-8643

Wildlife

- Wildlife hazing was conducted in the spring at Ascot and the Grebe Colony reed beds, and was successful at preventing western grebes from initiating nesting in hazardous areas
- A population assessment of western grebes in Wabamun and surrounding lakes was conducted. The results are being compiled.
- Future risks to the wildlife on Wabamun are being assessed

*Contact Gavin Berg SRD (780) 962-7412

Fish

- SRD continues to evaluate fish health, populations and community composition
- Uptake of contaminants by fish report released by Health Canada, showed minimal human consumption risk over the long term
- Future management of the fish community continues to be evaluated

*Contact Adrian Meinke SRD (780) 289-9400

Future Steps

- AENV will permanently close the Wabamun Office end September 2007; now based out of Spruce Grove
- Spring/Summer plan in place until end October 2007; agencies will develop a spring plan with CN over the winter
- Regulatory agency and CN oil-related monitoring will continue until Oct 31, 2007
- AENV long-term monitoring programs at Wabamun Lake will continue

QUESTIONS?