

Northeast and Eastern Central Florida Area Contingency Plan

Annex 3000: Operations



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3000 Operations

Refer to the Incident Management Handbook (IMH) for the Incident Command System prepared by USCG, Office of Response (G-MOR-3) for specific information on all duties and positions. Refer to Appendix [Incident Management Handbook](#) for the IMH and [ICS Form Database](#) for ICS forms. This section will only provide a brief overview and information specific to Northeast and Eastern Central Florida. This section is organized as follows:

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3100 Operations Section

Responsible for all operations directly applicable to the primary mission. Directs the preparation of unit operational plans, requests or releases resources, makes expedient changes to the Incident Action Plan as necessary and reports such to the Incident Commander (IC/UC). Includes the Recovery and Protection Branch, Emergency Response Branch, Air Operations Branch, and Wildlife Branch. The IC/UC will determine the need for a separate Operations Section at an incident or event. Until Operations is established as a separate Section, the IC/UC will have direct control of tactical resources. Refer to Appendices [9100 Emergency Notifications](#), [9200 Personnel and Services Directory](#), and [9700 Response Resources](#) for additional information including Geographic Response Plans and Chemical Countermeasures.

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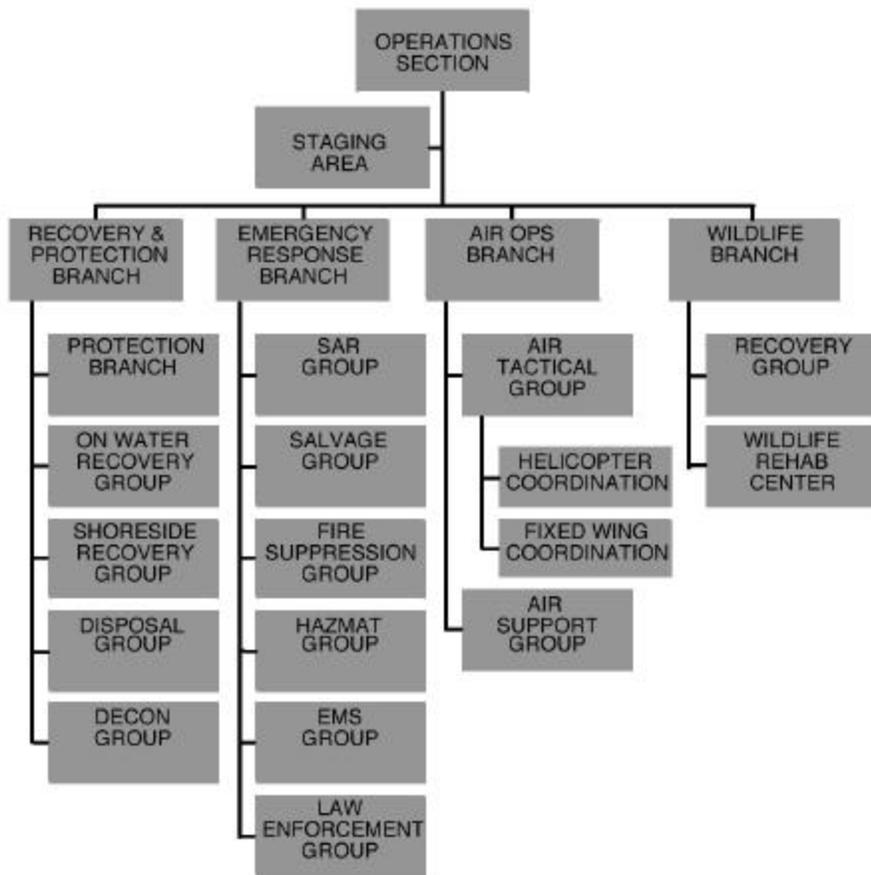


Figure 3-1 – Operations Section Diagram

3110 Operations Section Chief

The Operation Section Chief is responsible for the management of all operations directly applicable to the primary mission. The Operations Chief activates and supervises and directs elements in accordance with the IAP and the Site Safety Plan. In addition, this Chief directs the preparation of unit operational plans, requests and releases resources, makes changes to the IAP as necessary and reports to the Incident Commander. Refer to Appendices [9100 Emergency Notifications](#), [9200 Personnel and Services Directory](#), and [9700 Response Resources](#) for additional information including Geographic Response Plans and Chemical Countermeasures.

- (1) Implement and manage the Operations Section branches and units needed to proactively accomplish Operations Section actions.
- (2) Assist the Planning Section in defining strategic response goals and tactical operational objectives detailed in the Incident Action Plan.
- (3) Develop detailed mission assignments, sortie schedules, duty lists, and operational assignments to accomplish the strategic response goals and tactical operational objectives.
- (4) Identify additional response resources required or recommend the release of resources to the Unified Command.
- (5) Evaluate and report on response counter measure efficiency.

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3120 Operation Section Objectives

3120.1 0-4 Hours

- Confirm the spill.
- Request the Coast Guard Search and Rescue Mission Coordinator (SMC) respond as necessary.
- Request Emergency Medical Services assistance as necessary.
- Deploy field response teams as soon as possible.
- Determine if the pollution source can be secured and direct operations to secure.
- Deploy containment boom as close to the source as reasonably possible.
- Identify high-priority areas for early protection and select appropriate response strategies (see section 3200 of this plan).
- Evaluate the severity of the incident and estimate windows of opportunity for action.
- Assess the situation, including any grounding, firefighting, or salvage problems.
- If salvage, lightering, or dewatering operations will be required, provide tasking to those on-scene and to support personnel ashore.
- Provide tasking to divers as necessary.
- Activate special teams as necessary.
- Coordinate with the Qualified Individual / Responsible Party response team.
- Deploy a helicopter to assess the incident from the air.
- Establish a restricted airspace, as needed (see section 3430 of this plan).
- Dispatch a marine inspector / surveyor for vessel incidents.
- Conduct Hazardous Materials situation investigation including site surveys and air monitoring. Analyze any HAZMAT problems detected.
- Estimate current, tide, and weather effects on the situation and product movement.
- Identify sites for immediate pre-cleaning and assign personnel.
- Continuously order personnel and equipment required for initial response as the need becomes apparent, do not wait to submit an organized or forward-projected estimate for the next operational period.
- Direct the delivery and deployment of the first equipment to arrive on-scene.
- Consider dispatching liaison assistants to involved Oil Spill Response Organizations (OSROs).
- Institute Operational Risk Management (ORM) in accordance with [Appendix 9000](#) of this plan for all personnel involved in the response, including civilian OSRO personnel.
- Assess situation and brief Incident Commander / Unified Command. Recommend immediate objectives, priorities, and strategies based on this plan.
- Initiate incident documentation NOW. Identify and document the discharge source, responsible party, and preserve this information for the document unit and finance/administration section.
- If possible, execute the completion and delivery of the following federal and state forms: (1) Notice of Federal Interest; (2) Letter of Designation of Source; (3) Administrative Order (as needed); and (4) Letter of Federal Assumption (as needed).
- Establish well-qualified on-scene supervisors.
- Direct drug and alcohol testing (in conjunction with marine investigators and other investigators).
- Identify staging areas NOW.
- Activate (i.e., initiate deployment of) Oil Spill Recovery Vessels and VOSS.
- Monitor personnel for signs of exhaustion and need for relief/replacement at the 4 hour mark.

3120.2 4-24 Hours

- Continue gathering information on the extent of the spill and assist the Planning Section.
- Conduct primary containment activities.
- Ensure that activities do not infringe upon Planning Section responsibilities. Any projected activities, especially those past 48 hours, must be coordinated with the Planning Section.

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- ❑ Assist with data collection and evaluation of options to use alternative countermeasures such as dispersants or in-situ burning.
- ❑ Identify sites for progressive pre-cleaning (moving outward from areas immediately being oiled) and assign personnel.
- ❑ Estimate personnel and equipment required for initial response priorities; adjust resources ordered as needed.
- ❑ Identify safety hazards (do not rely on safety observers) that may be present and report observations to the Safety Officer.
- ❑ Work out tactics with the Incident / Unified Command and Planning Section Chief.
- ❑ Arrange for initial overflight with appropriate observers / Situation Unit Leader. Consider IR camera and video link to help tailor the response effort.
- ❑ Review results of overflight with Unified Command and determine future air operations needs with the Planning Section Chief.
- ❑ Suggest an organization and staffing for the Operations Section and all field personnel/equipment.
- ❑ Anticipate the need for replacement personnel.

3120.3 24-48 Hours

- ❑ Transition from an “immediate operation” driven response posture to a “preplanned operation” response posture.
- ❑ Continue to assist Planning Section with information gathering and documentation.
- ❑ Work with the Planning Section to develop/maintain an Incident Action Plan.
- ❑ Conduct primary containment and recovery operations.
- ❑ Continuously monitor resource allocation to ensure that the most effective use is being made of personnel and equipment.

3130 Scalability of the Operations Section

The Operations Section will naturally evolve based on the needs of the incident. The following example of Modular Development illustrates a typical method of expanding the Incident Organization at an oil spill incident. This example is not meant to be restrictive, nor imply that this is the only way to build an ICS organizational structure from an initial response to a multi-branch organization.

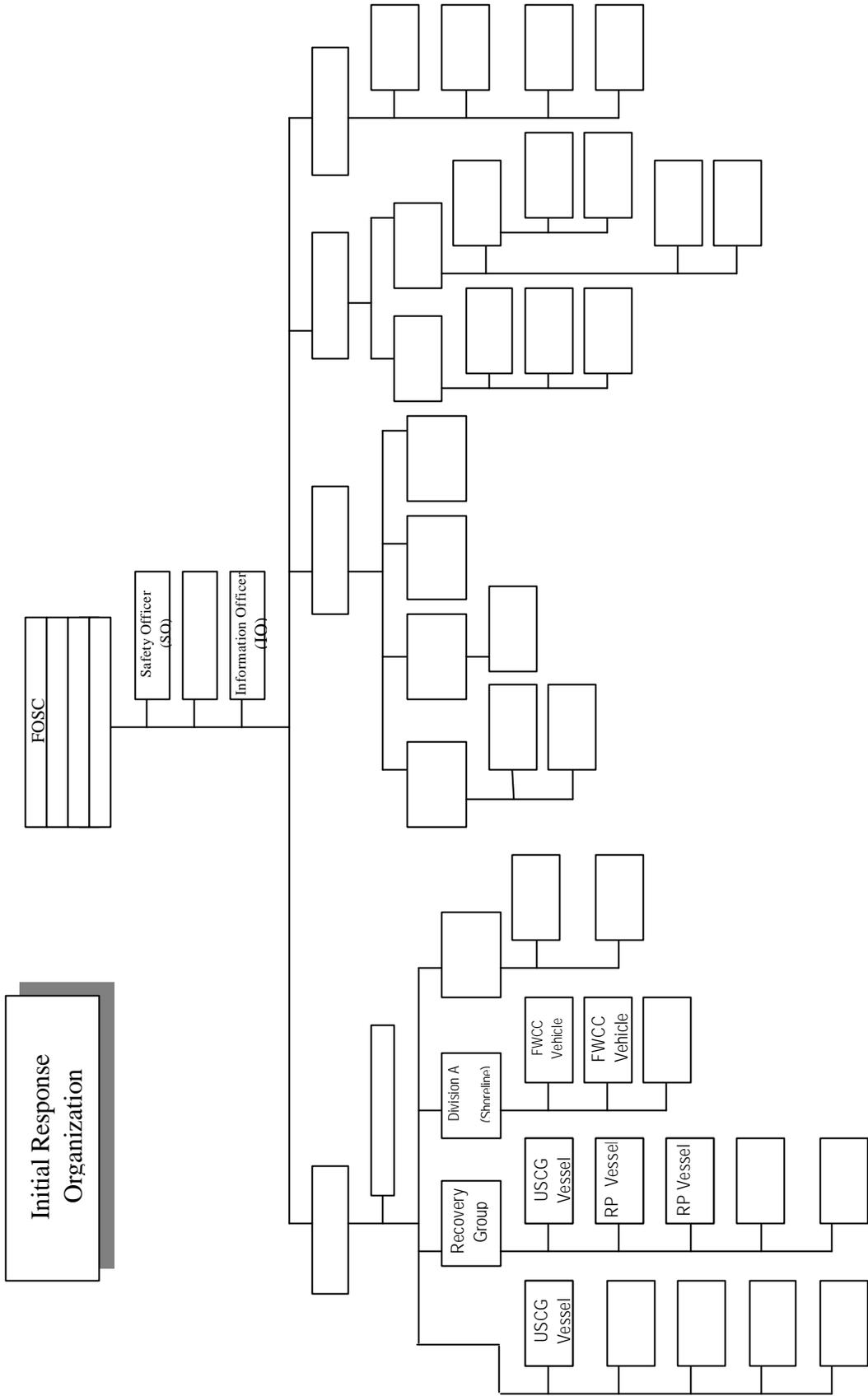
INITIAL RESPONSE ORGANIZATION - Initial Response resources are managed by the IC who will handle all Command and General Staff responsibilities. A unified command is established.

REINFORCED RESPONSE ORGANIZATION - The UC has established a Protection Group and a Recovery Group to manage on-water activities and a shoreline division to manage land-based resources. An SO and IO have been assigned.

MULTI-DIVISION/GROUP ORGANIZATION - The UC has assigned all Command Staff positions and established a number of Divisions and Groups as well as an OPS and PSC. Some Logistic Units are established.

MULTI-BRANCH ORGANIZATION- The IC has established all Command and General Staff positions and has established four branches.

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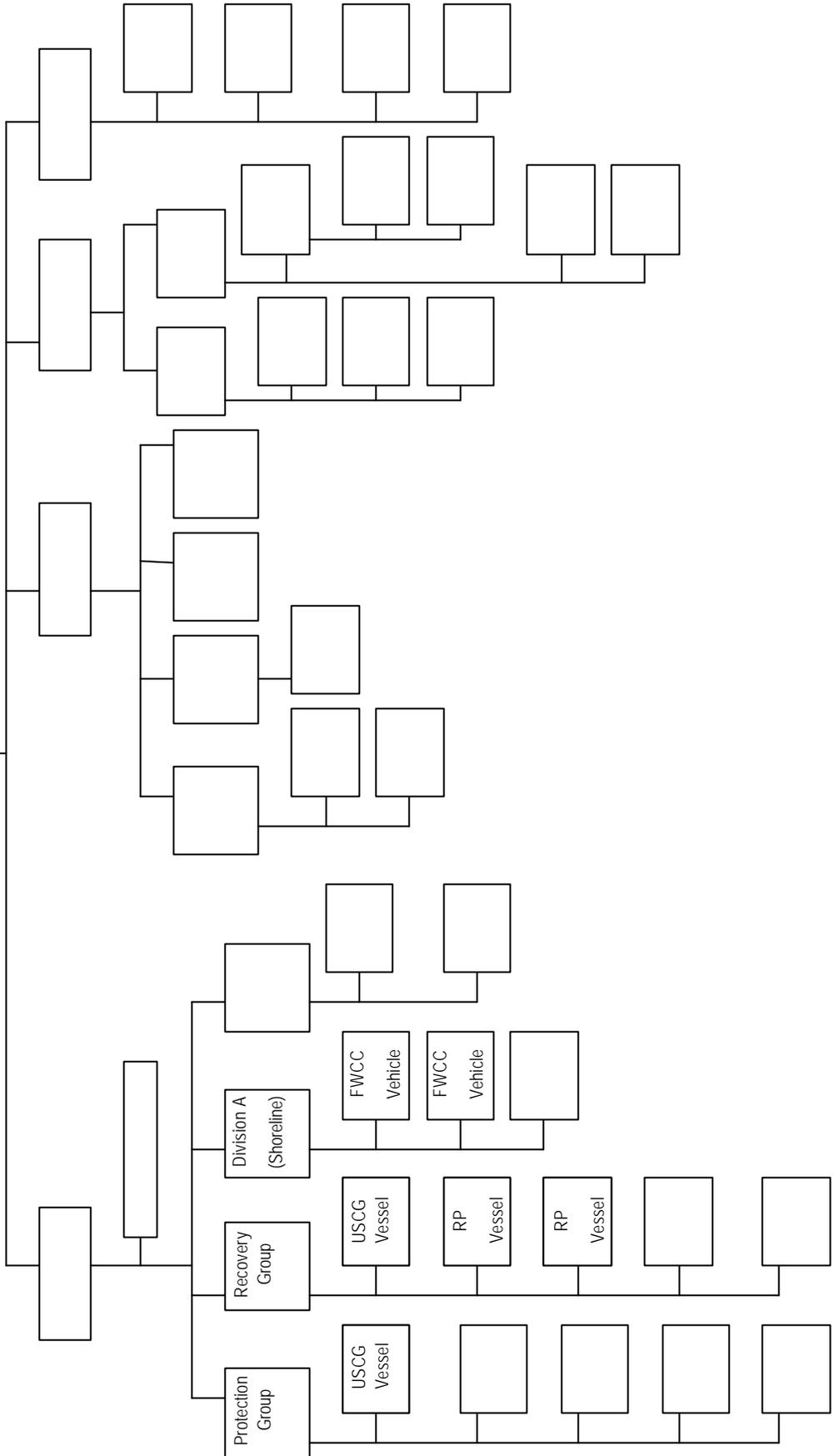
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UNIFIED COMMAND

FOSC
State: GDNR / FDEP
IC

Reinforced Response Organization

Safety Officer (SO)
Information Officer

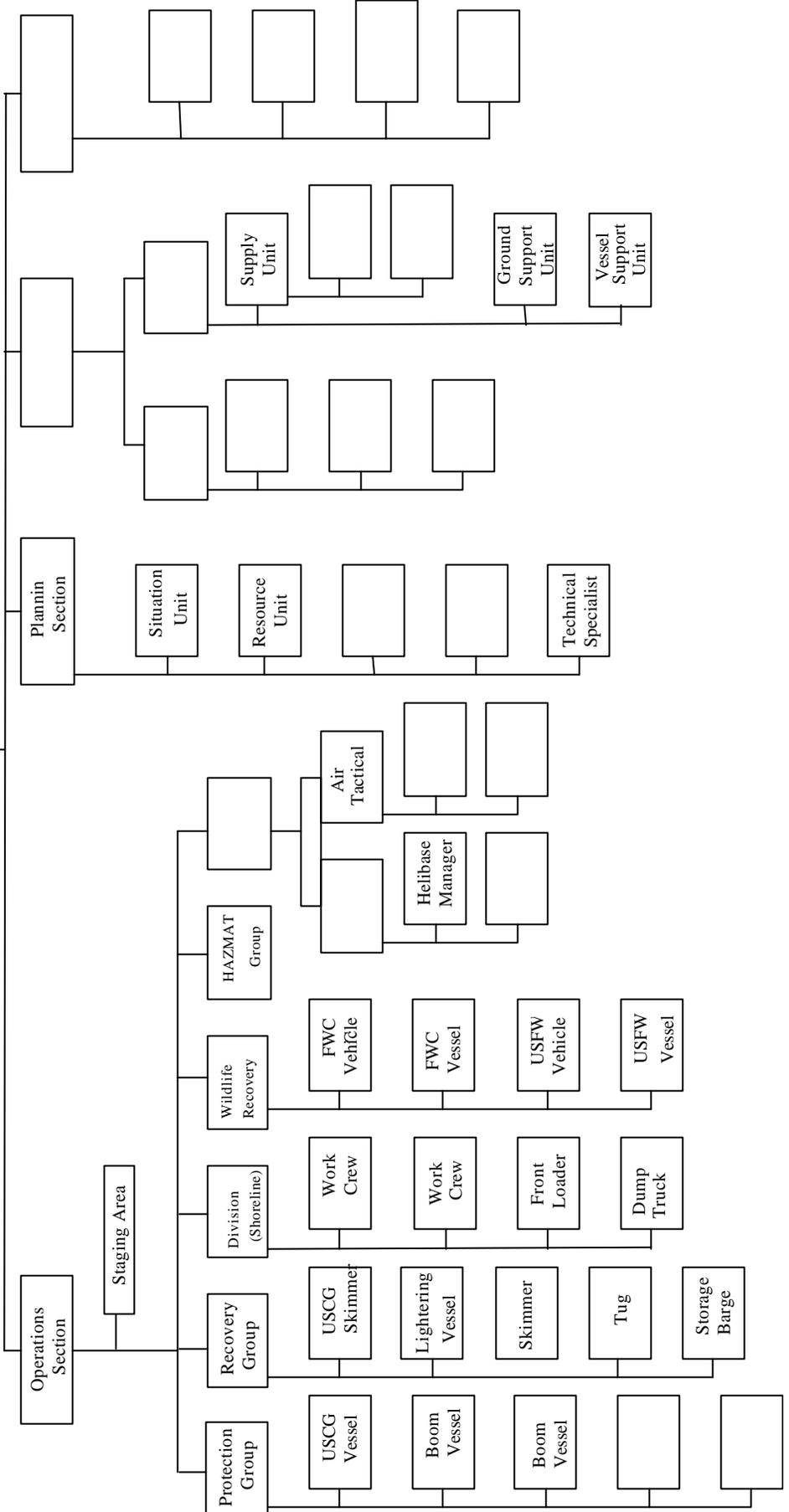
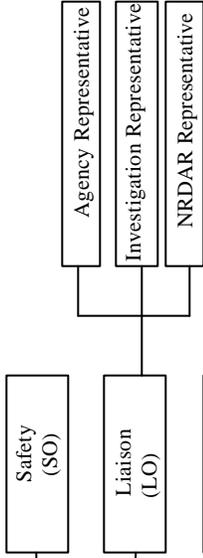


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UNIFIED COMMAND

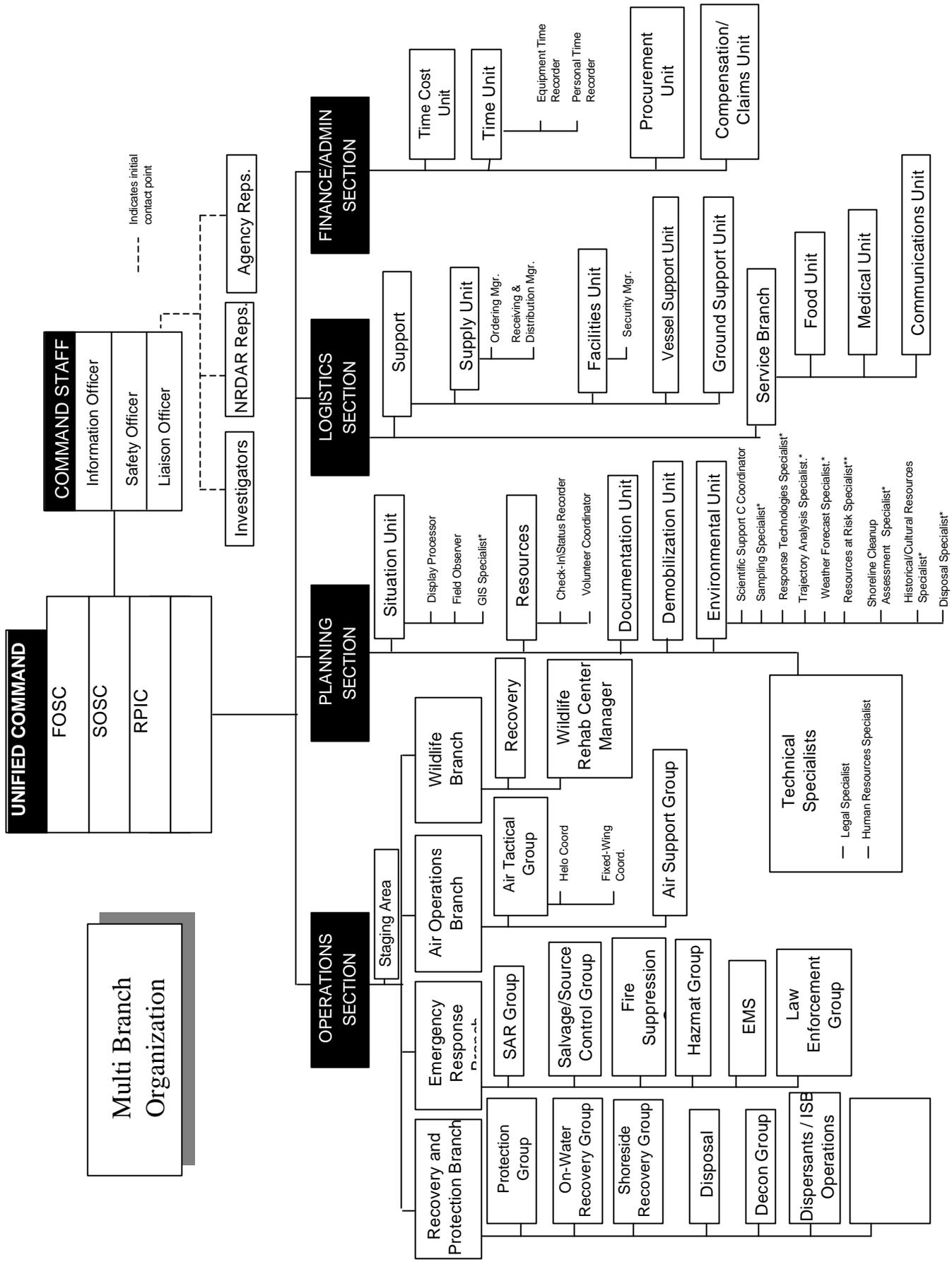
FOSC
State GDNR / FDEP
RP

Multi Division/Group Organization



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* Recommended Possible Assignment of Technical Specialist

3140 Operational Risk Management (ORM)

Human error causes a significant number of mishaps that have resulted in the loss of personnel, cutters, boats, aircraft, and equipment. Many times faulty risk decisions have placed our personnel at greater risk than necessary. After four major marine mishaps between 1991 and 1993, including the capsizing and sinking of the F/V SEA KING, the National Transportation Safety Board issued two recommendations documenting the need for Coast Guard risk assessment training.

The application of Operational Risk Management (ORM) basic concepts is not limited to Coast Guard operations as the Coast Guard usually defines them. All response missions and daily activities require decisions managing risk. In ORM "operational" refers not solely to a rated person or operator, but includes any response personnel who contribute to the overall goal of safe and effective clean up. All organizational levels contribute either directly or indirectly to operational mission successes. Therefore, ORM's target audience includes all those involved in operations, maintenance, and support activities.

Traditional risk management practices assert risk is "bad." In reality that may not be so. Taking calculated risks is essential for an organization to grow and capitalize on its capabilities. The ORM's aim is to increase mission success while reducing the risk to personnel, resources, and the environment to a level acceptable to a particular response for a given situation. Responders should identify risk using the same disciplined, organized, logical thought processes that govern all other aspects of response operations. ORM provides the framework to minimize risk, show concern for colleagues, and maximize the unit's mission capabilities, helping to achieve the Unified Command's direction. This process's additional benefits include safeguarding our responders' health and welfare and conserving vital resources and support equipment.

3141 Risk Terminology

Responders need to understand ORM terms clearly and communicate risk effectively in order to use the ORM process. Understandably, each facility and activity will differ in how it interprets risk assessment and risk management results in its own community due to unique mission differences and its members' varying degrees of knowledge, skill, experience, and maturity. All personnel shall use these common key terms when communicating risk across program and activity lines.

Operational Risk Management (ORM): A continuous, systematic process of identifying and controlling risks in all activities according to a set of pre-conceived parameters by applying appropriate management policies and procedures. This process includes detecting hazards, assessing risks, and implementing and monitoring risk controls to support effective, risk-based decision-making.

Risk: The chance of personal injury or property damage or loss, determined by combining the results of individual evaluations of specific elements that contribute to the majority of risk concerns. Risk generally is a function of severity and probability. The models in this Instruction, however, single out exposure as a third risk factor.

Severity: An event's potential consequences in terms of degree of damage, injury, or impact on a mission.

Probability: The likelihood an individual event will occur.

Exposure: The amount of time, number of cycles, number of people involved, and/or amount of equipment involved in a given event, expressed in time, proximity, volume, or repetition.

Mishap: An unplanned single or series of events causing death, injury, occupational illness, or damage to or loss of equipment or property.

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Hazard: Any real or potential condition that can endanger a mission; cause personal injury, illness, or death; or damage equipment or property.

Risk Assessment: The systematic process of evaluating various risk levels for specific hazards identified with a particular task or operation. Various models are available to complete this step in the ORM process.

Risk Rating Scale: A scale of specific risk degrees, determined during the ORM process's risk assessment step. Various responder communities and activities should use the safety industry's standard terms low, medium, and high when discussing risk across program lines. However, each community will define low, medium, and high risk in terms meaningful to its own personnel.

3142 Operational Risk Management Principles

Accept No Unnecessary Risk: All response operations and daily routines entail risk. Unnecessary risk conveys no commensurate benefit to safety of a mission. The most logical courses of action for accomplishing a response are those meeting all response requirements while exposing personnel and resources to the lowest possible risk. ORM provides tools to determine which risk or what degree of risk is unnecessary.

Accept Necessary Risk When Benefits Outweigh Costs: Compare all identified benefits to all identified costs. The process of weighing risks against opportunities and benefits helps to maximize unit capability. Even high-risk endeavors may be undertaken when decision-makers clearly acknowledge the sum of the benefits exceeds the sum of the costs. Balancing costs and benefits may be a subjective process open to interpretation. Ultimately, the appropriate decision authority may have to determine the balance.

Make Risk Decisions at the Appropriate Level: Depending on the situation, anyone can make a risk decision. However, the appropriate level to make those decisions is that which most effectively allocates the resources to reduce the risk, eliminate the hazard, and implement controls. Supervisors at all levels must ensure subordinates are aware of their own limitations and when subordinates must refer a decision to a higher level.

ORM is Just as Critical in Executing as in Planning All Activities: While ORM is critically important in an operation's planning stages, risk can change dramatically during an actual mission. Therefore, supervisors and senior leadership should remain flexible and integrate ORM in executing tasks as much as in planning for

3143 Quantitative G-A-R Risk Evaluation Process

We can address more general risk concerns, involving planning operations or reassessing risks as we reach milestones within our plans, by using the Green-Amber-Red (GAR) model. A survey of response personnel identified these elements as contributing to the majority of risk in their operations:

- (1) supervision,
- (2) planning,
- (3) crew selection,
- (4) crew fitness,
- (5) environment, and
- (6) event or evolution complexity.

The GAR model incorporates these elements, further defined below:

Supervision: Supervisory control should consider how qualified a supervisor is and whether he or she actually is supervising. Even if a person is qualified to perform a task, supervision, even as simple as verifying the correctness of a task, further minimizes risk. The higher the risk, the more a supervisor needs to focus on observing and checking. A supervisor actively involved in a task (doing something) can be distracted easily and probably is not an effective safety observer in moderate to high-risk conditions.

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Planning: Preparation and planning should consider how much information is available, how clear it is, and how much time is available to plan the evolution or evaluate the situation.

Crew Selection: Crew selection should consider the experience of the persons performing the specific event or evolution. If individuals are replaced during the event or evolution, assess the new team members' experience.

Crew Fitness: Crew fitness should judge the team members' physical and mental state, generally a function of how much rest they have had. Quality of rest should consider how a platform rides and its habitability, potential sleep length, and any interruptions. Fatigue normally becomes a factor after 18 hours without rest; however, lack of quality sleep builds a deficit that worsens the effects of fatigue.

Environment: Environment should consider all factors affecting personnel, unit, or resource performance, including time of day, lighting, atmospheric and oceanic conditions, chemical hazards, and proximity to other external and geographic hazards and barriers, among other factors.

Event or Evolution Complexity: Event or evolution complexity considers both the time and resources required to conduct an evolution. Generally, the longer the exposure to a hazard, the greater the risks involved. However, each circumstance is unique. For example, more iterations of an evolution can increase the opportunity for a loss to occur, but on the positive side, may improve the proficiency of the team conducting the evolution, depending on the team's experience, thus possibly decreasing the chance of error. Other factors to consider in this element include how long the environmental conditions will remain stable and the precision and level of coordination needed to conduct the evolution.

Calculating Risk: To compute the total degree of risk for each hazard previously identified, assign a risk code of 0 for no risk through 10 for maximum risk to each of the six elements to obtain a personal estimate of the risk. Add the risk scores to come up with a total risk score for each hazard.

If the total risk value falls in the green zone (1-23), the risk is rated low. A value in the amber zone (24-44) indicates moderate risk; consider adopting procedures to minimize it. If the total value falls in the red zone (45-60), implement measures to reduce the risk before starting the event or evolution.

The GAR model is good to assess an operation or mission generally. If the degree of risk appears unduly high in one or more of the elements above, perform a second assessment using the SPE model for each element of concern, since the SPE model is more specific. As with the SPE model, rank-order all hazards assessed in the GAR model from the highest to the lowest risk to target areas of greatest concern first.

Risk Ratings: The ability to assign numerical values or color codes to risk elements in either the SPE or GAR model is not the most important part of risk assessment. What is critical in this ORM step is team discussion to understand the risks and how the team will manage them. Different Coast Guard operational communities have adopted the GAR model, but may interpret green, amber, and red differently for their own missions and operators. For example, law enforcement personnel may define a "green" risk level a bit higher than personnel involved in recreational boating safety.

Understanding these differences will improve communications among communities. However, a low/medium/high scale is generally understood throughout the Coast Guard and is the safety industry's widely used standard. Therefore, discussions of risk among various Coast Guard activities will use the terms low, medium, and high, but each operational community will define those terms meaningfully for its own operators.

See [Appendix 9000](#) for a detailed discussion of the ORM process and GAR model that all supervisors in the Operations Section should be executing for each response activity they perform prior to performing it.

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3200 Recovery and Protection Branch

Responsible for overseeing and implementing the protection, containment and clean-up activities established in the IAP. Refer to Appendices [9200 for Personnel and Services Directory](#), and [9710 Response Strategies](#) for Response Guidance and Strategies, and [9700 for Response Resources](#) including Geographic Response Plans. In addition refer to [9720.400 Inlet Tidal Strategies](#) for guidance.

General strategies for response to oil spills in the MSO Jacksonville area are identified in this section. The following response priorities will be followed:

- (1) Protect human life and health.
- (2) Minimize ecological impacts.
- (3) Minimize economic and public impacts.

Due to the large amount of environmentally sensitive wetlands and the abundance of endangered and threatened fauna which are common in this area, the best strategy for pollution response is prevention. Should a significant spill occur in the area covered by this plan, there will almost certainly be significant environmental damage.

In the event of a spill the fundamental protection strategy will utilize barrier boom across the mouths of creeks which lead back into areas of marshes, tidal flats and mangrove swamps. This strategy, if successful, will protect the maximum of environmentally sensitive areas with a minimum amount of boom. Exact boom placement for the MSO Jacksonville area is shown in [9710 Response Strategies](#).

A second, equally important, protection priority for spills that occur in the Jacksonville/St. Johns River area is to prevent the spread of oil out of the river via the ICW and other river systems. To accomplish this priority, stairstep booming and collection points will be employed.

The probability of success in both the protection strategies outlined above is dependent on wind and current factors. Currents in excess of 4 knots are common on the St. Johns River, 2.5 knots are expected in the ICW and currents in excess of 1 knot are expected in many of the creeks. The speed of response will determine the amount of damage to environmentally sensitive areas. Due to the amount of boom required, it is clearly not feasible to attempt to protect the face of the marsh areas in a significant spill. In smaller spills this may be an option. It is hoped that the density of the marsh grasses will limit the distance to which the oil can penetrate.

The many environmentally sensitive areas place a high priority on rapid collection of oil. Numerous collection points have been identified in the MSO Jacksonville area. The majority of these locations are suitable for vacuum truck/skimmer units. The area has numerous vacuum trucks but few skimmers. Water based skimmers are also critical to rapid removal of oil in this area but are in extremely short supply.

Environmental Sensitivity indexes list 10 types of shorelines. For response purposes, this plan has grouped these 10 types into three categories:

High Sensitivity: Saltmarsh and Mangrove Swamps, Vegetated River Banks, Freshwater Marshes and Swamps, Shellfish Harvesting Areas and Eroding Bluffs

Moderate Sensitivity: Fine Sand Beaches, Coarse/Mixed Sand Beaches, Gravel Beaches, Spoil Sites, Rip Rap, Fill Sites and Tidal Flats

Low Sensitivity: Sea Walls and Piers

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Although the drinking water used in this AOR comes from wells and not the rivers, many water intakes are located on the waterways for industrial uses. These water intakes are identified on the various sensitivity maps. When a spill occurs that may result in the contamination of these intakes, the appropriate business shall be notified.

Shoreline cleanup will be conducted in accordance with shoreline sensitivity classification as outlined in sections 3210, 3220, and 3230.

3205 Containment and Protection Options

Refer to basic booming strategies for information concerning specific locations for containment and protection.

- Diversion Booming
- Containment Booming
- Exclusion Booming
- Cascading Booming
- Chevron Booming

3210 Class A Shoreline Types - HIGH PRIORITY

This section outlines critical operations information about Class A Shoreline Types in Northeast and Eastern Central Florida. Class A Shorelines include:

- 3211 Vegetated River Banks
- 3212 Salt Marsh and Mangrove Swamp
- 3213 Seagrass Beds
- 3214 Freshwater Marshes and Swamps
- 3215 Shellfish Harvesting Areas
- 3216 Eroding Bluffs

3211 Vegetated River Banks

Description:

These sites occur as grassy herbaceous vegetation or trees that grow along the river banks to the waters edge. They may occur in fresh or brackish water systems, and may be subject to flooding, depending on the slope of the bank. A variety of plant species may be found along the river banks and will be determined by a number of parameters such as the salinity of the river, steepness of the bank, degree of flooding, and exposure to current. Many of these locations contain archaeological sites. Due to the occurrence of large numbers and diversity of native plant and animal species, the possibility of archaeological sites, the difficulty of cleaning these areas, and the possibility of freshwater contamination, this habitat type was given a class A priority.

Predicted Oil Impacts:

- Small quantities of oil will cover the outer edges of the area, however large quantities of oil may penetrate the sediment and coat the vegetation.
- Biological impacts may be great if oiling is heavy. Freshwater could be affected.
- The area / extent of surface oiling will also be affected by boat wakes and tides.
- Oil may persist for several months or years if not cleaned.

Recommendations for Cleaning:

- A State of Florida archaeologist should be consulted prior to any cleaning for determination of archaeological significance.
- High-energy areas may be cleaned naturally, particularly if oiling is light.
- Low pressure spraying may be effective.

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3212 Saltmarsh and Mangrove Swamp

Description:

These highly productive marshes typically occur near inlets and along the rivers behind barrier islands. In the northern end of the Jacksonville zone, these marshes are primarily associated with the St. Johns River, St. Marys River, Nassau Sound, Matanzas River, Tolomato River, and the Halifax River. The predominant plants are cordgrass (*Spartina* sp.) and rushes (*Juncus* sp.) Numerous species of wading birds, waterfowl, fishes, and invertebrates inhabit these marshes. Shellfish harvesting areas are often located in saltmarsh. These areas also provide protection for many commercially important juvenile fish. Alligators and Atlantic salt marsh snakes inhabit these marshes.

Saltmarshes in the southern end of the zone are predominantly associated with the Mosquito Lagoon, Banana River, and the Indian River. These estuarine systems are characterized by mangroves and extensive seagrass beds, in addition to cordgrass and rushes. These marshes support the greatest number of nesting birds on the Florida coast including wading birds, shorebirds, hawks, eagles, and songbirds. Over 600 species of fish have been cataloged in this region. Notable reptiles that can be found in these marshes include the Atlantic saltmarsh snake, alligator, and 4 species of threatened and endangered sea turtles.

Predicted Oil Impacts:

- Vegetation would become coated by oil, heavy oil may cause smothering of vegetation.
- Persistence may be long term because of difficulty in cleaning
- Water-soluble toxic fractions of oil may penetrate sediments.
- High degree of biologic stress to mangroves, contamination of food chain

Recommendations for Cleaning:

- Generally cleaning is not recommended, and may cause additional physical damage to the marsh

3213 Seagrass Beds

Description:

Seagrass meadows are one of the most important biological communities in Florida. Seagrasses are highly productive, and are a major basis for coastal water food chains. Their physical structure provides living space and protection from predation for a diversity of organisms. Seagrass beds are essential nursery and feeding grounds for many marine organisms, especially commercially and recreationally important species and endangered manatee and sea turtles. Seagrasses stabilize sediments and play a key role in nutrient cycling.

Most of the seagrass beds in the Jacksonville MSO AOR are in Mosquito, Indian River and Banana River Lagoons. Large areas of shallow (<1 m) seagrass meadows occur in these waterbodies. The most abundant species is shoal grass (*Halodule wrightii*). Other seagrass species occurring in the plan area are manatee grass (*Syringodium filiforme*), widgeon grass (*Ruppia maritima*), star grass (*Halophila engelmanni*), and paddle grass (*Halophila decipiens*).

Predicted Oil Impacts:

- Oiling of seagrass blades would result in blade defoliation. Loss of seagrass and algal production, habitat and food for marine organisms. Could take 6 to 12 months to recover. Greatest impact to grasses exposed at low tide and those with blades extending to or near water surface.
- Heavy or weathered oil could sink and smother grass beds. Same effects on grass blades and shoots as above. Oil could have toxic impacts (lethal and sublethal) on invertebrates and fishes inhabiting grass beds. Juvenile forms would be most vulnerable. Greatest effects in shallow (<1 m) grass beds.
- Oiling of sediments would impact seagrass rhizomes and roots (below ground plant tissues) and infauna. Likely to occur if oil sinks. Potential effects: below ground seagrass mortality; infauna mortality; productivity loss;

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sediment destabilization; habitat destruction. Effects greatest in shallow grass beds. Recovery time at least 1 to 2 years, likely more.

Recommended Response Activities:

- Prevent oil from entering grass beds.
- Care should be taken to not prop scar grass beds by boats involved in response activities.
- Extreme care should be taken to not disturb sediments during cleanup activities; otherwise could result in complete loss of grass bed.
- Clean up efforts onshore (e.g., water washing/flushing) should not result in deposition of oiled sediments into grass beds.
- Before and during cleaning, must evaluate if cleaning activities will be (is) more detrimental to grass bed than oil, and effectiveness of cleaning process.
- Oiled Intertidal or Exposed Grass Beds: Do not clean oiled grass blades; blades will slough off naturally. If oil is on sediment surface, remove by vacuum or hand. Minimize disturbance and removal of sediment and below ground seagrass.
- **Sunken Oil in Submerged Grass Beds** : Remove from grass bed by hand (prefer) or vacuum. Minimize disturbance and removal of sediment and below ground seagrass. Do not worry about incidental removal of above ground grass (blades, shoots) during cleanup; these will slough off naturally .

3214 Freshwater Marshes and Swamps

Description:

Freshwater marshes within the Jacksonville Captain of the Port Zone occur in the floodplains of the St. Johns River and associated tributaries. These marshes are characterized by emergent herbaceous plants, fluctuating water levels, and recurring fires. Typical plant species include pickerelweed, maidencane, sawgrass, cordgrass and rushes. These marshes are also important breeding grounds for all classes of vertebrates, particularly reptiles and amphibians dependent on these wetland resources. Freshwater marshes perform other functions such as providing flood control by acting as sinks, as freshwater storage areas, fisheries production, and recreation.

Freshwater Swamps are distinguished from marshes by the abundance of trees, and are basically wooded wetlands. They occur along the St. Johns River throughout the Jacksonville Zone. Cypress trees are the dominant wetland tree in this zone, however other water tolerant species include pond pine, cabbage pond, black gum, willow, and laurel oak. These river swamps are thought to be the most biologically diverse type of swamp, providing food, cover, and nesting areas for a number of animals. Benthic invertebrates such as crayfish, clams, snails, and insect larvae inhabit swamps, as do numerous fish, some rare and endangered. A variety of birds and mammals utilize swamps at least some part of the year, notably river otters which feed on the crayfish, black bear, Florida panthers, and mink, all considered to be rare, threatened, or endangered, and swallow tail kites and Mississippi kites which nest in swamps.

Predicted Oil Impacts

- Oil would be persistent because of the low flushing of freshwater marshes and swamps.
- Oil may cling to the vegetation further reducing natural cleaning; high mortality for resident animals
- Vegetation may be seasonally sensitive, with dormant vegetation being less sensitive than blooming and seeding plants
- Freshwater supplies may be contaminated by small amounts of oil.

Recommendations for Cleaning:

- Consider burning in freshwater marsh, which is fire-adapted community.
- Manual cleaning from boat
- Avoid any activity which mixes oil into sediment
- Natural recovery recommended for light oiling.

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3215 Shellfish Harvesting Areas

Description:

In addition to the economic value of oysters and other shellfish, these mollusks provide habitat and food for a variety of other estuarine organisms. Most shellfish areas are found along inshore coastal habitats, including the ICW, St. Johns estuaries, Banana River, Tolomato River, and the Indian River Lagoon. Oysters spawn from late spring to early fall in these estuarine areas. The larvae of oysters require a solid substrate, and generally utilize existing colonies for attachment. Mollusks are filter feeders and rely on algae and suspended and dissolved organic matter for sustenance.

Predicted Oil Impacts:

- Most oyster reefs are intertidal and would be coated with oil during ebbing tides.
- Oysters are in danger of smothering from silting of sediments suspended in the water column.
- Large economic losses predicted if oiling occurs in shellfish harvesting areas.

Recommendations for Cleaning:

- Do not use clean-up methods which stir up bottom sediments or mechanically damage oyster reefs.
- Natural cleaning is probably the best approach, however may consider low pressure cold wash.

3216 Eroding Bluffs

Description:

Eroding Bluffs or riverbanks are located along high energy river systems. Roughly 85% of eroding bluffs in Northeast Florida contain archaeological sites. Many of these archaeological sites are shell middens, which were used as refuse areas by early man. They may contain pottery shards, human and animal bones, ceramic wares, and arrowheads and other Indian hunting points. Biological diversity may be low, typically, however these sites are given a high sensitivity classification because of their archaeological significance.

Predicted Oil Impacts:

- Oil will disperse to the high tide line
- Oil may penetrate the sediments, particularly if they are sandy

Recommendations for Cleaning:

- An archaeologist from the Division of State must be consulted prior to any cleaning activity.
- Cleanup may be natural, depending on waves and currents as well as sediment type.
- Oil may be hand scraped off the substrate, if approved by archaeologist.

3220 Class B Shoreline Types – MODERATE PRIORITY

This section outlines critical operations information about Class B Shoreline Types in Northeast and Eastern Central Florida. Class B Shorelines include:

3221 Fine Sand Beaches

3222 Coarse/Mixed Sand Beaches, Gravel Beaches, Spoil Sites, Rip Rap, and Fill Sites

3223 Tidal Flats

3221 Fine Sand Beaches

Description:

This shoreline type is very common on the barrier islands of Northeast Florida. These beaches may be backed by dunes in the rural areas or seawalls in the more urban areas. These beaches are typically hard packed and exposed to varying degrees of wave and current energy, depending on their location (inland or coastal). Oil penetration into the

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sediments would be shallow. These properties of fine sand beaches render them among the easiest of all shoreline types to clean. Often, they are fronted by tidal flats, particularly along the sheltered areas. They may be important recreational and/or economic resources. Biological diversity and density may be low, however seasonal use by seabirds and marine turtles may be high.

Predicted Oil Impacts:

- oily bands along upper intertidal zones, varying in intensity with amount of product accumulated.
- shallow penetration of oil into sediment
- danger of oiling of seabirds or other organisms in intertidal zone

Recommendations for Cleaning:

Care should be taken to prevent mechanical mixing of oil deeper into sediments

- Minimize amount of sand removed from beach
- Caution should be exercised in dune areas, particularly where concentrations of the endangered beach mouse exist.

3222 Coarse/Mixed Sand Beaches, Gravel Beaches, Spoil Sites, Rip Rap, and Fill Sites

Description:

These shoreline types are plentiful along the coast as well as inland along riverbanks. Biological diversity and/or density may range from low along the coarse sand beaches to high among gravel beaches and rip rap. These shoreline types were classified as Class B sensitivity in spite of the fact that they are generally cleanable, because of the species richness of gravel beaches and rip rap, and because of the threatened and endangered species which utilize sand beaches and fill and spoil sites.

Predicted Oil Impacts:

- Oil may penetrate deeply into sediments on coarse sand beach, with toxic effects primarily on epifaunal amphipods
- Little penetration of oil into fill.
- Oil will penetrate between boulders of rip rap, causing lethal effects on resident flora and fauna.
- Any toxic effects on invertebrates in any of these shoreline types will have effects on grazing shorebirds.

Recommendations for Cleaning:

- On coarse or mixed grain beach, minimize sand removal; manual cleanup most effective
- Avoid excessive removal of sediment from fill, manual cleanup or low pressure spray
- Remove oiled debris from rip rap, consider spraying, and or replacement of heavily oiled rip rap to prevent chronic leaching.

3223 Tidal Flats

Description:

Exposed tidal flats are primarily composed of sand and mud in shallow areas where currents and waves are sufficient to mobilize sand. The sediments are water-saturated and only the higher elevations dry out during low tide. Large numbers of polychaetes, copepods, amphipods, fiddler crabs, and snails render tidal flats exceptional foraging grounds for birds. Vegetation may be present at the higher elevations.

Sheltered tidal flats are generally located along lagoon beaches, waterward of saltmarshes, and other-calm water locations. Sediments are extremely soft, consisting primarily of silt and clay. Although rooted vegetation is sparse, microscopic algae form the basis of the food chain. A multitude of birds are attracted to these tidal flats to feed on

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mollusks, crabs, shrimp, flounder, mullet, and a variety of infaunal invertebrates. Many of the birds which loaf or forage on sheltered tidal flats from extensive nesting colonies in nearby upland areas.

Predicted Oil Impacts:

- Oil would not be expected to penetrate water saturated sediments, but may coat the surface layer on an ebbing tide.
- Biological damage severe; impacts from smothering
- Persistence may be long term in sheltered flats

Recommendations for Cleaning:

- Deployment of sorbents from shallow-draft boats
- Careful removal of oiled wrack
- Mechanical damage from walking on flats can be severe.

3230 Class C Shoreline Types - LOW PRIORITY

This section outlines critical operations information about Class C Shoreline Types in Northeast and Eastern Central Florida. Class C Shorelines include:

- 3231 Sea Walls and Piers
- 3232 Rocky Platforms
- 3233 Tidal Flats

3231 Sea Walls and Piers

Description:

These shoreline types are common in urban areas for protection of residential and industrial properties. They are typically constructed of concrete, stone, wood, or metal and are often inhabited by barnacles, shellfish, and algae. These shoreline types were given a low priority ranking because of their ease in cleaning, short time period for recruitment and re-establishment of biota.

Predicted Oil Impacts:

- Oil may percolate between joints of wooden or stone structures
- Some biota would be damaged, other species would exhibit greater tolerance.
- Persistence would be dependent upon exposure to high energy waves and currents

Recommendations for Cleaning:

- High pressure washing to prevent chronic leaching.

3232 Rocky Platforms

Description:

This shoreline type is rare in Northeast Florida and is typically associated with some other shoreline type. In general, these rocky areas can be found on shorelines facing the open ocean where they are exposed to high energy waves and currents. This shoreline type was classified as low sensitivity because of this high energy exposure as well as ease in cleaning. The biotic assemblage of this shoreline type consists primarily of infaunal polychaetes and amphipods which display low sensitivity to oiling.

Predicted Oil Impacts:

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- Oiled wrack and/or heavy oils may accumulate in depressions along rocks, slowing natural cleaning
- Amphipods and isopods relatively tolerant of toxic effects of oil, however thermal absorbance capacity or rock surface may be increased.

Recommendations for Cleaning:

- Removal of oiled wreck
- High-pressure spray may be effective where plants and animals are not attached
- Natural cleaning in high energy areas

3240 Protection Group

Responsible for the deployment of containment, diversion and absorbing boom in designated locations. Refer to Appendices [9200 Personnel and Services Directory](#), [9710 Response Strategies](#), and [9700 Response Resources](#) for specific information. In addition 9770 provides [Inlet Tidal Strategies](#) guidance.

- (1) Deploy and maintain booms, dikes, or other protection devices as directed to accomplish protection, diversion, or containment strategies, and modify planned strategies as required by actual field conditions.
- (2) Provide estimates of protection completion times.
- (3) Report on the effectiveness of booming to the Operations Section Chief.
- (4) Maintain booms and mooring systems and ensure that product which has been contained, diverted, or captured is recovered.
- (5) Identify protection resource and logistics needs, including boom types, lengths, mooring systems, and vessel support requirements.
- (6) Propose alternative protection strategies based on field results and environmental conditions.

3250 On Water Recovery Group

Responsible for managing water recovery operations in compliance with the Incident Action Plan. Refer to Appendices [9200 Personnel and Services Directory](#), [9710 Response Strategies](#), and [9700 Response Resources](#) for additional information. In addition 9770 provides [Tidal Inlet Protection Strategies](#) guidance.

- (1) Direct the delivery, deployment, and operation of skimmers.
- (2) Provide a field status of skimming operations to the Operations Section Chief.
- (3) Maintain estimates of product recovered.
- (4) Identify field conditions related to the effectiveness of skimming operations.
- (5) Identify logistics support needs of skimming operations.
- (6) Ensure recovery and holding containers operate efficiently.

3251 Recovery Options

Many mechanical options exist for on water recovery of oil, including but not limited to, dispersants, in-situ burn, skimming, and absorbent use.

The Oil Spill Web is an excellent starting point for understanding the various options.
<http://www.oil-spill-web.com/handbook/2.htm#Boom%20Configurations>

3252 Storage and Disposal

With on-water recovery, storage capability is limited by equipment used. All product recovered will have to be transferred to a shore based storage facility. The Logistics Section should assist in the coordination of product transfer.

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3260 Shoreline Recovery Group

Responsible for managing shoreline cleanup operations in compliance with the Incident Action Plan. Refer to Appendices [9200 Personnel and Services Directory](#), [9710 Response Strategies](#), and [9700 Response Resources](#) for specific information. In addition 9770 provides [Tidal Inlet Protection Strategies](#) guidance.

- (1) Manage the personnel and equipment necessary to accomplish shoreside recovery and cleanup objectives established in the Incident Action Plan.
- (2) Report on the efficiency of shoreside recovery and cleanup methods.
- (3) Identify resource and logistics support needs.
- (4) Project cleanup completion dates.
- (5) Request Natural Resource Trustees sign off on shoreline cleanup activities.

3261 Shoreline Cleanup Options

Based on the type of impact or anticipated impact, several approaches can be used.

- Manual: removal with small numbers of personnel, rakes, shovels, etc.
- Semi mechanical: removal using trimmers to cut oiled grass, and raking up debris.
- Mechanical: removal includes the use of ATV's towing debris rakes, and front-end loaders or road graders for use in removal of larger area of contamination.

3262 Pre-Beach Cleanup

Pre-beach cleanup can include: Removal of debris, trash, and cutting back grasses where permissible, to limit the amount of possible subsequent contamination.

3263 Storage

Ample storage is necessary to enable oily debris to be collected safely and securely at the spill location(s). Storage can be limited to a few 55-gallon drums or can include tanks or tank trucks for large operations. When selecting a medium for storage, it is essential that the selected container is compatible with the material being cleaned up and stored.

Roll-on/roll-off dumpsters can be used to collect large amounts of oily debris, while salvage drums can be used for smaller quantities. In either case, it is essential that the drum be capable of decontamination for later re-use or in the case of a dumpster or a similar large container, that it be lined with a suitable plastic material to prevent further contamination.

3270 Disposal Group

Responsible for coordinating the on site activities of personnel engaged in collecting, storing, transporting, monitoring, temporary storage, recycling, and disposal of all anticipated response wastes. Refer to Appendices [45XX Disposal Plan](#) for a template provided by headquarters and [9200 Personnel and Services Directory](#) for specific information.

It is the responsibility of the OSC to ensure that any spilled oil or hazardous substance is disposed of properly once cleanup has occurred. The Resource, Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) and its implementing regulations contained in Title 40, Code of Federal Regulations are quite specific in defining what is hazardous waste and how it should be handled and disposed. 40 CFR 261, Subpart C lists the characteristics a substance must exhibit to be considered hazardous.

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3270.1 Waste Management and Temporary Storage Options

Several factors must be taken into account when oily debris/waste begin to accumulate at a spill site:

1. Amount of room to store waste containers
2. Proximity to waterway, in the event a container leaks
3. Accessibility to roads and highways
4. Proximity to spill site, to minimize travel for responders

Also, when a waste storage location is set up and used, particularly during a lengthy incident response, extra steps may need to be taken. There must be routine monitoring to ensure that the container size is appropriate, that the containers are leak free, that the plastic liners are secure, and that materials are removed promptly on a regular basis.

3270.2 Decanting Policy

The Unified Command must approve any request for decanting that arises during a response.

3271 Disposal Unit

- (1) Direct the collection, temporary storage, transportation, recycling, and disposal of recovered wastes.
- (2) Estimate the volume of waste that may be recovered and ensure adequate resources and logistics support are provided.
- (3) Manage temporary storage sites and prevent secondary discharges or cross contamination.
- (4) Confirm the laboratory results characterizing the wastes as hazardous or non-hazardous and prepare required RCRA manifests as required.
- (5) Confirm the capacities of recycling or disposal sites.

3272 Disposal Procedure

1. Federal, State and local laws/regulations
2. Volume of oil or hazardous substance for disposal
3. Identify disposal locations (onsite vs. offsite)
4. Obtain necessary permits
5. Secure transportation for product disposal
6. Outline disposal plan

3273 Disposal Guidance

In addition to the value of the product, liability for damage caused by spilled product, and the cost of cleanup, the cost of disposal is good reason to attempt to prevent spills, to quickly eliminate the source of an accidental release, and to contain and recover for use as much as possible of the spilled product.

The Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA), found in 40 CFR 260-266 & 270, is intended to promote the protection of health and the environment, and to conserve valuable material and energy resources by providing guidelines for solid waste collection, transportation, separation, recovery, and disposal practices and systems.

A list of public and privately owned waste to energy plants and class I landfills are located in [Storage and Disposal Facilities](#) appendix.

Currently this plan discusses only the disposal of oiled waste. Disposal procedures for hazardous waste are found in the Northeast Florida Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan for Hazardous Materials.

3273.1 FLORIDA

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The 1990 Florida Legislature enacted major changes to the State's oil spill response and cleanup laws. Among the changes was the following directive to the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) concerning the disposal of oil spill cleanup generated debris:

Chapter 376.304 (2) Florida Statutes states:

The Department of Environmental Protection is authorized to review and analyze the disposal materials or by-products used or resulting from the cleanup of the release of pollutants in the waters of the state. Such materials that are determined by the Department not to require extraordinary handling or disposal requirements may be designated for disposal in nearby existing, local government, solid waste disposal facilities where such facilities are determined to be designed and operated in a manner where disposal of such materials would not constitute an unreasonable risk to public health and the environment. Such designation by the Department shall not be disallowed by actions of the local government responsible for operating the solid waste disposal facility. The designation by the Department of a local government's solid waste facility as the location for disposing of materials and by-products resulting from the activities essential to the cleanup of pollutants in the waters of the state shall constitute final agency action subject to review pursuant to chapter 120, Florida Statutes.

Pre-Designation of Solid Waste Facilities for Debris Disposal:

In order to be prepared to properly manage the debris that could be generated from the cleanup of any significant or catastrophic release of pollutants in the waters of the state, the FDEP will pre-designate all suitable municipal solid waste facilities, coastal and inland, that are in compliance, and meet screening criteria developed in the "Final Report of Oil Spill Debris Disposal Study", for potential use as debris staging areas and disposal of suitable waste from the debris. This list of predesignated facilities will be maintained and updated on an annual basis.

In The Event of a Significant Spill:

The nearest designated facility, or several facilities if necessary, would be utilized as the recommended staging area for segregation and stockpiling of debris, unless a suitable commercial or private facility is available and preferred by the Responsible Party, or if the spill debris can be staged in the immediate vicinity of the spill affected area, such as on the beach above high water.

The FDEP Emergency Response Section (904) 448-4320 (after hours via the State Warning Point at (904) 413-9911) will provide guidance to the Responsible Party and the Federal On-Scene Coordinator during the spill cleanup operations so that the debris collected is segregated, to the extent possible, into categories of waste disposal method. As much of the waste debris, as can be determined, will be directed to appropriate facilities for disposal. The remaining debris will be sent to the selected staging area(s) for further characterization and storage, while additional waste disposal options are being reviewed.

- Debris suitable for disposal in solid waste facilities should first be directed to those facilities in the county or counties experiencing the spill.
- If the amount of debris is such that no single facility could manage it properly, the FDEP will recommend additional nearby facilities to share the burden of the waste.
- The FDEP District Waste Program Administrator will designate a lead District contact for the duration of the cleanup and disposal effort.
- The FDEP Emergency Response Section will designate a lead disposal contact for the Federal On Scene Coordinator (FOSC) and the Responsible Party's representative.
- A list of privately owned Landfills will also be provided to the FOSC and the Responsible Party.
- The Final Report of Oil Spill Debris Disposal Study should be used as a reference for determining suitable facilities for oil spill debris disposal.
- The Guidelines for Assessment and Remediation of Petroleum Contaminated Soils should be used as a reference regarding the level of contamination that is suitable for municipal landfill disposal.

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- A Directory of Refuse to Energy Facilities, and approved Thermal Treatment Facilities with the appropriate contact persons and telephone numbers will be maintained to assist in predetermining the types and volumes of waste acceptable at these facilities. A plan for establishing emergency permitting procedures for these facilities will be developed in conjunction with the Division of Air Resources Management.
- Guidelines are being developed for the appropriate use of soil washing technology and bioremediation.

General Disposal Guidelines:

- Liquid waste petroleum product - recycle or reuse
- Liquid waste petroleum product and water mixture - oil and water separator, then:
- Oil to recycler or rerefiner / water to POTW
- Oil contaminated organic debris (sorbents, wood, plant material) - Refuse to Energy or Thermal Treatment Facilities
- Oil contaminated sand, (saturated) - Thermal Treatment Facility or soil washing technology.
- Disposal options are described by the "Guidelines for Assessment and Remediation of Petroleum Contaminated Soil."
- Oil contaminated sand, (not saturated) - Designated Landfill to be used as cover material. Also should follow "Guidelines for Assessment and Remediation of Petroleum Contaminated Soil."

3273.2 GEORGIA

The Georgia Hazardous Waste Management Act establishes the requirements for management of both hazardous and non-hazardous wastes in the State of Georgia. Georgia Environmental Protection Division (EPD),(404) 362-2684 is the State Department responsible for oversight and enforcement of the Hazardous Waste Management Act.

In the State of Georgia several disposal options are available for the disposal of contaminated soils and materials. These options are contingent upon the amount of Total Petroleum Hydrocarbons (TPH) in the contaminated soil. The State has established a target TPH value of 100 ppm. For those contaminated soils which have TPH values less than 100 ppm, disposal at a permitted landfill with a liner and leachate collection system is acceptable as daily cover. Most counties within the state have at least one landfill, but most of these landfills do not contain a liner or leachate collection system.

Contaminated soils with TPH values less than 10 ppm TPH are considered recovered materials and are no longer considered solid waste, unless discarded in a manner which creates a threat to human health or the environment. As a recovered material these soils may be recycled or reused in a beneficial manner. If the remediation facility disposes of these soils as opposed to beneficially reusing them, then the facility must obtain a solid waste handling permit from the Division.

Those soils that possess TPH levels in excess of 100 ppm can only be disposed of at an EPD approved facility. The facility may be either a landfill with a liner and a leachate collection system or a permitted asphalt plant. At no time may any free liquids or hazardous waste be disposed of at any of these facilities. Equipment used in petroleum clean up operations should also be taken to a lined landfill for disposal.

As the accompanying document describes, only petroleum contaminated soils from underground storage tanks are deferred from regulation under the Hazardous Waste Management Act. All contaminated soils from other sources must be tested to document that they are non-hazardous. Both generator and disposal facility are responsible under state and federal laws to ensure that these soils are non-hazardous.

While the State of Georgia recommends that non-hazardous petroleum contaminated soils may be disposed of at an EPD permitted solid waste handling facility, each facility is responsible for ensuring compliance with its permit. Each permit issued in the State is facility specific. While a lined landfill in Atlanta may be permitted to accept petroleum contaminated soils with up to 500 ppm TPH, a landfill in another location of the state may only be allowed to accept

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soils with up to 200 ppm TPH. Prior to soil transport to any facility, the generator should contact the landfill or asphalt plant and receive direction as to what specific criteria the facility will require for disposal.

The Guidance Document listed below has been prepared by the Georgia Underground Storage (UST) program. Though prepared by the UST program to address UST facilities, all of EPD uses this document to maintain consistency throughout the State. Any deviation from this document without prior approval from the EPD will constitute a violation of State law. Questions regarding disposal of petroleum contaminated soil from UST facilities should be directed to the UST program in Atlanta at (404) 656-6905. When oils are found to be hazardous, disposal questions should be directed to the Hazardous Waste Branch in Atlanta at (404) 362-2684.

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GUIDANCE DOCUMENT

Facilities Accepting and Processing
Petroleum Contaminated Soil

Asphalt processing facilities and other soil remediation facilities are applying for modifications to their existing air quality permits or for new permits in order to accept and process petroleum contaminated soil. These amended or new permits generally allow these facilities the option of processing non-hazardous contaminated soil, but prevent the permittee from processing any petroleum contaminated soil until they have been issued a Solid Waste Handling Permit or receive written notification from the Land Protection Branch that no permit is required.

No hazardous waste may be processed at these facilities. Since only petroleum contaminated soils from regulated underground storage tanks are currently deferred from regulation under the Hazardous Waste Management Act, all soils from other sources must be tested to document they are non-hazardous. By law, the waste generator must make this determination, but the facility should verify that the soil is non-hazardous before accepting it for processing.

Such facilities are exempt from solid waste handling regulations, provided the facility can furnish documentation verifying they are operating in accordance with the regulations applicable to a recovered materials facility as defined in the Rules for Solid Waste Management, Chapter 391-3-4-.04(7).

Documentation must include proof that the facility has known markets for the material to be processed and that equipment is available to do any required processing. Additionally, the facility must show that 60 percent by weight or volume of the petroleum contaminated soil received is sold, used, reused, or recycled, thus diverting or removing it from the solid waste stream, in the previous 12 months. Any accumulation of processed soil without proof that adequate markets exist for its sale, use, reuse, or recycling, or without possessing the necessary equipment to process the soils, constitutes solid waste handling, regardless of the 60 percent rule. It is the permittee's responsibility to maintain complete and accurate records to demonstrate adherence to the recovered materials classification.

Currently approved reuses of non-hazardous petroleum contaminated soils include hot or cold asphalt products, road base beneath asphalt and, under limited conditions, landfill daily cover. Remediated soils used for road base and placed in depths exceeding 24 inches will be considered fill material rather than road base.

Remediated soil not exceeding 100 (ppm) TPH and 20 (ppm) total BTEX may be used as daily cover at an EPD approved municipal solid waste landfill with a liner and leachate collection system, meeting all

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requirements of the Georgia Solid Waste Management Act and Rules for Solid Waste Management, Chapter 391-3-4-.07(1)(1) and (3)(c).

Landfilling of non-hazardous petroleum contaminated soils having in excess of 100 (ppm) TPH and 20 (ppm) total BTEX is acceptable only at EPD approved municipal solid waste landfills constructed with a liner and leachate collection system in compliance with all requirements of the Georgia Solid Waste Management Act and the Solid Waste Management Rules.

Non-hazardous petroleum contaminated soils remediated to certified non-detect levels of 10 (ppm) TPH and 1 (ppm) total BTEX will be classified as a recovered material and no longer considered solid waste, unless discarded in a manner which creates a threat to human health or the environment. If the soil remediation facility dispose of processed soils as opposed to beneficially reusing or recycling them as specified above, then the soil remediation facility must obtain a solid waste handling permit before processing such soils.

Any facility claiming to be a reclaimed materials facility and found not to qualify as such upon investigation by the Division, will be considered in violation of the Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Act for operating without a permit and subject to enforcement action.

Any facility classified as a recovered materials facility must ensure that the storage of petroleum contaminated soils prior to processing does not impact the ground or surface waters through leaching or contaminated runoff.

3280 Decontamination Group

Responsible for decontamination of personnel and response equipment in compliance with approved statutes. Refer to Appendices [93XX Decontamination Plan](#) for a plan template and [9200 Personnel and Services Directory](#) for additional information.

- (1) Identify decontamination needs and provide resources to accomplish required cleaning and decontamination of personnel and equipment.
- (2) Identify resource and logistics needs to accomplish decontamination requirements.

3290 Dispersants

See [1640 Dispersants Pre-Approval//Monitoring/Decision Protocol](#).

32100 In Situ Burning

See [1650 Insitu Burn Approval/Monitoring/Decision Protocol](#)

3300 Emergency Response Branch

Responsible for overseeing and implementing emergency measures to protect life, mitigate further damage to the environment, and stabilize the situation. Refer to Appendices [9100 Emergency Notification](#), [9200 Personnel and Services Directory](#), [9710 Response Strategies](#), and [9700 Response Resources](#) for additional information. In addition [9720.400 Tidal Inlet Protection Strategies](#) guidance.

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3310 Oil Discharge Classification

The following classifications of oil discharges serve as guidance for the pre-designated Federal OSC as specified under 40 CFR 300.5:

Coastal Waters (Coast Guard)

Minor: <10,000 gals

Medium: 10,000-100,000 gals

Major: >100,000 gals

Inland Waters (EPA)

Minor: <1,000 gals

Medium: 1,000-10,000 gals

Major: >10,000 gals

NOTE: Any discharge that poses a substantial threat to public health or welfare, or results in a critical public concern shall be classified as a "major discharge."

3320 Hazardous Materials Release Classification

The classification of hazardous substance releases under 40 CFR 300.6 is as follows:

Minor: Any release that causes minimal threat to public health or welfare and/or the environment.

Medium: All releases other than a minor or major release.

Major: Any release that causes a substantial threat to public health or welfare, a substantial threat to the environment and/or significant public concern.

3330 SAR Group

Responsible for prioritization and coordination of all SAR resources directly related to the specific incident. Refer to Appendices [9100 Emergency Notification](#) and [9200 Personnel and Services Directory](#) for additional information.

3340 Salvage Group

Responsible for coordinating and directing salvage activities related to the incident. Refer to Appendices [9100 Emergency Notification](#) and [9200 Personnel and Services Directory](#) for additional information.

3340 Marine Firefighting Group

Responsible for coordinating and directing all fire fighting activities related to the incident. Refer to Appendices [9100 Emergency Notification](#) and [9200 Personnel and Services Directory](#) for additional information. In addition Section 8000 houses the MSO [Marine Fire Fighting Contingency Plan](#).

3350 Hazardous Material Group

Responsible for coordinating and directing all hazardous material activities related to the incident. Refer to Appendices [9100 Emergency Notification](#) and [9200 Personnel and Services Directory](#) for additional information. In addition, Section 7000 houses the [Hazardous Material Contingency Plan](#) portion of this ACP.

3360 Medical Group

Responsible for coordinating and directing all emergency medical services related to the incident. Refer to Appendices [9100 Emergency Notification](#) and [9200 Personnel and Services Directory](#) for additional information.

3370 Law Enforcement Group

Responsible for coordinating and directing all law enforcement activities related to the incident, which include, but not limited to isolating the incident, crowd control, traffic control, evacuations, beach closures, and/or perimeter security. Refer to Appendices [9100 Emergency Notification](#) and [9200 Personnel and Services Directory](#) for additional information.

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3400 Air Operations Branch

Responsible for preparing and implementing the air operations portion of the Incident Action Plan and providing logistical support to the aircraft operating on the incident. Aircraft landing sites information can be obtained through U.S. Coast Guard Air Station Clearwater, FL Operations Center at (727) 535-1437.

3410 Air Tactical Group

The Air Tactical Group Supervisor is primarily responsible for the coordination and scheduling of aircraft operations intended to locate, observe, track, support dispersant applications or other response application techniques, or report on the incident situation when fixed and/or rotary-wing aircraft are airborne at the site. The Air Tactical Group Supervisor performs these coordination activities while assets are airborne, and reports to the Air Operations Branch Director and coordinates mission assignments, scheduling, and reports with the Situation Unit Leader.

3411 Air Traffic Coordination Unit

- (1) Direct and coordinate air operations as required by the Incident Operations Plan
- (2) Prioritize and assign air ops missions.
- (3) Request additional aircraft resources and release aircraft when authorized.
- (4) Coordinate ground services and aircraft support.
- (5) Identify additional resources and logistics needs.
- (6) Report on the status of air operations.

3412 Surveillance Unit

- (1) Direct and coordinate air operations missions to conduct oil spill tracking, observation, and remote sensing.
- (2) Coordinate mission tasking with scientific and technical observers.
- (3) Identify additional resources and logistics needs.
- (4) Report oil spill tracking, observation, and remote sensing results and coordinate observations to direct operational activities.

3413 Applications Unit

- (1) Conduct air operations missions to apply dispersants, chemical countermeasures, bioremediation, or other alternative response technologies as directed by the Operations Section Chief.
- (2) Identify additional resources and logistics needs.
- (3) Report on the efficacy of alternative response technology applications.

3420 Air Support Group

The Air Support Group Supervisor is responsible for supporting and managing Helibase and Helispot operations and maintaining liaison with Fixed-winged air bases. This include:

- Providing fuel and other supplies
- Providing maintenance and repair of helicopters
- Keeping records of helicopter activity
- Providing enforcement of safety regulations.

These major functions are performed at Helibases and Helispots. Helicopters during landing, takeoff, and while grounded, are under the control of the Air Support Group's Helibase or Helispot managers. The Air Support Group Supervisor reports to the Air Operations Branch Director.

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3430 Procedures for Temporary Flight Restrictions

Due to the presence of three major and several regional airports in this area, it is necessary to be aware of possible interference with airspace even for a 'routine over-flight'. In all cases, the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) and/or nearest airport that could be affected should be contacted.

NOTAMS or similar advisories can be posted/broadcasted by the FAA to alert aviators of possible environmental hazards. Likewise, response personnel and media engaged in assessment or follow-up surveillance of a spill site, need to be fully aware of FAA or DOD controlled airspace and any hazards or restrictions that may exist.

Links for more info:

[Insert Links to Airport Web Pages]

<http://www.atcsc.faa.gov/flyFAA/index.html> -FAA Air Traffic Control

3500 Staging Area Manager

The Staging Area Manager is responsible for managing all activities within the designated staging areas and reports directly to the Operations Section Chief. Refer to Appendices [5220.100 Staging Areas](#) and [9200 Personnel and Services Directory](#) for additional information.

3510 Staging Area Safety and Security

[Reserved for future Area Planning Committee development]

3600 Wildlife Branch

Responsible for minimizing wildlife losses during spill responses, coordinating early ground and aerial reconnaissance of wildlife at the spill site, employing wildlife hazing measures per the IAP, and recovering and rehabilitating impacted wildlife. Rehabilitation activities shall be coordinated through the Unified Command (UC). The State and Federal OSC working with the responsible party (if applicable) will provide guidance to the Operations section to ensure that all wildlife concerns of the public and appropriate trustees are addressed. Early initiation of wildlife rehabilitation activities within the Operations section will ensure adequate mobilization of staff, equipment and other applicable resources. The Wildlife Operations branch will be responsible for providing licensed, experienced rehabilitation personnel to coordinate and supervise all collection and rehabilitation activities. Untrained volunteers shall be trained and supervised by licensed rehabilitation personnel on the proper handling of wildlife as well as safety training including the use of personal protective equipment. Refer to Appendices [9110 Emergency Notification](#), [9710 Response Strategies](#), [9200 Personnel and Services Directory](#), [9710 Sensitive Area Information](#), and [9770 Inlet tidal Strategies](#).

3610 Wildlife Recovery Group

Responsible for coordinating the search for collection and field tagging of dead and live impacted wildlife and transporting them to the processing center:

- (1) Direct, coordinate, and conduct wildlife recovery and capture operations.
- (2) Maintain a central clearing point to direct recovered wildlife to appropriate rehabilitation facilities.
- (3) Maintain an evidence, tagging, and storage procedure for all wildlife recovered.
- (4) Manage the capture, triage, first aid, and transportation of recovered wildlife.
- (5) Provide training and briefing on actions and notifications required when response workers or members of the public encounter distressed wildlife.
- (6) Identify resources and logistics support requirements.
- (7) Report on wildlife recovery operations.

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3611 Wildlife Recovery Operations/Procedures

[Reserved for future Area Planning Committee development]

3612 Recovery Processing

[Reserved for future Area Planning Committee development]

3613 Carcass Retrieval and Processing

[Reserved for future Area Planning Committee development]

3620 Wildlife Rehabilitation Group

Responsible for receiving oiled wildlife at the processing center, recording essential information, collecting necessary samples, and conducting triage, stabilization, treatment, transport and rehabilitation of oiled animals requiring extended care and treatment. For Wildlife Rehabilitation points of contact, refer to the following appendices [9216 Trustees](#), [9240.170 Wildlife Resources](#), and [9710 Response Strategies](#)

- (1) Establish wildlife rehabilitation centers and conduct rehabilitation operations.
- (2) Maintain documentation on wildlife delivered for rehabilitation.
- (3) Store, document, coordinate laboratory analysis and necropsies, and properly handle deceased wildlife.
- (4) Identify resources and logistics support requirements.

3621 Wildlife Rehabilitation Operations

[Reserved for future Area Planning Committee development]

3622 Wildlife Rehabilitation Centers

[Reserved for future Area Planning Committee development]

3633 Wildlife Rehabilitation Procedures

[Reserved for future Area Planning Committee development]

3700 Reserved.

[Reserved for future Area Planning Committee Development].

3800 Reserved.

[Reserved for future Area Planning Committee Development].

3900 Reserved.

[Reserved for future Seventh Coast Guard District and Commander Atlantic Area development].

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