Chapter 2000

Command

**NW Area Committee Expectations:**
- Signatories agree that Unified Command will be utilized to manage spill responses. If consensus cannot be reached, the FOSC has the ultimate decision-making authority.

**Critical Elements of Chapter 1000:**
- Identifies which agencies have a command role in which situations
- Tribal and Local OSCs to be involved in Unified Command when possible.
- NW Area Committee prefers spiller not fill the PIO or LNO position
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# Command

## 2100 Command Structure – Unified Command Organization

### Policy Statement
It is the policy of the Northwest Area Committee to manage spill incidents according to the following principles:

**Incident Command System.** The signatory agencies will use the National Incident Management System (NIMS) model Incident Command System (ICS).

**Unified Command.** When a federal or state agency arrives on-scene to participate in managing a response action, the agencies will utilize a unified command structure to jointly manage the spill incident. In the unified command, decisions with regard to the response will be made by consensus and documented through a single Incident Action Plan (IAP) for each operational period. In the event that the Unified Command is unable to reach consensus, the FOSC has ultimate decision making authority.

**Tribal or Local Government On-Scene Coordinators.** The unified command may incorporate additional tribal or local government on-scene coordinators into the command structure as appropriate.

## 2200 Command Staff Elements: Roles and Responsibilities
The Area Committee has adopted the NIMS-based Incident Command System (ICS) as the basic model for managing a coordinated response. Under the Unified Command Structure, the Federal government, state, and responsible party will each provide an On-Scene Coordinator (OSC), who will consult each other and share decision-making authority regarding spill response and clean-up management issues. Depending on the circumstances of the incident, a local or tribal entity may also provide an OSC. Together, these OSCs will jointly serve as the Unified Command.
2210 Incident Commander/Unified Command

Incident Commanders for oil discharges and hazardous substance releases will, whenever possible and practical be organized under the Unified Command Structure which includes, but not limited to:

- The pre-designated Federal On Scene Coordinator (FOSC);
- The State On Scene Coordinator (SOSC);
- The representative of the Responsible Party (RP); and
- The local and/or tribal On Scene Coordinators, as appropriate.

To be considered for inclusion as a UC member, the following criteria must be considered:

1. The organization must have jurisdictional authority or functional responsibility under a law or ordinance for the incident; and
2. The organization must be specifically charged by law or ordinance with commanding, coordinating or managing a major aspect of the incident response; and
3. The incident or response operations must have impact on the organization’s Area Of Responsibility; and
4. The organization should have the resources to support participation in the response organization.

Actual Unified Command makeup for a specific incident will be determined on a case-by-case basis taking into account:

- The specifics of the incident;
- Determinations outlined in the four criteria listed above; and
- Decisions reached during the initial meeting of the Unified Command.

The makeup of the Unified Command may change as the incident progresses, in order to account for changes in the situation.

The Unified Command is responsible for the overall management of the incident. The Unified Command directs incident activities including the development and implementation of strategic decisions, approval of the incident action plan, and approves the ordering and releasing of resources. It is expected that each Unified Command member will have the authority to make decisions and commit resources on behalf of their organization.

An Organizational chart for the Unified Command & Command Staff is shown in Figure 2000-1. This serves as an example and is not meant to be all-inclusive.
Incident Command

Unified Command Structure/Incident Command System

Unified Command may include other representatives.

FOSC

SOSC

RPIC

Tribal/Other OSC

LOS C

COMMAND STAFF

Information Officer

Safety Officer

Liaison Officer

Indicates initial contact point

Figure 2000-1 Incident Command
2211  **Naming Convention for Oil Spills – Washington State Policy**

In order to ensure that accurate and credible information is provided to the public and to elected officials, it is the policy in Washington State to use the following naming convention for oil spills:

1. **Source by Name**: Name of vessel or facility, or other source (rail, pipeline, etc.)
2. **Geographic**: Location of the incident
3. **Incident Description**: Spill, spill threat, fire, explosion, grounding, sinking, etc.
4. **Date**: which may be optional if the spiller has had previous oil spills.

When unified command is formed, UC officials negotiate and concur on key decisions which may include the name of the incident.

2212  **Submerged or Sinking Oils – Expectations and UC Responsibilities**

The expectation of the Co-chairs of the Area Committee and committee members is that Group V oil will be identified in the initial report of an oil spill to the National Response Center. With knowledge that oil spilled is Group V, professional oil spill responders will identify specialized submerged oil equipment / personnel and get it on-scene. Unified Commanders must concern themselves with writing response objectives aimed at underwater detection, containment and recovery. Refer to section 9412 Non-floating oils response tool for details on response techniques, equipment capabilities, and considerations for non-floating oil spill response.

2220  **Information Officer**

The Regional Response Team/NW Area Committee prefers that the spiller not fill the IO position. This applies to both government agency and private industry spillers. However, the RRT/NWAC recognizes that unified command holds the discretion to fill the position with whomever they choose. Unified Command should consider credibility with the media and public, as well as previous experience in drills or spills, familiarity with the Northwest Area Contingency Plan tools and policies and with Emergency Management Support Function #15. Upon concurrence of unified command, the spiller may fill the IO position. The RRT/Northwest Area Committee also encourages responsible parties to designate an Assistant Information Officer, who will participate in all the meetings attended by and briefings made by the Information Officer.

Please refer to 9202: JIC Manual during a response.

2221  **Pre-JIC – Initial Information Officer**

When a state environmental or emergency management agency, the Coast Guard or the EPA first learns about a spill, the respective public information officers should quickly contact one another to share information in an effort to release a
joint statement to the media. This first release should be issued within 30 minutes of the initial notification and not longer than two hours after notification is received. Initial media releases should be approved by the FOSC or his/her designated representative and the SOSC prior to release.

Until a JIC is established, communication with the media and other key audiences is carried out by a lead agency’s information office, either remotely or on-site.

In order to build trust with the public and among agencies that are responding to the incident, every press release should include a “cooperative response statement.” This statement should include, by name, all the primary participating agencies who are responding to the spill.

The volume of material spilled is an important piece of information that the public and media are generally interested in during the early hours of an incident. Unless responding agencies have accurate information regarding the volume spilled that has been approved through the Unified Command for release, initial press releases should use a range of volumes, the potential spill volume, or emphasize that the volume is only an estimate which may change as more accurate information is obtained.

2222 JIC Function and Use of Dispersants
Once unified command sets objectives to consider the use of dispersants, it is critical that the JIC prepares for communication with the public.

The Information Officer will review any EU Dispersant Recommendation Memo prior to its submission to the Unified Command for consideration, and will work with the EUL to ensure that the memo meets the needs of the IO.

If the Unified Command makes the decision to proceed with the use of dispersants during an incident response the JIC should be prepared to provide a mechanism for sharing information with the public and addressing potential concerns and to outline the process used to make the decision, provide background and scientific information about dispersants and the area in which they will be used, and to addressing any other environmental and safety considerations expressed by the public.

2230 Safety Officer
Personnel involved in oil spill response activities must comply with all applicable worker health and safety laws and regulations. The unified command may appoint a Safety Officer and request development of a specific Site Safety Plan. Site Safety Plan Job Aid available in 9203. Site Safety Plan Template available in 9204. Key safety aspects to be considered in the plan may include:

- Physical hazards (e.g., waves, tides, unstable or slippery surfaces)
- Heavy machinery and equipment
- Chemical hazards (e.g., oil and dispersant exposure)
Northwest Area Contingency Plan

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- Atmospheric hazards (e.g., fumes, ignition risks)
- Confined spaces
- PPE
- Noise
- Fatigue
- Heat/cold stress
- Wildlife (bites/stings)
- Cleanup facilities
- Medical treatment
- Extreme weather

**HUMAN SAFETY OVERRIDES ALL OTHER CONSIDERATIONS DURING A RESPONSE**

Additional Safety Considerations When Using Dispersants:

- Individuals should not engage in activities that they are not appropriately trained to perform.
- Individuals are expected to adhere to safety procedures appropriate to the conditions they are working under.
- Vessel/aircraft operators are expected to define appropriate operational limits and safety and maintenance requirements for their craft.
- Vessels and response resources should be properly maintained and undergo proper decontamination procedures.
- Apply dispersants only if there is no significant risk to response personnel (e.g., ignition risk, operational hazards).
- Ensure the appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE) is available.
- Ensure that application aircraft and vessels remain within standard operating limits.

**2231 SO Function and Use of Dispersants**
The Safety Officer will review the EU Dispersant Recommendation Memo prior to its submission to the Unified Command for consideration, and will work with the EUL to ensure that the memo meets the needs of the SO.

**2232 SO Function and Submerged or Sinking Oils**
When diving operations are conducted in contaminated water or in an area where there is a substantial threat of discharge of oil or hazardous materials, commercial divers must also comply with the OSHA training and operational standards for Hazardous Waste Operations and Emergency Response (HAZWOPER). Divers should provide proof of HAZWOPER training, that they participate in a medical monitoring program with their employer, and evidence that they have completed the annual refresher training, before commencing diving operations. The Safety Officer should supplement their site-specific safety plan and on-site safety audits with a
safety checklist for contaminated water diving if divers are used to locate submerged or sinking oils. Refer to section 9412 Non-floating oils response tool for details on response techniques, equipment capabilities, and considerations for non-floating oil spill response.

### 2233 Operational Safety Issues Associated with Bakken Crude Oil

Because of the presence of up to 30 percent (by volume) light volatiles in Bakken Crude oil, the potential for fire and explosion is the single largest risk to responder and public health. Accordingly, extreme caution should be exercised during the initial stages of response. Operations should refer to general response guidelines are from the 2012 Emergency Response Guidebook prepared by the U.S. Department of Transportation – Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration and Transport Canada. Bakken is not listed by name, but falls under Petroleum Crude Oil.

### 2240 Liaison Officer

Given the importance of the Liaison Officer duties, and to ensure public confidence and trust, it is the policy of the RRT/Northwest Area Committee for the Liaison Officer position to be filled by a qualified representative of a federal, state, tribal, or local agency, if available. If no such agency representative is initially available, qualified, or willing to be the Liaison Officer, a responsible-party representative may, upon the Unified Command’s concurrence, fill that role. Furthermore, a transition to a responsible party designated Liaison Officer may occur with the concurrence of the Unified Command. The RRT/Northwest Area Committee also encourage responsible parties to designate an Assistant Liaison Officer to participate in the meetings attended by the Liaison Officer.

Please refer to 9210: Liaison Manual during a response.

### 2241 Liaison Function and Use of dispersants

Once unified command sets objectives to consider the use of dispersants, it is critical that Liaison prepares for communication with stakeholders including elected officials. Stakeholder meetings should be scheduled as soon as possible to provide a mechanism for sharing information and addressing concerns. Liaison should be ready to provide both initial and then reliable and continuous updates to stakeholders once the decision to use dispersants is made.

Areas that must be adequately addressed during for stakeholders include:

- Background and scientific information
- Decision process and area plan policies for dispersant use
- Seafood tainting concerns posed by dispersants
- Risk communication.
- Discussion of net environmental benefit analyses and species of special concern.
- Monitoring policies established for the spill
The Liaison Officer will review the EU Dispersant Recommendation Memo prior to its submission to the Unified Command for consideration, and will work with the EUL to ensure that the memo meets the needs of the LO.

2250 Natural Resource Damage Assessment
NRDA involves identifying the type and degree of impacts to public biological and cultural resources in order to assist in restoring those resources. NRDA may involve a range of field surveys and studies used to develop a monetary damage claim, or may involve immediately developing a restoration plan with the responsible party. NRDA activities for small spills typically involve simplified assessment methods and minimal field data collection.

Given that the goals of NRDA are outside the sphere of most emergency spill response actions, NRDA activities generally do not occur within the structure, processes, and control of the Incident Command System. However, particularly in the early phases of a spill response, many NRDA activities overlap with environmental assessment performed for the sake of spill response. Because NRDA is carried out by natural resource trustee agencies and/or their contractors, personnel limitations may require staff to perform NRDA and response activities simultaneously. Therefore, NRDA staff should remain coordinated with the spill response organization, and need to work with the Liaison Officer to coordinate with the Unified Command, Environmental Unit, Wildlife Branch and the NOAA Scientific Support Coordinator to resolve any problems or address areas of overlap. While NRDA resource requirements and costs may fall outside the responsibility of the Logistics and Finance sections, coordination is again important.

2260 Incident Investigation
Criminal or civil investigators from federal and state agencies will not normally be a part of the Unified Command. While personnel may report to individuals that are part of the UC, the investigators should be separate so as not to introduce polarizing forces into the Unified Command system. Coordination with Unified Command is done through the Liaison Officer.

2300 Response and Support Agencies
2310 Federal Agencies and Teams
For additional details on each agency/teams role and capability, please see 9106: Response Partner Roles and Contacts

US Environmental Protection Agency
  EPA Emergency Response Team
  EPA Radiological Emergency Response Team
US Coast Guard
  US Coast Guard National Strike Force
  US Coast Guard Incident Management Assist Teams
Federal Emergency Management Agency
US Department of Defense
  US Navy Supervisor of Salvage
  US Army Corps of Engineers
US Department of Health and Human Services
  Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
US Department of Agriculture
US Department of Energy
US Department of the Interior
  US Geologic Survey
  Bureau of Land Management
  Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement
  Office of Surface Mining
  National Park Service
  Bureau of Reclamation
  Bureau of Indian Affairs
  US Fish and Wildlife Service
US Department of Justice
US Department of Labor
  Occupational Safety and Health Administration
Department of Transportation
  Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration
  Federal Railway Administration

2320  State Resources/Agencies
2321  Washington Resources/Agencies
2321.1  Washington Department of Fish & Wildlife
Trustee of fish, shellfish, wildlife, and associated habitats; also trustee of wildlife management lands and public access sites. WDFW works with representatives of state, federal and tribal agencies to protect fish and wildlife and other natural resources from petroleum spills. Activities fall into three primary areas: Natural Resource Protection, Oiled Wildlife Rescue and Natural Resource Damage Assessment. The Department’s expertise is available on a round-the-clock basis to address the needs of fish and wildlife during spill events, and provides considerable support to the State’s oil spill planning and preparedness efforts. The agency is actively involved in improving Washington’s oiled wildlife rescue capabilities, and in restoring fish and wildlife resources impacted by oil spills through damage compensation.

2321.2  Washington Department of Natural Resources
Trustee of state-owned aquatic lands (SOAL) and associated habitat, including kelp, eelgrass, sediment, and other elements of the near-shore and bedland environments. DNR may provide equipment, personnel and/or technical assistance in the spill response effort. DNR is also an active participant in the NRDA team.
2321.3 Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission
Trustee of state park lands, including public recreation sites and associated natural resources. Has the responsibility for maintaining the biological, cultural, natural, and structural resources of numerous underwater parks, beach properties, mooring buoys, boat launches, and related recreational facilities and assorted equipment, which may be damaged by large spills of oil or other hazardous materials. WP&RC may provide equipment and technical assistance in the spill response effort. WP&RC is an active participant in the NRDA team.

2321.4 Washington Department of Health
Responsible for public health associated with shellfish beds. Has responsibility for beach closures for human health and safety purposes, utilization of contaminated food organisms, and general health-related matters for the safety of the public. In addition, WDOH is to render all appropriate laboratory support and services to the SOSC. WDOH is a participant in the NRDA team.

2321.5 Washington Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation
Responsible for protection of historic and archaeological sites. Provides State Historic Preservation consultation.

2321.6 Washington Department of Agriculture
Responsible for laboratory testing and sampling for spills involving pesticides; and food product testing (e.g. milk, seaweed, etc.).

2321.7 Washington Department of Labor and Industries/
Washington Industrial Safety and Health Administration
Primarily responsible for assuring that employers, including oil spill clean-up contractors, Ecology, and other state agencies are providing safe and healthful workplaces for their employees. This responsibility is carried out through enforcement of rules promulgated under authority granted in RCW 49.17. WISHA also offers a consulting service to employers to assist in their efforts to comply with the above referenced regulations. Prior to an emergency, WISHA responsibilities include:

- Conducting inspections of oil storage and transit facilities;
- Evaluating facility emergency response plans;
- Determining whether first responders are properly trained; and
- Assisting in the development of plans and procedures which meet the requirement of WISHA regulations.

With respect to oil spills, DLI’s specific responsibilities under WAC 296-62-300 entail the performance of spill responder employers. DLI will evaluate the following:
The development of a safety and health program;
Site characterization;
Site control;
Medical surveillance;
Decontamination procedures;
Emergency response procedures; and
Personal protective equipment requirements.

Additional responsibilities may involve:
- Providing information and technical assistance to the OSC and responsible party;
- Conducting inspections of employers involved in spill response efforts by compliance officers; and
- Stationing a compliance officer in the command post to assist the OSC make decisions relative to employee safety and worker training issues.

L&I establishes and enforces safety requirements for emergency spill response, including for the use of volunteers.

2321.8 Washington Department of Transportation
May provide traffic control, equipment, and personnel for non-hazardous clean-up activities on state and interstate highways. The WDOT may provide and mobilize equipment necessary in a major spill incident.

2321.9 Washington Department of Ecology
Trustee of state water, air, and sediment quality. Ecology is the lead state agency for environmental pollution response within the state of Washington. As such, it has pre-designated On-scene Coordinators for spills occurring in state jurisdiction. In this role, Ecology effectively represents all state agencies and the interests of the state and its citizens. In the event of a spill occurring on a state highway, Ecology coordinates with the Washington State Patrol (WSP), which assumes responsibility as IC, and acts as the lead agency responsible for clean-up activities.

The key responsibilities of Ecology include:
- Representing state laws and interests in spills by acting as the state On-scene Coordinator (SOSC) in the Unified Command System;
- Providing 24-hour emergency response to reported spill incidents;
- Notifying key partner agencies (e.g., EMD, USCG, U.S. EPA.);
- Determining the source, cause, and responsible party;
- Assuring responsibilities of the responsible party if the spiller cannot be located or unresponsive;
- Ensuring that containment, clean up, and disposal are carried out in a timely and adequate manner;
Monitoring the safety of Ecology spill response personnel;
Initiating enforcement action as appropriate;
Effectively coordinating spill response efforts with other state, federal, and local agencies;
Establishing the joint information center with federal, state, and local agencies, and the responsible party;
Activating and coordinating the Natural Resource Damage Assessment (NRDA) team;
Notifying the appropriate resource trustee agency if injury to fish, shellfish, habitat, wildlife or damage to cultural resources is noted or suspected as a result of a spill; and
Requesting from the National Guard, local fire crews, and prison facilities personnel and support equipment for response purposes if necessary via EMD.

Additional responsibilities include:
Acting as head of the state ICS (a role for the Director or designated representative of Ecology);
Maintaining a list of clean-up contractors;
Approving vessel and facility prevention and contingency plans;
Developing certification procedures for key oil facility personnel;
Serving as state lead agency under the National Contingency Plan (NCP);
Serving as state representative on the Regional Response Team (RRT);
Coordinating information management with federal agencies and the RP;
Providing funding as appropriate for spill response activities;
Coordinating and documenting the recovery of costs incurred by the state during a spill incident;
Advising parties on the use of dispersants and in situ burning and coordinating their use with the Regional Response Team;
Initiating (where Ecology is sole trust agency) a detailed resource damage assessment;
Approving primary response contractors;
Evaluating and developing clean up and disposal options;
Assisting in notification of state agencies;
Notifying interested parties;
Conduct on-site inspection of commercial vessels and oil handling facilities;
Investigates the cause of commercial vessel and oil handling facility incidents; and
Provide maritime expertise, such as advice on vessel salvage operations.
Ecology will work with public and private parties whose land and other property may be affected by an oil or hazardous substance discharge and assume the following responsibilities:

- Identifying the RP (if known) and explain the role of the RP in responding to the incident;
- Identifying any hazards which exist or might exist as a result of the spill;
- Explaining the activities which Ecology can and cannot do in monitoring or responding to the incident;
- Providing technical assistance, if requested, on issues of clean-up, waste disposal, and other incident related activities;
- Identifying any necessary permits required for clean-up activities; and
- Coordinating development/maintenance of GRPs for Washington waters.

Ecology is responsible to establish a volunteer coordination system. The volunteer coordination system will be included as a part of the state's overall oil spill response strategy, and may be implemented by local emergency management organizations, in coordination with any analogous federal efforts, to supplement the state's timely and effective response to spills.

2321.9.1 Washington State Department of Ecology Inland Responsibilities

Although EPA bears primary responsibility for inland spill incidents that occur within the inland zone of Washington, for certain spill responses Washington State Department of Ecology may be asked to act as an on-scene representative to EPA under Federal response authorities. Also, Ecology often responds to spills under state statutory authorities, making a federal response unnecessary. A draft Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) outlining this arrangement is currently the subject of discussions between EPA and Ecology.

2321.9.2 Washington State Department of Ecology Regions

Ecology is divided into four distinct regions across the state. Each region has predesignated SOSCs, and it is this SOSC that carries Ecology’s primary responsibility in spill response activities within the region in which the incident occurs.

2321.9.3 Washington State Department of Ecology SOSC Responsibilities

Once alerted to a spill, the SOSC/Ecology may engage in either a monitoring role or a response role, depending on the circumstances of the spill and on-going response efforts (in the event the spill occurs upon federal lands, the SOSC will respond and assist in clean-up as time and personnel allow, but only after federal agencies have exhausted their clean-up responsibility options).

In a monitoring capacity, the SOSC is responsible for ensuring that the spiller properly manages the initial response and containment effort, clean up, disposal of contaminated debris and restoration of the environment in a manner that is
acceptable to the state, the local jurisdictions, and the public. In addition, the SOSC/Ecology is responsible for coordinating clean-up efforts and representing other state agencies on the RRT.

In the event the SOSC/Ecology determines that the spiller’s response is inadequate, or no spiller/responsible party can be located, it may take over response efforts and assume a clean-up role. In this role, Ecology effectively assumes the responsibilities of the responsible party including containment, clean up, disposal of oily waste and debris, and the restoration of the environment. It is a responsibility of the regional OSC to become familiar with the capability of local responders, local emergency plans as they pertain to spills and to help develop workable local plans with the appropriate local planning agencies.

2321.9.4 Washington State Ecology Response Team
The Ecology Response Team consists of Washington State Department of Ecology regional office and headquarters personnel. This team is responsible for determining the source, cause, and responsible party, as well as initiating enforcement action as appropriate. Additional responsibilities include ensuring containment, clean up and disposal are carried out adequately. The team coordinates its actions with other federal, state, and local agencies.

2331.10 Washington Emergency Management
2331.10.1 State Emergency Response Commission
The SERC was formed in response to the federal “Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act” intended to increase public knowledge of hazardous chemicals in their communities and the dangers posed when releases occur to the environment.

2331.10.2 Military Department, Emergency Management Division
Responsible for:

- Developing and maintaining a Hazardous Materials Emergency Support Function;
- Developing and maintaining a state Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan;
- Maintaining a 24-hour capability to receive notification of incidents and requests for assistance and initial notification to local, state, and federal response agencies;
- Activating the state Emergency Operations Center (EOC) as needed to coordinate state resource identification and acquisition in support of Ecology response;
- Deploying EMD liaison/coordinator to the Ecology Command Post to support Ecology response activities;
- Providing a Public Information Officer (PIO) to the Joint Information Center (JIC);
- Providing communications links via CEMNET and other EMD systems on a routine or emergency basis to Ecology and contractor personnel;
Maintaining an updated list of NRDA team members as submitted by participating agencies
Maintaining and updating a notification list of federal, state and local agencies involved in emergency response;
Coordinating procurement of state resources for use by the OSC or as requested by local EMD or other designated local or state response agencies; and
Coordinating and participating in emergency exercises and drills to the extent possible.

2321.11 Washington State Patrol
Acts as the designated Incident command agency for incidents on interstate and state highways, and other roads and jurisdictions as delegated. When a spill occurs on a state highway, Ecology joins the Unified Command and acts as the lead agency for clean-up response. Specifically, the WSP:

- Assist local authorities with local law enforcement operations and evacuations of all persons and property;
- Coordinates and maintains liaison with the state Department of Corrections, WDW, licensing Commission, Military, WDNR, Liquor Control Board, WP&RC, and the Utilities and Transportation Commission for use of their available personnel and equipment, for reinforcement and special emergency assignments;
- Assists the EMD receive and disseminate of warning information to state and local government;
- Provides communication resources in support of statewide emergency operational needs;
- Coordinates law enforcement and emergency traffic control throughout the state. Enforces emergency highway regulations;
- Assumes the role of IC on all state, and inter-state highways, and a variety of political subdivisions;
- Currently IC in over 400 political subdivisions, including cities, towns, ports, counties, and fire districts;
- The IC is required to function under federal regulations;
- The IC can offer immunity to liability under the “Good Samaritan” statute (RCW 70.136);
- The WSP is required to provide supervisory assistance to other IC agencies when requested;
- Provides radiological monitoring;
- Provides security at the state Emergency Operations Center (EOC) during disaster operations;
- Provides aircraft for reconnaissance of disaster impacted areas;
- Serves as the lead agency in the state EOC for coordinating disaster law enforcement activities;
Provides PIO support to the office of the governor and the EMD during an emergency, and during recover operations;
Serves as one of the three members of the State Emergency Response Commission (SERC); and
Serves as Chair of the Emergency Response sub-Committee of the State Hazardous Materials Advisory Committee.

2322 Oregon Resources/Agencies
2322.1 Oregon Department of Environmental Quality
The Department of Environmental Quality is the Lead State Agency for oil and hazardous materials incidents, except for spills or releases from chemical weapons at the Umatilla Chemical Depot. Coordinates state assistance during oil spills and hazardous material incidents.
- Receives notification via OERS;
- Notifies OERS and local response personnel if first on scene or notified by other than OERS personnel;
- Provides technical assistance and advises on necessary protective actions;
- Evaluates the environmental implications of a spill. In coordination with Oregon State Public Health, evaluates possible public health effects;
- Coordinates state support to on scene personnel in cooperation with Oregon Emergency Management;
- Identifies priority areas for protection and cleanup in consultation with other state and federal agencies;
- Coordinates public information with otherPIOs in the JIC;
- Liaison with federal agencies, adjacent states, local governments, tribes, environmental groups, volunteers, private firms (shippers, carriers, etc.), as needed;
- Collects and analyzes water, soil, vegetation or tissue samples;
- Identifies cleanup requirements;
- Works with FOSC and RP to ensure that cleanup/restoration is done to specified standards;
- If necessary, coordinates with Governor to exercise Governor’s authority to protect health, safety and the environment;
- Identifies potential interim storage sites for oiled debris;
- Identifies potential disposal sites and/or methods and ensures that contaminated materials are disposed of in appropriate manner;
- Investigates cause of spill and pursues enforcement actions;
- Carries out trustee responsibilities including development and implementation of a plan for restoration, rehabilitation, replacement or acquisition of equivalent natural resources and to carry out damage assessment;

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Serves as a state Natural Resource Damage Assessment trustee; and
Serves on the Regional Response Team.

2322.2 Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife
- Notifies OERS and local emergency response personnel if first on scene or notified by other than OERS personnel;
- Responds to incidents that could degrade land or water to the point that fish or wildlife would be adversely affected, or their habitat degraded or destroyed;
- Evaluates and documents impact on fish and wildlife and scales payment of damages for losses of fish, wildlife or habitat;
- Serves as a state Natural Resource Damage Assessment trustee;
- Provides advice, counsel and logistics support, as necessary and if possible;
- Provides state oversight of wildlife rescue effort, including coordinator(s) for wildlife rehabilitation volunteer management;
- Provides public information regarding wildlife rehabilitation;
- Assists in determining priority areas for protection and cleanup; and
- Liaison with federal agencies, as needed.

2322.3 Oregon Department of Forestry
- Notifies OERS and local emergency response personnel if first on scene or upon receiving a report from a forest operator and
- If requested by the lead state agency, the Department of Forestry is capable of mobilizing a substantial response organization to provide support to emergency responders (radio systems, dispatch and command center trailers, public information personnel, kitchens and other support services).

2322.4 Oregon Department of Transportation
- Notifies OERS and local emergency response personnel if first on scene;
- Closes state highways and reroutes traffic when requested and necessary;
- Provides personnel and barricades to implement a closure and detour;
- Will direct spiller to start immediate cleanup if incident occurs on state highways;
- Can assist with logistics and equipment, as needed; and
- For transportation incidents involving motor carriers, the ODOT Motor Carrier Transportation Branch provides investigation after the incident has been stabilized. ODOT regulates the transport of hazardous materials by motor carrier in Oregon.
For transportation incidents involving rail, the ODOT Rail Section provides investigation after the incident has been stabilized. ODOT regulates the transport of hazardous materials by rail in Oregon.

ODOT’s Board of Maritime Pilots establishes pilotage grounds, licenses maritime pilots, sets pilotage fees, and conducts hearings. The Board also has the authority to set requirements for certain vessels carrying oil in pilotage grounds.

2322.5 Oregon Parks and Recreation Department
- Notifies OERS and local emergency response personnel if first on scene;
- For an incident affecting a state park, Parks and Recreation personnel assist other agencies in crowd and/or traffic control and provide equipment and facilities, as possible;
- Assists in determination of site location for command post, access points, etc., as needed;
- Provide information on cultural resources;
- Evaluates and documents impacts to State Park land and scales payment of damages for losses; and
- Provides advice, counsel, and logistics support as necessary and if possible.

An archaeologist with the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) must be notified when any spill cleanup will result in ground disturbing activities. The SHPO can be contacted through the Oregon Emergency Response System at (800) 452-0311.

2322.6 Oregon Division of State Lands
- Notifies OERS and local emergency response personnel if first on scene;
- Lead state agency for removal and fill activities, including wetlands;
- For an incident affecting DSL lands, provides advice, counsel, and logistics support as necessary and if possible; and
- Evaluates and documents impacts to and scales payment of damages for losses.

2322.7 Oregon Department of Agriculture
- Direct and/or assist in mitigating the event and/or agricultural threat response
- Evaluate the adverse impact of an accident on agricultural resources: animals, food, crops, plants, water, soil etc.
- Provide technical information on pesticides and fertilizers
- Provide laboratory analysis capability
- Provide assistance during incidents to prevent or mitigate shellfish contamination
Prepare information for dissemination to the public, producers, processors and other concerned groups

2322.8 Oregon State Public Health
- Lead State Agency for all radiation emergencies other than transportation accidents and maintains the State Radiation Emergency Response Field Team;
- Provides coordination and assistance during incidents involving hazardous materials and oil to protect public health and to prevent drinking water contamination;
- Notifies OERS if first notified or first on scene;
- Assures that Hazardous Substance training is provided to emergency medical personnel prior to spill response;
- Evaluates public health implications of incident;
- Recommends measures to protect public health;
- Coordinates emergency medical services within state;
- Collects and analyzes samples, as needed, for drinking water or radiological agents;
- Ensure that cleanup and restoration is done to specified standards for biological or radiological agents; and
- Coordinates public information with local PIO.

2322.9 Oregon Occupational Safety and Health Administration
- Provide technical assistance on worker safety and health issues.
- Liaison with federal OSHA when worker safety and health issues are coordinated pursuant to OSHA regional and national emergency management plans, or under the National Response Plan.
- Assist and coordinate on subjects such as worker protection related to incident-specific health and safety site plans (HASP), risk (hazard/exposure) assessments, personal protective equipment (PPE) and respiratory protection programs, responder training, and/or decontamination.
- Assist and coordinate on actions such as personal exposure monitoring and laboratory analysis of occupational exposure samples; data collection, interpretation and sharing; and reports and recordkeeping.
- Assist and coordinate on technical information resources to facilitate effective risk management and risk communication.

2322.10 Oregon Department of Energy
Lead state agency for planning, preparedness, and response to nuclear emergencies at fixed facilities (Hanford nuclear facilities, Columbia Generating Station, Trojan Independent Spent Fuel Storage Installation, Oregon State University Research Reactor, and Reed College Research Reactor), radioactive materials transport accidents, and petroleum shortages and disruptions.
Direct and coordinate state response to radiological emergencies at fixed nuclear facilities and on state roads and highways.

Direct and coordinate the allocation of fuel to the state’s emergency (police, fire, medical services) and essential services (utilities, public works, public transit, sanitation, telecommunications, etc.) sectors during petroleum emergencies.

Perform technical assessment, determine impacts to Oregon, and recommend protective actions for the public.

Direct and coordinate emergency information with federal, state, and local public information officers to ensure consistent messages are released to the public and news media.

Develop, maintain, and coordinate the review of plans and procedures.

Provide training, drills, and exercises to ensure federal, state, local, and industry response personnel are prepared to provide a coordinated response to nuclear and petroleum emergencies impacting Oregon.

Serve as liaison to federal agencies, other western states, utilities, petroleum suppliers, and private firms (shippers, carriers, etc.)

Distribute and maintain radiation detection equipment provided to Oregon Health Services and the state’s Hazardous Material Teams.

**2322.11 Oregon State Fire Marshal’s Office**

- Notifies OERS if first on scene;
- Arranges for fire service response and urban search and rescue to on scene operations when the Conflagration Act is initiated through the Governor, allowing him to call in resources from outlying fire districts;
- Coordinates response of the Regional HAZMAT Teams;
- Through Incident Management Teams provides communications, logistics, resource management and other support to the local Incident Commander during conflagrations or declared emergencies, as requested;
- Provides hazardous materials planning and response training assistance to all local and state government agencies;
- Provides fixed site information on oil and hazardous materials from hazardous substance survey database;
- Maintains hazardous materials incident reporting system, record incidents for informational and statistical purposes; and
- Maintains hazardous materials incident communications through the FIRE NET radio system.

**2322.12 Military Department (National Guard, Army and Air)**

When authorized by the Governor, in a major incident provides site security, administers first aid and care for evacuees, transports specialists, and assists in the recovery, identification and disposition of the deceased.
2322.13 Oregon State University
- Can call on a wide variety of expertise on a non-emergency basis.
- Operates the Extension Toxicology Network (http://ace.orst.edu/info/extoxnet) and the Oregon Toxicology Information Center which can provide specific information on toxicology.

2322.14 Oregon Emergency Management
2322.14.1 Oregon Emergency Response System Council
A body of state agencies involved in emergency planning and response which meets on a quarterly basis to review the roles and responsibilities of state agencies in an all-hazard environment which includes spill response, system needs and improvements, and communication capabilities.

2322.14.2 State Emergency Response Commission
The SERC is composed of government and industry officials appointed by the Governor to implement the provisions of Title III of the Federal Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act (SARA) of 1986. The group approves Local Emergency Response Plans. The group also designates emergency planning districts and provides oversight to the Local Emergency Planning Committee. The Oregon State Fire Marshal is the state lead agency for the SERC.

2322.14.3 Oregon Emergency Response System
Responsible for:
- Maintaining 24-hour notification and coordination capability through the Oregon Emergency Response System (OERS);
- Notifying lead state agencies; other notifications made as needed or upon request;
- Providing and/or coordinating statewide communications systems.

2322.15 Oregon State Police
Receives initial OERS notification on weekends, holidays, and after hours; notifies Oregon Emergency Management Duty Officer. Acts as initial Incident Command Agency until local command agency or appropriate federal agency is on scene, or if no local agency is available. Provides Law Enforcement support including traffic control, crowd control and site security. Coordinates mortuary services.

2323 Idaho Resources/Agencies
ID BHS maintains continuity and congruence of the NW Area Contingency Plan with the Idaho Emergency Operations Plan (IDEOP), Governor’s Executive Order, and the various County Emergency Operations Plans. ID BHS is
designated by state law to carry out the functions of a state emergency response commission as described by the federal Emergency Planning and Community Right to Know Act (EPCRA).

2330 HAZMAT Response Teams
See additional HAZMAT information in Chapter 7000

2340 Indian Tribes
Spills may affect tribes by either occurring on or near a reservation, or by threatening treaty reserved resources (including habitat) or cultural areas. There are 37 federally recognized Indian Tribes in the Northwest Area. There are additional state recognized tribes.

2341 Washington Tribes (29)
- Confederated Tribes of the Chehalis Reservation;
- Colville Confederated;
- Cowlitz;
- Hoh;
- Jamestown Klallam;
- Kalispel;
- Lower Elwha Klallam
- Lummi;
- Makah;
- Muckleshoot;
- Nisqually;
- Nooksack;
- Port Gamble – S’Klallam;
- Puyallup;
- Quileute;
- Quinault;
- Samish
- Sauk – Suiattle;
- Shoalwater Bay;
- Skokomish;
- Snoqualmie;
- Spokane;
- Squaxin Island;
- Stillaquamish;
- Suquamish;
- Swinomish;
- Tulalip;
- Upper Skagit; and
- Confederated Tribes of the Yakama Indian Reservation.

**Makah Tribe**

Makah Tribe personnel who will be participating in any level of the response are expected to be appropriately trained in any ICS positions they will be staffing, as well as understand how they will best fit into the system during a response. The positions where each member will be assigned will be determined jointly by the Unified Command to best suit the needs of the response.

The Makah Tribe will be represented within the ICS structure by members from various Tribal departments including:

- The Port of Neah Bay/Office of Marine Affairs
- Makah Fisheries Department
- Makah Cultural and Research Center
- Makah Emergency Management Department
- Neah Bay Police Department
- Neah Bay Fire Department

Makah Tribal staff participating in the Unified Command’s ICS structure will communicate with the Tribal On-Scene Coordinator when arriving on scene, upon check-in, to ensure that appropriate assignments are made and field operations are coordinated. Once Tribal staff are assigned, they will work within the ICS structure, under the direction of the appropriate Section Chief, Unit Leader or Division/Group Supervisor. This in no way limits their ability to communicate with the TOSC.

Depending on the type and complexity of response, it is generally expected that the Makah Tribe will provide staff and resources in the following areas:

- **Command:** The Office of Marine Affairs Manager will be the Tribal On-Scene Coordinator.
- **Information Officer/Joint Information Center:** The Makah Tribe will designate a trained Information Officer as appropriate.
- **Planning Section/Environmental Unit:** Makah Fisheries personnel will become members of the EU and PS as appropriate, and will be relied upon to provide the best available information about tribal resources that are at risk, provide baseline characterizations, assess and suggest response options, and provide local knowledge to support response operations and help determine treatment endpoints as well as help evaluate response options and waste management issues in concert with other key resource agencies and stakeholders.
- **Operations Section:** Port of Neah Bay personnel may be requested to facilitate the deployment of boats, equipment and personnel; and may staff other OPS roles as assigned.
Oregon Tribes (9):
- Burns Paiute;
- Coos - Lower Umpqua – Siuslaw;
- Coquille Indian Tribe;
- Cow Creek Band of Umpqua Indians;
- Grand Ronde, Confederated Tribes;
- Klamath;
- Siletz;
- Umatilla; and
- Warm Springs.

Idaho Tribes (4):
- Cœur d’Alene;
- Kootenai;
- Nez Perce; and
- Shoshone Bannock.

The reservations vary in size from those that own only the land where the tribal headquarters is located, to those like the Colville, Warm Springs, Yakama, Makah, and Fort Hall who each own very large reservations. Each Tribe has governmental responsibilities on their respective reservation. Most have active police departments and some system of emergency response, usually including trained volunteer first aid responders working in conjunction with a volunteer fire department.

In addition to land areas owned outright, many tribes have treaty rights to use of land and waters outside their reservation lands, which can include both marine and inland waterways. Treaty rights make tribes a partner in planning and often an impacted resource owner. Tribes have participated in developing Geographic Response Plans (GRPs). Tribes are considered sovereign entities when planning for and responding to oil spill or hazardous substance releases. The Unified Command system provides for tribal involvement during response activities. The FOSC is legally responsible for tribal notification, but Department of the Interior (DOI) may provide assistance. On-scene coordination is directly with tribal representatives. If a spill impacts tribal land, tribal governments will have authority over the use of volunteers.

Local Resources/Agencies

Under state law and the State Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan, different local departments have different responsibilities and capabilities which may be utilized in a major oil or hazardous substance discharge. The following responsibilities are typically shared among local fire, law enforcement,
emergency medical, public works, health departments, etc., for incidents involving oil or hazardous materials:

- Notification to EMD;
- Initial hazard determination and containment;
- Communications;
- Search and rescue (SAR);
- Liaison with other local officials; and
- Provides evacuation, shelter and mutual aid to other local EMDs.

2351.1  Emergency Management Agencies
May be involved with planning, training and assisting with interagency coordination. During incidents, may activate the community Emergency Operations Center (EOC) to support on-scene operations and requests for resources and other assistance. May support each other under mutual aid to augment staff or provide liaison. May be involved with the Local Emergency Planning Committee under Title III of SARA.

The responsibilities of local government’s EMD include:

- Acting as the coordinator for the various local emergency organizations and as the local liaison to Washington State EMD when that agency is involved;
- Contacting local landowners. (May also be performed by local Health Department);
- Establishing a Joint Information Center (JIC);
- Coordinating and maintaining liaison with local government units (fire, medical, public works, sheriff-law enforcement); and
- Providing communications with local government and industry.

Most jurisdictions have identified an Emergency Operations Center from which local operations are coordinated and supported. The facilities are usually found in the basement of local courthouses or some other fixed facility and are managed by the local department of emergency management. Field Command Posts are established by Incident Command Agencies to direct operations from the field.

Local EMD in Washington State has developed a mutual aid system to assist each other, when needed, in an oil spill or other major emergency. An “overhead team” of local emergency managers with oil spill, incident command, and response planning and experience has been developed. It may be activated by contacting any team member or through the state EMD Duty Officer, by any local EMD needing assistance. The response is done on a concept of mutual aid with all costs being borne by the responder and their respective jurisdiction unless specific arrangements are made with the requesting jurisdiction. Assistance could include, but not be limited to, policy level representation in the unified command, liaison, emergency public information and/or communications.
The size of the local government, its resources, and available personnel will greatly influence the existence and scope of local plans. Plans that are developed or updated are to be reviewed by the regional OSC of Ecology. Local government Emergency Management Directors and staff may assist each other under mutual aid to augment local responses staff and to provide liaison with other response agencies.

City or county governments may play a role in volunteer management during oil spills in providing support to the wildlife rescue effort or in implementing the State’s Emergency Worker Program for other volunteer tasks.

2351.2 Fire Departments
Generally, a primary local response agency, many have designated themselves the “Incident Command Agency” as per RCW 70.136. As capabilities differ, this may range from fully equipped teams which do most response actions to just the fire command personnel providing incident management.

2351.3 Site Safety Personnel/Health Departments
May deal with such issues as personnel protection, public health, environmental impacts and identification of unknown products. Also may assist the Incident Command Agency with information disposal techniques or identification of disposal contractors.

2352 Oregon

2353 Idaho