



LA-LB AREA CONTINGENCY PLAN v.2014.4

August 2018

**SECTION 2000
COMMAND**

ABSTRACT

The Command of an incident is in charge of the management of all activities. Together with the Command Staff Officers, the Command manages incident safety, communicates with the public and incident personnel, conducts outreach to other agencies, and advises on intelligence and investigation issues.

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2000 COMMAND

2100 Unified Command

2110 Command Representatives

There are three (3) Command Representatives comprising the Command Staff.

- Public Information Officer (PIO) – The IO is responsible for the coordination and release of all information to the response workers, the media and the public. In addition, the IO is responsible for press releases and the scheduling of press conferences related to the incident. The IO may also establish a Joint Information Center (JIC), which is a coordination with the media and other agencies, to facilitate the coordinated release of available information.
- Liaison Officer (LOFR) - Establish liaison, as needed, with representatives of assisting and cooperating agencies, elected officials, stateholders, and non-governmental organizations (NGOs). The LOFR works closely with the Public Information Officer and the Volunteer Coordinator.
- Safety Officer (SOFR) - The SOFR is responsible for the safety of all responders associated with the response and compliance with applicable safety laws and regulations. Also, the Safety Officer is responsible for assessing hazardous and unsafe situations and developing measures for assuring personnel safety. This responsibility is limited to the boundaries of the response and does not extend to public safety measures not under the incident control and authority of the IC/UC.

There are Four(4) Command Representatives comprising the General Staff.

- Planning Section Chief is responsible for the development of the Incident Action Plan (IAP) and identifying alternative strategies for the containment and cleanup of the discharge or release.
- Operations Section Chief is responsible for management of the tactical response to the discharge or release, including containment and cleanup efforts.
- Logistics Section Chief is responsible for ensuring that the necessary personnel and equipment are obtained and delivered to conduct response operations.
- Finance/Administration Section Chief is responsible for the accounting management of Fund expenditures, including documentation for claims and cost recovery. This position will typically be staffed by SILC, District, or NPFC representative for marine oil spills under Coast Guard jurisdiction. EPA may staff this position with Contracting Officers from their regional office.

2110.1 Federal Representative (FOSC)

When the FOSC has determined that a discharge or release has occurred or there is a substantial threat of a discharge or release, he/she is authorized by the NCP to direct all private, State, or Federal actions to remove the discharge or release or to mitigate or prevent the threat of such a discharge or release. The FOSC may, if necessary, destroy a vessel discharging or threatening to discharge, by whatever means is available. Upon receipt of notification of a discharge or release, the FOSC is responsible for conducting a preliminary assessment to determine the threat to human health and the environment; the responsible party and its capability to conduct the removal; and, the feasibility of a removal or the mitigation of impact. See Section 2005.01 for FOSC responsibilities in the event of a discharge or release.

The Federal OSC directs Federal response efforts and coordinates all other Federal efforts at the scene of a discharge or release. The FOSC may monitor Local, Tribal, State, or private entity actions to remove a discharge or release, and may provide technical assistance to Local, Tribal, State, or responsible party response personnel. If the incident occurs in EPA jurisdiction, a request for technical assistance from a State, Tribal or Local agency to EPA should be placed in writing and faxed to them. If the jurisdictions of FOSC/EPA overlap, the two agencies will discuss who will take OSC based on whether the impact is greater to the inland or coastal zone.

2110.2 State Representative (SOSC)

During responses to marine oil spills, local agencies may provide agency representatives who interface with the command structure through the State On-Scene Coordinator (SOSC), Liaison Officer, or the State representative. The SOSC plays an essential role in the Unified Command alongside the FOSC. When the USCG is FOSC the SOSC usually comes from the CA Department of Fish and Wildlife.

Each State representative may participate fully in all activities of the Regional Response Team (RRT). The State RRT representatives are expected to coordinate with the State Emergency Response Commissions (SERCs) in their respective States in order to communicate and coordinate preparedness and pre-response planning activities between the State and the RRT. State and Local government agencies are encouraged to coordinate with the State contingency planning efforts for oil and hazardous material events, the RCP, and requirements of Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act (SARA) Title III.

2110.3 Responsible Party (RP) Representative

When appropriate, the NRS is designed to incorporate a unified command and control support mechanism generally consisting of the FOSC, the State Incident Commander, the Local Incident Commander, and the Responsible Party Incident Manager. The Responsible Party has primary responsibility for cleanup of a discharge.

Each responsible party for a vessel or a facility from which oil is discharged, or which poses a substantial threat of a discharge, into or upon the navigable waters or adjoining shorelines or the Exclusive Economic Zone is liable for the removal costs and damages.

Each responsible party for a vessel or facility from which a hazardous substance is released, or which poses a substantial threat of a discharge, is liable for removal costs.

In an incident involving two or more responsible parties, each responsible party for a vessel or facility from which oil or hazardous substances is discharged is liable for the removal costs and damages. Each responsible party's liability extends to the entire incident not just its own material.

2110.4 Local Government Representatives (LGOSC)

Local governments require the ability to address operational coordination and policy issues as part of their statutory obligations to protect life, property and the environment.

When a spill occurs, the FOSC and SOSC shall evaluate the situation and may exercise the option to appoint a Local Government On-Scene Coordinator (LGOSC) as a member in the Unified Command (UC). Local governments may request appointment of an LGOSC via the SOSC utilizing the coordination procedures outlined under California's Standardized Emergency Management System (SEMS). Local governments may establish a Local Government Operational Area Multi-Agency Coordination Group (OA MAC). The OA MAC can nominate a qualified representative from among its member agencies to serve as the LGOSC as part of the Unified Command. The LGOSC will present the OA MAC concerns and viewpoints to the UC, provide the UC with pertinent information on the availability of local resources and address information distribution, operational coordination and policy issues with the UC.

If local governments are unable to serve as an LGOSC the local government can and should provide agency representatives who interface with the command structure through the Liaison Officer. Additional local government representatives may serve as needed in the Planning and Operations sections.

To be considered for an LGOSC position within the UC, the local government representative shall meet or exceed the same requirements as the FOSC, including but not limited to:

- A. Jurisdictional authority or functional responsibility or delegated authority under a law or ordinance for the incident.
- B. Incident or response operations within the organization's area of responsibility.
- C. Specifically authorized by law or ordinance with commanding, coordinating, or managing incident response.
- D. Full organizational authority to make decisions and execute all of the tasks assigned to the UC on behalf of the local government.
- E. Staffing to support and sustain 24/7 participation in Unified Command.
- F. Willingness to abide by incident command principles.
- K. Thorough understanding of the Incident Command System (ICS) and ICS Operational Planning Cycle.

2120 Guidance for Setting Response Objectives

In support of U.S. policy, the response objectives that should be implemented by the Unified Command are to allocate resources to their optimum use. The priorities of strategic objectives must be carefully considered since they vary from case to case, but generally they are as follows:

- Ensure the Safety of the public and all responders
- Stop the source
- Contain the spill
- Open Water Response
- Shoreline Protection and Response Shoreline Cleanup

The only variance from this strategy should be considerations of safety and the protection of critical environmentally sensitive or economically, culturally or archeologically significant resources that may demand protection even though manpower and equipment may be deployed elsewhere to more efficiently recover oil.

2130 General Response Priorities

In general, protection of the environmentally sensitive areas that could be impacted will receive a higher priority than economically significant sites. This hierarchy was established in the ranking of the environmentally sensitive sites as A, B & C and the economically significant sites as D, E, & F with the highest priority being A. However, resources and sites determined to be critical to the preservation of human health and safety, such as drinking water intakes, power plant intakes and desalination plants afford first priority, ahead of an environmentally sensitive site.

The UC may utilize the predetermined response strategies for environmentally sensitive sites and economically significant sites. The UC must decide which sites are in jeopardy of being oiled and the response strategy should be implemented as indicated in the response strategy site summary sheets included in Section 9000 of this plan. The UC and the responders should remain flexible and be receptive to additional information when instituting the booming plan or other countermeasures. Factors such as unusually high winds, strong tidal currents or freshets, equipment limitations, bottom conditions and the type of oil can have a significant effect on the proposed strategy.

2200 Safety

The FOSC has specific responsibilities for addressing worker health and safety concerns at a response scene, in accordance with the NCP (40 CFR Section 300.150). Response actions must comply with the provisions for response action worker safety and health in 29 CFR 1910.120. Requirements, standards, and regulations of state occupational safety and health laws must be complied with where applicable.

The Safety Officer (SOFR) writes or approves the Site Safety Plan. All response personnel are required to read and sign the Site Safety Plan prior to commencing activities.

The SOFR is responsible for the safety of all activities associated with the response and compliance with applicable safety laws and regulations. Safety is also responsible for assessing hazardous and unsafe situations and developing measures for assuring personnel safety. This responsibility is limited to the boundaries of the response and does not extend to public safety measures not under the incident control and authority of the IC/UC.

2210 Site Characterization

A preliminary evaluation of a site's characteristics shall be performed prior to site entry by a qualified person in order to aid in the selection of appropriate employee protection methods prior to site entry. Immediately after initial site entry, a more detailed evaluation of the site's specific characteristics shall be performed by a qualified person in order to further identify existing site hazards and to further aid in the selection of the appropriate engineering controls and personal protective equipment for the tasks to be performed.

The following information, to the extent available, shall be obtained by the employer prior to allowing employees to enter a site:

- (i) Location and approximate size of the site.
- (ii) Description of the response activity and/or the job task to be performed.
- (iii) Duration of the planned employee activity.
- (iv) Site topography and accessibility by air and roads.
- (v) Safety and health hazards expected at the site.
- (vi) Pathways for hazardous substance dispersion.
- (vii) Present status and capabilities of emergency response teams that would provide assistance to hazardous waste clean-up site employees at the time of an emergency.
- (viii) Hazardous substances and health hazards involved or expected at the site, and their chemical and physical properties.

2220 Site Safety Plan Development

The site safety and health plan, which must be kept on site, shall address the safety and health hazards of each phase of site operation and include the requirements and procedures for employee protection.

The site safety and health plan, as a minimum, shall address the following:

- (A) A safety and health risk or hazard analysis for each site task and operation found in the Incident Action Plan.
- (B) Employee training assignments to assure compliance with HAZWOPER regulations.
- (C) Personal protective equipment to be used by employees for each of the site tasks and operations being conducted.
- (D) Medical surveillance requirements.
- (E) Frequency and types of air monitoring, personnel monitoring, and environmental sampling techniques and instrumentation to be used, including methods of maintenance and calibration of monitoring and sampling equipment to be used.
- (F) Site control measures.
- (G) Decontamination procedures.

(H) An emergency response plan for safe and effective responses to emergencies, including the necessary PPE and other equipment.

(I) Confined space entry procedures.

(J) A spill containment program.

2300 Information

Public Information Officer (PIO)

The Public Information Officer (PIO) is responsible for developing and releasing information, with Unified Command's approval, about the incident to the news media, to incident personnel, and to other appropriate agencies and organizations in a timely manner. The PIO will obtain information from technical experts to provide to the press and other interested parties. The PIO is also responsible for controlling direct media access to staff within the ICS structure.

2310 Protocol for Access/Timing of Media Briefings

Pollution incidents that generate significant media interest require news conferences, at least in the first few days of emergency response. These media gatherings provide an opportunity for the Unified Command to tell the media what has happened and what they are doing about it. It also gives reporters a chance to photograph and ask questions of senior response officials. Details on access/timing of media briefings can be found in the Public Information Officer Job Aid located in the Coast Guard Incident Management Handbook web-based application.

2320 Joint Information Center (JIC)

Where the public information organization sets up shop during an incident can have a profound impact on the overall effectiveness. The PIO may set up work locations in the Incident Command Post (ICP) and if the incident is large enough, may need to set up a Joint Information Center (JIC) near the incident command or off-site to help manage public information needs. The JIC needs to be functional and free of interruptions and distractions. More information on JIC requirements can be found in the Public Information Officer Job Aid located in the Public Information Officer Job Aid located in the Coast Guard Incident Management Handbook web-based application.

2330 Media Contacts**Coast Guard Public Affairs**

Sector LA-LB Public Affairs: 310-781-0619

State Public Affairs

Office of Oil Spill Prevention and Response, Public Affairs

Office:	916-327-9516
Pager:	916-326-0261
Office of Emergency Services	1-800-852-7550

Wire Service

Associated Press	(213) 626-1200
City News	(213) 346-0200
United Press Int'l	(310) 481-0404

Northern Zone**Newspapers**

Fillmore Gazette	(805) 524-2481
Lompoc Record	(805) 739-2229
Ojai Valley News	(805) 646-1476
Santa Barbara Independent	(805) 965-5205
Santa Barbara News-Press	(805) 564-5200
Santa Paula Times	(805) 525-1890
Santa Ynez Valley News	(805) 688-5522
Ventura County Star	(805) 437-0000

Television

KEYT TV (3)	(805) 882-3933
KSBY TV (6)	(805) 541-6666

Radio

KCAQ (FM 104.7)	(805) 289-1400
KHAY (FM 100.7)	(805) 642-8595
KMGQ (FM 106.3)	(805) 962-7800
KSYV (FM 96.7)	(805) 688-5798
KTMS (AM 1250)	(805) 966-1755

Southern Zone**Newspapers**

The Los Angeles Times	(213) 237-5000 (213) 237-4712 (fax)
The Daily Breeze	(310) 540-5511 (310) 540-6272 (fax)
Long Beach Press-Telegram The Daily	(562) 435-1161 (562) 437-7892 (fax)
Pilot	(714) 966-4600
Orange County Register	(877) 469-7344
PV Peninsula News	(310) 377-6877
The Argonaut	(310) 822-1629

Television

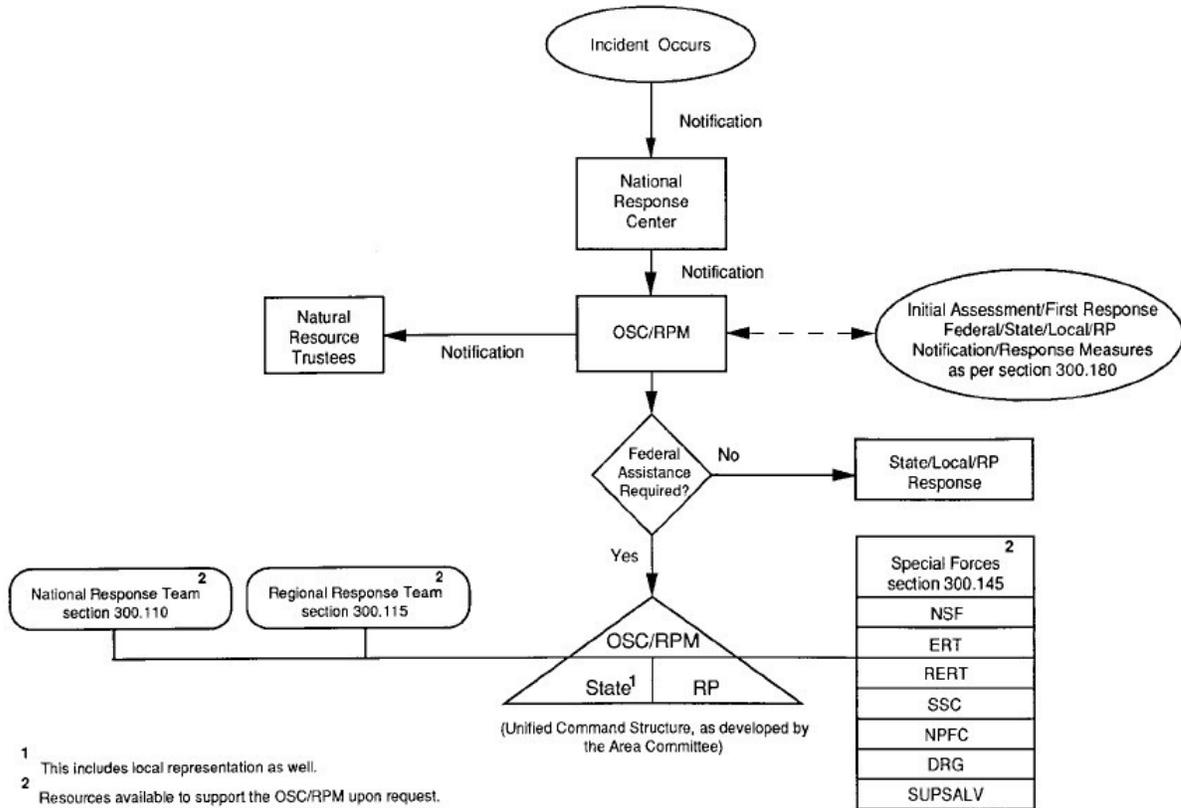
KABC TV (7)	(877) 777-6397
KCAL TV (9)	(818) 655-2000
KNBC TV (4)	(951) 788-2221
KTLA TV (5)	(213) 460-5500
KTTV TV (11)	(310) 584-2025
KOCE TV (PBS)	(714) 895-5623

Radio

KNX 1070 News	(323) 900-2070
KVTA 1520	(805) 289-1520
KABC (AM 790)	(310) 840-4900
KALI (AM 1430)	(626) 844-8882
KBIG (FM 104.3)	(818) 546-1043
KCRW (FM 89.9)	(310) 450-5183

2400 Liaison

During responses to marine oil spills, local agencies are not usually involved specifically as part of a unified command, but provide agency representatives who interface with the command structure through the Liaison Officer (LOFR) or the State representative. When a unified command is used, the Coast Guard establishes a Command Post and Joint Information Center (JIC). The Unified Command is normally located near and convenient to the site of the discharge. All responders (Federal, State, local and private) are incorporated into the response organization (Figure 1000-A below) at the appropriate level.



Refer to 40 CFR 300.105.

2410 Investigators

The agency or agencies that investigate an pollution and/or transportation accidents vary by the type of accident. See the table below.

Accident Location/Type	Investigator
Accidents involving vessels in the marine environment.	The local U.S. Coast Guard Sector supported by the USCG 11 th District, Prevention Department.
Oil spills that impact the marine environment regardless of source.	The local U.S. Coast Guard Sector. California Office of Oil Spill Prevention and Response
Oil spills that impact the inland zone.	U.S Environmental Protection Agency California Office of Oil Spill Prevention and Response
Chemical spills.	U.S Environmental Protection Agency California EPA, Department of Toxic Substances Control https://www.dtsc.ca.gov/
The NTSB determines the probable cause of transportation accidents and promotes transportation safety, and assists victims of transportation accidents and their families.	National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) http://www.nts.gov
The CSB conducts root cause investigations of chemical accidents at fixed industrial facilities. Root causes are usually deficiencies in safety management systems, but can be any factor that would have prevented the accident if that factor had not occurred. Their jurisdiction includes petroleum refineries.	U.S. Chemical Safety Board (CSB) http://www.csb.gov

More information on Investigations can be found in section 2800 of the Region IX Regional Contingency Plan.

2420 Federal/State/Local Trustees

The Regional Response Team is responsible for assisting the FOSC, who shall ensure that trustees for natural resources are promptly notified of discharges or releases. The FOSC shall coordinate all response activities with affected natural resource trustees and shall consult with affected trustees on appropriate removal action to be taken. In accordance with the NCP, FOSCs are required to contact the Department of the Interior when a discharge may impact any natural resource including endangered species or their habitat.

Pursuant to the National Oil and Hazardous Substances Pollution Contingency Plan (NCP), Federal Trustees are federal officials who are to act on behalf of the public as trustees for natural resources.

State trustees shall act on behalf of the public as trustees for natural resources, including their supporting ecosystems, within the boundary of a state or belonging to, managed by, controlled by, or appertaining to such state.

The tribal chairmen (or heads of the governing bodies) of Indian tribes, or a person designated by the tribal officials, shall act on behalf of the Indian tribes as trustees for the natural resources, including their supporting ecosystems, belonging to, managed by, controlled by, or appertaining to such Indian tribe, or held in trust for the benefit of such Indian tribe, or belonging to a member of such Indian tribe, if such resources are subject to a trust restriction on alienation.

2430 Agency Reps

An Agency Representative is an individual assigned to an incident from an assisting or cooperating agency who has been designated authority to make decisions on matters affecting that agency's participation at the incident. AREP's report to the LOFR or to the IC in the absence of a LOFR.

During responses to marine oil spills, local agencies are not usually involved specifically as part of a unified command, but provide agency representatives.

2440 Non-Governmental Organization (NGO) Stakeholders

Non-Governmental Organization Stakeholders are groups or organizations whose communities may be affected by response related decisions made (or not made) by the Incident Commander or the Unified Command. NGOs differ in the ways they are affected by emergency management decisions. The impact these response related decisions have on NGOs varies with respect to the incident and the particular NGO's stake in the response. Some are impacted to a greater/lesser degree than others.

Engaging all stakeholders, including Non-Governmental Organizations, as soon as possible in the response, has proven to be critical to the overall success of oil spill response in California. NGOs can provide unique, local resources, knowledge, and other benefits that make valuable contributions to the response. NGOs can also assist the Liaison Officer or a member of the Command Staff in distributing information to other stakeholders through electronic communications or in community meetings external to the incident command post. The Liaison Officer or a member of the Command Staff should use the Stakeholder Engagement Matrix located in section 9250 of the Appendix for successful implementation and tracking of communications and engagement with all stakeholders, including NGO Stakeholders. Any person, group, or organization affected by and having a vested interest in the incident and/or the response operation.

2440.1 NGO Groups

Non-Governmental Organizations can be divided into different categories - environmental groups, economic groups, and political groups. Each of these types of groups can be characterized by its linkage to community stakeholders. The different types of groups will be discussed in the following sections:

Environmental

Under development by the Community Outreach Subcommittee of the LA-LB Area Committee.

Economic

Under development by the Community Outreach Subcommittee of the LA-LB Area Committee.

Political

Under development by the Community Outreach Subcommittee of the LA-LB Area Committee.

2450 Response Technology Evaluation Unit (RTE)

During the course of a response, the incident management team may receive requests to review new alternative response technologies to consider for implementation. If a response grows in size and complexity, a Response Technology Evaluation (RTE) Unit should be established under the Planning Section with representatives from the Responsible Party, Environmental Unit, Operations Section, Safety Officer staff and Regional Response Team 9. The RTE Unit's primary responsibility is to collect, evaluate, and test both conventional and alternative response ideas. In accordance with the Region IX Regional Contingency Plan, the RTE Unit should use the Alternative Response Tool Evaluation System (ARTES) to evaluate any new tools or technologies. The ARTES and supporting documentation are located on the NOAA website.

Equipment or tactics that fall outside of the following categories should be evaluated using the ARTES before utilizing it on a response:

- Conventional weir (manual or self-adjusting), oleophilic and non-oleophilic (disc, drum, belt, tube, brush, mop, grooved disc, grooved drum) skimmers that have already been approved and listed in government or commercial inventories
- Containment and absorbent boom that has already been approved and listed in government or commercial inventories
- Vacuum trucks
- Gross removal by hand or hand tool

The RTE Unit should be led by an RTE Unit Leader. As a response scales up, RTE positions and Field Test Teams (FTT) may be established or identified by the RTE Unit Leader, as necessary, to focus on various functional areas, such as the following:

- Website management (technology idea receiving and input).

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- Database management (screening and categorization of technology ideas).
 - Mechanical response technologies review team(s) (e.g., containment, barriers, booming, skimming, oil-water separation, decanting, storage, tar ball/tar mat collection, surf washing).

Applied response technologies review team(s) (e.g., use of chemical and biological oil spill cleanup agents [OSCA] such as dispersants, surface washing agents, solidifiers, elasticity modifiers, emulsion breakers, herding agents, bioremediants, and review of new or adapted in-situ burn technologies). Note: Some of the mechanical/conventional and biological/chemical technologies may overlap, such as sand cleaning systems that are mechanical in nature, but use OSCAs as part of the cleaning cycle.