



# South Carolina Marine Debris Emergency Response Guide: Field Reference Guide

NOAA Marine Debris Program  
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration  
U.S. Department of Commerce  
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## 1. Introduction

### 1.1 Purpose

This *Field Reference Guide* condenses information contained in the *South Carolina Marine Debris Emergency Response Guide: Comprehensive Guidance Document (Guide)* to facilitate use during emergency response operations. While the *Comprehensive Guidance Document* serves as a complete reference for incident waterway debris response in South Carolina, the *Field Reference Guide* includes the most pertinent information for quick reference in the field and during times of crisis. Both documents and subsequent versions will be posted on the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration’s (NOAA) Marine Debris Program website at <https://marinedebris.noaa.gov/>.

The purpose of these documents is to improve preparedness for response and recovery operations following an acute waterway debris incident in South Carolina. The term acute waterway debris incident is used to generally describe an incident – either natural or anthropogenic – that results in the release of large amounts of waterway debris. The *Comprehensive Guidance Document* and complementary *Field Reference Guide* outline existing response structures at the local, state, and federal levels to facilitate a coordinated, well-managed, and immediate response to potential waterway debris incidents impacting the state of South Carolina. Individual organization roles and responsibilities are presented in a consolidated one-page flowchart, which functions as a decision tree for waterway debris response. Additionally, permitting and compliance requirements for waterway debris removal have been synthesized in a one-page reference handout.

### 1.2 Scope of *Guide*

The *Comprehensive Guidance Document* and *Field Reference Guide* address potential acute waterway debris incidents affecting South Carolina’s coastline. For purposes of these documents, the term waterway debris (or incident waterway debris) is used in lieu of the term marine debris. In 33 U.S.C. § 1956(3), marine debris is defined as any persistent solid material that is manufactured or processed and directly or indirectly, intentionally or unintentionally, disposed of or abandoned into the marine environment or Great Lakes. Although vegetative debris is not included in the legal

definition for marine debris, South Carolina stakeholders have identified it as a common debris stream of concern following disasters in the state. To account for both marine debris and vegetative debris in this document, the term waterway debris is used and includes any solid material, including but not limited to vegetative debris and debris exposed to or that has the potential to release oil, hazardous substances, pollutants or contaminants, that enters a waterway following an acute incident and poses a threat to the natural or man-made environment. This may include shoreline and wetland debris and debris in some inland, non-tidal waterways.

## **2. South Carolina Incident Waterway Debris Response Flowchart**

The “South Carolina Incident Waterway Debris Response Flowchart” on the following page provides a visual representation of agency roles and responsibilities. The flowchart functions as a decision tree for waterway debris response with color-coded endpoints. Yellow endpoints represent response to waterway debris that is exposed to or has the potential to release oil, hazardous substances, pollutants or contaminants. Blue endpoints represent response to waterway debris that is not exposed to and does not have the potential to release oil, hazardous substances, pollutants or contaminants. The backside of this handout entitled, “Stafford Act Declaration Response” includes the response processes that may occur under Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (Stafford Act) authorities and/or funding.

# South Carolina Incident Waterway Debris Response Flowchart

Acronyms

ADV – Abandoned and Derelict Vessel  
 ACP – Area Contingency Plan  
 DHEC – SC Department of Health and Environmental Control  
 DoD – U.S. Department of Defense  
 DNR – SC Department of Natural Resources  
 EPA – U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
 ERS – DHEC’s Emergency Response Section  
 ESF – Emergency Support Function  
 EWP – Emergency Watershed Protection  
 FEMA – Federal Emergency Management Agency  
 NCP – National Oil & Hazardous Substance Contingency Plan  
 NGO – Non-Governmental Organization  
 NPS – National Park Service  
 NRC – National Response Center

NRCS – Natural Resources Conservation Service  
 RP – Responsible Party (Owner, Operator, Lessee)  
 SCDOT – SC Department of Transportation  
 SCEMD – SC Emergency Management Division  
 USACE – U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
 USCG – U.S. Coast Guard  
 USFWS – U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

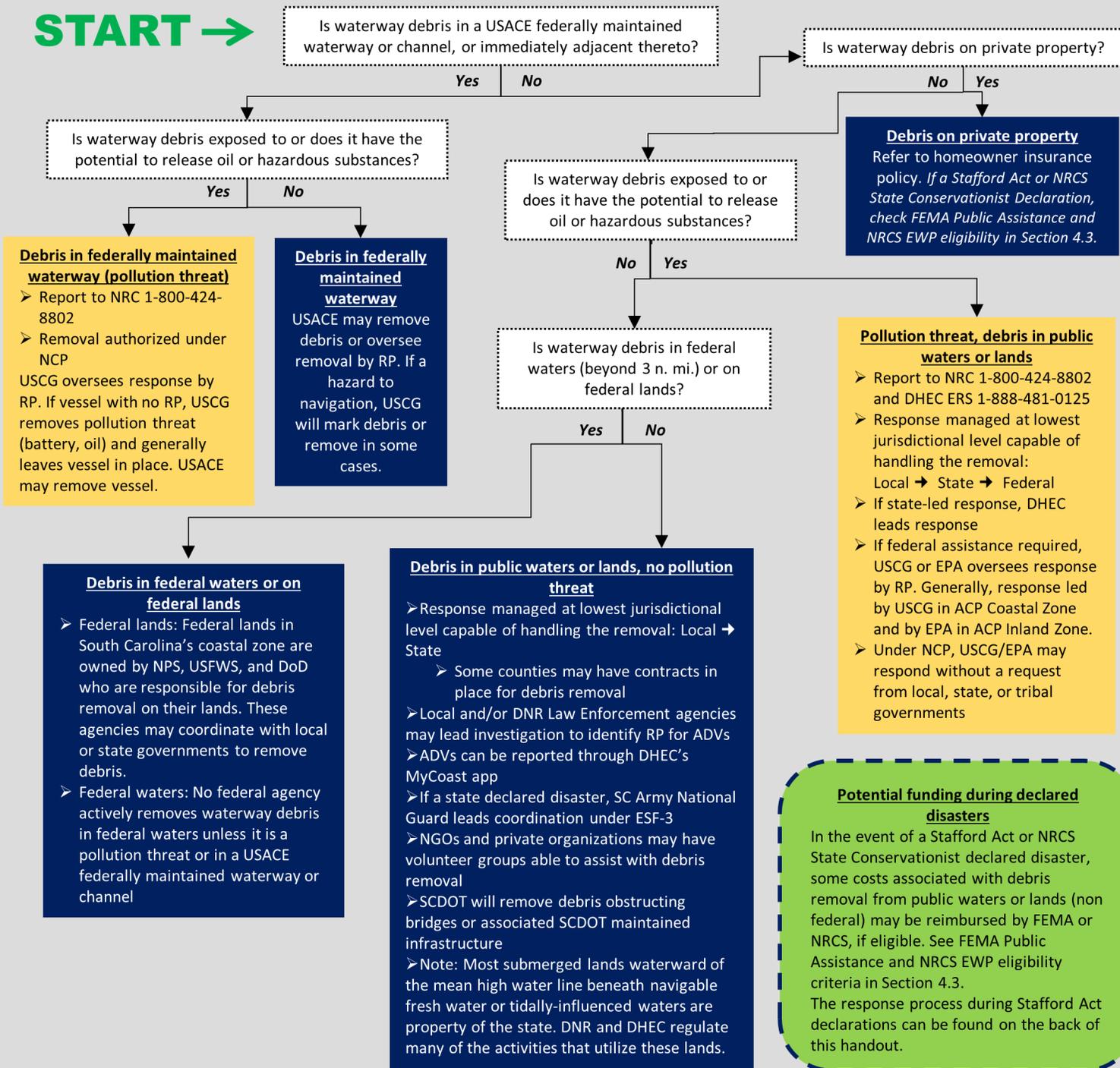
Flowchart Key

Response to waterway debris that is exposed to or has the potential to release oil, hazardous substances, pollutants, or contaminants
Response to waterway debris that is not exposed to and does not have the potential to release oil, hazardous substances, pollutants, or contaminants

**Waterway Debris/Incident Waterway Debris**

Any solid material, including but not limited to vegetative debris and debris exposed to or that has the potential to release oil, hazardous substances, pollutants or contaminants, that enters a waterway following an acute incident and poses a threat to the natural or man-made environment. This may include shoreline and wetland debris and debris in some inland, non-tidal waterways.

**START →**



**Potential funding during declared disasters**

In the event of a Stafford Act or NRCS State Conservationist declared disaster, some costs associated with debris removal from public waters or lands (non federal) may be reimbursed by FEMA or NRCS, if eligible. See FEMA Public Assistance and NRCS EWP eligibility criteria in Section 4.3. The response process during Stafford Act declarations can be found on the back of this handout.

# Stafford Act Declaration Response

The process outlined in the flowchart below shows the likely response during a Presidentially declared disaster.

If waterway debris located within the designated disaster area and the following criteria are met, proceed at the start arrow below.

**Eligibility Determination by FEMA:** Made on a case-by-case discretionary basis in coordination with eligible applicant, state, and other federal agencies. Removal **must be necessary** to eliminate the immediate threat to human lives, public health and safety, or improved property.

- For navigable waterways, debris removal is limited to a max depth of 2 feet below the low tide draft of the largest vessel that utilized the waterway prior to the incident. Any debris below this zone is not eligible unless it is necessary in order to remove debris extending upward into an eligible zone.
- For non-navigable waterways, including natural waterways, debris removal is only eligible to the extent that it is necessary to eliminate an immediate threat including the following: if the debris obstructs, or could obstruct, intake structures; if the debris could cause damage to structures; or if the debris is causing, or could cause, flooding to property during the occurrence of a 5-year flood (See FEMA Recovery Policy FP 104-009-2)

**START** →

Is waterway debris exposed to or does it have the potential to release oil or hazardous substances?

No Yes

Is the waterway debris recoverable (traceable to an owner), i.e. a vessel with a Hull Identification Number?

Yes No

**Recoverable debris in South Carolina waters, Stafford Act declaration, no pollution threat**

- South Carolina does not have dedicated funding for the removal or disposal of ADVs
- DNR Law Enforcement may assist eligible applicant with identifying and contacting owner of an ADV
- If owner is found, apply insurance and owner takes vessel or they may receive a ticket/charge by DNR Law Enforcement
- If no owner is found or if the owner is found but there is no insurance on the property and the owner surrenders rights, FEMA may reimburse applicant for removal

- Report to NRC 1-800-424-8802 and DHEC 1-888-481-0125
- FEMA funds may be used if not at pre-existing site under NCP. If RP is known, must apply insurance proceeds first.
- If FEMA funds are not used, removal authorized under NCP**
- Response managed at lowest jurisdictional level capable of handling the removal:  
Local → State → Federal
- If state-led response, DHEC leads response
- If federal assistance required, USCG or EPA oversees response by RP. Generally, response led by USCG in ACP Coastal Zone and by EPA in ACP Inland Zone.
- During Stafford Act declarations, USCG/EPA retain authority to respond under the NCP without a request from local, state, or tribal governments

If FEMA funds used

Has the state/local government or organization demonstrated to FEMA that they have the capability to perform or contract the debris removal work?

No Yes

Has the state/local government or organization demonstrated to FEMA that they have the capability to perform or contract the debris removal work?

Yes No

**FEMA Direct Federal Assistance**

- FEMA mission assignment to another federal agency to perform or contract the debris removal work
- USACE typically disposes of building debris hazmat, such as household hazardous materials, orphaned hazardous materials, and electronic goods under ESF3
  - EPA or USCG typically lead hazardous waste disposal under ESF10

**FEMA Public Assistance Funding**

- Reimbursement to eligible applicant to remove and dispose of hazardous waterway debris using their own forces or contract labor
- Funding from FEMA to SCEMD then to eligible applicant
  - If state is eligible applicant, DHEC leads response and provides scientific support

**FEMA Public Assistance Funding**

- Reimbursement to eligible applicant to remove and dispose of waterway debris using their own forces or contract labor
- Funding from FEMA to SCEMD then to eligible applicant

**FEMA Direct Federal Assistance**

- FEMA mission assignment to another federal agency to perform or contract the debris removal work
- USACE typically leads eligible debris removal under ESF3

- ❖ FEMA provides funding but does not conduct debris removal work
- ❖ FEMA Eligible Applicants must have legal responsibility to remove the debris and include state and local governments, Indian tribes, and certain non-profits
- ❖ Public Assistance cost share is typically 75% FEMA, 12.5% state, 12.5% applicant

## **3. Agency Jurisdictions and Capabilities**

### **3.1 Agency Jurisdiction Map**

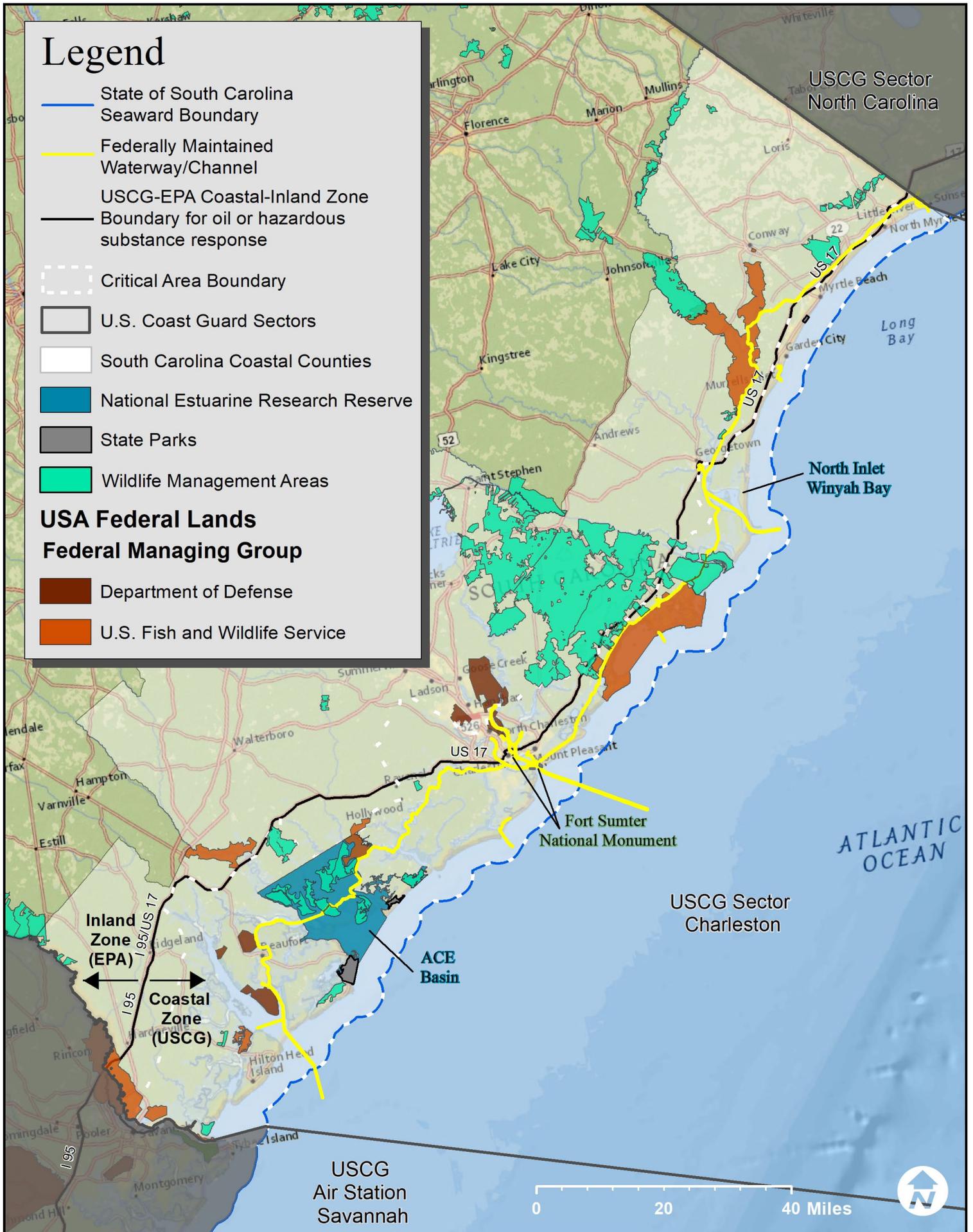
The “Agency Jurisdiction Map” on the following page displays coastal South Carolina’s relevant state and federal agency jurisdictions and boundaries. After an acute waterway debris incident, the agency with authority to remove debris will vary depending on where the debris is located. This map includes information that stakeholders identified as important in determining how incident waterway debris response is handled in the state. A dynamic version of this map is also available [online](#) in the Environmental Response Management Application (ERMA).

### **3.2 Agency Response Capabilities**

# South Carolina Incident Waterway Debris Response Map

## Legend

-  State of South Carolina Seaward Boundary
  -  Federally Maintained Waterway/Channel
  -  USCG-EPA Coastal-Inland Zone Boundary for oil or hazardous substance response
  -  Critical Area Boundary
  -  U.S. Coast Guard Sectors
  -  South Carolina Coastal Counties
  -  National Estuarine Research Reserve
  -  State Parks
  -  Wildlife Management Areas
- USA Federal Lands**
- Federal Managing Group**
-  Department of Defense
  -  U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service



### 3.2 Agency Response Capabilities

Yes - In-house Capability		FEMA Region IV <sup>1</sup>	NOAA <sup>2</sup>	USACE Charleston District	USCG Sector Charleston	NRCS	EPA Region IV	USFWS	SC DHEC OCRM	SCIAA -MRD	SC DNR Law Enforcement Division	Beaufort County Public Works
Contract - Contracted capability												
Technology	Aerial photography and video		Yes				Contract		Yes		Yes	
	IT support during response (server/storage space for data and information sharing)		Yes				Yes					
	Magnetometers			Yes <sup>7</sup>			Contract			Yes		
	Remote Sensing		Yes	Contract						Yes		
	Sediment Profilers		Yes									
	Multi-beam sonar		Yes	Yes <sup>7</sup>							Yes	
	Side-scan sonar		Yes	Yes <sup>7</sup>						Yes		
	Single-beam sonar		Yes	Yes <sup>7</sup>							Yes	
Manpower/Expertise	Communication/public information expertise (dedicated spokesperson/Public Information Officer)		Yes	Yes	Yes		Yes		Yes		Yes	
	Compliance and permitting expertise	Yes	Yes	Yes			Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes		
	Data/information management capabilities		Yes				Yes	Yes		Yes		
	Debris modeling expertise (volume, transport, hindcasting, etc.)		Yes				Contract					
	Dedicated waterway/marine debris staff (responders, response team, regional coordination, etc.)		Yes									
	Dive support (scientific, technical, commercial etc.)		Yes <sup>3</sup>	Yes	Contract		Contract			Yes	Yes	
	Environmental expertise (location of sensitive areas, endangered species present, etc.)	Yes	Yes <sup>4</sup>	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes		Yes	
	Field GPS units						Contract	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	
	Geographic Information System (GIS) mapping and plotting of imagery	Yes	Yes	Yes <sup>9</sup>			Contract		Yes	Yes	Yes	
	Hazardous substance and/or oiled debris expertise		Yes				Yes					
	Incident Command System (ICS) trained staff	Yes	Yes				Yes		Yes		Yes	
	Maritime Transportation Recovery Unit (MTSRU) expertise											
	Post-storm damage assessment teams						Yes		Yes		Yes	
	Protected species/Environmental Sensitivity Index (ESI) expert in the field		Yes					Yes			Yes	
	Technical expertise for removal operations (techniques, best management practices, etc.)	Yes	Yes	Yes <sup>9</sup>	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes		Yes	
	Vector Control											
	Volunteer manpower					Yes		Yes		Yes	Yes	
Volunteer coordinator									Yes	Yes		
Waterway management authority (law enforcement officers)										Yes		

Yes - In-house Capability		FEMA Region IV <sup>1</sup>	NOAA <sup>2</sup>	USACE Charleston District	USCG Sector Charleston	NRCS	EPA Region IV	USFWS	SC DHEC OCRM	SCIAA - MRD	SC DNR Law Enforcement Division	Beaufort County Public Works	
Contract - Contracted capability													
Equipment	Aircraft		Yes		Yes		Contract				Yes		
	Barge/Self-loading barge			Contract			Contract						
	Boom			Contract	Contract <sup>10</sup>		Contract						
	Crane/Knuckleboom crane			Contract			Contract						
	Environmental clamshell dredge						Contract						
	Excavator			Contract			Contract						
	General transportation/vehicles						Contract		Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	
	Heavy/Earth-moving machinery						Contract					Yes	
	Remotely Operated Vehicle (ROV)		Yes	Yes <sup>7</sup>									Yes
	Sampling Equipment		Yes		Yes		Contract						
	Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV)/Surveillance drones		Yes	Yes					Yes				
	Vessels		Yes	Yes <sup>7</sup>	Yes		Contract	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	
	Other specialized equipment that cannot be readily procured immediately following a debris incident			Contract	Yes		Contract						
	Logistics	Contract authority and oversight capabilities		Yes	Yes	Yes <sup>11</sup>	Yes <sup>16</sup>	Yes				Yes	
Communication equipment (i.e., two-way radio)							Yes			Yes	Yes	Yes	
Docks for wet storage of vessels					Yes <sup>12</sup>						Yes		
Facility suitable for establishing an Emergency Operations Center (EOC)			Yes	Yes	Yes								
Funding for waterway debris removal			Yes <sup>5</sup>	Yes <sup>7</sup>	Yes <sup>13</sup>	Yes <sup>17</sup>	Yes						
Laboratory space			Yes				Yes						
Medical emergency response													
Pre-approved removal contractors												Yes	
Pre-designated landfill/disposal sites (to include vegetative and animal carcasses)													
Pre-event contracts and staged agreements in place				Yes	Yes <sup>14</sup>		Yes						
Research program established to analyze long-term trends, impacts, etc.			Yes									Yes	
Staging/Off-Loading: Land with water access to stage, offload debris (has not been evaluated for suitability or officially pre-designated)													
Staging/Off-Loading: Pre-designated staging, off-loading and special handling areas (already evaluated for suitability)						Yes							
Staging area for dry storage of vessels			Yes	Yes	Yes <sup>15</sup>					Yes			
Other logistical support, including fuel, housing, food, etc.		Yes <sup>6</sup>				Contract							

Each agency self-reported capabilities which could be of use during waterway debris response. Agencies were asked to indicate whether capabilities were in-house or were contracted through a third party. Footnotes refer to additional information provided for a particular capability.

<sup>1</sup>FEMA – Capabilities contingent upon a Presidential major disaster declaration. FEMA capable of mission-assigning other federal support to increase capabilities. FEMA has interactive live collection and mapping capabilities and a template wet debris collector map for Region IV.

<sup>2</sup>NOAA - Some capabilities require contract support for staffing

<sup>3</sup>NOAA - Dive capabilities do not include sites with oil or hazardous pollutants

<sup>4</sup>NOAA – Coordinates marine mammal and sea turtle stranding response and reviews proposed debris removal activities for compliance with ESA and Magnuson-Stevens Fisheries Conservation and Management Act

<sup>5</sup>NOAA – Funding through grant program and possible Congressional supplemental funding

<sup>6</sup>NOAA – Weather and marine forecasts through National Weather Service in Newport, NC

<sup>7</sup>USACE – Funding in place for federal projects only

<sup>8</sup>USACE – Has a GIS cadre for response

<sup>9</sup>USACE – Has planning response teams

<sup>10</sup>USCG – Small amounts of boom on hand but capable of using pre-event contracts for larger pollution events

<sup>11</sup>USCG – Contract authority and oversight capabilities for USCG contracts only

<sup>12</sup>USCG – Docks for wet storage of vessels has limited space and suitable for larger vessels only

<sup>13</sup>USCG – Funding for pollution incidents only

<sup>14</sup>USCG – Pre-event contracts and staged agreements in place for pollution incidents only

<sup>15</sup>USCG – Staging area for dry storage of vessels has limited space

<sup>16</sup>NRCS – Contact authority for EWP contracts only

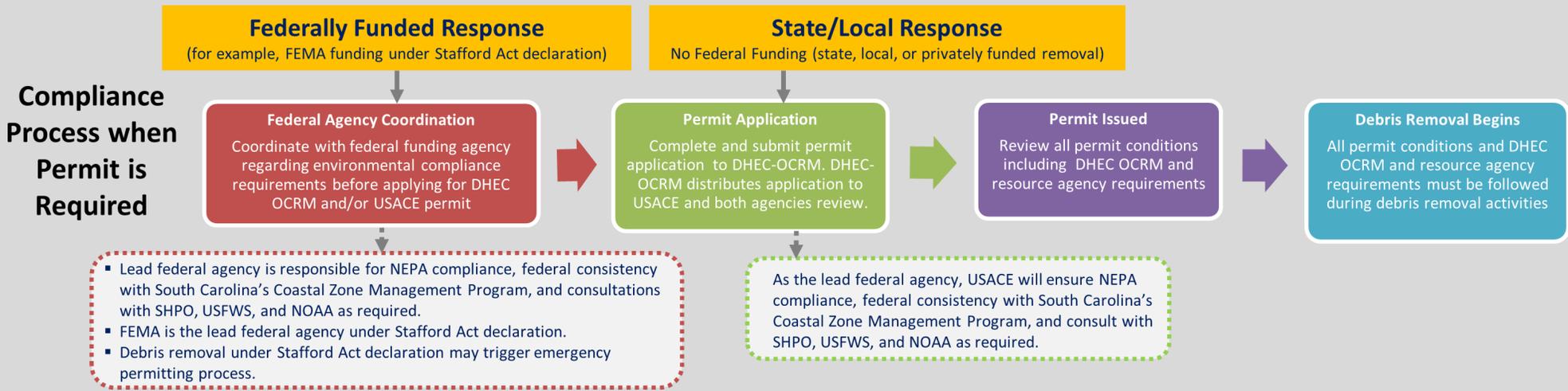
<sup>17</sup>NRCS – Funding for authorized EWP contracts only

## **4. Permitting and Compliance Requirements in South Carolina**

The “Permitting and Compliance for Waterway Debris Removal in South Carolina” one-pager on the following page synthesizes permitting and compliance requirements that must be met before waterway debris removal operations begin. The top portion of the one-pager outlines the process to follow to stay in compliance, while the bottom portion highlights specific state and federal agency requirements with general contact information.

# Permitting and Compliance for Waterway Debris Removal in South Carolina

- U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) permit may be required for debris removal within waterways and wetlands. One or multiple permits may be needed.
- If a project requires both a federal permit and a permit through the Department of Health and Environmental Control's (DHEC) Office of Ocean and Coastal Resource Management (OCRM), the applicant can apply directly to DHEC OCRM, who will forward the application to USACE and state and federal review will occur concurrently to expedite the process.
- It is the responsibility of the **lead federal agency** to ensure compliance with National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), federal coastal consistency, and consult with resource agencies including South Carolina State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO), U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) as required.



## Agency Requirements and Legislation Details

<p><b>U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE)</b></p> <p><b>Charleston District Regulatory Program</b> 843-329-8044</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Permit(s) that may be required for debris removal work within waterways and wetlands:                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>NWP-3 Maintenance</b> for removal/maintenance of culverts, sediments, or debris accumulated around outfalls, bridges, etc. in wetland areas</li> <li><b>NWP-22 Removal of Vessels</b> for removal of wrecked, abandoned, or disabled vessels or other man-made obstructions to navigation</li> <li><b>NWP-37 Emergency Watershed Protection &amp; Rehabilitation</b> for work done under NRCS's Emergency Watershed Protection program</li> <li><b>NWP-38 Cleanup Hazardous/Toxic Waste</b> for containment, stabilization, or removal of hazardous or toxic waste not under CERCLA/NCP</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<p><b>National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Requires federal agencies to follow a specific planning process to ensure environmental consequences of federally funded actions are considered</li> <li>FEMA is provided with statutory exclusions under the Stafford Act which exempts debris removal from NEPA review when FEMA is providing funding</li> </ul>
<p><b>National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)</b></p> <p><b>National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS)</b> ESA: 727-824-5312 EFH: 727-570-5317</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Consultation required if waterway debris response involves federal permits and/or funding (USACE permit, FEMA funding, etc.) to comply with:                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Endangered Species Act (ESA) to ensure actions do not adversely affect listed threatened or endangered species or critical habitat for marine species</li> <li>Magnuson-Stevens Fisheries Conservation and Management Act to ensure actions do not adversely affect Essential Fish Habitat (EFH)</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<p><b>SC Department of Health and Environmental Control (DHEC)</b></p> <p><b>Ocean and Coastal Resource Management (OCRM)</b> 843-953-0200</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A critical area permit might be required for debris removal projects that have the potential to alter a critical area                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Critical areas in South Carolina are defined as coastal waters, tidelands, beaches and beach/dune systems (S.C. Code Ann. § 48-39-10(J))</li> <li>Reviews project applications for consistency with the South Carolina Coastal Zone Management Program</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<p><b>U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS)</b></p> <p><b>Charleston Ecological Services Office (ESO)</b> 843-727-4707</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Consultation with Ecological Services Office (ESO) required if waterway debris response involves federal permits and/or funding (USACE permit, FEMA funding, etc.) to comply with:                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Endangered Species Act (ESA) to ensure actions do not adversely affect listed threatened or endangered species or critical habitat for land and freshwater species and certain marine species such as manatee</li> <li>Coastal Barrier Resources Act (CBRA) to ensure actions do not encourage development on coastal barriers along the Atlantic coast</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<p><b>SC Department of Archives and History</b></p> <p><b>State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO)</b> 803-896-6129</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Serves as the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) and ensures compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act</li> <li>Consultation with SHPO required if waterway debris response involves federal permits and/or funding (USACE permit, FEMA funding, etc.) or has the potential to affect historic or cultural sites included in or eligible for the National Register of Historic Places</li> <li>Coordinates with SCIAA for projects involving archaeological sites</li> </ul>
		<p><b>SC Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology (SCIAA)</b></p> <p><b>State Underwater Archaeologist</b> 803-576-6566</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Advises SHPO on projects involving archaeological sites in coordination with the Underwater Antiquities Act</li> <li>If a debris removal project requires compliance with any archaeological or Section 106 sites, submissions must be made through SHPO, and SCIAA will be contacted internally regarding Underwater Antiquities Act compliance</li> </ul>

## 5. Agency Contact Information

### Local Agencies/Organizations

Agency	Division	Topic	Point of Contact	Phone	Email
Coastal Counties (SC Coastal Zone Management Act definition)	Beaufort County	Emergency Management	Neil Baxley, Director	843-255-4000	neilb@bcgov.net
		Public Works	Neil Desai, Public Works Director	843-255-2740	nilesh.desai@bcgov.net
			Pamela Cobb, Disaster Recovery Manager	843-255-2721	pcobb@bcgov.net
	Berkeley County	Emergency Preparedness	Will Rochester, Director	843-719-4166	wrochester@berkeleycountysc.gov
	Charleston County	Emergency Preparedness	Joe Coates, Interim Emergency Manager	843-746-3800	jcoates@charlestoncounty.org
	Colleton County	Emergency Preparedness	David Greene, Emergency Manager	843-549-5632	dgreene@colletoncounty.org
	Dorchester County	Emergency Services	Tom McNeal, Director	843-832-0341	tmcneal@dorchestercounty.gov
	Georgetown County	Emergency Management	Brandon Ellis, Emergency Manager	843-545-3273	emergencymanagement@gtcounty.org
	Horry County	Emergency Management	Randall Webster, Director	843-915-5150	-
Jasper County	Emergency Services	Russell Wells, Deputy Director	843-929-9054	rwells@jaspercountysc.gov	
SC Aquarium	-	Conservation	Albert George, Director	843-579-8563	ageorge@scaquarium.org
SC Sea Grant Consortium	Extension	Healthy Coastal Ecosystems	Brooke Saari, Coastal Environmental Quality	843-953-6406	brooke.saari@scseagrant.org

## State Agencies

Agency	Division	Topic	Point of Contact	Phone	Email
SC Department of Archives and History	State Historic Preservation Office	National Historic Preservation Act Compliance, Section 106	John Sylvest, Project Review Coordinator	803-896-6129	jsylvest@scdah.sc.gov
SC Department of Health and Environmental Control	Bureau of Environmental Health Services	Emergency Response Section	To Report Chemical and Oil Spills	800-481-0125	-
	Office of Ocean and Coastal Resource Management	Compliance and Enforcement Section	Morgan Flake, Manager	843-953-0234	flakemh@dhec.sc.gov
		Coastal Services Section	Liz Hartje, Project Manager, Planning	843-953-9237	hartjeen@dhec.sc.gov
		Critical Area Permitting Section	Blair Williams, Manager	843-953-0232	williabn@dhec.sc.gov
SC Department of Natural Resources	Land, Water and Conservation Division	Divisional Information	-	803-734-9100	-
	Law Enforcement Division	Conservation Law Violation	24-hour Hotline	800-922-5431	-
	Marine Resources Division	ACE Basin National Estuarine Research Reserve	Julie Binz, Manager	843-953-9156	binzj@dnr.sc.gov
	Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries Division	Divisional Information	-	803-734-3886	-
SC Emergency Management Division	Planning Section	Planning	Andrew Phillips, All Hazards Planning Manager	803-737-8500	aphillips@emd.sc.gov
			Melissa Potter, Chief of Preparedness	-	mpotter@emd.sc.gov
	Operations Section	Operations Support	Dave Perry, Logistics Manager	-	dperry@emd.sc.gov
			Guy Gierhart, Chief of Logistics	-	ggierhart@emd.sc.gov
		Operations	Mike Russell, Chief of Operations	-	mrussell@emd.sc.gov
			Tim Murphy, Operations Manager	-	tmurphy@emd.sc.gov
	Recovery and Mitigation Section	Recovery	Emily Bentley, Chief of Recovery and Mitigation	-	ebentley@emd.sc.gov
			Katie Norris, Deputy Recovery Chief	-	knorris@emd.sc.gov
		Public Assistance	Jessica Jones, Public Assistance Program Manager	-	jjones@emd.sc.gov
		Hazard Mitigation	General Contact	-	mitigation@emd.sc.gov
			Adeline Roberson, State Mitigation Planner	803-737-8792	arobersonscem@emd.sc.gov
			Candice Shealey, State Hazard Mitigation Officer	-	cshealey@emd.sc.gov

**State Agencies Continued**

Agency	Division	Topic	Point of Contact	Phone	Email
SC Ports Authority	-	Switchboard	-	843-723-8651	-
University of South Carolina	Belle W. Baruch Institute for Marine and Coastal Sciences	North Inlet-Winyah Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve	Jennifer Plunket, Stewardship Coordinator	843-904-9033	jen@baruch.sc.edu
		Baruch Marine Field Laboratory	Bruce Pfirrmann	843-904-9028	bruce@baruch.sc.edu
	SC Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology	Technological, Logistical and Equipment Capabilities	Jim Spirek, State Underwater Archaeologist	803-576-6566	spirekJ@mailbox.sc.edu

## Federal Agencies

Agency	Division	Topic	Point of Contact	Phone	Email
Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement	Marine Trash and Debris Program	Planning and coordination	James Sinclair, Marine Ecologist	504-736-2789	james.sinclair@bsee.gov
Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)	Region IV	Funding following Presidential disaster declaration	Contact local Emergency Management Agency	-	-
		GIS mapping and plotting of imagery	Samuel (Moses) Wilkins, GIS Analyst	770-220-3128	samuel.wilkins@fema.dhs.gov
		Technical expertise for removal operations and environmental, compliance and permitting expertise	Saidat Thomas, Public Assistance Branch Chief	770-220-5428	saidat.thomas@fema.dhs.gov
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)	National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) or NOAA Fisheries	Southeast Region	Emergency ESA and EFH Consultations	-	nmfs.ser.emergency.consult@noaa.gov
		Emergency EFH Consultation	Cynthia Cooksey	843-460-9922	cynthia.cooksey@noaa.gov
			Pace Wilber	843-568-4184	pace.wilber@noaa.gov
		Emergency ESA Consultation	Joseph Cavanaugh, ESA Section 7 Emergency Coordinator	727-551-4097 (O)	joseph.cavanaugh@noaa.gov
	Karla Reece		727-824-5348	karla.reece@noaa.gov	
	NOS, ORR, Emergency Response Division	Potential to release oil or hazardous material	John Tarpley, Regional Operations Branch Chief	206-526-6338 (O) 206-459-8638 (C)	john.tarpley@noaa.gov
			Bradford Benggio, Scientific Support Coordinator (SSC) for USCG District 7	305-530-7931 (O) 954-684-8486 (C)	brad.benggio@noaa.gov
	NOS, ORR, Marine Debris Program	Response capabilities and coordination	Sarah Latshaw, Southeast Regional Coordinator	843-697-7416 (C)	sarah.latshaw@noaa.gov
NOS, Office of Coast Survey	Navigation Response Teams	Kyle Ward, Southeast Regional Navigation Manager	843-740-1153	kyle.ward@noaa.gov	
National Park Service (NPS)	National Sites	Fort Sumter and Charles Pinckney National Sites	Tim Sveum, Chief Ranger	843-277-4503	tim_sveum@nps.gov
	Southeast Region	Ocean Programs	Catherine (Anna) Toline, Marine Scientist, Oceans Program Coordinator	843-518-1939	catherine_toline@nps.gov

**Federal Agencies Continued**

Agency	Division	Topic	Point of Contact	Phone	Email
Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS)	-	Emergency Watershed Protection (EWP) Program Information	Stephen T. Henry, Assistant State Conservation Engineer	803-765-5350	stephen.henry@sc.usda.gov
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), Charleston District	Regulatory	Compliance and permitting expertise	General Inquiries	843-329-8044	SAC.RD.Charleston@usace.army.mil
			Courtney Stevens, Chief, South Branch	843-329-8027	courtney.m.stevens@usace.army.mil
	Navigation	Federally maintained waterway or channel	Jeremy Johnson, Chief, Navigation Branch	843-329-8132	jeremy.j.johnson@usace.army.mil
	Emergency Management	Response capabilities	Michael Hind, Chief, Emergency Management Branch	843-329-8106	michael.b.hind@usace.army.mil
Emergency Management Division EOC		General Contact	-	cesac-eoc2@usace.army.mil	
U.S. Coast Guard (USCG)	District 7, Sector Charleston	Potential to release oil or hazardous material	National Response Center (NRC)	800-424-8802	-
		Response capabilities	CWO Michael Goglia, FOSCR	843-740-7098	michael.j.goglia@uscg.mil
			LT Emily Trudeau, Incident Management Division Chief	843-740-7087	emily.m.trudeau@uscg.mil
	LT James P. Sullivan, Chief of Waterways Management		843-323-7761	james.p.sullivan2@uscg.mil	
District 7	Boating Safety	Scott Szczepaniak, Recreational Boating Safety Specialist	843-327-9655	scott.j.szczepaniak@uscg.mil	
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)	Region IV	Potential to release oil or hazardous substance	National Response Center (NRC)	800-424-8802	-
		Planning and coordination	Terry Stilman, ESF-10 On Scene Coordinator	-	stilman.terry@epa.gov
			Gary Andrew, RRT IV and Federal on Scene Coordinator	678-733-1621	andrew.gary@epa.gov
		Capability contact	EPA Region IV Duty Officer	404-562-8700	-
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS)	National Wildlife Refuges	SC Lowcountry Refuge Complex	Durwin Carter, Project Leader	843-928-3264 x 217	durwin_carter@fws.gov
		Savannah National Wildlife Refuge	Abby Florez, Wildlife Refuge Specialist	843-441-5969	abby_florez@fws.gov
	Ecological Services Program	Compliance and permitting expertise	Melanie Olds, Regulatory Team Lead	843-300-0413	melanie_olds@fws.gov
		External Affairs	Lilibeth Serrano, Public Affairs Specialist	252-933-2255	lilibeth_serrano@fws.gov
			Jennifer Koches, Supervisory Public Affairs Specialist, Southeast Region	404-859-6068	jennifer_koches@fws.gov



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United States Secretary of Commerce

Dr. Richard W. Spinrad  
Under Secretary of Commerce for Oceans and Atmosphere  
and NOAA Administrator

Nicole R. LeBoeuf  
Assistant Administrator for Ocean Services  
and Coastal Zone Management