

Regional Response Planning



Marine Debris Regional Response Planning

Lisa Rider

on behalf of NOAA's Marine Debris Program



Response Planning Project Goal

Improve preparedness for response to and recovery from **acute waterway debris incidents** in coastal states

Note: Project only specifically addresses “acute” debris incidents, such as disaster debris, and may not apply to chronic marine debris issues



Marine Debris Definition

Marine Debris

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 (33 U.S.C. § 1956(3))

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



Project Objectives

1. Develop actionable response and recovery plans for acute marine debris incidents in coastal states.

Consolidate waterway response information into a single document using information from existing plans, programs and agency authorities

2. Conduct marine debris response exercises/drills to test plans and identify gaps in response.

Stand-alone exercises or as injects in larger response drills



Project Objectives (cont'd)

3. Support the integration of response plan content into other existing local, state, federal or regional plans and trainings.

Such as U.S. Coast Guard Area Contingency Plans, Emergency Management Plans, State Disaster Debris Management Plans, etc.



Project Status

State Overview &
Plan Development Process

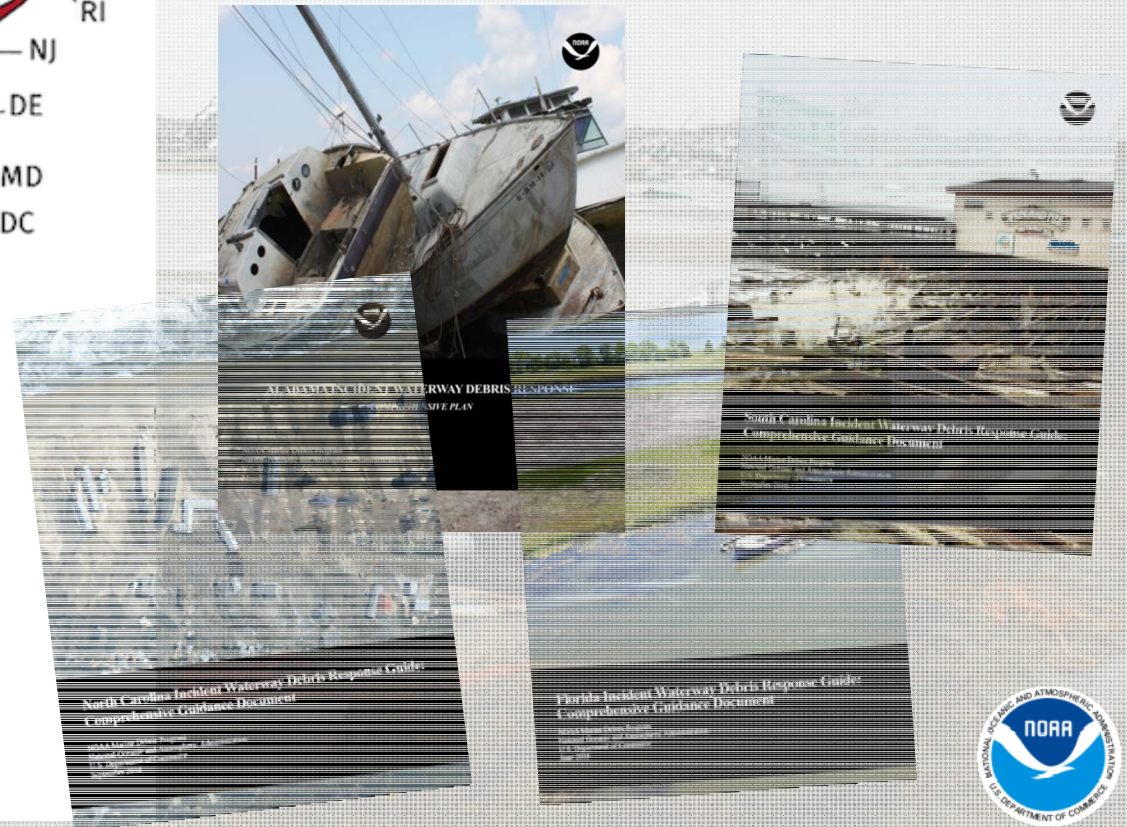


Other State Plans/Guides



North Carolina

- Published September 2016
- Annual update September 2017



Plan Development Process

1. Background research
2. Engage stakeholders: one on one
3. Document roles, responsibilities, point of contacts and jurisdictions
4. Outline permitting and compliance structure
5. Engage stakeholders: workshops
6. Plan writing
7. Stakeholder agency review
8. Plan publication
9. Ongoing plan maintenance and exercises



Plan Development Process

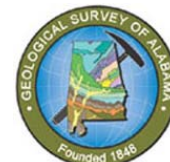
Federal Agencies



FEMA



State Agencies (AL, FL, NC)



Local Agencies and Other Organizations

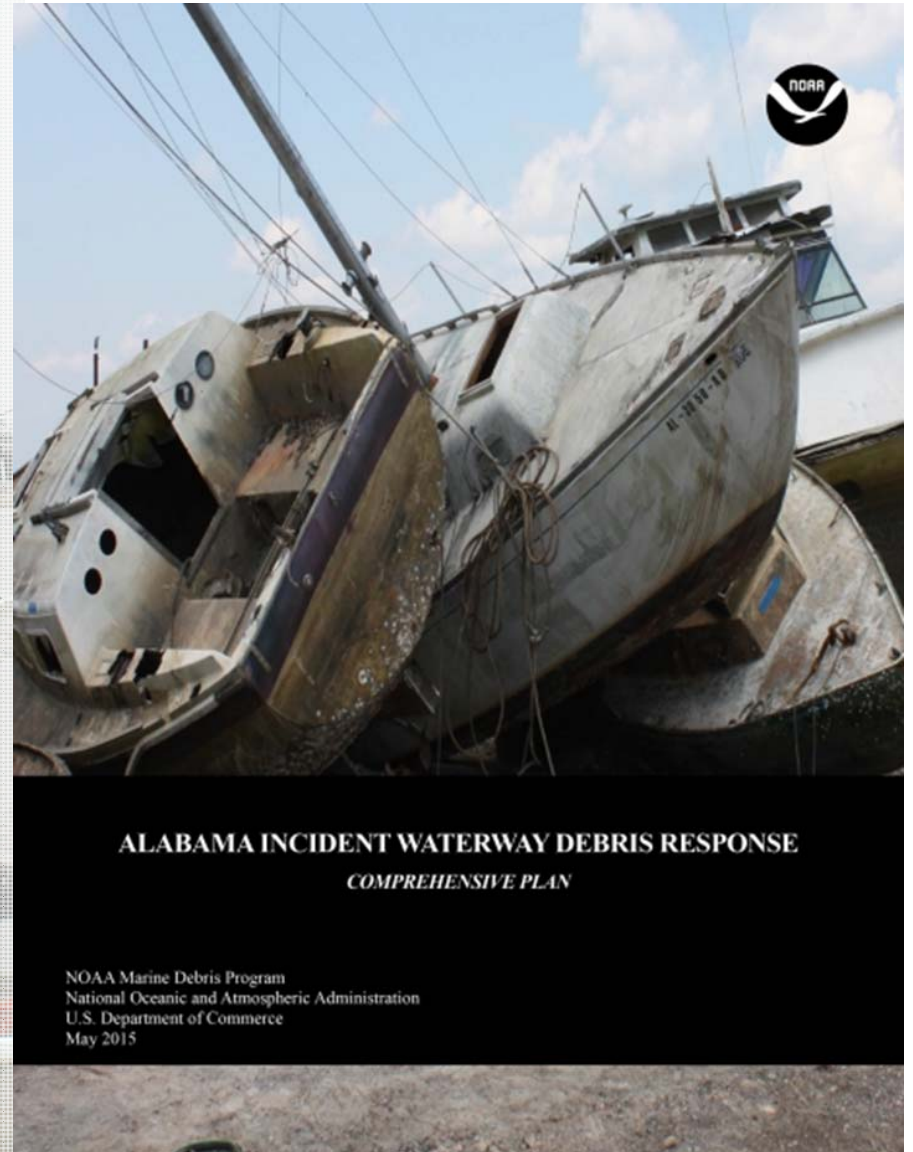


Response Plan Contents



Plan Contents

- I. Introduction
- II. Background Risk: Foreseeable Incidents and Debris Types
- III. Agency Roles, Responsibilities, and Jurisdictions
- IV. Permitting and Compliance Requirements
- V. Gaps and Recommended Actions
- VI. Agency Response Capabilities
- VII. Agency Contact Information



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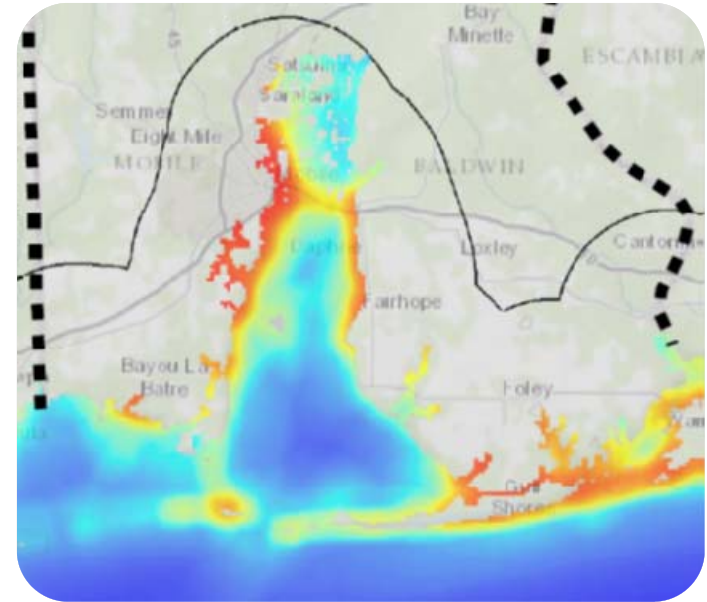
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- ✓ Purpose
- ✓ Scope of Plan:
functionally and
geographically
- ✓ Plan Maintenance



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		Risk of Occurrence		
		High	Medium	Low
Natural Hazards	Flooding	H		
	Tornados/Wind Storms	H		
	Hurricanes	H		
	Winter/Ice Storms		M	
	Earthquakes			L
	Landslides/Subsidence			L
	Tsunamis			L
Technological Hazards	Transportation (Air/Sea/Rail)		M	
	Terrorism			L
	Hazmat (Fixed Facility)			L
	Hazmat (Transportation)			L

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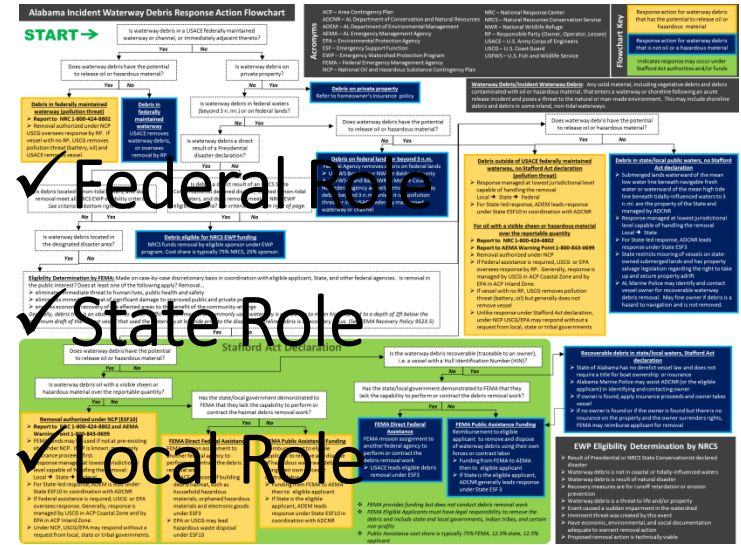
III. Agency Roles, Responsibilities, and Jurisdictions

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✓ Tribal Government

✓ Volunteer and NGOs

✓ Private Landowners



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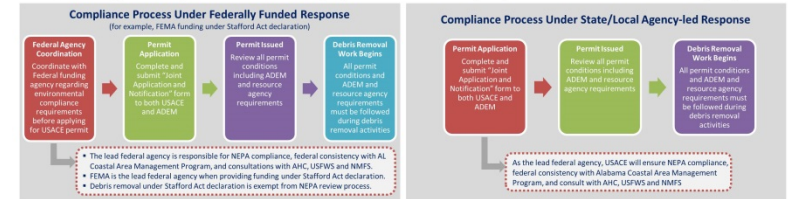
V. Gaps and Recommended Actions

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Permitting and Compliance for Waterway Debris Removal in Alabama

- U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) permit is required for debris removal within waterways and wetlands. One or multiple permits may be needed.
- In Mobile and Baldwin Counties, permit applications are jointly reviewed by USACE and Alabama Department of Environmental Management (ADEM). Application and Notification can be downloaded at the USACE, Mobile District, Regulatory Division webpage.
- It is the responsibility of the **lead Federal agency** to ensure compliance with National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), federal coastal consistency, and consult with tribal and resource agencies including Alabama Historical Commission (AHC), U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) and NOAA's National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS).



Agency Requirements and Legislation Details

Agency	Requirements	Legislation
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) Mobile District Regulatory Division 251-690-2658	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Permits required for debris response/removal work within waterways and wetlands. • AL-04 Debris Removal from waterway for navigational or drainage purposes • NWP-3 Maintenance for removal/maintenance of culverts, sediments or debris accumulated around outfalls, bridges, etc. in wetland areas • NWP-22 Removal of Vessels for removal of wrecked, abandoned, or disabled vessels or other man-made obstructions to navigation • NWP-37 Emergency Waterway Protection & Rehabilitation for work done under NWS's Emergency Waterway Protection program • NWP-38 Cleanup of Hazardous and Toxic Waste for containment, stabilization, or removal of hazardous or toxic waste materials not under CERCLA/NCP 	Alabama Historical Commission (AHC) 334-242-3384 x 692
Alabama Department of Environmental Management (ADEM) Coastal Program 251-346-1176 Warning Point 1-800-983-6099 Air Division 334-271-7879	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In Mobile and Baldwin Counties, ADEM Coastal Program simultaneously reviews USACE permit applications and notifies both the applicant and USACE of concerns or requests for additional information. • Activities that may impact coastal resources such as wetlands, submerged grassbeds, oyster reefs, and state water bottoms are evaluated. • If the project does not fit a nationwide or general permit, a separate determination must be obtained from ADEM with specific conditions. • Report oil and/or harmful spills to Al. Emergency Management Agency State • Call ADEM Air Division for proposed open debris burning • Disposal of hazardous waste must be coordinated with ADEM 	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) Alabama Ecological Services Field Office 251-441-5181
		NOAA National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) ESA: 727-824-5332 EPA: 409-745-3099
		National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)

US Army Corps of Engineers
Mobile District

ADEM
Alabama Department of Environmental Management

NOAA
NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

U.S. FISH & WILDLIFE SERVICE
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

AHC
ALABAMA HISTORICAL COMMISSION

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	Yes - In-house Capability	Baldwin County EMA	Mobile County EMA	ADCNR	ADEM
	Contract - Contracted capability				
Technology	GIS mapping and plotting of imagery	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
	Side scan sonar	-	Contract	Yes	-
	Multi-beam sonar	-	-	-	-
	Single-beam sonar	-	-	Yes	-
	Remote sensing capabilities	-	-	-	-
Manpower	Volunteer manpower	Contract	Contract	Yes	-
	Technical expertise for removal operations	-	-	Yes	-
	Environmental expertise (location of sensitive areas, endangered species present, etc.)	-	-	Yes	Yes
	Compliance and permitting expertise	-	-	Yes	Yes
Equipment	Dive support	-	Contract	Yes	-
	Vessels	-	-	Yes	Yes
	Aircraft	-	-	-	-
	Barge, Self-loading barge	-	-	-	-
	Crane, <u>Knuckleboom</u> Crane	-	-	-	-
	Excavator	-	-	-	-
	Boom	-	-	-	-
	Surplus parts for terrestrial and marine work	-	-	-	-
	Surveillance drones	-	-	-	-
	Other specialized equipment that cannot be readily procured immediately following a debris incident	-	-	Yes	Yes ¹



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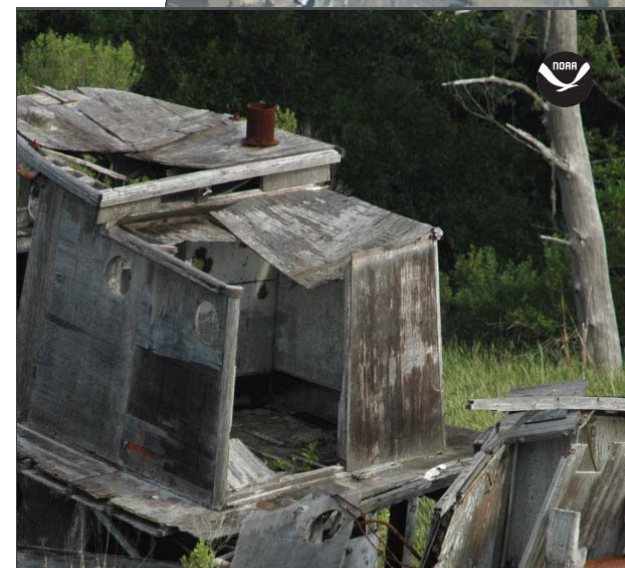
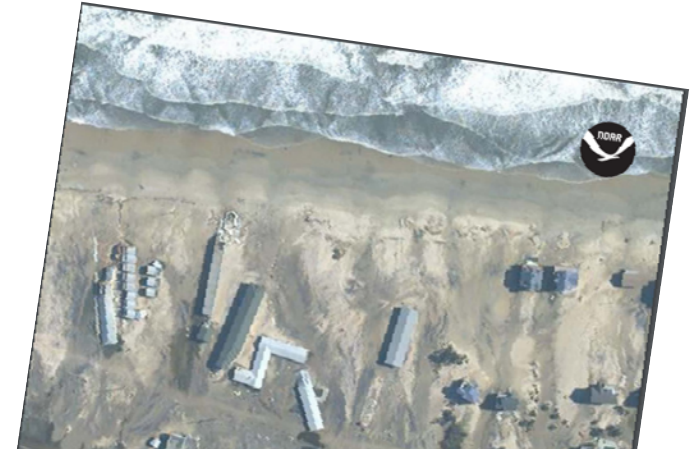
Agency	Topic	Point of Contact	Phone
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), Mobile District	Compliance and permitting expertise	Mobile District, Regulatory Division	251-690-2658
	Federally maintained waterway or channel	Duane Poiroux, Operations Division	251-690-2576
	Response capabilities	Bo Ansley, Emergency Management	251-690-2027
U.S. Coast Guard (USCG), District 8, Sector Mobile	Potential to release oil or hazardous material	National Response Center (NRC)	1-800-424-8802
	Response capabilities	USCG Sector Mobile Command Center	251-441-6211
EPA, Region IV	Potential to release oil or hazardous material	National Response Center (NRC)	1-800-424-8802
	Response capabilities and coordination	Leo Francendese, On Scene Coordinator, EPA Region IV	404-606-2223
FEMA, Region IV	Funding following Presidential disaster declaration	Contact Local Emergency Management Agency	-
	GIS mapping and plotting of imagery	David Lawson, Region IV GIS Coordinator	770-220-5504
	Technical expertise for removal operations and environmental, compliance and permitting expertise	Valerie Rhoads, Public Assistance Branch Chief	770-220-5618
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS)	Bon Secour NWR and response capabilities	Brittany Petersen, Assistant Refuge Manager	251-540-7720
	Compliance and permitting expertise	Alabama Ecological Services Field Office Bill Pearson, Field Supervisor	251-441-5181 251-441-5870
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)	Emergency ESA/EFH Consultation	-	-
	EFH information	Rusty Swafford General Contact	409-766-3699 727-824-5312
	ESA information	Kyle Baker Dennis Klemm	727-551-5789 727-551-5777
	Potential to release oil or hazardous material	Adam Davis, Scientific Support Coordinator for USCG District 8	251-544-5012 (O), 206-375-5697 (24hr)
	Response capabilities and coordination	Kim Albins, Gulf of Mexico Regional Coordinator, Marine Debris Program	251-544-5013 (O), 251-222-0276 (C)
Natural Resource Conservation	Emergency Watershed Protection (EWP) Program Information	Diane Guthrie, P.E., State Conservation Engineer	334-887-4536
	Baldwin County	Joey Koptis, District Conservationist	251-937-3297x3



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Field Reference Guide



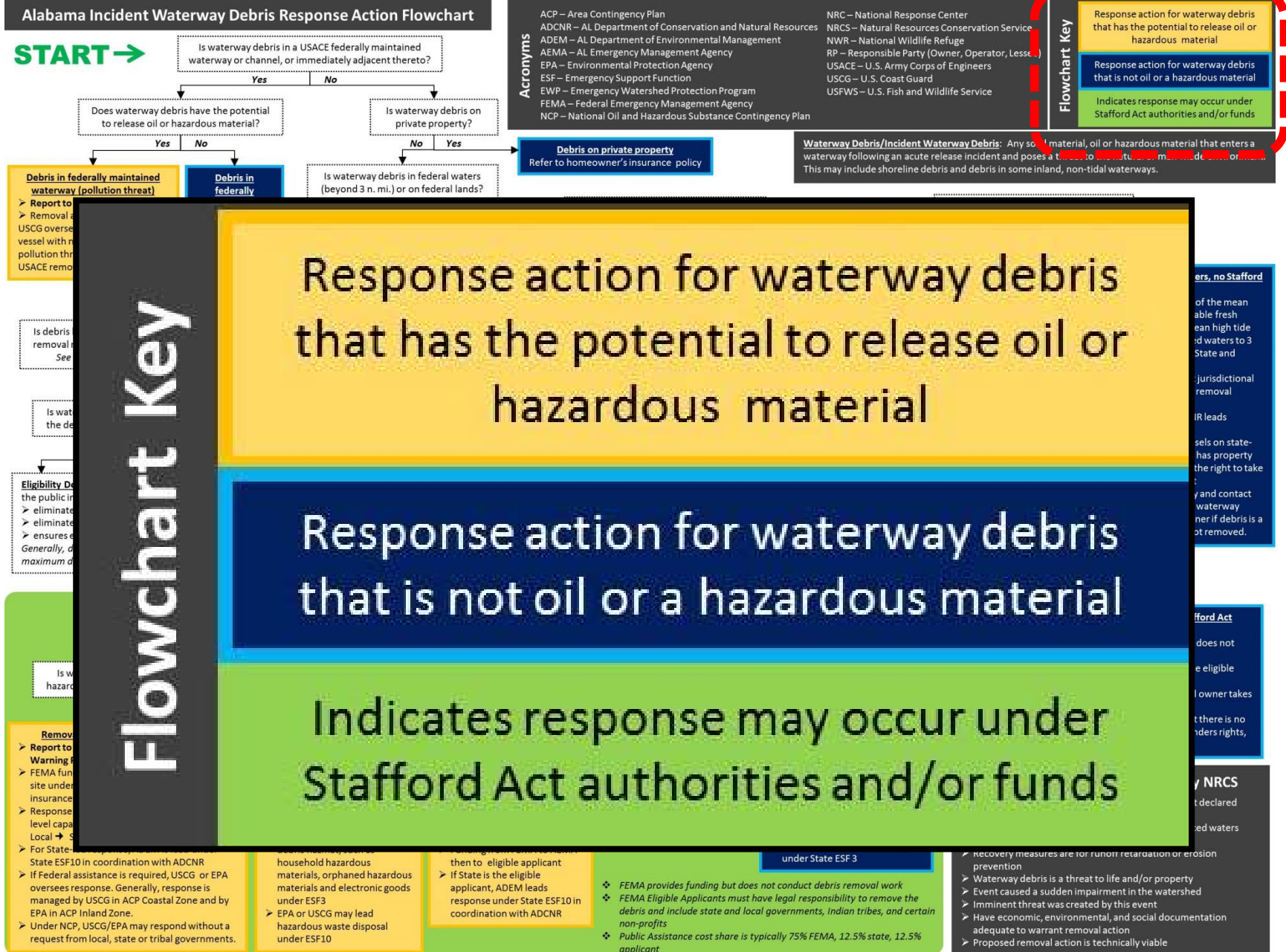
**North Carolina Incident Waterway Debris Response Guide:
Field Reference Guide**

NOAA Marine Debris Program
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
U.S. Department of Commerce
September 2016

Guide:



Alabama Incident Waterway Debris Response Action Flowchart



Acronyms

- ACP – Area Contingency Plan
- ADCNR – AL Department of Conservation and Natural Resources
- ADEM – AL Department of Environmental Management
- AEMA – AL Emergency Management Agency
- EPA – Environmental Protection Agency
- ESF – Emergency Support Function
- EWP – Emergency Watershed Protection Program
- FEMA – Federal Emergency Management Agency
- NCP – National Oil and Hazardous Substance Contingency Plan
- NRC – National Response Center
- NRCS – Natural Resources Conservation Service
- NWR – National Wildlife Refuge
- RP – Responsible Party (Owner, Operator, Lessee)
- USACE – U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
- USCG – U.S. Coast Guard
- USFWS – U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Flowchart Key

- Response action for waterway debris that has the potential to release oil or hazardous material
- Response action for waterway debris that is not oil or a hazardous material
- Indicates response may occur under Stafford Act authorities and/or funds

Flowchart Key

Response action for waterway debris that has the potential to release oil or hazardous material

Response action for waterway debris that is not oil or a hazardous material

Indicates response may occur under Stafford Act authorities and/or funds

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recovery measures are for runoff retrogradation or erosion prevention

- Waterway debris is a threat to life and/or property
- Event caused a sudden impairment in the watershed
- Imminent threat was created by this event
- Have economic, environmental, and social documentation adequate to warrant removal action
- Proposed removal action is technically viable

Remov

- Report to Warning
- FEMA fund site under insurance
- Response level capa
- Local → S
- For State-
- State ESF10 in coordination with ADCNR
- If Federal assistance is required, USCG or EPA oversees response. Generally, response is managed by USCG in ACP Coastal Zone and by EPA in ACP Inland Zone.
- Under NCP, USCG/EPA may respond without a request from local, state or tribal governments.

household hazardous materials, orphaned hazardous materials and electronic goods under ESF3

- EPA or USCG may lead hazardous waste disposal under ESF10

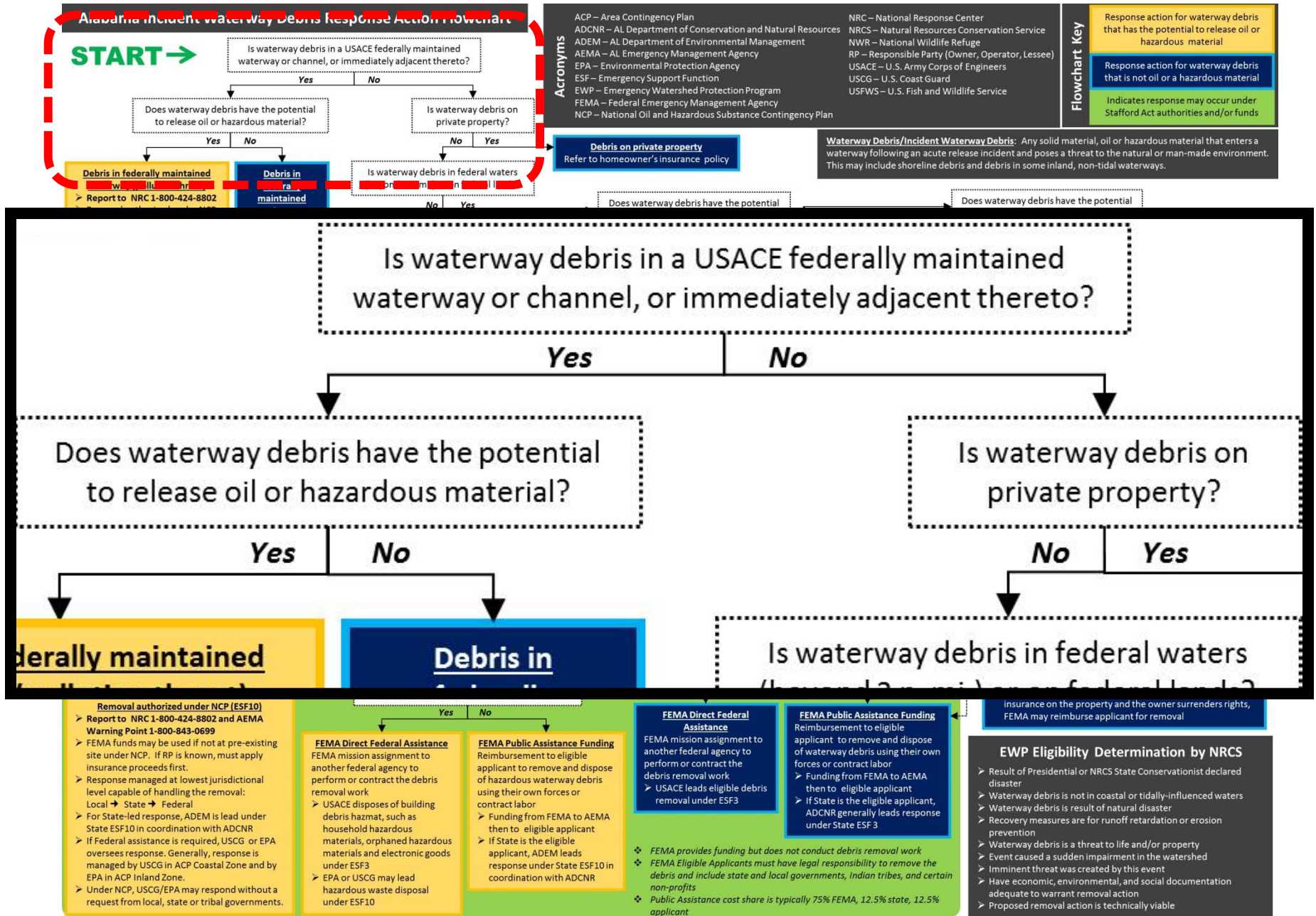
then to eligible applicant

- If State is the eligible applicant, ADEM leads response under State ESF10 in coordination with ADCNR

under State ESF 3

- 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

Alabama Incident Waterway Debris Response Action Flowchart



Permitting and Compliance for Waterway Debris Removal in Alabama

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- In Mobile and Baldwin Counties, permit applications are jointly reviewed by USACE and Alabama Department of Environmental Management (ADEM). A "Joint Application and Notification" can be downloaded at the USACE, Mobile District, Regulatory Division webpage.
- It is the responsibility of the lead Federal agency to ensure compliance with National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), federal coastal consistency, and consult with tribal and resource agencies including Alabama Historical Commission (AHC), U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) and NOAA's National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS).

Process to Stay in Compliance



Agency Requirements and Legislation Details

Agency Contact Information and Details

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

Mobile District Regulatory Division
251-690-2236

Permit(s) required for debris response/removal work within waterways and wetlands

- ALG-04 Debris Removal from waterway for navigational or drainage purposes
- NWP-3 Maintenance of Navigable Waterways (includes dredging, debris accumulation, etc.)
- NWP-22 Removal of Vessels (removal of wrecked, abandoned, disabled vessels or other man-made obstructions to navigation)
- NWP-37 Emergency Watershed Protection & Rehabilitation for work done under NRCS's Emergency Watershed Protection program

Consultation with State Historic Preservation Office required if waterway debris response involves Federal permits and/or funding (USACE permit, FEMA funding, etc.) to comply with National Historic Preservation Act if activities affect historic or cultural sites included in or eligible for the National Register of Historic Places

Consultation required if waterway debris response involves Federal permits and/or funding (USACE permit, FEMA funding, etc.) to comply with:

- Endangered Species Act (ESA) to ensure actions do not adversely affect and
- Antiquities Act to ensure actions do not adversely affect and
- Coastal Zone Management Act (CZMA) to ensure actions do not encourage

In Mobile and Baldwin Counties, ADEM Coastal Program simultaneously

Consultation required if waterway debris response involves Federal permits and/or funding (USACE permit, FEMA funding, etc.) to comply with:

- Antiquities Act to ensure actions do not adversely affect and
- Coastal Zone Management Act (CZMA) to ensure actions do not encourage

Alabama Department of Environmental Management (ADEM)
Coastal Program
251-304-2236
Warning Points
1-800-842-2236
Air Division
334-271-2236



Disposal of hazardous waste must be coordinated with ADEM

FEMA is provided with statutory exemptions under the Stafford Act which exempts debris removal from NEPA review when FEMA is providing funding

Next Steps



Response Planning Next Steps

- Coordinate with partner agencies to incorporate marine debris response scenarios into planned exercises and drills
- Host marine debris-centric exercises with partner agencies
- Support incorporation of content into other existing plans





Regional Response Planning



Sarah Latshaw
Southeast Regional Coordinator
Sarah.latshaw@noaa.gov
843-697-7416.

Questions?

