

# Oil Spills

Eco Strike Team Idea

Upper Mississippi River Area Plan  
& associated SubArea Plans



**Part I: Background**

**Part II: Needs Assessment**

**Part III: Ideas**

**Part IV: Recommendations**

**Part V: Your Feedback**



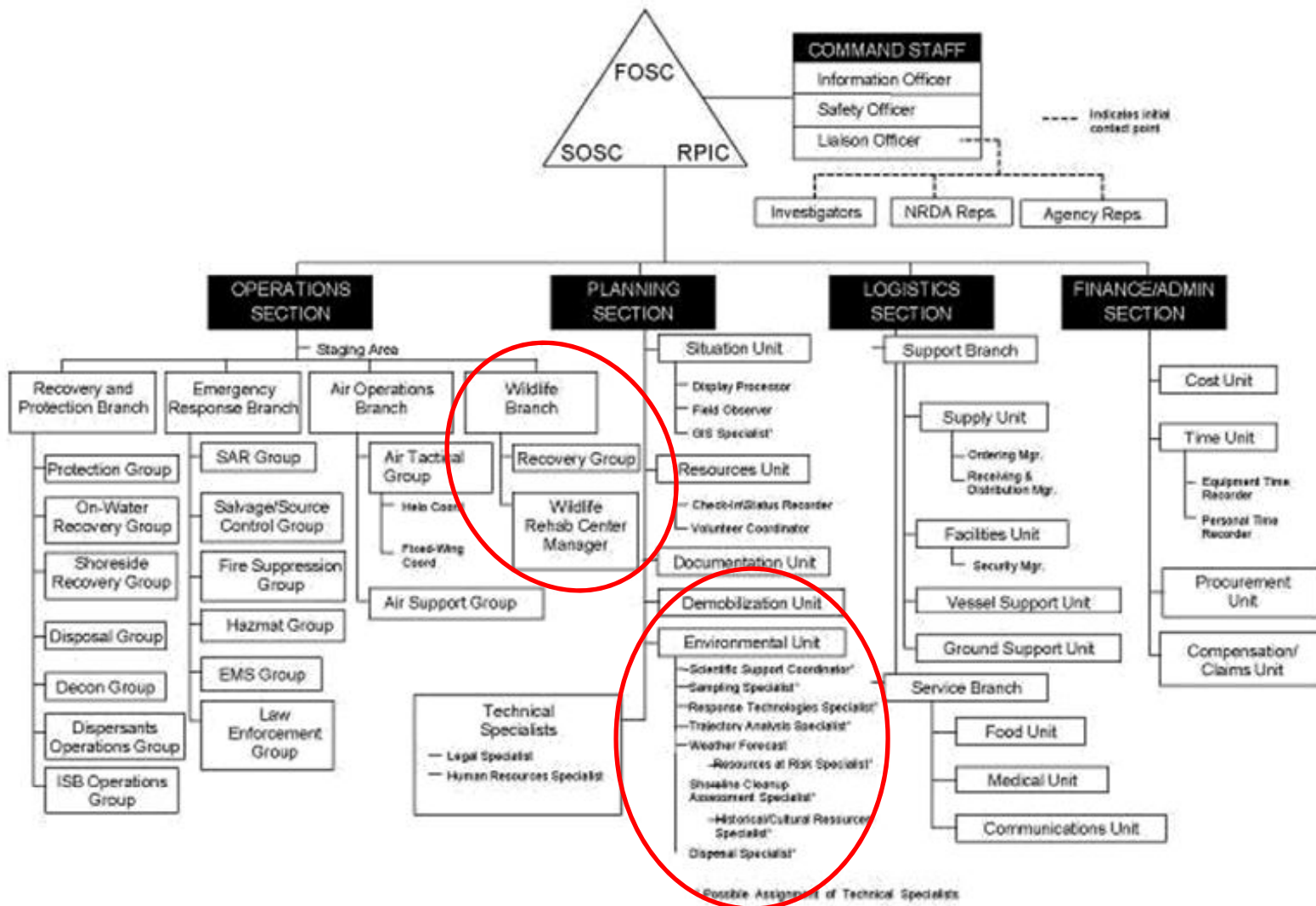
# Ecological Based Activities

- **Endangered species consultation (Section 7.A.2 per the MOA)**
- **Protection of downstream natural resources**
- **Minimizing impacts from response actions in sensitive habitats**
- **Rescue and rehabilitation of oiled wildlife**

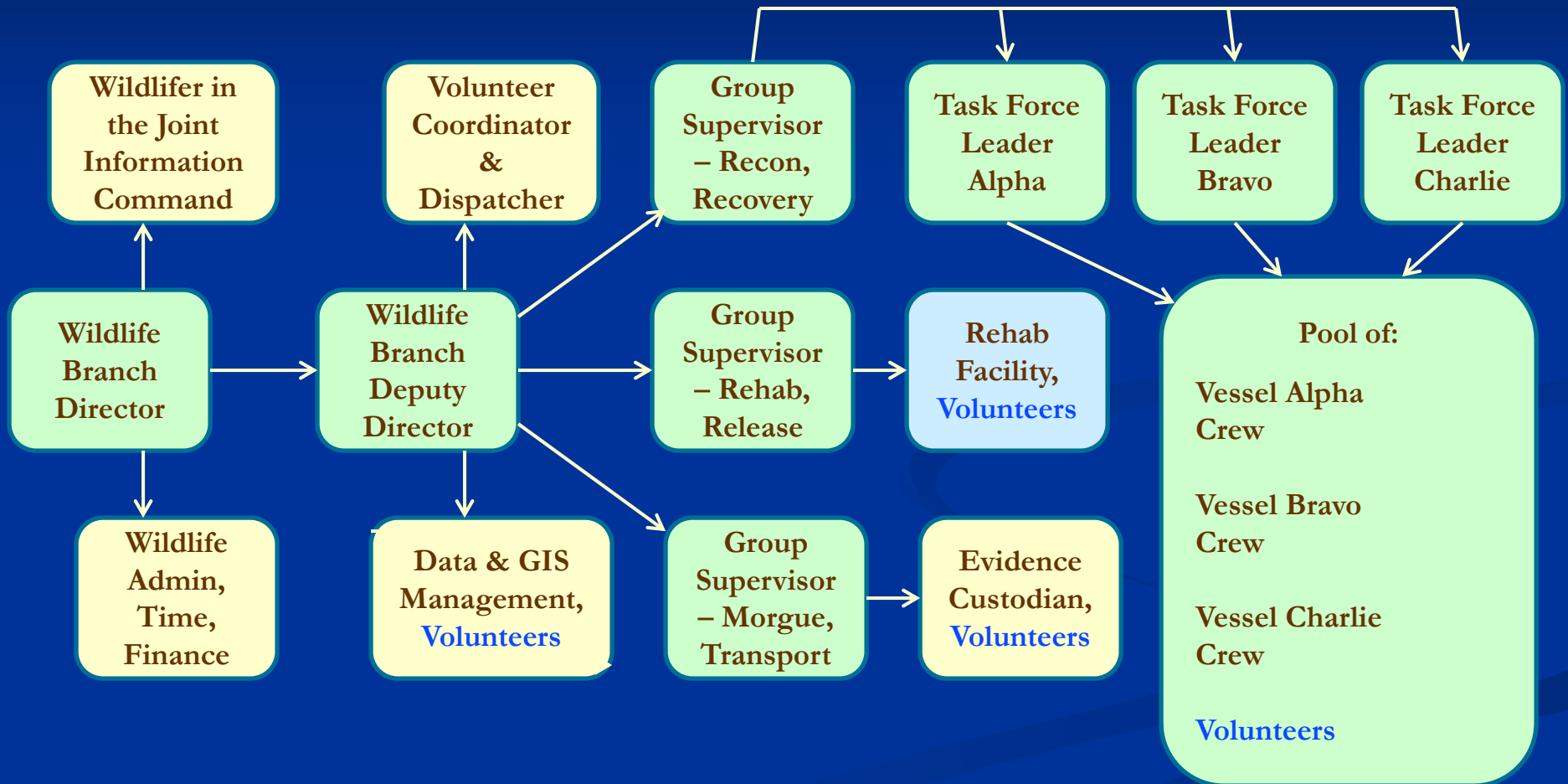
# Ecological Based Activities

- Hazing wildlife away from oiled habitats
- SCAT
- Mapping
- Field sampling plan development and review
- Oversight of clean up in sensitive habitats (resource advisors or RE-AD)

# Natural Resource Personnel in ICS



# Personnel in Wildlife Branch



# Planning Section (Environmental Unit)

- Support Unit Leader
- Resources at risk (downstream resource protection, minimize response impacts, endangered species consultation)
- Help with SCAT planning & provide staff
- Provide RE-AD staff
- Mapping assistance
- Sampling plan assistance

# Needs

- Training (ICS, Hazwoper, oiled birds)
- Qualified personnel for ICS roles in Wildlife Branch and Environmental Unit
- Involvement in contingency planning
- Follow up and reporting out of successes & failures



# Needs

- **Wildlife and habitat related plans, templates, and job aids**
- **Practice with equipment**
- **Wildlife response exercises and drills (e.g. as part of booming workshops)**

Emphasis is on training and information sharing.

It's a brain trust of responders and resource personnel sharing experiences.

It's a group of individuals with a collective set of knowledge, skills, and abilities that become qualified to fit into the response as needed and directed by the IC/UC or OSC.

Opportunity to pass on knowledge from experienced responders to new responders.

The group training allows individuals to become acquainted with each other in advance of spills to work out spill response contingency planning details and differences related to fish, wildlife, and habitats.

It allows the dissemination of ecological related ideas and materials from workshops and conferences not attended by all, especially for National and International conferences.

**What has worked at other freshwater spills?**

**We do not see the repetition like we see along the coasts that allows for the accumulation of knowledge.**

**This group could help gather and post information on ecological problems that were successfully mitigated at other inland spills.**

# Recommendations

- Host conference calls in between semi annual Area and Sub Area meetings
- Outreach at professional natural resource meetings such as the UMRCC
- Recruitment for contingency planning activities
- Inject wildlife scenarios into exercises

# Recommendations

- **Develop and prioritize a list of tasks to work on for the Area and Sub Area groups**
- **Cadre training and qualification Standards**
- **Maintain a reference library**
- **Deploy and respond to the needs of OSCs and ICs.**

# Expected Outcomes

- Less tension at spill incidents over natural resource issues
- Reduced impacts on natural resources
- Less criticism from the public
- Conservation of species and habitats
- Efficient use of volunteers

# Your Feedback

Make a list of comments and suggestions



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