

### **ESF #10 Concept of Operations:**

EPA will serve as the National Chair and lead agency for each activation of ESF #10, with close coordination with the USCG in geographic locations under USCG jurisdiction. EPA will be the ESF #10 Regional Chair in preparedness and for ESF #10 activations in response to disaster or emergencies affecting areas under EPA jurisdiction. The USCG will be the ESF #10 Regional Incident Chair for a disaster or emergency affecting only areas under USCG jurisdiction.

The operational response prescribed in the NCP and any agency implementing procedures that contribute to response will be coordinated through this ESF. This ESF will promote an efficient, coordinated, and effective response to discharges or releases of hazardous materials that threaten human health, welfare, or the environment. In conjunction with the state, the ESF will coordinate the provision of support and the overall management to the various response sites to ensure actions are taken to mitigate, clean up, and dispose of hazardous materials and minimize the impact of the incidents. The ESF promotes close coordination with federal, state, commonwealth, and local officials to establish priorities for response support.

This ESF requires documentation for all response activities to support after-action requirements and justify actions taken by primary and support agencies.

Upon activation of ESF #10, one or more On Scene Coordinators (OSC) will coordinate and direct oil and hazardous substance removal actions. Depending on the location of the incident(s), the OSC(s) may be provided by either the EPA, USCG, DOD, or DOE. The regional Chair of ESF #10 is responsible for coordinating OSCs to make the best use of response resources and to avoid gaps or overlaps in response actions.

Document prepared by:  
Region IV  
Regional Response Team

RRT IV Co-Chairs:  
U.S. Coast Guard 305-536-5651  
U.S. EPA 404-562-8721

### **Oil or Chemical Spill Notification** call the National Response Center at **800-424-8802**

---

---

**Oil Spill Response**  
in the Region IV Coastal Zone,  
contact the U.S. Coast Guard  
Marine Safety Office (MSO):

MSO Wilmington, NC  
910-792-8408

MSO Charleston, SC  
843-724-7616

MSO Savannah, GA  
912-652-4353

MSO Jacksonville, FL  
904-247-7310

MSO Miami, FL  
305-732-0160

MSO Tampa, FL  
813-228-2189

MSO Mobile, AL  
334-441-5121

In the Region IV Inland Zone,  
contact the U.S. Environmental  
Protection Agency:  
404-562-8700

Inland Zone U.S. Coast Guard Offices are:

MSO Huntington, WV  
800-253-7465

MSO Louisville, KY  
800-253-7465

MSO Paducah, KY  
502-442-1621

MSO Memphis, TN  
901-544-3912

State Pollution Response Contacts are:

North Carolina  
919-733-3867

South Carolina  
888-481-0125

Georgia  
404-656-4300

Florida  
850-413-9911

Alabama  
334-242-4378

Mississippi  
601-352-9100

Tennessee  
800-258-3300

Kentucky  
800-928-2380

# Pollution Response Under the Federal Response Plan



### **What is Emergency Support Function (ESF) #10?**

Emergency Support Function (ESF) #10 is the Hazardous Materials Annex to the Federal Response Plan (FRP) and provides federal support to State, Commonwealth, and local governments in response to an actual or potential discharge and/or release of hazardous materials (including oil) following a major disaster or emergency. As an element of the FRP, ESF #10 may be activated under one of the following conditions:

- In response to a disaster for which the President (through the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)) determines that federal assistance is required to supplement the response efforts of the affected state, commonwealth, and local governments, under the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act; or
- In anticipation of a major disaster or emergency that is expected to result in a declaration under the Stafford Act.

### **How is ESF #10 Activated?**

A Presidential declaration does not automatically activate ESF #10. FEMA will determine, in consultation with affected states, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), and the U.S. Coast Guard (USCG), if appropriate, if such activation is required to supplement the efforts of state and local governments. The USCG will be consulted in a disaster or emergency where the predominant damage is within its jurisdiction. As the primary agency for the ESF, EPA also will be consulted in such cases.

### **What Materials, Substances, or Pollutants are the Focus of this ESF?**

Within the context of ESF #10, the term “hazardous materials” is defined broadly to include:

- Oil;
- Hazardous substances under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA), as amended;

- Pollutants and contaminants defined under Section 101(33) of CERCLA; and
- Certain chemical, biological, and other weapons of mass destruction (WMD).

Federal response to releases of “hazardous materials” is carried out under the National Oil and Hazardous Substances Pollution Contingency Plan (NCP) (40 CFR 300).

### **What is ESF #10’s Response Scope?**

A natural or other disaster could result in numerous situations in which hazardous materials are released into the environment. Fixed facilities (e.g., chemical plants, tank farms, laboratories, operating hazardous waste sites, etc.) that produce, generate, use, store, or dispose of hazardous materials could be damaged so severely that existing spill control apparatus and containment measures are not effective. Hazardous materials that are transported may be involved in rail accidents, highway collisions, or waterway mishaps. Abandoned hazardous waste sites could be damaged, causing further degradation of holding ponds, tanks, and drums. The damage to, or rupture of, pipelines transporting materials that are hazardous if improperly released will present serious problems. Disaster recovery procedures could generate hazardous materials threats to the public health or welfare or to the environment. Terrorism incidents could occur involving WMD.

ESF #10 provides for a coordinated response to actual or potential discharges and/or releases of hazardous materials by placing the response mechanisms of the NCP within the FRP coordination structure that ensures the most efficient and effective use of federal resources. The ESF includes the appropriate actions to prevent, minimize, or mitigate a threat to public health, welfare, or the environment caused by actual or potential hazardous material incidents. Response to oil discharges and hazardous substance releases will be carried out in

accordance with the NCP.

In addition, ESF #10 may respond to actual or threatened releases of hazardous materials not typically responded to under the NCP but that, as a result of the disaster or emergency, pose a threat to public health or welfare or to the environment. Appropriate response activities include but are not limited to, household hazardous waste collection, permitting and monitoring of debris disposal, water quality monitoring and protection, air quality sampling and monitoring, and protection of natural resources.

### **Who Supports ESF #10?**

**National.** EPA will serve as the National Chair and lead agency for each activation of ESF #10, with close coordination with the USCG in geographic locations under USCG jurisdiction.

**Regional.** The EPA RRT Co-Chair will serve as the Regional Chair for ESF #10. The USCG Co-Chair of the RRT will serve as Vice Chair of the regional ESF. For response occurring solely in areas of USCG jurisdiction, the USCG RRT Co-Chair will serve as the Regional Incident Chair of ESF #10. The regional-level ESF comprises the regional representatives of the following federal agencies:

<b>ESF #10 SUPPORTING AGENCIES</b>
Environmental Protection Agency
U.S. Coast Guard
Department of Agriculture
Department of Commerce
National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration
Department of Defense
Department of Energy
Department of Health & Human Services
Department of Interior
Department of Justice
Department of Labor
Occupational Safety & Health Administration
Department of State
Department of Transportation
Research & Special Programs Administration
Nuclear Regulatory Commission