Alabama Marine Debris Emergency Response Guide: Field Reference Guide

NOAA Marine Debris Program
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
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Photo: NOAA

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1. Introduction

1.1 Purpose

This *Field Reference Guide* condenses information contained in the *Alabama Marine Debris Emergency Response Guide: Comprehensive Guidance Document (Guide)* to facilitate use during emergency response operations. While the *Comprehensive Guide* serves as a complete reference document for Alabama incident waterway debris response, 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 NOAA's Marine Debris Division 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 Alabama. 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 Alabama. 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 Alabama'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, Alabama 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. Alabama Incident Waterway Debris Response Flowchart

The "Alabama Incident Waterway Debris Response Action Flowchart" on the following page provides a visual one-page 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. Endpoints within the green shaded area indicate that response may occur under Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (Stafford Act) authorities and/or funding.

Alabama Incident Waterway Debris Response Action Flowchart

START → Is waterway debris in a USACE federally maintained waterway or channel, or immediately adjacent thereto?

- **Yes** → Does waterway debris have the potential to release oil or hazardous material?
  - **Yes** → **Debris in federally maintained waterway (pollution threat)**
    - **Report to NRC 1-800-424-8802**
    - Removal authorized under NCP USCG oversees response by RP. If vessel with no RP, USCG removes pollution threat (battery, oil) and USACE removes vessel.
  - **No** → **Debris in federally maintained waterway**
    USACE removes waterway debris, or oversees removal by RP
- **No** → Is waterway debris on private property?
  - **Yes** → **Debris on private property**
    Refer to homeowner's insurance policy
  - **No** → Is waterway debris in federal waters (beyond 3 n. mi.) or on federal lands?
    - **Yes** → Does waterway debris have the potential to release oil or hazardous material?
      - **No** → **Debris on federal lands or beyond 3 n.m.**
        Federal Agency removes debris on federal lands
        - USFWS Bon Secour NWR in Baldwin County
        - USFWS Grand Bay NWR in Mobile County

        No Federal agency actively removes waterway debris beyond 3 n.mi. unless it is a pollution threat or in a USACE federally maintained waterway or channel
      - **Yes** → Does waterway debris have the potential to release oil or hazardous material?
        - **Yes** → **Debris outside of federally maintained waterway, no Stafford Act declaration (pollution threat)**
          - Response managed at lowest jurisdictional level capable of handling the removal
            Local → State → Federal
          - For State-led response, ADEM leads response under State ESF10 in coordination with ADCNR

          For oil with a visible sheen or hazardous material over the reportable quantity
          - **Report to NRC 1-800-424-8802**
          - **Report to AEMA Warning Point 1-800-843-0699**
          - Removal authorized under NCP
          - If Federal assistance is required, USCG or EPA oversees response by RP. Generally, response is managed by USCG in ACP Coastal Zone and by EPA in ACP Inland Zone.
          - If vessel with no RP, USCG removes pollution threat (battery, oil) but generally does not remove vessel
          - Unlike response under Stafford Act declaration, under NCP USCG/EPA may respond without a request from local, state or tribal governments
        - **No** → **Debris in state/local public waters, no Stafford Act declaration**
          - Submerged lands waterward of the mean low water line beneath navigable fresh water or waterward of the mean high tide line beneath tidally-influenced waters to 3 n.mi. are the property of the State and managed by ADCNR
          - Response managed at lowest jurisdictional level capable of handling the removal
            Local → State
          - For State-led response, ADCNR leads response under State ESF3
          - State restricts mooring of vessels on state-owned submerged lands and has property salvage legislation regarding the right to take up and secure property adrift
          - AL Marine Police may identify and contact vessel owner for recoverable waterway debris removal. May fine owner if debris is a hazard to navigation and is not removed.
  - **Yes** → Is waterway debris a direct result of a Presidential disaster declaration?
    - **Yes** → Is debris located in non-tidal waters, and does removal meet all NRCS EWP eligibility criteria? *See criteria at bottom right of page.*
      - **No** → Is waterway debris located in the designated disaster area?
        - **Yes** / **No** → Eligibility Determination by FEMA
      - **Yes** → **Debris eligible for NRCS EWP funding**
        NRCS funds removal by eligible sponsor under EWP program. Cost share is typically 75% NRCS, 25% sponsor.
    - **No** → Is debris a direct result of an NRCS State Conservationist declared disaster, located in non-tidal waters, and does removal meet all NRCS EWP eligibility criteria? *See criteria at bottom right of page.*
      - **Yes** → **Debris eligible for NRCS EWP funding**
      - **No** → Eligibility Determination by FEMA

Eligibility Determination by FEMA: Made on case-by-case discretionary basis in coordination with eligible applicant, State, and other federal agencies. Is removal in the public interest? Does at least one of the following apply? Removal…
- eliminates immediate threat to human lives, public health and safety
- eliminates immediate threat of significant damage to improved public and private property
- ensures economic recovery of the affected areas to the benefit of the community-at-large

Generally, debris that is an obstruction to vessel traffic in a commercial or commonly used waterway is eligible up to mean high tide and to a depth of 2ft below the maximum draft of the largest vessel that used the waterway at low tide prior to the disaster. Shoreline debris is a secondary focus. (See FEMA Recovery Policy 9523.5)

- **Yes** → Stafford Act Declaration
- **No** → Does waterway debris have the potential to release oil or hazardous material?

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

Waterway Debris/Incident Waterway Debris: Any solid material, oil or hazardous material that enters a waterway following an acute release incident and poses a threat to the natural or man-made environment. This may include shoreline debris and debris in some inland, non-tidal waterways.

Stafford Act Declaration

Does waterway debris have the potential to release oil or hazardous material?

- **Yes** → Is waterway debris oil with a visible sheen or hazardous material over the reportable quantity?
  - **Yes** → **Removal authorized under NCP (ESF10)**
    - **Report to NRC 1-800-424-8802 and AEMA Warning Point 1-800-843-0699**
    - FEMA funds may be used if not at pre-existing site under NCP. If RP is known, must apply insurance proceeds first.
    - Response managed at lowest jurisdictional level capable of handling the removal:
      Local → State → Federal
    - For State-led response, ADEM is lead under 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.
  - **No** → Has the state/local government demonstrated to FEMA that they lack the capability to perform or contract the hazmat debris removal work?
    - **Yes** → **FEMA Direct Federal Assistance**
      FEMA mission assignment to another federal agency to perform or contract the debris removal work
      - USACE disposes of building debris hazmat, such as household hazardous materials, orphaned hazardous materials and electronic goods under ESF3
      - EPA or USCG may lead hazardous waste disposal under ESF10
    - **No** → **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 AEMA then to eligible applicant
      - If State is the eligible applicant, ADEM leads response under State ESF10 in coordination with ADCNR
- **No** → Is the waterway debris recoverable (traceable to an owner), i.e. a vessel with a Hull Identification Number (HIN)?
  - **No** → Has the state/local government demonstrated to FEMA that they lack the capability to perform or contract the debris removal work?
    - **Yes** → **FEMA Direct Federal Assistance**
      FEMA mission assignment to another federal agency to perform or contract the debris removal work
      - USACE leads eligible debris removal under ESF3
    - **No** → **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 AEMA then to eligible applicant
      - If State is the eligible applicant, ADCNR generally leads response under State ESF 3
  - **Yes** → **Recoverable debris in state/local waters, Stafford Act declaration**
    - State of Alabama has no derelict vessel law and does not require a title for boat ownership or insurance
    - Alabama Marine Police may assist ADCNR (or the eligible applicant) in identifying and contacting owner
    - If owner is found, apply insurance proceeds and owner takes vessel
    - 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

- *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*

EWP Eligibility Determination by NRCS

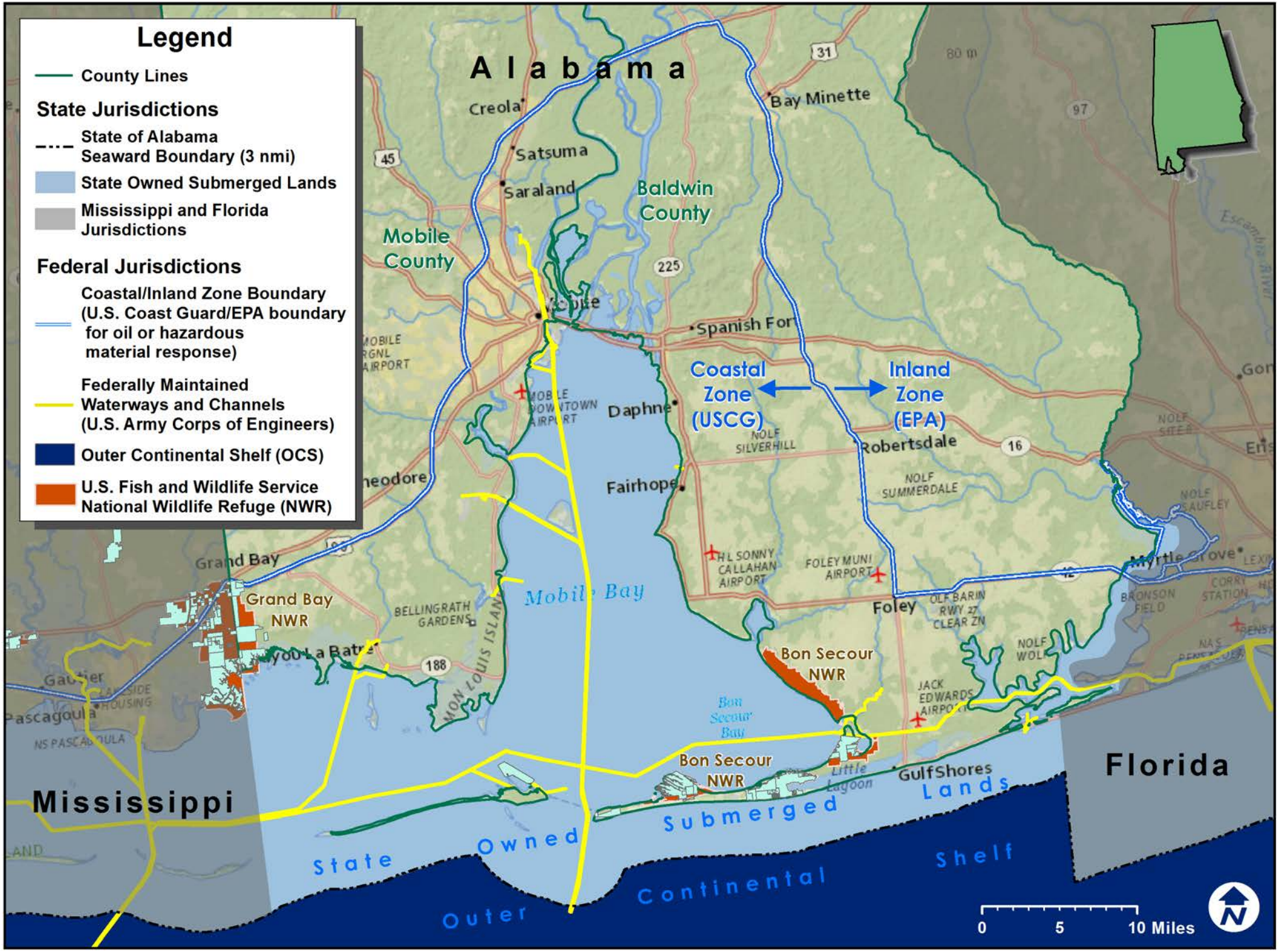
- Result of Presidential or NRCS State Conservationist declared disaster
- Waterway debris is not in coastal or tidally-influenced waters
- Waterway debris is result of natural disaster
- Recovery measures are for runoff retardation or erosion prevention
- Waterway debris is a threat to life and/or property
- 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

3. Agency Jurisdictions and Capabilities

3.1 Agency Jurisdiction Map

3.2 Agency Response Capabilities

Alabama Incident Waterway Debris Response Map



3.2 Agency Response Capabilities

Yes - In-house Capability

Contract - Contracted capability

		Baldwin County EMA	Mobile County EMA	ADCNR	ADEM	ASPA	GSA	USACE Mobile District	USFWS	FEMA Region IV[12]	NOAA	USCG Sector Mobile	NRCS
Technology	GIS mapping and plotting of imagery	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	-	Yes	Yes[8]	-	Yes	Yes	-	-
	Side scan sonar	-	Contract	Yes	-	-	-	Contract	-	-	Yes	-	-
	Multi-beam sonar	-	-	-	-	-	-	Contract	-	-	Yes	-	-
	Single-beam sonar	-	-	Yes	-	-	-	Contract	-	-	Yes	-	-
	Remote sensing capabilities	-	-	-	-	-	Yes	Contract	-	-	Yes	-	-
Manpower	Volunteer manpower	Contract	Contract	Yes	-	-	-	-	Yes	-	-	-	Yes
	Technical expertise for removal operations	-	-	Yes	-	-	-	Yes[9]	-	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
	Environmental expertise (location of sensitive areas, endangered species present, etc.)	-	-	Yes	Yes	-	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes[13]	Yes	Yes
	Compliance and permitting expertise	-	-	Yes	Yes	-	-	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	-	Yes
	Dive support	-	Contract	Yes	-	-	Yes	-	-	-	Yes	Yes[15]	-
Equipment	Vessels	-	-	Yes	Yes	Yes[7]	Yes	Contract	Yes	-	Yes	Yes	-
	Aircraft	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Yes	Yes	-
	Barge, Self-loading barge	-	-	-	-	-	-	Contract	-	-	-	-	-
	Crane, Knuckleboom Crane	-	-	-	-	-	-	Contract	-	-	-	-	-
	Excavator	-	-	-	-	-	-	Contract	-	-	-	-	-
	Boom	-	-	-	-	-	-	Contract	-	-	-	Contract[16]	-
	Surplus parts for terrestrial and marine work	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Surveillance drones	-	-	-	-	-	-	Yes[10]	-	-	-	Yes[17]	-
	Other specialized equipment that cannot be readily procured immediately following a debris incident	-	Yes	Yes[1]	-	-	Yes	Contract	Yes	-	-	Yes	-
Logistics	Funding for waterway debris removal	-	-	-	-	-	-	Yes[11]	-	-	Yes[14]	Yes[18]	Yes
	Facility suitable for establishing an operations center	Yes	Yes	Yes[2]	-	Yes	-	Yes	-	-	Yes	Yes	-
	Docks for wet storage of vessels	-	-	Yes[3]	-	Yes	-	-	-	-	-	Yes[19]	-
	Staging area for dry storage of vessels	Yes	-	Yes[4]	-	Yes	-	Yes	Yes	-	Yes	Yes[20]	-
	Pre-designated landfill/disposal sites	Yes	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Pre-event contracts and staged agreements in place	Yes	-	-	-	-	-	Yes	-	-	-	Yes[21]	-
	Contract authority and oversight capabilities	Yes	-	Yes	-	Yes	-	Yes	-	-	Yes	Yes[22]	-
	Land with water access to offload (has not been evaluated for suitability or officially pre-designated)	Yes	-	Yes[5]	-	Yes	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Pre-designated staging, off-loading and special handling areas (already evaluated for suitability)	Yes	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Yes	-
	Other logistical support, including fuel, housing, food, etc.	Yes	Yes	Yes[6]	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Each agency self-reported capabilities which could be used during waterway debris response in Mobile and Baldwin Counties. 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.

[1]ADCNR	Amphibious excavator, Marsh Master
[2]ADCNR	LG Adams: Weeks Bay Resource Center and Visitors Center/Auditorium. May be limits on internet/Wi-Fi bandwidth.
[3]ADCNR	Terry Boyd: Boggy Point, Cotton Bayou; Hank Burch: Coastal Section has inventory of public launches in Mobile and Baldwin Counties; LG Adams: Safe Harbor Launch/Weeks Bay Reserve (WBNERR) (limited draft), Baywatch/Fish River Launch (public launch at mouth of Fish River), and Viewpoint Launch (public launch at Big Mouth/Pelican Point)
[4]ADCNR	Terry Boyd: Claude Peteet Mariculture Center; LG Adams: Weeks Bay Resource Center parking area and Safe Harbor at Weeks Bay Reserve
[5]ADCNR	Public launch at mouth of Fish River
[6]ADCNR	Lodging for 8-12 persons at Weeks Bay Reserve Dormitory
[7]ASPA	Have one patrol vessel and one work boat
[8]USACE	Has a GIS cadre for response
[9]USACE	Has planning response teams
[10]USACE	Surveillance drone housed at USACE District, Jacksonville
[11]USACE	Funding in place for federal projects only
[12]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.
[13]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
[14]NOAA	Funding through grant program and possible Congressional supplemental funding
[15]USCG	Has divers but not typically used for waterway debris
[16]USCG	Small amounts of boom on hand but capable of using pre-event contracts for larger pollution events
[17]USCG	Surveillance drones not typically used for waterway debris
[18]USCG	Funding for pollution incidents only
[19]USCG	Docks for wet storage of vessels has limited space and suitable for larger vessels only
[20]USCG	Staging area for dry storage of vessels has limited space
[21]USCG	Pre-event contracts and staged agreements in place for pollution incidents only
[22]USCG	Contract authority and oversight capabilities for USCG contracts only

4. Permitting and Compliance Requirements in Alabama

The "Permitting and Compliance for Waterway Debris Removal in Alabama" 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 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). 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).

Compliance Process Under Federally Funded Response

(for example, FEMA funding under Stafford Act declaration)

Federal Agency Coordination
Coordinate with Federal funding agency regarding environmental compliance requirements before applying for USACE permit

→ **Permit Application**
Complete and submit "Joint Application and Notification" form to both USACE and ADEM

→ **Permit Issued**
Review all permit conditions including ADEM and resource agency requirements

→ **Debris Removal Work Begins**
All permit conditions and ADEM and resource agency requirements must be followed during debris removal activities

- The lead federal agency is responsible for NEPA compliance, federal consistency with AL Coastal Area Management Program, and consultations with AHC, USFWS and NMFS.
- FEMA is the lead federal agency when providing funding under Stafford Act declaration.
- Debris removal under Stafford Act declaration is exempt from NEPA review process.

Compliance Process Under State/Local Agency-led Response

Permit Application
Complete and submit "Joint Application and Notification" form to both USACE and ADEM

→ **Permit Issued**
Review all permit conditions including ADEM and resource agency requirements

→ **Debris Removal Work Begins**
All permit conditions and ADEM and resource agency requirements must be followed during debris removal activities

As the lead federal agency, USACE will ensure NEPA compliance, federal consistency with Alabama Coastal Area Management Program, and consult with AHC, USFWS and NMFS

Agency Requirements and Legislation Details

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE)
Mobile District Regulatory Division
251-690-2658

- 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** 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 Watershed Protection & Rehabilitation** for work done under NRCS's Emergency Watershed 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 Department of Environmental Management (ADEM)
Coastal Program
251-304-1176
Warning Point
1-800-843-0699
Air Division
334-271-7879

- 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, submersed 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 hazmat spills** to AL Emergency Management Agency State Warning Point
- Call ADEM Air Division for proposed **open debris burning**
- Disposal of hazardous waste must be coordinated with ADEM

Alabama Historical Commission (AHC)
334-242-3184 x 692

- 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
- AHC evaluates whether activities affect historic or cultural sites included in or eligible for the National Register of Historic Places

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS)
Alabama Ecological Services Field Office
251-441-5181

- 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 listed threatened or endangered species or critical habitat for land and freshwater species and certain marine species such as manatee.
  - Coastal Barrier Resources Act to ensure actions do not encourage development on coastal barriers in Mobile and Baldwin Counties

NOAA National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS)
ESA: 727-824-5312
EFH: 409-766-3699

- 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 listed threatened or endangered species or critical habitat for marine species.
  - Magnuson-Stevens Fisheries Conservation and Management Act to ensure actions do not adversely affect Essential Fish Habitat (EFH).

National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)

- Requires Federal agencies to follow a specific planning process to ensure environmental consequences of a Federally funded actions are considered
- FEMA is provided with statutory exclusions under the Stafford Act which exempts debris removal from NEPA review when FEMA is providing funding

5. Contact Information

Agency	Topic	Point of Contact	Phone	Email
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), Mobile District	Compliance and permitting expertise	Mobile District, Regulatory Division	251-690-2658	cesam-rd@usace.army.mil
	Federally maintained waterway or channel	Duane Poiroux, Operations Division	251-694-3720	duane.b.poiroux@usace.army.mil
	Response capabilities	Bo Ansley, Emergency Management	251-690-2027	Hubert.R.Ansley@usace.army.mil
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	R4.DutyOSC@epa.gov
	Response capabilities and coordination	Leo Francendese, On Scene Coordinator, EPA Region IV	404-606-2223	francendese.leo@epa.gov
FEMA, Region IV	Funding following Presidential disaster declaration	Contact local Emergency Management Agency	-	-
	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	brittany_petersen@fws.gov
	Compliance and permitting expertise	Alabama Ecological Services Field Office	251-441-5181	Alabama@fws.gov
		Bill Pearson, Field Supervisor	251-441-5870	bill_pearson@fws.gov
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)	Emergency ESA/EFH Consultation	-	-	nmfs.ser.emergency.consult@noaa.gov
	EFH information	Rusty Swafford	409-766-3699	Rusty.Swafford@noaa.gov
	ESA information	General Contact, Routine ESA Consultation	727-824-5312	nmfs.ser.esa.consultations@noaa.gov
		Joseph Cavanaugh	-	joseph.cavanaugh@noaa.gov
		Dennis Klemm	727-551-5777	Dennis.Klemm@noaa.gov
	Potential to release oil or hazardous material	Adam Davis, Scientific Support Coordinator for USCG District 8	206-549-7759 (C), 206-526-4911 (24hr)	adam.davis@noaa.gov
	Response capabilities and coordination	Caitlin Wessel, Gulf of Mexico Regional Coordinator, Marine Debris Program	251-222-0276 (C)	caitlin.wessel@noaa.gov
Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS)	Emergency Watershed Protection (EWP) Program Information	Vernon Abney, State Conservation Engineer	334-887-4536	Vernon.Abney@al.usda.gov
	Baldwin County	Joey Koptis, District Conservationist	251-937-3297x3	joey.koptis@al.usda.gov
	Mobile County	Joyce Nicholas, District Conservationist	251-441-6505	Joyce.Nicholas@al.usda.gov
Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement (BSEE)	Marine Trash and Debris Program	James Sinclair, Marine Ecologist	504-736-2789	James.Sinclair@bsee.gov

Agency	Topic	Point of Contact	Phone	Email
Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (ADCNR)	Contract authority and oversight capabilities	Terry Boyd, Chief Engineer, Engineering Division	334-242-3836	terry.boyd@dcnr.alabama.gov
	Dive support	Scott Bannon, Director, Marine Resources Division	251-861-2882 (O), 251-223-1218 (C)	Scott.bannon@dcnr.alabama.gov
	Docks for wet storage of vessels	LG Adams, Manager, Weeks Bay Reserve	251-928-9792	lg.adams@dcnr.alabama.gov
		Scott Bannon, Director, Marine Resources Division	251-861-2882 (O), 251-223-1218 (C)	Scott.bannon@dcnr.alabama.gov
		Terry Boyd, Chief Engineer, Engineering Division	334-242-3836	terry.boyd@dcnr.alabama.gov
		Hank Burch, Assistant Director, State Lands Division	251-621-1216	hank.burch@dcnr.alabama.gov
	Environmental expertise (location of sensitive areas, endangered species present, etc.)	LG Adams, Manager, Weeks Bay Reserve	251-928-9792	lg.adams@dcnr.alabama.gov
		Scott Bannon, Director, Marine Resources Division	251-861-2882 (O), 251-223-1218 (C)	Scott.bannon@dcnr.alabama.gov
		Eric Brunden, Stewardship Coordinator, Weeks Bay Reserve	251-928-9792	eric.brunden@dcnr.alabama.gov
		Scott Phipps, Research Coordinator, Weeks Bay Reserve	251-928-9792	scott.phipps@dcnr.alabama.gov
	Facility suitable for establishing an operations center	LG Adams, Manager, Weeks Bay Reserve	251-928-9792	lg.adams@dcnr.alabama.gov
		Scott Bannon, Director, Marine Resources Division	251-861-2882 (O), 251-223-1218 (C)	Scott.bannon@dcnr.alabama.gov
	GIS mapping and plotting of imagery	LG Adams, Manager, Weeks Bay Reserve	251-928-9792	lg.adams@dcnr.alabama.gov
		Sarah Johnston, GIS Specialist, Weeks Bay Reserve	251-928-9792	sarah.johnston@dcnr.alabama.gov
		Sam Lanier, Design Technician, Engineering Division	334-242-3837	Sam.Lanier@dcnr.alabama.gov
		Ashley Peters, GIS Specialist Sr., State Lands Division Heritage Section	334-353-7878	Ashley.Peters@dcnr.alabama.gov
	Land with water access to offload and Lodging	LG Adams, Manager, Weeks Bay Reserve	251-928-9792	lg.adams@dcnr.alabama.gov
	Response in state waters	Terry Boyd, Chief Engineer, Engineering Division	334-242-3836	terry.boyd@dcnr.alabama.gov
	Side scan sonar/Single-beam sonar	Scott Bannon, Director, Marine Resources Division	251-861-2882 (O), 251-223-1218 (C)	Scott.bannon@dcnr.alabama.gov
	Staging area for dry storage of vessels	LG Adams, Manager, Weeks Bay Reserve	251-928-9792	lg.adams@dcnr.alabama.gov
		Terry Boyd, Chief Engineer, Engineering Division	334-242-3836	terry.boyd@dcnr.alabama.gov
	State owned submerged lands	Hank Burch, Assistant Director, State Lands Division	251-621-1216	hank.burch@dcnr.alabama.gov
	Technical expertise for removal operations and Compliance and permitting expertise	Terry Boyd, Chief Engineer, Engineering Division	334-242-3836	terry.boyd@dcnr.alabama.gov
		Todd Mize, Graduate Engineer, Engineering Division	334-353-8596	Todd.Mize@dcnr.alabama.gov
	Vessels	LG Adams, Manager, Weeks Bay Reserve	251-928-9792	lg.adams@dcnr.alabama.gov
		Scott Bannon, Director, Marine Resources Division	251-861-2882 (O), 251-223-1218 (C)	Scott.bannon@dcnr.alabama.gov
		Eric Brunden, Stewardship Coordinator, Weeks Bay Reserve	251-928-9792	eric.brunden@dcnr.alabama.gov
		Scott Phipps, Research Coordinator, Weeks Bay Reserve	251-928-9792	scott.phipps@dcnr.alabama.gov
	Volunteer manpower	LG Adams, Manager, Weeks Bay Reserve	251-928-9792	lg.adams@dcnr.alabama.gov
		Scott Bannon, Director, Marine Resources Division	251-861-2882 (O), 251-223-1218 (C)	Scott.bannon@dcnr.alabama.gov

Agency	Topic	Point of Contact	Phone	Email
Alabama Department of Environmental Management (ADEM)	Compliance and permitting expertise: Air Division	Don Barron	334-271-7879	DRB@adem.state.al.us
	Compliance and permitting expertise: Coastal Program; Environmental expertise (location of sensitive areas, endangered species present, etc.)	Scott Brown, Chief, Mobile Field Operations	215-304-1176	jsb@adem.state.al.us
	Potential to release oil or hazardous material; Vessels	Mark Ornelas, Environmental Supervisor	251-450-3400	meo@adem.state.al.us
Alabama Emergency Management Agency (AEMA)	Funding following Presidential disaster declaration	Contact local Emergency Management Agency	-	-
	Potential to release oil or hazardous material	AEMA Warning Point	1-800-843-0699	-
	Waterway debris response	Michael Johnson, Public Assistance Officer	205-280-2276	michael.johnson@ema.alabama.gov
Alabama Historical Commission (AHC)	Compliance and permitting expertise	Amanda McBride, Environmental Review Coordinator	334-242-3184x692	amanda.mcbride@ahc.alabama.gov
Alabama Marine Police	Response capabilities and coordination	Duty Officer	251-981-2673	-
		Sgt. Jody Kelley	251-424-0227 (C)	jody.kelley@alea.gov
Alabama State Port Authority (ASPA)	Response capabilities	Bill Inge, Vice President Operations	251-441-7236	binge@asdd.com
Geological Survey of Alabama (GSA)	Response capabilities	Stephen Jones, Geological Investigation Division, Coastal Resources Section	205-247-3601	sjones@gsa.alabama.gov
Alabama Department of Agriculture and Industries	Response to animal carcasses or invasive species following disaster	Dr. Brad Fields, Director of Emergency Programs, Veterinary Medical Officer	334-240-7278 (24hr)	brad.fields@agi.alabama.gov
State Oil and Gas Board of AL (OGB)	South Alabama OGB issues	Ralph Hellmich, Operations Supervisor - South Alabama	251-438-4848	rhellmich@ogb.state.al.us
Baldwin County Emergency Management Agency (BCEMA)	Funding following Presidential disaster declaration and response capabilities	Reggie Chitwood, Director	251-228-0303 (C)	rchitwood@baldwincountyal.gov
	Response emergency	BCEMA On-call Duty Officer	251-947-4911 (Baldwin County 911 Direct Line)	-
Mobile County Public Works	Response in Mobile County	Bill Melton, Environmental Services Director	251-574-5046	bmelton@mobilecounty.net
Mobile County Emergency Management Agency (MCEMA)	Funding following Presidential disaster declaration	Ronnie Adair, Director	251-460-8000	radair@mcema.net
	Response capabilities	John Kilcullen, Director of Plans and Operations	251-460-8000	jkilcullen@mcema.net

Wilbur L. Ross, Jr.
United States Secretary of Commerce

RDML Tim Gallaudet, Ph.D., USN Ret.
Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Oceans and Atmosphere and
Acting Under Secretary of Commerce for Oceans and Atmosphere

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