



U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Region IX

Emergency Response Program

EPA Region IX Emergency Response Program

Focus

- Primary focus of the program is protecting human health and the environment from oil and hazardous substances
- EPA is also focused on ensuring the public has clean/safe drinking water

Details

- 24/7/365 Phone and Response Duty Officers
- 18 Federal On-Scene Coordinators throughout the Region, including 8 based in SoCal, 10 in NorCal
- FOSCs have statutory authority to conduct removal of oil and hazardous materials



Region IX AOR

EPA REGION 9 HQ,
SAN FRANCISCO, CA



GUAM AND THE COMMONWEALTH OF
THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS



HAWAII



AMERICAN SAMOA

0 500 1,000 2,000 Miles





Natural

- Fire
- Earthquake
- Flood

Industry/Other

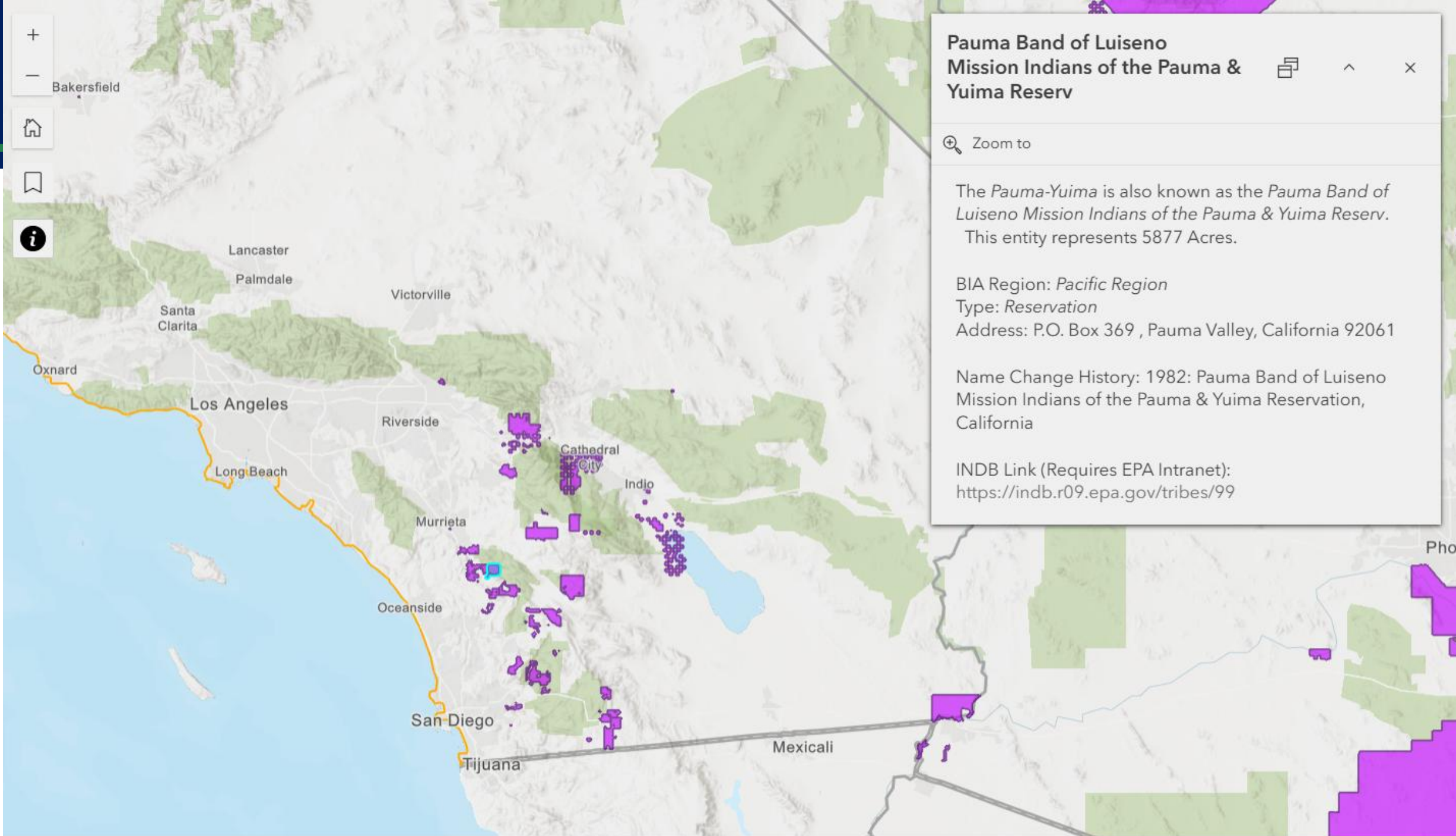
- Oil Spill
- Train Derailment
- Mercury Release
- Industrial/Tire Fire
- Abandoned Chemicals



National Response Center

- Notification of a pollution incident:
 - Public citizen reporting an incident
- NRC passes the notification to identified Federal, State and Tribal authorities.
- A duty officer will determine the most appropriate federal response actions.
 - Is there an effective way to clean up the spill?
 - Is there a Responsible Party (RP) ,what actions have they taken, do they have insurance?
 - Safety considerations





On-Scene Coordinators

The On-Scene Coordinator (OSC) is the federal official responsible for directing efforts at the scene of a discharge or potential discharge of oil and hazardous substances.

Spending Authority

Direct EPA Contractors

Can do field procurements of non-EPA contractors in emergencies

Issue Clean Water Act Orders



Response Assets

On-Scene Coordinators (OSC)

- National Contingency Plan (40 CFR 300)
- CERCLA (“Superfund”)
- Oil Pollution Act
- Stafford Act

EPA Response/Removal/Tech Assistance Contractors

- Superfund Technical Assessment & Response Team (START)
- Emergency Rapid Response Services (ERRS)
- Emergency Response Logistics Contractor (ERLC)

Other Commercial Contractors

- On-Scene Coordinators have the authority to contract with commercial contractors if they need a specialized piece of equipment or service.



EPA Emergency Response Capabilities

Special Teams

- EPA Environmental Response Team (ERT)
- USCG Strike Teams
- EPA Radiological Emergency Response Team (RERT)
- Regional and National Laboratories
- National Enforcement Investigation Center (NEIC)
- NOAA Scientific Support Coordinators
- Navy SupSalv
- EPA Center for Environmental Solutions and Emergency Response (CESER)

National/Regional Response Team

Incident Management Team (IMT)





Oil Pollution Act (OPA) & Comprehensive Environmental Response Compensation and Liabilities Act (CERCLA)

- If the Responsible Party (RP)/Potentially Responsible Party (PRP) is unable to take action to remove the threat to the environment there are funding sources to prevent or stop further environmental damage.
- A Notice is issued to the RP/PRP - If available or known.
- Accessing OPA/CERCLA funds allows the FOSC to hire contractors to begin pollution response actions for the incident.

Pollution Removal Funding Authorization

- Costs incurred by involved government agencies are reimbursed via PRFAs, but only for FOSC-authorized activities with a specified funding ceiling & timeframe.
- Delegated Natural resource trustees have several tools for accessing the OSLTF to pay for natural resource assessments and restoration.
- The RP may directly hire, or subcontract, personnel (e.g., historic property specialist/tribal monitors) to fill needed positions



Emergency Response Operations

- Pose immediate and easily discernible threats
- Often involve quickly changing circumstances
- Catastrophic discharges or very large releases
- Typical emergency situations



Site Characterizations



Sampling

Air

Water

Soil

Containers/Tanks



Sample Analysis



Scene Documentation



Data Management

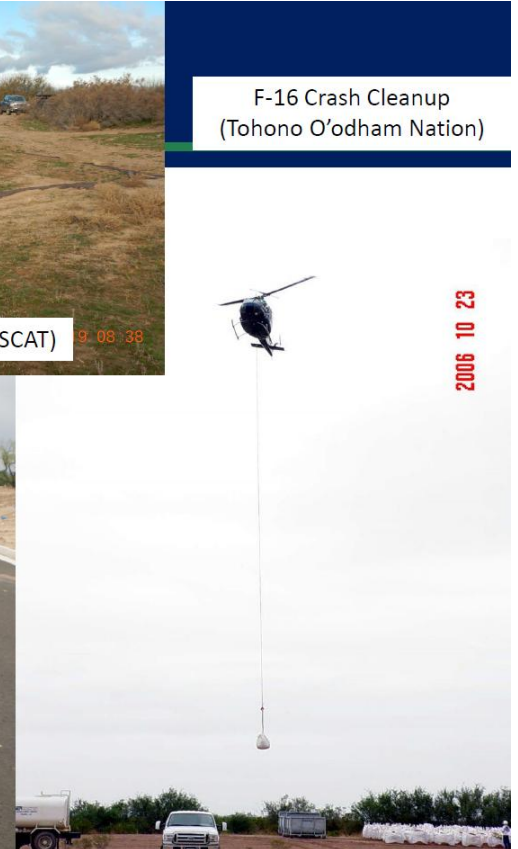
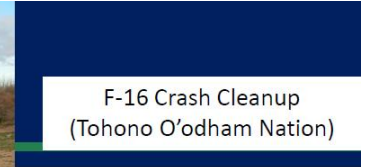


Data Visualization

Types of Removal Actions

- Based on the NCP, EPA Defines the Following Types of Response Actions:

- Emergencies
- Time-critical Removal Action
- Non-time-critical Removal Action
- Disaster Response



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Support to Tribal Nations

- Provide technical assistance to support tribal response efforts
- Provide notification about emergencies to tribes where tribal nations may have interest
- Support tribal nations/tribal cultural monitors with integrating into unified command structures
- Lead emergency response or removal actions in Indian Country when tribes request this support





Enforcement Assistance

Criminal Investigation Support
Civil Investigation Support
Evidence Collection





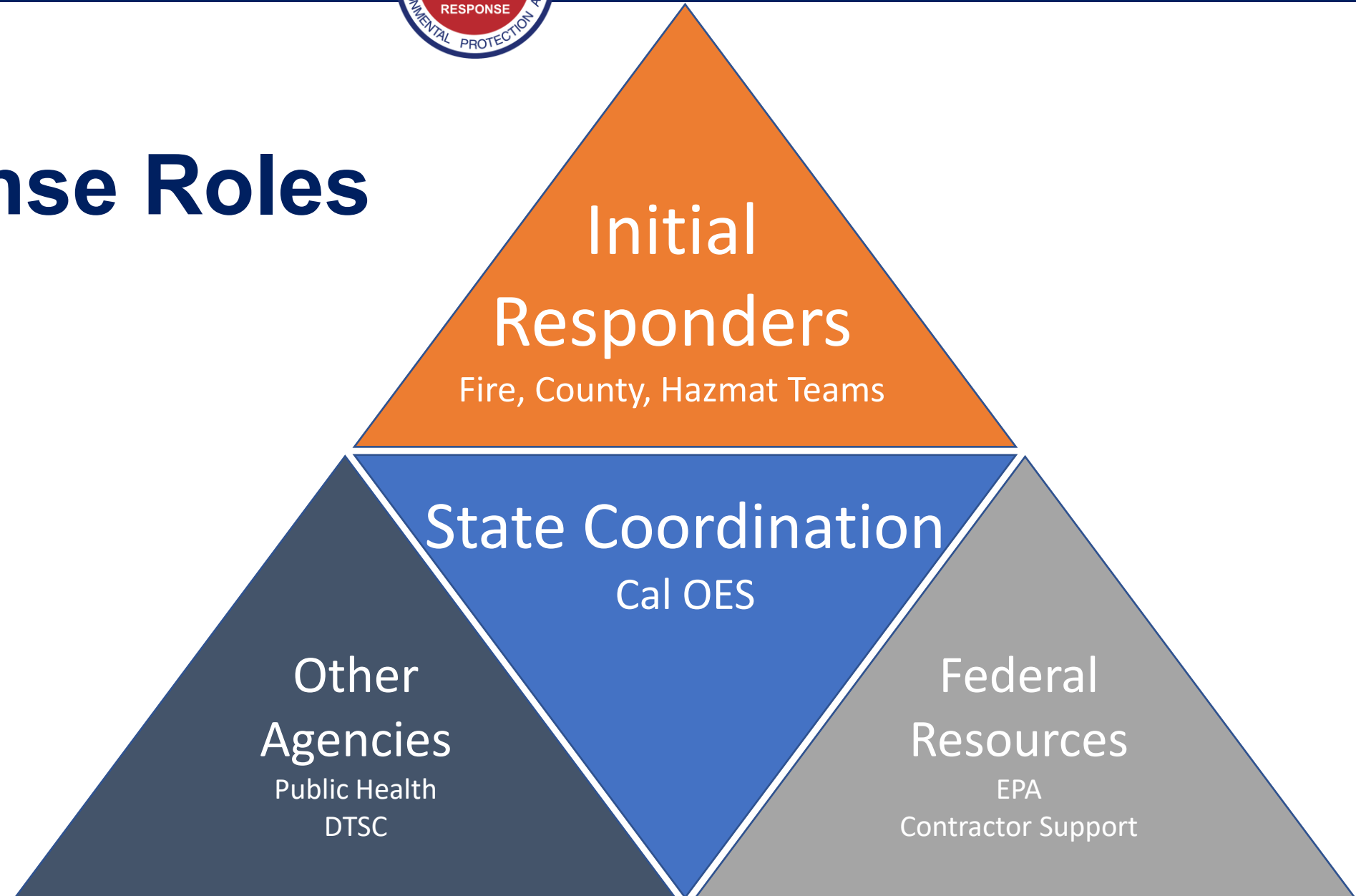
How Does My Agency Get Assistance

EPA Spill Phone
National Response Center
Cal OES
Direct Call to OSC



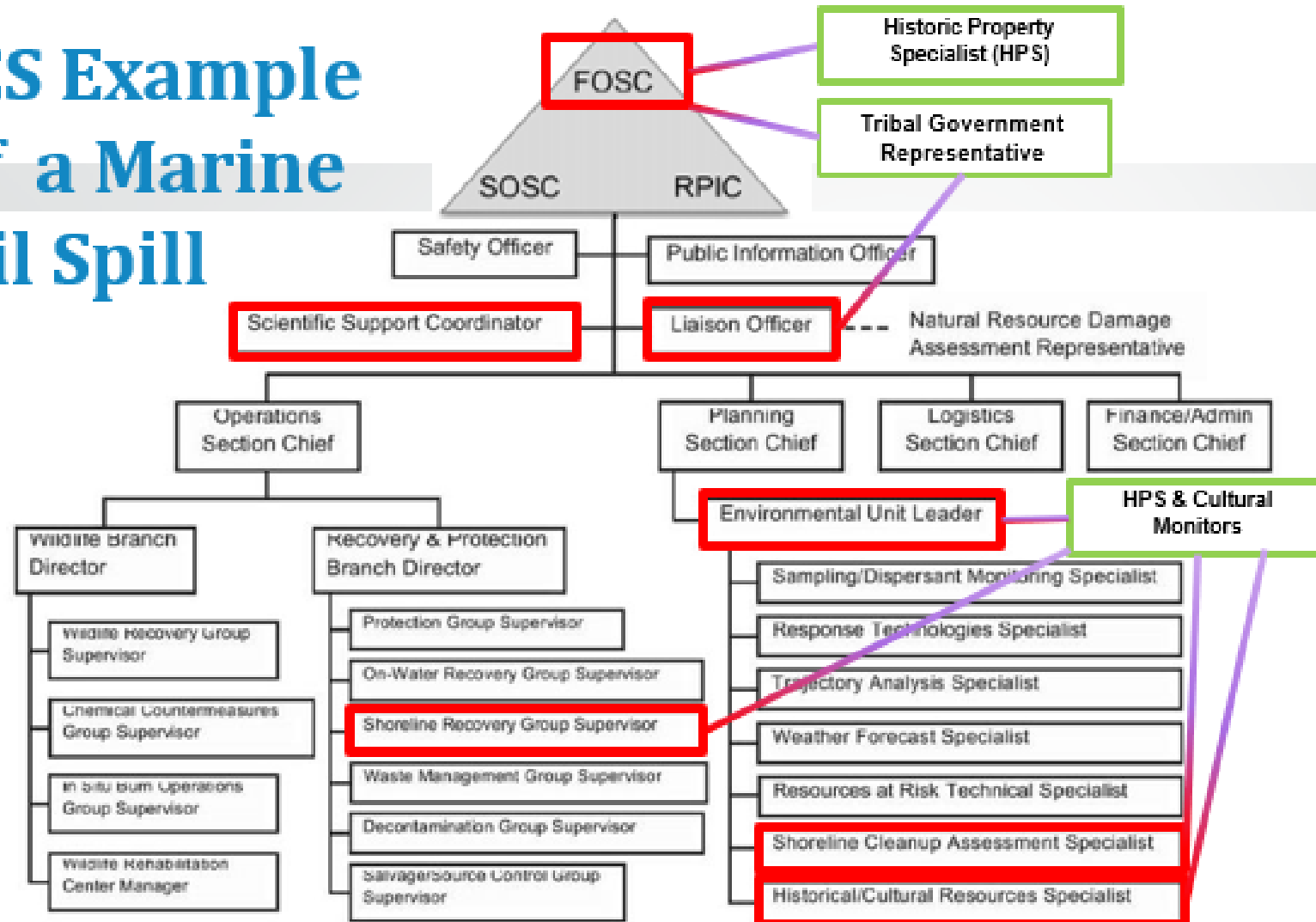


Response Roles





ICS Example of a Marine Oil Spill





Who do I call?



United States Coast Guard
National Response Center

Anyone witnessing an oil spill, chemical release or maritime security incident should call the NRC hotline at 1-800-424-8802.

EPA Region 9 Phone-Duty Officer: 800-300-2193



U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY REGION IX

HARRY ALLEN
On-Scene Coordinator

**2445 N Palm Dr
Suite 100
Signal Hill, CA 90755**

**Telephone: 415.218.7406
E-mail: allen.harryl@epa.gov**