Florida Marine Debris Emergency Response Guide: Field Reference Guide

NOAA Marine Debris Program
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
U.S. Department of Commerce
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Photo: NOAA

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1. Introduction

1.1 Purpose

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

The "Florida Waterway Debris Response 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.

Florida Waterway Debris Response Flowchart

Acronyms

ACP – Area Contingency Plan
ADV – Abandoned and Derelict Vessel
DEP – FL Department of Environmental Protection
EPA – U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
ESF – Emergency Support Function
EWP – Emergency Watershed Protection Program
FCMP – DEP's FL Coastal Management Program
FDEM – FL Division of Emergency Management
FEMA – Federal Emergency Management Agency
FWC – FL Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission
IC – Incident Commander
NCP – National Oil & Hazardous Substance Contingency Plan
NPS – National Park Service
NRC – National Response Center
NRCS – Natural Resources Conservation Service
OER – DEP's Office of Emergency Response
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 to waterway debris that is exposed to or has the potential to release oil, hazardous substances, pollutants or contaminants
- Response to waterway debris that is not exposed to and does not have the potential to release oil, hazardous substances, pollutants or contaminants
- Indicates response may occur under Stafford Act authorities and/or funds

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.

START →

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

Yes

Is waterway debris exposed to or does it have the potential to release oil or hazardous substances?

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?

No

Is waterway debris in federal waters (beyond 3 n. mi. on east coast or 9 n.mi. on west coast) or on federal lands?

No

Is waterway debris a direct result of a major disaster declared by the President?

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

Eligibility Determination by FEMA: Made on case-by-case discretionary basis in coordination with eligible applicant, state and other federal agencies. Is removal necessary to eliminate the immediate threat to life, public health and safety, or improved property?

If an applicant has legal responsibility for maintenance of a navigable waterway, removal and disposal of debris that obstructs the passage of vessels is eligible to a maximum depth of 2 feet below the low-tide draft of the largest vessel that utilized the waterway prior to the incident. Any debris below this zone is not eligible unless it is necessary in order to remove debris extending upward into an eligible zone. (See FEMA Public Assistance Program and Policy Guide FP 104-009-2)

Yes

No

Debris on private property
Refer to homeowner insurance policy and check for EWP eligibility at bottom right of page. *After a Stafford Act declaration, FEMA typically does not provide funding unless removal is necessary to mitigate a health and safety hazard and is in the public interest.*

Yes

Is debris exposed to or does it have the potential to release oil or hazardous substances?

No

Debris in federal waters or on federal lands
- Federal lands: Federal lands on Florida's coast are owned by NPS, USFWS, U.S. Navy and U.S. Air Force who are responsible for debris removal on their lands.
- Federal waters: No federal agency actively removes waterway debris in federal waters unless it is a pollution threat or in a USACE federally maintained waterway or channel

Yes

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
NRCS funds removal by eligible sponsor under EWP program. Cost share is typically 75% NRCS, 25% sponsor.

No

Is waterway debris an ADV at or below mean high water line in FL waters?

Yes

ADV in Florida waters, no Stafford Act declaration
- FWC and/or county oversees identification/return of lost boats and legal processing, salvaging and disposal of ADVs
- If emergency debris clearance, ADVs moved
- If debris removal phase, try to identify owner and allow owner to remove. If not, follow abandoned property procedure and owner liable for removal costs.
- USCG may remove pollution threat (battery, oil)
- Program in development: FWC Derelict Vessel Rapid Deployment Team to wok with IC (see "Recoverable debris" box below)

No

Is debris exposed to or does it have the potential to release oil or hazardous substances?

Yes

Pollution threat, no Stafford Act declaration
- Report to State Watch Office 1-800-320-0519 and NRC 1-800-424-8802
- Response managed at lowest jurisdictional level capable of handling the removal: Local → State → Federal
- If State-led response, DEP OER leads response, FWC provides scientific support
- If Federal assistance required, USCG or EPA oversees response by RP. Generally, response led by USCG in ACP Coastal Zone and by EPA in ACP Inland Zone.
- Unlike response under Stafford Act declaration, under NCP USCG/EPA may respond without a request from local, state or tribal governments

No

Debris in Florida waters, no Stafford Act declaration, no pollution threat
- Report to State Watch Office 1-800- 320-0519
- Response managed at lowest jurisdictional level capable of handling the removal: Local → State
- County-retained vessel registration fees may be used
- FWC may lead investigation to identify RP for debris
- DEP FCMP/FWC's Marine Debris Emergency Response Program may coordinate emergency removal of marine debris of unknown origins that poses a threat to health, human safety or natural resources. Program currently only operating in Southeast FL.
- Manages two programs for removal of lost and abandoned traps in state waters
- Note: Most submerged lands beneath navigable waters are property of the state. Title to these lands is held by the Board of Trustees with delegated authority to DEP to maintain and protect these lands for public use.

Stafford Act Declaration

Is waterway debris exposed to or does it have the potential to release oil or hazardous substances?

Yes

- Report to State Watch Office 1-800- 320-0519 and NRC 1-800-424-8802
- FEMA funds may be used if not at pre-existing site under NCP. If RP is known, must apply insurance proceeds first.

If FEMA funds are not used, removal authorized under NCP
- Response managed at lowest jurisdictional level capable of handling the removal: Local → State → Federal
- If state-led response, DEP OER leads response and FWC provides scientific support
- If federal assistance required, USCG or EPA oversees response by RP. Generally, response led by USCG in ACP Coastal Zone and by EPA in ACP Inland Zone.
- During Stafford Act declarations, USCG/EPA retain authority to respond under the NCP without a request from local, state or tribal governments

If FEMA funds used

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 typically disposes of building debris hazmat, such as household hazardous materials, orphaned hazardous materials and electronic goods under ESF3
- EPA or USCG typically 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 FDEM then to eligible applicant
- If state is eligible applicant, DEP OER leads response and FWC provides scientific support

No

Is the waterway debris recoverable (traceable to an owner), i.e. a vessel with a Hull Identification Number?

Yes

Recoverable debris in Florida waters, Stafford Act declaration, no pollution threat
- FWC may assist eligible applicant with identifying and contacting owner
- If owner is found, apply insurance 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
- Program in development: FWC Derelict Vessel Rapid Deployment Team to work with IC to map/inventory ADVs, assist in removal oversight, investigate vessel ownership and conduct before/after site surveys

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 typically 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 FDEM then to eligible applicant

- *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 territorial governments, Indian Tribal Governments, local governments and private nonprofit organizations that serve a public function.*
- *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 and environmentally defensible

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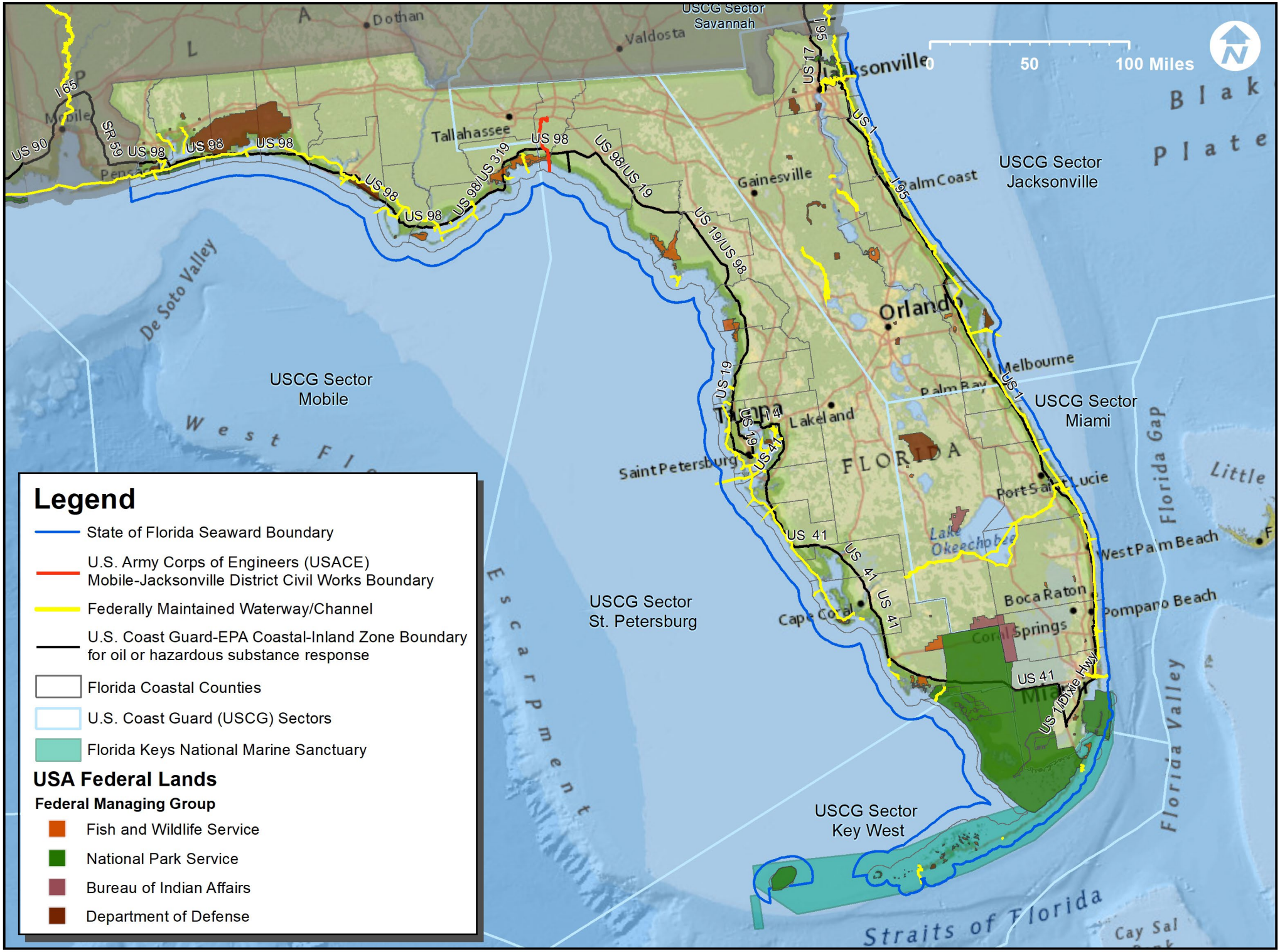
3. Organization Jurisdictions and Capabilities

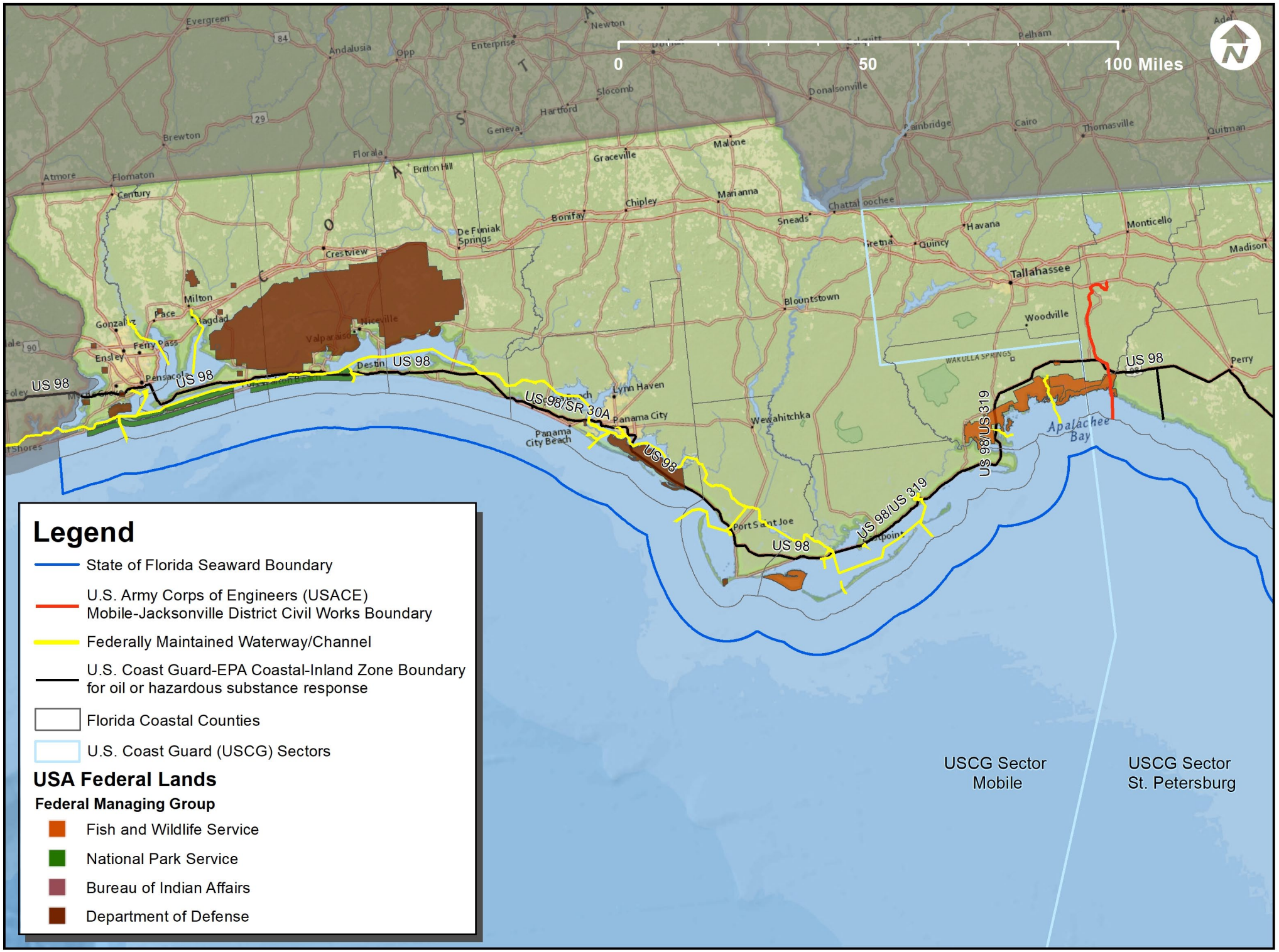
3.1 Florida Waterway Debris Response Maps

3.2 Response Capabilities

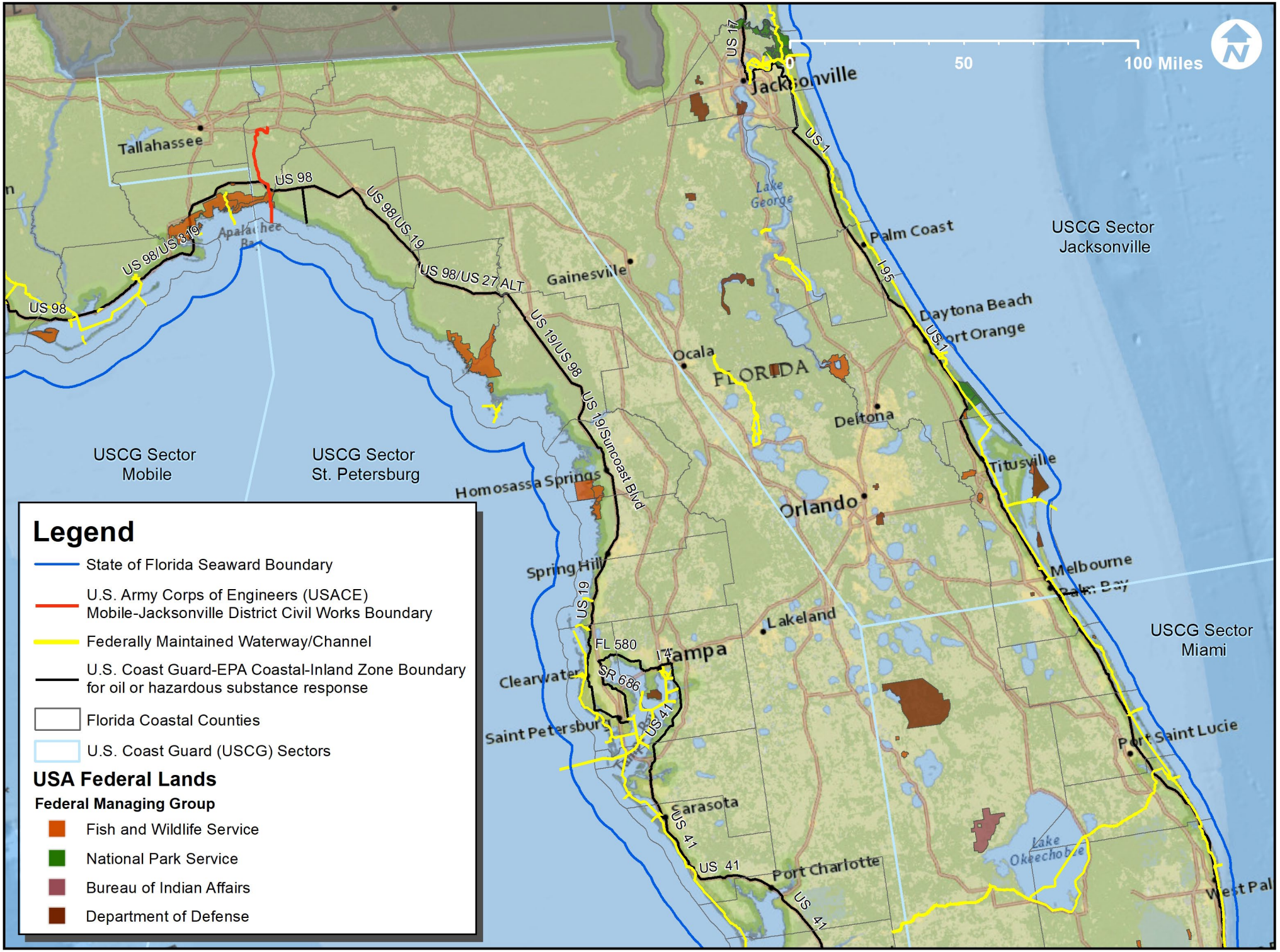
Florida Incident Waterway Debris Response Map



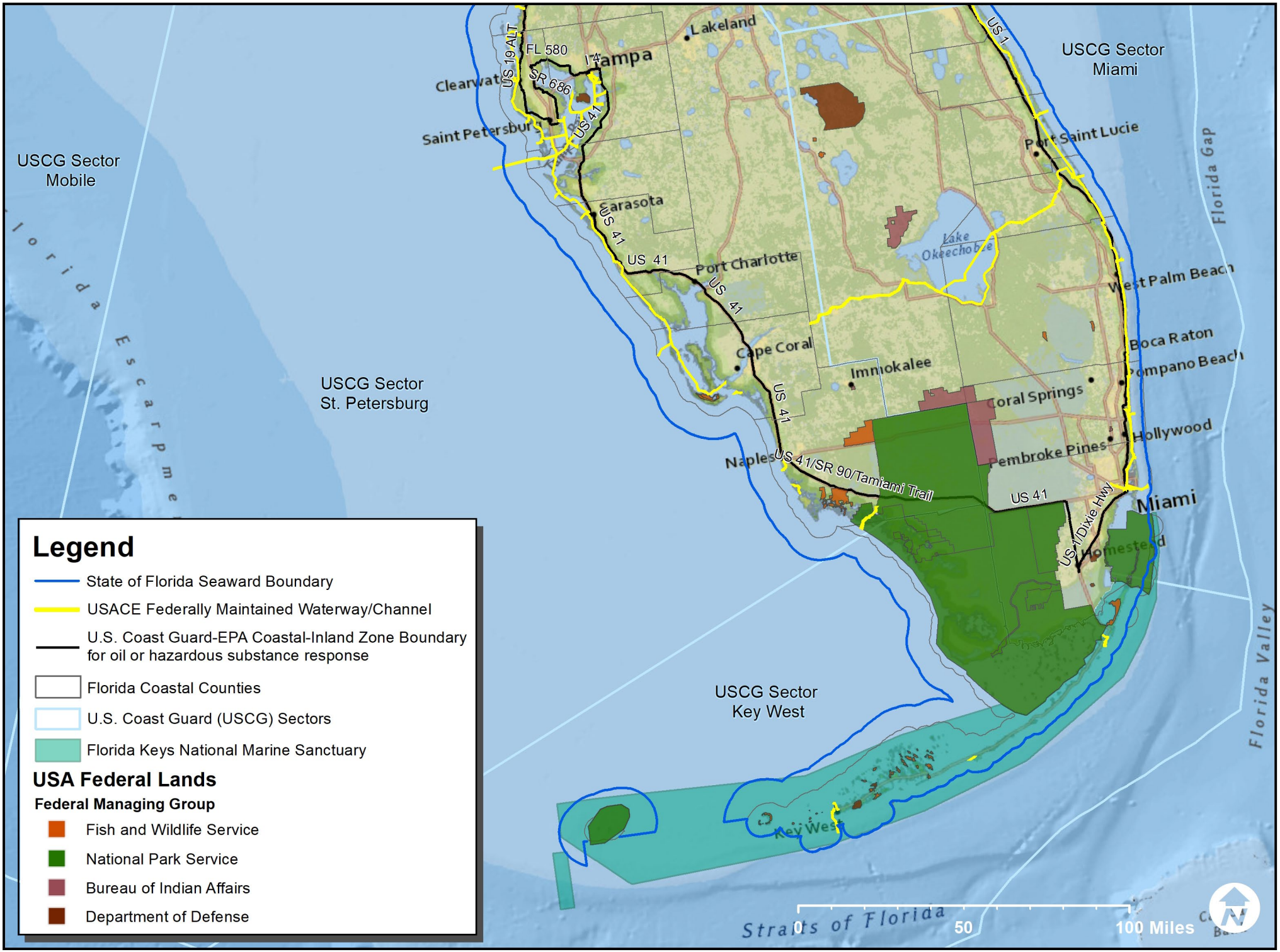
Florida Incident Waterway Debris Response Map



Florida Incident Waterway Debris Response Map



Florida Incident Waterway Debris Response Map



Legend

- State of Florida Seaward Boundary
- USACE Federally Maintained Waterway/Channel
- U.S. Coast Guard-EPA Coastal-Inland Zone Boundary for oil or hazardous substance response
- Florida Coastal Counties
- U.S. Coast Guard (USCG) Sectors
- Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary

USA Federal Lands

Federal Managing Group

- Fish and Wildlife Service
- National Park Service
- Bureau of Indian Affairs
- Department of Defense

3.2 Response Capabilities

	Yes - In-house Capability Contract - Contracted capability	DEP	FDEM[5]	FWC	BSEE[12]	FEMA Region IV[13]	NOAA	NRCS	USACE	USCG	U.S. EPA Region IV[30]	USFWS
Technology	IT support during response (server/storage space for data and information sharing)	Yes[1,2]	-	Yes[7]	-	-	-	-	Cont[17] Yes[18]	-	Yes	-
	Multi-beam sonar	-	-	Contract[7]	-	-	Yes	-	Yes[17] Cont[18]	-	Contract	-
	Side scan sonar	-	-	Yes[7,8]	-	-	Yes	-	Yes[17] Cont[18]	-	Contract	-
	Single-beam sonar	-	-	Yes[7,8]	-	-	Yes	-	Yes[17] Cont[18]	-	Contract	-
	Remote sensing capabilities	-	-	Yes[7,9]	-	-	Yes	-	Yes[17] Cont[18]	-	Contract	-
Workforce/Expertise	Communication/public information expertise (dedicated spokesperson/Public Information Officer)	Yes[2]	Yes	Yes[7,8]	-	-	Yes[14]	-	Yes	-	Yes	-
	Compliance and permitting expertise	Yes[2,3]	Yes	Yes[8]	-	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	-	Yes	Yes
	Data/information management capabilities	Yes[2]	Yes	Yes[7,8]	-	-	Yes[14]	-	Yes[18]	-	Yes	-
	Debris modeling expertise (transport, hindcasting, etc.)	-	-	Yes[8]	-	-	Yes	-	Yes[18]	-	Contract	-
	Dedicated waterway/marine debris staff (responders, response team, regional coordination, etc.)	-	Yes[6]	-	-	-	Yes	-	Yes[18]	Yes	Yes	-
	Dive support	Yes[2] Cont[3]	-	Yes[8]	-	-	Yes	-	Contract[17]	Yes[22]	Contract	-
	Environmental expertise (location of sensitive areas, endangered species present, etc.)	Yes[2,3]	Yes	Yes[7,8]	Yes	Yes	Yes[14,15]	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
	GIS mapping and plotting of imagery	Yes[2]	Yes	Yes[7,8]	-	Yes	Yes	-	Yes[19]	-	Yes	-
	Hazardous substance and/or oiled debris expertise	Yes[2,3]	-	Yes[7]	-	-	Yes	-	Yes[18]	Yes	Yes	-
	Incident Command System (ICS) trained staff	Yes[2,3]	Yes	Yes[7,8]	-	Yes	Yes	-	Yes	Yes	Yes	-
	Technical expertise for removal operations (techniques, best management practices, etc.)	Yes[3]	-	-	-	Yes	Yes	Yes	Cont[17] Yes[18,20]	Yes	Yes	-
	Volunteer manpower	Yes[2]	Yes	Yes[8]	-	-	Yes[14]	-	-	-	Yes	Yes
	Waterway management authority (law enforcement officers)	-	-	Yes[8]	-	-	Contract[14]	-	-	Yes	-	-
Equipment	Aircraft	-	-	Yes[10]	-	-	Yes	-	-	Yes	Contract	-
	Barge, Self-loading barge	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Yes[17] Cont[18]	-	Contract	-
	Boom	Contract[3]	-	-	-	-	-	-	Yes[17] Cont[18]	Contract[23]	Contract	-
	Crane, Knuckleboom Crane	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Yes[17] Cont[18]	-	Contract	-
	Environmental clamshell dredge	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Contract	-	Contract	-
	Excavator	Contract[3]	-	-	-	-	-	-	Yes[17] Cont[18]	-	Contract	-
	Remotely Operated Vehicle (ROV)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Yes	-	Contract	-
	Sampling Equipment	Yes[2,3]	-	Yes[7,8]	-	-	-	-	Contract[18]	-	Yes	-
	Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV)/Surveillance drones	-	-	-	-	-	Yes	-	Yes	Yes[24]	Contract	-
	Vessels	Yes[2] Cont[3]	-	Yes[7,8]	-	-	Yes	-	Yes[17] Cont[18]	Yes	Contract	Yes
	Other specialized equipment that cannot be readily procured immediately following a debris incident	-	-	Yes[7,11]	-	-	Yes[14]	-	Contract[18]	Yes	Contract	Yes

	Yes - In-house Capability Contract - Contracted capability	DEP	FDEM[5]	FWC	BSEE[12]	FEMA Region IV[13]	NOAA	NRCS	USACE		USCG	U.S. EPA Region IV[30]	USFWS
Logistics	Contracting: Contract authority and oversight capabilities	Yes[3]	Yes	Yes[7]	-	-	Yes	-	Cont[17]	Yes[18]	Yes[25]	Yes	-
	Contracting: Pre-approved removal contractors	Yes[3]	-	-	-	-	-	-	Yes[18]		Yes[26]	Yes	-
	Contracting: Pre-event contracts and staged agreements in place	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Yes[18]		Yes[26]	-	-
	Docks for wet storage of vessels	Yes[2]	-	Yes[7,10]	-	-	Yes[14]	-	-		Yes[27]	-	-
	Facility suitable for establishing an emergency operations center (EOC)	Yes[2]	Yes	Yes[7]	-	-	Yes	-	Yes		Yes	Contract	-
	Funding for waterway debris removal	Yes[3]	-	Yes[10]	-	-	Yes[16]	Yes	Yes[21]		Yes[28]	Yes	-
	Laboratory space	Yes[2,3]	-	Yes[7]	-	-	-	-	Contract[18]		-	Yes	-
	Pre-designated landfill/disposal sites	Contract[1]	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		-	-	-
	Research program established to analyze long-term trends, impacts, etc.	Yes[2]	Yes	Yes[7]	-	-	Yes	-	Yes[18]		-	-	-
	Staging/Off-Loading: Land with water access to stage, offload debris (has not been evaluated for suitability or officially pre-designated)	Yes[2]	-	Yes[10]	-	-	Yes[14]	-	-		-	-	-
	Staging/Off-Loading: Pre-designated staging, off-loading and special handling areas (already evaluated for suitability)	Yes[2,4]	-	Yes[10]	-	-	-	-	-		Yes	-	-
	Staging area for dry storage of vessels	Yes[2]	-	Yes[10]	-	-	Yes	-	Yes[18]		Yes[29]	-	Yes
	Other logistical support, including fuel, housing, food, etc.	Yes[2]	Yes	-	-	-	-	-	-		-	Yes	-

Note: Each agency self-reported capabilities which could be used during waterway debris response in Florida. 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. While not included in this table, local jurisdictions may also possess capabilities listed above and should be included in all phases of response to maximize utilization of local expertise and resources.

[1]DEP Solid Waste Section
[2]DEP Apalachicola National Estuarine Research Reserve
[3]DEP Office of Emergency Response (OER). Contracting authority for OER response/cleanup contracts only.
[4]DEP Solid Waste Section assists counties with identifying debris storage areas and pre-approves debris staging areas annually
[5]FDEM ESF lead contacts from other agencies may provide capabilities listed
[6]FDEM Debris staff may not always deploy to local events
[7]FWC Fish and Wildlife Research Institute (FWRI). Response would have to be of enough magnitude to warrant that FWRI move resources.

[8]FWC Division of Habitat and Species Conservation
[9]FWC Refers to post-processing of remote sensing
[10]FWC Division of Law Enforcement
[11]FWC Refers to mobile response trailer with satellite communications and Wi-Fi
[12]BSEE BSEE may have other capabilities, but agency mission does not directly support debris response
[13]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.
[14]NOAA Capability is particular to Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary (FKNMS)
[15]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
[16]NOAA Funding through grant program and possible Congressional supplemental funding
[17]USACE Jacksonville District
[18]USACE Mobile District
[19]USACE Have GIS cadre for response
[20]USACE Have planning response teams
[21]USACE Funding in place for federal projects only
[22]USCG Not typically used for waterway debris
[23]USCG Small amounts of boom on hand but capable of using pre-event contracts for larger pollution events
[24]USCG Not typically used for waterway debris
[25]USCG USCG contracts only
[26]USCG For pollution incidents only
[27]USCG Limited space and suitable for larger vessels only
[28]USCG Funding for pollution incidents only
[29]USCG Limited space
[30]EPA EPA routinely conducts removal operations of hazardous substances and oil, including debris. EPA resources would be tasked by the EPA personnel operating in the Unified Command or by EPA's Federal On-Scene Coordinator/Duty Officer in Region 4.

4. Permitting and Compliance Requirements in Florida

The "Permitting and Compliance for Waterway Debris Removal in Florida" 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 Florida

- FL Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) permit may be required if debris removal involves alteration of surface water flows or is on or likely to affect natural sandy beaches. A separate state-owned submerged lands authorization may be needed if work is along navigable waters and extends past the mean high water line.
- U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) permit may be required for debris removal in waterways and wetlands if the activity involves dredging, the discharge of dredge or fill material, or involves structures or work impacting the navigability of a waterway. USACE, DEP and Water Management Districts (WMD) have a joint application process.
- The **lead federal agency** is responsible for compliance with National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), federal coastal consistency and consulting with tribal and resource agencies including Florida Bureau of Historic Preservation, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) as required.

Compliance process when permit is required

Federally Funded Response
(for example, FEMA funding under Stafford Act declaration)

State/Local Response
(No federal funding)

Federal Agency Coordination
Coordinate with federal funding agency regarding environmental compliance requirements before applying for DEP/WMD-USACE permit

Permit Application
Complete and submit permit application to DEP or WMD who distribute application to USACE. Both agencies review independently.

Permit Issued
Review all permit conditions including DEP or WMD and resource agency requirements. Generally, USACE will not issue a permit until DEP or WMD issues the required state authorization

Debris Removal Begins
All permit conditions and DEP or WMD and resource agency requirements must be followed during debris removal activities

- Lead federal agency is responsible for NEPA compliance, federal coastal consistency, and consultations with Florida Bureau of Historic Preservation, USFWS and NOAA as required.
- FEMA is the lead federal agency under Stafford Act declaration. Florida Division of Emergency Management (FDEM) Debris & Special Considerations Program maintains close consultation with FEMA to ensure compliance by applicants is maintained.
- Debris removal under Stafford Act declaration may trigger emergency permitting process.

As the lead federal agency, USACE will ensure NEPA compliance, federal consistency with Florida's Coastal Management Program, and consult with Florida Bureau of Historic Preservation, USFWS and NOAA as required.

About NEPA
The 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.

Agency Requirements and Contact Numbers

Florida Department of Environmental Protection (DEP)
Submerged Lands and Environmental Resource Coordination
850-245-8702
Beaches, Inlets and Ports Program
850-245-8020

- DEP district offices, Water Management Districts (WMD) or delegated local governments serve as the initial agency to submit a permit application. DEP/WMD/local government distributes a copy to USACE and both agencies independently process application.
  - Environmental Resource Program (ERP) permit required if debris removal alters surface water flows, such as dredging or filling
  - State-owned submerged lands authorization required if debris removal is along navigable waters past mean high water line
  - Joint Coastal Permit required if debris removal is on or likely to affect Florida's natural sandy beaches
- Permit not required to remove derelict vessel from state waters if best management practices are followed and environment in unharmed

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE)
Jacksonville District Regulatory Division
904-232-1177

- Permit(s) that may be required for removal work in waterways and wetlands
  - **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 Hazardous/Toxic Waste** for containment, stabilization, or removal of hazardous or toxic waste not under CERCLA/NCP

Florida Department of State
Bureau of Historic Preservation
850-245-6333

- Serves as the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) and ensures compliance with the National Historic Preservation Act.
- Consultation with State Historic Preservation Office required if waterway debris response involves federal permits and/or funding (USACE permit, FEMA funding, etc.) and has the potential to affect historic or cultural sites included in or eligible for the National Register of Historic Places.

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS)
Panama City ESO
850-769-0552
North Florida ESO
904-731-3336
South Florida ESO
772-562-3909

- Consultation with local Ecological Services Office (ESO) 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 along the Gulf and Atlantic coasts.

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)
National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS)
ESA: 727-824-5312
EFH: 727-551-5736
Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary (FKNMS)
305-797-7229

- NMFS: 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 marine species or critical habitat.
  - Magnuson-Stevens Fisheries Conservation and Management Act to ensure actions do not adversely affect Essential Fish Habitat (EFH).
- FKNMS: Consultation required for federal actions internal or external to a national marine sanctuary, including private activities authorized by licenses, leases, or permits, that are likely to destroy, cause the loss of, or injure any sanctuary resources.
- FKNMS: General Permit or Letter of Authorization required for debris removal projects involving activities that are prohibited by FKNMS regulation or are likely to destroy, cause the loss of, or injure any sanctuary resource.

Florida Division of Emergency Management (FDEM)
Bureau of Recovery, Debris & Special Considerations Program
850-922-5914

- Maintain office in the Joint Field Office with FEMA's Environmental and Historic Preservation (EHP) section during Stafford Act declarations
- Assist both Public Assistance and Individual Assistance program with environmental and historic preservation compliance and maintain coordination with FEMA throughout the process of recovery.

5. Contact Information

Note: Contact information is only included for organizations who have provided and/or approved information in the following tables.

State/Local Agencies

Agency	Division	Topic	Point of Contact	Phone	Email
County Emergency Management Agencies	-	-	See FDEM, 2020a at https://www.floridadisaster.org/counties/	-	-
Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (FDACS)	Division of Animal Industry	ESF 17 Animal and Agricultural Issues lead	Dr. Gregory Christy	850-410-0902	Gregory.Christy@FDACS.gov
			LeiAnna Tucker	850-410-0920	Leianna.Tucker@FDACS.gov
	Division of Aquaculture	Coordination	Portia Sapp	850-617-7600	Portia.Sapp@FDACS.gov
Florida Department of Environmental Protection (DEP)	Division of State Lands: Bureau of Public Land Administration	Planning and coordination	Brad Richardson	-	Brad.Richardson@FloridaDEP.gov
	Division of State Lands: Submerged Lands Section	Determines state ownership of submerged coastal areas	Title and Land Records Section	850-245-2555	-
	Division of Waste Management: Solid Waste Section	Debris management and disposal	Cory Dilmore, P.E., Environmental Administrator	850-245-8712	Cory.Dilmore@FloridaDEP.gov
	Division of Water Resource Management: Beaches, Inlets and Ports Program	Joint Coastal Permit	See DEP, 2020a at https://floridadep.gov/rcp/beaches-inlets-ports	850-245-8020	BIPP@FloridaDEP.gov
	Division of Water Resource Management: SLERC	ERP permit	See DEP, 2020c for District Offices at https://floridadep.gov/districts	850-245-8702	-
	Office of Resilience and Coastal Protection: Apalachicola NERR	Capability contact for equipment	Jason Garwood, Research Coordinator	850-670-7716	Jason.Garwood@FloridaDEP.gov
		Capability contact for IT support	Jennifer Harper, Manager	850-670-7716	Jennifer.Harper@FloridaDEP.gov
		Capability contact for IT support	Megan Lamb, Research Assistant	850-670-7709	Megan.Lamb@FloridaDEP.gov
	Office of Resilience and Coastal Protection: Coral Reef Conservation Program	Southeast Florida Marine Debris Reporting and Removal Program	Kristi Kerrigan, Assistant Manager and Reef Resilience Coordinator	561-681-6632	Kristi.Kerrigan@FloridaDEP.gov
			SEAFAN Hotline	866-770-SEFL (7335)	Coral@FloridaDEP.gov
	Office of Resilience and Coastal Protection: FCMP	Marine Debris Rapid Response Coordination	Ann Lazar, Environmental Administrator	850-245-2168	Ann.Lazar@FloridaDEP.gov
	Office of Emergency Response (OER)	ESF 10 lead and capability contact	Nick Roff, Environmental Administrator	850-245-2875 1-800-320-0519 (Emergency)	Nick.Roff@FloridaDEP.gov
Florida Department of State	Division of Historical Resources: Bureau of Historic Preservation	National Historic Preservation Act compliance	Timothy Parsons, Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer	850-245-6333	Timothy.Parsons@dos.myflorida.com
Florida Department of Transportation	-	ESF 3 lead	Irene Cabral, Emergency Coordination Officer	850-414-5336	Irene.Cabral@dot.state.fl.us

State Agencies Continued

Agency	Division	Topic	Point of Contact	Phone	Email
Florida Division of Emergency Management (FDEM)	-	Report hazardous material, marine, petroleum or weather incidents	State Watch Office	800-320-0519	-
	Recovery Bureau	Planning and coordination	Amanda Campen, Deputy Bureau Chief	-	Amanda.Campen@em.myflorida.com
Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC)	Division of Habitat and Species Conservation	Marine Debris Rapid Response Coordination and capability contact	Kent Smith, Biological Administrator	850-617-9504	Kent.Smith@MyFWC.com
	Division of Law Enforcement	Boating and Waterways: Derelict Vessel Program	Phil Horning, Derelict Vessel Program Administrator	850-617-9540	Phil.Horning@MyFWC.com
			Captain Gary Klein, Waterway Management Unit Leader	850-617-9528	Gary.Klein@MyFWC.com
		Agency marine debris coordination	Jennifer McGee, Marine Debris Coordinator	850-727-3043	Jennifer.McGee@MyFWC.com
	Division of Marine Fisheries Management	Trap removal programs	Pamela Gruver	850-617-9624	Pamela.Gruver@MyFWC.com
	Fish and Wildlife Research Institute (FWRI)	Capability contact for technology, manpower/expertise, electronic equipment	Rene Baumstark, Information Science & Management Section Leader	727 502-4866	Rene.Baumstark@MyFWC.com
		Capability contact for sampling equipment, vessels, logistics	Henry Norris, Deputy Director	727-502-4842	Henry.Norris@MyFWC.com
		Pollution response, resources at risk, damage assessment	Timyn Rice, State Scientific Support Coordinator	727-502-4855 (O) 727-310-7368 (C)	Timyn.Rice@MyFWC.com
Water Management Districts (WMD)	Northwest Florida WMD	Permitting and compliance and response within WMD jurisdiction	-	850-539-5999	-
	South Florida WMD		-	561-686-8800	-
	Southwest Florida WMD		-	352-796-7211	-
	St. Johns River WMD		-	386-329-4500	-
	Suwannee River WMD		-	386-362-1001	-

Federal Agencies

Agency	Division	Topic	Point of Contact	Phone	Email
Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement (BSEE)	Marine Trash and Debris Program	Planning and coordination	James Sinclair, Marine Ecologist	504-736-2789	James.Sinclair@bsee.gov
Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)	Region IV	Funding following Presidential disaster declaration	Contact local Emergency Management Agency (see FDEM, 2020a)	-	-
		Capability contact for technical expertise for removal operations and environmental, compliance and permitting expertise	Valerie Rhoads, Public Assistance Branch Chief	770-220-5618	Valerie.Rhoads@fema.dhs.gov

Federal Agencies Continued

Agency	Division	Topic	Point of Contact	Phone	Email
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)	National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS or NOAA Fisheries)	Emergency ESA/EFH consultation	-	-	Nmfs.ser.emergency.consult@noaa.gov
		EFH information	Atlantic: Pace Wilber	843-460-9926	Pace.Wilber@noaa.gov
			Gulf: David Dale	727-551-5736	David.Dale@noaa.gov
			Gulf: Rusty Swafford	409-766-3699	Rusty.Swafford@noaa.gov
		ESA information	General Contact	727-824-5312	-
			Florida Keys and Caribbean: Jennifer Moore, Threatened Coral Recovery Coordinator	727-551-5797 (O) 727-647-2357 (C)	Jennifer.Moore@noaa.gov
			Joseph Cavanaugh	727-551-5097	Joseph.Cavanaugh@noaa.gov
	NOS, Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary (FKNMS)	Response in FKNMS and capability contact	Lisa Symons, Regional Response Coordinator	305-434-9370	Lisa.Symons@noaa.gov
		Compliance consultation	-	305-797-7229	-
	NOS, ORR, Emergency Response Division	Potential to release oil or hazardous substance	Brad Benggio, Scientific Support Coordinator for USCG District 7 and RRT IV	305-530-7925 (O) 206-375-5697 (24hr)	Brad.Benggio@noaa.gov
			Adam Davis, Scientific Support Coordinator for USCG District 8 and backup for RRT IV	206-549-7759 (C) 206-526-4911 (24hr)	Adam.Davis@noaa.gov
	NOS, ORR, Marine Debris Program	Planning and coordination	Ashley Hill, Florida and Caribbean Regional Coordinator	727-209-5994	Ashley.Hill@noaa.gov
National Park Service (NPS)	-	Response on NPS-owned lands	Darrell Echols, Chief, Science and Natural Resources Management Division	404-507-5807	Darrell_Echols@nps.gov
			C. Anna Toline, Marine Scientist, Oceans Program Coordinator	843-518-1939	Catherine_Toline@nps.gov
Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS)	-	Emergency Watershed Protection (EWP) Program Information	Jason Strenth, State Conservation Engineer	352-338-9559 (O) 352-538-4892 (C)	Jason.Strenth@fl.usda.gov
U.S. Air Force	-	Report launch/range debris in a waterway or shoreline	Patrick Command Post	321-494-7001	-
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) *continued on next page*	Emergency Operations	Planning and coordination	Jacksonville District (Primary): Logan Wilkinson, Chief Emergency Management	904-232-1881	Logan.C.Wilkinson@usace.army.mil
			Mobile District (Support): Bo Ansley, Chief Emergency Management	251-690-2027	Hubert.R.Ansley@usace.army.mil
	Navigation	Federally maintained waterway or channel	Jacksonville District: Jackie Keiser	904-232-3915	Jacqueline.J.Keiser@usace.army.mil
			Mobile District: Duane Poiroux, Operations Division	251-694-3720	Duane.B.Poiroux@usace.army.mil
	Regulatory Program	Compliance and permitting expertise	Donnie Kinard, Chief, Regulatory Division	904-232-2255	Donald.W.Kinard@usace.army.mil
			Tori White, Deputy, Regulatory Division	904-232-1658	Tori.White@usace.army.mil
			North Branch (Pensacola, Panama City, Jacksonville, Cocoa): Clif Payne, Chief	904-232-3943	Lyal.C.Payne@usace.army.mil
			South Branch (Palm Beach Gardens, Miami): Kelly Finch, Chief	904-232-1659	Kelly.C.Finch@usace.army.mil
			West Branch (Gainesville, Tampa, Ft. Myers): Kelly Unger, Chief	904-232-1676	Kelly.E.Unger@usace.army.mil

Federal Agencies Continued and Tribal Governments

Agency	Division	Topic	Point of Contact	Phone	Email
continued from previous page U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE)	-	Capability contact for remote sensing (UAS)	Brian Brodehl	904-232-3600	-
		Capability contact for UAV/UAS	Mike Hensch	904-232-2665	-
		Capability contact for environmental cleanup expertise	Bill Niemes	904-232-2815	-
		Capability contact for equipment	Mark Shore	863-983-8101x236	-
		Capability contact for NEPA	Eric Summa	904-232-1665	-
U.S. Coast Guard (USCG)	-	Potential to release oil or hazardous substance	National Response Center (NRC)	800-424-8802	-
	District 7	Planning and coordination	LTJG Andrew Garcia, RRT IV Coordinator	-	Andrew.M.Garcia@uscg.mil
			Forest Willis, RRT IV Co-Chair	305-415-6676	Forest.A.Willis@uscg.mil
	District 8	Planning and coordination	LT Keyth Pankau, DRAT Environmental Specialist	-	Keyth.A.Pankau@uscg.mil
			Dee Oos, Area Contingency Plan Program Manager	504-671-2233	Damara.A.Oos@uscg.mil
			Mike Sams, Incident Management Preparedness Advisor	504-671-2234	Michael.K.Sams@uscg.mil
			Adam Tyndale, Response Equipment Coordinator	504-671-2063	Adam.J.Tyndale@uscg.mil
		Capability contact	Sector Mobile: USCG Sector Mobile Command Center	251-441-6211	-
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)	Region IV	Potential to release oil or hazardous substance	National Response Center (NRC)	800-424-8802	-
		Planning and coordination	Gary Andrew, RRT IV and ESF 10 Coordinator	678-733-1621	Andrew.Gary@epa.gov
			Leo Francendese, On-Scene Coordinator	404-606-2223	Francendese.Leo@epa.gov
			Chris Russell, On-Scene Coordinator	850-274-1575	Russell.Chris@epa.gov
		Capability contact	EPA Region IV Duty Officer	404-562-8700	-
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS)	Ecological Service Program	Compliance and permitting expertise	Larry Williams, State Supervisor	772-469-4251	Larry_Williams@fws.gov
			Rafael Gonzalez, State Chief of Staff	772-469-4269	Rafael_Gonzalez@fws.gov
			North Florida Ecological Services Field Office	904-731-3336	Jaxregs@fws.gov
			Panama City Ecological Services Field Office	850-769-0552	-
			South Florida Ecological Services Field Office	772-562-3909	Verobeach@fws.gov
	National Wildlife Refuges	Response in Florida Keys NWR Complex	Steve Berger, Senior Federal Wildlife Officer	-	Steven_Berger@fws.gov
Miccosukee Tribe of Indians	-	Response on tribal lands	Colley Billie, Chairman	305-223-8380	Hopel@miccosukeetribe.com
Seminole Tribe of Florida	-	Response on tribal lands	James E. Billie, Chairman	954-966-6300	Jamesbillie@semtribe.com

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

Dr. Neil Jacobs
Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Environmental Observation and Prediction,
performing the duties of Under Secretary of Commerce for Oceans and Atmosphere

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