Comprehensive Wildlife Response Plan

I. Incident Summary		
Incident Name:	Date / Time Prepared: /	
Incident Location:	Operational Period Date / Time: From: / To: /	
Prepared By (print):	Affiliation:	ICS Position:
☐ Amendment/update (all previous versions must be attached)		
Attachments:		
☐ Location map/sketch (ICS 201) or narrative ☐ Incident Status Summary (ICS 209) or narrative ☐ Resources at Risk (ICS 232) ☐ ESA section 7 consultation documents ☐ Completed Wildlife Observation Forms ☐ Other _____	☐ Startup WRP ☐ Pre-Issued ADF&G Wildlife Response Permit(s) ☐ Pre-Issued USFWS permits (attach first page with Permit No.) or authorizations ☐ Pre-Issued NMFS authorizations (attach first page with Authorization No.)	

II. State and Federal On-Scene Coordinator Response to Request	
State On-Scene Coordinator's decision regarding proposed wildlife response activities:	
Time Received:	Date Received:
☐ Concur with wildlife agencies. ☐ Do not concur for the following reason(s):	
Signature:	
Time:	Date:
Federal On-Scene Coordinator's decision regarding proposed wildlife response activities:	
Time Received:	Date Received:
☐ Concur with wildlife agencies. ☐ Do not concur for the following reason(s): *Federal On-Scene Coordinator must also inform NRDAR Liaison.*	
Signature:	
Time:	Date:

III. Wildlife Agency Response to Request		
ADF&G Recommendation/Decision:		
☐ Approve requested activities as proposed ☐ Approve requested activities as amended ☐ Deny requested activities for the following reason(s):		
Signature:	Date:	Time:
USFWS Recommendation/Decision:		
☐ Approve requested activities as proposed ☐ Approve requested activities as amended ☐ Deny requested activities for the following reason(s):		
Signature:	Date:	Time:
NMFS Recommendation/Decision:		
☐ Approve requested activities as proposed ☐ Approve requested activities as amended ☐ Deny requested activities for the following reason(s):		
Signature:	Date:	Time:

Acronyms in Comprehensive WRP	
ADF&G = Alaska Department of Fish and Game	NRDAR = Natural Resource Damage Assessment and Restoration
BIA = Biologically Important Area (https://coast.noaa.gov/digitalcoast/data/biologicallyimportantareas.html)	OLE = Office of Law Enforcement
DPS = Distinct Population Segment	OSRO = Oil Spill Removal/Recovery Organization
ESA = Endangered Species Act	PRAC = Primary Response Action Contractor
ICS = Incident Command System	RP/PRP = Responsible Party/Potential Responsible Party[1]
IMT = Incident Management Team	UAS = unmanned aerial/aircraft system, "drones"
LOA = Letter of Authorization	USFWS = U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
MMHSRP = Marine Mammal Health and Stranding Response Program	WPG = Wildlife Protection Guidelines for Oil Spill Response in Alaska
MMPA = Marine Mammal Protection Act	WRP = Wildlife Response Plan
NMFS = National Marine Fisheries Service	

[1] "RP/PRP" includes any entity contracted by the RP/PRP (or their ORSO/PRAC for the response) and is intended to include the RP/PRP, their contractors, the permittee, or whomever is directly responsible for carrying out this plan.

IV. Wildlife Information and Proposed Response Strategies:
Part A – Non-ESA-listed Species Groups

This section to be filled out by RP/PRP.

Instructions: 1 and 2: Use field observations from the spill area or pre-existing data sources if no field data are available. 3: Check proposed response strategies for each species or species group in cooperation with available experts and agency representatives. Part A is only for species not listed under the ESA.

1. Is a species or species group known or expected to be present in the spill area?		**2. If YES, list specific species information:**	**3. Identify Proposed Response Strategies**			
			Primary	**Secondary**		**Tertiary**
			Carcass Collection	**Haze/ Deter**	**Pre-emptive Capture**	**Capture and Rehab**
Species Group	**Yes**	**Species, numbers (estimated or observed), and location relative to spill, etc.**	**Yes**	**Yes**	**Yes**	**Yes**
Bald or golden eagles	☐		☐	☐	☐	☐
Raptors	☐		☐	☐	☐	☐
Waterfowl	☐		☐	☐	☐	☐
Diving ducks	☐		☐	☐	☐	☐
Shorebirds	☐		☐	☐	☐	☐
Seabirds	☐		☐	☐	☐	☐
Passerines	☐		☐	☐	☐	☐
Non-migratory birds	☐		☐	☐	☐	☐
Brown or black bears	☐		☐	☐	☐	☐
Ungulates (moose, deer, caribou, etc.)	☐		☐	☐	☐	☐
Small furbearers (fox, muskrat, river otter, etc.)	☐		☐	☐	☐	☐
Wolves	☐		☐	☐	☐	☐
Northern sea otters (Southcentral or Southeast Alaska stocks)	☐		☐	☐	☐	☐
Walrus	☐		☐	☐	☐	☐
Harbor, spotted, or ribbon seals	☐		☐	☐	☐	☐
Northern fur seals	☐		☐	☐	☐	☐
Steller sea lions Eastern DPS	☐		☐	☐	☐	☐
Minke, killer, gray, beluga, or humpback whales (non-ESA-listed)	☐		☐	☐	☐	☐
Dolphins or porpoises	☐		☐	☐	☐	☐
Invertebrates	☐		☐	N/A	N/A	N/A
Fish or shellfish	☐		☐	NA	N/A	N/A
Other	☐		☐	☐	☐	☐

IV. Wildlife Information and Proposed Response Strategies:
Part B – ESA-listed Species

This section to be filled out by RP/PRP.

Instructions: 1 and 2: Use field observations from the spill area or pre-existing data sources if no field data is available.
3: Identify the proposed response strategies for each species in cooperation with available experts and agency representatives.
Part B is for species listed under the ESA.

1. Is a species known or expected to be present in the spill area?		**2. If YES, list specific species information:**	**3. Identify Proposed Response Strategies**			
			Primary	**Secondary**		**Tertiary**
			Carcass Collection	**Haze/ Deter**	**Pre-emptive Capture**	**Capture and Rehab**
Species	**Yes**	**Numbers (estimated or observed), and location relative to spill, etc.**	**Yes**	**Yes**	**Yes**	**Yes**
Steller's eider	☐		☐	☐	☐	☐
Spectacled eider	☐		☐	☐	☐	☐
Short-tailed albatross	☐		☐	☐	☐	☐
Eskimo curlew	☐		☐	☐	☐	☐
Northern sea otter Southwest Alaska DPS	☐		☐	☐	☐	☐
Polar bear	☐		☐	☐	☐	☐
Steller sea lion Western DPS	☐		☐	☐	☐	☐
Ringed seal	☐		☐	☐	☐	☐
Bearded seal	☐		☐	☐	☐	☐
Beluga whale Cook Inlet DPS	☐		☐	☐	☐	☐
Blue whale	☐		☐	☐	☐	☐
Bowhead whale	☐		☐	☐	☐	☐
Fin whale	☐		☐	☐	☐	☐
North Pacific right whale	☐		☐	☐	☐	☐
Sei whale	☐		☐	☐	☐	☐
Sperm whale	☐		☐	☐	☐	☐
Humpback whale Mexico or Western North Pacific DPS	☐		☐	☐	☐	☐
Gray whale Western North Pacific DPS	☐		☐	☐	☐	☐
Wood Bison	☐		☐	☐	☐	☐
Leatherback turtle	☐		☐	☐	☐	☐
Green turtle	☐		☐	☐	☐	☐
Loggerhead turtle	☐		☐	☐	☐	☐
Other	☐		☐	☐	☐	☐

V. Other Primary Response Actions
This section to be filled out by the RP/PRP. **Instructions:** Check any primary response actions underway or previously taken: (1) to protect wildlife and/or wildlife habitat, and (2) which may affect the proposed wildlife response activities. Describe any additional actions underway or previously taken.
☐ Control and contain the source of the spill. ☐ Mechanical recovery (boom, skimmers, etc.). ☐ Sensitive area protection (booming of anadromous streams, marine mammal haulouts, seabird rookeries, etc.). ☐ Non-mechanical recovery (dispersants or *in-situ* burning) ☐ Removal of oiled debris (kelp, driftwood, etc.) ☐ Other: _____ ☐ Other: _____

VI. Carcass Collection Plan
This section to be filled out by the RP/PRP. **Instructions**: Include information for each species or species group checked in Section IV, Parts A and B. Any differences between each species group must be clearly articulated. If more space is needed, attach a separate Word® document referencing appropriate section, number, and species group (e.g., Section VI. 10. Birds) or reference and include applicable attachments.
1. List pre-existing permits and authorizations, and those that were obtained for carcass collection through the Startup WRP process.
2. How will oiled carcasses be observed and reported to Unified Command and wildlife agencies (for example, actively searching collection teams, carcasses reported through opportunistic field observations)?
3. Describe or indicate on a map where carcasses will be searched for or collected, or where opportunistic observations will occur.
4. Who will collect oiled carcasses (RP/PRP staff, contractors, agency staff, OSRO/PRAC)? List all if multiple.
5. Describe carcass collection teams: How many, whether they have other duties (for example, opportunistic/as needed vs. sole duty for large numbers of carcasses), number of collectors and their ICS positions (e.g., Carcass Collection Task Force member).
6. What supplies and equipment will be used; where is it stored; how and when will it get to the field?
7. Describe the data collection plan and any forms that will be used to document carcass collection activities.
8. How will carcasses be transported from the field (boat, plane, vehicle, etc.)?
9. How and where will carcasses be stored until handed over to agencies (for example, freezer space, refrigerator, coolers at staging area, morgue)?
10. Where will a morgue be set up (staging area, warehouse, etc.)? When will it be operational? How will the morgue be secured and who will have access to it?
11. Has a carcass custodian from one of the wildlife agencies been requested (e.g., submitted ICS form 213RR)? Who will receive the carcasses piror to the agency custodian being on site?
12. Describe in detail any deviations that will be made from the WPG Tactic **Collection of Small Carcasses and Documentation of Large Carcasses**.
13. Describe any additional details necessary for Incident Command to fully understand implementation of this plan.
14. How has this plan been coordinated with NRDAR Trustees?

Summary of Wildlife Agency Comments: Section VI. Carcass Collection Plan
Instructions for agency representatives: Indicate the number in Section VI to which your comment refers. Include recommended language for additions, deletions, requests for additional details, or other comments.
ADF&G comments:
USFWS comments:
NMFS comments:

VII. Hazing/Deterrence Plan
This section to be filled out by the RP/PRP. **Instructions**: Include information for each species or species group checked in Section IV, Parts A and B. Any differences between each species group must be clearly articulated. If more space is needed, attach a separate Word® document referencing appropriate section, number, and species group (e.g., Section VII. 2. Birds) or reference and include attachments.
1. List pre-existing permits and authorizations, and those that were obtained for hazing/deterrence through the Startup WRP process.
2. Which species/species groups are intended to be hazed/deterred?
3. What non-target species might be in the area that could be inadvertently hazed/deterred? What methods will be employed to avoid hazing/deterrence of non-target species?
4. Describe or indicate on a map areas where wildlife will be deterred/hazed from (for example, priority response areas or as wildlife are encountered). Describe nearby suitable habitat where wildlife are intended to be hazed to, including distance and direction from their current location.
5. Who will be conducting hazing/deterrence activities (RP/PRP staff, OSRO/PRAC, contractor, other)? List all if multiple. Describe applicable training or expertise, including affiliation, names (if known), and person in charge (with ICS position) of deterrence activities. When will they arrive at the field/spill site?
6. Describe the method and type of equipment that will be used for each species group. Include the platform(s) hazing/deterrence will be conducted from (on foot, boat, etc.) and if any aircraft, including UAS, will be used to haze/deter wildlife.
7. Who (name or ICS position) will be responsible for documenting the success/failure of hazing efforts (e.g., a Wildlife Observer (see WPG Tactic **Wildlife Reconnaissance**), one of the persons conducting hazing, etc.)?
8. Describe the documentation/communication plan. What information will be documented, by whom, and how often will it be communicated to the IMT?
9. Describe what next steps will be taken if hazed species inadvertently become oiled.
10. Describe or attach any additional details necessary for Incident Command to fully understand implementation of this plan, such as guidance documents, tactic descriptions, or other instructions.

Summary of Wildlife Agency Comments: Section VII. Hazing/Deterrence Plan
Instructions for agency representatives: Indicate the number in Section VII to which your comment refers. Include recommended language for additions, deletions, requests for additional details, or other comments.
ADF&G comments:
USFWS comments:
NMFS comments:

VIII. Pre-emptive Capture Plan
This section to be filled out by the RP/PRP. **Instructions**: Include information for each species or species group checked in Section IV, Parts A and B. Any differences between each species group must be clearly articulated. If more space is needed, attach a separate Word® document referencing appropriate section, number, and species group (e.g., Section VIII. 1. Birds) or reference and include attachments.
1. Who is capturing wildlife? Provide affiliation and applicable training. Names of individuals must be provided for the proposed capture of any marine mammals, eagles, or ESA-listed species.
2. Describe all aspects of wildlife transportation. How will each species be transported from the field, where are they being transported to (for example, stabilization facility, temporary holding location, proposed release site)?
3. Describe the stabilization facility or temporary holding location/facility. Provide the name of the individual or ICS position in charge of the chain-of-custody paperwork at the stabilization facility. Attach a plan describing the detailed care of each species (e.g., feeding, nutrition, temperature control, etc.)
4. Provide the name and affiliation of the veterinarian(s) in charge of monitoring captured wildlife.
5. Describe why the release site was chosen (for example, location or habitat characteristics).
6. Provide the name, ICS position, and contact information for the person responsible for writing a release plan (e.g., release date and location, appropriate tagging/banding or final disposition of the animal, etc.) and coordinating review of the plan with the appropriate wildlife agency.
7. Describe or attach any additional details necessary for Incident Command to fully understand implementation of this plan, such as guidance documents, tactic descriptions, or other instructions.

Summary of Wildlife Agency Comments: Section VIII. Pre-emptive Capture Plan
Instructions for agency representatives: Indicate the number in Section VIII to which your comment refers. Include recommended language for additions, deletions, requests for additional details, or other comments.
ADF&G comments:
USFWS comments:
NMFS comments:

IX. Capture, Transport, Stabilization, Rehabilitation, and Release Plan
This section to be filled out by the RP/PRP. **Instructions**: Include information for each species or species group checked in Section IV, Parts A and B. Any differences between each species group must be clearly articulated. If more space is needed, attach a separate Word® document referencing appropriate section, number, and species group (e.g., IX. 1. Seals) or reference and include attachments.
1. List pre-existing permits and authorizations, and those that were obtained for capture, transport, stabilization, and rehabilitation through the Startup WRP process.
2. Provide affiliation and applicable training of wildlife capture personnel. Names of individuals must be provided for the proposed capture of any marine mammals, eagles, or ESA-listed species. When will they arrive at the site?
3. Describe all aspects of wildlife transportation. How will each species be transported from the field, where are they being transported to (for example, stabilization facility, temporary holding location, proposed release site)?
4. Describe the temporary stabilization facility(ies) if one or more will be used. Provide the name of the individual or ICS position in charge of the chain-of-custody paperwork at each stabilization facility.
5. Where is the cleaning and rehabilitation facility(ies)?
6. Provide the name and affiliation of the veterinarian(s) in charge of cleaning and rehabilitation of oiled wildlife.
7. Provide the name of the individual or ICS position in charge of the chain-of-custody paperwork at the rehabilitation facility.
8. Describe fresh/marine water sources and daily capacity in gallons (fresh and/or marine) for cleaning and holding of wildlife.
9. Describe how waste and wastewater is being handled, including daily capacity, for (a) oily water, (b) wastewater with natural animal contaminants (fecal matter, skin, fur, food, fish, etc.), and (c) biomedical waste, including drugs.
10. Describe how wildlife will be held while in rehabilitation and estimated time individuals in each species group will remain in rehabilitation.
11. Describe disposal or storage for euthanized or deceased animals (e.g., will they be transported to the morgue location outlined in Section VI, will another morgue be established at rehabilitation facility, will animal be transported to wildlife agency). Attach euthanasia plan or describe in adequate detail here.
12. Provide the name, ICS position, and contact information for the person/people responsible for writing a release plan (e.g., release date and location, appropriate tagging/banding or final disposition of the animal, etc.) and coordinating review of the plan with the appropriate wildlife agency.
13. Describe or attach any additional details necessary for Incident Command to fully understand implementation of this plan, such as guidance documents, tactic descriptions, or other instructions.

Summary of Wildlife Agency Comments: Section IX. Capture, Transport, Stabilization, Rehabilitation, and Release Plan
Instructions for agency representatives: Indicate the number in Section VIII to which your comment refers. Include recommended language for additions, deletions, requests for additional details, or other comments.
ADF&G comments:
USFWS comments:
NMFS comments:

X. Wildlife Agency Permits and Authorizations for Proposed Response

This section to be filled out by wildlife agencies.

Instructions: For each species group checked, agencies should indicate permit or authorization status using one or more of these: **Initiated** (ESA section 7 consultation only); **Pending** (include estimated time of completion); **Issued** (include permit number); **Emergency** authorization provided (verbal or email approval, hard copy of permit will follow); **Not applicable** or not required for proposed activities; or **Other** (include comments).

Response activities for each species group *as proposed in Sections VI – IX* of this form may begin as soon as all necessary permits and approvals for *that* species group are listed as **Initiated**, **Issued**, or **Emergency**.

Species or Species Group	CARCASS COLLECTION		HAZING/DETERRENCE		CAPTURE, TRANSPORT, STABILIZATION, & REHABILITATION	
	Permit/Authorization	**Status**	**Permit/Authorization**	**Status**	**Permit/Authorization**	**Status**
Threatened or endangered species	USFWS ESA section 7 consultation		USFWS ESA section 7 consultation		USFWS ESA section 7 consultation	
	NMFS ESA section 7 consultation		NMFS ESA section 7 consultation		NMFS ESA section 7 consultation	
	USFWS ESA OLE authorization					
Migratory birds	USFWS Migratory Bird Salvage Permit		ADF&G Wildlife Response Permit		USFWS Migratory Bird Rehab Permit	
	USFWS OLE authorization					
Bald or golden eagles	USFWS permit		USFWS Eagle Depredation Permit		USFWS Eagle Depredation Permit	
	USFWS OLE authorization					
Sea otters	USFWS permit		USFWS MMPA section 112(c) LOA		USFWS MMPA section 112(c) LOA	
	USFWS OLE authorization					
Walruses	USFWS permit		USFWS MMPA section 112(c) LOA		USFWS MMPA section 112(c) LOA	
	USFWS OLE authorization					
Polar bears	USFWS permit		USFWS MMPA section 112(c) LOA		USFWS MMPA section 112(c) LOA	
	USFWS ESA OLE authorization					
Whales	NMFS MMHSRP request		NMFS MMHSRP request		NMFS MMHSRP request	
Seals	NMFS MMHSRP request		NMFS MMHSRP request		NMFS MMHSRP request	
Sea lions	NMFS MMHSRP request		NMFS MMHSRP request		NMFS MMHSRP request	
Porpoises/dolphins	NMFS MMHSRP request		NMFS MMHSRP request		NMFS MMHSRP request	
Brown or black bears	ADF&G Wildlife Response Permit		ADF&G Wildlife Response Permit		ADF&G Wildlife Response Permit	
Ungulates	ADF&G Wildlife Response Permit		ADF&G Wildlife Response Permit		ADF&G Wildlife Response Permit	
Furbearers	ADF&G Wildlife Response Permit		ADF&G Wildlife Response Permit		ADF&G Wildlife Response Permit	
Non-migratory birds	ADF&G Wildlife Response Permit		ADF&G Wildlife Response Permit		ADF&G Wildlife Response Permit	
Fish	ADF&G Aquatic Resources Permit		N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Shellfish	ADF&G Aquatic Resources Permit		N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Invertebrates	ADF&G Aquatic Resources Permit		N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

XI. Additional Conditions

This section to be filled out by wildlife agencies.

Instructions: Wildlife agencies must check each applicable condition and write in any additional conditions or approvals.

Permits, LOAs, and ESA section 7 consultations will include protection measures, restrictions, or conditions for the proposed activities that must be adhered to. Additional conditions for the following activities include:

Primary Response Strategies – Carcass Collection

- ☐ _____
- ☐ _____

Secondary Response Strategies – Hazing/Deterrence

- ☐ To ensure non-target species are not inadvertently hazed, active hazing/deterrence must cease if the following species are within _____ m (_____ ft) of the spill site or areas where hazing is proposed:
  _____
  Hazing may not resume until these species have left the area of their own accord.
- ☐ Hazing/deterrence may not occur in areas where molting waterfowl are observed.
- ☐ Hazing/deterrence may not occur within _____ m (_____ ft) of _____.
- ☐ Report observations of _____ to _____.
- ☐ Report observations of _____ to USFWS as soon as possible at 907-242-6893 (USFWS Alaska Region Spill Response Team).
- ☐ Report observations of _____ to NMFS as soon as possible at 877-925-7773 (Alaska Marine Mammal Stranding Network).
- ☐ Hazing/deterrence activities must be monitored by one or more Wildlife Observers (see WPG Tactic **Wildlife Reconnaissance**) as needed.
- ☐ _____
- ☐ _____

Tertiary Response Strategies – Capture, Transport, Stabilization, and Rehabilitation

- ☐ Report observations of _____ to _____.
- ☐ Report observations of _____ to USFWS as soon as possible at 907-242-6893 (USFWS Alaska Region Spill Response Team).
- ☐ Report observations of _____ to NMFS as soon as possible at 877-925-7773 (Alaska Marine Mammal Stranding Network).
- ☐ Tertiary response activities must be monitored by a Wildlife Observer (see WPG Tactic **Wildlife Reconnaissance**).
- ☐ _____
- ☐ _____

XII. Worksheet for Operations Section and Field Personnel
This section to be filled out by the RP/PRP. **Instructions**: List conditions, stipulations, and protection measures of permits and authorizations as they are finalized and issued. This Worksheet is intended to help convey pertinent details of authorized wildlife response activities from the Environmental Unit to Operations and field personnel. The Environmental Unit Lead or their designee should read and review permits, authorizations, and ESA section 7 consultation information as they are issued/finalized, and include pertinent protection measures, stipulations, and other conditions for Operations to inform and direct field personnel (e.g., in ICS 204s). Some of this information may be obtained from Section VII of the Startup WRP. This Worksheet does not replace or negate any information found in permits and authorizations. Wildlife agencies may assist with this, but *the permittee or RP/PRP is ultimately responsible for all actions conducted under the authority of each issued permit or authorization*.

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END OF COMPREHENSIVE WILDLIFE RESPONSE PLAN