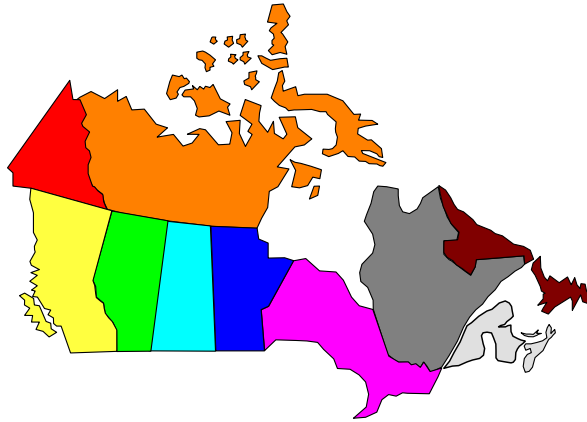


# OVERVIEW



## *CANADA'S MARINE OIL SPILL RESPONSE ORGANIZATIONS*

PREPARED BY

Eastern Canada Response Corporation Ltd.  
Western Canada Marine Response Corporation

January 2012

## **PREFACE**

In 1993 amendments were made to the Canada Shipping Act (CSA) to strengthen Canada's marine oil spill response capability. The amendments require:

- (a) The establishment of certified response organizations.
- (b) That ships (as defined in the CSA) operating in Canadian waters south of 60° N Latitude and designated oil handling facilities located in Canada south of 60° N Latitude have an arrangement with a certified response organization.

The private sector has established a number of response organizations within Canada to meet the requirements of the CSA and to provide marine oil spill response services.

This paper has been developed to provide interested parties with an overview of Canada's response organizations.

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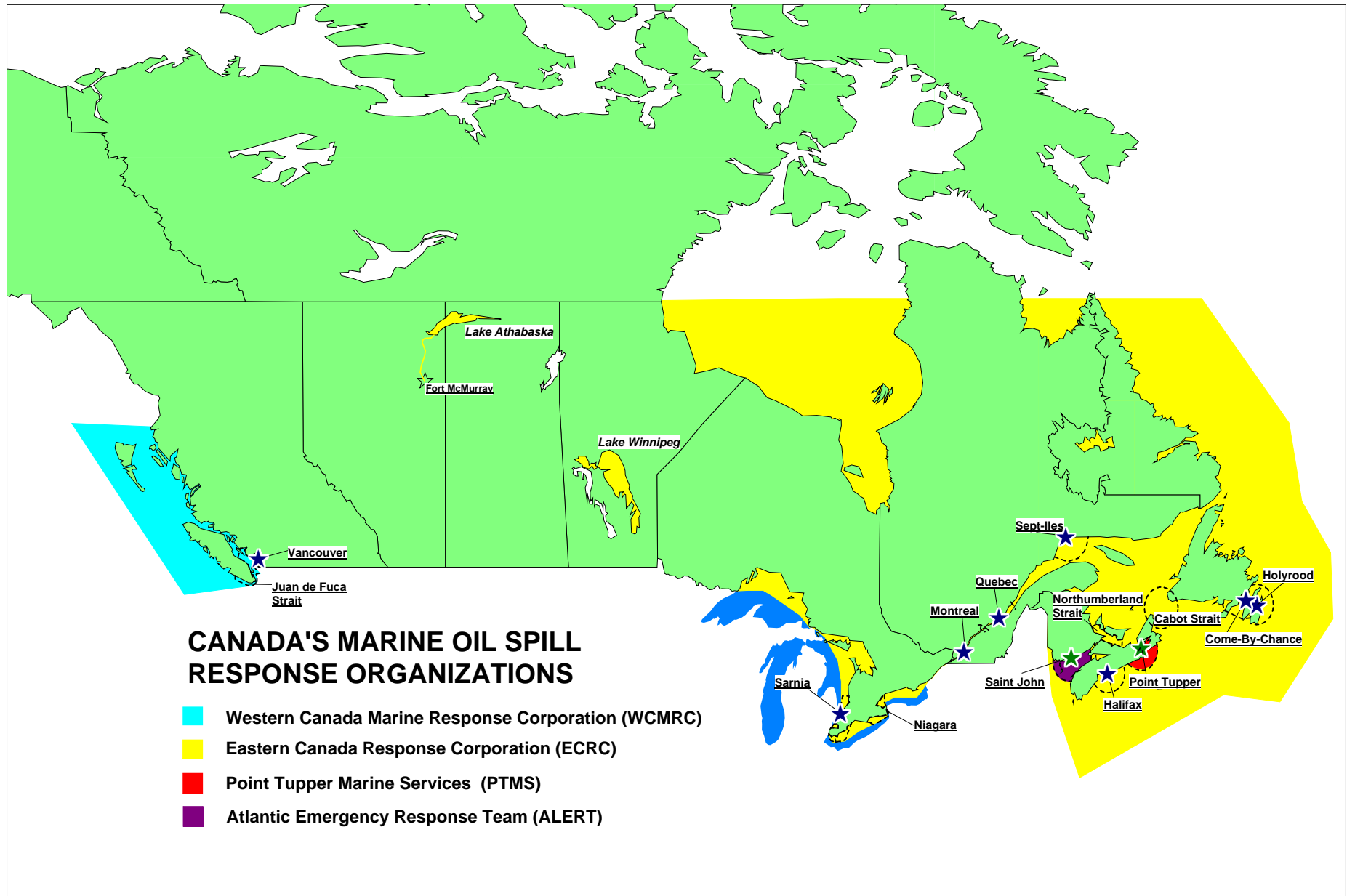
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## **SECTION ONE – INTRODUCTION**

This overview provides general information with respect to the certified response organizations that have been established in Canada. It is designed to give the reader an understanding of their organizational structure and operational capability. Information regarding fees, financial data and contractual arrangements is available in other documents or material distributed by the response organizations.

A map indicating the response organizations and their geographic area is provided on the next page.









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**SECTION TWO - DESCRIPTION****2.1 Definition**

A response organization is defined in the Canada Shipping Act (CSA) as a person or body who is certified by the Minister in respect of any geographic area and in respect of a specified quantity of oil. The certification is dependent on the receipt and approval by the Minister of a response plan that conforms to regulations respecting the procedures, equipment and resources that will be used by the response organization for a spill of a specified quantity of oil within its geographic area.

**2.2 Role**

A certified response organization has two roles. The first is to enable parties to have an “arrangement” with a certified response organization as required by the CSA and secondly to provide marine oil spill response services to its members, if requested to do so.

**2.3 Arrangement**

An arrangement is the right given by a response organization to a ship or oil handling facility so that it can identify, for purposes of its oil pollution emergency plan, as the response organization with which the ship or oil handling facility has the arrangement.

**2.4 Marine Oil Spill Response Services**

Marine oil spill response services means the provision of equipment, personnel and operational management, for the containment, recovery and clean-up (including preventative measures) of oil spilled on or into water or spilled on water in connection with the loading or unloading of oil from ships. It does not include acting as on-scene commander, lightering of distressed vessels or involvement in third party damage claims or adjustments.

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## SECTION THREE – CURRENT STATUS

### 3.1 Current Response Organizations (RO's)

Four RO's have been established in Canada. Although each of the RO's are independent Corporations they are linked together through various support and mutual aid agreements. Each of the RO's has a specific Geographic Area of Response (GAR) and a certified response capability of 10,000 tonnes. The following table provides a list of the RO's and a general description of their GAR's. A detailed description of the GAR for each of the RO's is provided in Item 3.5.

<u>Response Organization</u>	<u>Geographic Area of Response (GAR)</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Western Canada Marine Response Corporation (WCMRC)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In general the waters bordering British Columbia.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Eastern Canada Response Corporation Ltd. (ECRC)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In general the waters of the Canadian Great Lakes, Quebec and the Atlantic Coast excluding areas covered by Alert and PTMS</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Atlantic Emergency Response Team ("ALERT") Inc.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In general the Port of Saint John, New Brunswick and surrounding waters</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Point Tupper Marine Services Limited (PTMS)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In general the Port of Port Hawkesbury, Nova Scotia and surrounding waters.</li> </ul>

Note: In the above descriptions "Waters" has the meaning ascribed to it in the CSA

### 3.2 Organizational Structure

The organizational structure of each response organization varies depending on whether management, personnel and response equipment is maintained at one central location or is distributed at a number of response centers. For illustration purposes organization charts for WCMRC and ECRC are provided at the end of this Section.

### 3.3 Assets

Each of the RO's has acquired a mix of specialized oil spill response equipment to meet the response capability for which it is certified. This equipment includes booms, skimmers, boats, barges and other storage units for recovered product, shore line clean-up treatment equipment, communication equipment, etc. The amount of equipment is dependent on the response organization's geographic area of response, ability to cascade equipment from other locations and mutual aid arrangements with other RO's. The value of the assets required for the establishment of the four RO's in Canada was approximately \$55 million dollars.

### 3.4 Staffing

The permanent staffing of the RO's is maintained at a level to provide general management, administration and equipment maintenance and the capability to provide and manage the first 24 hours or initial response phase. The level of permanent staffing for each response organization is related to its geographic area of response and the corresponding number of response centers. The permanent staffing is supplemented as required for Marine Oil Spill Response Services from a pool of trained contract personnel.

### **3.5 Geographic Area of Response (GAR)**

Each of the RO's has a geographic area of response for which it is certified. A general description of the GAR's is provided in Item 3.1. A detailed description of the GAR's is provided below. The map at the end of Section One also indicates the GAR for each RO.

#### **3.5.1 Western Canada Marine Response Corporation (WCMRC)**

The GAR for WCMRC covers the waters bordering British Columbia (including the shoreline associated with such waters) and excluding waters north of the 60<sup>th</sup> parallel of latitude. "Waters" has the meaning ascribed to it in the CSA.

#### **3.5.2 Eastern Canada Response Corporation (ECRC)**

The GAR for ECRC covers the Waters south of the 60<sup>th</sup> parallel of latitude for all the provinces of Canada with the exception of British Columbia and the Ports of Saint John, New Brunswick and Point Tupper, Nova Scotia and their associated primary area of response and for greater certainty includes but is not limited to the following:

- St Lawrence River, Gulf of St. Lawrence and Coastal waters of Atlantic Canada
- James Bay
- Hudson Bay
- Ungava Bay
- Canadian Great Lakes System and connecting channels
- Lake Winnipeg
- Athabasca River from Fort McMurray to Lake Athabasca
- Lake Athabasca

"Waters" has the meaning ascribed to it in the CSA

#### **3.5.3 Atlantic Emergency Response Team ("ALERT") Inc.**

The GAR for ALERT covers the primary area of response associated with the Port of Saint John, New Brunswick which includes all the Canadian waters between the western boundary consisting of an arc having a 50 nautical miles radius about the point 45° 08' 03"N, 66° 17' 12" W, and the eastern boundary consisting of an arc having a 50 nautical mile radius, centered on Cape Spencer Light.

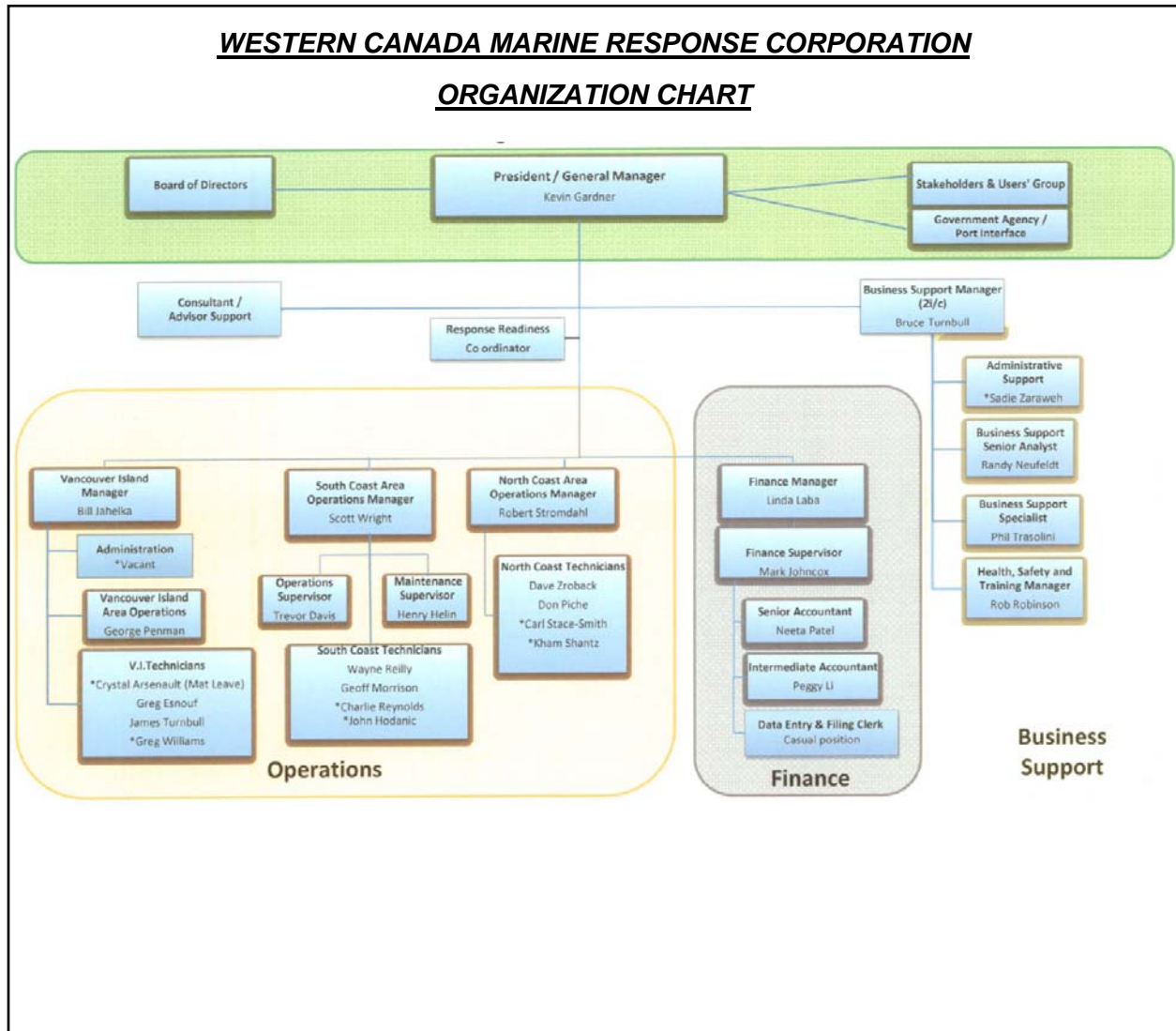
"Waters" has the meaning ascribed to it in the CSA

#### **3.5.4 Point Tupper Marine Services Limited (PTMS)**

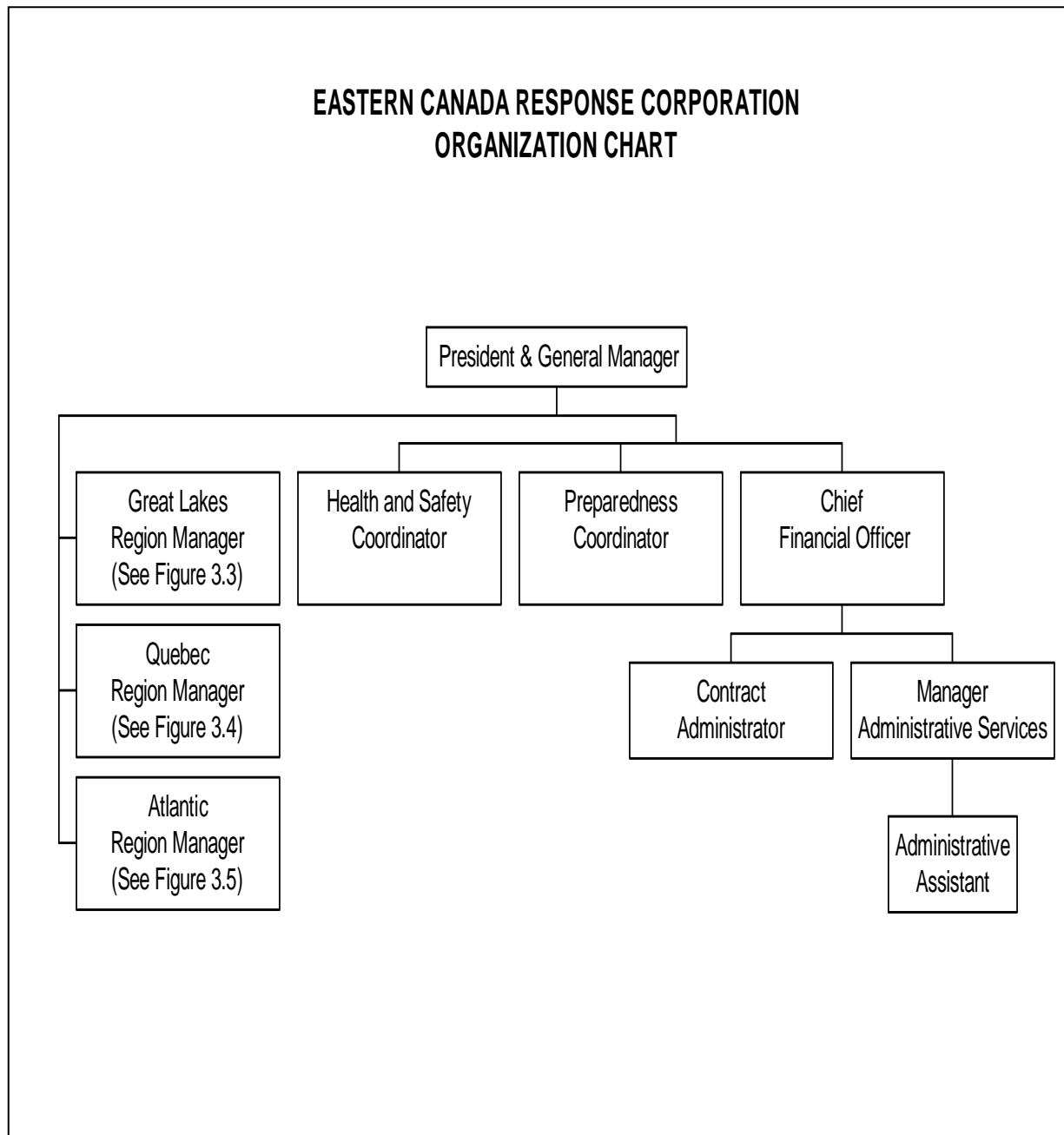
The GAR for PTMS covers all waters within a circle having a fifty (50) nautical mile radius about Bear Head light, 45° 33' North 61° 17' West, but not extending north of the Canso Causeway into St. George's Bay and the contiguous land mass and, for greater certainty, not to include the waters of Bras D'or Lakes, St. Patrick's Channel, St Andrew's Channel, Great Bras D'or and other waters internal to Cape Breton Island.

"Waters" has the meaning ascribed to it in the CSA

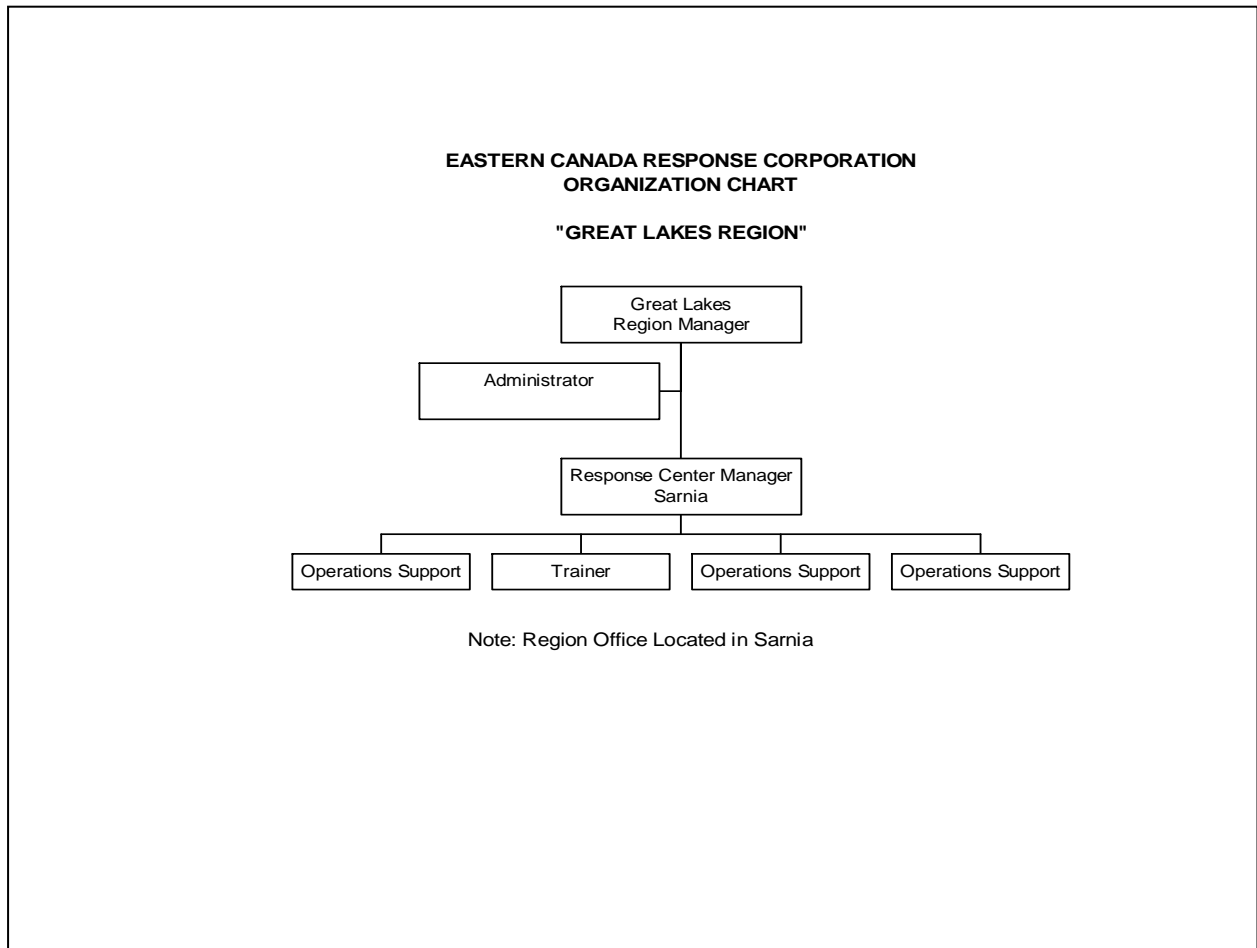
**Figure 3.1**



**Figure 3.2**

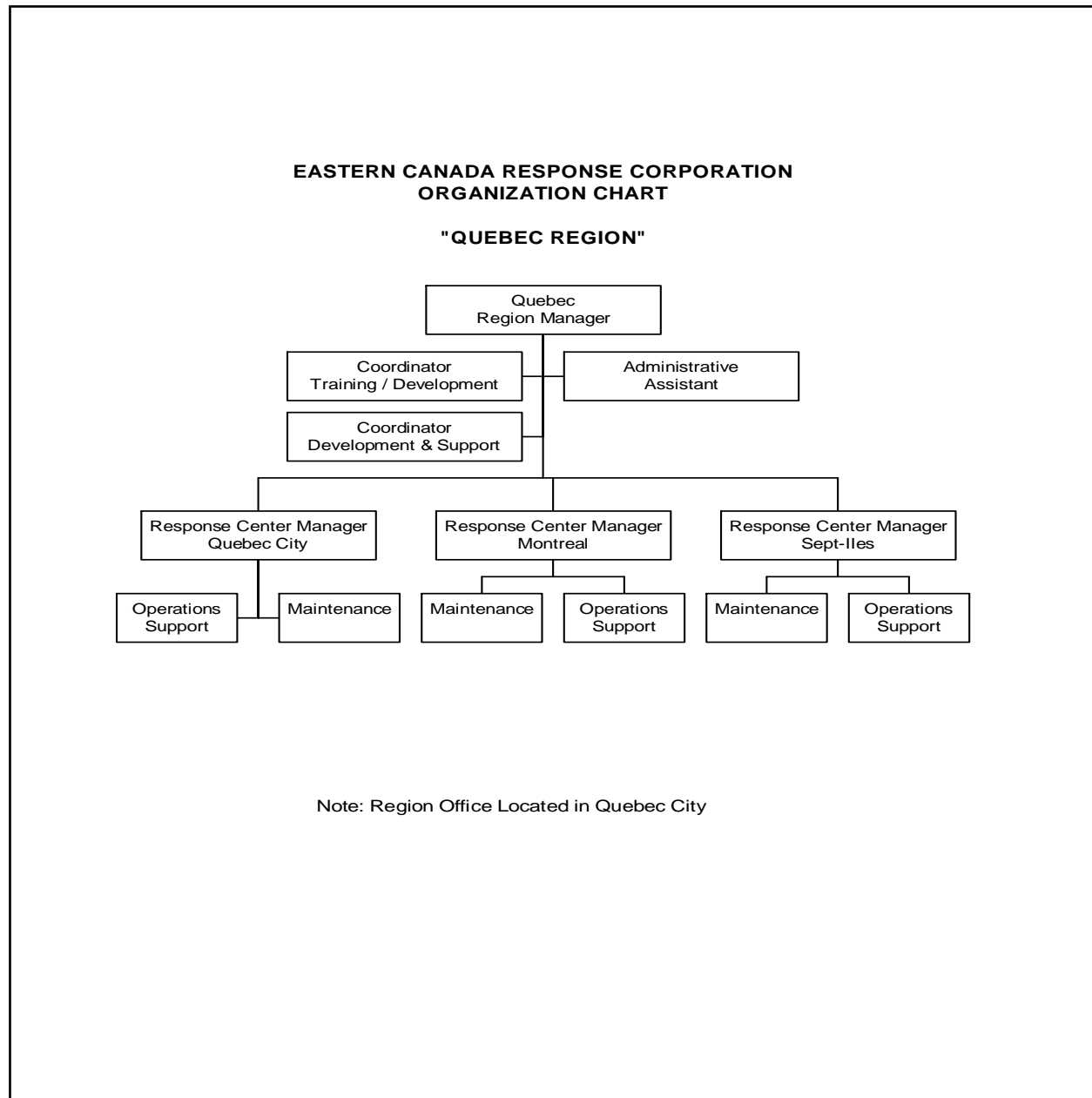


**Figure 3.3**





**Figure 3.4**



**Figure 3 5**



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## **SECTION FOUR – NETWORK**

### **4.1 Coverage for an Arrangement**

The geographic area of the four RO's described in the preceding section covers all of the waters of Canada South of the 60<sup>th</sup> parallel of latitude. The availability of an arrangement is therefore assured for ships and oil handling facilities for any area in Canada in which they may be operating.

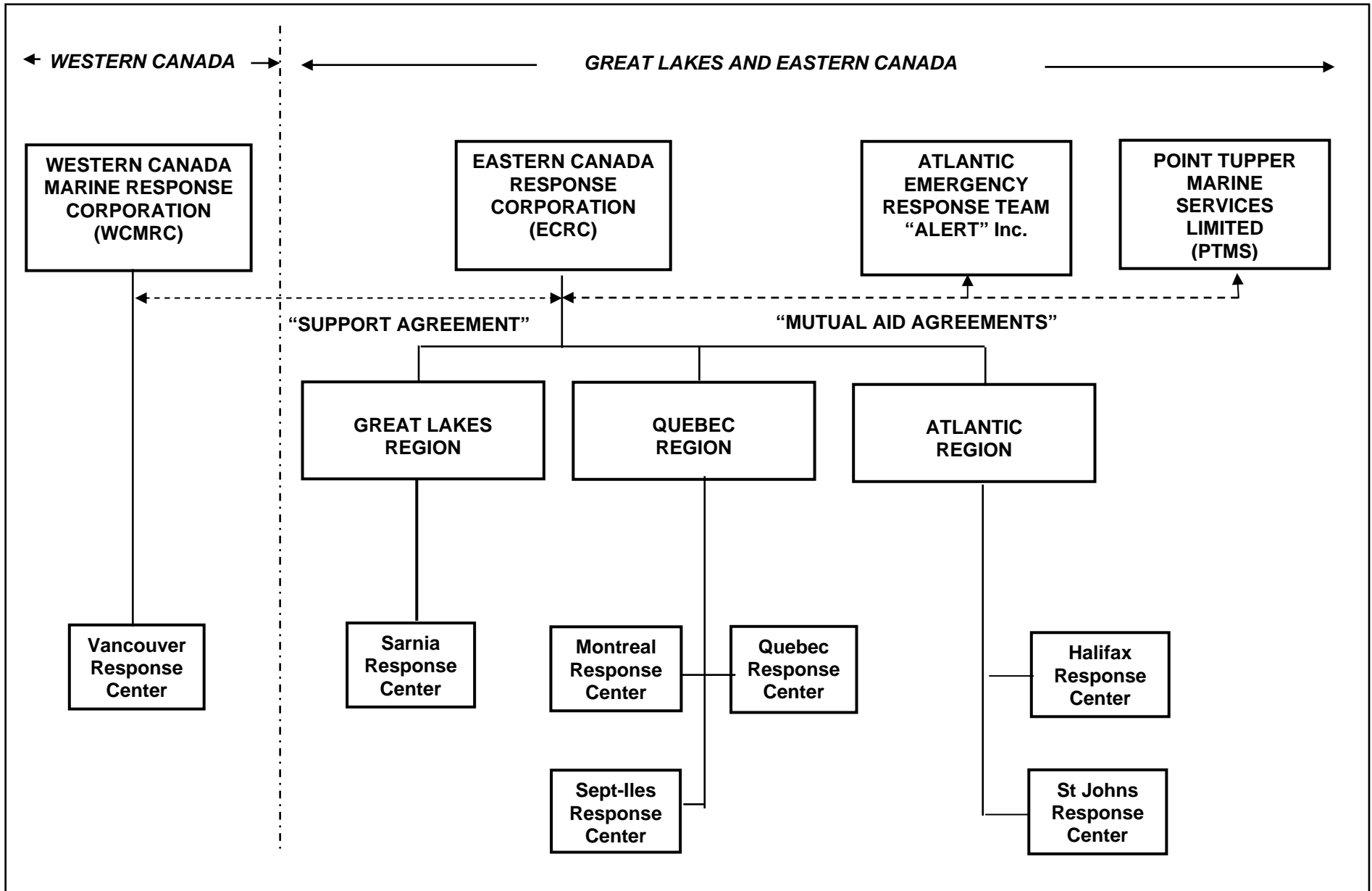
### **4.2 Response Capability**

The subject RO's are linked together where appropriate through support and mutual aid agreements to supplement the resources of each other if required during a major marine oil spill.

### **4.3 Response Organization Network**

A chart showing the response organization network is provided at the end of this section.

**NETWORK OF RESPONSE ORGANIZATIONS**



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## **SECTION FIVE– RESPONSE CAPABILITY**

### **5.1 Response Organization Standards**

The CCG has established regulations and related standards for use by a response organization in the preparation of its response plan. Regulations cover details with respect to definition of response areas, response capabilities, response times, operating environments and equipment operating characteristics and requirements.

### **5.2 Response Areas**

The following response areas have been established in the Standards.

#### **5.2.1 Designated Port**

Designated ports normally have over 500,000 tonnes of oil loaded or unloaded per year, are impacted by vessel traffic density and convergence and have the necessary infrastructure to support an oil spill response center.

#### **5.2.2 Primary Area of Response (PAR)**

Areas adjacent to designated ports that require a specific level of response capability within designated times.

#### **5.2.3 Enhanced Response Area (ERA)**

Those geographic areas of Canada's marine regions that are not covered in other designations but that hold an increased risk of oil spills due to traffic convergence and number of vessel movements and require a specific level of response capability within designated times.

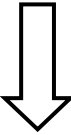
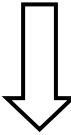
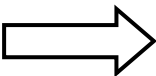
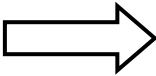
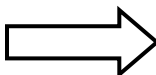
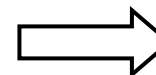
### **5.3 Tiered Response**

The Standards require a Tiered response within a specific time frame with resources appropriate to the operating environment. The table in Item 5.5 details the requirements of the Tiered response for each of the response areas.

### **5.4 Cascading of Resources**

RO's maintain response resources within designated ports to meet Tier 1 and Tier 2 requirements. The requirements for Tier 3 and Tier 4 responses may be achieved by cascading equipment from within the response organization and if applicable from Mutual Aid Partners.

### 5.5 Requirements for a Tiered Response

Area Type	Tier 1 150 Tonnes	Tier 2 1,000 Tonnes	Tier 3 2,500 Tonnes	Tier 4 10,000 Tonnes
Inside Port Boundary	Deployed on-scene in the affected operating environments (dedicated resident equipment)  <i>(within 6 hours after notification of a spill)</i>	Deployed on-scene in the affected operating environments  <i>(within 12 hours after notification of a spill)</i>		
Inside PAR/ERA			Delivered on-scene to the affected operating environments  <i>(within 18 hours after notification of a spill)</i>	Delivered on-scene to the affected operating environments  <i>(within 72 hours after notification of a spill)</i>
Outside PAR/ERA			Delivered on-scene to the affected operating environments  <i>(within 18 hours after notification of a spill plus travel time at an average travel speed* from nearest PAR/ERA)</i>	Delivered on-scene to the affected operating environments  <i>(within 72 hours after notification of a spill plus travel time at an average travel speed* from nearest PAR/ERA)</i>

- Average travel speed for planning purposes is 65 km/hours by land, 100 knots by air and 6 knots by sea. from closest PAR/ERA



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## SECTION SIX - RESPONSE PLANS

### **6.1 Introduction**

RO's are required to file for certification, a response plan that conforms to the regulations respecting the procedures, equipment and resources for use with respect to a spill of a specified quantity of oil in the geographic area for which they are requesting certification. In some cases RO's will supplement this plan with detailed area response plans.

### **6.2 Response Plan (Certification)**

The content of the Response Plan for certification is left to the discretion of the response organization. However the plan must demonstrate that the response organization has the resources and capability to respond to a spill of the size and within the geographic area for which it is requesting certification. A table of contents for a typical response plan for certification is shown in Figure 6.1.

### **6.3 Area Response Plan**

Area response plans will normally be developed over time. The plans will be detailed and relate to the various elements in the area such as resources, sensitivities, accessibility, services, etc. A table of contents for a typical area response plan is shown in Figure 6.2.

**Figure 6.1****TYPICAL RESPONSE PLAN FOR CERTIFICATION****TABLE OF CONTENTS**

- 1.0 GENERAL INFORMATION
  - 1.1 Introduction
  - 1.2 Spill Management
  - 1.3 Reference Documents & Submission Development
- 2.0 NOTIFICATION
  - 2.1 Introduction
  - 2.2 Notification Procedures
- 3.0 EQUIPMENT & RESOURCES
  - 3.1 General
  - 3.2 Communications
- 4.0 RECOVERED MATERIALS STORAGE & TRANSPORTATION
  - 4.1 Introduction
  - 4.2 Unsheltered Water Storage Strategy
  - 4.3 Sheltered Water Storage Strategy
  - 4.4 Recovered Materials Management
- 5.0 RESPONSE STRATEGIES
  - 5.1 Introduction
  - 5.2 Protection of Sensitive Areas/Resources
  - 5.3 Response Time Standards
  - 5.4 Tier 1 Designated Port Planning Requirements
  - 5.5 Tier 2 Port Planning Requirements
  - 5.6 Tiers 3 & 4 PAR & ERA Planning Requirements
  - 5.7 Unsheltered On-Water Recovery
  - 5.8 Sheltered On-Water Recovery
  - 5.9 Other On-Water Strategies
  - 5.10 Countermeasures Requiring Approval
  - 5.11 Shoreline Treatment
  - 5.12 Response Support
  - 5.13 24 Hour On-Water Operations
  - 5.14 12 Hour On-Water Operations
  - 5.15 Volunteers

**Figure 6.1 (continued)****DESIGNATED PORTS**

- 6.1 Introduction
- 6.2 Designated Ports, Primary Areas of Response and Enhanced Response Areas
- 6.3 Operating Environments
- 6.4 Dedicated Equipment

**7.0 EXERCISE PROGRAM**

- 7.1 Exercise Program Principles
- 7.2 Exercise Safety Policies
- 7.3 Exercise Program Outline
- 7.4 Exercise Program Evaluation and Documentation

**8.0 TRAINING**

- 8.1 Introduction
- 8.2 Response Personnel Training
- 8.3 Training Records
- 8.4 Permanent ECRC employees

**9.0 WILDLIFE**

- 9.1 Introduction
- 9.2 Roles and Responsibilities
- 9.3 Wildlife Management Summary
- 9.4 Wildlife Contractor Listings
- 9.5 Health & Safety

**10.0 HEALTH & SAFETY/ LOSS CONTROL PROGRAM**

- 10.1 Introduction
- 10.2 Loss Control Program
- 10.3 Health & Safety during day-to-day activities, exercises and training
- 10.4 Health & Safety during a response
- 10.5 Site control

**11.0 GLOSSARY**

- 11.1 Abbreviations
- 11.2 Definitions

**Figure 6.2**

<b>TYPICAL AREA RESPONSE PLAN</b>	
<b>TABLE OF CONTENTS</b>	
<b>1.0</b>	<b>Introduction</b>
1.1	Purpose
1.2	Distribution
1.3	Plan Revisions and Update Process
1.4	Areas
1.5	Description of Area
1.5.1	Oil Handling Facilities
1.5.2	Area Activity
1.5.3	Operating Environments
1.5.4	Operating Requirements
<b>2.0</b>	<b>Incident Evaluation and Response Plan Activation</b>
2.1	Regional Standard Operating Procedures
2.2	Evaluation and Assessment
2.3	Plan Activation Check List
2.4	Standard Operating Procedures Verification
<b>3.0</b>	<b>Personnel Mobilization</b>
3.1	Response Organization Personnel
3.2	Other Response Organization Personnel
3.3	Contractor Personnel
3.3.1	Operators
3.3.2	Short Term Hire
3.4	Consultants
3.4.1	Local
3.4.2	Regional
3.4.3	National
3.4.4	International
<b>4.0</b>	<b>Equipment Mobilization</b>
4.1	Minimum Equipment to meet Standards
4.2	Sweep Systems (Unsheltered Water)
4.3	Mobile Skimming (Sheltered Water)
4.4	Skimmers
4.5	Storage
4.6	Boom (Protection and Containment)
4.7	Shoreline Trailers
4.8	Work Boats

**Figures 6.2 (Continued)**

- 5.0 Operations Centers**
  - 5.1 List of Sites
  - 5.2 Site Specific Data
- 6.0 Staging Areas**
  - 6.1 List of Staging Areas
  - 6.2 Area Specific Data
- 7.0 Launch Sites**
  - 7.1 List of Sites
    - 7.1.1 Ramps
    - 7.1.2 Docks (Lift in)
  - 7.2 Site Specific Data
    - 7.2.1 Ramps
    - 7.2.2 Docks (Lift in)
- 8.0 Mobile Field Operations Center (Trailer) Sites**
  - 8.1 List of Sites
  - 8.2 Site Specific Data
- 9.0 Communications**
  - 9.1 List of Sites
  - 9.2 Site Specific Data
- 10.0 Decontamination Sites**
  - 10.1 List of Sites
  - 10.2 Site Specific Data
- 11.0 Medical Services**
  - 11.1 List (With Address)
- 12.0 Accommodations**
  - 12.1 List of Accommodations
  - 12.2 Site Specific Data
- 13.0 Resources/Services**
  - 13.1 Maintenance Sites
  - 13.2 Helicopter Landing Sites
  - 13.3 13.3 Pay Telephones
- 14.0 Sensitivities**
- 15.0 General Map References**
- 16.0 Field Mission Forms**
- 17.0 Field Support Forms**

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## **SECTION SEVEN – RESPONSE MANAGEMENT**

### **7.1 Introduction**

Resources brought to the scene of a marine oil spill are scaled to the magnitude and threat of the incident. Similarly, the management structure required to direct marine oil spill response operations would also be scaled appropriately. For small spills, the response may entail only local personnel and agency representatives. Larger spills may require a cascading of equipment and resources to the response. Response to a large spill may entail several organizations that must work cooperatively and productively to provide an effective and efficient response.

### **7.2 Responsible Party**

The Responsible Party (the party accepting liability for the incident) is responsible for the overall response. As such, the Responsible Party may appoint an On Scene Commander (OSC), establish an incident management process, activate the response organization, provide the Canadian Coast Guard with a plan of action, proceed with implementation of the plan of action and provide ongoing status reports.

### **7.3 Canadian Coast Guard (CCG)**

The CCG, as Federal Monitoring Officer (FMO), has responsibilities that include monitoring response operations undertaken by the Responsible Party. If a Responsible Party is unidentified, unable or unwilling to conduct an effective response operation, then the CCG may take over the management of the response in the On Scene Commander role and function. In this case the response organization is available to provide marine oil spill response services under contract to the CCG.

### **7.4 Regional Environmental Emergency Team (REET)**

Environment Canada has established a number of regional environmental emergency teams to provide consolidated technical advice during environmental emergencies including marine oil spills. REET members include representatives of federal and provincial agencies, municipalities and native groups. In the case of marine oil spills the consolidated technical advice is provided to the CCG in their role as Federal Monitoring Officer or OSC. REET is also available to advise and assist the industry OSC and spill response team and provide advice to the RO for preparedness planning that is carried out on an on going basis.

### **7.5 Response Organization**

Once a response organization is requested to provide a response, its Spill Management Team (SMT) will be activated. The SMT is structured to ensure that the objectives and priorities established by the On Scene Commander are communicated to and acted upon by the response organization. The five key functions of a SMT are Spill Management, Operations, Logistics, Finance and Planning. A typical SMT organization is shown in the overall functional management chart for a 10,000 tonne incident provided in Figure 7.1.

The SMT understands the need for the establishment and maintenance of direct lines of communications among and between the levels of the team. This is accomplished through a clear chain of command ensuring the rapid exchange of information and taking the operational decisions needed to promote the safe, efficient, and effective delivery of spill response services. A typical Spill Management System (SMS) is show in Figures 7.2 and 7.3.

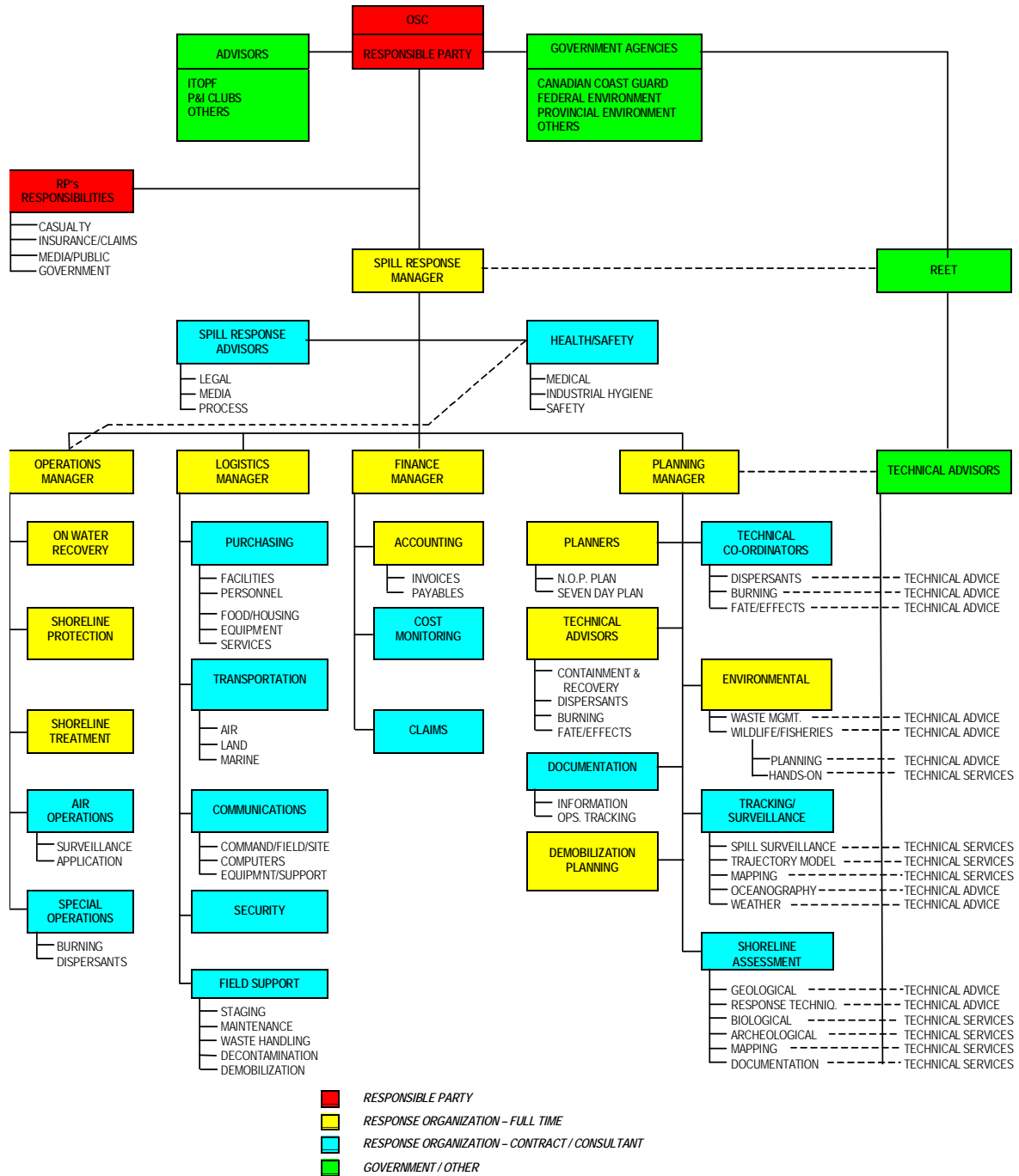


At the outset of any incident, all SMT response functions are initially vested in the Spill Response Manager. (In a small spill, the Spill Response Manager might be the only management responder.) When the Spill Response Manager identifies the need for help, one or more Function Managers can be activated. When a Function Manager is activated, that Function Manager is expected to carry out all functional responsibilities until additional help is needed. A Function Manager can activate one or more managers, supervisors and advisors to his function.

The Spill Response Manager and Function Managers have access to consultants and advisors who are recognized experts in the area of response operation services. The Spill Response Manager will evaluate and address SMT needs on an ongoing basis. This may result in the activation, continued use or deactivation of response personnel and equipment.

**Figure 7.1**

OVERALL FUNCTIONAL MANAGEMENT  
10,000 TONNE INCIDENT



**Figure 7.2**  
**TYPICAL SPILL MANAGEMENT SYSTEM**

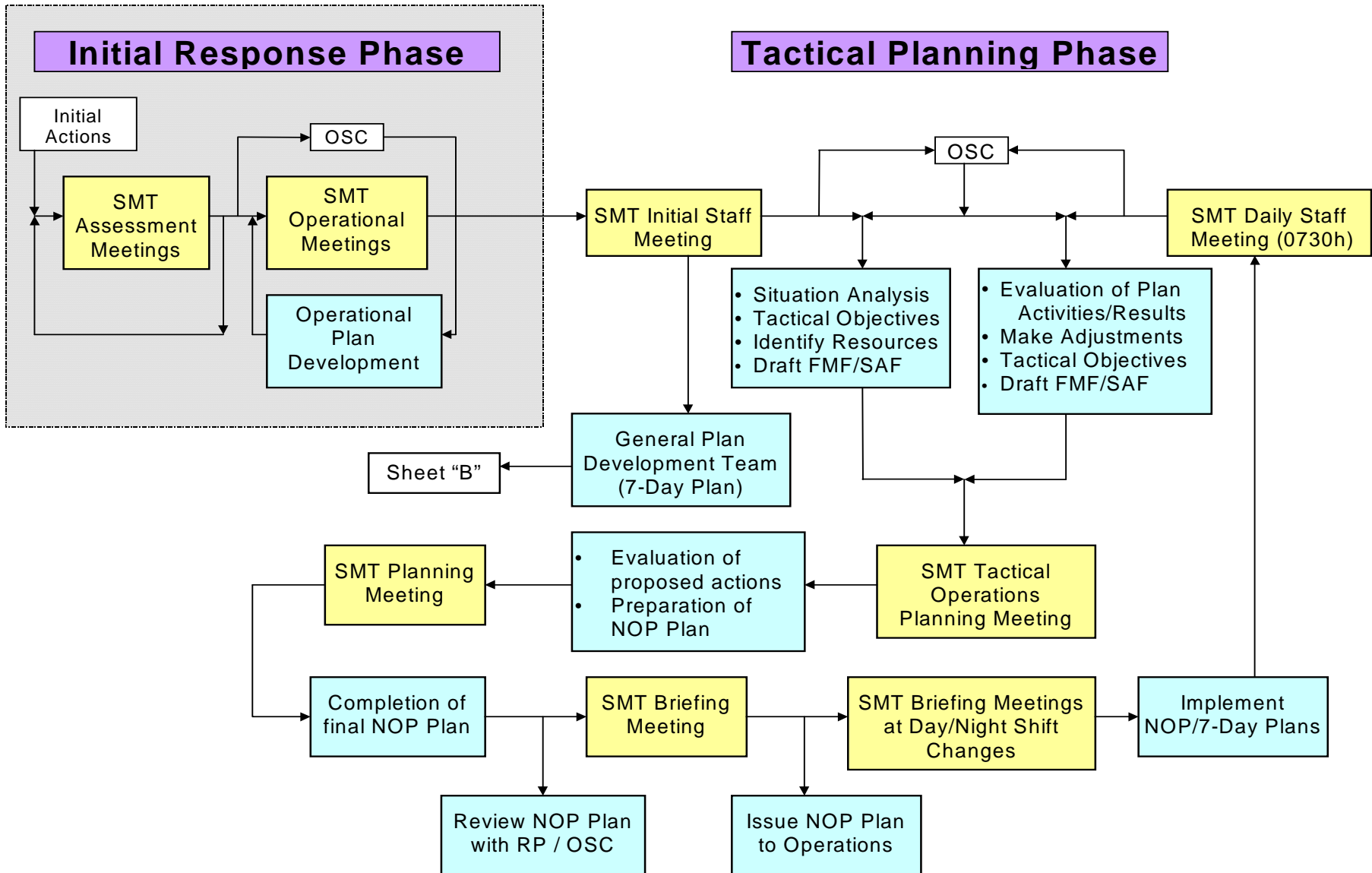
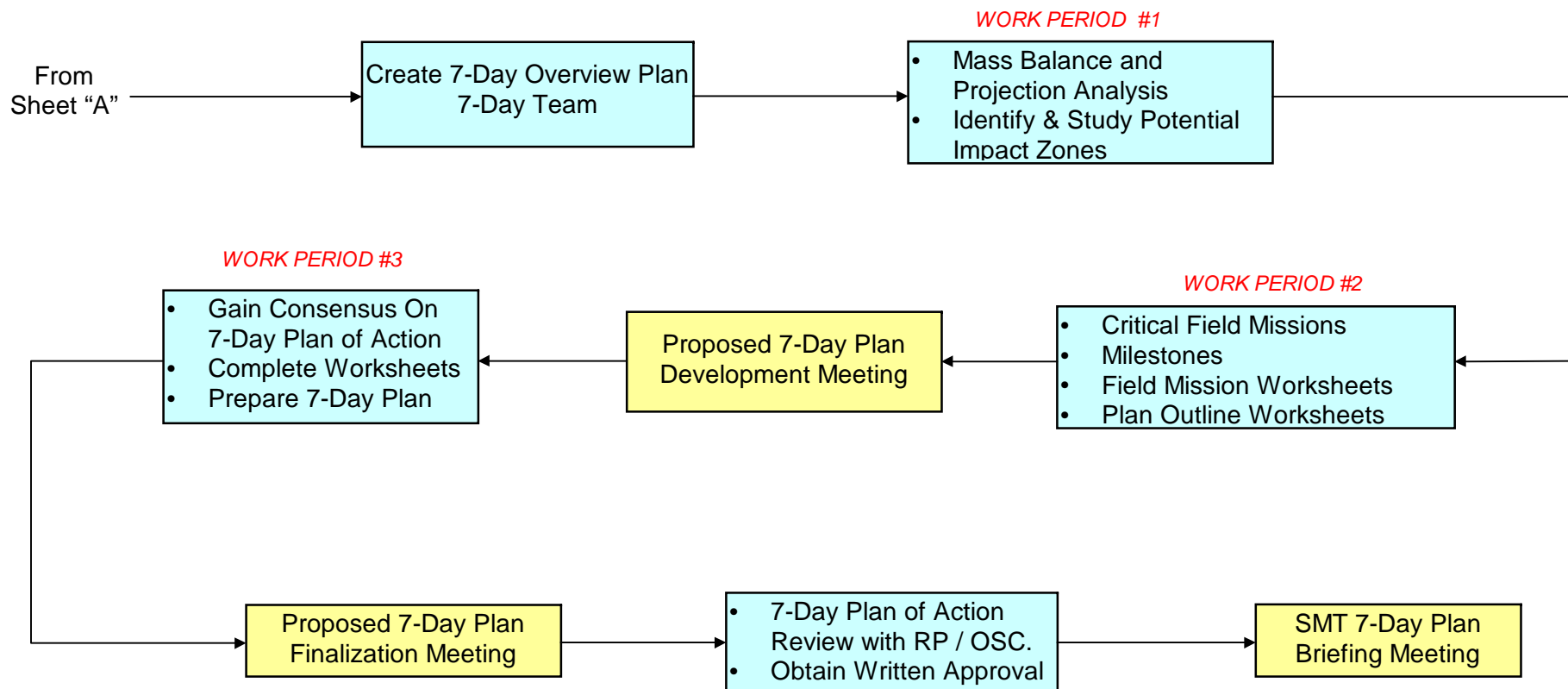


Figure 7.3

# TYPICAL SPILL MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

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## Strategic Planning Phase



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## **SECTION EIGHT – TRAINING AND EXERCISE PROGRAM**

### **8.1 General**

Well-trained people are essential for successful implementation of a response organization's spill response plan. Exercises evaluate the effectiveness of the training and to test the readiness and capability of the response organization. In addition to maintaining familiarity with all aspects of the response plan, the training and exercise programs are intended to provide members of the Spill Management Team with the knowledge, skills and practical experience necessary to achieve safe and effective spill response operations in concert with Federal, Provincial, local authorities and Industry.

### **8.2 Training Programs**

To ensure trained spill response personnel are readily available, RO's develop and implement training programs. The programs are highly focused to ensure that response personnel understand what is expected of them and are qualified to perform the role that they would normally be assigned. Training programs are divided into categories related to the skills and knowledge required for the particular response functions. Typical examples are provided below.

#### **8.2.1 Management**

Spill response personnel who provide all components of operational management functions, including support roles.

##### **8.2.1.1 Permanent Employees**

Normally manage the key operational functions of the oil spill response.

##### **8.2.1.2 Advisors**

Provide specialized response expertise and/or fill management roles on the Spill Management Team according to the needs identified for each response. Advisors are pre-screened and selected for their particular skills. Advisors receive orientation training individually or through their participation in exercises. If they are expected to work in the field, they will receive basic health and safety training at the time they are engaged.

##### **8.2.1.3 Support**

Provide expertise not specific to oil spill response but support the activities of the SMT (e.g. transportation, housing, security, etc.). They are expected to know their areas of expertise intimately, and require only basic orientation.

#### **8.2.2 Trained Responders**

Trained responders are spill response personnel, usually from a local contractor, that have been trained in the use of the response organization's spill response equipment. Since the stability and local availability of the work force varies, a redundancy factor is normally used to ensure an adequate supply of trained responders are available at the time of a spill. Training is provided for the specific job function that the individual is expected to fill and refresher training is provided at appropriate intervals. This process allows the response organization to have the necessary personnel with the proper mix of skills to implement the required response strategies.

### 8.2.3 Short Notice Hires

Short Notice Hires are response personnel who are hired at the time of the incident to perform basic response functions that do not require specialized spill response skills (e.g. shoreline workers). One or more of the prime contractors on site will contract their services. Training is specific to the tasks they will perform and will be provided by the response contractor.

### 8.3 Trained Response Personnel

Response organizations carry out continuous training programs to ensure that an adequate number of trained responders are available at the time of a spill. The following table shows the number of trained personnel that WCMRC and ECRC currently have available.

	<u>Trained Response Personnel</u>	
	<u>*Spill Management</u>	<u>Spill Responders</u>
WCMRC	45	926
ECRC	150	540

\* Includes Permanent employees plus contract Advisors and Support personnel

### 8.4 Exercise Program

The objective of the program is to provide real-time exercises that will:

- Evaluate the operational capability of the response organization equipment, management and trained spill responders.
- Further the training of response organization personnel, advisors and spill responders.
- Identify areas for improvement within the spill management system, training programs and response protocols

Exercises will always include the evaluation of one or more response functions. Over a three-year cycle all aspects of the plan submitted for certification will be tested in at least one exercise.

### 8.5 Types of Exercises

Exercise types and objectives are provided below.

#### 8.5.1 Notification Exercise

Designed to test the notification system and activation procedures to ensure members of the response organization have uninterrupted access to Marine Spill Response Services 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Time to complete the exercise is normally 30-60 minutes.

#### 8.5.2 Tier I Exercise - 150 tonne Equipment Deployment

Designed to demonstrate the initial response capability, for a defined scenario, of the response organization's spill management team and its spill response contractors and personnel. Will normally include the deployment of a representative quantity of initial spill response equipment. Time to complete the exercise is normally 4-8 hours.

### **8.5.3 Tier II Exercise – 1000 tonne Table Top Simulation**

Designed to demonstrate a managed response to the operating environments in the area of the exercise scenario. Will involve the notification and activation of spill response personnel, establishment of a fully functioning operations center and completion of the first operational plan. Time to complete the exercise is normally 8-12 hours.

### **8.5.4 Tier III Exercise – 2500 tonne Exercise**

Designed to demonstrate that the response organization can establish a management team and identify the necessary resources to respond to a significant marine oil spill. Time to complete the exercise is normally 8 hours including debriefing.

### **8.5.5 Tier IV Exercise – 10,000 tonne Table Top Exercise**

Designed to demonstrate that the response organization can establish a management team and identify the necessary resources to respond to a significant marine oil spill. Time to complete the exercise is normally 18-24 hours including debriefing.



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**SECTION NINE – CERTIFICATION****9.1 Requirement**

A response organization must be certified in order that it can enter into an arrangement with ships and oil handling facilities that are required to do so under the CSA. The purpose of the certification is to ensure that the response organization conforms to the applicable regulations in the CSA.

**9.2 Procedure for Certification**

The Minister may, in respect of any geographic area and in respect of a specified quantity of oil, issue a certificate of designation as a response organization to a person or body that makes an application and submits to the Minister;

- (a) a response plan that conforms to the regulations respecting the procedures, equipment and resources for use with respect to a spill of a specified quantity of oil in the geographic area; and
- (b) a declaration that confirms that the procedures, equipment and resources referred to in the response plan are available to the person or body in conformity with the regulations.

**9.3 Term of Certification**

The term of certification is three years.

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**SECTION TEN- GLOSSARY OF TERMS**

<b><i>Oil Pollution Incident</i></b>	An occurrence or series of occurrences having the same origin, which results or may result in a discharge of oil in water and which poses or may pose a threat to the marine environment.
<b><i>Response Organizations (RO)</i></b>	Any person or body in Canada certified by the Canadian Coast guard to provide a specified Rated Capability of marine oil spill response in a specified geographic area.
<b><i>Rated Capability</i></b>	Any organization seeking to be a Response Organization will be required to submit a Response Plan specifying the largest volume of oil to which it will be prepared to respond. this volume is the “Rated Capability” of the Response Organization.
<b><i>Geographic Area Of Response (GAR)</i></b>	The Response Organizations will identify in its Response Plan the boundaries of the geographic area within which it intends to offer its services. This area will be the Response Organization’s “Geographic Area of Response”.
<b><i>Primary Area Of Response (PAR)</i></b>	Those geographic areas of Canada’s marine regions associated with Designated Ports that require a specific level of response capability within designated times.
<b><i>Enhanced Response Area (ERA)</i></b>	Those geographic areas of Canada’s marine regions that are not covered in other designations but that hold a greater risk of oil spills due to traffic convergence and number of vessel movements and require a specific level of response capability within designated times.
<b><i>Command and Control</i></b>	The overall responsibility for the management of an incident. The party in command and control will be either the Polluter or the appropriate governmental lead agency, which in most cases will be the Canadian Coast Guard.
<b><i>Operational Management</i></b>	The operational and technical management of the Response Organization’s spill response resources to ensure proper and effective deployment and utilization of the resources, in accordance with the overall decisions and direction of the party in Command and Control.
<b><i>Mutual Aid Arrangement</i></b>	A contractual arrangement between two independent Response Organizations, whereby either party commits its resources to the use of the other party to achieve a planned response capability up to 10,000 tonnes. Such resources include both equipment and operational management.

## NOTE

Further information on the individual Marine Oil Spill Response Organizations in Canada may be obtained at the following addresses.

**Atlantic Emergency Response Team (“Alert”) Inc.**

P.O. Box 2353, Saint John, N.B. E2L 3V6  
Telephone (506) 632-4499 Facsimile (506) 632-4450

**Eastern Canada Marine Response Corporation Ltd.**

1201 – 275 Slater Street, Ottawa, Ontario K1P 5H9  
Telephone (613) 230-7369 Facsimile (613) 230-7344  
Web: [www.ecrc.ca](http://www.ecrc.ca)

**Point Tupper Marine Services Limited**

P.O. Box 316, Port Hastings, N.S. B0E 2V0  
Telephone (902) 625-3611 Facsimile (902) 625-1556

**Western Canada Marine Response Corporation**

P.O. Box 82070, (201 Kensington Ave) Burnaby, B.C. V5C 5P2  
Telephone (604) 294-6001 Facsimile (604) 294-6003  
Web: [www.burrardclean.com](http://www.burrardclean.com)