TASMANIAN OILED WILDLIFE RESPONSE PLAN

(WILDPLAN)

May 2006

Department of Primary Industries and Water
Biodiversity Conservation Branch

ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

BCB	Biodiversity Conservation Branch (branch within RMC, DPIW)
DPIW	Department of Primary Industries, and Water
DTAE	Department of Tourism, Arts and Environment
ICS	Incident Control System
OSRICS	Oil Spill Response Incident Control System
PWS	Parks and Wildlife Service (division of DTAE)
RMC	Resource Management and Conservation (division of DPIW)
TasPlan	Tasmanian Marine Oil Pollution Contingency Plan
WDC	Wildlife Division Commander
WPC	Wildlife Planning Coordinator
WildPlan	Tasmanian Oiled Wildlife Response Plan (i.e. this document)

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1. SHORT TITLE

The short title of this Plan is “WildPlan” and is used throughout this document.

1.2. AIM OF WILDPLAN

The aim of WildPlan is to outline the procedures, reporting structures, roles and guidelines for the rescue and rehabilitation of wildlife affected by an oil spill.

1.3. OBJECTIVES OF WILDPLAN

The objectives of WildPlan are to:

- Identify and outline operational procedures for the rescue and rehabilitation of oil-affected wildlife.
- Identify PWS and RMC personnel roles and responsibilities within a wildlife response structure.
- To identify resources and skill requirements to adequately respond to all levels of oil spills.

1.4. SCOPE OF WILDPLAN

WildPlan applies to the rescue and rehabilitation of oil-affected wildlife in Tasmanian State Waters and adjacent foreshores, including the sub-antarctic Macquarie Island. This plan should be implemented in conjunction with the Tasmanian Marine Oil Pollution Contingency Plan (TasPlan) and the Oil Spill Response Incident Control System (OSRICS) Handbook.

1.5. LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY

Relevant State legislation includes the *Nature Conservation Act 2002* and *the Wildlife Regulations 1999*, the *National Parks and Reserves Management Act 2002* and regulations, the *Threatened Species Protection Act 199*5 and regulations, and the *Whales Protection Act 1988.*
Relevant Commonwealth legislation includes the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999.*

2. POLICY AND PLANNING

2.1. RELATIONSHIP TO STATE AND NATIONAL PLANS

This plan has been developed to meet the Department of Primary Industries, Water's (DPIW) responsibilities with respect to wildlife. It operates within the framework of TasPlan and the National Plan to Combat Pollution of the Sea by Oil and Other Noxious and Hazardous Substances (National Plan). The implementation of WildPlan is the responsibility of the Biodiversity Conservation Branch, DPIW.

2.2. DIVISION OF RESPONSIBILITIES

TasPlan defines a range of response roles for responsible authorities, in the event of an oil spill:

- The Statutory Agency has statutory authority for the area in which the spill occurs.
- The Combat Agency has operational responsibility in accordance with the appropriate contingency plan, to take action to respond to marine oil pollution.
- DTAE, or the relevant Ports Corporation, is the Combat Agency with operational responsibility, in accordance with the appropriate contingency plan, to take action to respond to marine oil pollution.
- DPIW is responsible for the rescue, treatment and rehabilitation of wildlife.

2.3. ORGANISATIONAL ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

2.3.1. Environment Division, DTAE

Environment Division has the following functions:

- Provide a 24 hour service for the reporting of marine oil pollution.
- Ensure the provision of equipment and personnel resources in support of marine oil pollution response operations.
- Undertake investigations, sampling and prosecutions as required.

2.3.2. Biodiversity Conservation Branch, DPIW

The Biodiversity Conservation Branch (BCB), DPIW is responsible for an oiled wildlife response. However, in practice, BCB will receive significant assistance in responses to oiled wildlife from the Parks and Wildlife Service (PWS) in the Department of Tourism Arts and Environment.

BCB is responsible for:

- Activation of WildPlan
- Provision of specialist advice and recommendations to the State Marine Pollution Committee on wildlife management issues during a spill response.

- Ensuring appropriate level of expertise within BCB to enable activation of WildPlan at short notice.
- Appointment of a Wildlife Division Commander and the assembly of the operational structure for oiled wildlife rescue and rehabilitation under this position within the OSRICS structure.
- Appointment of a Wildlife Planning Coordinator and any other subordinate positions required to work under the Planning Officer in the OSRICS structure, to ensure that adequate wildlife technical information is incorporated into the preparation of incident action plans.

2.3.3. Parks and Wildlife Service (PWS), DTAE

The Parks and Wildlife Service is responsible for assisting with the management of the rescue and rehabilitation of oiled wildlife.

2.3.4. Marine Resources, DPIW

The Marine Resources section is to:

- Activate the Oil Spills Contingency Plan for Living Marine Resources.
- Provide a liaison officer, and other technical advisers as requested to the Incident Controller.

3. INCIDENT CONTROL SYSTEM

A major oil spill along the Tasmanian coastline will require resources from both within and without DPIW. The quantity of resources and personnel required will vary according to the severity and extent of the oil spill. Operation procedures may last anything from a few days to many weeks. Effective operations will require an organisational structure that is easily implemented with clearly defined roles.

The command structure and procedures used in WildPlan form functional modules within the OSRICS structure. OSRICS and WildPlan follow the Incident Control System (ICS) which is used by many emergency services, particularly for fire control.

Figure 1 indicates the organisational structure of the oiled wildlife rescue and rehabilitation response, as it fits within the OSRICS. Refer to OSRICS for full details on the other functional areas.

The principles of the Incident Control System are as follows:

- The Wildlife Division Commander will be the first position established within the oiled wildlife rescue and rehabilitation structure.
- The positions are filled from the top down as necessary with every officer responsible for performing the functions of any subordinate positions unfilled.
- Each person is responsible for assessing the need for personnel and equipment to undertake their responsibilities and advising their supervisor accordingly.
- To avoid excessive fatigue, overloading and subsequent poor performance, each officer should not have more than seven groups or individuals (preferably five) reporting directly to them and should delegate accordingly.

If more than six rescue Team Leaders are required, then the structure of the rescue section under the Rescue Sector Commander will be as indicated in Figure 2.

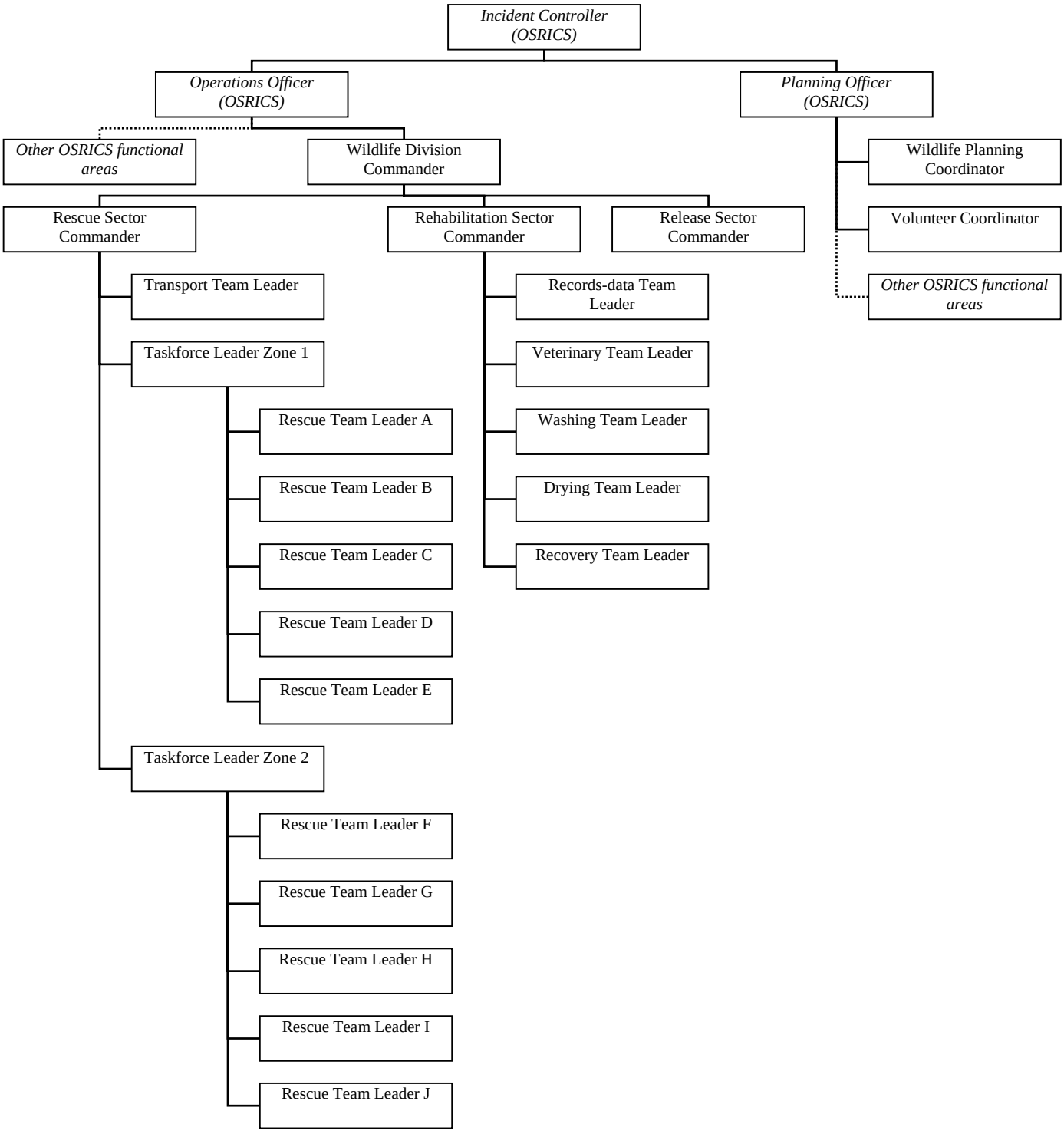

Figure 1 Structure of oiled wildlife rescue and rehabilitation functions within OSRICS. If six or less rescue teams are in operation then Rescue Team Leaders can report directly to the Rescue Sector Commander and therefore Taskforce Leaders will not be required.

3.1. KEY WILDPLAN ROLES

3.1.1. Wildlife Division Commander

The Wildlife Division Commander (WDC) is responsible for the overall coordination of resources and the implementation of strategies in accordance with this plan. The role of Wildlife Division Commander is undertaken by the first person assessing the report of a spill and this is passed on to the most appropriate person according to the outcome of the assessment.

If the spill is small the WDC will take on as many roles as necessary. A specialist WDC will be appointed where the oil spill affects more than a small number of wildlife. In this circumstance the WDC will be a BCB officer with the following expertise:

- experience in oiled wildlife response;
- specific knowledge of the ecology and distribution of the affected wildlife;
- knowledge of hazing, pro-active capture, treatment and rehabilitation of wildlife affected by oil; and
- an active network of national and international expertise relating to oiled wildlife.

Section 8 has Job Cards for the position of Wildlife Division Commander and subordinate positions.

3.1.2. Wildlife Planning Coordinator

The Wildlife Planning Coordinator (WPC) reports to the Planning Officer in the Planning Section of OSRICS (Figure 1). The Planning Section is responsible for the collection, analysis and dissemination of incident information; ongoing assessment and predictions of the extent and severity of the spill and the resources required; the allocation and management of human resources; the collection and reporting of scientific data; and the preparation of Incident Action Plans.

The WPC is responsible for ensuring that information and knowledge on wildlife is integrated into the situation analyses and Incident Action Plans prepared by the Planning Section. This is a critical link in ensuring that the rescue and release of oiled wildlife is as efficient as possible, with minimal loss of animals, least redundant effort by the oiled wildlife teams, and is fully integrated with efforts to contain and clean up the oil spill.

Section 8 has the Job Card for the position of Wildlife Planning Coordinator.

4. OPERATIONS AND PROCEDURES

4.1. NOTIFICATION AND CALL OUT MECHANISM

Section 4.1 of TasPlan outlines the notification procedure for reporting an oil spill incident. The most likely scenario is that either the State Oil Pollution Control Officer or Executive Officer, State Marine Pollution Committee will advise Manager, Biodiversity Conservation Branch of the occurrence of an oil spill. Alternatively local PWS staff may initiate the call.

4.2. RESCUE AND REHABILITATION - INTRODUCTION

The rescue and rehabilitation of oiled birds is well described by in a field manual published in 2004 (Rescue and Rehabilitation of oiled birds - E. Walraven). This manual should be consulted for comprehensive guidelines in the rescue, transport, treatment and release of affected wildlife.

Oil affects wildlife in two many ways. Habitat contamination can have long term impacts. For individuals, oil has both internal and external effects:

- ingestion causing toxic poisoning, and
- external effects that destroy waterproofing and insulation.

Seabirds are particularly vulnerable as the oil destroys their insulation making them susceptible to temperature variations. Rescue, transport and rehabilitation procedures should aim to minimise both these effects as much as possible.

Operational objectives are to:

- Search onshore and offshore areas for affected wildlife.
- Rescue, treat and successfully rehabilitate as many animals as possible.
- Give priority treatment to threatened species.
- Discourage unaffected wildlife from entering affected areas.
- Treat affected wildlife humanely and minimise suffering.
- Return to the wild as many animals as possible.
- Monitor the survival of rehabilitated wildlife post release.

4.3. RESCUE

All search and rescue procedures will be overseen by the Rescue Sector Commander.

It is essential to record all information throughout the operations of an oil spill. This covers monitoring the effects of the spill, facilitating release, assessing the success of cleaning techniques and providing guidelines for future spills.

4.3.1. On-shore search and collection

Search operations should be undertaken in teams. Rescue Team Leaders should be PWS or BCB staff members with local knowledge.

Team:
- At least one experienced bird handler
- Record keeper.

Anyone handling wildlife must have training. Some birds, including Little Penguins, can be rescued using custom made raceways. These raceways are constructed at the site of access runways where penguins traditionally access their breeding colonies. Large numbers of oiled birds can potentially be rescued by appropriate use of raceways. These fences and corrals can be simply constructed using mesh fences and pickets. Raceways must not be left open when unattended.

Each team should be allocated a search area. The names of each team member should be recorded and submitted to the Rescue Sector Commander through the Taskforce Leader (if these positions are active in the structure). The Rescue Sector Commander is responsible for ensuring that the Resource Unit in the Planning Section is regularly updated on details of all teams, including names of team members, shift times and their locations.

4.3.2. Rescue and Rehabilitation

- Each group should be provided with lined waxed boxes or pet packs, ponchos, communication and OH&S equipment.
- Birds should be placed one bird to each box where possible. Some species such as the Little Penguins may be able to have 2-3 birds to a box.
- Oiled birds must not be boxed with non-oiled birds.
- Each box should be labelled clearly with the data and location found.
- Dead wildlife should also be collected. (Dead birds may be tagged as a group if found at the same location.)
- Care should be taken where wildlife is collected from oiled areas not to spread oil to other areas.

For detailed rescue techniques refer to the supplement to Rescue and Rehabilitation of Oiled Birds (Walraven, 2004).

4.3.3. Marine mammals

Marine mammals should be approached with caution and should only be moved or captured by BCB officers with experience with marine mammals.

4.3.4. Off-shore searching

Where boats are used to collect wildlife from the water there should be a minimum of two people in each boat - one driver and one handler. Affected wildlife should be lifted from the water using dip nets for small birds and by hand for larger birds.

4.3.5. Transport

The Transport Team Leader is responsible for the supervision of all marine and road transport.

Affected wildlife is to be transported in Departmental vehicles where possible, however if necessary the RSPCA may be able to provide transport vehicles. Birds need to be kept in well lined and ventilated boxes without allowing them to get too hot or too cold. Ideally birds are transported at 25°C-28°C, and should be checked if prolonged passage.

4.4. REHABILITATION

The Rehabilitation Sector Commander is responsible for the management of rehabilitation operations. Teams for each of the areas should be established. Each team should be made up of a team leader, and operations staff. There should be at least one nominated record keeper in each team.

The Rehabilitation Sector Commander is responsible for ensuring that the Resource Unit in the Planning Section is regularly updated on details of all teams, including names of team members, shift times and their locations.

4.4.1. Rehabilitation Centre

A Rehabilitation Centre will need to be established to provide facilities to band, wash, dry, feed, swim and house oil affected wildlife. Where large numbers of wildlife are affected the centre may have to be maintained for several weeks so it is important that the location used can meet all operational requirements.

The requirements for a rehabilitation centre are:

- Large covered working area
- Secure
- Hot water facilities
- Water and waste disposal facilities
- Power
- Large outside area
- Available for extended periods
- Staff amenities

4.4.2. Tagging and Banding

The Records-data Team Leader is responsible for the tagging and banding of birds. The Records-data Team Leader must be a qualified Australian Bird and Bat Banding Scheme ABBBS bird bander.

Team:
- Banders/handlers
- Record keepers

Ideally, all oiled wildlife are tagged or banded. This shall enable individual identification in both the short term (temporary bands) and long term (metal bands or implanted transponders). All wildlife brought to the Rehabilitation Centre should be marked prior to being treated. The Australian Bird and Bat Banding Scheme can be contacted to provide bands through an appropriate A-class bander. Temporary leg bands are available from rural supply outlets. Note: there is a moratorium on use of metal bands on penguins. This may be reviewed following publication of data pertaining to the influence bands on survival rates.

Records and data must be tracked to monitor progress of individuals, determine survival rates, evaluate wildlife response, and inform ICS and media. Critical records include those pertaining to:

- Individual patient details
- Data sheets recording numbers on individuals and species

Contents of these data sheets are provided in the Rescue and Rehabilitation of Oiled Birds Field Manual (Walraven 2004). Data should be transferred to computerised data systems. The National Plan Oiled Wildlife Records Database has been developed and is can be down loaded at the oiled wildlife pages of the AMSA website: http:/www.amsa.gov.au

Minimum initial patient details should include:

- Species
- Condition
- Oil Coverage
- Location and date found
- Age (Adult or juvenile)
- Transport details
- Band or tag number

Patient records must be maintained so that individuals can be tracked through the treatment procedures to monitor treatment and condition. It is particularly important for quarantine purposes.

4.4.3. Triage and Treatment

An assessment and veterinary team should be established at the Rehabilitation Centre. The Veterinary Team Leader is responsible for managing this team and should be a senior veterinarian.

Team:
- Wildlife specialist for predominant species
- Vet for pathology and autopsies

- Support veterinarians
- Veterinary nurses
- Records person

Triage

Wildlife will need to be assessed as to whether rehabilitation is suitable. Initial assessment may be done on-site or at the Rehabilitation Centre depending on the distances involved. Wildlife should be assessed on the basis of physical condition and conservation significance. Assessment should be undertaken by a veterinarian in conjunction with a BCB representative.

Assessment Categories

Priority One.	Endangered or rare species, and/or Individuals with best chance of survival.
Priority Two.	Common species and/or Individuals with less survival chances
Priority Three.	Animals with least survival chance

Initial first aid procedures are outlined in the Field Manual for Rescue and Rehabilitation of Oiled birds (Walraven 2004).

Veterinary Treatment

The Veterinary Team will require a secure, covered and well lit area for treatment of wildlife. Veterinary supplies need to be kept in a secure location. Veterinary protocols should be established in order to ensure continuity of procedures following change over of veterinary teams.

4.4.4. Washing

The Washing Team Leader must be an experienced person in washing oil affected wildlife e.g Phillip Island Nature Park penguin staff, experienced zoo keepers, or trained PWS/BCB employee.

Team:
- Trained staff
- Record keeper

DivoPlusV2 is the recommended detergent. *BioSolve* and *Dawn* could substitute as alternatives. Detergent providers are listed in the Section 6.

For washing and drying procedures see Rescue and Rehabilitation of Oiled Birds (Walraven, 2004).

Washing operations should be established in a building or secure tent with plenty of readily available hot water, provision for removing contaminated water, good lighting and in close proximity to the drying facilities and veterinary team.

4.4.5. Drying

The Drying Team Leader must be a trained staff member or experienced zoo keeper.

Team:
- Trained staff
- Record keeper.

Drying operations will need to be undertaken in a well protected area, i.e. a building with provision to maintain a constant temperature. Large pens can be established using plywood, absorbent paper and heating devices allowing for birds to move towards or away from the heat as necessary.

4.4.6. Recovery

A number of husbandry and feeding teams should be established. The Recovery Team Leader should be a zoo keeper, veterinarian or trained wildlife officer.

Team:
- Staff, trained 'assisted feeders' and handlers
- Record keepers.

Enclosures

Wildlife may have to be maintained for several weeks; therefore it is important that a large secure area is established where individual enclosures can be set up. The enclosures should provide heated, covered areas, wading pools and outside runs. The type of housing provided for the birds will depend on the species affected.

Large, nervous flight birds will need to be kept in large, protected enclosures and kept dark. Smaller non-flight birds, e.g. penguins, can be kept in smaller enclosures that must be predator proof. Raptors if affected should be transported to appropriate as soon as possible.

Accredited zoo facilities may be able to provide long term rehabilitation for small numbers of wildlife.

Food

The food required will depend on affected species and availability. Fish feeders such as penguins, cormorants, terns, shearwaters and pelicans will need to be supplied with fish (fresh where possible) of an appropriate size and caloric content. A comprehensive dietary guide and feeding methodology is provided in (Walraven, 2004). It is essential to monitor and record the food intake of all patients, especially free feeding birds. Animals in poor condition may need to be tube fed, and some species may also require force feeding until used to taking food in captivity.

4.5. RELEASE

The Release Sector Commander must have experience in recovery assessment, e.g. wildlife specialist, zoo keeper or trained staff member.

Team:
- Trained staff
- Record keepers.

Release options and strategies will be decided by BCB wildlife specialists with experience in oiled wildlife release and knowledge specific to the affected species. Depending on the affected species it will likely be necessary to establish large swimming areas to assess the suitability of birds for release. Wildlife should not be released until cleared by a personnel experienced in release criteria assessment. All animals must pass assessments of several criteria, such as sufficient waterproofing, ability to maintain body temperature, regained salt tolerance (seabirds), correct weight, and pass a final veterinary check.

Ideally, wildlife should be released as close to the site of capture as possible, provided that the site is free from oil. Other considerations include presence and condition of appropriate habitat; the time of year (with respect to stage of breeding and migratory stages); and the availability of food.

4.6. DECEASED WILDLIFE

All dead wildlife should be tagged, the relevant data recorded and retained for autopsy.

Carcasses should be offered to the Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery (TMAG) for curation. Should TMAG decline the offer of carcases other Museums may express and interest in carcase curation.

4.7. POST-RELEASE MONITORING

Post-release monitoring is essential for assessing rescue and rehabilitation techniques and monitoring long and short term impacts of the spill on the wildlife and coastal habitats. Post-release monitoring must be established immediately and run through the course of the wildlife response and for a period to be determined after the wildlife response efforts have been completed. Post-release monitoring of penguins rehabilitated after the Iron Baron oil spill continued for two years after the oil spill incident.

Monitoring will be coordinated by the BCB (DPIW) and funding should be sought from the responsible organisation.

Monitoring should include:

- Monitoring of affected flora and fauna communities.
- Monitoring of survival and productivity of rehabilitated fauna.
- Assessment of mortality levels.
- Fish and marine invertebrate surveys.

- Sediment analysis.
- Water quality analysis.

4.7.1. Specialist Assistance

Oiled wildlife specialists, veterinarians, zoo personnel and veterinary nurses will be essential for assisting with the rehabilitation of wildlife for the duration of the rehabilitation process. Veterinarians will provide initial assessment of affected wildlife, determine priorities for treatment, administer veterinary treatment and conduct pathology tests and autopsies.

Zoo personnel will be essential for their husbandry skills in the rehabilitation process. Organisations such as Taronga and Melbourne Zoos, Healesville Sanctuary, Phillip Island Nature Park and the RSPCA have veterinarians and keepers with the necessary skills and experience in treating oiled wildlife the, and will likely be able to provide training and guidance in all aspects of the rehabilitation process.

Wildlife staff from other State Government organisations should also be requested to assist if required.

These organisations should be contacted immediately to determine whether staff will be available and for what periods of time.

4.7.2. On-site Training

DTAE and DPIW personnel involved in the collection and treatment of oiled wildlife and who have not already received training must receive on-site induction before any involvement. This is to prevent injury to both the animals and the people handling them. It is preferable that only experienced people handle wildlife.

On-site induction should include:

- A written and demonstrated description of handling and cleaning techniques.
- Providing each person with a written brief which covers safety, legal requirements and the importance of recording all data.

4.8. MEDIA

- All media inquiries must be directed to the Media Liaison Officer (see OSRICS).
- The media should be given controlled access to the rehabilitation centre, e.g. through set briefing times.
- Access by the media to photograph injured wildlife should be approved by the authorised media spokesperson. Media should not be allowed on-site unless accompanied by a Media Officer.
- No flashlights are to be used when photographing wildlife
- The welfare of the wildlife is not to be compromised by the presence of the media.
- The community should be kept informed through media articles or public display.
- Information supplied to the media should include:

- Wildlife at risk and numbers affected (known and projected) so far.
- An indication of which areas are being affected.
- DPIW role in the cleaning and rehabilitation of wildlife
- A request for the public to stay away from the area and reasons why - i.e. danger to the public and further injury to wildlife. This should be undertaken through Tasmania Police.
- A request for the media aircraft to keep clear of the area and why - i.e. flushing non-oiled birds into oil-affected areas
- Contact number for sightings of injured wildlife.

4.9. SAFETY

Hygiene

When large numbers of birds or other animals are confined there is a strong risk of the spread of infection not only amongst the wildlife but also to humans. This includes contamination with the Salmonella spp. bacteria, or Ornithosis, a disease that can be spread from birds to humans working with birds in confined spaces.

Procedures for disinfecting clothing and equipment must be set up and followed. Portable toilets and bathrooms should be provided with an appropriate disinfectant and disinfecting procedures established for catering areas. Footbaths filled with disinfectant should be set up outside buildings housing wildlife, and masks and gloves should be provided to all people handling wildlife in the rehabilitation process.

If potentially dangerous bacteria e.g. Salmonella spp. is present, quarantine areas must be established and strict procedures put in place.

Chemicals

Personnel may be required to handle wildlife covered in hazardous material (e.g. fuel oils). Personal injury resulting from handling wildlife affected by these materials may range from skin irritations to burns and eye injuries, and may occur through absorption through the skin, inhalation of fumes or ingestion.

Details of the chemical or chemicals involved in the spill should be obtained as soon as possible. Data sheets may be obtained from the company involved, or DPIW, and any particular safety requirements associated with these chemicals must be undertaken.

All enclosed working areas should have adequate ventilation and anyone handling oil affected wildlife should be provided with appropriate safety equipment.

Handling Wildlife

Handling wildlife, particularly some seabirds such as swans, herons and darters, is extremely dangerous and should only be undertaken by experienced persons. All wildlife should be treated with caution, particularly when in a stressed state.

NO-ONE WITHOUT TRAINING IS TO HANDLE WILDLIFE .

This is to prevent injuries to both people and wildlife.

Personnel should be briefed on correct handling procedures and any potential hazards such as the chemicals involved and the location of the wildlife. Anyone handling wildlife should have had a tetanus booster within the last ten years and if required a doctor should be called to the site to administer tetanus injections.

Safety Equipment

In order to comply with Occupational Health and Safety requirements personnel must be provided with the necessary safety equipment.

- Goggles or face shield
- Gloves
- Long sleeves
- Non-slip shoes and water resistant clothing should be worn at all times.

Other

General safety on site should be maintained through a regular safety audit.

Issues may include:

- emergency exits and evacuation procedures;
- location of heating, gas and fuels;
- provision of fire extinguishers and first-aid kits;
- lighting;
- children on site.

4.10. TRAINING

Training in the handling and treating oil-affected wildlife and the handling of hazardous substances needs to be undertaken by all persons likely to play key roles in the event of an oil spill. Training is essential for the handling and treatment of oiled seabirds or marine mammals as it can be dangerous to both the handler and the animal if undertaken by inexperienced persons.

Lack of training particularly with respect to Incident Control System, makes effective implementation of rescue and rehabilitation procedures very difficult. Training should be provided to all DPIW and DTAE staff likely to be involved in the rescue and rehabilitation procedures as well as to those organisations likely to be called on the event of a spill.

All DPIW and DTAE personnel potentially involved in the implementation of this plan should be made familiar with:

- the contents of the plan;
- Incident Control System;
- the roles and responsibilities they may be required to undertake;

- wildlife handling techniques;
- washing, drying and husbandry techniques;
- record keeping;
- the role of other agencies;

safety considerations.

4.11. COST RECOVERY

4.11.1. Responsibility

The Solicitor General of Tasmania has advised that under the Pollution of Waters by Oil and Noxious Substances Act 1987 (section 38 of the Act) costs incurred on behalf of the Crown for the rescue and rehabilitation of wildlife, which has been adversely impacted by pollutants such as oil from a shipping incident, would be recoverable.

4.11.2. Documentation

In order to support all claims for reimbursement, DPIW and DTAE must maintain an accurate record of all activities and the costs incurred. This will not only help with the cost recovery but is essential for effective prosecution of responsible parties. It will be necessary to obtain approval from the Tasmanian Marine Pollution Committee prior to incurring expenses for high cost items or in major oil spill incidents.

The records kept must be very detailed and should include:

- log books for vehicles;
- accurate records of staff hours and personal expenses;
- record of hours for personnel and expenses;
- records of all equipment and supplies;
- clear documentation on all activities;
- log of activities kept by all officers;
- photographs.

4.11.3. Charge Codes

The Wildlife Division Commander will issue charge codes to be used for the duration of the response.

4.12. PLANNING RESOURCES - OSRA

The Tasmanian Oil Spill Response Atlas (OSRA) is available for use during an oil spill response. The OSRA is compiled utilising Geographic Information Systems (GIS) and stored in digital format. Maps may also be produced in hard copy form. The OSRA allows oil spill response planners to access information about the coastal environment to assist in decision making. There are a number of themes relating to wildlife held on the OSRA.

OSRA will be managed by the Planning Section within OSRICS.

4.13. RESCUE AND REHABILITATION EQUIPMENT

The following is a list of suggested equipment. Some of the equipment and veterinary supplies will be available as stored kits from AMOSC at Geelong. The remainder of the equipment should be purchased from local suppliers where possible. Veterinary equipment should not be purchased without consulting specialist staff. See Section 7 for Tasmanian Oiled Wildlife Kits.

Safety Equipment

Waterproof jackets and pants
Rubber boots
Rubber gloves
Safety goggles
Face masks
First aid kit
Communications

General Equipment

Maps
Photographic equipment
Hessian on a roll
Torches/spotlights
Garbage bags
Sokerol
Waterproof tape
Pens/pencils
Waterproof markers
Scissors
Sunscreen
PERISHABLES
Habitol - disinfectant (hands)
Microcide - disinfectant (surfaces)

Rescue Equipment

Fencing equipment to construct raceways
Isolation (prohibited area) tape
Pet packs or waxed boxes collapsible
Paper lining for boxes
Penguin jumpers
5-metre roll T-shirt material for ponchos
Torches
Thermometers
Record and data log sheets
Pencils and permanent markers

Rehabilitation Equipment

Patient record sheets

Benches/trestles
Scales
Disposable gloves
Absorbent paper - 4 mm x 1 m roll
High pressure nozzles for taps
Nally bins or large wash basins
Buckets
Oral rehydration solutions
Enteric coating agents
Feeding tubes
Sterile saline
Camp stove and pots
Dual control heaters - gas/electric
Detergent - LOC Amway
Vernier callipers
Rubber matting
Clothing rags
1 metre tomato stakes
Canvas tents
Tarpaulins
Black shade cloth 100 m roll
Builders heavy duty plastic 100 m
Room thermometers
Scrubbing brushes
Rake and shovel
Hose reel and connections
Plastic water trays
Basic tool kit
Nails/tacks
Nylon rope
Torch

5. REFERENCES

Department of Natural Resources and Environment, Victoria 1997, Wildlife Response Plan for Oil Spills

Department of Primary Industries, Water and Environment 2003, Tasmanian Whale Stranding Handbook and Directory

Department of Primary Industries, Water and Environment 2001, Tasmanian Marine Oil Pollution Contingency Plan

Walraven, E. 2004. Field Manual for Rescue and Rehabilitation of Oiled Birds published by :Australian Government, Australian Maritime Safety Authority

6. CONTACT DETAILS

Emergency Services

Emergency Rescue		000	
Marine Police		6230 2475	
	Stanley	6458 2010	0408 144 059 (Duty Officer)
	Hobart	6230 2463	0418 125 138
	Launceston	0417 541 645	0408 133 881
	St Helen's	63761122	0419 591 121
	Sorrel	6265 4950	0407 866 987
State Emergency Service		6230 2828	(Duty Officer)
Police Radio Room		6230 2111	24 hours

VICTORIA
Department of Sustainability and Environment
PO Box 500, East Melbourne VIC 3002
Ph (03) 9412 4011

- Phillip Island Penguin Reserve 03 5956 8300 (W) 03 5952 1857 (AH)
  Peter Dann, Director
  Phillip Island Nature Park, P.O. Box 97 Cowes 3922
  Website: www.penguins.org.au
- Melbourne Zoo 03 9285 9300

NEW SOUTH WALES
National Parks and Wildlife Division of the Department of Environment and Conservation
PO Box 1967 Hurstville NSW 2220
Ph (02) 9585 6444

- Taronga Zoo reception - 02 99692777,
- Zoo security- 0417 299 450
  Pager 02 99253911 pager number 299011 and leave a message
- Erna Wahaven, (wk) 02 99784609, (ah) 02 98073558
  Expert@TarongaZoo

7. OILED WILDLIFE KITS

7.1. TASMANIAN KITS

Identical wildlife rescue kits are held at the Hobart and Launceston DPIW offices. Each kit comprises four 1.8 m long labelled bins. Each kit weighs up to 100kg. Four people or a forklift are needed to move each bin entirely but the contents can be removed. Each bin is padlocked and all locks have the same master key, held by the administrative officers at each storage point (Launceston 63365286 and Hobart 62 336556) by BCB staff appointed as contact officers under this plan. The contents of each bin is as follows:

Bin 1 - General equipment

Plastic apron	1	Scourers	2
Garbage bags	20	Electric kettle	1
Power board	1	Heavy tarpaulin	1
Extension cord	1	Paper towel rolls	10
Scrubbing brush	1	Solvol	20
Tea Towels	6	Jiff	1
Wash cloth	1	Soap	5
Disposable overalls	12	Pencils	10
Recording sheets	500	Hammer	1
Gumboots	5	Tarpaulin(3.5x5.5m)	1
Field manual	1	Oiled-birds handouts	24
Paper towel rolls	10		

Bin 2 - Washing equipment

Rubber gloves	50	Hair dryer	2
Sponge	3	Wet weather gear	6
Plastic aprons	6	Spray bottle	2
Wash cloth	2	Toothbrush	25
Safety goggles	5	Detergent (Sunlight)	2
Wash basins	6	Wash buckets	10
Scissors	1	Disposable overalls	18
Fan heater	1	Bath thermometer	11
Towels	8 kg	Pet bowls	6

Bin 3 - Wildlife equipment

Plastic bags (A4)	50	Garbage bags	20
Sokerol absorbent cleaner	1	Disposable overalls	6
Rubber gloves	20	Leather gloves	2
Dolphin torch,	2	Dolphin batteries	2
Wash basin	1	Pliers	2
Disposable overalls	6	Notebook	2
Pencils, biro(pkt)	2	Marker pen	5
Detergent (Sunlight)	1	10 litre water container	3
Nails 500 g Staples (kg)	2		

Bin 4 - Veterinary equipment

First aid kit	1	Scalpel handle	2
Hypodermic needle (19,21, 23, 25g)	400	Stethoscope	2

Hypodermic syringe (2,5, 10, 50ml)	340	Surgical scissors	2
Sharps container	2		
Scalpel blade	100	Tweezers	2
Glass slides	50	Toilet roll	12
Face masks	100	Plastic containers	17
Examination gloves	50	Safety spectacles	5
Cotton applicator	600	Gauze swabs (pkt)	1
Plastic tubing (3, 5, 8 mm)	3	Activated charcoal	500 g
Max/min t'meter	1		

Bin 5 - Field equipment

Pet packs	20	Wash basin	1
Wash cloths (bag)	1	Hessian roll (50 m)	1
Star pickets	10	Garden stakes	20
Tie wire (500 m)	1	Spade	1
Sun shelter tent	1	Scoop net	1
Wire netting (100 m)	1		

7.2. AMOSC OILED FAUNA KIT

Contents of Australian Marine Oil Spill Centre oiled fauna kit held at Geelong, Victoria.

Aluminium Container AMOSC ID No. G330-01

Length: 1500 mm
Width: 1200 mm
Height: 1100 mm
Weight: To be determined

In Container

Case Number	Item	Supplier Code
1	Veterinary Supplies: Syringes 50 ml x 100	A
2	Veterinary Supplies: Syringes 10 ml x 200	A
3	Veterinary Supplies: Syringes - 2.5 ml x 100 Syringes - 10 ml x 10 Needles- l9gx 100 Needles - 21 g x 100 Needles - 23 g x 100 Needles - 25 g x 100	A
4	Veterinary Supplies: Syringes - 2.5 ml x 100 Syringes - 5 ml x 200	A
5	Veterinary Supplies: Syringes - 30 ml x 100	A
Case Number	**Item**	**Supplier Code**

6	Veterinary Supplies: Syringes - 2.5 ml x 100 Compound - Sodium Lactate x 5 1 Nose Stomach Tube - 2100 x 9 mm x5	A
7	Veterinary Supplies: Lethabarb - 500 ml x 2 (to be used by; (Veterinarian only) Formalin 10% - 500 ml x 2 Lubricating Gel - 42 g x 4 tubes Fecal Flotation Solution - 100 ml x I Latycin Eye Ointment - 5g x 4 Handle for Surgical Blades x 2 Tweezers x 5 Scissors x 3 Stethoscope x 4 Bone Cutter pliers X 1 Test strips x 50	A
8	Veterinary Supplies: Specimen sterile containers - 70 ml x 300	A
9	Veterinary Supplies: Refractometer x 1 Gauze Swabs - 100/pack x 10 Amies Trans Swabs x 100	A
10	Veterinary Supplies: Feeding Tubes - 5 fg x 50 Feeding Tubes-8fgxSO Feeding Tubes - 8 fg x 50 Feeding Tubes – 10 fg x 50	A
11	Veterinary Supplies: Iovone Solution - 2.5 1 x 2 Antiseptic Fly Repella - Sog x 10 Microscope Slides - 50/box x 2	A
12	Veterinary Supplies: Winged Infusion Set - 25g x x 200 Surgical Gloves - Size 61/2 x 40 Surgical Gloves - Size 8 x 40 Fecalyzer Kit - 50/pack x 1 Stomach Tubes x 5 Empty Plastic Bottle – 1L x 7	A
13	Veterinary Supplies: Fecalyzer Kit - 50/pack x 12	A
14	Veterinary Supplies: Fecalyzer Kit - 50/pack x 7	A
15	Veterinary Supplies: Lectade - 250 ml x 12 Surgical Gloves - Size 7 1/2 x 40 winged Infusion Set - 25g x x 100 Empty Plastic Bottles – 1L x 7	A
16	Hessian Bags x 50 Riggers Glovers x 24 Disposable Coveralls - L x 4 Disposable Coveralls - M x 3 Disposable Coveralls - S x3	C
17	Combination Light x 2 Flashlight x 2 Drycell Battery Chargers x 1	C/D

	Drycell tIDfI Batteries x 8 DrvceIl ~D" Rechargeable Batteries x 6	
18	Gumboots - Size 8 x 1 Gumboots - Size 9 x 2 Gumboots - Size 10 x 2 Waders x 2 Wet Weather Jacket and Pants - Size XXL x 1 Wet Weather Jacket and Pants - Size XL x 2 Wet Weather Jacket and Pants - Size L x 2 Wet Weather Jacket and Pants - Size M x 1 Safety Goggles x 6 Safety Glasses x 4	C
19	MaslririgTape-48mmx2 Maskirig Tape - 38 mm x 2 Masking Tape - 24 mm x 2 Pencils x 20 Plastic Self-sealing bags - AS (S) - 100 Plastic Self-sealing bags - A4 (M) - 100 Plastic Self-sealing bags - A3 ~) - 100 Permanent Markers, Black x 5 Plastic Adhesive Tape - 125 cm Dermex Protective Barrier Cream - 500 g x 1 Cable Tiers - 202 mm x 100/pack x 3 Cable Tiers - 300 mm x 100/pack x I	D/E
20	Tent Frame	C
21	Tent Canvas/Family Tent – 305 x 240 cm & Canopy	C
22	Bird Cages x 50	B
23	Bird Cages x 50	B
24	Readacrit Centrifuge x 1	A
25	Amacin E+E Ointment – 12/pack x 4 x 4	A
Loose	Bird Catching Nets on 5 ft long stick x 4 Plastic Heavy Duty Tarpaulin - 365 x 487 cm x 3 Heavy Duty Garbage Bags - 81 x 75 cmx 15 Stand-up Garbage Bags - 75 x 75 cm x 15 Drawtight Garbage Bags - 90 x 63 cm x 40 Roll of Hygienic paper Towels - 110 sheets x 6 Toilet Rolls x 9	C/D
Loose	Laminated Field Manual, Rescue and Rehabilitation x S Booklet - Field Manual, Rescue and Rehabilitation x 4 Laminated Content List of Oil Fauna Kit x 2	

SUPPLIERS

A	Lyppard	
	2 Shearson Crescent	Phone (03) 9585 1600 (all Hours)
	Mentone VIC 3l94	Fax (03) 9585 1611
B	Cenvet	
	Unit B6, 2 Healey Road	Phone (03) 9794 0422
	Dandenong VIC	Fax (03)97940726

C Camping/Safety suppliers

D Supermarket

E Stationary supplier

Detergent Suppliers

DivoPlus V2 is recommended by Phillip Island Nature Park
DivoPlus V2
Diversey Lever
Locked Bag 61, Wetherill Park, NSW 2164
1800647 779

Alternatives:
BioSolve
Pacific Biosolve
PO Box 181
Cronulla NSW 2230
Ph: 02 9501 4922, 0419 223608

Dawn
Procter and Gamble
Available from Supermarkets

8. JOB CARDS

WILDLIFE DIVISION COMMANDER

POSITION:	Wildlife Division Commander
RESPONSIBLE TO:	Operations Officer
OBJECTIVES OF POSITION:	Co-ordinate the operations for the rescue and rehabilitation of oiled wildlife in accordance with Incident Action Plan
REQUIRED SKILLS AND KNOWLEDGE:	Emergency response management Expert in wildlife conservation and ecology

TASKS:

- Co-ordinate field operations for the rescue of oiled wildlife
- Establish one or more wildlife rehabilitation centres
- Co-ordinate wildlife exclusion programs
- Maintain an effective information and record register
- Reintroduce rehabilitated animals to the environment
- Establish parameter deployment of resources and scaling down or cessation of operations in accordance with Incident Action Plan

Responsibilities of the Wildlife Division Commander are:

- Obtain briefing from and liaise with the Operations Officer (OSRICS).
- Assess any reports of an oil spill or oiled wildlife.
- Activate this plan as necessary.
- Make and maintain contact with the General Manager PWS, General Manager RMC and Manager BCB.
- Identify an appropriate site for a rehabilitation centre based on the location and severity of the spill. Organise access to this site.
- Appoint appropriate personnel to the Rescue Sector Commander, Rehabilitation Sector Commander and Release Sector Commander positions. Brief these officers on information gained from the initial assessment.
- Liaise with the Planning and Logistics Sections on the spill situation and the availability of resources.
- Liaise with the Planning Officer and Wildlife Planning Coordinator to determine search areas.
- Set priorities for the allocation of resources in conjunction with the Wildlife Planning Coordinator.
- Ensure appropriate euthanasia and disposal of wildlife.
- Request resources fro rescue and rehabilitation operations through the Logistics Officer.
- Release resources as required.
- Authorise expenditure.

- Convey information for release to the media to the Media Liaison Officer (OSRICS).
- Establish daily briefings for staff.
- Coordinate staff activity and assess performance.
- Request copies of reports from each authority involved in the incident.
- Maintain a log of events and actions.
- Prepare a debriefing report.

WILDLIFE PLANNING COORDINATOR

POSITION:	Wildlife Planning Coordinator
RESPONSIBLE TO:	Planning Officer
OBJECTIVES OF POSITION:	Ensure the integration of knowledge on the rescue and rehabilitation of oiled wildlife into the Incident Action Plan
REQUIRED SKILLS AND KNOWLEDGE:	Emergency response management Expert in marine and coastal wildlife conservation and ecology

Responsibilities of the Wildlife Planning Coordinator are:

- Assist in interpreting reports of an oil spill or oiled wildlife.
- Assist Wildlife Division Commander in provision of accurate and expert knowledge of species impacts, potential extent of impact and broad scope of rescue, rehabilitation and release strategies.
- Provide liaison between the Operations Officer, WDC and the Planning Section and facilitate information flow.
- Provide expert knowledge on marine and coastal wildlife to the Planning Section, particularly the Situation Unit, Environment Unit and Response Planning Unit.
- Provide expert advise in strategy of hazing, pro-active capture and rescue
- Identify national and international areas of expertise in oiled wildlife response.
- Determine strategy for staged releases during the oil spill incident.
- Facilitate the coordination and synchronization of plans for wildlife rescue, wildlife release, shore clean up and oil spill containment.
- Assist with the preparation of the wildlife rescue, rehabilitation and release components of the Incident Action Plan.
- Determine strategy for releases post spill.
- Determine methodology and scope for post release monitoring program.
- Assist in securing funds for post release monitoring program.

RESCUE SECTOR COMMANDER

This officer deals with on-site coordination and management of the capture, initial first aid and transport of oiled wildlife.

The responsibilities of the Rescue Sector Commander are to:

- Obtain briefing from Wildlife Division Commander.
- Assess extent of resources required and request staff and equipment from Wildlife Division Commander.
- Determine search areas in conjunction with the Wildlife Division Commander and the Wildlife Planning Coordinator.
- Appoint experienced staff as Taskforce Leaders and Rescue Team Leaders and organise search teams.
- Organise offshore collection of wildlife.
- Establish initial assessment centres if necessary.
- Appoint Transport Team Leader and organise vehicles, boats, operators and drivers to transport wildlife from collection sites to rehabilitation centre.
- Ensure that all personnel including specialists have been registered and briefed and provided with on-site training.
- Coordinate veterinarians with respect tot he initial assessment of wildlife.
- Ensure all wildlife is tagged or banded and that accurate records of the location and destination of each animal are collected.
- Ensure the safety of personnel involved in the search and collection of wildlife.
- Submit reports to the Wildlife Division Commander.
- Maintain a log of events and actions.

REHABILITATION SECTOR COMMANDER

The Rehabilitation Sector Commander is responsible for managing the rehabilitation process for affected wildlife, including veterinary assessment, washing, drying, husbandry and release.

The responsibilities of the Rehabilitation Sector Commander are to:

- Obtain briefing from Wildlife Division Commander.
- Request access to establish an appropriate rehabilitation centre.
- Organise the functional set-up of the rehabilitation centre.
- Assess extent of facilities, equipment, staff and personnel required and allocate accordingly.
- Appoint team leaders, establish and manage teams of personnel for tagging, veterinary care, washing, drying and husbandry of affected wildlife.
- Authorise requests for equipment and materials as required from team leaders.
- Request assistance from veterinarians and keepers through the Wildlife Division Commander.
- Ensure that all personnel including specialists have been registered and briefed and provided with on-site training.
- Ensure that accurate records are kept for each individual animal at each treatment phase.
- Liaise with the Incident Safety Officer (OSRICS) to ensure the health and safety of staff and personnel involved.
- Advise Media Liaison Officer of permitted access for the media, through the Wildlife Division Coordinator.
- Coordinate closure and cleaning of treatment facilities.
- Ensure worlds best practice with respect to rehabilitation techniques
- Submit reports to Wildlife Division Commander.
- Maintain log of events, actions and staff involved.

INCIDENT SAFETY OFFICER (OSRICS)

The wildlife related responsibilities of the Incident Safety Officer (OSRICS) are to:

- Obtain chemical data sheets on chemicals involved in the spill.
- Obtain appropriate safety equipment and distribute to staff and other personnel.
- Contact St John Ambulance and request their assistance on site.
- Ensure that a Level 2 First Aid person is on site at all times when St. John's is not present.
- Arrange for First Aid Kits to be available at all locations.
- Ensure all accidents are reported and all injuries treated no matter how minor.
- Arrange for a Doctor to come on site to administer tetanus injections where necessary.
- Establish standard procedures to minimise the risk of the spread of infection from wildlife to people.
- Provide fire extinguishers to relevant areas within the Rehabilitation Centre.
- Develop a wildlife safety plan including:
    - site plans for each operational location;
    - contact numbers for local medical practitioners;
    - emergency contact numbers;
    - information on substances involved;
    - location of first aid kits and safety equipment;
    - names of qualified first-aid staff;
    - quarantine procedures;
    - hygiene procedures;
    - evacuation procedures;
    - safety procedures.
- Undertake regular safety audits.
- Maintain log of events and actions.
- Prepare and submit reports to the Incident Controller.

9. Animal Handling Protocols

INTRODUCTION

The Resource Management and Conservation Division (RMC) of the Department of Primary Industries, Water and Environment (DPIW) is committed to providing a safe and healthy working environment for all staff, contractors and other personnel. These protocols have been developed to assist in providing a safe work environment for live wild animal handling and trapping in Tasmania. They are to be used in conjunction with other occupational, health and safety protocols including:

Zoonoses and animal-based hazards (2nd Edition)
General field work
Working in remote and isolated areas
Marine wildlife response
Off-shore and island work
River and estuary work
Seal relocation

These protocols will be reviewed on a regular basis to take into account new hazards identified and/or new information regarding relevant work systems.

WILD ANIMAL HANDLING

All animal work should comply with the Australian code of practice for the care and use of animals for scientific purposes.

Training and Induction
All persons involved in the study, handling and care of animals should receive appropriate training and information regarding standard work practices, potential hazards and how to deal with them. They must also be familiar with procedures to be followed in an emergency or incident involving animals.

Staff with experience appropriate to the task should supervise new workers until they have demonstrated their ability to work with the animals without damage or stress to themselves or the animal. Training will comprise the following:

- declaration of any medical condition (e.g. allergies) the trainee or trainer may have that may increase animal handling risks;
- briefing on techniques, risks and emergency procedures;
- observation by trainee;
- supervised handling;
- clearance from trainer for handling without supervision;
- handling without supervision;
- monitoring and review.

Safety and Health Risks
The hazards associated with handling animals can be loosely placed into four major categories:

Physical injury
Physical injuries include bites, scratches, stings, blow or crushing by heavy animals. The risk of physical injury can be minimised by following correct handling procedures.

Zoonotic disease
Zoonotic diseases are those that can be transmitted from animals to humans. Although humans usually are not susceptible to infectious diseases suffered by animals, there are some important exceptions. Animals may have an infection with or without showing any signs of illness. There are some common sense steps that can be taken to lessen the risk of infection in general. These primarily relate to attention to personal hygiene and include: not eating or drinking or applying sunscreen, cosmetics or contact lenses around animals. Wear gloves wherever practical or if hands have broken skin. Always wash hands thoroughly after contact with animals.

Other Hazards
Other hazards not directly related to animals may also be present, such as manual handling and or the use of toxic chemicals. The location where the activity is undertaken may also increase the risk of injury. Protocols for these other hazards are located on the DPIW website.

Protective Clothing
Protective clothing and equipment plays an important role in preventing injury and infection when working with animals. Gloves, long sleeved trousers and shirts should be worn wherever practicable. Any broken skin must be fully protected while handling animals. Where there is risk to the eyes from animals, protective masks must be worn. All clothing and equipment should be washed after handling animals.

Vaccination
Vaccinations are available for some zoonotic diseases and where staff may be at risk. Vaccinations are available for tetanus and hepatitis.

RISK ASSESSMENT

The hazards and risks associated with handling wild animals are provided below. Control measures are provided to reduce the level of risk.

Hazards and Risks	Risk Score (A)	Control Measures	Risk Score (B)
Mammals- Large eg seals and whales			
Major injuries including bites, scratches, crushing and hits by tail fins.	C/3=H	All handlers must have experience appropriate to the task. Best practice procedures are to be followed. Persons without appropriate experience must receive training by a person with experience appropriate to the task prior to handling any animals. Training will comprise the following: (1) declaration of any medical condition (e.g. allergies) the trainee or trainer may have that may increase animal handling risks; (2) briefing on techniques, risks and emergency procedures; (3) observation by trainee; (4) supervised handling; (5) clearance from trainer for handling without supervision; (6) handling without supervision; (7) monitoring and review. The relevant stages of the Standing Order Handling Procedure must be completed before seal relocation is undertaken. Handlers should always be in the company of another person when working with large live mammals. Undertake basic hygiene measures (eg always wash hands properly immediately after handling animals). First aid kit required and must contain equipment appropriate for potential injuries. Flush, clean and disinfect wounds.	E/2=L

		Appropriate protective clothing must be worn. Protect all open cuts from contact with animals.	
Minor bites and scratches	B/2=H	All handlers must have experience appropriate to the task. Best practice procedures are to be followed. Persons without appropriate experience must receive training by a person with experience appropriate to the task prior to handling any animals. Training will comprise the following: (1) declaration of any medical condition (e.g. allergies) the trainee or trainer may have that may increase animal handling risks; (2) briefing on techniques, risks and emergency procedures; (3) observation by trainee; (4) supervised handling; (5) clearance from trainer for handling without supervision; (6) handling without supervision; (7) monitoring and review. Undertake basic hygiene measures (eg always wash hands properly immediately after handling animals). First aid kit required and must contain equipment appropriate for potential injuries. Flush, clean and disinfect wounds. Appropriate protective clothing must be worn. Protect all open cuts from contact with animals..	D/2=L
Infection	C/3=H	All handlers must have experience appropriate to the task. Best practice procedures are to be followed. Persons without appropriate experience must receive training by a person with experience appropriate to the task prior to handling any animals. Training will comprise the following: (1) declaration of any medical condition (e.g. allergies) the trainee or trainer may have that may increase animal handling risks; (2) briefing on techniques, risks and	E/2=L

		emergency procedures; (3) observation by trainee; (4) supervised handling; (5) clearance from trainer for handling without supervision; (6) handling without supervision; (7) monitoring and review. Undertake basic hygiene measures (eg always wash hands properly immediately after handling animals). First aid kit required and must contain equipment appropriate for potential injuries. Flush, clean and disinfect wounds. Appropriate protective clothing must be worn. Protect all open cuts from contact with animals.	
Mammals – Small eg Water Rats			
Minor bites and scratches	B/2=H	All handlers must have experience appropriate to the task. Best practice procedures are to be followed. Persons without appropriate experience must receive training by a person with experience appropriate to the task prior to handling any animals. Training will comprise the following: (1) declaration of any medical condition (e.g. allergies) the trainee or trainer may have that may increase animal handling risks; (2) briefing on techniques, risks and emergency procedures; (3) observation by trainee; (4) supervised handling; (5) clearance from trainer for handling without supervision; (6) handling without supervision; (7) monitoring and review. Undertake basic hygiene measures (eg always wash hands properly immediately after handling animals). First aid kit required and must contain equipment appropriate for potential injuries.	D/2=L

		Flush, clean and disinfect wounds. Appropriate protective clothing must be worn. Protect all open cuts from contact with animals.	
Infection	D/3=M	All handlers must have experience appropriate to the task. Best practice procedures are to be followed. Persons without appropriate experience must receive training by a person with experience appropriate to the task prior to handling any animals. Training will comprise the following: (1) declaration of any medical condition (e.g. allergies) the trainee or trainer may have that may increase animal handling risks; (2) briefing on techniques, risks and emergency procedures; (3) observation by trainee; (4) supervised handling; (5) clearance from trainer for handling without supervision; (6) handling without supervision; (7) monitoring and review. Undertake basic hygiene measures (eg always wash hands properly immediately after handling animals). First aid kit required and must contain equipment appropriate for potential injuries. Flush, clean and disinfect wounds. Appropriate protective clothing must be worn. Protect all open cuts from contact with animals.	E/3=M
Birds – Large marine species			
Major bites and scratches	C/3=H	All handlers must have experience appropriate to the task. Best practice procedures are to be followed. Persons without appropriate experience must receive training by a person with experience appropriate to the task prior to handling any animals. Training will comprise the	D/2=L

		following: (1) declaration of any medical condition (e.g. allergies) the trainee or trainer may have that may increase animal handling risks; (2) briefing on techniques, risks and emergency procedures; (3) observation by trainee; (4) supervised handling; (5) clearance from trainer for handling without supervision; (6) handling without supervision; (7) monitoring and review. Undertake basic hygiene measures (eg always wash hands properly immediately after handling animals). First aid kit required and must contain equipment appropriate for potential injuries. Flush, clean and disinfect wounds. Appropriate protective clothing must be worn. Protect all open cuts from contact with animals.	
Minor bites and scratches	B/2=H	All handlers must have experience appropriate to the task. Best practice procedures are to be followed. Persons without appropriate experience must receive training by a person with experience appropriate to the task prior to handling any animals. Training will comprise the following: (1) declaration of any medical condition (e.g. allergies) the trainee or trainer may have that may increase animal handling risks; (2) briefing on techniques, risks and emergency procedures; (3) observation by trainee; (4) supervised handling; (5) clearance from trainer for handling without supervision; (6) handling without supervision; (7) monitoring and review. Undertake basic hygiene measures (eg always wash hands properly immediately after handling animals).	D/2=L

		First aid kit required and must contain equipment appropriate for potential injuries. Flush, clean and disinfect wounds. Appropriate protective clothing must be worn. Protect all open cuts from contact with animals.	
Infection	C/3=H	All handlers must have experience appropriate to the task. Best practice procedures are to be followed. Persons without appropriate experience must receive training by a person with experience appropriate to the task prior to handling any animals. Training will comprise the following: (1) declaration of any medical condition (e.g. allergies) the trainee or trainer may have that may increase animal handling risks; (2) briefing on techniques, risks and emergency procedures; (3) observation by trainee; (4) supervised handling; (5) clearance from trainer for handling without supervision; (6) handling without supervision; (7) monitoring and review. Undertake basic hygiene measures (eg always wash hands properly immediately after handling animals). First aid kit required and must contain equipment appropriate for potential injuries. Flush, clean and disinfect wounds. Appropriate protective clothing must be worn. Protect all open cuts from contact with animals.	D/3=M

Approved:

…….
Responsible Officer

…….
Date