

**DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION  
AND LAND MANAGEMENT**

**METROPOLITAN REGION**

**OIL SPILL CONTINGENCY PLAN**

**SEPTEMBER 1989**

## METROPOLITAN REGION

## OIL SPILL CONTINGENCY PLAN

INTRODUCTION

The Metropolitan Region of the Department of Conservation and Land Management is responsible for the management of State Lands and Waters under its control and includes wetlands, conservation areas, marine parks and island reserves and is responsible for the maintenance and protection of the State's flora and fauna on lands and in waters.

CALM's management responsibilities are outlined in the Conservation and Land Management Act, 1984 and the Wildlife Conservation Act, 1950.

As a result of this management responsibility, any oil threat in State waters or wetlands is of a concern.

Recent case histories of oil spills in the Metropolitan Region have highlighted:

- i) lack of formal contact by the State Combat Committee with the Department, possibly due to the lack of understanding of CALM's responsibilities;
- ii) inaccuracy of intelligence;
- iii) an unclear understanding of the objectives of oil containment and clean-up; and
- iv) increased media and public interest.

This plan aims to address these concerns and to ensure CALM's formal involvement in clean-up liaison. It can be easily adapted to other regions.

## RESPONSIBILITIES

Of major concern to the Metropolitan Region are oil or chemical spills resulting in discharge into wetlands, aquatic environments or at sea.

CALM manages representative reserves of all habitats within the Metropolitan Region and is responsible for wildlife protection in all lands and waters.

Specifically, wetlands, marine parks, proposed marine parks, river reserves and island nature reserves with associated diverse fauna and flora are listed as Special Protection Localities specifically for conservation (DCE Bulletin 104).

The mobility of marine wildlife and importance of localised seagrass meadows would result in action by CALM in any spill at sea.

## THE ROLE OF CALM

The Department of Conservation and Land Management is responsible and well qualified to comment on values of wildlife and estate and therefore the listed objectives should not be carried out in isolation to the State Combat Committee, but in association with the Committee.

Generally, the role of CALM is not to direct or operate oil spill clean-up activities, however CALM would act in that manner to ensure its responsibilities as outlined in the CALM and Wildlife Conservation Acts.

The role of CALM is to:

1. ensure CALM staff are aware of Combat procedures through liaison and training;

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2. identify for the Combat Committee, the Special Protection localities managed by CALM;
3. identify specific marine wildlife concerns resulting from a spill;
4. gather intelligence and monitor oil spill movement and clean-up procedures;
5. carry out clean-up procedures on CALM Estate; and
6. instigate volunteer groups to aid in wildlife rehabilitation.

#### PROCEDURE

Often, CALM is not notified of oil spills in the vicinity of estate such as marine parks or island reserves. It is important that on any suggestion or discovery of a spill, that the State Combat Committee be contacted. The procedures adopted by CALM staff at recent spills have generally been those that occur when an initial fire report is received. The strategy behind the Large Fire Organisation (LFO) works well when applied to marine areas with reporting, intelligence, monitoring and liaison being major activities carried out by CALM Officers and resources.

#### FIRST STEPS

The summaries in the appendix outline the procedures to be adopted.

This Oil Spill Contingency Plan should allow for effective co-ordinated management of spills in or near CALM estate.

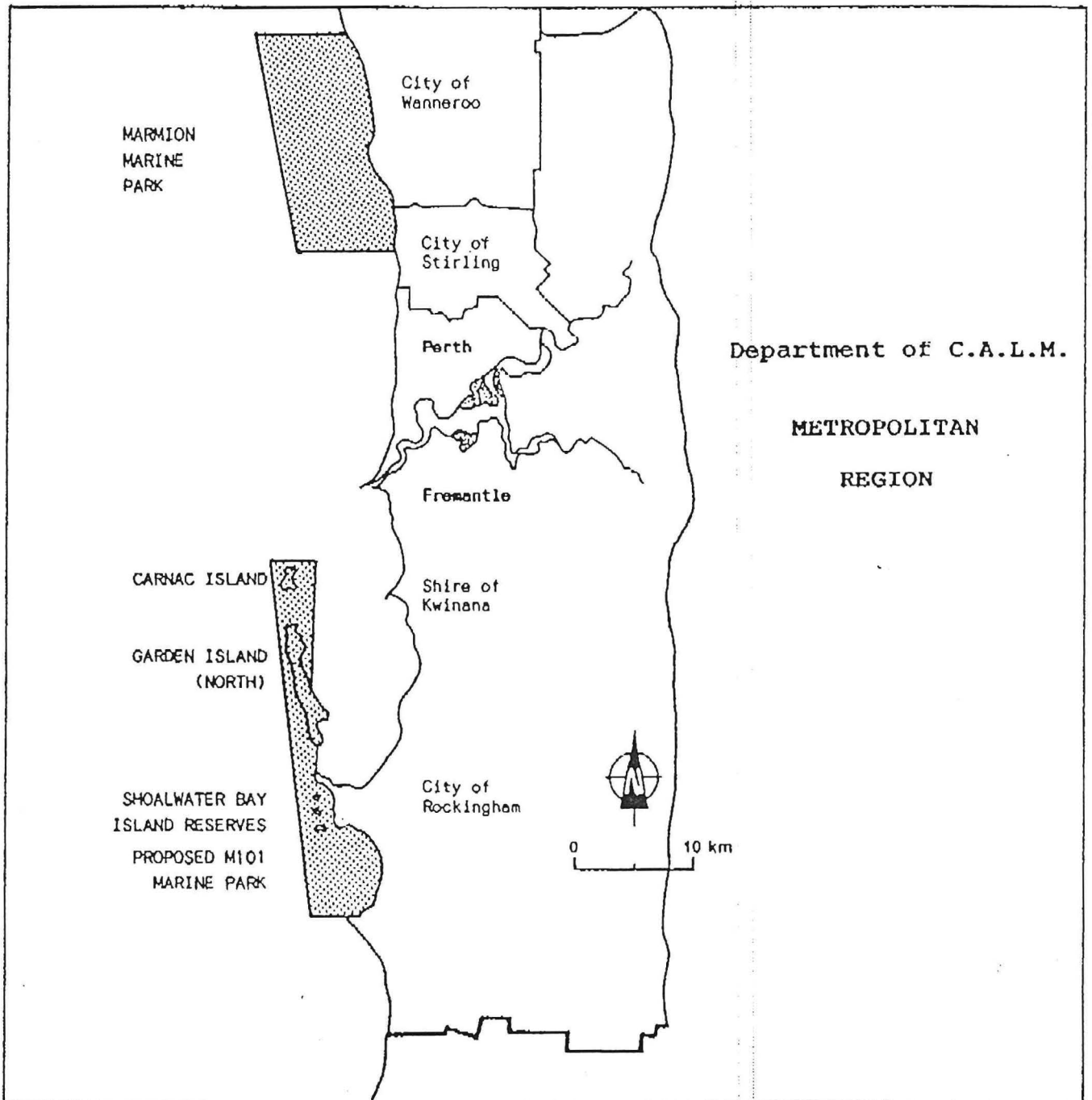
Note: It is important to note that contact numbers, as listed, may change from time to time. On making contact with relevant authorities, state:

1. your position in the Department;
2. the Department's role and your role; and
3. the Department's concern.

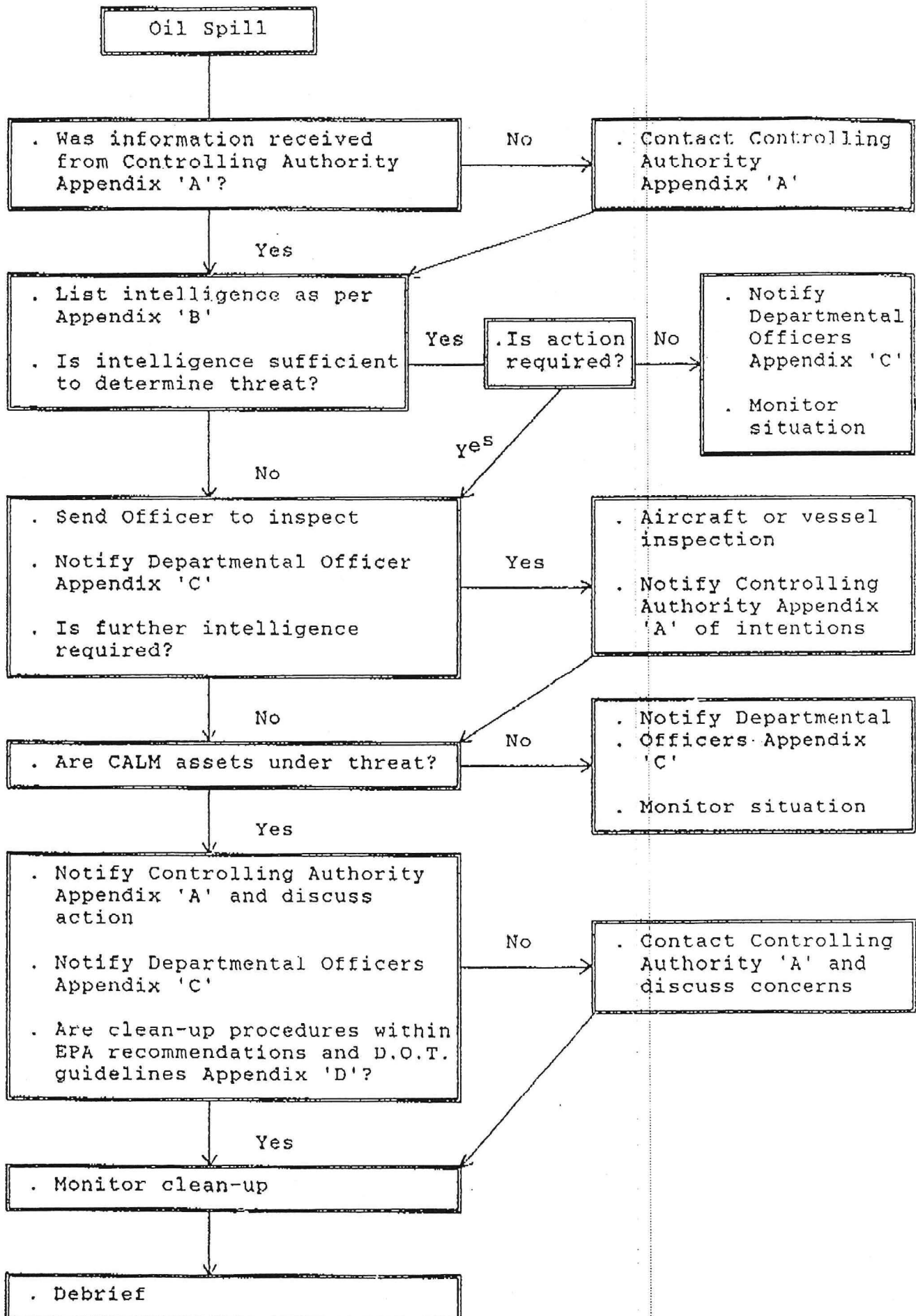
\* Log all contact, observed activity and procedures.

\* Submit reports to Appendix list C. (

**Figure 1:** EXISTING OR PROPOSED MARINE PARKS, RESERVES AND ISLAND RESERVES IN THE METROPOLITAN REGION



## OIL SPILL CONTINGENCY PLAN



APPENDIX A

## LIAISON OFFICERS

## STATE COMMITTEE FOR COMBATING OIL POLLUTION

NAME	ORGANISATION	BUSINESS	HOME
Emergency Operations Centre	Department of Marine & Harbours	335 0874	335 0874
		335 0875	335 0875
		335 0876	335 0876
		335 0850 (Fax)	
R. Purkiss	Department of Marine & Harbours	335 0888	339 2856
D. Oliver	Department of Marine & Harbours	335 0888	528 2584
FHS Scriven	Department of Transport and Communications	430 1301	339 2389
Duty Officer	Western Australian State Emergency Service	277 5333	277 5333
Dr D Gordon	Environmental Protection Authority	222 7000	448 4554
Dr P Ashton	Environmental Protection Authority	419 5500	351 8816
E Atkinson	Fremantle Port Authority	430 4911	447 1427



APPENDIX BINTELLIGENCE CHECK LIST

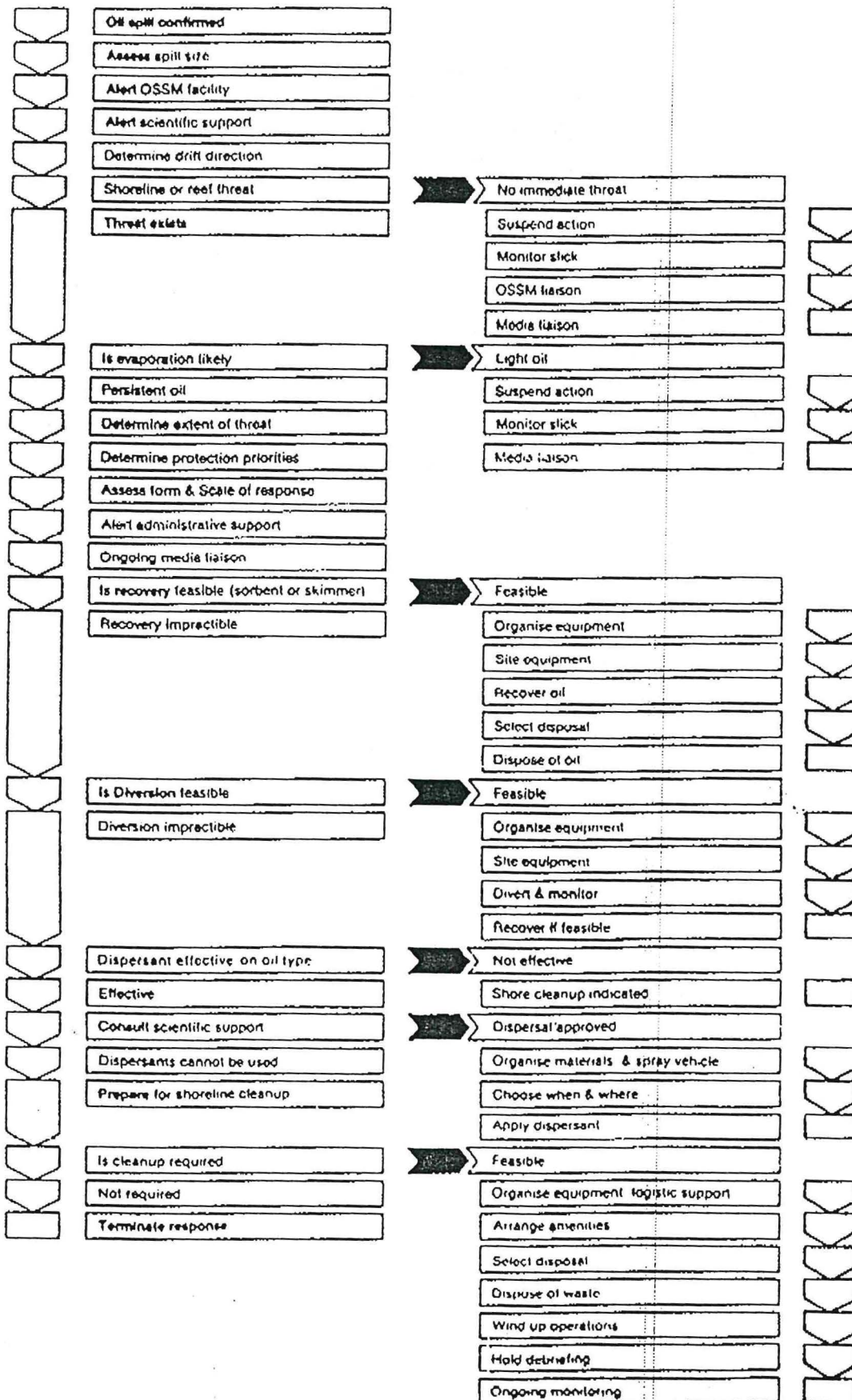
1. Location of spill.
2. Identify type of oil pollutant, eg. crude oil, fuel oil.
3. Identify origin or pollutant, eg. Arabian crude, Bass Strait crude, local/foreign blend.
4. Identify source of pollutant (or suspected source):
  - vessel name
  - flag
  - position of vessel.
5. Confirm whether outflow of oil is continuing.
6. Estimated quantity of oil spilled. Alert State Committee if not contacted.
7. Estimated extent to which oil has weathered.
8. Estimated probable direction and rate of movement of oil slick.
9. Assess prevailing oceanographic and meteorological conditions:
  - sea state
  - tidal stage
  - wind strength and direction.
10. What actions are being taken by the State Combat Committee.
11. Identify areas which may be affected and assign initial priorities for protection.
12. Identify any safety/environmental hazards.

APPENDIX CDEPARTMENTAL OFFICER CONTACTS

1. Marine Manager : Greg Pobar  
Metropolitan Region  
  
Work: 448 5800  
Pager: 480 9999 No. 696 (Leave contact number)  
A/H: 401 4880
  
2. Wildlife Protection Branch : Doug Coughran  
Metropolitan Region  
  
Work: 367 0333  
A/H: 401 8183
  
3. Media Liaison Officer : Richard Grant  
Head Office  
  
Work: 389 8644  
A/H: 362 1267

APPENDIX D

Decision making path for oil spill response



APPENDIX EREFERENCES

- 'Reef Plan' : An Oil Spill Contingency Plan Developed for the Great Barrier Reef. Department of Transport; Marine Pollution; Canberra, 1988.

- 'Oil Spill Clean Up of the Foreshore: Field Guide' : Department of Transport; Marine Pollution; Canberra, 1987.

- 'Procedures for the Protection of the Western Australian Marine Environment from Oil Spills' : Bulletin 104, Department of Conservation and Environment, WA, 1984.

- 'State Counter Disaster Plan: Pollution of the Sea and Inland Waters' : State Emergency Service, WA, January 1986.

- Plans and references are kept at the Marmion Marine Park Office : Hillarys Boat Harbour