

Wildlife Response Actions & Lessons Learned *Virginia 2016*



Tri-State Bird Rescue & Research
Newark, Delaware
Sam Christie



Wildlife Response Players

Professional Response Contractor

- Full time oiled wildlife responders
- HAZWOPER
- ICS
- Activated and contracted by FOSC, SOSC, wildlife trustee, RP

Local resources

- Local wildlife rehabilitator, veterinarians, animal control
- Credentials often unknown
- May deploy without activation

Any Wildlife Responder should be:

1. Permitted (Federal and State)
2. Experienced in oiled wildlife response
3. Specifically requested
4. Integrated into ICS
5. Regularly providing updates

Kinder Morgan Terminal

- Alerted by NOAA SSC on January 23
- Contracted to Kinder Morgan as consultant to support operations remotely
- Local rehabilitators responded



Wildlife Response Players

Wildlife must be integrated into ICS

- Safety
- Planning
- Resources
- Documentation
- Communication
- Financial



FUEL SPILL RESPONSE EFFORTS

SACRED FRIENDS INC. WILDLIFE REHABILITATION CENTER SUNDAY, JANUARY 24, 2016

#sacredfriendinc

I, Pearl Beamer, received a call from Officer Massie, Chesapeake Animal Control on Saturday January 23, 2016 at about 10:30am. I returned her call and immediately started to implement Tri-State and OSHA procedures by contacting people with all the training. We were in contact with OSHA, Dept of Wildlife, Coast Guard, TriState to mention a few during the whole procedure.

Mary Meyer work in oil spill remediation products and training worldwide and owns Osprey Spill Control and authorized as commander in these situations. I contacted her first. Karen



We are already finding dead ducks affected by the diesel fuel spill. It's critical that we get to these birds immediately. Geese, herons and other animals around the water will also be affected. If you see a bird email

28 Likes 19 Comments

Like Comment LG QuickMemo

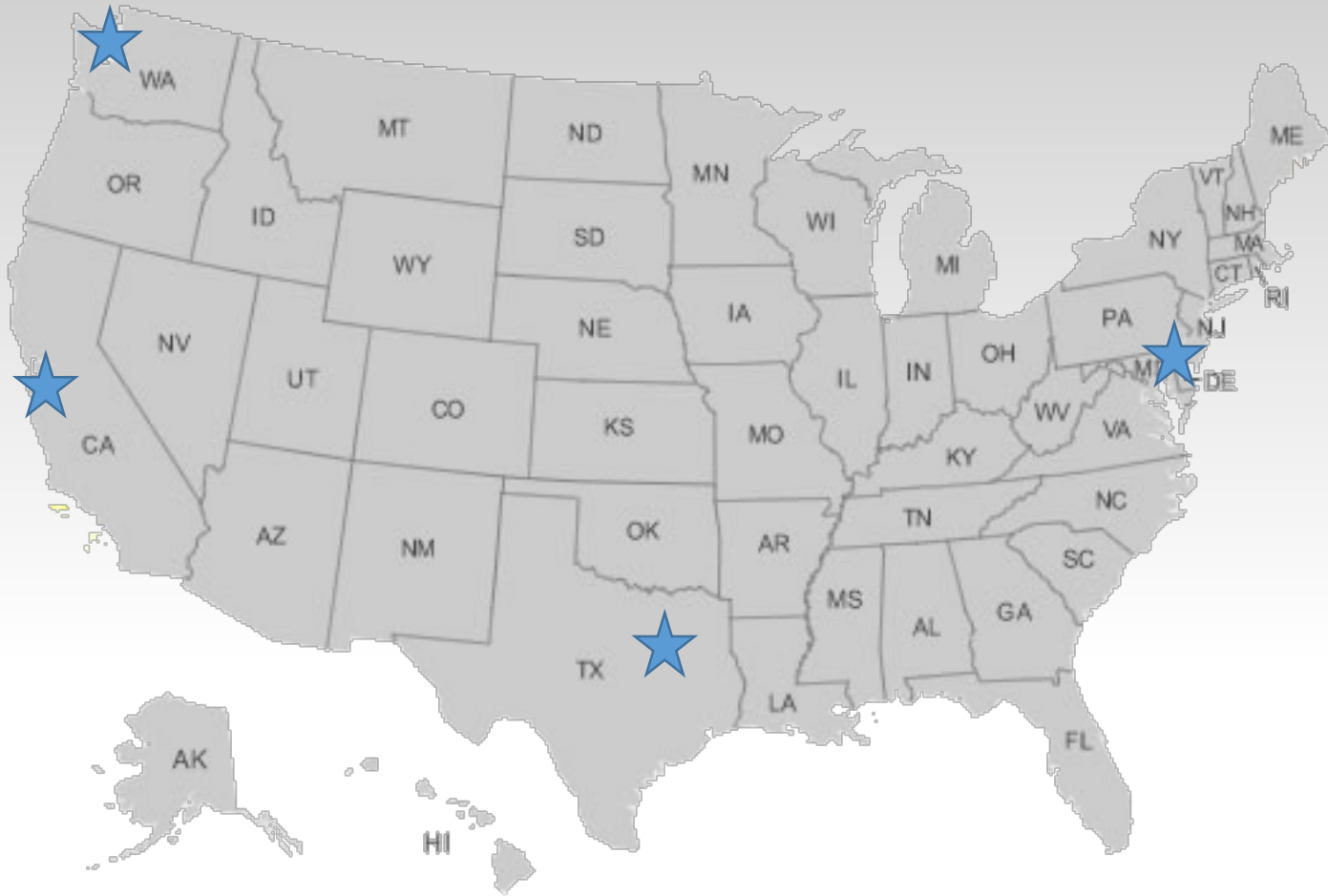


Washing ducks

8 Likes

Like Comment LG QuickMemo

Response Organizations



- There are a handful of professional oiled wildlife response organizations to be contracted
- Local rehabilitators are often first responders

Wildlife Credentialing

- Most states do not specify “mass casualty” or oil spill response on permits
- Tri-State does not “certify” oiled wildlife responders
- Regulation is the responsibility of the wildlife trustees

Selection guidelines for a wildlife responder:

- Federal and state permits
- Documented experience responding to oil spills
- Liability insurance
- Adequate facility
- Proper safety training

Response Credentialing

Confusion regarding authority and command.

Taken from social media post by local wildlife rehabilitation organization.

Mary Meyer work in oil spill remediation products and training worldwide and owns Osprey Spill Control and authorized as commander in these situations. I contacted her first. Karen

doing quick medical exams before transport) to help with further triage of the patients. At all times Tri-State and OSHA regulations were followed. Safety of the volunteers comes first. When all was said and done only two people were injured but are fine now. Over 60 Ducks

Wildlife by Mary: On Scene Commander

Mary Meyer

Sacred Friends Inc: Organization in Charge of Scene

Pearl Beamer

James A Beamer Jr

Katherine Scheetz David Scheetz

Erin McClellan-Bean

Trinita Barboza, VDM Karen Roberts

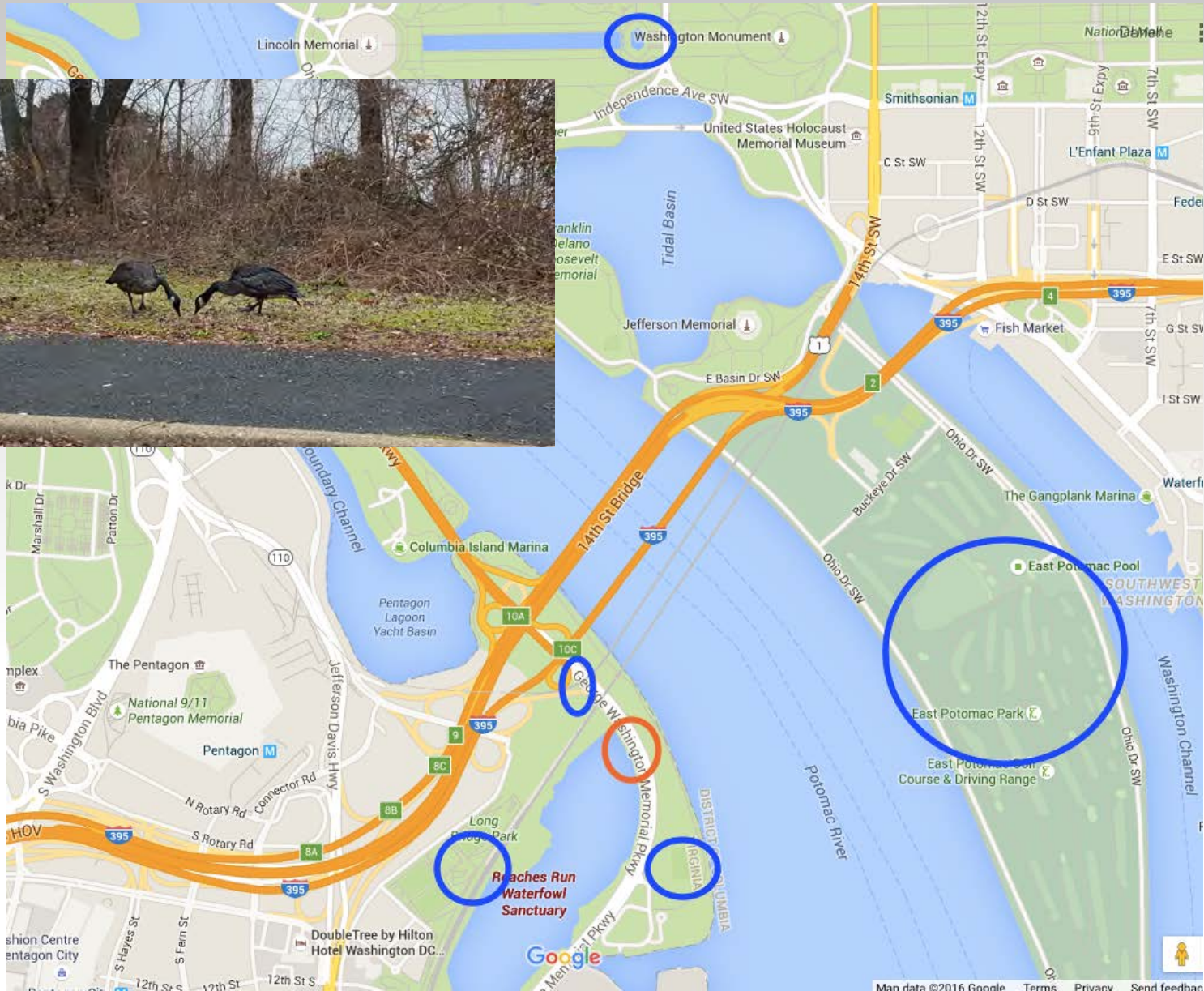
Mark West

Roaches Run Response

- Activated by USCG 4 February 2016
- Subcontracted to OSRO
- Multijurisdictional—Virginia & D.C.
- Strong agency support in the field—USDA, USFWS, National Park Service



Challenging Location



Wildlife Response Annex

Area of Response

- 300 miles or 6 hours
- Consider local resources



- Delaware
- New Jersey
- New York
- Pennsylvania
- Maryland
- Virginia



Volunteers

- Over 35 pre-trained volunteers worked on this response
- 2-3 shifts per day
- Over 500 hours of service



Animal Intake

- Captured 37 birds in 6 days



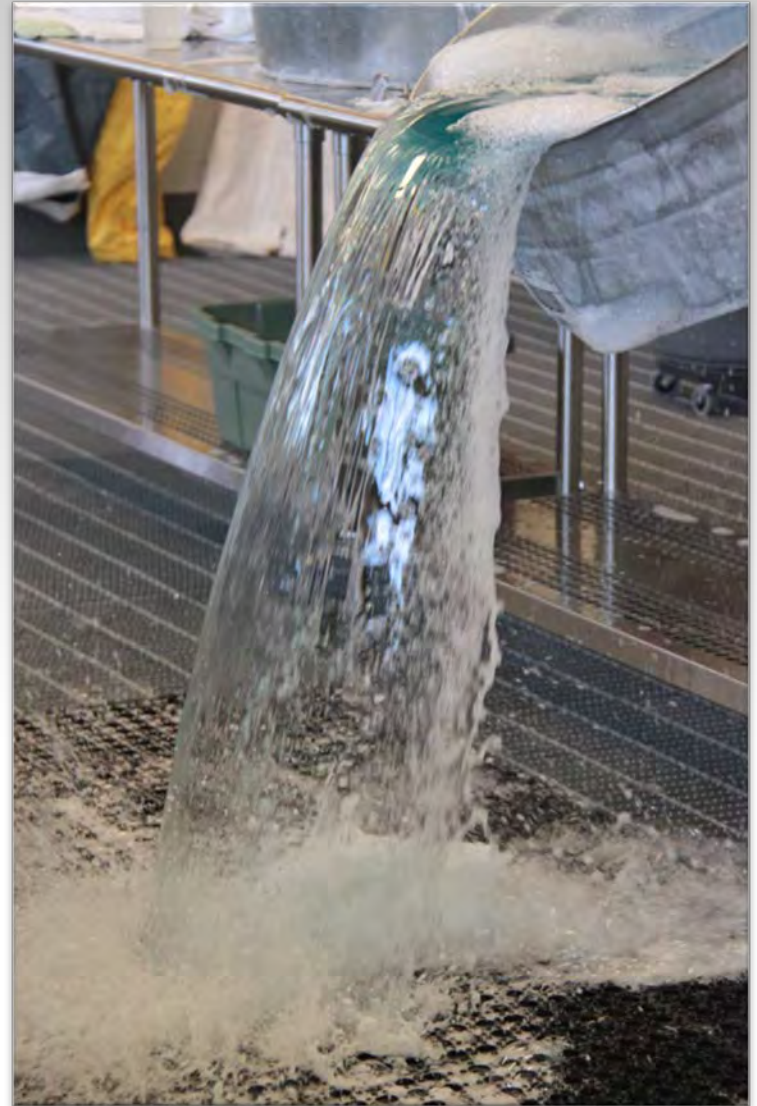
Caging



Water Requirements

Often the biggest challenge

- Consistent hot water at 104° F
- 60 gallons of oily waste water generated *per animal*
- Approximately 20 gallons of clean water used during rinse



Decontamination

Ran **3** wash lines simultaneously



Media Interest

Press conferences/releases in collaboration with USCG



Canada geese on the road to recovery after oil spill

By Mike Murillo | @MikeMurilloWTOP
February 16, 2016 12:55 am

4 Shares



Release

31 healthy birds returned to the wild



Take Aways

Command should be familiar with:

- When a wildlife responder is needed
- Guidelines for selecting a wildlife responder
- Availability and capacity of local rehabilitators as first responders

Wildlife Trustees can:

- Ensure that state's permitting process is sufficient
- Help to identify local resources and dictate their level of involvement
- Oversee operations to ensure proper procedures are being followed
- Step in when issues need to be addressed

Responsible Parties are encouraged to:

- Engage a wildlife responder ASAP
- Establish a contract and financially support wildlife operations
- Visit the wildlife rehabilitation facility

****Involve wildlife responders in your planning, exercises, and after action reviews****

