

## OIL SPILL COMMUNICATIONS

December 2022

Notification of spills of oil or hazardous substances shall be made to North Carolina Emergency Management (NCEM) at 1-800-858-0368. This telephone number is answered at the State EOC 24 hours per day.

The communications officer at the State EOC will be responsible for notification of appropriate state agencies on being advised of a spill.

### Coast Guard Radio

Coast Guard units involved in oil spill response operate radio equipment on the VHF Marine band. The following marine frequencies are identified in the relevant Marine Safety Office plans as being used in the coastal areas of North Carolina:

<u>Channel</u>	<u>Frequency</u>	<u>Usage</u>
6	156.300	Inter-ship safety frequency
12	156.600	Port operations working frequency
13	156.650	Ship to ship - navigation only
16	156.800	Distress, safety and calling
21	157.070	USCG use only
22	157.100	USCG to civilian ships
23	157.150	USCG use only
81	157.075	USCG working frequency for response
83	157.175	USCG working frequency

### Private Sector Communications

Oil spill cleanup cooperatives operate portable radio systems on standard commercial frequencies when engaged in oil spill cleanup operations. If common frequencies are not available between the state response members' portable radios and the responsible party's contractor radios, communications problems should be resolved by the Communications Unit Leader in the ICS-established Logistics Section.

### Intersystem Coordination

NCEM field personnel shall establish and maintain communications between the scene and the State EOC by way of the existing state-wide emergency management radio and satellite communications network. Any on-scene member of SERT who needs contact with his supervisors in Raleigh or with SERT can access the State EOC by way of either satellite radio/telephone (**800 MHz / VIPER**) or through the cellular telephone capabilities in the emergency management vehicles. Similarly, these vehicles have the capability for direct radio contact with the following agencies:

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1. North Carolina Highway Patrol
2. North Carolina Department of Transportation
3. North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission.

In order to effect coordination with the USCG or the EPA, NCEM on-scene personnel shall report to the field command post established by the Federal OSC or his designee.