

# Alaska SeaLife Center's Oiled Wildlife Response Team



# Alaska SeaLife Center's Mission



Promote understanding & stewardship of Alaska's  
marine ecosystems



**Mission:** The Alaska SeaLife Center Oiled Wildlife Response Program's mission is to develop and provide expert resources and facilities to partner agencies in the event of an oil spill in Alaska. Working in conjunction with our trained staff and volunteers, we will rescue and rehabilitate oiled wildlife as capacity and conditions allow.

**What it means to be a part of this team:**

ASLC staff and volunteers that join the Oiled Wildlife Response Team (OWRT) will need to stay current on our mission, trainings and adjust schedule as needed to deploy within 24 hrs after instruction from the Incident Command System (ICS). Members must maintain a level of fluidity and understanding that our protocols are subject to change and the lead roles will make decisions at the time of response based on the context of the spill and what is needed.



# Key ASLC Staff

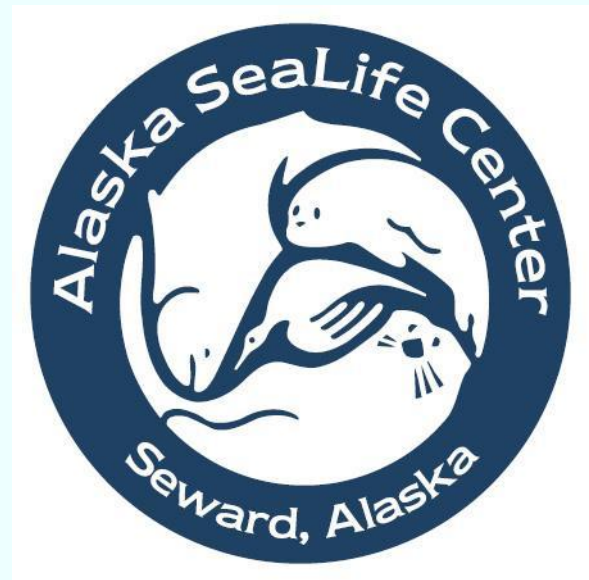
- Chip Arnold, Operations Director
- Brett Long, Husbandry Director
- Dr. Carrie Goertz, DVM
- Jamie Auletta, Specialist
- Wildlife Response staff & volunteers





# Oil Spill Response Capabilities

- Personnel
- Training Programs
- Equipment & Facility Resources
- Wildlife Response Program

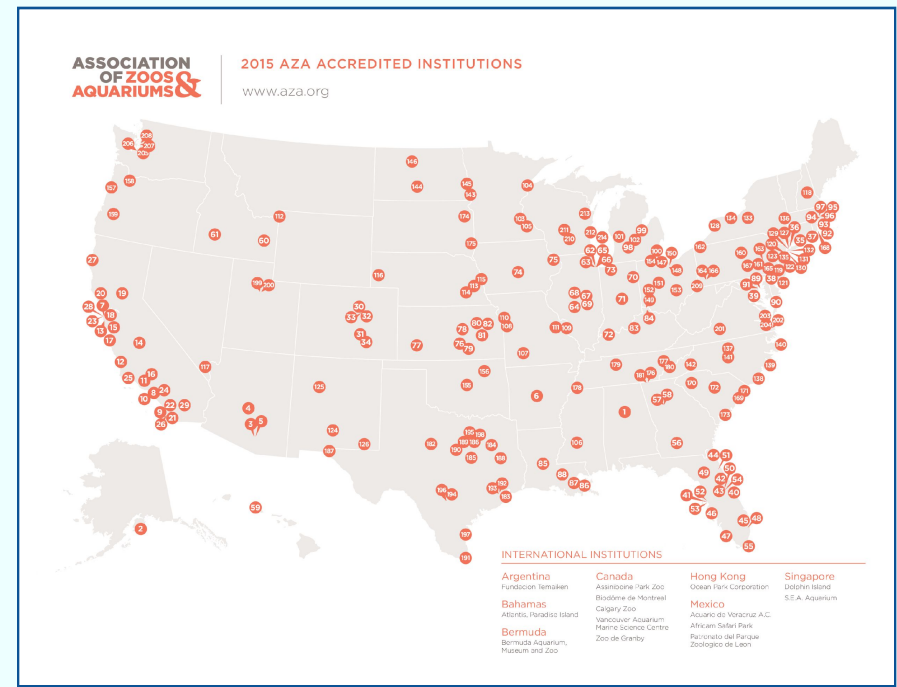
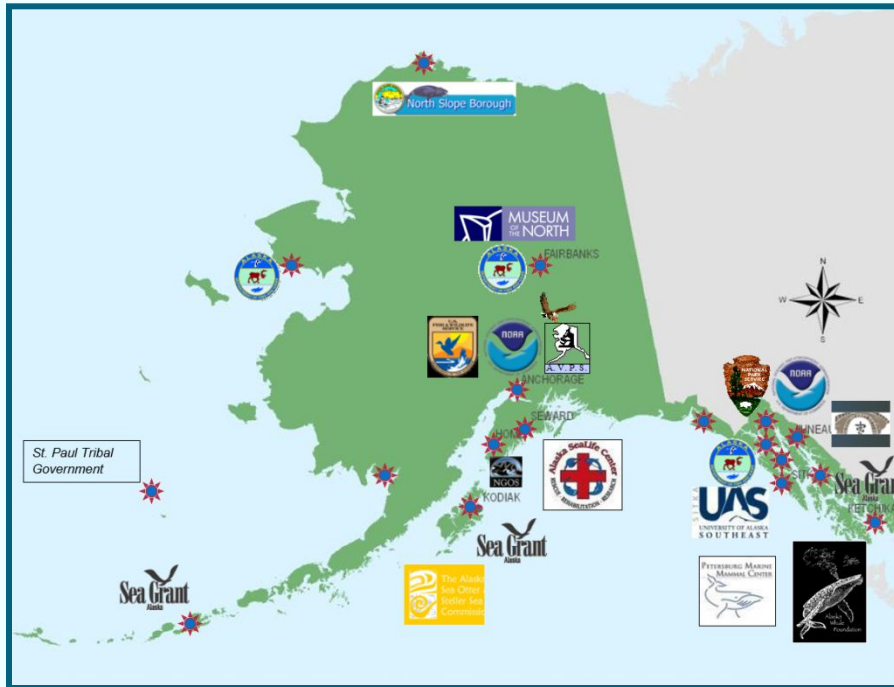




# Additional Resources

## Alaska Stranding Network

## Association of Zoos & Aquariums





# Training

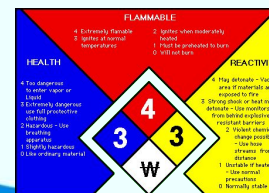
- HAZWOPER & ICS for animal professionals
  - ASLC Staff
  - The Alaska Stranding Network
  - Association of Zoos and Aquariums (AZA)
- Funding
  - John H. Prescott Marine Mammal Rescue Assistance Grant Program
  - AZA grant from USDA
  - Service orders
  - Future grants



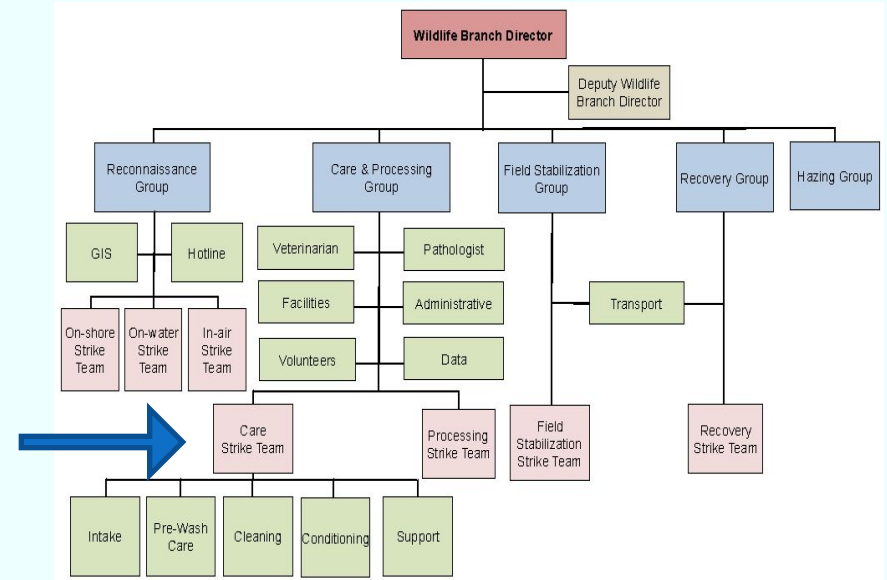
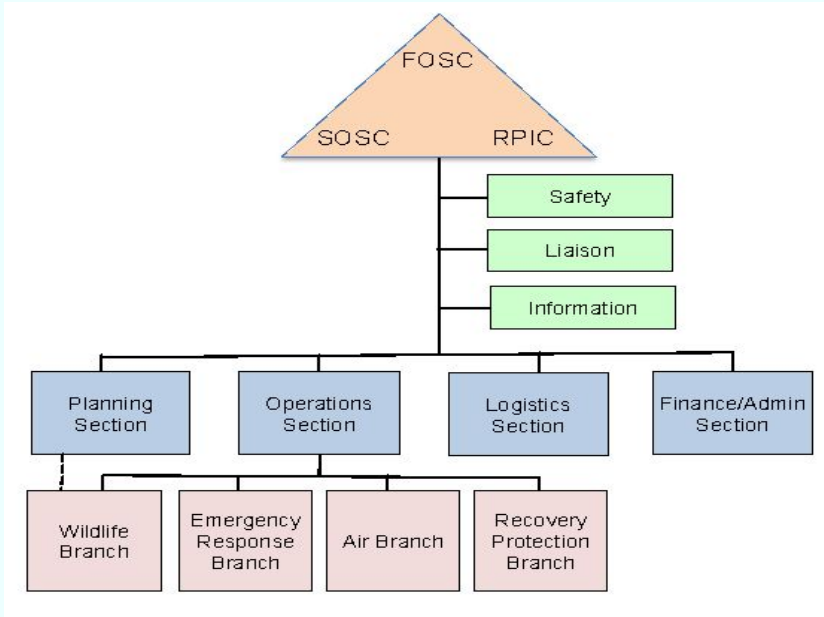
# Training for Animal Care Professionals



- Blended Course in format and content
- Combines online content plus lectures
- Requires Incident Command System (ICS) training
- Partnering with New Environment for HAZWOPER
- Collaborate with OWCN with courses and drills
- Ongoing refinement of course
- To meet needs for disaster preparedness of zoo
- Focus of recently submitted grants







NOTE: In certain situations (e.g., multiple animal groups, widespread recovery, multiple facilities), Task Forces may be established within each Group

*ASLC will be the Strike Team*

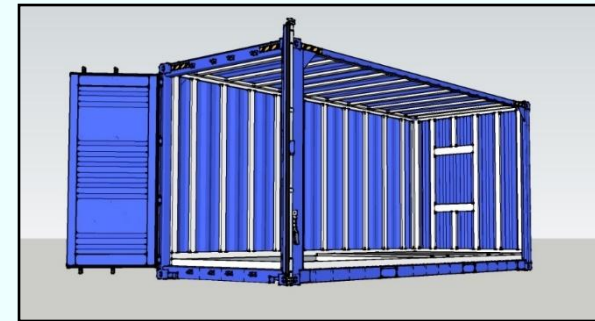
# Student Numbers

- 133 total ASLC has taught and certified
- 54 from Alaska Stranding Network, 19 from ASLC
- 60 were people who lived out of state
  - Association of Zoos and Aquariums (AZA)
  - Agree to support responses in other regions (surge capacity)
- 2015: 68 new participants took the 24-hour course
- Information maintained in a training database



# Equipment & Facilities

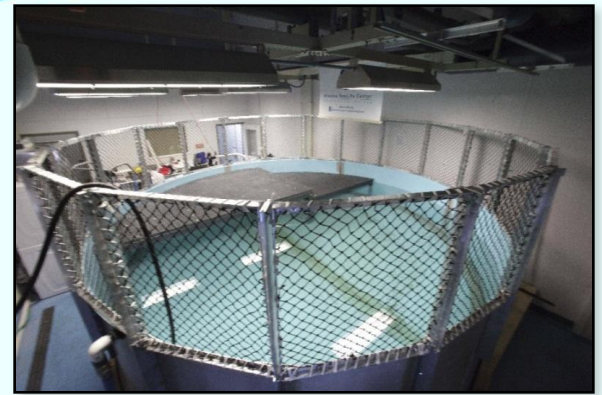
- Deployable equipment
  - Mobile Treatment and Rehabilitation Enclosure (MTRE)
  - Self Sufficient Mobile System under production
- Facilities in Seward





# MTRE

- MTRE: Mobile Treatment and Rehabilitation Enclosure
  - Pool with dry resting area & life support
  - Animal Welfare Act compliant
  - Purpose designed for small pinnipeds
  - Requires access additional infrastructure
  - M=multi-purpose, other species or disasters
- Current Complement
  - 1 original, 3 '2<sup>nd</sup> generation'
  - 2 in Prudhoe Bay with Alaska Clean Seas
  - 1 assembled at ASLC
  - 1 set of components ready for deployment







# Self Sufficient System

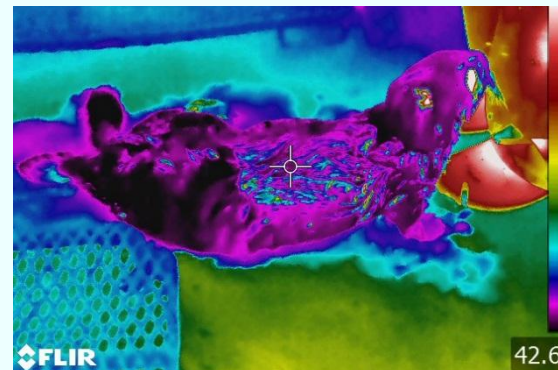
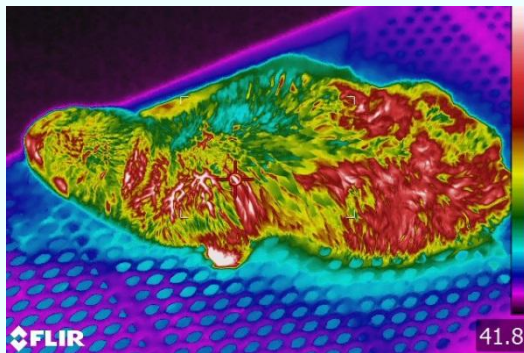
- MTRE +++PLUS!
- Deployable anywhere
- Generators, pumps
- Increased animal holding
  - Mobile Treatment Rehabilitation Enclosure
  - Dry space, small individual pools for critical care
- Staff support housing and other amenities



# Thermal Monitoring



- FLIR Camera
- Monitor: temperature, wounds, coat condition
- Case EL1620 Progress



# Permits, Partners, & Funders

- NOAA Alaska Region Stranding Agreement
- USFWS Marine Mammal Rescue & Rehabilitation (walrus & northern sea otter) LOA & MA 837414
- USFWS Migratory Bird Salvage (MB839838) & Rehabilitation (MB834075)
- Oil Spill Response Organizations (Alaska Clean Seas and Cook Inlet Spill Prevention & Response Inc.)



**ASSOCIATION  
OF ZOOS &  
AQUARIUMS**



**Oiled Wildlife Care Network**



# If interested please contact:

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