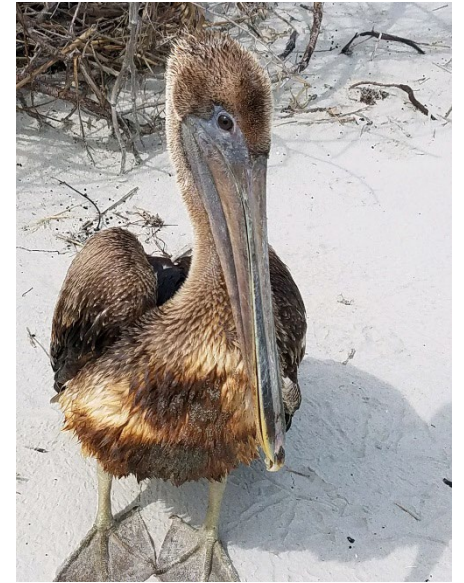




Tri-State Bird Rescue & Research: An Overview

PATRICK HOGAN, OIL PROGRAMS DIRECTOR

TRI-STATE
Oiled Wildlife Response

Overview

- Effects of Oil on Wildlife
- Tri-State History
- Oil Programs Team
- What is an OWRO?
- Area of Response
- Stages of Activation
- Activating our Network
- Staffing an Oiled Wildlife Response



Effects of Oil on Wildlife

individual

- Skin and Feather Contamination:
- Skin lesions → Painful, wound management, secondary infections
- Buoyancy → drowning, stranding/beached, predation
- Inability to thermoregulate → hypothermia, exposure
- Inability to forage → dehydration, emaciation, weakness, pressure sores
- Increased preening → exhaustion, ingestion of oil
- Ingestion → GI ulceration, lack of nutritional absorption, toxic effects
- Mucosal damage → irritation, lesions, respiratory infections
- Hemolytic anemia → red blood cell damage, hypovolemic shock
- Reproductive damage, kidney damage and other long-term effects
- Secondary contamination of predators from consuming carcasses

Population

- Parents can bring oil back to a nest/den with eggs or offspring
- Chronic issues including reproductive problems from prolonged exposure



Tri-State's Beginnings: 48 years



Oil Programs – not just birds!



Oil Programs Team – not just responses!

- Contingency Planning
- Workshop Delivery
- Public Education
- Rehabilitator & Industry Support
- Drills & Exercises
- Meeting Attendance
- Conferences
- Research
- Mutual Aid
- Disaster Response



Effects of Oil on Wildlife Conference 2025

October 13th – 17th
Cape Town, South Africa

Hosted by Tri-State and SANCCOB

25th Anniversary of the MV Treasure Spill
Critically Endangered African Penguin Conservation
International Collaboration

Workshops, Panels, Seminars, Field Trips and
Icebreaker Social at SANCCOBs new facility

www.eow-conference.org



What is an OWRO? (Oiled Wildlife Response Organization)

- Dedicated staff
- 40hr HAZWOPER
- Responder network
- Subject matter experts
- Specialized equipment
- Training, planning & response capabilities







Oiled Wildlife Assessment Service

The service entails the deployment of a contracted, on-site team of four experts to evaluate and provide recommendations to the IMT/Client on the feasibility and appropriate scale of wildlife response, if one is required, needed in a specific incident.

The team includes:

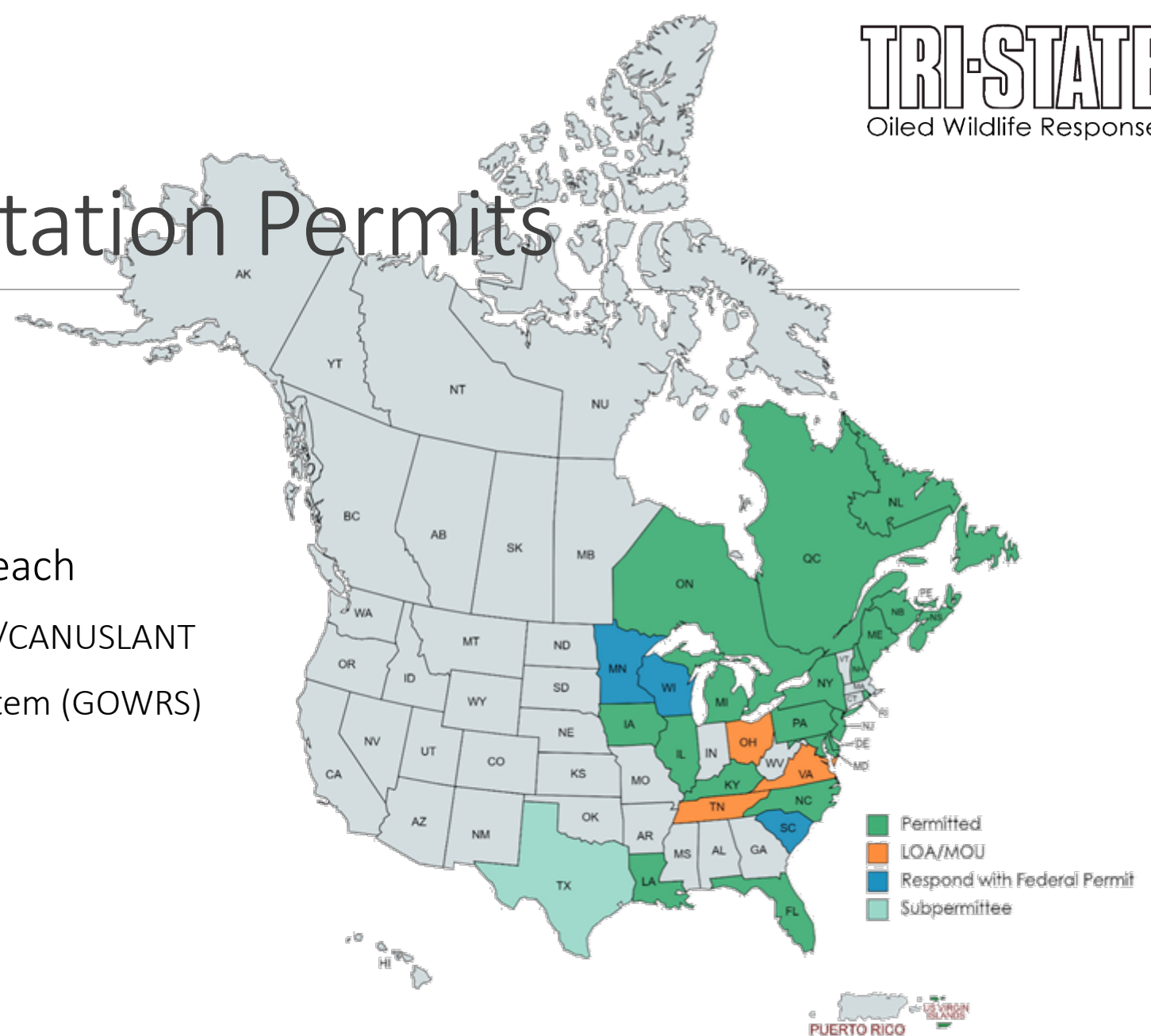
- An Operations and Planning Specialist
 - A Field Capture Specialist
- A Rehabilitation and Facility Specialist
- A Veterinarian or Incident – Specific Specialist

Support for this team is provided by the GOWRS coordinator and a Strategic Team, composed of individuals from the GOWRS network organisations, who can assess the information from the Assessment Team and provide more advice and expertise if required.

Currently, the service is available via [OSRL](#) to their members.

Wildlife Rehabilitation Permits

- Each state has different rules
- Other factors (non-natives, HPAI)
- Allows for quicker response
- Local, regional & international reach
 - Canadian Coordinator –CANUSLAK/CANUSLANT
 - Global Oiled Wildlife Response System (GOWRS)



Stages of Activation

Alert- **Hotline: 1-800-261-0980**

- Remote consultation services
- Agency notification and liaison
- Initial response logistics

Assessment

- On-site assessment of ecological resources
- Response logistics
- Hazing / deterrence strategies

Response (full activation)

- Oiled wildlife management
- Regional resource coordination



Activating Our Network

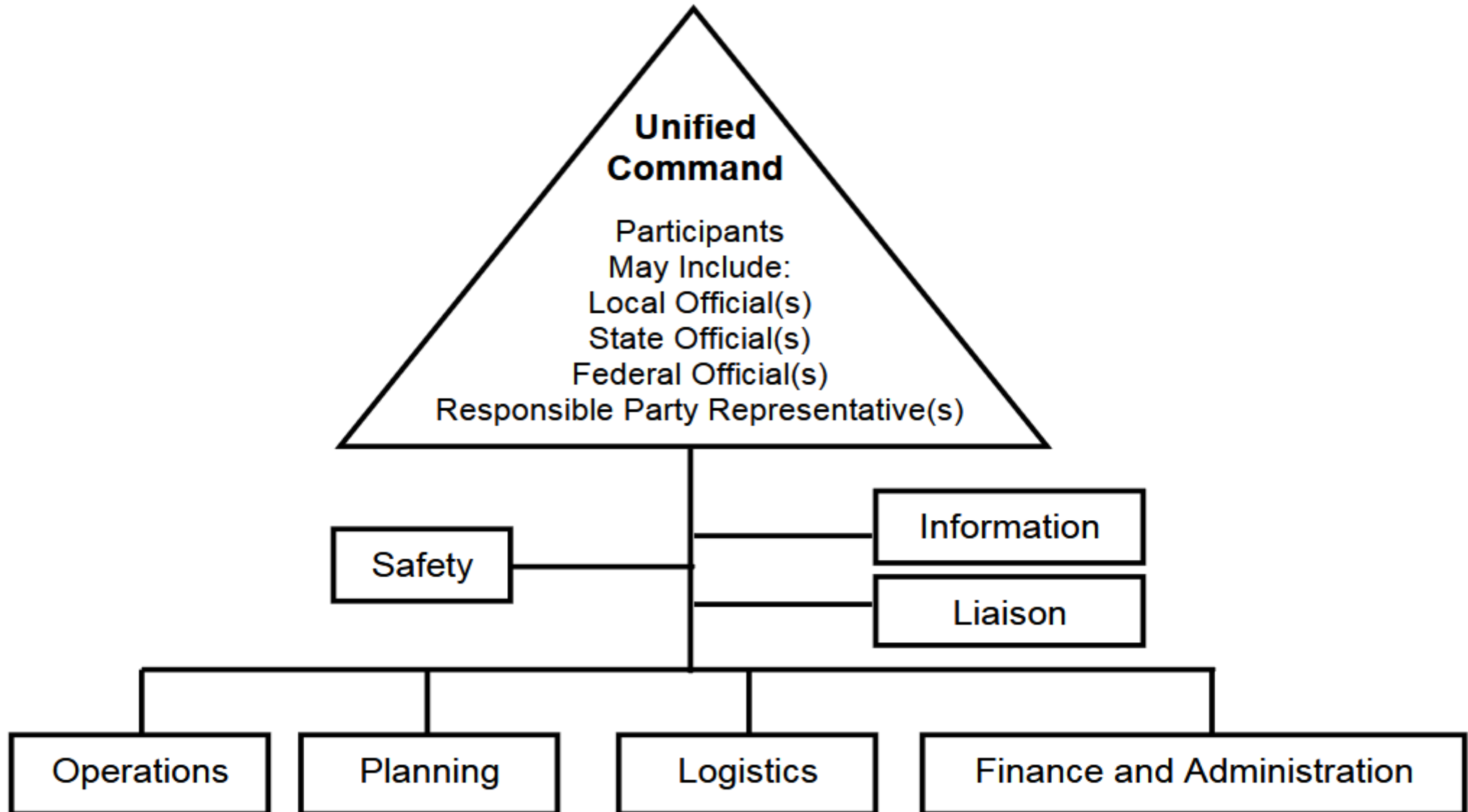
- **CORE Team**
 - Local to Tri-State, ready to respond team of responders
 - Skill level varies, from Wildlife Veterinarian to Support Team Member
 - Responders that are paid as temporary employees
- **Skilled Responders**
 - Oiled Wildlife Response Specialists, experienced and ready to fill a Team Leader or Response Manager role (without on the job training)
 - Typically fly from out of state/area
 - Responders that are paid as temporary employees
 - Typically managing a team or multiple teams of responders.
- **Paraprofessional Response Network**
 - Regional responders across the US, typically associated with a rehabilitation center, zoo/aquarium or response organization
 - Responders that are paid as temporary employees – THROUGH their organization.
 - Typically fill a Team Member role



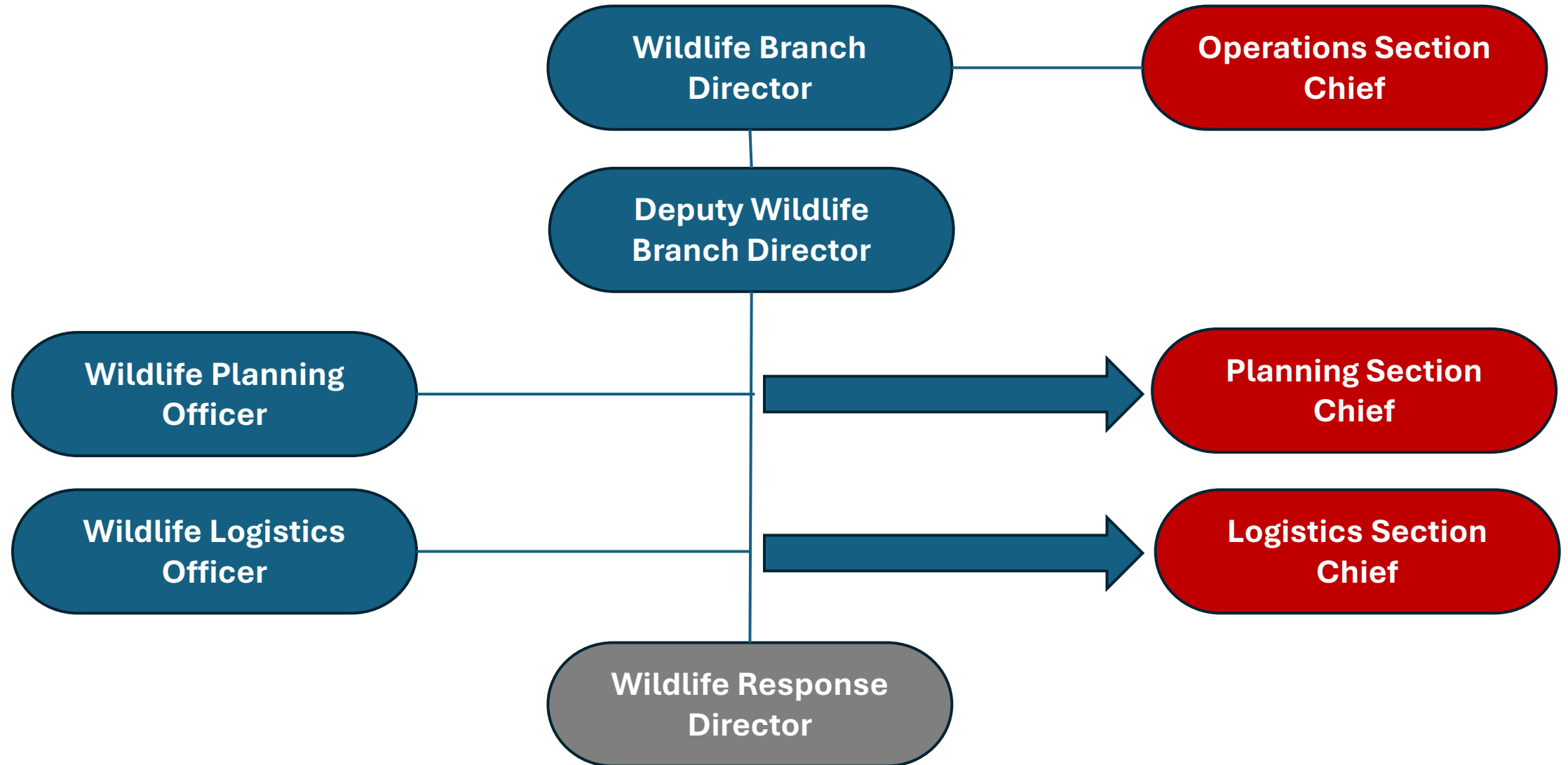
The first 24-48 hours

- * Activation call received on oil spill hotline
- * Group text between Oil Programs staff – spill notification, +/- standby, assessment, response
- * Inform Executive Director – draft contract for Responsible Party (typically)
- * Strategic Team Meeting– Go, or No-go? Concerns, obligations, responder safety, roles
- * Poll our Response Network – availability for next 2 weeks, some info on spill, location, etc.
- * Sort out personal needs – pet-sitting, childcare, medications, and express any limitations
- * Sort out work obligations – we are now working as contractors for the response
- * Research the location – travel logistics, [species diversity](#), [T/E species](#), regulations, partners
- * If responding – send contract for signature, Pack up our supplies/equipment, and hit the road!

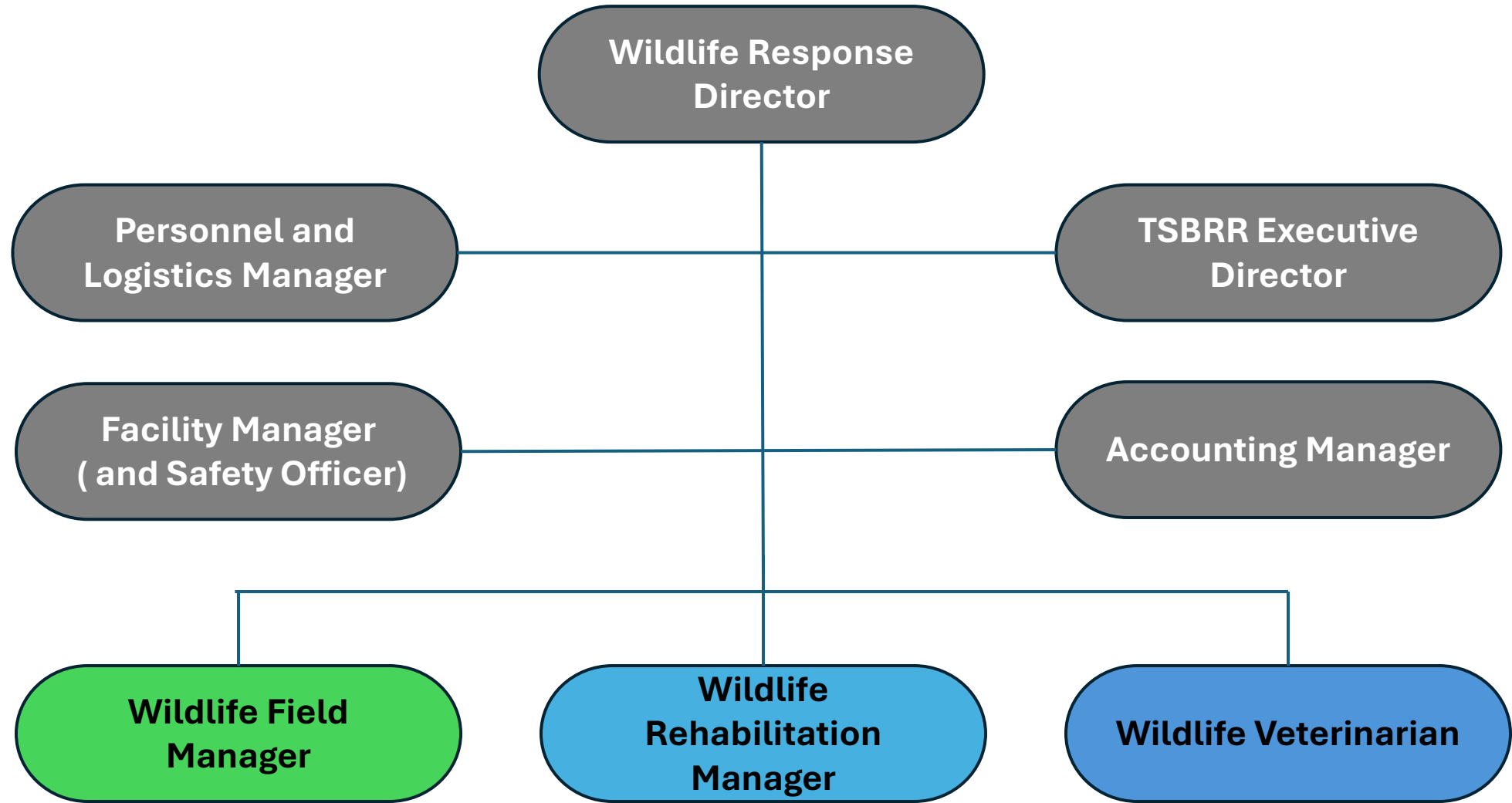
Unified or Incident Command



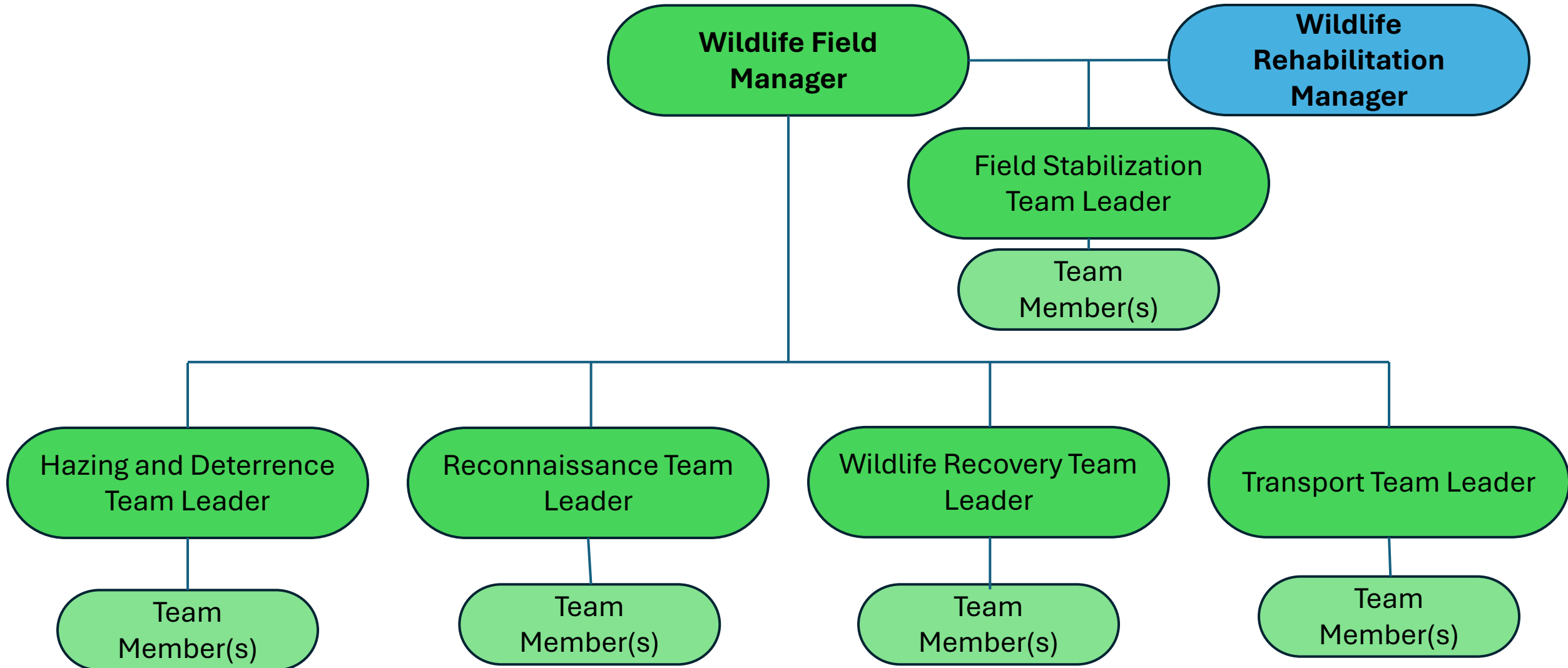
Incident Management Team – Wildlife Branch



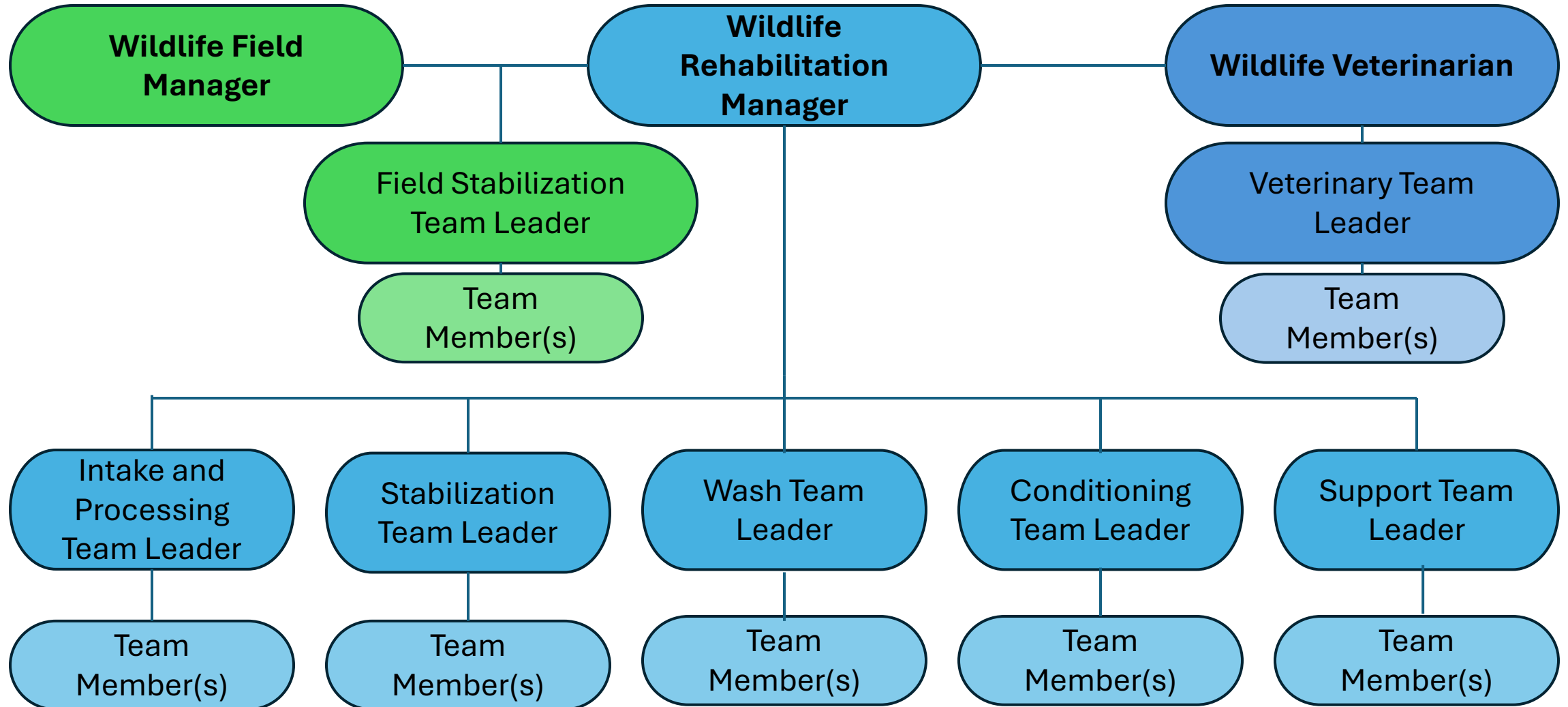
Tri-State Senior Management Team



Wildlife Field Operations Team



Wildlife Rehabilitation Operations Team



Thank you!



Patrick Hogan – Oil Programs Director
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