



# Regional Response Team 6

## National Contingency Plan 40 CFR 300 - Subpart J

### Oil Spill Countermeasures Playbook

March 6, 2015

#### Region 6 RRT

*State of Arkansas*

*State of Louisiana*

*State of New Mexico*

*State of Oklahoma*

*State of Texas*

*U.S. Environmental Protection  
Agency*

*U.S. Coast Guard*

*U.S. Department of Agriculture*

*U.S. Department of  
Commerce/NOAA*

*U.S. Department of Defense*

*U.S. Department of Energy*

*U.S. Department of Health and  
Human Services*

*U.S. Department of the Interior*

*U.S. Department of Justice*

*U.S. Department of Labor*

*U.S. Department of  
Transportation*

*Federal Emergency Management  
Agency/DHS*

*U.S. General Services  
Administration*

*U.S. Nuclear Regulatory  
Commission*

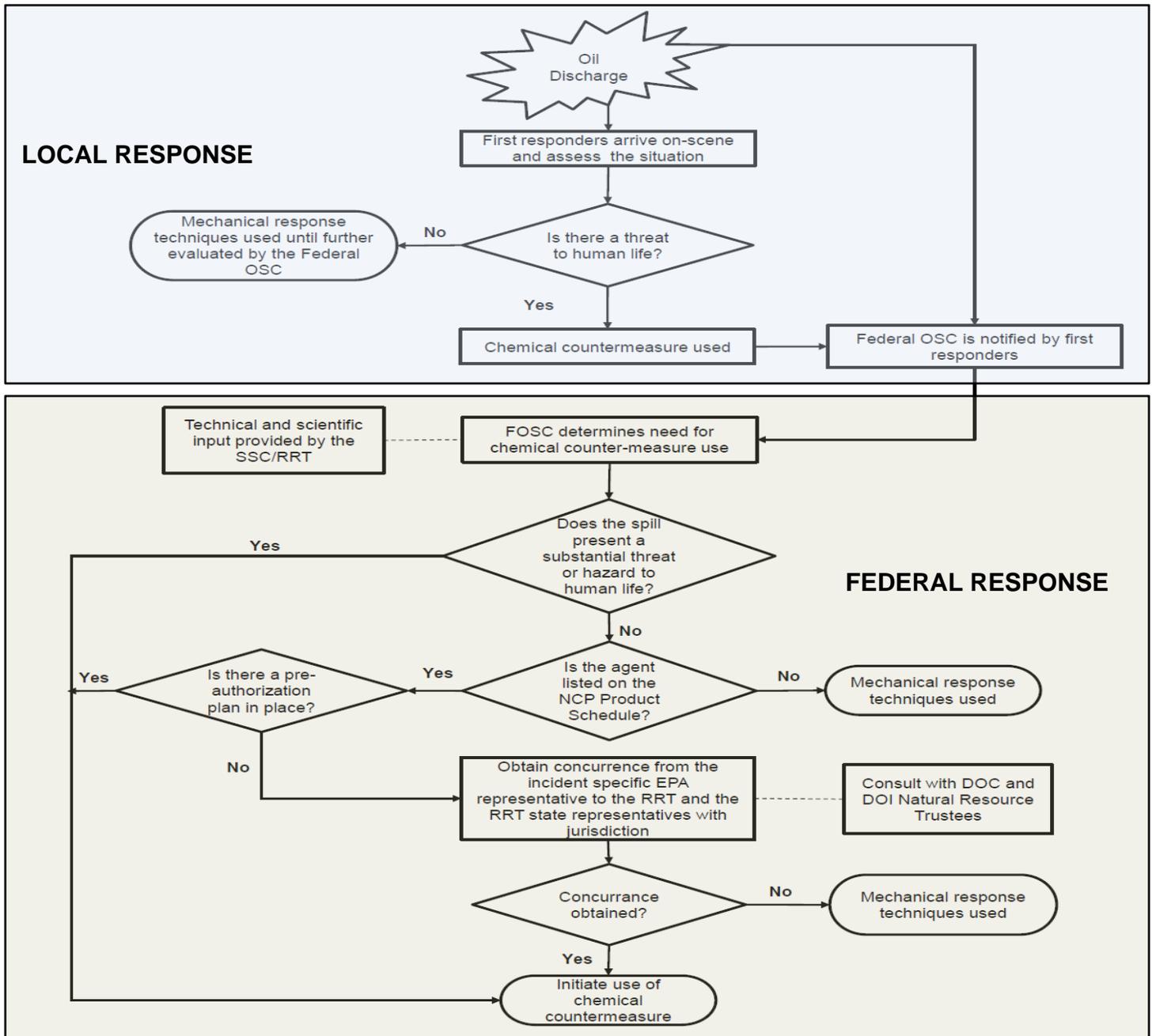
*U.S. Department of State*



This document has been developed to assist On-Scene Coordinators (OSCs) and facility personnel in determining the appropriate procedures for use of countermeasures during an oil spill, as outlined in the National Contingency Plan (40 CFR Part 300, Subpart J).

The document was developed by the Region 6 RRT Response Committee, reviewed by RRT members, and approved by the RRT Executive Committee.

# Decision Flow Chart For Using Chemical Countermeasures



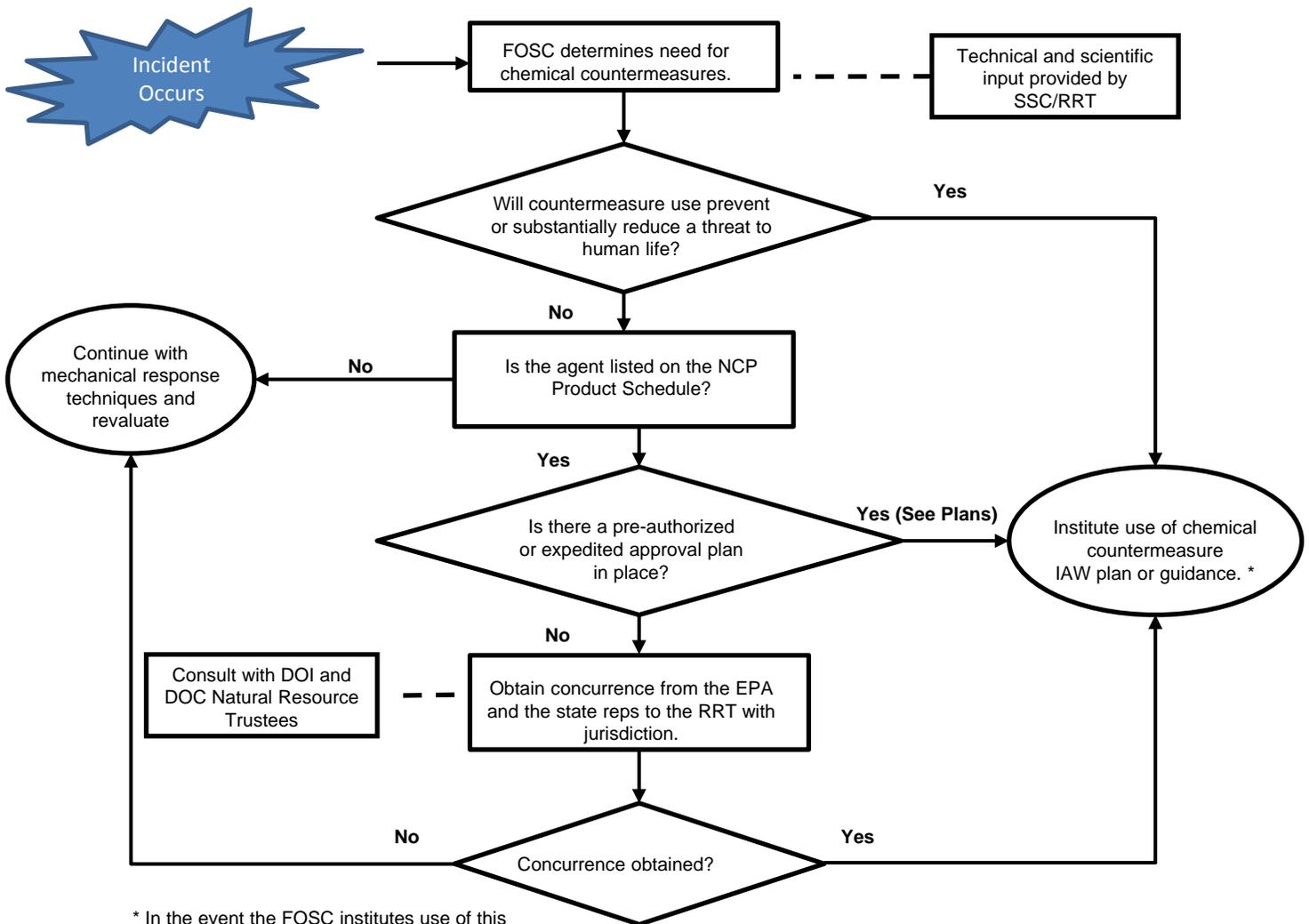
## Who Decides Which Countermeasures Can Be Used In A Spill?

<http://rrt6.org/Uploads/Files/144%20--%20Who%20Decides%20Products%20Used%20During%20Oil%20Spill.pdf>

## Countermeasures Available To The On-Scene Coordinator

1. Dispersants \*
2. Surface Washing Agents \*
3. Surface Collecting Agents
4. Bioremediation Agents
5. Burning Agents
6. Misc. Oil Spill Control Agents
7. Mixed Products
8. Sorbents

\*RRT6 has developed pre-authorization or expedited approval processes for these countermeasures.



\* In the event the FOSC institutes use of this countermeasure without prior consultation of the RRT and Natural Resource Trustees, the FOSC shall conduct the consultation as soon as possible.

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## 1. Dispersants

### A. Pre-Authorization To Apply Dispersant : Aerial And Boat Application

#### Region 6 Dispersant Policy & Pre-Authorization:

<http://rrt6.org/Uploads/Files/Appendix%2011%20--%20Offshore%20Dispersant%20Pre-Authorization%20Plan%20--%202001.pdf>

### B. Expedited Approval Process To Apply Dispersants Near-Shore:

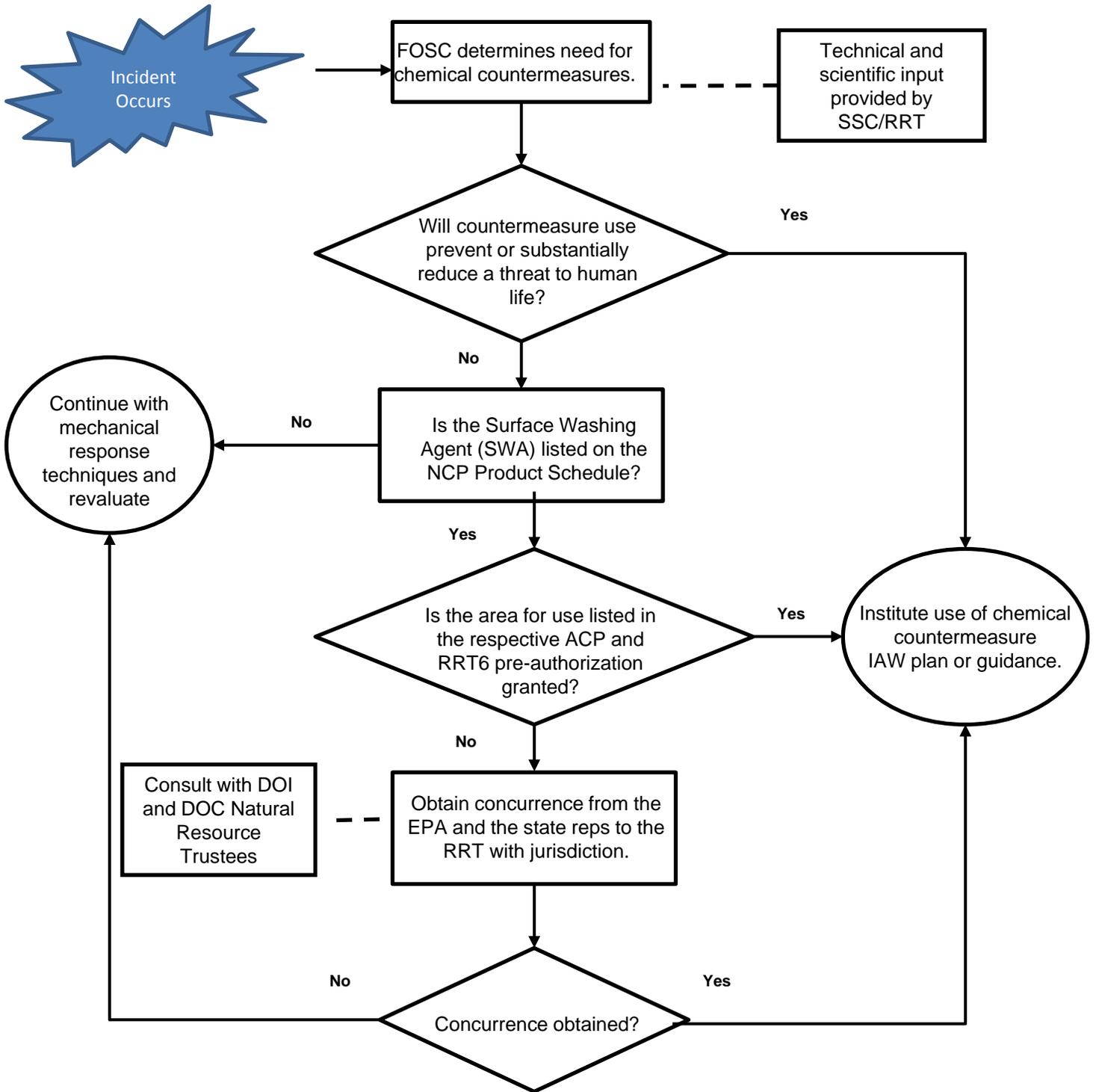
#### Region 6 Expedited Near-Shore Dispersant Guidelines

<http://rrt6.org/Uploads/Files/Appendix%2012%20--%20Near%20Shore%20Dispersant%20Approval%20Process%20--%202005.pdf>

### C. Atypical Dispersant Operations (Prolonged And Sub-Sea Dispersant Use):

#### NRT Atypical Dispersant Guidance

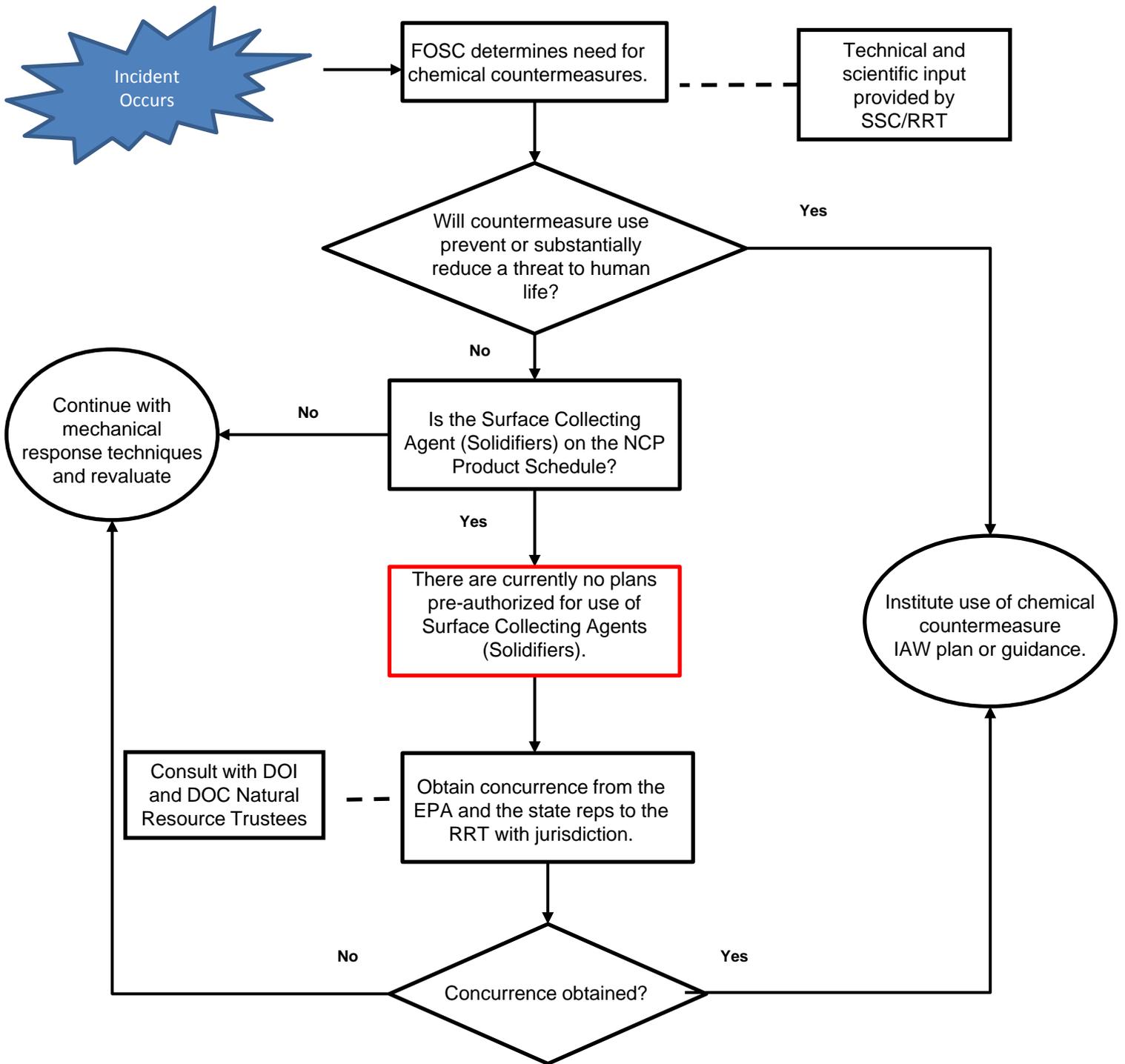
[http://rrt6.org/Uploads/Files/Appendix%2034%20--%20NRT%20Atypical%20Dispersant%20Guidance\\_Final\\_5-30-2013.pdf](http://rrt6.org/Uploads/Files/Appendix%2034%20--%20NRT%20Atypical%20Dispersant%20Guidance_Final_5-30-2013.pdf)



## 2. Surface Washing Agents

### Region 6 Pre-Authorization For Surface Washing Agents

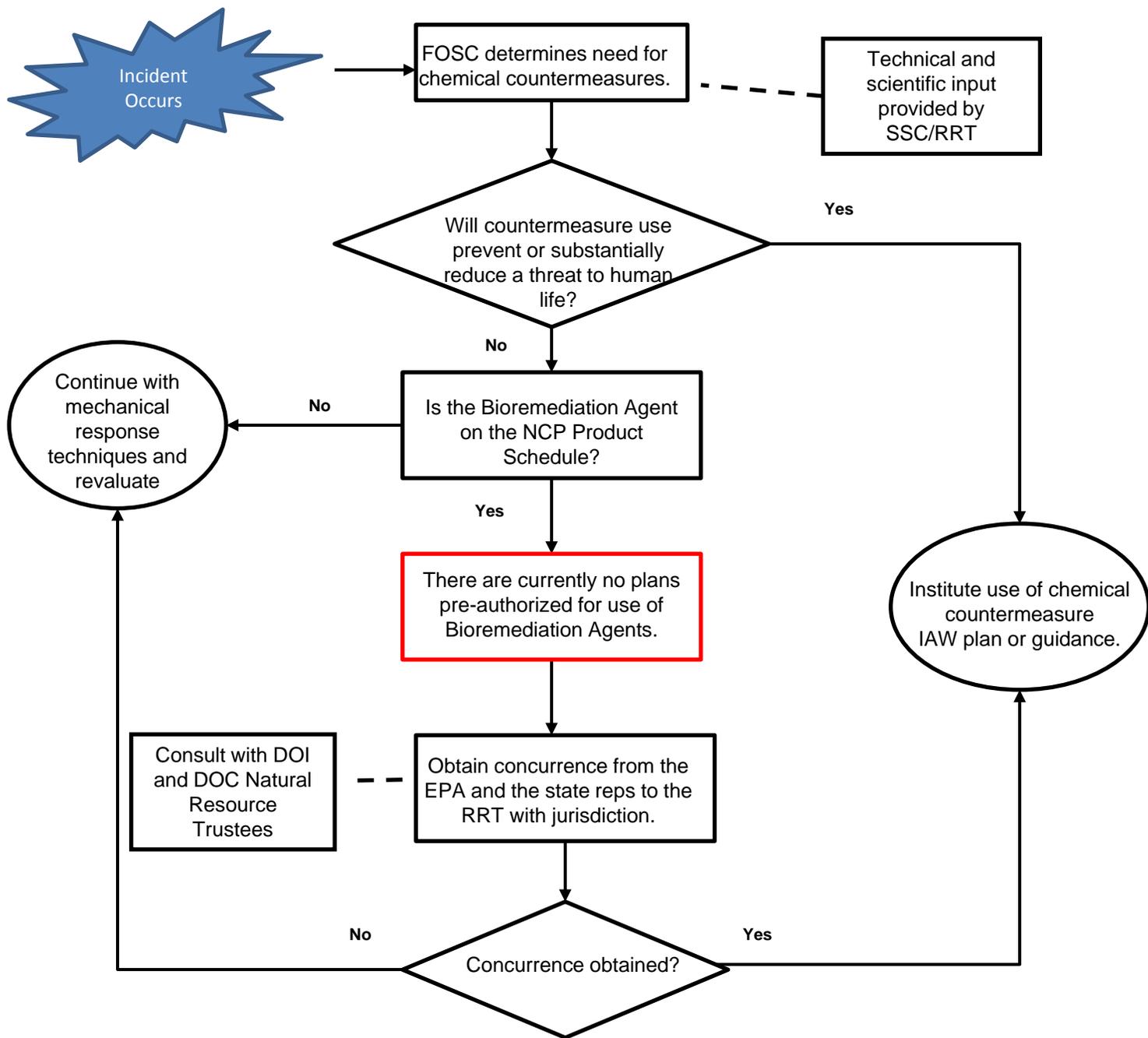
<http://rrt6.org/Uploads/Files/Appendix%2023%20--%20Surface%20Washing%20Procedures%20--%202003.pdf>



### 3. Surface Collecting Agents (Solidifiers)

#### Use of Solidifiers in Oil Spill Responses

<http://rrt6.org/Uploads/Files/FS%20--%20153%20--%20Application%20of%20Sorbents%20and%20Solidifiers%20For%20Oil%20Spills.pdf>



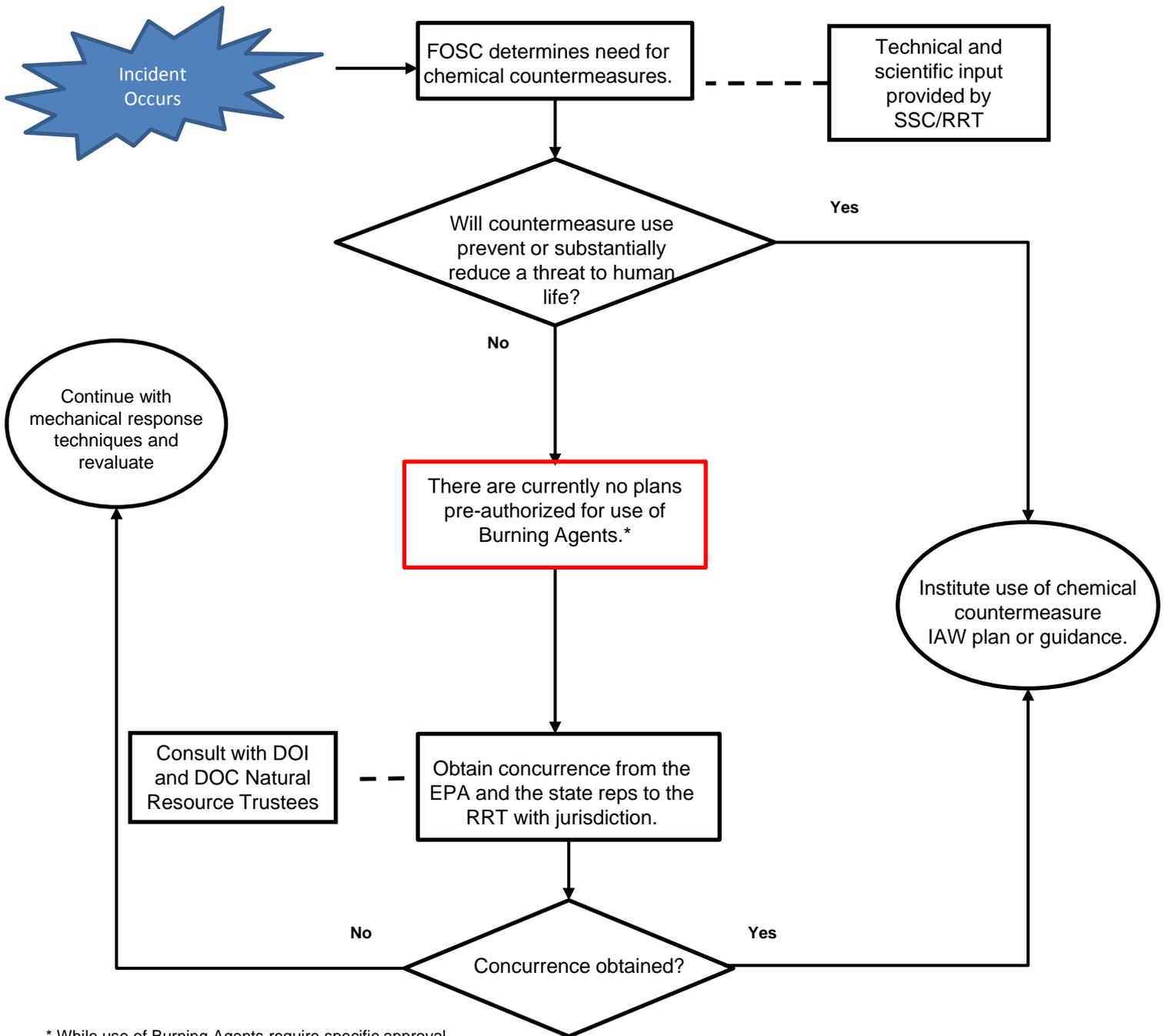
#### 4. Bioremediation Agents

##### A. Bioremediation In Oil Response:

[http://www.nrt.org/production/NRT/NRTWeb.nsf/AllAttachmentsByTitle/A-78bioremedFS/\\$File/bioremed\\_FS.pdf?OpenElement](http://www.nrt.org/production/NRT/NRTWeb.nsf/AllAttachmentsByTitle/A-78bioremedFS/$File/bioremed_FS.pdf?OpenElement)

##### B. Guidelines For The Bioremediation Of Marine Shorelines And Freshwater Wetlands:

[http://www.nrt.org/production/NRT/NRTWeb.nsf/AllAttachmentsByTitle/A-62EPA\\_marine\\_bioremediation/\\$File/EPA\\_marine\\_bioremediation.pdf?OpenElement](http://www.nrt.org/production/NRT/NRTWeb.nsf/AllAttachmentsByTitle/A-62EPA_marine_bioremediation/$File/EPA_marine_bioremediation.pdf?OpenElement)

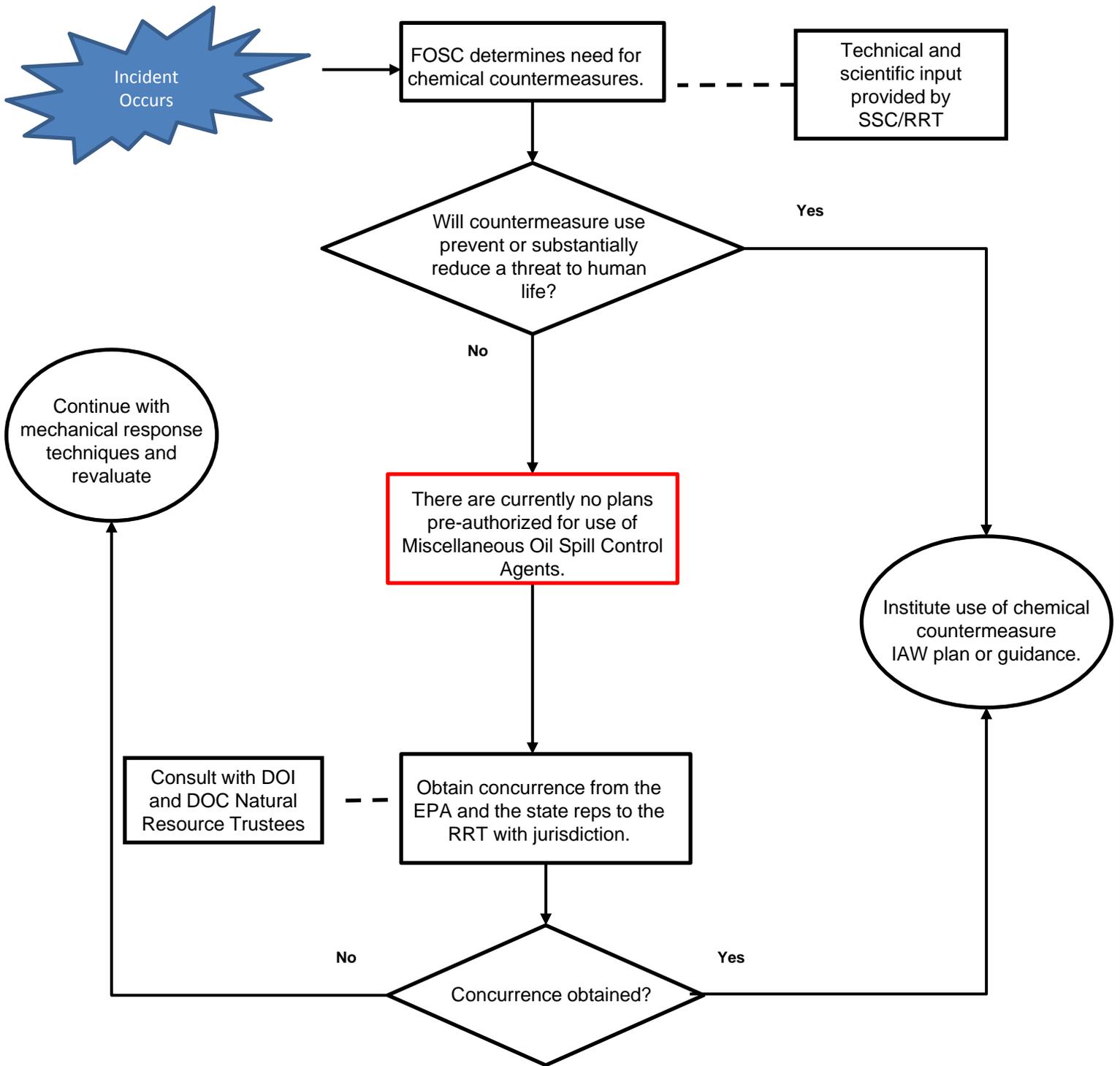


\* While use of Burning Agents require specific approval from RRT6, pre-authorization of the in-situ burn technique has been granted per the In-Situ Burn Plan (see link below).

## 5. Burning Agents

### In-Situ Burn Policy & Pre-Authorization

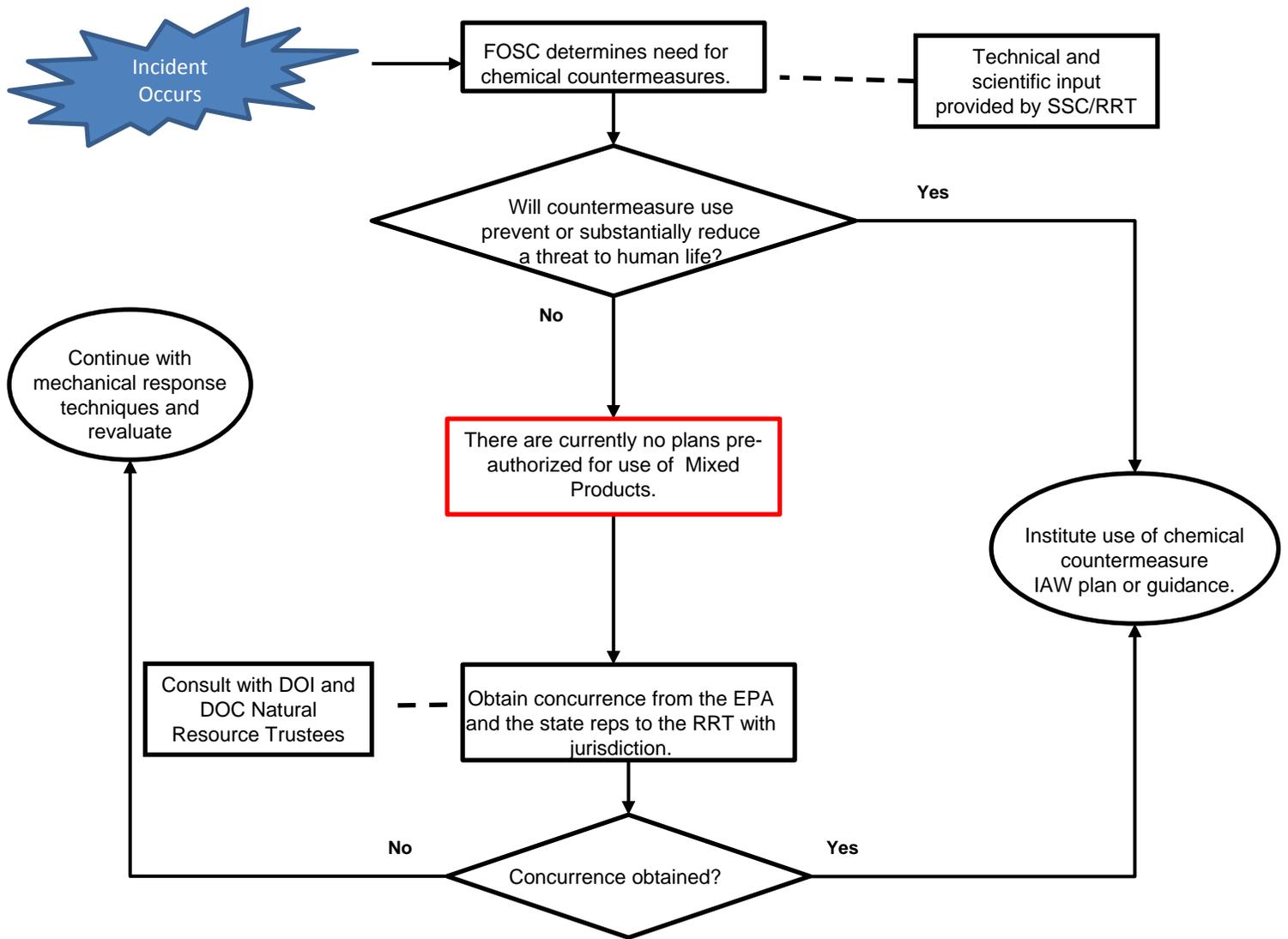
<http://rrt6.org/Uploads/Files/Appendix%2013%20--%20In-Situ%20Pre-Authorization%20Plan%20--%201994.pdf>



## 6. Miscellaneous Oil Spill Control Agents

### Selection Guide For Oil Spill Applied Technologies, Vol. 1: Decision Making

[http://www.nrt.org/production/NRT/NRTWeb.nsf/AllAttachmentsByTitle/A-61NOAASelectionGuide/\\$File/NOAA\\_Selection\\_Guide.pdf?OpenElement](http://www.nrt.org/production/NRT/NRTWeb.nsf/AllAttachmentsByTitle/A-61NOAASelectionGuide/$File/NOAA_Selection_Guide.pdf?OpenElement)



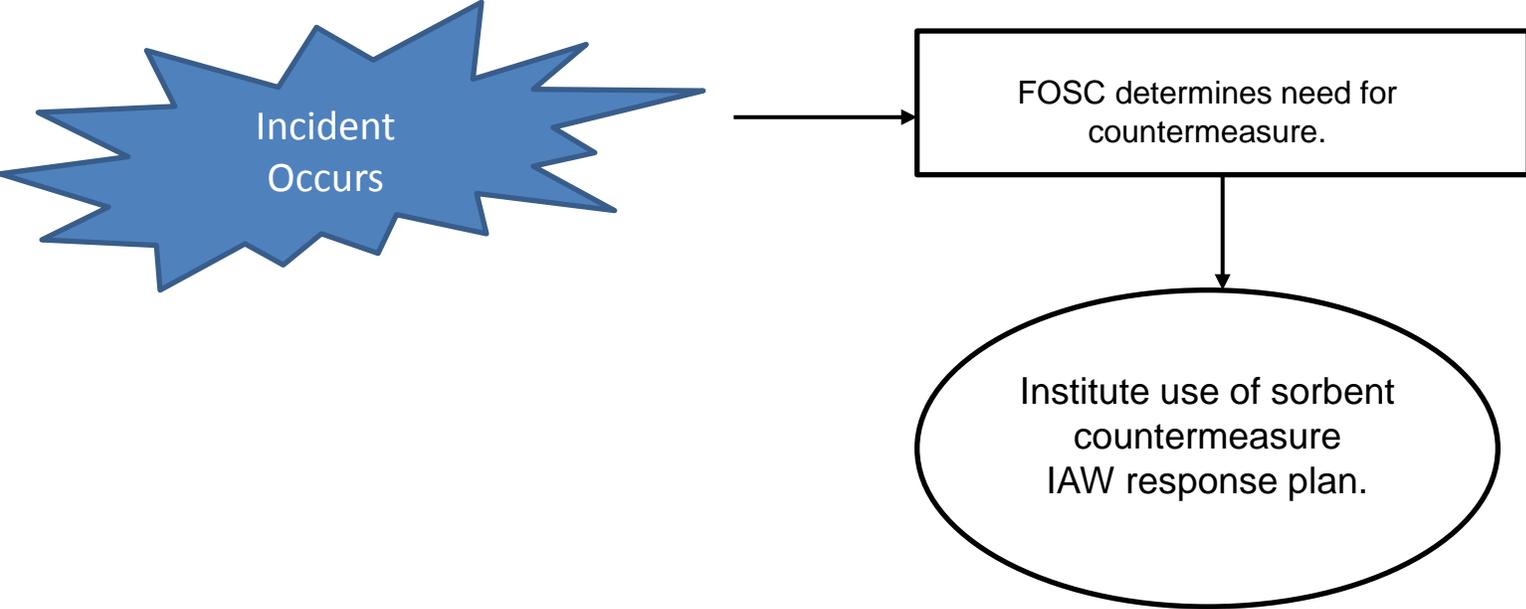
## 7. Mixed Products

Manufacturers of products that consist of materials that meet the definitions of two or more of the product categories contained on the NCP Product Schedule shall submit to EPA the technical product data specified in this section for each of those product categories.

After review of the submitted technical product data, and the performance of required dispersant effectiveness and toxicity tests, if appropriate, EPA will make a determination on whether and under which category the mixed product should be listed on the Schedule.

# Acronyms

ACP	Area Contingency Plan	NOAA	National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration
DOC	Department of Commerce	NRT	National Response Team
DOI	Department of the Interior	RCP	Regional Contingency Plan
EPA	Environmental Protection Agency	RRT	Regional Response Team
FOSC	Federal On-Scene Coordinator	SSC	Scientific Support Coordinator (NOAA)
IAW	In accordance with	USCG	United States Coast Guard
NCP	National Contingency Plan		



Incident  
Occurs

FOSC determines need for  
countermeasure.

Institute use of sorbent  
countermeasure  
IAW response plan.

## 8. Sorbents/Solidifiers

The EPA does not require technical product data submissions for sorbents and does not include sorbents on the NCP Product Schedule. Solidifiers are classified as chemical agents, as defined in 40 CFR 300.5, and must be on the schedule (see slide #3 Surface Collecting Agents). A sorbent countermeasure may generally be used without any prior OSC approval. Sorbents generally consist of the following materials:

- Organic products such as peat moss, straw, cellulose fibers, cork, corn cobs, chicken, duck, or other bird feathers; mineral compounds such as volcanic ash, perlite, vermiculite, zeolite or synthetic products such as polypropylene, polyethylene, polyurethane or polyester.

In rare instances, OSCs may request a written certification from manufacturers of sorbent materials that their product is made solely of the materials listed above prior to allowing their use.

For additional guidance on Sorbent use, refer to the following link:

### Use of Sorbents in Oil Spill Responses

<http://rrt6.org/Uploads/Files/FS%20--%20153%20--%20Application%20of%20Sorbents%20and%20Solidifiers%20For%20Oil%20Spills.pdf>