

Wildlife Resiliency Course Schedule



Oceans &
Wildlife
Institute

Advancing Wildlife Resiliency.

Day 1 October 20, 2026

0800 – 0830 Doors Open (0730)
Welcome & Opening Session

0830 – 1130 Foundations of Wildlife Branch Operations

1130 – 1230 Lunch / Wildlife Response Case Studies

1230 – 1245 Break / Transit to Next Class

1245 – 1415

ICS Practical Training
Operations Section

ICS Practical Training
Planning Section

Oil Containment &
Recovery
Techniques Training

1415 – 1430 Break / Transit to Next Class

1430 – 1530

ACP Training

Safety Officer Training

1530 – 1545 Break / Transit
to Next Class

1545 – 1630

National Weather
Service Overview

1430 – 1630
Chain of Custody Training

Wildlife Resiliency Course Description



Oceans &
Wildlife
Institute
Advancing Wildlife Resiliency.

Day 1 October 20, 2026

Day 1 - Wildlife Resiliency Workshop (0800 – 1630)

1. Course: Foundations of Wildlife Branch Operations

Time: 0830 – 1130

Course Description: A comprehensive, hands-on course designed to prepare emergency responders and wildlife professionals for all-hazard incidents involving wildlife. This course provides participants with a foundational understanding of wildlife branch operations and wildlife rehabilitation activities conducted during environmental emergencies, natural disasters, and other response incidents affecting wildlife. The course introduces the organizational structure, operational functions, and coordination requirements necessary to safely and effectively respond to wildlife impacts while supporting incident objectives and natural resource protection efforts.

2. Course: Wildlife Response Case Studies

Time: 1130 – 1230

Course Description: These case studies use past wildlife incidents to provide participants with practical experience in applying emergency management and Incident Command System (ICS) principles to wildlife response operations. Through a detailed review, participants will examine the challenges associated with wildlife emergencies, including animal rescue, rehabilitation, resource coordination, interagency collaboration, and release.

3. Course: ICS Practical Training - Operations Section

Time: 1245 – 1415

Course Description: This course provides participants with practical, hands-on training in the Operations Section to support Wildlife Resiliency. Attendees will develop the knowledge and skills needed to manage tactical operations during incidents and planned events while working within the ICS organizational structure. The course focuses on the roles, responsibilities, and functions of Operations Section personnel, including incident assessment, operational planning and task assignment, span of control, and coordination with other ICS sections.

4. Course: ICS Practical Training - Planning Section

Time: 1245 – 1415

Course Description: This course provides participants with practical, hands-on training in the Planning Section to support Wildlife Resiliency. Learners will gain the knowledge and skills necessary to support incident management through information collection, analysis, planning processes, resource tracking, and documentation. The course emphasizes the critical role of the Planning Section, identification of unit leader responsibilities, facilitating informed decision-making, and supporting the achievement of incident objectives.

Wildlife Resiliency Course Description



Oceans &
Wildlife
Institute
Advancing Wildlife Resiliency.

Day 1 October 20, 2026

5. Course: Oil Containment and Recovery Techniques Training

Time: 1245 – 1415

Course Description: This course provides participants with an overview of oil spill containment and recovery techniques used during emergency response operations to prevent wildlife impacts. Participants will learn the principles of oil spill behavior, containment boom deployment strategies, skimming operations, shoreline protection measures, and oil recovery methods. The course emphasizes operational considerations, safety requirements, equipment capabilities and limitations, and best practices for coordinating containment and recovery activities in marine environments.

6. Course: Area Contingency Plan Training

Time: 1430 – 1530

Course Description: This course provides participants with a foundational understanding of the South Texas Area Contingency Plan (ACP) and its role in preparedness, response, and recovery for oil spills and hazardous substance releases. Participants will learn the purpose, structure, and regulatory framework of ACPs, as well as how these plans support coordinated response efforts among federal, state, local, tribal, territorial, and industry partners. The course explores the components of the ACP, including geographic response strategies, environmentally sensitive areas, response resources, notification procedures, stakeholder coordination, and integration with the Incident Command System (ICS).

7. Course: Safety Officer Training

Time: 1430 – 1530

Course Description: This course provides participants with an understanding of the requirements and the responsibilities of a Safety Officer within emergency response, wildlife response, environmental operations, and field work environments. The course focuses on identifying, communicating, and mitigating hazards to ensure the health and safety of personnel during incident responses.

8. Course: Chain of Custody Training

Time: 1430 – 1630

Course Description: This course provides participants with the knowledge and practical skills necessary to establish, maintain, and document a secure chain of custody for wildlife evidence, specimens, samples, and related records collected during wildlife response operations, investigations, environmental incidents, and natural resource damage assessments. The course emphasizes the importance of maintaining specimen integrity, ensuring accountability, and supporting scientific, regulatory, and legal processes through proper evidence handling and documentation.

Wildlife Resiliency Course Description



**Oceans &
Wildlife
Institute**
Advancing Wildlife Resiliency.

Day 1 October 20, 2026

9. Course: National Weather Service Overview

Time: 1545 – 1630

Course Description: This course provides participants with a foundational understanding of the National Weather Service (NWS) and its role in weather forecasting, hazard communication, and decision support for emergency management, environmental response, and public safety operations to support Wildlife Resiliency. The course introduces the structure, mission, and core functions of the NWS, with emphasis on how weather products and warnings support operational planning and incident response.