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**A LARGE SCALE
OILED BIRD RESPONSE PLAN
IN THE NETHERLANDS**

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Stichting Olievogelopvang Nederland (SON)

Foundation Oiled bird rescue The Netherlands

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Integrated planning with multi stakeholder involvement

Initiated by the Ministry of Transport and Watermanagement The Netherlands

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Start of the proces **SEA ALARM FOUNDATION**

- Government was working on the capacity plan for the North Sea, Zeeland Delta and the Wadden (2005)
- Sea Alarm: what about oiled birds?
 - 5 bird coast rehabilitation centres (r.c.)
 - well prepared for small quantities
- Waterstate dep.: we ask the Minister
- Answer: great public interest

so get it done!

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Starting points

- Minimize animal suffering
- High quality protocols with high success
- Scientific research of impact on population
- Co-operation with oilspill cleanup of

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Parties involved

- **Government**
 - Waterstate department
 - Ministry of Agriculture
 - Municipalities, Polders
- **NGO's**
 - Sea Alarm
 - Rehabilitations centres (SON)
- **Other Organizations**
 - Rotterdam Zoo
 - NIOZ, NOIVBD




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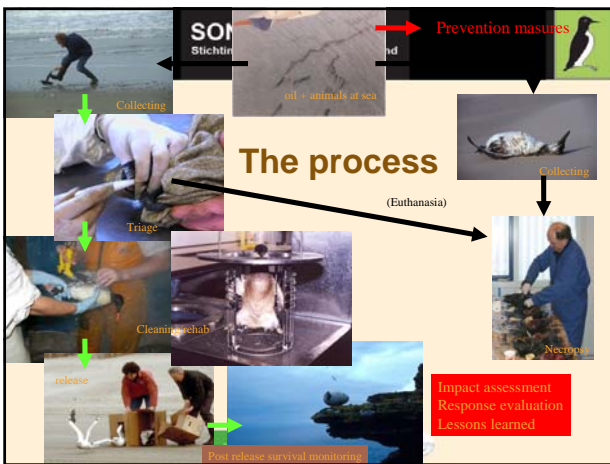
Challenge

To develop a response organization with respect of existing responsibilities, qualities and possibilities.

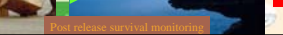



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The process



Prevention measures
oil animals at sea
Collecting
(Euthanasia)
Triage
Cleaning/shed
release
Post release survival monitoring
Necropsy
Impact assessment
Response evaluation
Lessons learned



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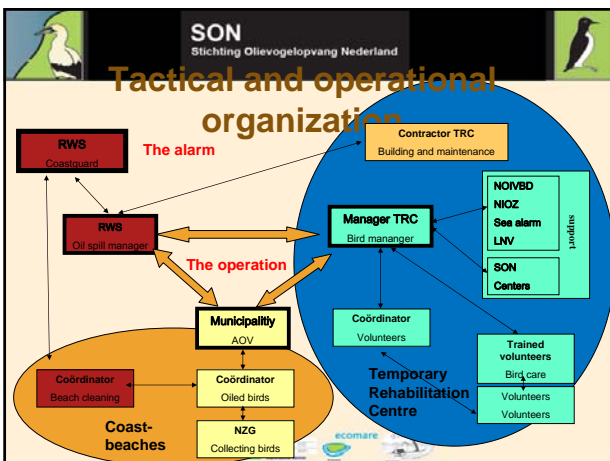
Solution

Temporary Rehabilitation Centre (TRC)





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Tactical and operational organization



The alarm
The operation
Coast-beaches
Temporary Rehabilitation Centre



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Everything is documented in an operational manual






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Important negotiation points and their solutions

- Who will pay the bill
- Responsibilities
- Assistance from municipalities
- Mobilisation volunteers
- Worst case scenario





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Who will pay the bill?


- The bird rehabilitation is only a minor part of the total costs of a cleaning operation
- These will be incooperated in the total costs when a TRC becomes operational
- The RWS will include these costs in the total damage claims



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Responsibilities

- The RWS (government) has the overall responsibility
- **TRC yes/no**; when numbers of casualties overflow the capacity of 2 rehabilitation centers and after consultation of SON
- The manager TRC is responsible for the bird cleaning and release operation



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Assistance from municipalities


- The M's are responsible for transport of the birds to the TRC
- The M's provide local logistics: power, water, heating and localization of the TRC
- The M's are in charge of sanitation, feeding and housing of the TRC and volunteers



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Mobilisation volunteers


- Coordination of the ad-hoc volunteers is the responsibility of the Zoo coordinator
- Aquiring and Training of volunteers outside the spill time is for SON, in casu: the Rehabilitation Centers



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Worst case scenario

- When to many victims are offered and **animal welfare** cannot be guaranteed euthanasia is also in the protocol.
- This will be a combined decision of SON and RWS



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April 4, 2009

Official signing of the agreement

and a first presentation of a TRC to the parties involved and the press



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First SON training course October 23-24, 2009



For SON members only to get familiar with the protocol and to learn to understand and working in a TRC to learn training volunteers




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Continuous points of interest

- The guarantees of safety and health of the people involved
- The collection and disposal of oiled materials and water
- Training and preparing volunteers for the TRC
- Finding the responsible persons and claiming the costs
- Training of all groups and persons involved
- To keep the protocols updated

9 april 2009



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Questions? Discussion?

My special thanks to Dick Knoesters of RWS and Hugo Nijkamp Sea Alarm as motors to make this possible.

Thank you

