

the Department indicating that the activities are in conformity with the prescribed rules and regulations.

(c) Whenever there occurs in the waters of the State any condition indicative of damage to aquatic resources, including, but not limited to, mortality of fish and other aquatic life, the Department shall investigate the incident, determine the nature and extent of the damage, and establish the cause and source of the occurrence. The Department shall act on these findings and require repair of any damage done and restoration of water resources to a degree necessary to protect the best interest of the people of the State. Any person who is determined to be responsible for the discharge or spillage of any such substance shall be personally and/or severally responsible to immediately clean up and abate the effects of the spillage and restore the natural resources of the State. If the Department believes instituting suit is advisable, it shall turn over to the Attorney General all pertinent information and data. The Attorney General then shall file suit against the person causing the condition. The person shall be jointly and severally liable for the reasonable cost of rehabilitation and restoration of the resources damaged and the cost of eliminating the condition causing the damage, including the environmental monetary value of such resources as established by regulation.

[8-1406] 4-406.

The Maryland Port Administration is responsible for developing a program, including training, to enable the State to respond to an emergency oil spillage in the Baltimore Harbor area and the Department of [Natural Resources] THE ENVIRONMENT is responsible for developing a similar program in other waters of the State. These units shall coordinate efforts of the various State and local units aiding in the operation and may request the aid of any appropriate federal agency if necessary.

[8-1407] 4-407.

(a) Except for a vessel carrying or receiving 25 barrels or less of oil, any vessel, whether or not self-propelled, in or entering upon the waters of the state to discharge or receive a cargo of any bulk oil in the State shall post a bond of \$100 per gross ton of vessel with either the Maryland Port Administration or the Department of [Natural Resources] THE ENVIRONMENT. The bond shall be in a form approved by the Administration and the Department and may be obtained individually or jointly by the vessel, its owner or agent, its charterer, or the owner or operator of the terminal at which the vessel discharges or receives the bulk oil. If the Maryland Port Administration or the Department of [Natural Resources] THE ENVIRONMENT determines oil has been discharged or spilled into the waters of the State from the vessel, the bond shall be forfeited, to the extent of the costs incurred by these units to eliminate the residue of oil