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P E T R O S A F E
Petroleum Safety & Environmental Services Company









Oil Spill

An oil spill is a form of pollution. It is the release of a liquid petroleum hydrocarbon into the environment, especially marine areas, due to human activity. The term "oil spill" is usually applied to marine oil spills, where oil is released into the ocean or coastal waters, but spills may also occur on land. Oil spills may be due to releases of crude oil from tankers, offshore platforms, drilling rigs and wells, as well as spills of refined petroleum products (such as gasoline, diesel) and their by-products, heavier fuels used by large ships such as bunker fuel, or the spill of any oily refuse or waste oil.

Impacts of Oil Spill

In general, spilled oil can affect animals and plants in two ways: direct from the oil and from the response or cleanup process. There is no clear relationship between the amount of oil in the aquatic environment and the likely impact on biodiversity. A smaller spill at the wrong time/wrong season and in a sensitive environment may prove much more harmful than a larger spill at another time of the year in another or even the same environment.



Steps of Response to an Oil Spill

[1] **Assess Situation**

[2] Activate Contingency Plan

[3] **Activate Organizational** Response

[5] **Activate Operational**

[4] **Prepare Response Action** Plan

[7] **Deactivate Response**

[8] **Consolidate Costs**

[9] **Debrief and Report**