

USE OF PROTECTION NETS

PRINCIPLE

Left: Installation of moorings

Right: Nets deployed on a beach

This technique relies on the capacity of fine mesh nets to capture clusters of heavy fuel oil. Each net is anchored at one end and follows the water movements to recover all the tar balls it meets as it sweeps through the water.

The nets are generally 5 to 10 m long and 1 to 3 m wide (the size should be suited to the site). They are set up above the half tide line, so that they partially emerge at high tide. This technique is used as a preventive solution, to trap any potential deposits of oil.



CONDITIONS OF USE

- ✓ **Pollution:** viscous oil
- ✓ **Substrate:** all
- ✓ **Site:** beaches

EQUIPMENT

- **Basic equipment:**
 - ✓ Nets with small mesh size
 - ✓ Big bags, mooring points, boulders or concrete blocks
- **Extra equipment:**
 - ✓ Excavator (to bury mooring points)
- **PPE:** At least protective clothing: overalls, boots, gloves... depending on the nature of the pollutant, exposure and responder activity.



- ✓ Anchor the nets at low tide using a makeshift mooring (net wrapped around stones or, even better, using a big bag filled with sand) that is buried using an excavator for instance)
- ✓ Check nets several times a day, for suitable positioning on the shore, to make sure they do not become buried under sand or torn away by the sea. They should be removed and replaced when oiled
- ✓ Use on sticky, viscous pollutant such as heavy fuel oil. Significantly less effective on light oil (lack of adherence of this type of pollutant), or even completely ineffective on relatively exposed sites
- ✓ Make sure that the mooring is strong enough, so that the net will not be carried away by the tide.



IMPACT

None



PERFORMANCE

Implementation: at least 2 to 3 people (the same goes for maintenance).

Onsite maintenance is time-consuming and involves:

- ✓ checking the solidity of moorings
- ✓ repositioning the nets according to the tide
- ✓ replacing oiled nets.

Waste: very lightly to very heavily polluted nets

Oiled net and its mooring (big bag filled with sand)



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