

# OIL SPILLS



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# THE PROBLEM



Oil quantities by accident or human negligence leak and spread at sea level , making it one of the most serious causes of pollution and destruction of flora and fauna in the area they occupy. Oil spills can be caused by accidents at oil tankers , the illegal cleaning of fuel tanks of ships at sea and rejection.

# WHAT CAUSES THE PROBLEM OF OIL SPILLS?

When an oil spill is created, oil not only stays at sea level, but creates tar balls that fall to the bottom. However, studies of benthic communities in previous oil spills, showed that the diversity and distribution of these communities was not affected, especially if the area has a large depth. On the other hand, other researches indicated that communities that live on the bottom and not in such benthic, showed a decrease in their numbers , but very soon they returned to their pre-accident levels .



# WHAT ADDRESSES THE PROBLEM OF OIL SPILLS?

There are different ways of dealing with oil spills according to the region , the establishment of oil and weather conditions. Usually special " sweepers " and " dams " collect oil and transfer it to disposal stations on land, while in other cases the contamination is treated with chemicals that have the ability to break down oil and usually precipitate at the bottom of the sea area .







