

# Oil on the Beach

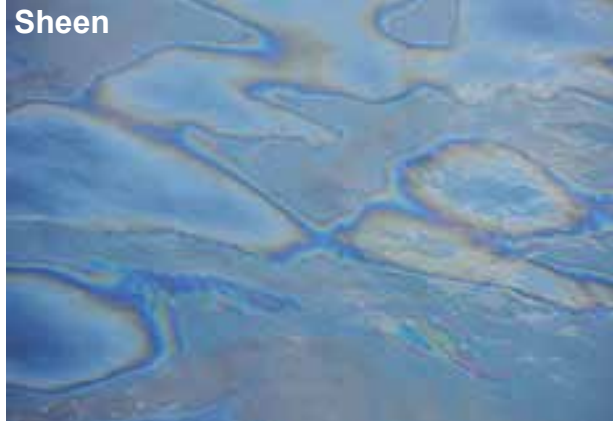
## What it is...

Emulsion



Brown, rust, or orange in color. Pudding-like, sticky. Little odor.

Sheen



Very thin layer of fresh oil. May be transparent, rainbow, grey or silvery in color.

Tar Balls



MC252 oil will weather to form small, hard, floating black pellets or chunks of oil.

Tar Balls and Burn Residue



Brittle, hard, asphalt-like, typically mixed with unburned fresh oil. Burn residue may be mistaken for tar balls.

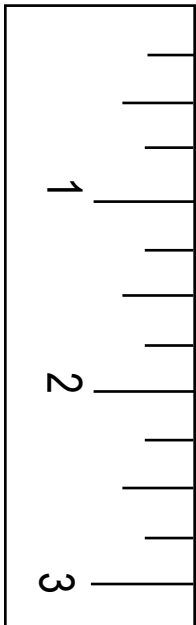
## What it isn't...

Algae and Submerged Aquatic Vegetation



## What to do...

- Do take a photo.
- Do use this ruler to show size.
- Do note color, appearance, location, date and time.
- Do report it to 1-866-448-5816.
- Do avoid contact.
- If skin contact occurs, do flush with water or remove with baby oil.



# Questions? Concerns? 1-866-448-5816

# What's Being Done

## Oil at Sea

DEEPWATER  
HORIZON  
RESPONSE

Oil coming to the water surface is controlled in a variety of ways to contain and prevent it from reaching shore.

### Skimming



Oil is contained using booms and removed from the water using skimmers.

### Controlled Burning



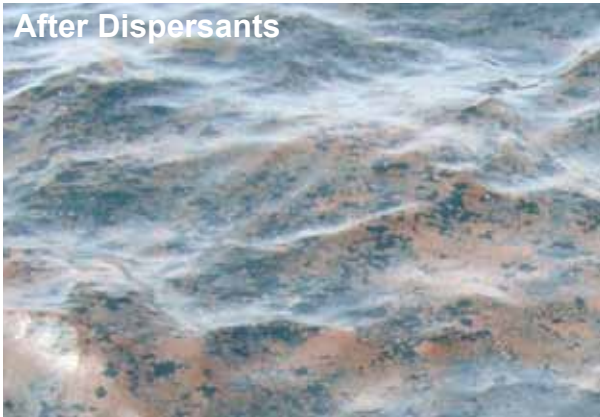
Oil is contained and burned on the surface of the ocean if weather conditions will safely allow for this to take place.

### Before Dispersants



The use of dispersants significantly reduces the formation of emulsions, which can resemble chocolate mousse. Emulsions are thicker and stickier than fresh oil.

### After Dispersants



Dispersant chemicals are used to break oil slicks into fine droplets that then disperse into the water column.

## Oil on Shore

### Placing Oil Containment Boom



### Shoreline Cleanup and Assessment Technique Team



For more information on oil characteristics:

[www.noaa.com](http://www.noaa.com)

[www.deepwaterhorizonresponse.com](http://www.deepwaterhorizonresponse.com)