

US EPA ARCHIVE DOCUMENT



Oil Spill Response



Oil Spills in Wadis: Access, risk assessments and clean up Technique

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A Timeline of Yemen Incidents

02 nd June	04 th June	06 th June	30 th June	26 th July	28 th July	11 th Aug	20 th Aug	24 th Aug	01 st Sept	13 th Sept	
Yemen 1 incident	Mobilised	On site	Begin pipeline spill assistance	Sites Wadi Bin Ali and Wadi Dema'a complete	Sites Wadi Gariba'a and Shibam complete	Demob	Yemen 2 incident	Technical Advisor mobilised	Response mobilised	Demob	
Technical advise			Response		Closeout		Technical advise		Response		Closeout

Initial Summary

- On the 24th August 2008 Oil Spill Response were asked to mobilise a technical advisor to Yemen.
 - Unknown quantity of oil spilt in two separate locations.
 - Believed to be a mixture of used engine oil, water and sludge.
 - Requested to send a Technical advisor with previous experience of Yemen.
 - 1 Technical advisor sent out free of charge for the first 24hrs



Mukalla checkpoint initial Assessment

Background

- Moderately-lightly oiled for a distance of 200-300m (35% coverage) with stranded oil on substrate and flora.
- Spillage of used engine oil, water and sludge



Situation

- From the pumping point at the top of the Wadi oiling extended with a covering of stranded oil on rocks and light oiling in vegetation. The covering was of approx. 1-2mm of oil lies over sediment.
- Estimated oil quantities worst case scenario 2700l

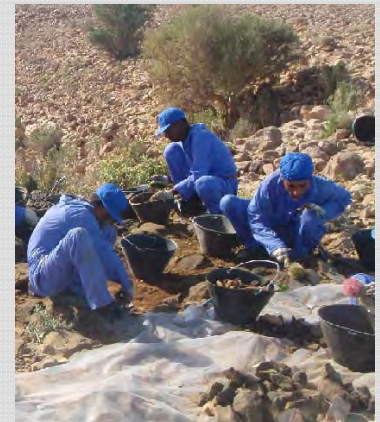


Mukalla checkpoint response

💧 Remedy

- A manual skimming was implemented to remove the top 1-2mm of sediment.
- Rocks were placed to one side and were scrubbed using clean sand as an abrasive.
- Oiled sediment was collected in plastic bags before being taken to the clients waste handling site.

- 💧 Work was estimated to take 2-3 weeks to clean.



Mukalla checkpoint response

🔹 Requirements

- 70 personnel to clean site
- Transport of personnel to/from site and food and drink during period prior and post Ramadan
- 2000 Plastic bags
- Assortment of 70 shovels and trowels
- Assortment of 70 brushes
- 1 x temporary shelter
- 6 x Tarpaulin



Ramadan

- Work was estimated to take 2-3 weeks to clean due to the limited working hours and slower pace of work that occurs during the month of Ramadan.
- Measures taken to improve conditions
 - Increased personnel
 - Fixed temporary shelter
 - Movable shelters to provide shade
 - Reduced working hours



Wadi Mukalla Initial assessment

Background

- The Wadi closest to the contractors camp, moderately oiled (25%-30% coverage) over a distance of 400m with free floating oil in ponds and on substrate.
- Oil was initially pumped into a 1m³ concrete bund which has a pipe leading to the Wadi.



Wadi Mukalla Initial assessment

💧 Situation

- Oiling extended between the concrete bund and the Wadi top with 4-5inch hose. From the Wadi top oiling extends down the Wadi with stranded oil on rocks and in vegetation. The majority of the oil is stranded in a large pool towards the top of the Wadi which is to be designated the critical area. However the Wadi had also received pumping of black water (sewage) which is made the extent of the oiling unclear.
- Samples were taken from the following three locations
 - Location 1 – Large pool (critical area)
 - Location 2 – Intermediate pool 2
 - Location 3 – Intermediate pool 4

- 💧 These samples were given to client for analysis to determine the extent of the oiling, as the client and oil ministry representatives were happy to leave the black water untouched.

- 💧 Estimated oil quantity worst case scenario 2000 litres



Wadi Mukalla Sample results

💧 Large pool

- Muddy black colour dirty liquid.
- Contains oil, sludge and sand.
- Approximately 2% oil



💧 Intermediate pool 2

- Muddy liquid containing little amounts of oil residue resented with sand
- Approximately 0.7-1.3% oil



💧 Intermediate pool 4

- Off white colour muddy
- Contains Hydrocarbon traces with little amount of sand
- Approximately 0.3-0.5% oil



Access Issues

- ❶ Difficult access to Wadi Mukalla resulted in the site being closed to operations.
- ❷ Moderate-difficult access to upper portions of the Wadi
- ❸ Access to lower portions of Wadi
Extremely difficult – impossible with out ladders, scaffolding or climbing equipment.
- ❹ No alternative exit routes for lower portions of the Wadi

Access Issues



- 💧 Main access for Wadi Mukalla. Picture shows rock steps and right hand turn to traverse.

Access Issues



- 💧 Main access for Wadi Mukalla. Picture shows View of traverse.

Access Issues



- Main access for Wadi Mukalla. Picture shows Traverse with descent.

Access Issues



- View back at the main access for Wadi Mukalla

Access Issues



- 💧 Access to Proposed ladder position



- 💧 View down proposed ladder site.

Access Issues



💧 Possible Emergency exit routes

Risk Assessment



Task

- Entrance/exit to the upper portions of the Wadi.



Details

- The entrance to the upper portions of the Wadi consists of a small descent of 1meter on natural rock steps before a 20m traverse.
 - The traverse is made across a 3m wide path with a gentle gradient towards the Wadi floor.
 - After the traverse there is a 180° turn before another traverse. This is down a gradient of approximately 40°-45° with a 0.5m wide path.
 - Finally a small 1m descent of rock steps to the Wadi floor.
- There are minimal opportunities for hand holds.

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Task Risk Assessment

Assessment reference: _____
 Person Responsible: _____
 Activity Description: _____
 Site: _____
 Risk Reference: _____

People at Risk: _____
 Consequences: _____

Number of people at risk: _____

Task	Hazard	Severity	Frequency	Control

Severity Rating

1. No injuries or illness
2. Minor injuries or illness
3. Over 3 days away from work
4. Major injury or illness
5. Major injury or illness - permanent disability
6. Fatality

Frequency Rating

1. Almost impossible
2. Rarely possible - unknown occurrence
3. Rarely possible - known occurrence
4. Occasionally but infrequent occurrence
5. Likely to occur on a regular basis
6. Almost certain

Page 1/10

Risk Assessment



Hazards

- Slips, trips and falls.



Severity

- A fall would likely result in anything from a broken bone and some heavy bruising to severe injury and death in a worst case scenario.



Probability

- Taking into account the quantity of personnel using this path, the frequency of use and the possible duration of the spill probability of this occurring without sufficient control measures put in place would be occasional but infrequent occurrence.

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Task Risk Assessment

Assessment reference: _____
Person Responsible: _____
Activity Description: _____
Site: _____
Ref Reference: _____

People at Risk: _____
Consequences: _____
Number of people at risk: _____

Task	Hazard	Severity	Probability	Control

Health Rating

1. No injury or illness
2. Minor injury or illness
3. Over 3 day injury or illness
4. Major injury or illness
5. Major injury or illness - permanent disability
6. Fatality

Probability Rating

1. Almost impossible
2. Rarely possible - unusual occurrence
3. Rarely possible - common occurrence
4. Occasionally but infrequent occurrence
5. Likely to occur on a regular basis
6. Almost certain

Page 1/10

Risk Assessment



Task

- Entrance/exit to the lower portion of the Wadi.



Details

- Entrance to the lower portion of the Wadi is to be made from the floor of the upper section. From this area personnel will descend a 3-4 meter vertical face via ladder to gain access to the lower portions of the Wadi.



Hazards

- Slips, trips and falls.

The form is titled 'Task Risk Assessment' and is part of the 'Oil Spill Response Ltd. Health & Safety' documentation. It includes sections for 'Current controls', 'Residual equipment', 'Residual assessments', and a table for 'Accident Plan' with columns for 'Task description', 'Comment', 'Person responsible', and 'Date of next assessment'. The form is dated '17/02/18'.

Accident Plan			
Task description	Comment	Person responsible	Date of next assessment

Risk Assessment



Severity

- A fall would likely result in anything from a broken bone and some heavy bruising to severe injury and permanent disability.



Probability

- Taking into account the quantity of personnel using this path, the frequency of use and the possible duration of the spill probability of this occurring without sufficient control measures put in place would be remotely possible with known occurrences.

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Task Risk Assessment

Control controls

Residual controls

Risk assessment

Assessment type e.g. Manual handling	Assessment reference

Accident Plan

Task description	Comments	Person responsible	Completion date

17/02/2018

Risk Assessment

- 💧 Task
 - Emergency exit from wadi in event of flash flood.
- 💧 Details
 - In the event of heavy rain the wadi is prone to flash flooding.
- 💧 Hazards
 - Becoming stranded by the water. Drowning.
- 💧 Severity
 - A flash flood would likely result in washing several personnel down the wadi resulting in similar injuries to a severe slip, trip, fall and in the worst case scenario may result in drowning.
- 💧 Probability
 - Remotely possible with unknown occurrences.

The screenshot shows a 'Task Risk Assessment' form. At the top right, it says 'Oil Spill Response Ltd Health & Safety'. Below the title, there are fields for 'Assessment date' and 'Review date'. There are also fields for 'Assessor' and 'Reviewed by'. A large text box is provided for 'Conclusions'. Below this, there is a 'Signed' line with a date field. Further down, there are fields for 'Authorised' and 'Date Authorised', followed by a 'Authorised Comments' section with another large text box. At the bottom, there is a 'Signed (authorised)' line and a 'Page 1 of 1' indicator.

Risk Assessment



Task

- Exit using emergency escape route



Details

- Exit using emergency escape route. A secondary means of escape is to be rigged in position N15°41'17.5", E048°48'07.9". This rope is to be secured by professionals due to its height (Spanning approx. 60m). However this means of exit is very high risk and is only to be used in the event of an emergency.



Hazards

- Slip, trip and/or fall.



Severity

- A fall from this means of exit would almost certainly result in a major injury and in the worst case scenario death.



Probability

- Remotely possible with unknown circumstances.

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Task Risk Assessment

Assessment reference: _____
 Person Responsible: _____
 Activity Description: _____
 Site: _____
 Risk Reference: _____
 Persons at Risk: _____
 Details: _____
 Number of people at risk: _____

Risk	Impact	Severity	Probability	Control

Search Criteria

1. Top priority at threat
2. Minor injury at threat
3. Over 3 day injury at threat
4. Major injury at threat
5. Major injury at threat - permanent disabilities
6. Death

Exclusion Criteria

1. Almost impossible
2. Remotely possible - unknown circumstances
3. Remotely possible - unknown circumstances
4. Occasionally sufficient circumstances
5. Likely to occur on a regular basis
6. Almost certain

Page 1 of 2

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Task Risk Assessment

Overall opinion: _____

Proposed equipment: _____

Person assessments

Assessment Title (e.g. Control measures)	Assessment Reference

Action Plan

Task Description	Assigned	Person Responsible	Due Date/Target completion date

Page 2 of 2

Conclusion

- 💧 A successful response
 - Site was completed ahead of schedule
 - No accidents or injuries occurred
- 💧 Highlighted the importance of risk assessment
 - Avoids commercial/political pressure to respond in any circumstance
 - Covers legal responsibility of duty of care
- 💧 Good learning experience
 - Allowed for development of strategies for inland response
 - Allowed exposure of dealing with strong cultural issues on a spill site
- 💧 Highlighted the importance of local knowledge





Oil Spill Response



Any Questions?

