



An introduction to SCAT

Inter-Agency Team: SCAT

- As part of an oil spill response, Shoreline Cleanup Assessment Technique (SCAT) Team systematically surveys and documents affected shorelines to provide a rapid and accurate geographic picture of oiling conditions.

Basic components that are part of a SCAT survey include:

- A systematic assessment of all shorelines in the affected waterbody;
- A division of the shoreline into geographic units or 'segments';
- A set of standard terms and definitions for documentation;
- Development of a team of interagency personnel to represent the various interests of the responsible party, land ownership, land use, land management, or governmental responsibility.

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- Data collected provides the basis for cleanup evaluation.
 - Real-time data on oiling conditions at a shoreline are needed to appreciate the nature and scale of the oiling problem.
- Data needed to facilitate spill-response planning and decision-making, including the:
 - assessment of the need for cleanup actions;
 - selection of the most appropriate technique;
 - determination of priorities for cleanup;
 - determination of the endpoint of cleanup activities.

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- SCAT Team provides recommendations for appropriate treatment methods and defines limitations on application of cleanup techniques, so that operations do not result in additional shoreline damage.