

COVID-19 Operational Considerations

A summary for responders conducting shoreline operations during
the COVID-19 outbreak

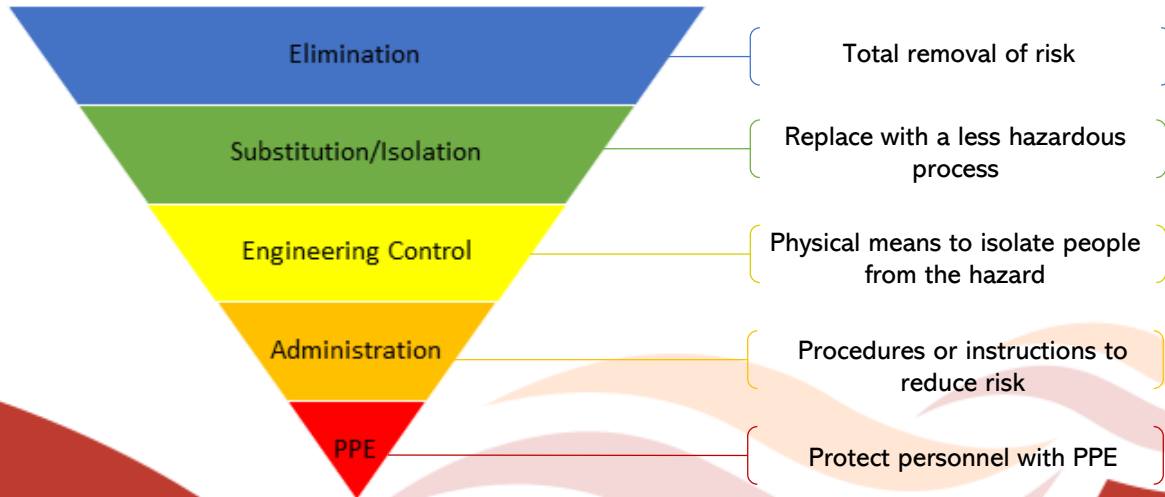


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Hierarchy of Controls

- This guide assumes that a systematic approach to developing a response strategy has been followed, which combines a spill impact mitigation assessment and considerations for minimising the risk to responders and communities posed by COVID-19 – and that shoreline operations have been identified as an appropriate response technique.
- A hierarchy of controls is used to manage risk related to COVID-19 during shoreline operations.



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Shoreline Operations

	Shoreline Protection	Shoreline Clean-Up
Substitution	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• If booming is the most appropriate means of protecting sensitive resources on the shoreline, consider the appropriate selection of boom type to reduce the number of responders needed, for example:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Consider rigid/fence boom over inflatable boom if it is suitable for the environmental conditions, to reduce the manual handling required to inflate/deflate booms.○ Use shorter sections of booms (10m over 20m) to reduce the weight, thus reducing the number of responders needed to deploy.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Select skimmers that are simple systems, to reduce the size and amount of hydraulic hoses. This helps to reduce the weight of the recovery system to make it easier for fewer responders to manage safely.• Use alternative clean up methods wherever possible as a substitute for manual clean-up, to reduce the number of personnel, for example:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Mechanical removal methods○ Surf washing○ Beach cleaning machines can be used to pick up larger pieces of oil tar balls on a sandy beach.
Engineering Control	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Where possible, use engineering aids such as forklifts, ATV, wheelbarrows or other small vehicles to transport equipment and waste. This helps reduce manual handling and minimises the number of personnel involved.• During boom deployment / tending / recovery, consider the use of engineering aids to reduce the number of responders needed and to help maintain physical separation. This may include using lighter anchors if conditions allow, or pulley systems to assist line-handling.	

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	Shoreline Protection	Shoreline Clean-Up												
Engineering Control	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> When two people are required to carry one boom bag, slot a strong pole in the handles of the boom bag and carry the boom bag via the pole to ensure safe distancing. 													
Administration	<p><u>Site set up considerations</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Manage congestion at site entrance such as staggered working hours and safe distancing demarcations. Safe entry record keeping including health declaration should be implemented. Set-up a temperature-recording station, recommended to be located at the entrance of the site. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consider the weather and heat stress from the work which might elevate temperature readings. Allow a cool-down period, before temperature recording. Ensure that a quarantine area is also set-up for personnel who have elevated temperatures after conducting temperature checks. Appropriate rest areas should be provided with proper safe distancing measures. Safe distancing should also be implemented for transportation of the labourers and volunteers. Sanitation facilities should be provided with handwashing stations which are appropriately distanced from each other and that are preferably hands-free (pedal, knee or elbow operated). <table border="1" data-bbox="636 820 1227 1031"> <thead> <tr> <th>No. of personnel on site</th> <th>No. of hand washing stations to be on-site*</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>1-5</td> <td>2</td> </tr> <tr> <td>6-25</td> <td>4</td> </tr> <tr> <td>26-50</td> <td>6</td> </tr> <tr> <td>51-75</td> <td>8</td> </tr> <tr> <td>76-100</td> <td>10</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		No. of personnel on site	No. of hand washing stations to be on-site*	1-5	2	6-25	4	26-50	6	51-75	8	76-100	10
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**Numbers stated are doubled from the minimum number recommended by UK Health Safety Executive*

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	Shoreline Protection	Shoreline Clean-Up
Administration	<p><u>Personnel planning and management</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Personnel on-site to be limited to the core crew, wherever possible, such as:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Trained Responders○ Min. number of labourers and volunteers○ Dedicated staff to manage controls and sanitation measures○ Medical professional• Staggered rest breaks and mealtimes to minimise contact with others, along with ensuring sufficient facilities are available, suitably distanced to accommodate breaks whilst maintaining physical distancing.• To minimise contact with local communities<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Restrict public access to response sites with security measures, barriers, etc.○ Put up notices onsite to inform public e.g. official media statement, contact number of Public Liaison Officer• For multiple site shoreline operation, limit different teams to individual sites and avoid cross-deployment where possible• All equipment, where possible, should be wiped down and sterilised after each use.	

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Shoreline Operations

	Shoreline Protection	Shoreline Clean-Up
Administration	<p><u>Personnel planning and management</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Work with the IMT to ensure an appropriate safe distancing management system in place to enable responders to maintain safe distancing from local populations to minimise the exposure risks to all parties.<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ This system should be developed with local authorities, other stakeholders and support of landowners.○ Where possible, include provision of local liaisons to communicate with the public, necessary translations, crowd management and security.• Training programmes should practice safe distancing measures when training volunteers and labourers on the fundamentals of shoreline operations.<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Training on COVID-19 safety measures should also be included.	

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Shoreline Operations



Administration

Personnel are to be reminded to take their temperature daily before and after their work shift

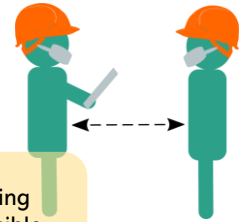
Administration

Personnel are to conduct self-assessment and record their temperature/self-assessment in a log-book



Administration

Personnel are to maintain physical distancing according to local regulation wherever possible and practicable



Administration

Regularly wash/sanitise hands preferably with clean warm water and soap or utilise alcohol-based sanitiser. Avoid touching the face/mouth/eyes/nose



Do refer to [Specific Measures for In-field Response](https://www.oilspillresponse.com/covid-19/) document which can be found at <https://www.oilspillresponse.com/covid-19/> for more specific details. Task specific risk assessment should be used to govern the specific measures implemented.

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Administration

Personnel are to communicate via VHF radio when in-field and avoid in-person communication as much as possible

Administration

Ensure that proper waste management is carried out at all sites. Respirators and masks are to be disposed of properly



Administration

Avoid large gatherings – stagger meals and breaks where possible



PPE

Don appropriate PPE based on risk assessment and do not share PPE and personal items



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