



# MECHANICAL RECOVERY

## INTRODUCTION

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Mechanical response describes spill response methods where specialized equipment is used to divert, collect, and/or remove spilled oil from the environment. In Alaska, mechanical response methods are the primary and preferred techniques for responding to an oil spill.

The Mechanical Response Tactics in this manual are divided into three main categories. Most tactics apply either to on-water or on-land spills, but there is some limited overlap where response methods may be used in either instance. In most cases, a combination of tactics from one or more of these categories will be used to accomplish the spill response objectives.

- **Containment and Recovery Tactics** provide strategies for concentrating and collecting oil in a designated area in order to facilitate recovery from the environment.
- **Sensitive Area Protection Tactics** provide strategies for minimizing the impact of spilled oil to environmentally-sensitive areas.
- **Primary Storage and Transfer of Recovered Products and Wastes Tactics** provide strategies for storing recovered oil and waste products and for transferring them from response vessels to storage locations.



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