

Oil Spills in Water

Habitat Types & SCAT

This is a team sport...



Oil Spill Response in Water

- Remove oil from water
- Protect downstream resources – see response tactics manuals / DVDs
- Rescue and treat oiled wildlife
- Clean up stranded oil ► S.C.A.T.

S.C.A.T.

- Evaluate oiling conditions
- Factor in shoreline types
- Identify sensitive resources
- Determine need for clean up
- Recommend clean up methods & endpoints
- Place constraints on clean up due to ecological, economic, or cultural concerns

<http://www.noaa.gov/factsheets/new%20version/scat.pdf>

Shoreline Assessment Form

Coastal conditions based mostly on texture
influenced by tides

Inland conditions based mostly on
vegetation cover influenced by floods

Inland Conditions

Sandy or gravelly beaches; bare rocky, muddy, or cut bank / cliff shorelines; and more commonly vegetated shorelines; and vegetated floodplain habitats

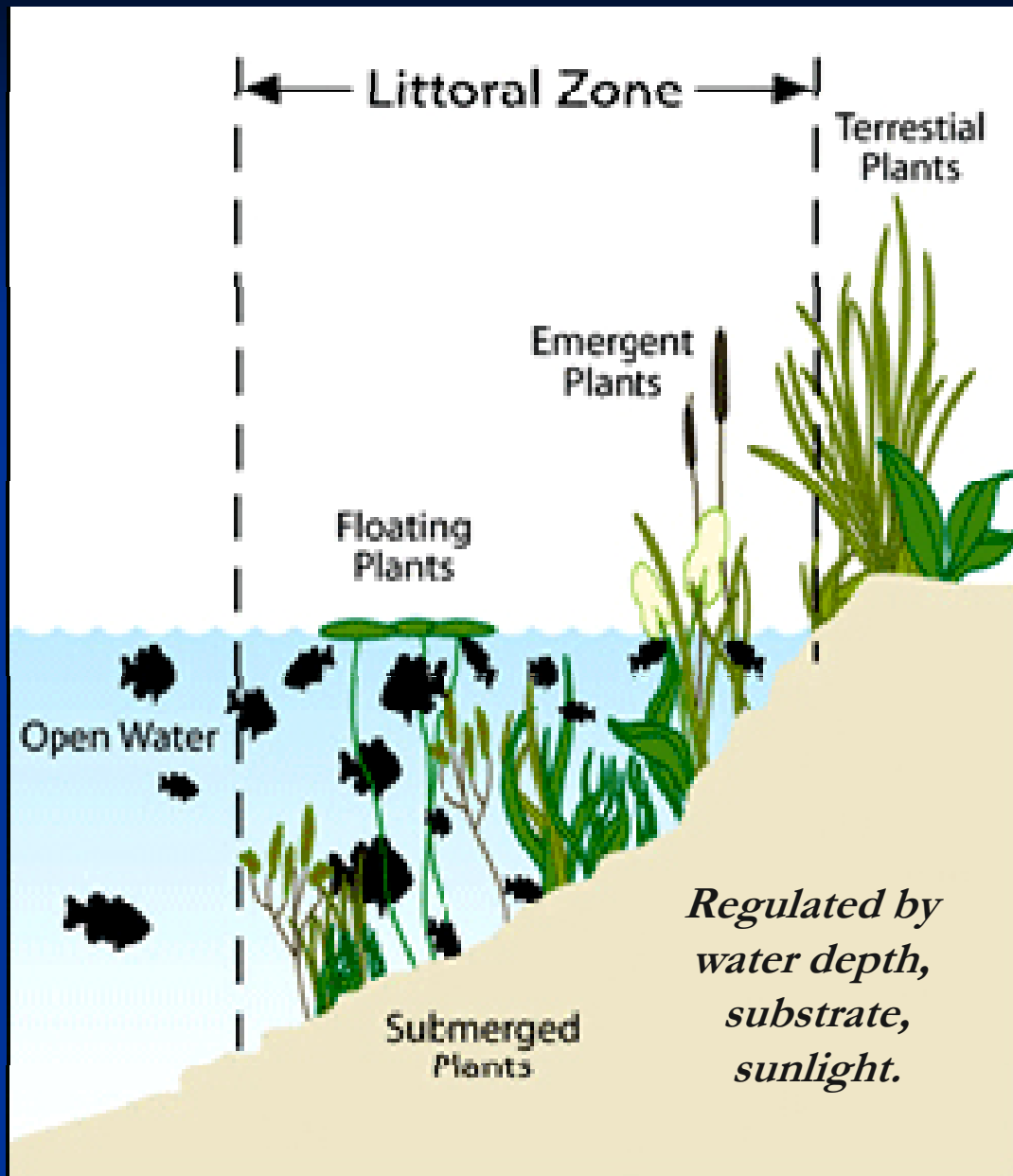
For vegetation cover types see USGS General Classification Handbook for Floodplain Vegetation in Large River Systems (and other references)

Large River Habitat Classifications

About 30 types including open water, forests, agriculture, levee, roadsides pasture, sand, urban developed

About 12 vegetation cover types within the 30 types including categories for submerged, rooted floating, emergent (marshes, meadows), shrubs

Need to add qualifier for coarse woody debris



Inland Plant Types

Submerged or
submersed

Rooted floating
Floating

Emergent

Shrubs

Shoreline or

floodplain

terrestrial

Response Recommendations

- Vacuum
- Trench and siphon
- Substrate removal
- Debris removal
- Washing
- Absorbents
- Solidifiers
- Burning
- Phytoremediation



Rolling it all Together

- Describe oiled shorelines
- Identify habitat type and sensitivity
- Select preferred clean up technique
- Other considerations or concerns for implementing the recommended clean up