

MARINE OIL SPILL RESPONSE

FACT SHEET



Spill prevention is a key priority for Northern Gateway and must always come first in promoting the safe transportation of oil along the marine routes. In the unlikely event of a spill, Northern Gateway will be prepared to respond by having equipment ready, people trained and plans in place to mount an immediate large-scale response. For any response safety of the public and responders, and protection of the environment and property are of paramount importance.

Response Equipment and Resources

Spill response equipment (e.g., boom, skimmers) and boats will be located on-site at the Kitimat Terminal, onboard escort tugs, and at locations in the shipping channels. Local personnel will be trained for immediate mobilization and deployment of onsite equipment.

Response capabilities for Northern Gateway will exceed regulatory requirements.

Protection of Sensitive Areas

Protection of environmental, socio-economic, and cultural sensitivities will be prioritized, and response strategies will be developed to minimize adverse effects in the event of a spill.

Coastal sensitivity and operational atlases have been developed for the shipping channels and open water areas for response planning purposes. Strategies will be finalized following ground-truthing and input from Aboriginal groups and communities.

Examples of sensitive areas include:

- fisheries
- spawning areas
- salmon rivers
- shorebird, sea bird and marine mammal areas
- parks and protected areas
- First Nations lands

The marine spill prevention and response planning measures to be implemented for Northern Gateway will help to ensure that marine operations in Kitimat represent a model of world-class safety and environmental protection.