

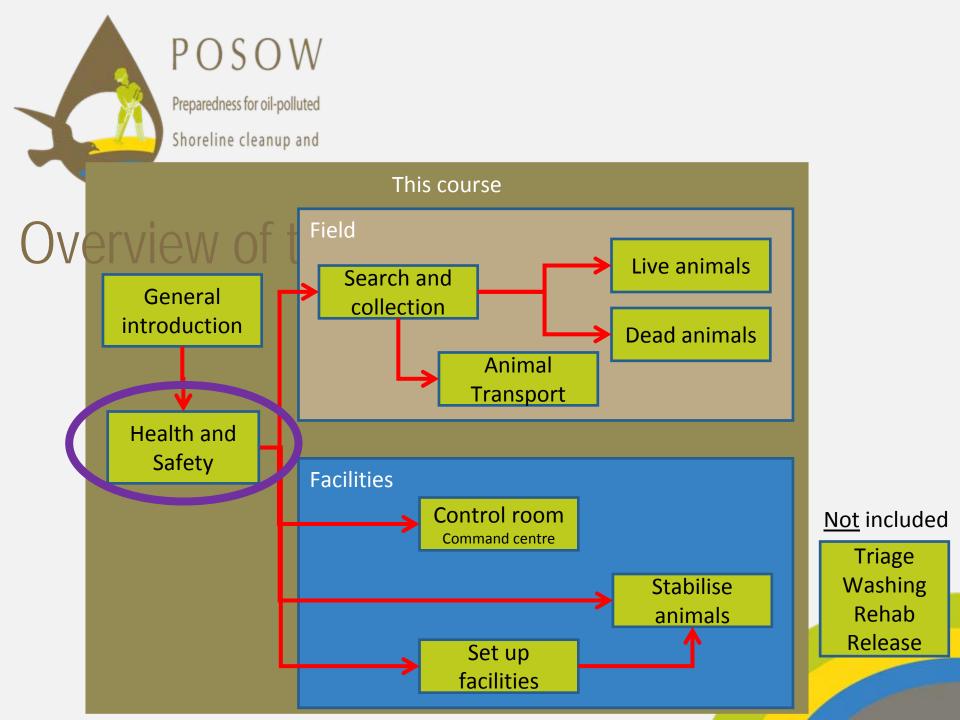
POSOW Preparedness for Oil-polluted Shoreline cleanup and Oiled Wildlife interventions

# Health & Safety

- The importance of health & safety
- Keep yourself healthy and safe
- Overview of hazards in oiled wildlife response



POSOW is a project co-financed by EU under the Civil Protection Financial Instrument developed in cooperation with ISPRA, *Cedre*, Sea Alarm and CPMR and coordinated By REMPEC a regional Centre of the Barcelona Convention





### The importance of health & safety



- We all need to look after ourselves
- H&S is everyone's responsibility
- Managers will advise on the risks and give instructions





#### The importance of health & safety

Key rules:



•A risk assessment should be carried out before activities take place

•Follow instructions

•If activities cannot be carried out safely, they should be postponed, or not carried out at all



#### Keep yourself healthy & safe



This can be achieved via •Good health status Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) Good behaviour •Hygiene Safe environment



#### Good health status



- Recommendations for participating in hands-on wildlife response:
  - Over 18s only
  - No medical conditions
  - including pregnancy
  - Good physical health
  - Able to deal with stress



### Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)



- For working with oil
  - Basic PPE
  - Gloves, protective coveralls
  - Wear this whenever directed
- Additional PPE may include:
  - For working on the beach
    - Waterproofs
    - Wellingtons/boots
    - Life jacket
  - For working with animals
    - Special gloves
    - Goggles
    - Face masks
- Wear suitable clothing in layers





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#### Behaviour

- Follow the instructions
  - Instructions are for your own benefit and for that of the operation
  - Do not eat/drink at work floor
    - Use recreation room
- Report all injuries
  - Related to an overlooked risk?
  - Any injury may compromise your health
    - infection
  - First aid will be available on site







## Hygiene

#### Wash hands

#### •Washing your hands well is important

 Using soap or antiseptic wash reduces disease spread and prevents serious infections

#### •Wash your hands when:

- You change jobs
- Before and after animal food preparation
- Before and after eating, drinking or smoking
- Before leaving the premises

Whether you have worn gloves or not



#### The hazards in oiled wildlife response

- The main hazards are related to:
- •Oil
- •Animals
- •Equipment
- Working environment





### Healthy & Safe Working Environment

- You can contribute by
- •Developing routines
  - Keep all areas clean and tidy
  - Keep animals out of clean human areas
  - Use decontamination rooms
  - Clean-up water from floors
- •Reporting near-accidents
- Respecting signposting
- •Understanding the hazards







### Oil

- Toxic fumes
  - inhalation
- Toxic components
  - Some affect or go though the skin
- Ask authority advice in all cases
  - Is it too dangerous?
    - Then postpone or abort operations
  - Which PPE would protect?
- Be careful with "fresh" oil
  - The most toxic components may still evaporate from freshly spilled oil
  - "weathered" oil is less toxic
- Use the recommended PPE



## Animals - physical



- Animals bite, scratch & peck,
  - Larger animals may even hit out causing bruises
- Using PPE and "common sense" will reduce potential injuries to the absolute minimum
- Good, sensible animal handling is key to reducing the potential risk even further



#### Animals - disease

- Animals carry diseases
  - Zoonotic diseases are those that are transmissible from humans to animals and vice versa



- Most diseases (inc. zoonoses) are controlled by:
  - Maintaining hygienic conditions throughout
  - Wearing appropriate PPE
  - Keeping animal and human operations separate
  - Good hand washing



### Equipment has potential risks

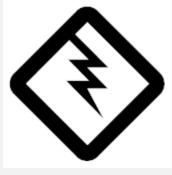


- Ensure all equipment is in good order
- Keep it well maintained
- When it is not in use store it
- Ensure you know how to use it





#### Working environment





- In temporary facilities particular care must be take when using electrical equipment
  - And special care where water is being used
- Heaters may also be in use – be aware of burns



#### Most important

• Use your common sense!





### Thank you very much! **Questions?** Preguntas? Des questions? ερωτήσεις? **Mistoqsijiet?** Otázky? Vprašanja? **Domande**?



#### POSOW

Preparedness for Oil-polluted

Shoreline cleanup and

Oiled Wildlife interventions

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