



EMODnet Sea-basin Checkpoints Tender no MARE/2016/05

**Daily summary to be post on the
maritime forum on the 12/05/2016**

Date: 12/05/2016

The European Marine Observation and Data Network (EMODnet) is financed by the European Union under Regulation (EU) No. 1255/2011 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 30 November 2011 establishing a Programme to support the further development of an Integrated Maritime Policy.



Impact assessment

As suspected regarding the 24h results, human and environmental activities are unlikely to be affected by the oil slick, as it remains quite restrained around the release site:

- No impact has been noted on Marine Protected Area or Natura 2000 sites.
- The mariculture activities are unlikely to be affected as there is no finfish production site in the affected area and the shellfish production sites remain quite far from the impacted area.
- No wind farm or hydrocarbon extraction sites (platforms) are present in the impacted region.
- As for the touristic activities, no tourist beaches (identified from the quality of bathing water) of the region will be affected.

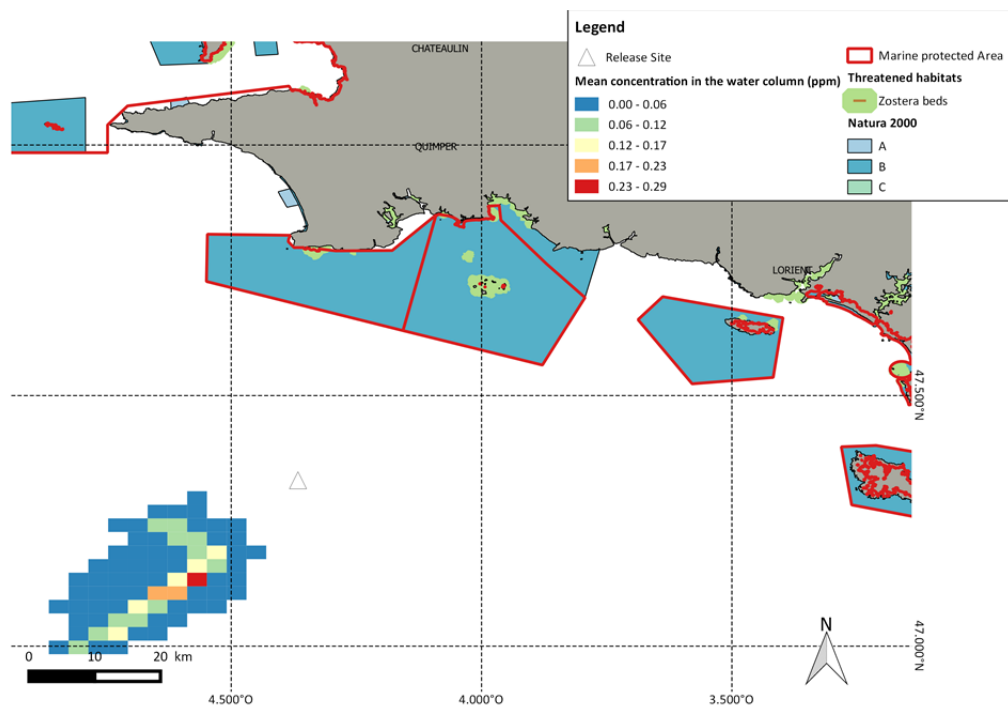


Figure 1: Environmental impact 5 days after the release

Remarks

The oil profile defined for the heavy fuel oil n°6 assumed in OSCAR model has a API 15.1 and a specific gravity 0.965. However the specific gravity of heavy fuel oils can vary from 0.965 to greater than 1.03.

As the specific density of seawater is 1.03, the oil can float, suspend in the water column or sink. A greater specific density could result in a different behaviour of the oil slick and especially in a higher deposition on the sea floor. Moreover, the water density driven by the salinity and temperature is also a determining factor that dictate if the oil will sink or float (NOAA, response and restoration)

In the next post, an updated forecast of the oil spill behaviour and some assessment on the method and data used will be provided.