HANDBOOK ON OIL IMPACT ASSESSMENT

4.0 SPILL RESPONSE

4.2 Biological advice

Technical document

Portuguese and Spanish Atlantic coasts

→ data deficient

- Countries involved: Portugal, Spain
- Seabirds in the area: breeding auks, and cormorants. Internationally important pathway for numerous species of migratory seabirds. Wintering auks (pelagic and coastal), gannets, divers, seaduck and cormorants (coastal) in insufficiently known numbers.
- Species of particular conservation concern: Balearic Shearwater, Iberian Guillemot
- Standardised studies of seabirds at sea: seaduck monitoring, including aerial surveys, in coastal waters (Rufino & Neves 1990), recent studies of the offshore distribution of seabirds currently under way (SEO and SPEA, data loggers, aerial surveys and ship-based surveys; no results published yet)
- OVI evaluation and area sensitivity: analysis never undertaken
- Anticipated sensitivity to chronic oil pollution: at least locally very high in winter, as demonstrated in recent major oil spills; unknown, but probably lower, in summer

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