

## Electronic Media Transcripts

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Announcer: Preparing for an oil, offshore oil spill takes a lot of work and resources, but a new idea could see hundreds of trained people ready to help clean up a spill should one occur. Here's NTV's Ken Regular with more.

Ken Regular: Here's the idea – training fishermen to respond to oil spills. In just a few weeks they can learn how to use oil cleaning equipment.

Wayne Halley: Deploying booms and operating skimmers is not much different than deploying, you know, fishing equipment.

Regular: Fishermen have skills on the water, and a deep knowledge of the shores where they live. After an oil spill fishermen could be the first on the scene to begin cleanup. And there's some urgency to get people trained.

Gordon Slade: The amount of hydro carbon product traversing the waters in and around Nfld and Labrador has increased sevenfold – from seven million tons to nearly 50 million tons. Our response capability, however, has not increased.

Regular: Learning to use this gear will only take a few weeks. In five years

they hope to have 500 people trained in 15 towns across the province. According to the Environment minister, it's the right move.

Tom Osborne: So this announcement today is a huge step forward in putting in place the training that is required to protect our oceans in the event of a catastrophic oil spill.

Regular: Training begins in September. If there's ever a major oil spill, the plan is that a group of fishers nearby will know what to do with the equipment and keep the spill from being an environmental disaster.  
Ken Regular, NTV News.

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