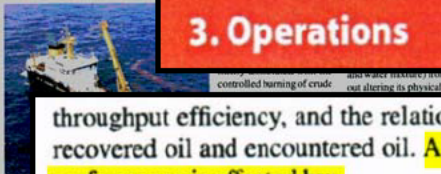


3. Operations



3. Operations

throughput efficiency, and the relation between recovered oil and encountered oil. A skimmer's performance is affected by:

- The type of oil,
- The condition or maturity of the oil,
- Oil viscosity,
- The oil slick thickness, the presence of debris (e.g., driftwood, seaweed), and
- The environmental conditions including wind, wave, current, and the current air and sea temperatures.

Although skimmer effectiveness could vary dramatically based on all of these factors, given the indeterminate nature of the *Deepwater Horizon* spill, aggressive skimming was a key component of the success of this response.

48

HCP068-002258
TREX 009.105.0068