Oil from rendered seal blubber and Determination of external Petroleum Oil exposure: An observation in oiled ice-associated seals

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Background
NRDA injury assessment is a critical and integral part of an oil spill marine mammal response in the Arctic. Prior to evaluation of injury and/or adverse effects from petroleum-based oil exposure on a resource, demonstration of exposure (i.e. visual; chemical; molecular biomarkers) is needed.

Seal Oil- PAH Chemical Analysis Interaction?

Seal Oil Solvent Action

Tips TO reduce Seal oil contamination of tissue samples
1) initial gauze swipes to fouled area - on site;
2) carcass: packing skin sample sites, wounds and other areas where seal oil leakage could occur with absorbent material,
3) remove frozen skin/blubber samples from tinfoil prior to thawing, or to trim blubber from skin samples prior to collection in aluminum foil.

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