



ISCO & THE ISCO NEWSLETTER

The International Spill Control Organization, a not-for profit organization dedicated to raising worldwide preparedness & co-operation in response to oil and chemical spills, marine & freshwater pollution by plastics. promoting technical development and professional competency, & to providing a focus for making the knowledge and experience of spill control professionals available to Intergovernmental, Governmental, NGO's and interested groups and individuals. ISCO holds consultative status at the International Maritime Organisation & Observer Status at the International Oil Pollution Compensation Funds

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INTERNATIONAL NEWS

WORLD MARITIME DAY THEME 2024



**NAVIGATING
THE FUTURE:
SAFETY FIRST!**

"Navigating the future: safety first!" has been the theme selected for the International Maritime Organization's 2024 World Maritime Day, which will culminate in the celebration of World Maritime Day on 26 September 2024.

IMO Secretary-General Message - Watch IMO Secretary-General Arsenio Dominguez video message on the World Maritime Day theme 2024: <https://youtu.be/keRQSGD2Y3c>

World Maritime Day Parallel Event 2024 - The World Maritime Day Parallel Event (WMDPE) will be held in Spain in 2024.

WMO-IMO Symposium - WMO and IMO are bringing together experts for a second International Symposium on Extreme Maritime Weather: 'Bridging the Knowledge Gap Towards Safer Shipping'. The event will take place on 23-26 September 2024 at IMO Headquarters, London. Read more details [here](#).
IMO / [Read more](#)

US EPA ADMINISTRATOR REGAN AND USAID ADMINISTRATOR POWER FORMALIZE PARTNERSHIP TO ADVANCE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AROUND THE WORLD

March 26 - Today, March 26, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Administrator Michael S. Regan and U.S. Agency for International Development Administrator Samantha Power signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) that formalizes the leaders' joint commitment to cooperate in tackling the challenges of climate change, air and water pollution, lead poisoning, and recycling of materials from

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ISCO'S FACEBOOK GROUP 

Click on the link -

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Here is the link for joining this group –

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ADVANCE YOUR CAREER BY GAINING PROFESSIONAL RECOGNITION Professional recognition is a visible mark of quality, competence and commitment, and can give you a significant advantage in today's competitive environment. All who have the relevant qualifications and the required level of experience can apply for Professional Membership of ISCO. The organization offers independent validation and integrity. Each grade of membership reflects an individual's professional training, experience and qualifications. You can apply for MEMBERSHIP (MISCO) or FELLOWSHIP (FISCO) About ProfessionalMembership [Professional Membership Application Form](#)

launch of the Module on "Claims for compensation" within the IOPC Funds' webinar series. It took place on 27 March 2024. Chiara DellaMea, Senior Claims Manager, delivered an informative 15-minute presentation on the roles and responsibilities of the key stakeholders, including government bodies, shipowners, experts, and others, in an oil pollution incident.

The IOPC Funds have been delighted with the response to the webinar series, which is open to any interested party. Participants can opt to attend either the full series or only those webinars of particular interest to them. The full programme, available here, covers a range of subjects. The next session under the Claims for compensation module, titled "Key Steps to a successful claim", will take place on 15 May 2024. To register for this event, please complete the online registration form, selecting your preferred time slot. IOPC Funds / [Read more](#)

INTERNATIONAL NEWS (CONTINUED)

USAID and EPA are ready to build on our history of collaboration, bringing together EPA's wealth of knowledge and technical expertise and USAID's international leadership and in-country presence and programs to build capacity to protect health and the environment and advance a freer and more equitable world. plastics and electronic waste, and encouraging the responsible management of critical minerals. The meeting occurred after Administrator Regan's recent Mission to Africa where he reinforced EPA's commitment to partner with leaders, young people, and advocates to address many of these same challenges.

EPA and USAID have a history of effective collaboration on some of the world's biggest environmental issues. EPA / [Read more](#)

IOPC FUNDS AT CEDRE INFORMATION DAY



On 21 March 2024, IOPC Funds Director, Gaute Sivertsen, participated in the 28th Cedre Information Day in Paris, France.

This year's event featured two panel discussions, with the first highlighting chemical risks at sea: the latest on the Hazardous and Noxious Substances (HNS) Convention. Discussions in this session addressed the issue of the transport of chemicals at sea from a standpoint of the risks involved and the need for prevention, regulation, and response. The second session focused on knowledge development and new propulsion fuels within the context of decarbonising shipping. IOPC Funds / [Read more](#)

IOPC FUNDS SUCCESSFULLY DELIVERS THE 5TH IN ITS WEBINAR SERIES

The fifth session, entitled "Roles and Responsibilities in an Incident", marked the

launch of the Module on "Claims for compensation" within the IOPC Funds' webinar series. It took place on 27 March 2024. Chiara DellaMea, Senior Claims Manager, delivered an informative 15-minute presentation on the roles and responsibilities of the key stakeholders, including government bodies, shipowners, experts, and others, in an oil pollution incident.

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ISCO AT CLEAN WATERWAYS CONFERENCE & EXHIBITION

ISCO is pleased to confirm that it will be attending the Clean Waterways Conference & Exhibition taking place at Cincinnati, Ohio, USA on 9th to 11th April 2024. This is an event that is well worth attending, especially for members of our community with an interest in pollution control in inland waterways. We recommend that you attend this event.

Several ISCO Members will be attending and you are invited to visit their booths in the Exhibition Area and to listen to their presentations at the Conference. ISCO will be present on Booth 114 and Mr Ed Levine will be in attendance. Please make a point of calling to say hello. Quite a lot of new developments are ongoing at ISCO and Ed is looking forward to telling you more. Amongst other things, the ISCO Council is working on new benefits for ISCO members that will make membership even more worthwhile for everyone in the pollution control community.

NEWS FOR ISCO STUDENT MEMBERS

TWENTY YOUNG OCEAN LEADERS TO LEAD THE EAST ASIAN SEAS CONGRESS 2024

Twenty young ocean leaders from 10 countries in the East Asian Seas region were selected to lead and participate in the East Asian Seas 2024 Youth Forum, which will be held on 15-19 April 2024 in Ulsan City, Korea.

The Youth Forum is one of the key preparatory events leading up to the East Asian Seas Congress 2024 set in Xiamen, China on 6-8 November 2024. Last year, the National Korean Ocean Science Museum (KOSM) and Partnerships in Environmental Management for the Seas of East Asia (PEMSEA) signed an agreement to host the Youth Forum 2024 at KOSM. The one-week forum will provide a platform for young leaders to share knowledge, learn from each other and drive more impactful initiatives for the youth sector on climate change adaptation and marine conservation in the East Asian Seas region. PEMSEA / [Read more](#)

SCHOLARSHIPS SUPPORTED BY THE AUSTRALIAN MARINE SAFETY AUTHORITY

Our scholarship program supports the development of skills in the maritime industry and builds our brand as an employer of choice.

- [Domestic scholarships](#)
- [International scholarships](#)
- [International scholarship students](#)
- [Career opportunities for graduates and students](#)

AMSA / [Read more](#)

REGIONAL NEWS

The latest news and press releases that are collated from websites that include regional organisations on ISCO's checking list. To add a website to this list please send the link to john.mcmurtrie@spillcontrol.org

EUROPE: PLASTIC PELLET SPILL HIGHLIGHTS HUGE POLLUTION PROBLEM IN EU, AND BEYOND

An unnatural "white tide" is covering the beaches of the Spanish fishing region of Galicia with millions of tiny plastic pellets after a cargo ship lost several containers at sea, sending 1,000 sacks of pellets into the Atlantic Ocean. The magnitude of the spill, from the vessel Toconao on Dec. 8, is alarming: Each tonne of pellets contains about 50 million individual pieces, and the tiny spherical granules have been found on the coastline from Pontevedra to Asturias, northeast towards the Basque country, and in some parts of Portugal.

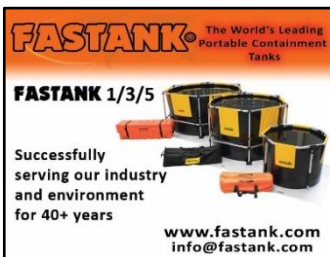
Spanish public prosecutors have launched an investigation to examine the cause of the accident. The scale of the pollution has also raised fears of long-term ecological damage and its impact on the local fishing industry. Sadly, the disaster is just the latest incident to highlight the urgent need for robust measures to prevent such spills and ensure a swift and effective response when they occur.

Plastic pellets—the building blocks of most plastic products—are the third-largest source of microplastic emissions in the European Union. Every day, the equivalent of up to 20 truckloads of pellets spills into the environment in Europe as they make their way across a supply chain of plastic producers, converters, recyclers, and logistics companies. Chronic losses of pellets have been documented at every stage of the supply chain.

The Pew Charitable Trusts urges EU policymakers to commit to the 30% microplastic pollution reduction target—detailed in the European Zero Pollution Action Plan. Pew Trusts / [Read more](#) [Thanks to ISCO Council Member, Ed Levine]

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AUSTRALIA: THE FIRST BABY PLATYPUS HAS BEEN BORN IN THIS SYDNEY NATIONAL PARK IN MORE THAN 50 YEARS

March 25 - Back in the 1970s, a chemical spill on the Princes Highway wiped out the entire population of platypus' who had, until then, called the Royal National Park home. Now, after a reintroduction program which saw ten platypus' released into the park back in May 2023, the first wild-born platypus has been recorded – and there's the possibility that she's not the only one. Time Out / [Read more](#)

CANADA: FLED THE NEST: EXPANDING HABITAT PROTECTION FOR MIGRATORY BIRDS UNDER THE SPECIES AT RISK ACT

March 22 - The Federal Court of Canada has delivered a landmark decision in the case of Western Canada Wilderness Committee v Canada (Environment and Climate Change), 2024 FC 167. This case centers on a critical challenge to the government's approach to protecting the habitats of migratory birds listed under the Species at Risk Act (SARA). At the heart of this legal battle is the Minister of Environment and Climate Change Canada's (ECCC) 2022 Protection Statement, which narrowly interpreted critical habitat protections, focusing mainly on "nests." It is unknown at this time whether the Minister will appeal but for the time being this decision represents a win for Migratory Birds and environmental protection. Mondaq / [Read more](#)

CHINA: LEGISLATORS CALL FOR HIGH-TECH CURBS ON POLLUTION

March 21 - During the annual legislative session that ended on March 11, deputies to the National People's Congress, China's top legislature, called for stepped-up efforts to curb pollution that endangers the health of China's mother rivers. Li Haisheng, an NPC deputy and president of the Chinese Research Academy of Environmental Sciences, submitted a suggestion to the legislature, calling for a more tech-driven approach to tackling environmental problems facing the Yellow River, the second-longest river in the country and considered a cradle of Chinese civilization. China Daily / [Read more](#)

DENMARK: RUSSIA'S SHADOW FLEET IS PUTTING DANISH WATERS IN DANGER

March 26 - It was only a matter of time before Russia's fast-growing shadow fleet, a group of vessels whose owners do their utmost to conceal their identity while carrying oil to evade sanctions on Moscow, started becoming a serious maritime risk. Russian vessels are now regularly turning down pilotage in Danish waters, the Financial Times reports—a practice that not only breaches maritime etiquette but could also lead to a disastrous accident. Foreign Policy / [Read more](#)

GREECE: THE INAUGURAL MARINE INSURANCE GREECE CONFERENCE

The conference under the auspices of Posidonia, is taking place on the 30th of May at The Marriott Hotel, Athens, with a special Welcome Party sponsored by Polygreen S.A. at DOT Beach Vibes on the 29th of May from 20.00 until late. [Agenda](#) [Register](#)

GREECE: STRENGTHENING HELMEPA'S TIES WITH THE U.S. COAST GUARD AND MARITIME LEADERS IN WASHINGTON DC

The largest delegation of HELMEPA members that traveled to the USA participated in a series of beneficial meetings with the leadership of the US Coast Guard (USCG), NAMEPA and other stakeholders in Washington DC, with the aim of strengthening cooperation on pollution prevention, maritime safety and sustainable development in the era of shipping decarbonization.

Headed by the President of HELMEPA, Mrs. Semiramis Paliou, and with the participation of the members of the Board of Directors Mr. Maria Hajioannou, Mr. Panos Zachariadis and Mr. Theodosios Stamatellos, the HELMEPA Delegation, consisting of 24 representatives of 20 member companies, met on 5th March 2024 with U.S. Coast Guard leadership, including Rear Admiral Wayne Arguin, Assistant Commandant for Prevention Policy, Jeffrey Lantz, Director of Commercial Regulations and Standards, and Captain Amy Beach, Director of Inspections and Compliance, at USCG Headquarters, Washington D.C. HELMEPA / [Read more](#)

NIGERIA: A REVIEW OF THE MIDSTREAM AND DOWNSTREAM PETROLEUM ENVIRONMENTAL REGULATIONS 2023

March 25 - The petroleum industry plays a crucial role in global energy production, economic development, and societal progress. However, the extraction, processing, and distribution of petroleum resources can have significant environmental impacts. Therefore, environmental regulations are essential to mitigating and managing these impacts, balancing energy needs with environmental sustainability. Environmental regulations in the petroleum industry aim to conserve natural resources and minimize pollution. This is done by formulating guidelines for the responsible extraction and utilization of petroleum reserves which helps to prevent overexploitation and the depletion of valuable resources. Mondaq / [Continue reading](#)

NIGERIA: FG TO EARN N800BN FROM SHIP POLLUTION CHARGES

March 26 - The Federal Government is to earn N800 billion (\$500 million) annually from vessels operating on Nigerian waters if ship pollution measures are regulated and enforced from this year. As part of measures to avoid pollution during bunkering, government had said that ships operating on Nigerian waters must pay charges of \$50,000 per m2 for major pollution and \$16,000 per m2 for minor pollution. New Telegraphing / [Read more](#)

NIGERIA: HYPREP COMPLETES SIX WATER PROJECTS, THREE BOOSTER STATIONS IN OGO NILAND

March 27 - The Hydrocarbon Pollution Remediation Project (HYPREP) has so far completed six water headworks and three booster stations in Ogoniland in Rivers State. HYPREP's Project Coordinator, Prof Nenibarini Zabbey, who dropped the hint in Port Harcourt during the commemoration of this year's World Water Day last Friday, said potable water is currently being supplied in 18 communities in the area. The Tide / [Read more](#)

NIGERIA: CLEANUP: PROGRAMME TO CURB OIL THEFT

March 28 - Managing Director of Flamingo Energy and Innovations in Rivers State, Maxwell Atago, has said the alternative means of livelihood component in Ogoni Cleanup will reduce restiveness and illegal oil bunkering.

Atago spoke after supervising the qualifying examination for 80 Ogoni youths trained in Crane Operations under United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) Livelihood Support Programme of HydroCarbon Pollution and Remediation Project (HYPREP), in Port Harcourt, the state capital yesterday. Atago decried lack of skilled manpower for oil and gas and commended HYPREP for the training to bridge the gap. The Nation Online / [Read more](#)

NORWAY: NAVIGATING EXCELLENCE: THE NORWEGIAN – GREEK MARITIME INNOVATION SUMMIT

March 26 - A few Norwegians in Athens are always good for the booming Greek tourism economy, but what happens when more than a dozen carefully selected Norwegian maritime technologists come to Athens to share insights, connect with the customers, and participate in some insightful panel discussions? That happened just a few days ago in a unique location for a maritime technology conference. Oriani Hellas organized, curated, and hosted the event Navigating Excellence: The Norwegian – Greek Maritime Innovation Summit, held on March 13th & 14th at the Museum of Cycladic Art in Athens.

The Maritime Executive / [Read more](#)

PHILIPPINES: PCG, INDIA CONDUCT MARITIME OIL SPILL EXERCISE

March 26 - A four-day maritime pollution exercise to enhance cooperation on future oil spill incidents began yesterday. The Philippine Coast Guard (PCG) and Indian Coast Guard (ICG) are participating in the exercise that ends on March 28. The ICG's second pollution control vessel Samura Pahererar arrived yesterday at the Port Area in Manila. PhilStar / [Read more](#)

TRINIDAD & TOBAGO - INCIDENT IN TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO – IOPC FUNDS CONDUCTS FACT-FINDING VISIT

March 26 - Following a recent oil pollution incident in Trinidad and Tobago, IOPC Funds' Deputy Director and Head of Claims, Liliana Monsalve, and Claims Manager, Mark Homan, conducted a fact-finding mission to the 1992 Fund Member State from 18 to 22 March 2024.

During the visit, they met with senior officials from the Ministry of Energy, the Coastguard, Ministry of National Security, the Attorney General, and the Legal Service. They spoke with experts involved in the response and attended the sites impacted by the pollution. IOPC Funds / [Continue reading](#)

UK: MCA COUNTER POLLUTION TRAINING COURSES

March 22 - Information on training courses from the Counter Pollution and Salvage team including who should attend, course content and objectives, and how to apply. The Counter Pollution and Salvage (CPS) team offers two areas of training.

LA01 – National training course on oil pollution, contingency planning and response - A three-day course for local authority management staff involved in contingency planning and oil spill response. The course is organised and run by the Maritime and Coastguard Agency (MCA). To sign up, apply directly to the MCA to join one of the regional courses.

LA02 – Beach supervisor - A two-day course for local authority staff who may be involved in supervising beach clean-up operations and protective booming operations. The MCA provides this training course for individual local authorities or collaboratively with adjoining authorities on a request basis. [MCA / Read more](#)

USA: EPA REQUIRES INDUSTRIAL FACILITIES TO ENHANCE PREPARATION FOR CHEMICAL DISCHARGES TO WATER IN ADVERSE WEATHER CONDITIONS, BETTER PROTECTING THE ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC HEALTH

March 21 - Today, March 21, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency finalized new safeguards for communities and the environment from facilities that store and could discharge dangerous chemicals into a river, lake, or other waterbody. These protections build on EPA's recent issuance of the "Safer Communities by Chemical Accident Prevention Rule," which contains the strongest ever safety provisions to prevent and address explosions and other accidental airborne releases from chemical facilities. [EPA / Read more](#)

USA: LATEST NEWS REPORTS FROM NPAA OR&R

March 25 – Please click on the links below to read these reports

OR&R Prepares U.S. Coast Guard for Shoreline Cleanups

The Emergency Response Division of NOAA's Office of Response and Restoration (OR&R), provided three days of [Shoreline Cleanup Assessment Technique](#) (SCAT) training for the U.S. Coast Guard (USCG) Sector Charleston on March 19-21, 2024.

Congressional Staff Visit Derelict Vessel Removal Project in North Carolina

On March 15, 2024, NOAA Marine Debris Program (MDP) staff met on Harkers Island, North Carolina with North Carolina Coastal Federation (NCCF) grantees and staff from the offices of U.S. Senators Tom Tillis and Ted Budd to share highlights of their derelict vessel removal project supported by Inflation Reduction Act funds.

OR&R Trains Emergency Responders through Science of Oil Spills Class in Mobile, Alabama

During the week of March 18, oil spill specialists from OR&R's Emergency Response Division conducted a [Science of Oil Spills](#) (SOS) class for the Southern region in Mobile, Alabama. SOS classes aim to help spill responders increase their understanding of oil spill science when analyzing spills and making risk-based decisions.

NOAA-Specific Incident Command System Training in Honolulu Supports Emergency Response and Preparedness

During the week of March 11, OR&R's Disaster Preparedness Program (DPP) held a three-day NOAA-specific Incident Command System 300 (ICS 300) Level Training at NOAA's Inouye Regional Center in Honolulu, Hawaii. This training was the first in-person NOAA ICS 300 class since the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020. During the interim, the class has been held virtually to ensure NOAA staff are trained in ICS 300.

OR&R Supports U.S. Coast Guard in Oil Spill Exercise in Puerto Rico

OR&R's Brad Benggio, the NOAA Scientific Support Coordinator (SSC) assigned to the U.S. Coast Guard's (USCG) Seventh District in Miami, Florida, recently participated in a tabletop oil spill exercise in Ponce, Puerto Rico to support emergency response training.

NOAA Coordinates California Ocean Litter Strategy Workgroups

On March 14, the NOAA Marine Debris Program (MDP) wrapped up a month of partner-led virtual workgroup meetings to discuss the California Ocean Litter Strategy (OLS). The meetings brought together over 75 partners from across the state and included a diverse set of sectors, including state agencies, nonprofits, private organizations, and academia.

NOAA Presents at Oil Spill Response Workshop in Timor-Leste

OR&R's Ruth Yender, the NOAA Scientific Support Coordinator for Oceania, assisted with an oil spill response workshop sponsored by [U.S. Indo-Pacific Command](#) (link is external) (USINDOPACOM), held in Dili, Timor-Leste from March 18–22. The workshop was intended to assist Timor-Leste agencies as they develop national level emergency response plans.

USA: CERCLA PFAS EXEMPTIONS HEARING SEES LITTLE PROGRESS

March 25 - A CERCLA PFAS exemptions hearing was held on Wednesday, March 20, 2024, where representatives testified in favor of creating CERCLA PFAS exemptions for passive receivers of PFAS. While all of the testimony favored creating exemptions and committee members that questioned during the hearing all stated support for some degree of exemption, it remains apparent that the overall committee debating the proposed legislation to create CERCLA exemptions remains deadlocked. In all likelihood, the EPA's final CERCLA PFAS rule will go into effect with no Congressional exemptions in place. Nat. Law Review / [Read more](#)

USA: INTERIOR DEPARTMENT MAKES \$55 MILLION AVAILABLE TO CLEAN UP ORPHANED OIL AND GAS WELLS ON TRIBAL LANDS

March 25 - The Department of the Interior Friday announced final guidance for Tribal communities on how to apply for \$55 million in grant funding and direct assistance available under President Biden's Investing in America agenda to clean up orphaned oil and gas wells across Indian Country. LA Daily Post / [Read more](#)

USA: TRISTATE BIRD RESCUE OPEN HOUSE INVITATION



Please join us Sunday, May 5th for Open House and Nest Fest 2024.

Our annual Open House has been a tradition for decades. Every year, we invite the communities we serve to learn more about wildlife rehabilitation, reducing wildlife injuries, and helping our wild neighbors. Tours, education Stations, exhibits, vendors, food trucks, and a whole lot of fun for the entire family!

Tristate Bird / [Read more](#)

VIETNAM: MASSIVE OIL SPILL PREVENTION EFFORT LAUNCHED AFTER SHIPWRECK

March 26 - Seven thousand liters of oil will be removed from a shipwrecked vessel in central Vietnam after a cargo ship crashed into a reef, endangering the ocean with a possible spill.

The prevention effort began Wednesday after the accident in the Cu Lao Cham Marine Conservation area off the coast of Quang Nam Province on March 24. Vn Express / [Read more](#)

NEWS FROM ISCO MEMBERS

SPANISH COAST GUARD'S NEW VESSEL EQUIPPED FOR OIL SPILL RESPONSE



The chosen technology includes Stiff Sweeps, HDB booms and LUT Skimmer for quicker containment and recovery to minimize environmental harm.

In the middle of March 2024, Lamor successfully completed the installation of oil spill response equipment aboard the new multipurpose vessel of the Spanish Coast Guard, the "Heroínas de Salvora".

The approximately 85-meter multipurpose vessel is equipped with Lamor's state-of-the-art technology including Stiff Sweeps, Heavy Duty Booms (HDB) and LUT Skimmer. These advanced technologies mark a new era in oil spill response, enabling quicker containment and recovery to minimize environmental harm.

LAMOR / [Read more](#)

A COLUMN CREATED BY DR. MERV FINGAS, MEMBER OF ISCO COUNCIL FOR CANADA



This is part of a weekly column which provides the references and abstracts of new peer-reviewed scientific publications on oil spills. These references are selected on the basis of those papers that provide new insights into the fate, effects and control of oil spills. Readers may choose to obtain the full publications and to do so, one of three methods is suggested; contact your library, search the internet with the DOI (digital object identifier) provided, or search the internet for the exact title. These are given in the order of likely success in obtaining the article. Merv Fingas, ISCO Colleague.

77. Oil droplet fouling on lesser sandeel (*Ammodytes marinus*) eggshells does not enhance the crude oil induced developmental toxicity,

Sørhus E., Bjelland R., Durif C., Johnsen E., Donald C.E., Meier S., Nordtug T., Vikebø F.B., Perrichon P.

(2024) Journal of Hazardous Materials, 468, art. no. 133814,

DOI: 10.1016/j.jhazmat.2024.133814

ABSTRACT: The oil industry's expansion and increased operational activity at older installations, along with their demolition, contribute to rising cumulative pollution and a heightened risk of accidental oil spills. The lesser sandeel (*Ammodytes marinus*) is a keystone prey species in the North Sea and coastal systems. Their eggs adhere to the seabed substrate making them particularly vulnerable to oil exposure during embryonic development. We evaluated the sensitivity of sandeel embryos to crude oil in a laboratory by exposing them to dispersed oil at concentrations of 0, 15, 50, and 150 µg/L oil between 2 and 16 days post-fertilization. We assessed water and tissue concentrations of THC and tPAH, cyp1a expression, lipid distribution in the eyes, head and trunk, and morphological and functional deformities. Oil droplets accumulated on the eggshell in all oil treatment groups, to which the embryo responded by a dose-dependent rise in cyp1a expression. The oil exposure led to only minor sublethal deformities in the upper jaw and otic vesicle. The findings suggest that lesser sandeel embryos are resilient to crude oil exposure. The lowest observed effect level documented in this study was 36 µg THC/L and 3 µg tPAH/L. The inclusion of these species-specific data in risk assessment models will enhance the precision of risk evaluations for the North Atlantic ecosystems.

78. Effect of marine ecological compensation policy on coastal water pollution: Evidence from China based on a multiple period difference-in-differences approach

Pan X., Wang M., Pu C.

(2024) Science of the Total Environment, 923, art. no. 171469

DOI: 10.1016/j.scitotenv.2024.171469

ABSTRACT: With the development and utilization of marine resources, coastal water pollution has become increasingly prominent. The marine ecological compensation (MEC) is a key measure to balance the utilization of marine resources and the protection of marine environment. This paper attempts to explore the governance effect of MEC policy on coastal water pollution. Based on panel data of coastal cities in China from 2006 to 2020, a multiple period difference-in-differences (DID) model is used to estimate the impact of MEC policy on coastal water pollution. The research results show that the coastal water pollution has decreased significantly in the polit cities after implementing the MEC policy. The governance effect of MEC policy on coastal water pollution will last for three year and cover areas within a geographical distance of 200 km. The transmission mechanisms of MEC policy on coastal water pollution are the reduction of land-based sewage, marine technological progress and optimization of industrial structure. Further, this paper provides operational suggestions for strengthening the governance effect of MEC policy on coastal water pollution.

79. Bacterial Diversity in Old Hydrocarbon Polluted Sediments of Ecuadorian Amazon River Basins,

Corral-García L.S., Molina M.C., Bautista L.F., Simarro R., Espinosa C.I., Gorines-Cordero G., González-Benítez N.

(2024) Toxics, 12 (2), art. no. 119

DOI: 10.3390/toxics12020119

ABSTRACT: The Ecuadorian Amazon rainforest stands out as one of the world's most biodiverse regions, yet faces significant threats due to oil extraction activities dating back to the 1970s in the northeastern provinces. This research investigates the environmental and societal consequences of prolonged petroleum exploitation and oil spills in Ecuador's Amazon. Conducted in June 2015, the study involved a comprehensive analysis of freshwater sediment samples from 24 locations in the Rio Aguarico and Napo basins. Parameters such as water and air temperature, conductivity, soil pH, and hydrocarbon concentrations were examined. Total petroleum hydrocarbon (TPH) concentrations ranged from 9.4 to 847.4 mg kg⁻¹, with polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbon (PAH) levels varying from 10.15 to 711.1 mg kg⁻¹. The pristane/phytane ratio indicated historic hydrocarbon pollution in 8 of the 15 chemically analyzed sediments. Using non-culturable techniques (Illumina), bacterial analyses identified over 350 ASV, with prominent families including Comamonadaceae, Chitinophagaceae, Anaeromyxobacteraceae, Sphingomonadaceae, and Xanthobacteraceae. Bacterial diversity,

assessed in eight samples, exhibited a positive correlation with PAH concentrations. The study provides insights into how microbial communities respond to varying levels of hydrocarbon pollution, shedding light on the enduring impact of oil exploitation in the Amazonian region. Its objective is to deepen our understanding of the environmental and human well-being in the affected area, underscoring the pressing need for remedial actions in the face of ongoing ecological challenges.

80. Trace element levels in the muscles of three tern species (Aves: Laridae) from the western Arabian Gulf: environmental assessment and implications for conservation

Yacoubi L., Savoca D., El Zrelli R.B., Gopalan J., Nazal M., Lin Y.-J., Maccotta A., Hamza F., Bhuyan M.S., Arculeo M., Rabaoui L.J. (2024) *Environmental Monitoring and Assessment*, 196 (3)
DOI: 10.1007/s10661-024-12385-9

ABSTRACT: In the Arabian Gulf (called also Persian Gulf; hereafter 'the Gulf'), Jana and Karan Islands are recognized as one of the most important Bird Areas in the region. Many migratory breeding seabirds, like the Greater Crested Tern *Thalasseus bergii*, White-cheeked Tern *Sterna repressa* and Bridled Tern *Onychoprion anaethetus*, depend on these islands during the breeding season. However, these aquatic wildlife species are suffering from intensified urban and industrial coastal development and various contamination events including wars and related oil spills. In this study, we used these three piscivorous top predator birds to analyse the levels of 19 trace elements (TEs; i.e. Al, As, Ba, Ca, Cd, Co, Cr, Cu, Fe, Hg, K, Mg, Mn, Na, Ni, Pb, Sr, V and Zn) in 15 muscular tissue samples from Jana and Karan Islands. PERMANOVA analysis showed no difference in contamination profile between sites nor between species probably due to their spatial and ecological proximity and therefore similar levels of exposure to TEs. Comparing these levels with existing literature, our results showed no particular concern for all elements, except for Al (maximum values recorded = 116.5 $\mu\text{g g}^{-1}$ d.w.) and, in two samples, Ba (33.67 $\mu\text{g g}^{-1}$ d.w.) and Pb (5.6 $\mu\text{g g}^{-1}$ d.w.). The results can be considered as an initial step for supplementary evaluations with a larger number of samples and specified time intervals for the collection of specimens. This study provided baseline information on the pollution status of these two ecologically important sites which require a continuous biomonitoring programme.

81. Occurrence, sources and water column distribution trends of suspended particle-associated aliphatic and polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons in the open northeastern Mediterranean Sea

Parinos C., Skylaki E., Hatzianestis I., Gogou A. (2024) *Science of the Total Environment*, 914, art. no. 169685,
DOI: 10.1016/j.scitotenv.2023.169685

ABSTRACT: Herein, we study the occurrence and water column distribution trends of suspended particle-associated aliphatic (AHCs) and polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs) collected from 36 offshore/deep sea locations across the open northeastern Mediterranean Sea. Total concentrations of the determined compounds fall within the range previously reported for non-polluted coastal and open sea locations worldwide. Mixed natural and anthropogenic sources were evident for the studied compounds, based on their molecular profile and several diagnostic indices. In all cases, an enhanced fossil signal typifying chronic oil pollution was evident along the water column. AHCs and PAHs mixtures characteristics varied significantly within the studied sub-regions, highlighting the importance of inputs from various point sources and dispersion pathways. The circulation characteristics of water masses along with biogeochemical features impact on the water column distribution trends and overall fate of the determined compounds in the study area.

82. In vitro assessment of crude oil degradation by *Acinetobacter junii* and *Alcanivorax xenomutans* isolated from the coast of Ghana

Gyasi S.F., Sarfo M.K., Kobo-Bah A.T., Adu B., Appiah A.S., Serfor-Armah Y. (2024) *Heliyon*, 10 (3), art. no. e24994
DOI: 10.1016/j.heliyon.2024.e24994

ABSTRACT: This study was aimed at using in vitro microcosm experiments to assess crude oil degradation efficiency of *Acinetobacter junii* and *Alcanivorax xenomutans* isolated along Ghana's coast. Uncontaminated seawater from selected locations along the coast was used to isolate bacterial species by employing enrichment culture procedures with crude oil as the only carbon source. The isolates were identified by means of the extended direct colony transfer method of the Matrix Assisted Laser Desorption Ionization Time of Flight Mass Spectroscopy (MALDI-TOF MS), as *Acinetobacter junii*, and *Alcanivorax xenomutans*. Remediation tests showed that *Acinetobacter junii* yielded degradation efficiencies of 27.59 %, 41.38 % and 57.47 %. Whereas efficiencies of 21.14 %, 32.18 % and 43.68 % were recorded by *Alcanivorax xenomutans* representing 15, 30 and 45 days respectively. Consortia of *Acinetobacter junii*, and *Alcanivorax xenomutans* also yielded 32.18 %, 48.28 % and 62.07 % for the selected days respectively. Phylogenetic characterization using ClustalW and BLAST of sequences generated from the Oxford Nanopore Sequencing technique, showed that the Ghanaian isolates clustered with *Alcanivorax xenomutans* and *Acinetobacter junii* species respectively. An analysis of the sequenced data for the 1394-bp portion of the 16S rRNA gene of the isolates revealed >99 % sequence identity with the isolates

RECENT INTERESTING PEER-REVIEWED OIL SPILL PUBLICATIONS (CONTINUED)

present on the GenBank database. The isolates of closest identity were *Alcanivorax xenomutans* and *Acinetobacter junii* with accession numbers, NR_133958.1 and KJ147060.1 respectively. *Acinetobacter junii* and *Alcanivorax xenomutans* isolated from Ghana's coast under pristine seawater conditions have therefore demonstrated their capacity to be used for the remediation of crude oil spills.

83. Bioremediation of petroleum hydrocarbon contaminated soil: a review on principles, degradation mechanisms, and advancements,

Mekonnen B.A., Aragaw T.A., Genet M.B.

(2024) *Frontiers in Environmental Science*, 12, art. no. 1354422

DOI: 10.3389/fenvs.2024.1354422

ABSTRACT: Petroleum hydrocarbons (PHCs) are key energy sources for several industries and daily life. Soil contamination from oily PHC spills is commonly detected in cities and industrial facilities where crude oil is used. The release of PHC pollutants into the environment, whether accidentally from petroleum industries or human activities, has become a leading source of soil pollution. Consequently, the mineralization of PHC-polluted sites has become a central issue worldwide. Although bioremediation is imperative for environmental safety and management, several approaches have been developed for PHC bioremediation. However, much remains to be explored in this regard. This review explores bioremediation of PHC-contaminated soil and provides a comprehensive examination of the principles, degradation mechanisms, and recent advancements in the field. Several microbial species have been used to study the bioremediation of PHCs, emphasizing the pivotal roles of diverse microbial communities. *Aspergillus* spp., Proteobacteria, and Firmicutes groups of microorganisms were the most efficient in remediating PHC-contaminated soil. The fundamental concepts behind the bioremediation of PHC and the complex mechanisms that govern degradation were elucidated. Limiting factors in the bioremediation process and recent innovations propelling the field were also discussed. Therefore, understanding the degradation pathway, ensuring complete degradation of contaminants, and flexible legislation for the proper use of genetically engineered microbes can make bioremediation more sustainable and cost-effective. Copyright

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CLEANING UP ENVIRONMENTAL CONTAMINANTS WITH QUANTUM DOT TECHNOLOGY

The 2023 Nobel Prize in Chemistry was focused on quantum dots — objects so tiny, they're controlled by the strange and complex rules of quantum physics. Many quantum dots used in electronics are made from toxic substances, but their nontoxic counterparts are now being developed and explored for uses in medicine and in the environment. One team of researchers is focusing on carbon- and sulfur-based quantum dots, using them to create safer invisible inks and to help decontaminate water supplies. EurekaAlert / [Read more](#)

CHEMICALLY TREATED POSIDONIA OCEANICA FIBERS AS A POTENTIAL SORBENT FOR OIL SPILL CLEAN UP

Highlights

- PO fibres were tested for oil and water sorption capacities to clean-up oil spills.
- The raw fibers were able to sorb more water than oil.
- H₃PO₄ treatment greatly enhanced the oil sorption capacity of PO fibers.
- Kinetic and isotherm models revealed a monolayer oil sorption with chemical bonds.
- Prepared PO fibres may be considered as a potential material for oil spills clean-up. Science Direct / [Read more](#)

BIOREMEDIATION STRATEGIES FOR SOIL AND WATER POLLUTION HARNESSING THE POWER OF MICROORGANISMS

Utilising the innate metabolic capacities of microorganisms to convert and detoxify pollutants into safe metabolites, bioremediation has become a compelling and long-lasting method for mitigating pollution.

The present study offers a thorough examination of bioremediation tactics designed to tackle soil and water contamination, focusing on the complex interactions among microbial communities, environmental factors, and remediation effectiveness.

ResearchGate / [Read more](#)

NEW FUELS - FROM NICK BAILEY OF AMBIPAR (A SHORT ARTICLE FOLLOWING ON FROM A LETTER IN LAST LAST WEEK'S NEWSLETTER)

The new fuels and cargoes (Ammonia, Hydrogen Methanol and Carbon Dioxide) currently being talked about are already coming into play. Of course, not all of the cargoes are entirely new as some have been transported primarily for agricultural purposes, for a good many years. The quantities and therefore the infrastructure requirements though, are about to increase dramatically. Three of the above are going to be transported as fuel, the fourth, carbon dioxide, will be transported as part of carbon capture programs probably for geo-sequestration.

Methanol, Ammonia, Hydrogen and Carbon Dioxide are about to see a huge increase in volumes transported. Methanol has already started to come into use e.g. several Maersk vessels are now dual fuelled. Hydrogen is being trialled as a cargo between Japan and Australia in the vessel Susio Frontier (Susio being Japanese for Hydrogen). Ammonia, transported already for agriculture, will see an increase in volume as it can be converted into hydrogen. Ambipar is in the coming months, working with UK Health and Safety Executive and the National Chemical Emergency Centre on responder safety in cryogenic carbon dioxide incidents and with ammonia releases to water.

Understanding the properties, hazards, and response protocols associated with these materials is crucial for responders and stakeholders involved in handling and mitigating incidents.

First some interesting facts:

- You can transport more hydrogen in the form of ammonia than you can if you transport it as hydrogen.
- The friction of hydrogen passing through an over pressure valve (or other hole/leak) can be enough to ignite it. hydrogen trailer safety valve releasing pressure (youtube.com)
- Both Hydrogen and Methanol flames are very difficult to see in daylight and burn with a comparatively low radiant heat. It can be difficult to know that there is a fire without thermal imaging cameras or other temperature monitoring HammerDex UK V13 16x9 VO3 (youtube.com)
- Ammonia is incredibly water soluble – a useful property that can be exploited in some incident responses.
- Carbon dioxide sometimes has very toxic contaminants that when compressed and liquified can be of great hazard to responders.

What do responders need to know in an incident?

That may depend a bit on the incident but great sources of information are:

- Classifications / Transport Documentation
- Safety Data Sheets
- Product expert advice (level 1 responder)
- Marine Emergency Response Manual
- MAR-ICE
- Emergency Response Guide (ERG)
- GESAMP

The IMDG classifications, Proper Shipping Names and Transport Documentations are a starting point for the hazards involved.

Hydrogen: UN 1966, HYDROGEN, CRYOGENIC LIQUID; HYDROGEN, REFRIGERATED LIQUID, 2.1,

Ammonia: UN 1005, AMMONIA, ANHYDROUS, 2.3(8),

Carbon Dioxide: UN 1013, CARBON DIOXIDE, 2.2,

Methanol: UN1230, METHANOL, 3 (6.1), PG2,

We know that the first three are very cold but we can also see other properties such as class 2.1 flammability (hydrogen), class 2.3(8) toxicity and corrosivity (ammonia) and class 2.2, non-flammable non-toxic but asphyxiant (Carbon dioxide). The final product methanol class 3 (6.1) – flammable liquid that is also toxic. To give an idea of the degree of flammability, other flammable liquids of the same group are petrol and toluene.

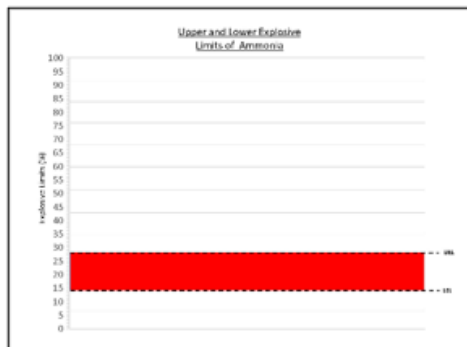
Safety data sheets and speaking with product experts (especially the latter option if available) will reveal more of the required critical information and product experts and MAR-ICE (an international emergency information scheme available to Administrations through Cedre) will be able to target their information and advice to the circumstances of incident. This will assist in deciding strategies and protective measures that are required for responders.

GESAMP (Group of Experts on the Scientific Aspects of Marine Environmental Protection) entries can be found for two of the products – methanol and ammonia which will assist in deciding on protective measures required to be put in place for public and the environment, in the event of a release. Training, planning and exercises will improve the knowledge of all those involved in the

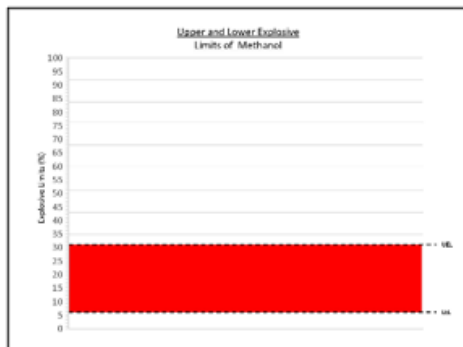
mitigation of incidents. Also of assistance is the knowledge that the right equipment is strategically located in the right places, ready for the first incident.

Flammability Toxicity and Corrosivity

Being fuels, three of the products have flammable properties. Hydrogen is not only flammable over a very wide range of concentrations but ignites very easily and both hydrogen and methanol burn with invisible flames. The three charts below show the different flammable/explosive ranges of the products (LEL / UEL).



Ammonia



Methanol



Hydrogen

Ammonia has the smallest flammable range but has the added complications of corrosivity and toxicity. It is highly water soluble and one of the effective response techniques to combat a leak (which involves formation of clouds of dense white fumes in contact with air) is to use a water curtain.



Dense white fume from an Ammonia release

‘Dense white fume from an Ammonia release

This is very effective in reducing the fume but unfortunately it causes ‘rain’ of ammonium hydroxide in the immediate vicinity, so precautions need to be taken to mitigate this effect. Methanol has a slightly wider range than ammonia. However, hydrogen has the widest range for the flammable /explosive limits and is flammable at most concentration levels – a major consideration in planning a response.

Carbon dioxide is an asphyxiant but depending on the capture source may have contaminants which greatly increase their effect due to partial pressures. Responders may need to protect against these. Another notable fact is that respirators with filters are not going to be an option as CO₂ is a

constituent of air and so will not be filtered out by standard respirator filters.

Other things to consider, especially with Ammonia is a phenomenon known as “Heat of Dilution”. This is where the temperature increases due to the dilution process. There are small scale UK trials and a large-scale French sea trial planned, where this parameter amongst many others will be measured during an ammonia release to seawater.

Methanol is more like other more common fuels though there are some differences; it is a clear liquid, toxic and soluble in water.

Monitoring

PIDs and multi-gas detectors with the correct sensors are good for monitoring and giving ground truth to model predictions of plume concentration, though unfortunately the lamp required for monitoring methanol vapour is both expensive and short-lived. I believe the warranty period is one month! One word of warning, some detection tubes glow red hot within the explosive limits of hydrogen.

Product Transfers

Product transfers with cryogenic gasses/liquids are a bit more interesting than more normal product transfers, such as may happen with methanol. Normal loading of a cryogenic liquid would be to pump liquid product to a vessel, any vapour being returned to shore. A product transfer from one tank to another would normally see a nominally empty tank made ready but pressurised with vapour. The vapour would be pumped into the full tank using a compressor pump and the increased pressure in that tank would drive the liquid over to the empty tank. Another method would be to use a vane pump to pump liquid over but it depends on the conditions of

CORRESPONDENCE – NEW FUELS (CONTINUED)

the tanks/vessel as to which method is appropriate in an incident/casualty situation. Using a compressor pump alone to transfer product (as may be necessary with a damaged tank) would be a very drawn-out process.

For methanol which is a flammable liquid with some toxic properties, the more usual precautions such as earthing and bonding during transfer would need to be taken along with suitable protection for response personnel such as appropriate PPE.

Conclusions

To respond to these new cargoes/fuels, we need to take into account many more parameters than previously, when it was “just” hydrocarbon, which is well understood by not only responders, but by crews, Ports and Harbours and Administrations also.

Response needs to be being thought about and planned for now, it is just as necessary as the planning for how to load/unload, ship, pipe and otherwise transport and store these products. It must not be left until the first incident to work out strategies. Ambipar, a global company leading in environmental management with over 500 bases around the world, is working with Ports and Harbours, Majors, UK HSE, NCEC and other response organisations to be ready.

This is clearly not a response guide as much information pertinent to hazmat and HNS response has been omitted due to space. Many factors such as hierarchy of controls before resorting to PPE, protection factors in selecting RPE need to be taken into account. It is intended to whet the appetite of would-be responders wishing to dip a toe in the waters, with these new fuels/cargoes.

TRAINING COURSES

Training Course Providers – Please check entries below and advise editor on any necessary updates

USEFUL LINKS

- **INTERNATIONAL – IMO E-LEARNING PLATFORM** [e-learning platform](#)
- **AUSTRALIA – AMOSC** - <https://amosc.com.au/training/>
- **AUSTRALIA & NEW ZEALAND – ALGA** - <https://landandgroundwater.com>
- **CHINA** - <http://www.sioetc.com>
- **EUROPE –** <https://www.emsa.europa.eu/newsroom/latest-news/item/3609-emsa-training-catalogue-2019.html>
- **FRANCE - CEDRE** - https://wwz.cedre.fr/en/content/download/10912/file/CalendrierFormation2023_EN.pdf
- **UK & WORLDWIDE – OIL SPILL RESPONSE LTD.** - <https://www.oilspillresponse.com/training/courses/>
- **UK & WORLDWIDE – BRIGGS ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES LTD.** - <https://www.briggsmarine.com/services/training/>
- **UK & WORLDWIDE – AMBIPAR GROUP** <https://ambipar.com/uk/training/>
- **UK & WORLDWIDE – SIGMA ENVIRONMENTAL** <http://www.sigma-environmental.com>
- **UK – NCEC HAZMAT ACADEMY** – [More info](#)
- **USA – TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY – NATIONAL SPILL CONTROL SCHOOL** <https://www.tamucc.edu/research/ns/cs/>
- **USA – MPC, DETROIT** - <https://marinepollutioncontrol.com/services/training-and-compliance>
- **USA – ALLIANCE OF HAZARDOUS MATERIALS PROFESSIONALS** - https://www.ahmpnet.org/events/event_list.asp
- **CANADA - CONTAMINATED SITES HEALTH & SAFETY REFRESHER (8-HOUR HAZWOPER) – FROM ECONEXT – [MORE INFO](#)**

Members who would like to be listed here, please contact your editor – john.mcmurtrie@spillcontrol.org

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The listings below give only very basic details – To get access to all information visit <https://spillcontrol.org/upcoming-events/>

APRIL 2024

- USA – Conference & Exhibition – Clean Waterways – April 9-11, Cincinnati, Ohio
- TUNISIA – MOIG TRAINING COURSE – IMO Level 3, 22-25 April 2024, South Hammamet
- UK – IOPC Funds Meeting of the Governing Bodies, IMO London. 29 April to 2 May

UPCOMING EVENTS (CONTINUED)

MAY 2024 Onwards

- USA – International Oil Spill Conference & Exhibition, 13-16 May 2024, New Orleans, Louisiana
- AUSTRALIA – ALGA – Contaminated Land & Groundwater Conference, 16th – 17th May 2024, Perth
- UK – UK & Ireland Spill Association – Marine Spill & Plastic Conference, 11th-12th June 2024, Southampton
- USA – AHMP – EHS HAZMAT SUMMIT, 14-17 July, 2024, Kansas City, Missouri
- CANADA – International Conference on Environmental Pollution & Remediation, Montreal, 5-6 August 2024
- GERMANY – “14th International Conference on Environmental Pollution & Remediation”, Berlin, August 25-27, 2024
- SPAIN & ONLINE – “14th International Conference on Environmental Pollution & Remediation, Barcelona, August 25-27, 2024
- CHINA / ONLINE – WSH Asia Awards 2024, 5th September 2024
- UAE - SPE International Health, Safety, Environment, and Sustainability Conference and Exhibition 10–12 September 2024, Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates
- USA – Elastec River Spill Workshop, Carmi, Indiana, 8-10 October 2024
- UK – Water, Waste & Environmental Monitoring – 9-10 October 2024, NEC, Birmingham, UK
- CHINA – 8th East Asian Seas Congress, Xiamen, 6-8 November 2024
- UK – Seatrade Maritime Salvage & Wreck Conference, London, 11-12 December 2024

SOME OTHER INFORMATION

- IOPC Funds has released a calendar of its upcoming events – to view, click on <https://iopcfunds.org/news-events/events/>
- Econext has released a programme of upcoming courses and webinars. This can be viewed at https://econext.myvirtualcampus.co/product-category/webinars/?orderby=date&mc_cid=9c2c758fcd&mc_eid=6a430f153
- Recordings of past ExxonMobil OSR Knowledge Transfer Webinar Recordings – [Access and Download](#)
- UK & Ireland Spill Association Alternative Marine Fuels and their Implications For Spill Response Webinar is [available to watch on YouTube](#). All six of UK & Ireland Spill Association’s Webinar Series on the Wakashio Spill are also available to watch. [More info](#)
- Gulf-Alaska Knowledge Exchange – A Workshop Series chaired by Ed Levine, Hon.FISCO – [More information](#)
- IG P&I Podcast - Exploring some of the topics discussed at the Seatrade Maritime Salvage & Wreck Conference - [Listen](#)

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USA: CLEAN WATERWAYS 2024 - CLICK ON LINKS BELOW FOR UPDATES

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Check out the 2024 CLEAN WATERWAYS Digital Conference Program! - A full, printable program is now available for this year’s CLEAN WATERWAYS Conference, taking place April 9-11 at the Duke Energy Convention Center in Cincinnati, OH. Check out all that we have planned for the upcoming CLEAN WATERWAYS event! [READ MORE](#)

The exhibit hall at this year’s CLEAN WATERWAYS Conference, April 9-11 in Cincinnati, will feature an array of companies showcasing the latest technologies, services, and equipment for incident prevention and response in the inland environment. You will find consulting services, incident management services, new technology for response, equipment for inland response, GIS products, toxicology, remediation, oil spill removal organizations, and containment boom manufacturers... just to name a few! [READ MORE](#)

[Registration information](#) April 9-11, 2024, Cincinnati, OH – “Incident Prevention & Response for Inland Regions & Waterways”

[View the website](#) The CLEAN WATERWAYS program is developed by a government/industry-based committee of approximately 50 professionals, and the committee is looking for leaders to help shape the conference.

USA: IT’S TIME YOU REGISTERED FOR IOSC 2024

[International Oil Spill Conference \(IOSC\)](#) in New Orleans, May 13-16, 2024

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their registration rate changed to reflect the difference.

In order to make it as easy as possible for you to join nearly 2,000 members of the international oil spill response community, IOSC has put together a Justification Toolkit to help you illustrate the value of attending this conference. Use the tools in this kit to explain to your supervisor how attending IOSC will be a smart investment in both your personal career growth and the growth of your organization. [Download the Justification Kit](#)

Meet Dr. Leonard Marcus, IOSC 2024 Keynote Speaker. Join us, May 13 - 16, 2024 in New Orleans, LA for the 2024 International Oil Spill Conference (IOSC) and be inspired by our opening keynote speaker, Dr. Leonard Marcus. [Read about Dr. Marcus](#)

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USA: CLEAN GULF CONFERENCE & EXHIBITION 2024

November 18-20, 2024 George R. Brown Convention Center | Houston, TX

PAPER SUBMISSION DEADLINE EXTENDED! THERE IS STILL TIME TO SUBMIT AN ABSTRACT FOR CLEAN GULF 2024 [MORE INFO](#)

Registration for the 2024 event will open in April and Exhibit and Sponsorships are already available! Contact Renie Mayfield at 720-289-7008 or rmayfield@accessintel.com to discuss how you can make an impact on buyers from oil & gas, maritime, rail, environmental companies and regulatory agencies with an Exhibit space or Sponsorship. [More info](#) Do you have real-world solutions for evolving environmental emergencies? Don't miss your chance to be heard at this year's CLEAN GULF Conference! Submit your abstract for review and your chance to take the stage this November

INDIA: OIL SPILL INDIA CONFERENCE & EXHIBITION, NEW DELHI, 11-12 SEPTEMBER 2024

In the backdrop of the recent oil spill incident, caused during cyclone Michaung in Chennai's Ennore Creek, it is with a sense of urgency and shared responsibility that we announce that the 7th edition of Oil Spill India (OSI 2024), the region's flagship conference & exhibition on the Oil Spill Prevention, Planning, Preparedness, Response & Restoration industry, will be organised during 11th & 12th September 2024 at Hotel JW Marriott, Aerocity, New Delhi, India. [View the OSI 2024 website](#)

EUROPE – INTERSPILL CONFERENCE & EXHIBITION – 8-10 APRIL 2025 – ExCeL, LONDON

This internationally respected triennial event (which connects global stakeholders involved in marine oil spill research, prevention, preparedness, response and restoration) will return on 8-10 April 2025 at ExCeL London.

[https://www.interspill.org/2025/Preliminary Programme & Call for Papers](https://www.interspill.org/2025/Preliminary%20Programme%20&%20Call%20for%20Papers) - Closing deadline 4 June 2024 – [More info](#)

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Click on the link below for more information

<https://www.cleanupoil.com/little-black-book/>

PEMSEA E-BULLETIN 27 MARCH 2024

<https://mailchi.mp/pemsea/ebulletin-march-2024?e=196100a0ff>

INCIDENT REPORTS

USA: NOAA OR&R INCIDENT RESPONSES FOR FEBRUARY 2024

During February, OR&R provided response support for 26 incidents, including 15 new incidents in ten different states, Puerto Rico, and an international incident in the Red Sea. The 15 new incidents included nine actual or potential oil spills, one chemical incident, five “other” incidents—one mystery drum, one lost container incident, one search and rescue, and two incidents involving dead wha Here is the complete list of February’s incidents. Click on the links to find out more:

- [Sunken Recreational Vessel](#); Seekonk River, East Providence, Rhode Island
- [Hydraulic Fluid Discharge from Jack-up Rig](#); Gulf State Park Pier, Gulf Shores, Alabama
- [Damaged Freighter Rubymar](#), Red Sea; Gulf of Aden
- [Dead North Atlantic Right Whale](#); floating off the coast of Georgia
- [Abandoned Mystery Drum](#); Mona Island, Puerto Rico

INCIDENT REPORTS (CONTINUED)

- [Grounded F/V Aleutian Storm](#); Bodega Bay, California
- [Sunken Pleasure Craft](#); Detroit River, Michigan
- [24 Lost Shipping Containers](#); offshore of Monterey, California
- [Diesel Discharge](#); Kwigillingok, Alaska
- [Heavy Fuel Oil Discharge into Galveston Bay](#); Texas City, TX
- [Crude Oil Spill into Black Lake](#); Hackberry, Louisiana
- [Train Derailment](#); Pittstown, New York
- [Request for Whale Carcass Drift Analysis](#); North Carolina Coast
- [F/V Jacob Pike Sunk in Shallow Water](#); New Meadows River, Harpswell, Maine
- [Overdue Sailboat](#); Eastern Pacific between Los Angeles and Hawaii

USA: ILLINOIS - INITIAL CLEANUP UNDERWAY OF CHEMICAL FOAM SPILL IN MAHONEY CREEK IN BATAVIA

March 23 - Crews have begun cleaning up a chemical foam spill in Mahoney Creek after officials at the city of Batavia warned residents to stay away from the creek earlier this month. The company the city said is responsible for the spill, Flint Group, hired the environmental cleanup contractor Clean Harbors to begin initial cleanup efforts while waiting for tests on the extent of the contamination to come back, according to Batavia City Administrator Laura Newman. Finance Yahoo / [Read more](#)

USA: MARYLAND - BALTIMORE BRIDGE COLLAPSES, RESULTING IN 'MASS CASUALTY' EVENT AFTER IT'S STRUCK BY CARGO SHIP

March 26 - The 1.6-mile-long Francis Scott Key Bridge in Baltimore collapsed early Tuesday morning after it was struck by a container ship, resulting in what authorities have described as "a mass casualty incident." Emergency responders, including dive teams, are searching for at least seven people believed to be in the frigid water, but that number could likely change, the Associated Press reported. Two people were rescued from the water; one person was unharmed while the second person was rushed to the hospital in serious condition, Baltimore Fire Chief James Wallace said. Daily Wire / [Read more](#) [Thanks to Rupert Bravery]

March 29 - On Thursday, emergency divers were forced to cancel search and rescue operations around Baltimore's Francis Scott Key bridge after officials observed a "sheen" of hazardous chemicals around the M/V Dali. Wsws / [Read more](#)

GABON: TRAGIC OIL RIG FIRE LEAVES FIVE WORKERS DEAD AND ONE MISSING

March 27 - A fatal fire on Perenco's Becuna oil platform off Gabon's coast has claimed five lives, with one worker still missing, marking the most severe tragedy in the nation's oil exploration history. The incidents occurred during a workover – a process which normally refers to the process of pulling in or replacing production hardware in order to extend the life of the rig. Health & Safety International / [Read more](#) [Thanks to Rupert Bravery]

USA: TEXAS - CREWS CLEAN UP AND MONITOR OIL SPILL IN CLEAR LAKE

March 29 - According to ExxonMobil, the power went out, and crude oil overflowed from a containment tank and overflow pit. The company added that the tank broke near the park, and that clean-up is expected to be done within the next week. An investigation is being conducted but preliminary information indicates that following a power disruption, produced water containing crude oil overflowed from a containment tank and overflow pit. We quickly contained the oil and worked with emergency response crews to restore and monitor the area." ABC News / [Read more](#)

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