

ISCO & THE ISCO NEWSLETTER

The ISCO Newsletter is published weekly by the International Spill Control Organisation, a not-for-profit organisation supported by members in 45 countries. ISCO has Consultative Status at IMO, Observer Status at IOPC Funds and is dedicated to raising worldwide preparedness and co-operation in response to oil and chemical spills, promoting technical development and professional competency, and to providing a focus for making the knowledge and experience of spill control professionals available to IMO, UNEP, EC and other organisation.

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COAST GUARD LEADERS OF US, CANADA REINVEST IN SAFETY AGREEMENT



Photo: Rear Adm. June Ryan, the commander of the 9th Coast Guard District, and Julie Gascon, the assistant commissioner for the Canadian Coast Guard Central and Arctic Region, seal the deal with a handshake, Aug. 5, 2016, in Grand Haven, Michigan. Ryan and Gascon renewed the binational pollution response agreement between the U.S. and Canada known as CANUSLAK. (U.S. Coast Guard photo by Petty Officer 2nd Class Christopher M. Yaw)

August 7 - Rear Adm. June E. Ryan, commander of the U.S. Coast Guard Ninth District joined Assistant Commissioner Julie Gascon of the Canadian Coast Guard, Central and Arctic Region Friday in the midst of annual festivities at the Grand Haven, Michigan, Coast Guard Festival to review and sign the annual update of the operational annex to the bilateral Joint Marine Pollution Contingency Plan between the United

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International news (continued)

and Canada, commonly referred to as the CANUSLAK Plan, Friday morning.

The Great Lakes are a pristine binational treasure and this ongoing agreement builds on the existing unity of effort through binational collaboration, uniquely positioning our agencies to meet rapidly evolving and complex threats facing our nations by speeding up the sharing of information, equipment and personnel between countries in the event of a cross-border spill.

The CANUSLAK annex of the Joint Marine Pollution Contingency Plan between the United States and Canada covers the Great Lakes boundary between Canada and the United States, defines the CANUSLAK Joint Response Team, and is regularly tested and improved in an ongoing series of exercises and real-world events like the May 25 exercise in Marysville, Michigan or the May 27 grounding of the motor vessel Roger Blough in Whitefish Bay on Lake Superior. *Maritime Professional* [Read more](#)

Incident reports from around the world

USA: ALASKA - OFFICIALS SEARCH FOR POTENTIAL SPILL FOLLOWING FISHING VESSEL EVACUATION

July 28 - The Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation is working to determine if a fishing vessel — whose engine room trouble prompted the rescue of 46 people earlier this week — spilled diesel fuel into the ocean.

Currently the condition of the Alaska Juris is unknown. It had 100,000 gallons of diesel fuel and other miscellaneous lube oils on board. The fishing vessel's last known location was about 41 miles northeast of Segula Island on the Aleutian chain.

A unified command has been established to locate the Alaska Juris and assess its condition. *Ktuu.com* [Read more](#) [Thanks to Don Johnston of ISCO Industry Partner, DG & Hazmat Group]

July 31 - Search Finds Oil Sheen but no sign of Alaska Juris - The United States Coast Guard (USCG), has called off the search for the missing fishing vessel Alaska Juris which is presumed sunk in approximately 5,400 feet of water in the Bering Sea. *gCaptain* [Read more](#)

CANADA: SASKATCHEWAN PLAGUED WITH FOURTH OIL SPILL IN 8 MONTHS

August 4 - A pipeline owned by Crescent Point Energy, and located in Saskatchewan, Canada, leaked approximately 630 barrels of oil emulsion on Tuesday, the fourth spill in Saskatchewan in eight months.

The incident occurred near the town of Pennant, and did not affect the wildlife or the water supplies used by the wildlife. Trent Stangl, a spokesman for Crescent Point said that the spill was contained to a slough in a farmer's field, and that cleanup had been nearly completed by Wednesday. *Oil Price* [Read more](#)

August 9 - Another Boom Built Along North Saskatchewan River as Oil Spill Cleanup Continues - Crews are continuing to move further down the North Saskatchewan River as they continue to clean up the oil spill that leaked from a Husky Energy pipeline near Maidstone more than 2 weeks ago.

140,000 of the 250,000 litres of oil spilled has been recovered so far, with a new boom being set up near Tobin Lake as a precaution downstream. *Saskatoon Home Page* [Read more](#)

SINGAPORE: IRANIAN SUPERTANKER COLLIDES WITH GIANT MSC BOXSHIP IN SINGAPORE STRAIT – INCIDENT PHOTOS

August 4 - An Iranian Very Large Crude Carrier and a large containership collided in the busy Singapore Strait late Wednesday night, causing damage to both ships but luckily no injuries or reports of major pollution.

The supertanker sustained damage to its bow in the collision. The MSC Alexandra took the hit at its port quarter, causing a giant hole and the loss of containers overboard. Both vessels are in stable condition and anchored in

Incident reports from around the world

Singapore waters, the MPA said. [gCaptain](#) [Read more and see video](#) [Related report in The Maritime Executive](#)

August 8 - Singapore Strait Collision: Overboard Containers Retrieved - Authorities in Singapore have cleaned up the Singapore Strait following a collision between an Iranian supertanker and a giant MSC containership last week, which resulted in major damage to both ships and a handful of containers lost overboard. [gCaptain](#) [Read more](#)

PERU: OEFA TAKES ACTION AFTER OIL SPILL IN MOQUEGUA

August 4 - On Tuesday morning, an oil spill took place near the town of Ilo, in Peru's southern coastal province of Moquegua, affecting hundreds of animal species, including sea lions, birds and countless fishes.

In a news statement, the technical secretary of Civil Defense, Jesus Mamaní, said that the affected area covers 150 meters long and 80 wide, approximately. [Peru this week](#) [Read more](#)

TRINIDAD & TOBAGO: NEW OIL SPILL ON GULF OF PARIA COAST



Photo: Booms placed on the water near the Shore of Peace Cremation Site, Mosquito Creek South Oropouche to contain the spill which came shore on Trinidad's Gulf of Paria coastline overnight. Photo: TREVOR WATSON

August 5 - State-owned Petrotrin began cleaning up oil stained waters in the Gulf of Paria on Thursday night, following reports of oil deposits at Mosquito Creek and beaches in La Brea, Vessigny, Clifton Hill/ Guapo, and Cedros.

Tiger Tanks Trinidad Unlimited was contracted to mop up the oil. An oil containment boom was placed along the coastline, near Mosquito Creek. [Trinidad Express](#) [Read more](#)

August 5 - Clean-up starts on new oil spill - State-owned Petrotrin began cleaning up oil-stained waters in the Gulf of Paria on Thursday night, following reports of oil deposits at Mosquito Creek

and beaches in La Brea, Vessigny, Clifton Hill/ Guapo, and Cedros. [Trinidad Express](#) [Read more](#)

UK: VIDEO: TRANSOCEAN RIG GOES AGROUND OFF SCOTLAND

August 8 - Early Monday morning, the semisubmersible Transocean Winner went aground on the Isle of Lewis, Scotland. The rig was in transit, towed by the anchor handling tug Alp Forward, and the tug lost the tow in severe weather. The Alp Forward was unable to re-establish a connection and high winds blew the Winner aground.

UK maritime authorities said in a statement that "following the grounding of the semi-submersible drilling rig Transocean Winner on the Isle of Lewis, the Secretary of State's Representative for Maritime Salvage and Intervention Hugh Shaw is now in discussions with the owners Transocean and the salvors . . . There is 280mt of diesel on board and this situation is being monitored . . . SMIT Salvage has been mobilised to deal with the incident. Police Scotland and HM Coastguard Rescue Teams are also on scene."

[The Maritime Executive](#) [Read more](#)

August 8 - Oil rig runs aground in storm off Western Isles of Scotland

The first attempt to refloat a 17,000-tonne drilling platform that was blown ashore during a storm off the Western Isles of Scotland could start on Tuesday.

The Transocean Winner, which has 280 tonnes of diesel onboard, ran aground on the west coast of the Isle of Lewis early on Monday morning as it was being towed from Norway to Malta. No one was onboard when the rig's tow line snapped in heavy seas.



Incident reports from around the world (continued)

The beach at Dalmore, near Carloway, where the rig is ashore has been closed for safety reasons. A known beauty spot, Dalmore is highly regarded among surfers.

Salvage experts and coastguard officials will meet the UK government's maritime salvage representative, Hugh Shaw, at the site on Tuesday morning, to agree on a plan to refloat the 93-metre-long vessel. *The Guardian*
[Read more](#) [Related report, video and photos in gCaptain](#)

August 9 - Salvage Team Preparing to Board Grounded Drilling Rig in Scotland

Final preparations were being made Tuesday afternoon to put a small team of salvage experts on board the grounded semi-submersible Transocean Winner off Scotland's Isle of Lewis after the rig blew ashore Monday morning. The team is expected to conduct an initial assessment of the rig as part of the ongoing operation to remove it. *gCaptain*
[Read more](#)

August 9 - Pollution Risk from Grounded Rig Is "Low"

On Tuesday, the UK Maritime and Coastguard Agency said that there was little risk of pollution from the grounded semisubmersible rig Transocean Winner, which went onto the rocks near Carloway on the Isle of Lewis early Monday morning.

The Winner has 280 tonnes (or about 90,000 gallons) of diesel on board, and authorities have been monitoring the site for signs of pollution. So far none has been observed. *The Maritime Executive* [Read more](#)

August 10 - Transocean Winner Tanks Breached, Weather Causes Problems for Salvors

A damage assessment of the grounded Transocean drilling rig in Scotland showed that two of the rigs' fuel tanks have been breached, but it is unclear just how much oil has been released into the environment.

The assessment was carried out by a team from SMIT Salvage and Transocean who were able to board Transocean Winner Tuesday afternoon. Once aboard they spent three and a half hours checking the condition of the rig and looking at its structural integrity. *gCaptain* [Read more](#) [Related report in The Maritime Executive](#)
[Another related report in The Guardian](#)

August 11 - Diesel Oil Spills From Grounded Oil Rig on Scottish Island

A British official says thousands of gallons of diesel have likely spilled from an oil rig that was blown onto a remote Scottish beach.

Hugh Shaw, the government representative for maritime and salvage, said "we're probably talking about a maximum of 52 (metric) tons of diesel oil as the worst-case scenario." That's more than 50,000 liters (13,000 gallons). Shaw told the BBC Thursday that any oil spill was a concern, "but this is extremely low-risk." He said there was no sign of oil on the ocean surface or coastline. *ABC News* [Read more](#) Related reports in [The Maritime Executive](#) and [gCaptain](#)

JAPAN: TWO PRODUCT TANKERS COLLIDE NEAR YOKOHAMA

August 8 - On Sunday morning, the product tankers Eastern Phoenix and Keihin Maru 8 collided near Yokohama.

Japanese media report that the Keihin Maru suffered flooding and was spilling fuel oil cargo. Her crew of three were rescued, and responders towed her to a location where she did not pose a hazard to shipping.

Photos of the scene published Sunday afternoon show the Keihin Maru partially sinking, with the bow almost entirely under water. *The Maritime Executive* [Read more](#)

August 9 - Oil spill off coast of Japan after product tanker collision

An oil spill has been reported following the incident on Sunday, which saw the 1990-built 465 dwt Keihin Maru 8 collide with the 5,025 dwt Eastern Phoenix resulting in the smaller vessel sustaining serious damage with its fore port breached, causing flooding and partial sinking.

The Japanese-flagged Keihin Maru 8 reportedly had around 300mt of bunkers onboard at the time of the incident.

The Eastern Phoenix reportedly sustained only slight damage and remained afloat without water ingress. Meanwhile all crew have been evacuated from the Keihin Maru 8 although there were no reports of injuries.

Salvage operations are reportedly underway with oil booms around the stricken vessel and two rescue vessel performing water cleansing. An investigation into the incident is under way. *Seatrade Maritime* [Read more](#)

KUWAIT: KUWAITI STATE OIL FIRM SAYS SPILL STRIKES ONSHORE OIL FIELD

August 9 - Kuwait's state-run oil company says an oil spill has struck an onshore field.

The Kuwait Oil Company says in a statement on Tuesday that workers were trying to contain the spill at the Ahmadi

Incident reports from around the world (continued)

field. The company says the spill struck at its BWD-133 drilling rig. The company did not offer any details on how much oil had been spilled or if the spill was ongoing. It said no workers had been injured in the incident. bgdailynews.com
[Read more](#)

August 10 - Kuwait oil company says it contained spill at onshore field

Kuwait's state-run oil company says it has contained an oil spill at a drilling rig in the small, crude-rich country. A statement issued on Wednesday by the Kuwait Oil Co. says there would be an investigation into the cause of the spill, which happened Tuesday at its BWD-133 drilling rig at the Ahmadi field bgdailynews.com [Read more](#)
[Related report in ABC News](#)

AUGUST 10: PERU DETECTS FRESH OIL SPILL FROM DECADES-OLD AMAZON PIPELINE

August 10 - A fresh oil spill in the Peruvian Amazon was detected from the country's four-decades-old pipeline on Thursday, operator Petroperu said, bringing the number of leaks this year to four. Petroperu, the country's state-owned energy company, did not provide an estimate for how much oil was released and said emergency workers were implementing a contingency plan. Reuters [Read more](#)

August 11 - Peru Oil Pipeline's 4th Leak Spills More Crude in the Amazon

The company behind the spill, Petroperu, has not released an estimate of the amount of oil leaked or the extent of environmental damage. Communities in the Peruvian Amazon are facing a new environmental disaster as a 40-year-old pipeline operated by state oil company Petroperu has experienced a major oil spill for the fourth time this year. Petroperu confirmed the leak in a statement late Wednesday, indicating that emergency crews were responding to the incident. The company did not indicate the extent of the spill or offer an estimate of the amount of oil that has seeped out in the leak. TelesurTV [Read more](#)

August 11 – Report received from ISCO Member, Carlos Sagrera, MISCO

This spill is in the Peruvian Amazonian - a new oil spill from the Norperuano Pipeline of PetroPeru (km 364 – sector II of the Nieva District – Condorcanqui Province). It was last the Wednesday 10th August. Here enclosed some Spanish links and some photos.



<http://larepublica.pe/politica/792998-petroperu-confirma-nuevo-derrame-de-petroleo-del-oleoducto-norperuano>

<http://rpp.pe/peru/amazonas/petroperu-reporta-derrame-de-crudo-en-oleoducto-nor-peruano-noticia-986248>

<http://larepublica.pe/sociedad/793055-imagenes-del-cuarto-derrame-de-petroperu-en-el-oleoducto-norperuano-fotos>

CANADA: CANADA'S RAILWAYS RELEASE NEW VIDEO TO PROMOTE FREE NATIONAL EMERGENCY RESPONSE TRAINING PROGRAM

August 3 - Canada's railways today released a new promotional video about TRANSCAER® – the Transportation Community Awareness and Emergency Response initiative. Led by Chemistry Industry Association of Canada and the Railway Association of Canada, TRANSCAER brings together chemical manufacturers, oil producers, railways and trucking and distribution companies, to inform communities about the products being transported through their area, and provide free training to emergency responders on how to handle a transportation incident involving dangerous goods.

Andy Ash, Director of Dangerous Goods for the Railway Association of Canada, appears in the new TRANSCAER video along with members of the Woolwich Fire Department, Waterloo Regional Police, and employees of Chemtura Canada.

In 2015 alone, Canada's railways trained more than 6,300 Canadian firefighters, police, emergency medical personnel and industrial plant workers on dangerous goods handling and emergency response through TRANSCAER.

By providing free training and resources on emergency preparedness through TRANSCAER, and innovative tools such as the [AskRail mobile application](#), Canada's railways are helping to keep communities and first responders safe. For more information about TRANSCAER, or to set up an event in your community, visit transcaer.ca [Read more and watch the new training video](#)

CANADA: BAY OF FUNDY OIL SPILL COULD THREATEN EAST COAST BIRD POPULATIONS: NATURALIST

August 5 - With National Energy Board (NEB) hearings into the proposed Energy East pipeline set to begin next week in Saint John, groups with concerns about the mega project are stepping forward.

Those in favour of the project, which would see more than a million barrels of Alberta oil piped to Saint John each day, cite its economic benefits. But worry over the potential for oil spills remains a major issue for environmentalists.

Well known New Brunswick naturalist Jim Wilson says in the spring alone, hundreds of thousands of sea birds migrating to the Arctic do so by way of the Bay of Fundy. "If there were an oil spill at that time of year it could literally wipe out a high proportion of the east coast populations of certainly loons, many sea ducks and a lot of other birds," Wilson said. *Global News* [Read more, listen to podcast and watch video](#)

ECUADOR: US COURT RULES IN FAVOR OF CHEVRON IN ECUADOR POLLUTION CASE

August 8 - The ruling means that Ecuadorean plaintiffs cannot collect US\$9 billion in damages in the U.S., but can petition courts elsewhere to uphold the judgment.

A U.S. federal appeals court ruled Monday in favor of the oil giant Chevron in a case that dates back more than 20 years, blocking one of Ecuador's Indigenous community from collecting a judgement of nearly US\$8.6 billion for environmental damage to the Amazon rain forest.

The decision from the U.S. 2nd Circuit Court of Appeals in Manhattan dismissed claims by the lawyer Steven Donziger on behalf of Ecuador's Lago Agrio region, that is most impacted by the dirty legacy of Chevron's Amazon drilling. Donziger had requested that the court enforce an earlier ruling by an Ecuadorean court awarding the plaintiffs nearly US\$9 billion in damages for water and soil contamination to the Amazon between 1964 and 1992 when Texaco, acquired by Chevron in 2001, drilled in the region.

But instead, the U.S. court let stand a lower court decision which concluded that Donziger corrupted the Ecuadorian case by submitting fraudulent evidence, coercing the judge, bribing an expert witness, and paying a Colorado consulting firm to write the expert's report, all in an effort to mislead the U.S. courts. *TelesurTV* [Read more](#)

FIJI: NEW ZEALAND PUMPS IN BIG MONEY FOR OIL SPILL RESPONSE

August 9 - New Zealand has provided Fiji NZ\$853,000 (F\$1,253,944.12) in direct response following the recommendations made in the Report on Oil Spill Environmental Risk Assessment that was produced in 2015.

This major contribution was highlighted today by Maritime Safety Authority Fiji Acting CEO, John Tunidau, while receiving a set of Oil spill response equipment from the New Zealand Government.

"It is expected that the procurement of equipment will contribute significantly to establishing the oil spill response equipment stockpiles and necessary facilities in the four high risk areas - Port of Suva, Port of Lautoka, Port of Levuka and Port of Malau - to address the Tier II and Tier III marine spills," Mr Tunidau said. *The Fiji Times* [Read more](#)

August 10 - Possibility of oil spills in Fiji waters is very high – Eden



Photo: The Assistant Minister for Environment, Lorna Eden

With an increased maritime trade and other maritime activities locally and within the region, the possibility of oil spills in Fiji waters is very high and this needs to be addressed.

The Assistant Minister for Environment, Lorna Eden highlighted this while speaking at the handing over ceremony of the Oil Spill Response Equipment.

Eden says Fiji's marine environment could be affected if there is a major oil spill in the Fiji waters.

She says the establishment of oil spill response equipment's in high risk areas will allow Fiji to effectively respond to such tragedies. *FijiVillage.com* [Read more](#)

GUYANA: SINGLE HULL TANKERS POSE RISK OF MAJOR OIL SPILLS; GUYANESE COMPANY READY TO CLEAN UP

Photo: President David Granger (right) listens to GAICO's CEO, Komak Singh (second from right) explain how the oil spill clean up mechanism works aboard the MS Maleka. Others in picture from left are Professor Suresh Narine, Chairman of the Private Sector Commission Eddi Boyer and Health Minister Dr. George Norton.



August 5 - A Guyanese company, now capable of providing oil spill clean-up services, on Friday raised concerns about the risk of massive marine and coastal pollution if single-hull vessels are not phased out from carrying fuels in Guyana.

Chief Executive Officer of GAICO Construction and General Services, Komal Singh called for efforts to be made to reduce that type of risk at the commissioning of an oil spill clean-up vessel at Nismes, West Bank Demerara.

Director General of the Maritime Administration (MARAD), Claudette Rogers confirmed that Singh's concerns are real and she acknowledged the need for legislation and enforcement. "We do have single hull (vessels). We don't yet have legislation in place which speaks adequately to double hull," he said. She said the international oil tankers that bring fuel to Guyana are double hulled in keeping with international rules. Rogers could not immediately say when the appropriate legislation would be enacted but assured that attention would be given to it. *Demerara Waves* [Read more](#)

NIGERIA: BUHARI INAUGURATES GC, BOT FOR Ogoniland CLEAN UP

August 5 - To ensure full implementation of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) report on Ogoniland, President Muhammadu Buhari on Thursday inaugurated the Governing Council and the Board of Trustees (BoT) of the Trust Fund for the Hydrocarbon Pollution Remediation Project (HYPREP).

Buhari, while speaking at a brief ceremony in the Presidential Villa, Abuja, noted that the project, which will take two decades to implement, will start five years after the UNEP report.

The next five years, he said, will address emergency response measures and remediation, while the subsequent years will aim to restore the ecosystems in the Niger Delta. *Naija247News* [Read more](#)

August 5 - Ogoni Clean Up Governing Board, BOT

The Minister of Environment, Amina Mohammed was named the chairman of the government board. Other members of the board included Minister of National Planning, Udoma Udoma, Minister of Niger Delta Affairs Pastor Usani Usani, Minister of State for Petroleum, Ibe Kachikwu, National Security Adviser, Babagana Monguno, Managing Director of the Niger Delta Development Commission (NDDC) Nsima Ekere, Managing Director SPDC, Osagie Okunbor.

Representatives of Ogoni Stakeholders on the Council include Pyagbara Legborsi, Ben Naneen, and two alternatives. Similarly, members of the BoT included Wale Edun as Chairman, the Minister of Finance Kemi Adeosun, Minister of state for environment Ibrahim Jibril, Minister of State Petroleum. Representatives of International Oil companies, IOCs included Osagie Okunbor, Insula Massim, and Alexis Bobk. Stakeholders from Ogoni land, some communities in the Niger Delta, Non governmental organizations, NGOs as well as the UNEP are also on the board. *Vanguard* [Read more](#)

August 5 - Excitement as Ogoni cleanup committee kicks off



Photo: L-R, Minister of Environment , Hajija Amina Mohammed, Vice President Yemi Osinbajo, President Muhammadu Buhari, Chief of Staff, Mallam Abba Kyari and Chairman, Ogoni Clean-up, Mr Wale Edun at the inauguration

Extracts from this very comprehensive report –

“The UNEP report specifies a billion dollars and Shell has announced since that report was released that money is available so that initial funds for the cleanup of Ogoni land is available”

“Some US\$10 million will be made available by stakeholders within 30 days of the appointment of members of the Board of Trustees for the Trust Fund, who will be responsible for collecting and managing funds from contributors and donors”.

The Nation [Read more](#)

RUSSIA: THE TOWN THAT REVEALS HOW RUSSIA SPILLS TWO DEEPWATER HORIZONS OF OIL EACH YEAR

August 6 - Oil spills in the Komi Republic caused by old pipelines are relatively small and rarely garner widespread attention - but added up they threaten fish stocks and pasture for cattle

The Komi Republic in northern Russia is renowned for its many lakes, but sites contaminated by oil are almost just as easy to find in the Usinsk oilfields. From pumps dripping oil and huge ponds of black sludge to dying trees and undergrowth — a likely sign of an underground pipeline leak — these spills are relatively small and rarely garner media attention.

But they add up quickly, threatening fish stocks, pasture land and drinking water. According to the natural resources and environment minister, Sergei Donskoi, 1.5m tonnes of oil are spilled in Russia each year. That's more than twice the amount released by the record-breaking Deepwater Horizon oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico in 2010. *The Guardian* [Read more](#)

TAIWAN, CHINA: TS TAIPEI SALVAGE EFFORT COMPLETED

August 8 - The removal of the wreck of the container ship TS Taipei from the shores of New Taipei City was completed over the weekend, local media reports.

There is still some work to do, though: smaller pieces of wreckage and a few containers remain at the site of the grounding, and the last of the salvage work is expected to be finished in a few days. *The Maritime Executive* [Read more](#)

USA: AUGUST 10, 1993: THREE-SHIP CRASH CAUSES OIL SPILL IN TAMPA BAY

August 10 - "There is no obvious explanation about how this happened," CBS News correspondent Reed Galin reported on August 10, 1993.

He was right -- the sky was clear and the sea was calm. Still, a freighter collided with two barges, dumping nearly 330,000 gallons of fuel oil at the mouth of Tampa Bay.

Another 32,000 gallons of jet fuel, diesel fuel, and gasoline also spilled in the bay. One of the barges caught fire upon impact and burned for eighteen hours straight before it could be put out.

Within hours of the collision, a slick five miles long developed. *CBS Evening News* [Read more and watch video](#)

DEEPWATER HORIZON INCIDENT: WHAT HAPPENED TO THE OIL?

An article in five parts by Alun Lewis, Independent Consultant



Alun Lewis has specialised in oil spill response work since 1979. His specialities are oil spill dispersants, the behaviour of spilled oil at sea and the aerial surveillance of oil at sea. During his career he worked for 25 years at the BP Research Centre, and subsequently on projects for the Warren Spring Laboratory, SINTEF in Norway, AEA Technology and the UK Maritime and Coastguard Agency. He has participated in numerous research programmes, large scale sea trials and development of laboratory procedures. Since 1998 he has worked internationally as an independent consultant with many clients, commercial and governmental, He has participated in many national exercises, training courses and workshops throughout the world. A more detailed bio was published in Issue 546 of the ISCO Newsletter

PART TWO

2 c. The US Federal Government Oil Budgets

A US Federal Government interagency team, led by the Department of the Interior (DOI) and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), developed a tool called the Oil Budget Calculator to estimate what probably happened to the oil at the *Deepwater Horizon* incident. This group published two 'Oil Budgets'; one of 4 pages on August 4th, 2010 and a more comprehensive 217-page report, *Oil Budget Calculator - Deepwater Horizon*, on November 23rd, 2010. The fate of the oil released from the wellhead was divided into several categories as described in Figure 1.

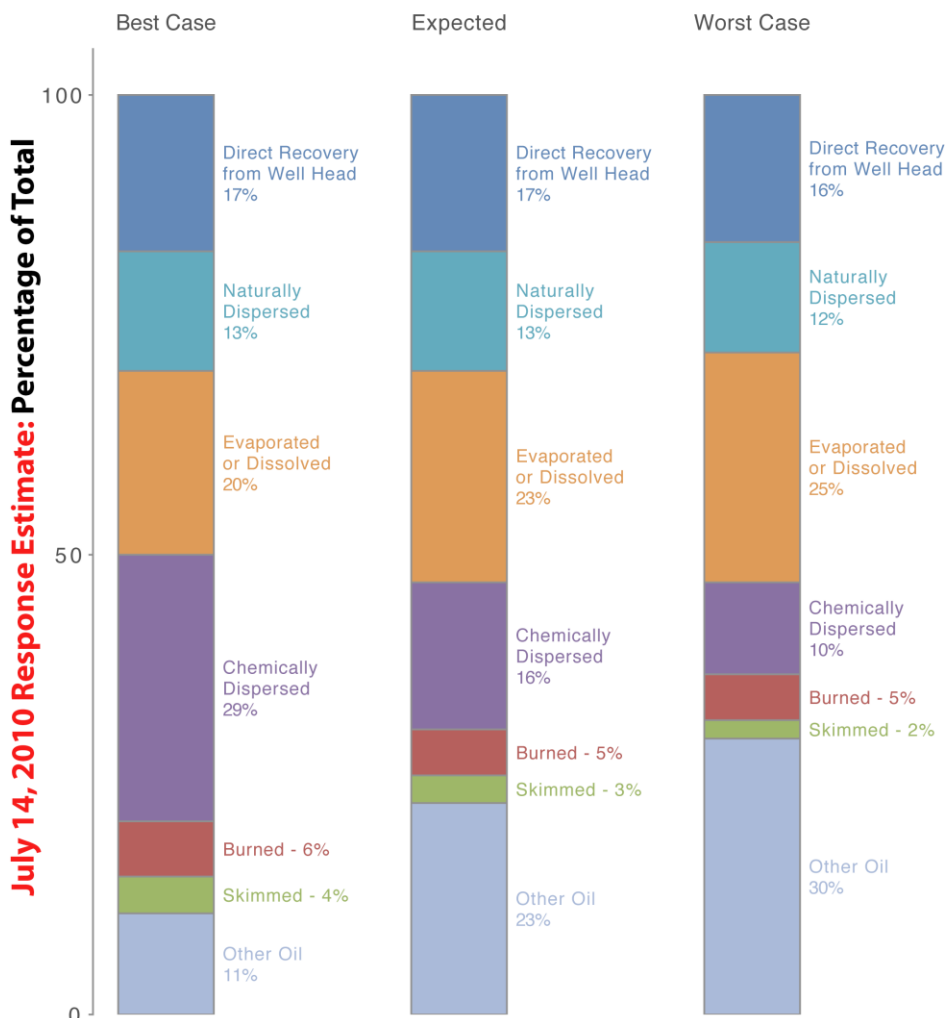


Figure 1. Oil Budget Calculator estimates published on 23rd November 2010

Special feature (continued)

The amount of oil estimated to have been released from the well was 4.94 ($\pm 10\%$) million barrels, to give 4.75, 4.94 and 5.14 million barrels for the three cases. This was significantly higher than the 4.0 million barrels eventually agreed by the legal process.

- Only the amount of oil directly recovered from the wellhead was a known value of 820,000 barrels and represented 16% to 17% of the total amount of oil released from the well.

All of the other values are estimates based on the opinions of a panel of experts.

- The estimated proportions of the total amount of oil released that were subject to the natural processes of natural dispersion and evaporation / dissolution were within reasonably narrow limits; 12% to 13% to naturally dispersed oil and 20% to 25% for evaporation or dissolution. The estimates of the amount of oil burnt or skimmed during the response are also within narrow limits; 5% to 6% for burning and 2% to 4% for skimming.
- The estimated proportion of the total amount of oil that was released that was dispersed by the use of dispersants, both subsea dispersant use and on oil on the sea surface, has the widest range; from 29% (1,400,000 barrels) to 10% (500,000 barrels) with an 'expected' value of 16% (770,000 barrels).
 - The calculations within the Oil Budget Calculator report show that the subsea use of dispersant accounts for approximately 75% of the oil estimated to have been "Chemically dispersed" with the remaining 25% being due to dispersant use on oil on the sea surface.
 - The report notes "*Given the limited nature of the field data, the best that could be done was to estimate effectiveness using the experience and knowledge of dispersant experts. Unfortunately, reaching consensus among the experts was not possible.*"
- The uncertainty in the other estimates of oil fate generated a residual category of "Other" oil that was estimated to have been between 11% and 29% of the estimated total amount of oil released from the well.
 - This "Other" oil category included oil "*that becomes tar balls, forms surface slicks, sinks due to sedimentation, remains in the surf zone or impacts the shore and is subsequently cleaned up.*" Clean-up operations recorded the volume of oily debris that was recovered during shoreline clean-up. However, no estimates were made of the proportion of oil in this debris, so it was not possible to estimate of this amount with the Oil Budget Calculator.
 - Computer simulations reported in 2014 estimated that the amount of oil that came ashore was from 10,000 tonnes (70,000 barrels) for the 'best case', 22,000 tonnes (154,000 barrels) for the 'expected case' and 33,000 tonnes (231,000 barrels) for the 'worst case'. These values represent only 1.5%, 4.5% and 3.1% of the total amount of oil that was released from the well.

The longer-term oil fate processes of photo-oxidation and biodegradation were not considered in the Oil Budget Calculator.

It should be noted that the amounts of oil in the different categories in the Oil Budget are expressed as percentages of the total amount of oil estimated to have been released from the well. 820,000 barrels of oil were recovered directly from the wellhead, did not enter the water and therefore was not subject to the natural processes of dispersion and evaporation / dissolution or the response actions. Table 1 presents exactly the same volume estimates, but expressed as percentages of the amount of oil that was estimated to have entered the water. The volumes calculated are the same, but the percentages have increased as a proportion of the lower total amount of oil.

Estimated total amount of oil that entered the water (millions of barrels)	Best case	Expected case	Worst case
	3.93	4.12	4.32
Fate category	% of total oil in sea	% of total oil in sea	% of total oil in sea
Naturally dispersed	16	15	15
Evaporated or dissolved	24	29	30
Chemically dispersed	36	19	12
Burned	7	6	6
Skimmed	5	4	3
Other	13	27	35

Table 1. Oil Budget Calculator estimates as percentages of the amount of oil that was estimated to have entered the water

The Oil Budget Calculator used statistical techniques designed to minimise the uncertainty implicit in the wide range of different opinions expressed by the panel of experts on different aspects. The Oil Budget Calculator report states that the estimates of dispersant effectiveness may well have been low:

Special feature (continued)

- *“The emphasis was on getting a conservative answer so as not to underestimate clean-up requirements. In terms of response, this translates into using conservative estimates for clean-up efficiency, particularly with regard to skimmer efficiency and dispersant success.”*
- *“The Oil Budget Calculator is believed to be sufficiently accurate to meet the needs of the Deepwater Horizon spill response. Thus, while it may have underestimated dispersed oil, it predicted sufficient amounts of subsurface oil as to encourage a large-scale water-sampling program.”*

It is important to note that the estimates in the Oil Budget are not based on any measurements that were made at the time; they are estimates made by a panel of experts and some have a wide range of uncertainty.

Alternative methods of calculation using the same input data lead to higher estimates of the amount of oil dispersed by dispersant use and a reduction in the amount of oil in the “Other” oil category. Laboratory studies conducted since the Oil Budget Calculator estimates were made have indicated that the amount of oil dispersed by subsea dispersant use was higher than that estimated, even with the ‘Best case’ assumption.

The third part of this article will be in the next ISCO newsletter

Correspondence

FINAL REPORT OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORITIES OF URUGUAY INTO THE RIVER URUGUAY SPILL, OCTOBER 2015

Received on 11th August from ISCO Member, Carlos Sagrera, MSc MISCO

Here is a link (Spanish language) with some news about the final report of the Environmental Authorities of Uruguay (DINAMA) about the fluvial oil spill of the National Oil Company (ANCAP) at the Uruguay River in October 2015 (see Issue 504 of the ISCO Newsletter – October 2015). This clearly shows the failure in the implementing of the national contingency plan and the procedures between the different actors in Uruguay. The DINAMA push with this to clarify roles and from my point of view it shows the need to adapt the NCP urgently.

http://www.elpais.com.uy/que-pasa/dia-despues-desastre-derrame-combustible.html?utm_source=news-elpais&utm_medium=email&utm_term=EI%20d%C3%ADa%20despu%C3%A9s%20del%20desastre&utm_content=07082016&utm_campaign=EL%20PAIS%20-%20Resumen%20Matutino

Carlos Sagrera, MSc MISCO, HSE & Oil Spill Control Advisor, Carlos Sagrera, MSc, MISCO, Panamá

Links for recent issues of other publications (in alphabetical order)

AMSA Aboard	News from the Australian Maritime Safety Authority	June 2016
AMSA On Scene	Australia: National Plan for Marine Environmental Emergencies	March 2016
ASME EED EHS Newsletter	News and commentary on HSE issues from George Holliday	Most recent issue
Bow Wave	Sam Ignarski's Ezine on Marine & Transport Matters	Current issue
Cedre Newsletter	News from Cedre in Brittany, France	June 2016
Celtic and Biogenie enGlobe Newsletter	Technical Information on Polluted Site Remediation	Spring 2016
CROIERG Enews	Canberra & Regions Oil Industry Emergency Response Group	Current issue
EMSA Newsletter	News from the European Maritime Safety Agency	August 2016 issue
Environmental Technology Online	Environmental Monitoring, Testing & Analysis	August 2016 issue
IMO News Magazine	News from the International Maritime Organization	No 2, 2016
IMO Publishing News	New and forthcoming IMO publications	July 2016
Intertanko Weekly News	International news for the oil tanker community	August 12, 2016
IPIECA eNews	Int'l Petroleum Industry Environmental Conservation Assoc'n	February 12 issue
JOIFF "The Catalyst"	Int'l Organisation for Industrial Hazard Management	July 2016 issue
MOIG Newsletter	News from the Mediterranean Oil Industry Group	Quarter 1, 2016 issue
NOWPAP Quarterly	News from the North West Pacific Action Plan	Quarter 1, 2016 issue
OCIMF Newsletter	News from the Oil Companies International Marine Forum	July 2016 issue
Pollution Online Newsletter	News for prevention & control professionals	August 10, 2016 issue
Sea Alarm Foundation Newsletter	Oiled wildlife Preparedness and Response news from Sea Alarm	Autumn 2015 issue
Technology Innovation News Survey	News from US EPA – Contaminated site decontamination	June 16 - 30, 2016
The Essential Hazmat News	Alliance of Hazardous Materials Professionals	Feb 29, 2016 issue
Transport Canada Newsletter	News and articles re transport of dangerous goods in Canada	Winter 2014 issue
USA EPA Tech Direct	Remediation of contaminated soil and groundwater	August 1, 2016
USA EPA Tech News & Trends	Contaminated site clean-up information	Spring 2016 issue
WMU Newsletter	News from the World Maritime University	July 2016 issue

Your editor depends on regular receipt of updated links for listed publications. If these are not received, relevant entries may be discontinued.

Events

UKSPILL - SPILL SCIENCE SEMINAR AT OSRL, SOUTHAMPTON, ON 18 OCTOBER 2016

On October 18, UKSpill is holding its first Spill Science Seminar, with free entry to registered delegates. Featuring speakers from National Oceanography Centre, Exeter University, Plymouth University and leaders of EU Projects KillSpill, and Netmar. The Seminar is chaired by the Project Director of Premium, a UK government spill monitoring project led by CEFAS.

A dinner will be held for speakers and delegates the previous evening. The seminar, hosted by OSRL, is free to registered delegates, subject to space, the seminar dinner is £40 per person, excluding wine. Reserve a place Email - info@ukspill.org [View the Seminar Programme](#)

USA: NOAA OFFICE OF RESPONSE & RESTORATION – SCIENCE OF OIL SPILLS

Science of Oil Spills (SOS) classes help spill responders increase their understanding of oil spill science when analyzing spills and making risk-based decisions. They are designed for new and mid-level spill responders. Portsmouth, New Hampshire the week of October 3, 2016 - The application period for this class will be open through Monday, August 15. Accepted applicants will be notified no later than Monday, August 22. [More info](#)

UPCOMING EVENTS SUMMARY

COUNTRY	2016	TITLE OF EVENT	LOCATION
For more information click on Title of Event			
SINGAPORE	August 30-31	International Safety at Sea Conference	Singapore
UK	September 7-8	7th Maritime Salvage & Casualty Response	London
INDIA	Sept. 12-14	International Rivers Symposium	New Delhi
SINGAPORE	Sept 12-14	Salvage and Wreck Asia	Singapore
NORWAY	Sept 12-16	International NOSCA Oil Spill Technology Seminar	Bodo
SINGAPORE	Sept. 13-15	Salvage & Wreck Asia Conference	Singapore
INDIA	Sept. 22-24	India Clean Seas Conference 2016	Goa
NAMIBIA	Sept. 26-29	GIWACAF Workshop on IMS and NEBA	Walvis Bay
FRANCE	October 10-14	Sea Tech Event 2016	Brest
KOREA	October 11-13	World Ocean Forum 2016	Busan
UK	October 12-13	The Contamination Expo Series 2016	London
FRANCE	October 13	Info Day - Remote detection and maritime pollution	Brest
UAE	October 17-19	EI Middle East HSE Technical Forum	Abu Dhabi
UK	October 18	UK Spill – Spill Science Seminar	Southampton
NIGERIA	October 26-26	GIWACAF Workshop on Oil Spill Modelling	Abuja
USA	November 1-3	Clean Gulf 2016	Tampa FL
USA	November 1-4	Emergency Preparedness, Hazmat Response Conf.	Pittsburgh
MALTA	November 2-3	JOIFF Fire & Explosion Hazard Mgmt. Conference	St. Julians
UAE	November 7-10	Abu Dhabi Int'l Petroleum Exhibition & Conference	Abu Dhabi
COTE D'IVOIRE	Nov. 21-24	GIWACF W'shop on Cont'y Planning & Compensat'n	Abidjan
SENEGAL	December 5-7	GIWACAF Workshop on Dispersants and NEBA	Dakar
2017			
USA	March 28-30	2017 SCAA Annual Meeting & Conference	Washington DC
USA	May 15-18	International Oil Spill Conference	Long Beach CA
2018			
UK	March 13-15	2018 INTERSPILL Conference and Exhibition	London
To request posting of an event of interest to the Spill Response Community please send details to the Editor			

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