

## ISCO & THE ISCO NEWSLETTER

The International Spill Control Organization, a not-for profit organization 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 Intergovernmental, Governmental, NGO's and interested groups and individuals

ISCO holds consultative status at the International Maritime Organisation and observer Status at International Oil Pollution Compensation Funds

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## INTERNATIONAL NEWS

CLICK ON THE BANNERS BELOW FOR MORE INFORMATION ON THE EVENTS FEATURED



The premier annual event for planning, preparedness and response for oil and hazardous materials spills

October 28-31, 2019  
New Orleans, LA

[LEARN MORE HERE](#)

## 'FLOATING BOMB' TANKER COULD EXPLODE

Abandoned ship could spill 1million  
barrels of oil into the Red Sea

**Al Hudaydah**

**YEMEN**

**Deserted FSO Safer oil tanker anchored off Yemeni port of Ras Isa, near Al Hudaydah**

3 miles

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## INTERNATIONAL NEWS (CONTINUED)

# UN WARNS OF POLLUTION RISK FROM DECAYING YEMENI FSO



*Above: The Safer and her mooring turret (Conflict and Environment Observatory)*

July 23 - The UN reports that its inspectors have not been able to access the aging FSO Safer off Ras Issa, Yemen, adding to concerns that the vessel poses a serious environmental hazard to the Red Sea region.

The 1976-built Safer has been inactive and unmaintained since the outbreak of Yemen's civil war in 2015, and she is believed to have a cargo of about 1.1 million barrels of crude oil stored in her tanks. UN relief officials have warned repeatedly that the condition of the single-hulled FSO is unknown, and in the event of a casualty she could spill a significant quantity of petroleum into the sensitive marine environment of the Red Sea.

However, the Houthi rebel forces that control the area have not allowed international inspectors to access the Safer, according to the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs.

"Ansar Allah [Houthi] authorities . . . continue to delay a UN technical assessment of the decaying Safer tanker, which as I have told you many times before, threatens to spill up to 1.1 million barrels of oil into the Red Sea," said under-secretary-general for relief Mark Lowcock in a briefing for the UNSC last week. "The UN assessment team had planned to deploy to the tanker next week, but the necessary permits remain pending with the Ansar Allah authorities . . . I would just like to note that this is additionally frustrating when one recalls that the same authorities wrote to the United Nations early last year requesting assistance with the tanker and promising to facilitate our work." The Maritime Executive / [Read more](#)

### July 24 - Deserted oil tanker in Red Sea could EXPLODE and dump one million barrels of oil into ocean, experts warn

Doug Weir, director of the Conflict and Environment Observatory, told The Guardian: "Until a UN technical inspection takes place it is difficult to determine the precise risk that the vessel poses, however the potential for a serious environmental emergency is clear.

"An explosion leading to a spill would have a severe effect on the Red Sea marine environment, and on both biodiversity and livelihoods, an emergency made worse because the ongoing conflict would hamper efforts to control and respond to the pollution it would cause."

A report for the Atlantic Council think-tank said: "Though a photograph reveals only a ship, known as the Safer, its explosive potential renders it a floating bomb - permanently moored in the Red Sea off Ras Isa."

Mark Lowcock, the UN humanitarian coordinator, told the UN security council last week: "If the tanker ruptures or explodes, we could see the coastline polluted all along the Red Sea.

"Depending on the time of year and water currents, the spill could reach from Bab-el-Mandeb to the Suez Canal, and potentially as far as the Strait of Hormuz."

He added: "I leave it to you to imagine the effect of such a disaster on the environment, shipping lanes and the global economy."

The Sun / [Read more](#)

### April 11 - Why the Massive Floating Bomb in the Red Sea Needs Urgent Attention

[Read this earlier report from the Atlantic Council](#)



## AUSTRALIA: ILLEGAL WASTE BURIED UNDER VICTORIA PROPERTY

July 20 - Illegal waste has been found buried just four metres below the ground in regional Victoria, on property owned by a man linked to chemical waste sites in Melbourne's north.

The stockpile, believed to include chemical waste, is understood to be below Graham Leslie White's property, about 15km outside Kaniva. It is not known if Mr White buried the waste on the site.

"EPA has confirmed the presence of a significant amount of waste)" Environmental Protection Authority chief executive Cathy Wilkinson said in a statement. "This is a 1400 acre property and to locate the illegally buried material across such a vast area was like looking for a needle in a hay stack." About 20 dump sites have been found at the site after the watchdog used a ground penetrating radar attached to a drone to survey the land. SBS News / [Read more](#)

## CROATIA: SUPPORTING POLLUTION PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE



July 23 - In addition to the latest RPAS services, EMSA has made specialised marine pollution response equipment available to the Croatian authorities including a trawl net, and confinement and recovery system. Meanwhile, Croatian ministries sign agreements to boost coast guard cooperation at national level. EMSA Executive Director in the presence of Minister of Defence and Deputy PM of Croatia - Damir Krstičević; Ministry of Maritime Affairs, Transport and Infrastructure - Oleg Butković; Minister of Agriculture overseeing fisheries - Marija Vučković; Deputy Minister of Sea, Transport and Infrastructure – Siniša Orlić; and Commander of the Croatian Navy – Commodore Ivo Rafanelli. EMSA / [Read more](#)

## CYPRUS: NO RESOURCES FOR DEALING WITH OIL SPILLS

July 26 - Cyprus still does not possess the facilities and equipment that would enable to deal with oil spills in its seas, Thursday's meeting of the Council of Ministers was informed.

While a National Emergency Plan for Marine Pollution caused by petroleum products, was formulated in 2005, state services still do not have the capability to deal with an oil spill within Cyprus territorial waters.

In a briefing submitted to the cabinet, the ministry of agriculture said the fisheries department was the competent authority to implement the National Emergency Plan. It had the appropriate equipment and personnel to reduce and recover oil in small-scale spills in the coastal waters, but there were serious deficiencies and technical weaknesses in terms of floating facilities, equipment and manpower that would enable it to deal effectively with medium and large-scale spills. Cyprus Mail / [Read more](#)

## FINLAND: WARMING IN THE BALTIC SEA AREA INCREASES BLUE-GREEN ALGAE BLOOMS

July 25 - Since 1990, the Baltic Sea has on average warmed by almost 2 °C, Finnish sea areas even more than that. Nutrient pollution has continued to visibly decrease on this millennium but the surface area of anoxic seabed is at an all-time high.

According to HELCOM (Baltic Marine Environment Protection Commission), the annual average surface temperature of the Baltic Sea rose to an all-time high last year. The highest recorded temperature on open Baltic (27°C) was measured exactly a year ago on July 25, 2018. In the last 100 years, [the Baltic Sea has warmed 0.3°C per decade](#), however after 1990 significantly [faster at 0.59°C per decade](#). Syke / [Read more](#)

## MALAYSIA: SABOTAGE BEHIND SUNGAI SELANGOR DIESEL SPILL, SAYS MINISTER



Photo: Water, Land and Natural Resources Minister Dr Xavier Jayakumar.

July 22 - Water, Land and Natural Resources Minister Dr Xavier Jayakumar today said elements of sabotage have been identified in the diesel spill at Sungai Selangor.

“I have been informed that elements of sabotage have been identified by the police following their investigations,” he said in a Twitter post.

All four major water treatment plants in the state were forced to close yesterday evening for the second time in three days after pollution from diesel oil was found in Sungai Selangor. Free Malaysia Today / [Read more](#)

## NIGERIA: EXPERTS URGE STAKEHOLDERS’ SUPPORT FOR SUSTAINABLE ENVIRONMENT

July 22 - The Centre for Biodiversity Conservation and Ecosystem Management (CEBCEM), University of Lagos has called on the Federal Government and other stakeholders to intervene through policies that could champion the sustainability of the environment in Africa.

Leading the call through a keynote address at a three-day international conference, entitled: ‘Environmental sustainability of Africa’s biodiversity’ held at the university, the Vice-Chancellor, Igbinedion University Okada, Prof. Lawrence Ezemonye said: “The threat of biodiversity is very serious, from a global perspective, zeroed down to continental implication and Nigerian concept”.

Guardian / [Read more](#)

## NIGERIA: SECURITY AGENTS’ BURNING, SPILLING SEIZED CRUDE INTO RIVER DESTRUCTIVE, UNACCEPTABLE — OTUARO

Photo: Deputy Governor of Delta State, Kingsley Otuaro

July 26 - Deputy Governor of Delta State, Mr. Kingsley Otuaro, has described as worrisome and objectionable, the prevailing practice by security agents of setting on fire vessels and barges laden with crude oil seized from oil thieves and spilling unprocessed crude in the rivers.

From the complaints we got, security agents, who of course are on their statutory responsibility of stamping out these criminal activities, are helplessly destroying some of these seized vessels and barges laden with illegal products in a manner that they spill into the environment.

Vanguard / [Read more](#)



## USA: VIDEO: SALVORS COMPLETE OIL REMOVAL FROM WWII TANKER WRECK



Photo: Crews aboard the offshore vessel Sheila Bordelon offload more than 450,000 gallons of oil from the Coimbra (USCG)

July 22 - The effort to mitigate pollution risk from the sunken WWII-era tanker Coimbra are now nearing completion, and salvors have recovered about 450,000 gallons of petroleum from the wreck since May - about 99 percent of the oil remaining on board.

The U.S. Coast Guard and the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation led the response, with support from more than 100 team members from industry and

government, including personnel from Resolve Marine Group. “Each agency involved during the planning, assessment and recovery stages of the response played a critical role.” said Capt. Kevin Reed, the Coast Guard incident commander. “Our federal, state, local and commercial partners and response crews ensured a safe, efficient and productive operation.” Maritime Executive / [Read more](#)



## USA: OHIO PREPARES FOR ITS LARGEST VIGILANT GUARD DISASTER RESPONSE EXERCISE EVER

July 24 - The Ohio National Guard and the Ohio Emergency Management Agency will host the largest disaster and emergency response exercise in state history, Aug. 5-8, at more than 10 locations throughout the state.

Vigilant Guard 2019, a 3,000-person, national-level exercise cosponsored by U.S. Northern Command and the National Guard Bureau, will test the state's response capabilities with a simulated cyberattack that causes mock utility failures and disruptions.

Civilian, state and federal entities will also be tested on their emergency response to a natural disaster, hazardous material accidents, civil disturbances and radiological incidents. VG19-4 will have civilian volunteers acting as mock accident victims. Emergency responders will exercise search and rescue, medical trauma treatment and first aid application. The Ohio Fire Academy, one of the more than 10 sites participating, has been used to test over 600,000 first responders and will host a scenario that features a train derailment and chemical spill. [DVIDS / Read more](#)

## USA: CALIFORNIA - SPILL DRAWS ATTENTION TO STEAM-BASED OIL EXTRACTION

July 25 - When the [news broke](#), in the second week of July, that nearly 800,000 gallons of oil and water had spilled into a dry creekbed from an oil production facility in Kern County, California, it sounded rare and dramatic. But the spill — which Ted Goldberg at KQED news [discovered](#) while researching a different story — was unique only in its magnitude. In the oil fields of the San Joaquin Valley, spills and seeps of oil, wastewater and oil-laced wastewater are as common as the wind storms that episodically blanket the Valley with dust. Some are small, “low-energy seeps.” Some persist for months despite attempts to contain them. Some erupt like volcanoes, sending steamed oil and debris as high as 100 feet into the air.

State records show that the Chevron spill in the Cymric Oil Field 40 miles west of Bakersfield began on May 10, and re-emerged three more times despite attempts to contain it. Chevron has reported that its staff has traced the rupture back to a decommissioned well in an area where the company repeatedly injects high-pressure steam underground to loosen stubborn oil. “It’s like turning oil from the consistency of peanut butter into the consistency of honey,” says Deborah Gordon, who conducts research on climate policy relating to oil and gas at Brown University’s Watson Institute for Public Affairs. The procedure allows drillers to increase recovery by seven times, according to the [California Resources Corporation](#). More than half the wells in California use it. [KCET / Read more](#)

## USA: CALIFORNIA: SANTA MONICA BAY LEAKING PLUGGED OIL WELLS IN REDONDO BEACH?



### [Santa Monica Bay ConocoPhillips Plugged Oil Wells](#)

July 26 - California's Central Valley and Coast, there are many communities littered with abandoned oil and gas wells, buried underground and under the ocean. Some of the wells were never plugged apparently and some may call this natural seepage.

Many of those that were plugged have since failed and are leaking oil, natural gas. This issue has been largely ignored.

Oil and gas wells continue to be permitted without consideration for failing and failed plugged wells. When leaking wells are found, often nothing is done to fix the issue because there are so many issues.

Another community that is being ignore is Santa Monica Bay and the surrounding beach cities of Hermosa Beach, Redondo Beach, Manhattan Beach, El Segundo and Palos Verdes where tar balls and oil wash up on the beach frequently. The locals report seeing oil and the beaches since the 1970's and just claim it as natural seepage.

However, many of these wells were plugged in the 50's and 60's and have never inspected since. How do we know they are not leaking and causing all of the oil to wash along the beaches each year. [Drilling Maps / Read more and see more interactive maps](#)

## USA: THE USCG'S ENVIRONMENTAL MISSION 30 YEARS AFTER EXXON VALDEZ



Photo: The tanker Exxon Valdez in 1989 after she ran aground in Prince William Sound, Alaska (USCG)

July 26 - Thirty years ago on Good Friday, March 24, 1989, the Exxon Valdez steamed into a reef at 12 knots, opening eight of her 10 oil storage tanks to the pristine waters of Prince William Sound, Alaska. The resulting spill of 15 million gallons of crude oil became the largest discharge of oil in U.S. waters until 2010's Deepwater Horizon oil rig disaster.

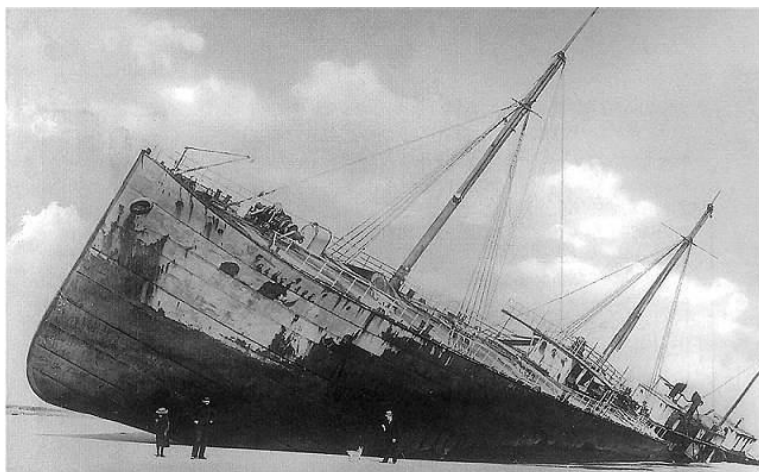
Nearly 170 years before the Exxon Valdez ran aground, the Federal Government assigned the United States Revenue Cutter Service, predecessor of the modern Coast Guard, stewardship of the nation's marine environment. In 1822, Congress passed legislation tasking the Revenue Cutter

Service with protecting federal preserves of live oak in Florida used to build U.S. Navy warships. During the 1800s, the Service's protection of living marine resources expanded to more species on shore, in the air and at sea, including migratory seabirds and countless forms of sea life.

Photo: The world's first oil tanker, the Glückauf, aground off Long Island, New York (Benjamin West / Wikimedia)

From the middle-to-late 1800s, coal had been the most important fuel cargo carried by merchant ships, but this solid fuel failed to pollute water like oil. In 1885, construction of the first purpose-built oil tanker Glückauf marked the beginning of shipping oil and other bulk chemical cargoes. Ironically, in 1893, the Glückauf also marked the beginning of U.S. oil spill history when it came ashore at Fire Island, off Long Island (above).

During the 20th century, oil and chemical shipping grew in importance and liquid petroleum products became common ship fuel and cargo. The Coast Guard's role in oil and chemical spill response officially began in 1924, when Congress passed the Oil Pollution Act. This act included the first federal statutes regulating the discharge of fossil fuels from seagoing vessels. During World War II, the Federal Government paid little attention to oil spills on the high seas, but after the war, numerous spills occurred as the shipping of oil increased dramatically. The Maritime Executive / [Continue reading this excellent article](#)



## USA: LATEST ACTIVITY REPORTS FROM NOAA OR&R

July 26 – Please click on the links below to read more in the latest News Reports from NOAA OR&R

### [Arctic SCAT Training](#)

On July 23-25, OR&R's Emergency Response Division conducted Shoreline Cleanup Assessment Techniques (SCAT) Team Member Training in the Arctic hosted by Alaska Clean Seas at their training facility in Prudhoe Bay, Alaska.

### [NOAA Marine Debris Program Presents at the National Marine Educators Conference](#)

On July 23, the NOAA Marine Debris Program's (MDP) Northeast Regional Coordinator, Demi Fox, and Communications and Education Specialist, Jennifer Simms, led a workshop titled: How to Talk Trash: Lessons from NOAA's Marine Debris Program at the annual [National Marine Educators Association](#) conference at the University of New Hampshire.

### [OR&R Leadership Meets with Congressional Staff](#)



Photo: OR&R's Tony Penn, Nancy Wallace, Scott Lundgren, and Kate Wheelock. Image credit: NOAA.

On July 18, OR&R's division chiefs met with staff from members of Congress in California and Florida to discuss our activities in their states.

Scott Lundgren, Emergency Response Division; Tony Penn, Assessment and Restoration Division; Nancy Wallace, Marine Debris Division; and Kate Wheelock, Disaster Preparedness Program, presented on historical and recent oil spills, active and recently completed assessment cases, marine debris grants and response guides, and disaster preparedness planning, among other topics.



## NEWS REPORTS FROM AROUND THE WORLD (CONTINUED)

### [Science of Oil Spills \(SOS\) Training in Ohio](#)

The week of July 22, NOAA OR&R staff held their annual [Science of Oil Spills \(SOS\) training](#) in Independence, at the Educational Service Center of Northeast Ohio.

### [Marine Debris Program Participates in Meeting with Taiwan Ocean Conservation Administration, Ocean Affairs Council](#)

On July 23, Steve Morrison of the Marine Debris Program joined other staff from across NOAA in a meeting with representatives of Taiwan's Ocean Conservation Administration, Ocean Affairs Council.

## NEWS FROM ISCO MEMBERS

**News from ISCO Members – Your editor welcomes news from members. Please ensure that ISCO is on your mailing list for your press releases and company newsletters. Send your news to [john.mcmurtrie@spillcontrol.org](mailto:john.mcmurtrie@spillcontrol.org)**

## NRC AWARDED CONTRACT TO PROVIDE OIL SPILL SERVICES TO APACHE IN SURINAM



NRC has been awarded a contract for the provision of oil spill services for Apache Corporation's operations in Suriname, located on the northeast coast of South America.

Utilising its response resources located in Trinidad & Tobago with additional support from its international oil spill centres in the UK and US, NRC will provide both Tier 1 response equipment, materials and training and Tier 2 and 3 call-off capability for Apache's drilling operations off the northwest coast of Suriname's capital city Paramaribo. [www.nrcc.com](http://www.nrcc.com)

## SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

### SEDIMENT LIBRARIES SHOW MARINE ECOSYSTEMS ARE ACCUMULATING OIL POLLUTION FASTER THAN EVER

July 19 - Marine sediments tell the history of an environment, including oil spills. By "reading" sediments from the past century, a research team has now determined how much oil hydrocarbon is accumulated in different vegetated coastal habitats of the Arabian Gulf and the significance of this for environmental management.

The history of pre- and post-oil in the Saudi Arabian Gulf coast was reconstructed by a team led by KAUST, in collaboration with King Fahd University of Petroleum and Minerals and Saudi Aramco Environmental Initiatives.

To do this, the team measured the concentration of petroleum hydrocarbons from sediments of three coastal vegetated blue-carbon habitats: mangrove, seagrass and saltmarsh.



Above: This photo illustrates how blue-carbon habitats, such as this mangrove forest, can accumulate oil hydrocarbons. Credit: Vincent Sarderne

"Several petroleum hydrocarbons are harmful contaminants. Vegetative marine ecosystems are considered to be blue-carbon habitats because they bury large amounts of organic carbon. Thus, in areas with prolific oil-based activities, they may also sequester oil hydrocarbons," explains Susana Agusti, oceanographer and project leader. The research team also investigated whether these three different habitats varied in their capacity to accumulate and store hydrocarbons and what factors might influence this.

Twenty-five sediment cores were collected from the three blue-carbon habitats along a 400 kilometer stretch of the Saudi Arabian Gulf coastline, including the stretch of the coast that was severely affected by the 1991 oil spill. The age of the sediments was determined by measuring the concentrations of the radioactive isotope of lead ( $^{210}\text{Pb}$ ) in regular intervals along the length of each core. This created a library of time periods of sediment deposition that corresponded to sediment depth.

Phys Org / [Continue reading](#)

## TECHNICAL SOLUTION FOR REMOVAL OF PFAS IN WATER

July 23 - Buhl, J. | RemTEC Summit, February 26-28, 2019, Denver, Colorado. 20 slides, 2019

Groundwater investigations in Nuremberg, Germany, detected PFAS in groundwater downgradient of an airport site. A fire-fighting training area located near the airport was identified as the PFAS source in both the soil and groundwater. The maximum level of PFAS in the groundwater measured about  $777 \mu\text{g/L}$ . Several techniques potentially suitable for treating PFAS in water were tested in the lab, including the PerfluorAd technology, which removed >90% of PFAS.

Results from field trials undertaken in November 2014 led to the installation of a full-scale system in September 2015. Data from September through December 2015 showed a reduction of PFAS compounds of 86.7-98.09%. Remaining PFAS compounds were then removed with an activated carbon polish. <https://www.remtecsummit.com/ext/resources/Static-Pages/presentations/Jurgen-Buhl.pdf>

Read more news on contaminated site remediation at <https://clu-in.org/products/tins/>

## MARAD TO TRIAL AUTONOMOUS SPILL-RESPONSE VESSEL

July 24 - Boston-based Sea Machines Robotics has entered into a cooperative agreement with the U.S. Maritime Administration (MARAD) to demonstrate the ability of autonomous technology in increasing the safety, response time and productivity of marine oil spill response operations.

Sea Machines will install its SM300 autonomous-command system aboard a Marine Spill Response Corp. (MSRC)-owned MARCO skimming vessel and will train MSRC personnel to operate the system. Then, on August 21, Sea Machines and MSRC will execute



## SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY (CONTINUED)

simulated oil spill recovery exercises in the harbor of Portland, Maine, before an audience of government, naval, international, environmental and industry partners.

Sea Machines enables minimally manned and unmanned autonomous operations. Such configurations allow operators to respond to spill events 24/7 depending on recovery conditions, even when crews are unavailable or restricted. These configurations also reduce or eliminate exposure of crew members to toxic fumes and other safety hazards. The Maritime Executive / [Read more](#) [Thanks to Marc Shaye, Hon.FISCO, Member of ISCO Executive Committee]

## TRAINING

### USA: OIL SPILL RESPONSE STRATEGIES & TACTICS TRAINING

Training at Ohmsett takes the learning from the classroom, to the 2.6 million gallon wave/tow tank. That's where students receive hands-on training with the latest spill response equipment and techniques used in the field. <https://www.ohmsett.com/>

With emphasis on practical experience in full-scale oil recovery operations in the Ohmsett tank, students can increase their proficiency using boom and skimmers while practicing removing spilled oil. The combined classroom/tank exercise training provides response teams the skills to work more safely, operate more effectively, and make better decisions in the field.

The course is presented in partnership with Texas A&M University National Spill Control School (NSCS) and will be offered [August 14-17, 2018](#). At the completion of the course, students will receive an NSCS Certificate of Completion. Register by July 31, 2018.

## SAFETY BRIEFING

### CANADA, BC, VANCOUVER, JULY 17 2019. WORKSAFEBC DELIVERS AUDIO-VISUALS “CONFINED SPACE ENTRY”



- [Confined Spaces: Deadly Spaces: Preventing Confined Space Accidents](#)  
This four-part video is designed for municipal workers and illustrates the basic rules for working in confined spaces. ... Oxygen deficiency and other potential dangers are covered.
- [Confined Spaces: Deadly Spaces: Why Confined Spaces Can Be Deadly](#)  
This four-part video is designed for municipal workers and illustrates the basic rules for working in confined spaces. ... Oxygen deficiency and other potential dangers are covered.
- [Confined Spaces: Test to Live \(2 of 3\)](#)  
Test the atmosphere before entering a confined space. ... It can make the difference between life and death.
- [Confined Spaces: Safe Yesterday, Deadly Today \(1 of 3\)](#)  
Identify the confined spaces in your workplace as a first step in reducing their hazard.
- [Confined Spaces: Deadly Spaces: Full length](#)  
This video is designed for municipal workers, and illustrates the basic rules for working in confined spaces. ... The video is also available in four segments.
- [Confined Spaces: Deadly Spaces: Carbon Monoxide and Other Toxic Gases](#)  
This four-part video is designed for municipal workers and illustrates the basic rules for working in confined spaces. ... Oxygen deficiency and other potential dangers are covered.
- [Confined Spaces: Deadly Spaces: Introduction](#)  
This four-part video is designed for municipal workers and illustrates the basic rules for working in confined spaces. ... Oxygen deficiency and other potential dangers are covered.
- [Confined Spaces: Rescue - Just Calling 911 Doesn't Cut It \(3 of 3\)](#)  
Successful rescue requires proper planning, training, equipment, and practice.
- [Precious Time: The Cody McNolty Story](#)  
This video documents the story of Cody McNolty, a confined space rescue that goes tragically wrong. ... health and safety training, and safe work procedures for entering confined spaces.

Work Safe BC / [Read more](#) [Thanks to Don Johnston of ISCO Industry Partner, DG & Hazmat Group]

## BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

### USA: EMERGENCY AND RAPID RESPONSE SERVICE (ERRS) EPA REGION 4

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region IV, Atlanta, GA.  
Federal Business Opportunities, Solicitation 68HE0419R0011, 2019

July 23 - U.S. EPA Region 4 is performing market research for informational purposes only to determine the availability of small, small disadvantaged, 8(a), woman-owned, HUBZone, and service-disabled veteran-owned small businesses capable of meeting the requirements for the follow-on ERRS contract for EPA Region 4 (i.e., Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Tennessee) under NAICS code 562910. The purpose of the ERRS contract is to conduct emergency responses and time-critical/non-time-critical removals and remedial actions with respect to the release or threat of release of oil, hazardous and toxic wastes, petroleum products, hazardous substances, pollutants, contaminants, or fire or explosion hazards that pose an actual or potential threat to human health or welfare or the environment. This effort will include cleanup for incidents involving weapons of mass destruction, acts of terrorism, and nuclear, biological, and chemical incidents. Interested parties are invited to submit capabilities statements as well as comments or questions on the draft documents attached to the FedBizOpps notice. Responses must be received by 12:00 noon ET on July 30, 2019. <https://www.fbo.gov/spg/EPA/OAM/RegIV/68HE0419R0011/listing.html>

Read more news on contaminated site remediation at <https://clu-in.org/products/tins/>

## CONTRACTS & TENDERS

### OPEN TENDER NOTIFICATION SERVICE

This is a subscription service. [Have a look to see examples of open tenders.](#)

## RESPONSE EVENTS DURING JULY AND AUGUST 2019 (UPDATED)

### USA: ELASTEC - SPRING WORKSHOP ON RIVER BOOMING AND OIL RECOVERY

Carmi IL, July 30 – August 1. The Spring Workshop was postponed to July 30 and as a result we still have a few seats available. This intensive, hands-on SPRING OIL SPILL WORKSHOP is designed for spill responders who desire in-depth river booming and oil skimmer training. The three day workshop begins with a full day of classroom orientation at Elastec in Carmi, Illinois followed by two rigorous booming and skimmer deployment days on the Wabash River in New Harmony, Indiana. This workshop also qualifies as an 8-hour Hazwoper refresher course. [More info & Registration](#)

### ANGOLA & NAMIBIA: TRANSBOUNDARY OIL SPILL RESPONSE

Jamestown, August 5-8. The objectives of this exercise, as defined by the countries, would be to: Test the communication links between Angola and Namibia; Test mechanisms for requesting assistance and mobilization of international resources; Test the National Plans of the two countries in the case of a trans-boundary oil spill incident; and Expose participants to the key issues related to trans-boundary spill incidents. [More info](#)

## UPCOMING EVENTS - SEPTEMBER 2019 ONWARDS (UPDATED)

COUNTRY	2019	TITLE OF EVENT	LOCATION
For more information click on Title of Event			
NEW ZEALAND	Sept. 3-5	<a href="#">Ecoforum Conference 2019</a>	Auckland
UK	Sept. 3-6	<a href="#">SPE Offshore Europe Conference &amp; Exhibition</a>	Aberdeen
NIGERIA	Sept. 9-11	<a href="#">National workshop on liability and compensation in case of oil spill</a>	Lagos
GREECE	Sept. 10-13	<a href="#">Meeting of the MAP Focal Points</a>	Athens
UK	Sept. 11-12	<a href="#">Maritime Salvage &amp; Casualty Response Conference</a>	London
UK	Sept. 11-12	<a href="#">The Spill Response Expo</a>	Birmingham
UK & IRELAND	Sept. 25-26	<a href="#">ISAA Training Days at Castle Archdale</a>	Enniskillen
BAHREIN	Sep 30 – Oct 1	<a href="#">Global HSE Conference 2019</a>	Bahrein
UK	October 2-4	<a href="#">ITAC Oil Spill Response Forum</a>	Southampton
CROATIA	October 2-5	<a href="#">Pollution Response Challenges in the Mediterranean Conference</a>	Split



## UPCOMING EVENTS - SEPTEMBER 2019 ONWARDS (CONTINUED)

USA	October 7-10	<a href="#">Elastec's Fall 2019 River Spill Workshop</a>	Carmi, IL
NORWAY	October 14-18	<a href="#">NOSCA Seminar 2019</a>	Frøya
UAE	October 15-17	<a href="#">RECSO Enviros spill Conference &amp; Exhibition</a>	Abu Dhabi
BAHREIN	October 20-21	<a href="#">Int'l Oil Spill Response &amp; Environmental Protection Congress &amp; Exhibition</a>	Manama
SINGAPORE	October 21-24	<a href="#">International Chemical and Oil Pollution Conference and Exhibition</a>	Singapore
UK	Oct. 28 – Nov. 1	<a href="#">Meetings of the IOPC Funds Governing Bodies</a>	London
USA	October 28-31	<a href="#">Clean Gulf Conference and Exhibition</a>	New Orleans, LA
SOUTH AFRICA	October 28-31	<a href="#">8th GI WACAF Regional Conference</a>	Cape Town
CANADA	October 29-31	<a href="#">Arctic Shipping Forum North America</a>	Montreal
TUNISIA	Nov. 13-14	<a href="#">Incident Management System Training Workshop</a>	Tunis
FRANCE	November 21	Cedre Technical Day	Brest
UAE	Dec. 8-10	<a href="#">Middle East HSE and Sustainability Week</a>	Dubai
<b>COUNTRY</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>TITLE OF EVENT</b>	<b>LOCATION</b>
USA	May 11-14	<a href="#">International Oil Spill Conference &amp; Exhibition</a>	New Orleans, LA
CANADA	June 2-4	43rd AMOP Technical Seminar on Environmental Contamination and Response.	Edmonton, Alberta
To request posting of an event of interest to the Spill Response Community please send details to the Editor			

Note: Where a dedicated event URL is not available an email address for requesting more info is given

## LINKS FOR DOWNLOADING & READING OTHER PUBLICATIONS

<a href="#">Alga Chronicle</a>	News from Australia on Contaminated Land Remediation	June 2019
<a href="#">AMSA Update</a>	Latest news from the Australian Maritime Safety Authority	Current issue
<a href="#">ATRAC Newsletter</a>	News from the Adriatic Training and Research Centre	June 2019
<a href="#">AUSMEPA Bulletin</a>	News from the Australian Marine Environment Protection Assoc'n	Winter 2019
<a href="#">BIMCO Bulletin</a>	Marine and shipping-related news from BIMCO	June 2019
<a href="#">Newsletter from George Holliday</a>	News and commentary on HSE issues from George Holliday	On request email
<a href="#">Bow Wave</a>	Sam Ignarski's Ezine on Marine & Transport Matters	Current issue
<a href="#">Cedre Newsletter</a>	News from Cedre in Brittany, France	May 2019
<a href="#">Clean Nigeria Associates Newsletter</a>	News from CNA about Oil Spill Response in Nigeria	December 2018
<a href="#">EMSA Newsletter</a>	News from the European Maritime Safety Agency	July 2019
<a href="#">GEF Newsletter</a>	Monthly Newsletter from the Global Environment Facility	July 2019
<a href="#">GISEA Quarterly Newsletter</a>	News from Global Initiative for South-East Asia	April 2019
<a href="#">IMO News Magazine</a>	News from the International Maritime Organization	Summer 2019
<a href="#">IMO Publishing Newsletter</a>	New and forthcoming IMO publications	June 2019
<a href="#">JOIFF "The Catalyst"</a>	Int'l Organisation for Industrial Hazard Management	April 2019 issue
<a href="#">Maritime Executive Magazine</a>	Often contains articles of interest to the spill response community	Jan.-Feb. 2019
<a href="#">MOIG Newsletter</a>	News from the Mediterranean Oil Industry Group	April 2019 issue
<a href="#">Nautical Institute News</a>	News from the Nautical Institute	March, 2019
<a href="#">Navigate Response</a>	Global crisis communications network for shipping & marine	June 2019
<a href="#">NOAA OR&amp;R</a>	Weekly round-up of news from NOAA's Office of Response & Restoration	Latest issue
<a href="#">Oceanbuzz</a>	Newsletter giving news on the Ocean Technology Industry	Current issue
<a href="#">OCIMF Newsletter</a>	News from the Oil Companies International Marine Forum	June 2019
<a href="#">OHMSETT Gazette</a>	Oil Spill Response Research & Renewable Energy Test Facility Quarterly	Fall 2018
<a href="#">OSPAR Newsletter</a>	Protecting & Conserving the N.E. Atlantic and its resources	Spring 2019
<a href="#">PEMSEA Newsletter</a>	Healthy oceans, people and economies in the East Asian Seas	June, 2019
<a href="#">Pollution Online Newsletter</a>	News for pollution prevention & control professionals	April 3, 2019
<a href="#">Safe Seas, Clean Seas</a>	Quarterly Newsletter from Maritime New Zealand	July 2018 issue
<a href="#">Salvage World</a>	Quarterly Newsletter of the International Salvage Union	Current issue
<a href="#">Sea Alarm Foundation Newsletter</a>	Oiled wildlife Preparedness and Response news from Sea Alarm	Current issue
<a href="#">Technology Innovation News Survey</a>	News from US EPA – Contaminated Site Decontamination	June 1-15, 2019
<a href="#">USA EPA Tech Direct</a>	Remediation of contaminated soil and groundwater	July 1, 2019

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

## INCIDENT REPORTS (IN CHRONOLOGICAL ORDER)

### USA: PHOTOS: THIRD SUNKEN TUG RAISED ON ILLINOIS RIVER

July 19 - On July 5, Coast Guard Sector Upper Mississippi River received a report of three moored tugboats and a deck barge that

Photo below: The raising of the Mary R, July 17 (USCG)



began taking on water at mile marker 21 on the Illinois River. Sector UMR responded to the scene to find all three vessels fully submerged. The vessels - the Chatty Sue Smith, Mary-R and Mary-Fern - were owned and operated by Missouri-based marine services firm Hex Stone, Inc.

The owner reported that the three vessels contained a combined 4,850 gallons of diesel fuel and oil. According to the USCG, Hex Stone quickly took action and contracted an oil spill removal service to mitigate the spill and deploy 1,500 feet of containment boom. The owner also hired a salvor to remove the sunken vessels. [The Maritime Executive / Read more](#)

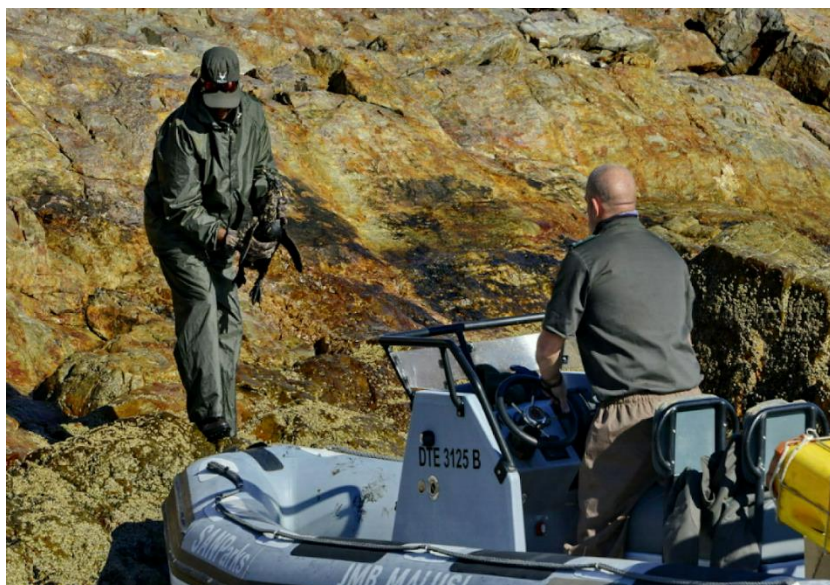
### USA: SOUTH CAROLINA - SULLIVAN'S ISLAND BEACH IS STREWN WITH TINY PLASTIC PELLETS, AND CLEANUP ISN'T LIKELY

July 19 - The plastic pellets resemble tiny fish eggs, and they're everywhere along the high water line at the beach. The pellets are nurdles, the raw material used to make virtually every commercial plastic item in the market. They are a toxic petroleum product that can poison or clog the guts of marine animals. [Post & Courier / Read more](#)

### USA: NEW JERSEY - HEED THE SLIMY SIREN FROM ALGAE BLOOMS

July 22 - A harmful algal bloom has forced the [Department of Environmental Protection](#) to [shut down all activity](#) on the lake since June 17 (except for boating), and maybe it's something you could endure if this slop had an expiration date. But the truth is, [nobody knows](#). The DEP cannot even guarantee that the lake will be swimmable before summer's end, though it seemed to be making progress in the most recent water sampling. But that's only one problem area: On Thursday, [Greenwood Lake](#) also got a no-swim advisory after tests registered levels of cyanobacteria that were 10 times higher than our health standard. Blooms have also appeared in four smaller lakes. [NJ.com / Read more](#)

### SOUTH AFRICA: BUNKERING SPILL VESSEL FINED



*Photo: Marine rangers remove heavily oiled penguins from St Croix Island shortly after the July 6 spill. St Croix in Algoa Bay is home to the biggest colony of the endangered African penguin across its global range and total population of 15200 pairs Picture: LLOYD EDWARDS Image: Lloyd Edwards / Raggy Charters*

July 22 - The authorities have fined the Liberian vessel Chrysanthi S R350,000 following the bunkering oil spill in Algoa Bay in the first week of July.

The vessel was being refuelled by bunkering company South African Marine Fuels at an anchorage off the Port of Ngqura in the early hours of July 6 when an estimated 200l-400l of oil spilled into the sea.

Although the resultant slick was relatively small, more than 100 endangered African penguins were oiled and marine conservationists have pointed again to the danger posed by the controversial bunkering sector which was launched in Algoa Bay in 2016. [Herald Live / Read more](#)

### ICELAND: OIL SPILL COULD TAKE WEEKS TO CLEAN UP

July 25 - A fuel truck transporting 30,000 litres of oil rolled over around noon yesterday on Öxnadalsheiði heath in North Iceland, Vísir reports. Despite quick work from response crews that minimised the spread of oil, the resulting spill could take weeks to clean up.

Some 13,000 litres spilled into the surrounding environment as a result of the accident. The other 17,000 litres contained in the



truck were pumped out by response crews yesterday. Hörður Gunnarsson, CEO of Ólíudreifing, says clean-up efforts, mostly aimed at a creek at the site of the accident, are going well.

"We've dammed this creek, that was done right at the start, which saved us from more contamination," says Hörður. While he says there is still "considerable fuel" in the creek, it is being filtered out using floating pens. Other devices will be brought to the scene today to collect oil from the surface of the creek and pump it away. Hörður adds that the soil in the area is rough and does not absorb much of the oil, which instead has mostly dripped down to the water below. Iceland Review / [Read more](#) Thanks to Don Johnston of ISCO Industry Partner, DG & Hazmat Group]

## USA: CALIFORNIA - AFTER TOUR OF MASSIVE OIL SPILL, GOV. NEWSOM CALLS FOR ANSWERS; CRITICS QUICK TO FINGER NEW, LAX REGULATIONS



*Photo: Gov. Gavin Newsom, left, is briefed by Billy Lacobie, of Chevron, center, and Cameron Campbell, of California department of conservation division of oil, gas, on Wednesday, July 24, 2019, while touring the Chevron oilfield in McKittrick, Calif. Newsom says he is encouraged by Chevron's efforts to clean up what has turned into the state's largest oil spill in decades. (Irfan Khan/Los Angeles Times via AP, Pool) Irfan Khan, AP*

July 25 - The public affairs office with the Division of Oil, Gas and Geothermal Resources, commonly known as DOGGR, said last week that the new regulations were the toughest in the country, and that seeps were banned. "Here are the current regulations, which flatly state "(a) Underground injection projects shall not result in any surface expression," they said in an email. Nonetheless, Jason Marshall, acting head of DOGGR,

issued notices of violation and ordered to Chevron to immediately contain the seep or face possible heavy fines. Chevron has indicated it may appeal the order, but a senior company advisor said Wednesday they are committed to abiding by the conditions and getting the job done correctly. Desert Sun / [Read more](#)

## USA: GEORGIA - RUSTY SHIPPING CONTAINER FULL OF NUCLEAR REFUSE LEAKS AT WESTINGHOUSE FUEL PLANT

July 26 - In the latest incident to surface, uranium-tainted trash stored in barrels inside the leaking shipping container got wet and dripped uranium on the ground below the container. The amount of uranium in the soil in one spot below the container was nearly twice the safety standard of 11 parts per million, DHEC reported late Friday afternoon. Seventeen other soil tests showed uranium levels below the limit, DHEC reported. The State / [Read more](#) Thanks to Don Johnston of ISCO Industry Partner, DG & Hazmat Group]

## CHILE: NAVY SAYS INVESTIGATING OIL SPILL ON REMOTE PATAGONIAN ISLAND

July 28 - Chile is investigating a 40,000-liter diesel oil spill on an island on the far southern coast of Chilean Patagonia, the navy said on Saturday. Mining company CAP reported on Saturday that the spill occurred at its onshore terminal on Guarello Island, about 150 miles north of the town in Puerto Natales, and moved into the waters of the South Pacific, the navy said.

Chile has initiated an emergency response and a pollution response and control team is expected to reach the island on Sunday. The cause of the spill is under investigation, the navy said. Yahoo News / [Read more](#)

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