

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 INFO ON THE EVENTS FEATURED



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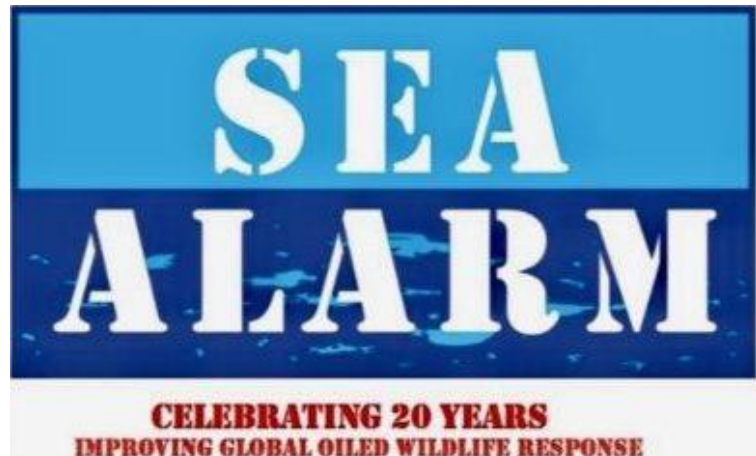


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SEA ALARM'S FIRST 20 YEARS: SHARING KNOWLEDGE, ADVOCATING PREPAREDNESS



March 30 - In its 20 year history Sea Alarm has been active across the globe, carrying out numerous activities to advance wildlife response preparedness with a large number of stakeholders.

From the early days onward, Sea Alarm has been working with industry, NGOs and governments toward advancing the quality of response planning and preparedness.

These three stakeholder groups depend on each other when confronted with an incident – the incident binds them together. While Sea Alarm's target has always been to bring wildlife responders together to discuss experiences of good practice and explore grounds for cooperation and joint response capability, it was clear from the start that governments and industry should be on board to make things work.

[Read more](#)

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INTERNATIONAL NEWS (CONTINUED)

STRENGTHENING OIL SPILL RESPONSE READINESS IN THE GULF OF THAILAND

March 26 - The impacts of oil spills, which risk significant harm to ecosystems and coastal communities, mean that dealing with them quickly and effectively is an important task for any country. Marine oil spills, which do not respect boundaries, are challenging events, where a prompt and effective response can greatly alter results.

Given the significance of oil spill response to coastal areas, PEMSEA has long supported the development of capacity and technology regarding mitigation, containment, and cleanup. One area of focus has been the Gulf of Thailand, a shallow large marine ecosystem with little water exchange. This slow water flow combined with increasing maritime activities makes the gulf a high-risk area for oil spills.

As large oil spills may have transboundary impacts, Cambodia, Thailand, and Viet Nam are working together to enhance capacities for preparedness and response for oil spill incidents both at the national and sub-regional level. PEMSEA has been providing technical support to Gulf of Thailand Cooperation since the adoption of Joint Statement by the three countries in 2006.

Last 4-5 February saw this cooperation continue, as the countries came together for the Training Workshop on Oil Spill Response Planning and Readiness Assessment. PEMSEA non-country partners Oil Spill Response Limited (OSRL) and IPIECA—Global Initiative for South East Asia (GISEA) provided resource persons for the workshop.

PEMSEA / [Read more](#)

CORONAVIRUS EMERGENCY - ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS RECEIVED FROM INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS

Several statements from international organizations have already been published in previous issues of the ISCO Newsletter

Energy Institute (EI) - In line with the advice of the UK Government, the EI staff team in London has moved to homeworking. This should largely be invisible to you - you can contact us as you would normally by email, phone, live chat on our homepage, and continue to use all of our digital services. [Read more](#)

Global Environmental Facility (GEF)- The GEF Secretariat remains open for business but all staff are working remotely, and non-essential travel has been suspended. We are making every effort to maintain business continuity in our operations, and remain in close contact with the GEF's stakeholders through this challenging period. [Read more](#)

BIMCO - To help the industry cope as well as possible during this difficult time, BIMCO has created a COVID-19 section on the website, where all news and content related to the outbreak is freely available. Our staff - like businesses and staff across the world – has successfully adapted to new ways of operating and keeping all our services running, and all our regular services will support the industry as normal. [Read more](#)

Institute of Marine Engineering, Science & Technology (IMarEST) - Our London and Singapore offices are now closed and all staff are working from home. Staff will continue to be **contactable by phone and email** as usual. It is not certain exactly when staff will be able to return to the office, but we will continually evaluate the situation as it develops. [Read more](#)

Nautical Institute (NI) - Visit our [coronavirus information page](#), designed to provide you with practical help and advice in coping with the current health crisis. [Read more](#)

Oil Companies International Marine Forum (OCIMF) - The OCIMF Secretariat is regularly reviewing the situation as it changes and are investigating potential options that could be applied if the situation trends to a longer-term issue. OCIMF is giving out regular bulletins – see <https://www.ocimf.org/covid-19-bulletin/>

European Maritime Safety Agency (EMSA) - The COVID-19 outbreak is affecting the lives and work of people in the EU and all across the globe. At this time, it is extremely important that those authorities responsible for ensuring the safe transportation of goods and people on board a vessel are fully aware of the preventive measures adopted by each EU Member State and EFTA country. For this reason, EMSA has created a single point of reference which lists the information per country as supplied by them. The accuracy of the

INTERNATIONAL NEWS (CONTINUED)

information is therefore dependent on the information provided by the EU Member State and EFTA country concerned. The 25-country reference document details, country by country, the procedures being followed by each of the EU and EFTA countries. [Download the Alphabetical List by Country](#)

HELCOM (The Baltic Marine Environment Protection Commission - Helsinki Commission) - COVID-19 information. In light of the recent developments on COVID-19, HELCOM will no longer hold or attend physical meetings through **13 May 2020**. All physical meetings will be either postponed or held online. Furthermore, all HELCOM Secretariat staff will be working remotely from home until further notice.

Read more about our COVID-19 policies [Consult our online meeting instructions](#) <https://helcom.fi/>

OSPAR Commission (North-East Atlantic and its resources) - The OSPAR Secretariat is working remotely until further notice. You will not be able to reach the Secretariat on the landline numbers. Please refer to the OSPAR Secretariat Contact page to contact us. All OSPAR meetings scheduled between 18 March – 30 April will be held remotely via WebEx. This change will predominantly affect the HASEC, BDC and EIHA Committee meetings and the JL group. The Strategy Task Group meeting scheduled for 18th March will be held through a combination of WebEx and in-person attendance. [Read more](#)

PEMSEA (Partnerships in Environmental Management for the Seas of East Asia) - In light of the recent developments of COVID-19, PEMSEA Resource Facility staff are working from home until 12 April 2020. [More info](#)

ROCRAM – (Red Operativa de Cooperación Regional de Autoridades Marítimas de las Américas Rocram) - Puntos de Contacto COVID-19 - La Secretaría General de la ROCRAM pone a disposición los puntos de contacto de las Autoridades Marítimas de la región, para comunicaciones referentes al COVID-19. [Read more](#)

NATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS – EMERGENCY ARRANGEMENTS AND INFORMATION SOURCES

Please find below information about office closures, temporary contact arrangements and other information posted on websites of national organisations involved in emergency pollution response. The necessary research was done by visiting the websites listed at <http://www.spillcontrol.org/2013-02-05-12-43-05/national-organizations> Unfortunately many of the relevant national organizations have not yet updated their websites with this kind of information but it could be worthwhile to use the above link to look for additional information as it is made available.

AUSTRALIA: INFORMATION FROM AUSTRALIAN MARITIME SAFETY AUTHORITY

AMSA offices are temporarily closed to the public for all face-to-face services from close of business 20th March 2020. We are continuing to provide regulatory services to our customers and the wider community, and our priorities remain—ensuring safe vessel operations, combatin marine pollution and responding to people in distress. We have plans and processes in place to ensure our core business operations continue. [More info](#)

BRAZIL: MEDIDAS PREVENTIVAS CONTRA O CORONAVÍRUS

A Portaria n° 827/2020, assinada pelo Presidente do Ibama, Eduardo Bim, neste domingo (22/03), determina que servidores, empregados públicos e estagiários do Instituto executem suas atividades profissionais remotamente enquanto durar o estado de emergência de saúde pública de importância internacional provocado pelo coronavírus (COVID-19). Nesse intervalo, a administração recomenda ao público o uso dos canais de atendimento eletrônicos informados no site do Ibama. [Read more](#)

CANADA: COAST GUARD SUPPORT TO COVID-19 RESPONSE

Within National Headquarters, the Director General of Operations is the overall lead for the coordination of the COVID-19 response within Coast Guard.

To ultimately support timely and effective decision making by senior leadership, an incident specific National Incident Management Team (NIMT) has been established in Headquarters to support coordination of the response at the national level. The NIMT is coordinating its activities with Regional Incident Management Response Teams (RIMT) to ensure effective information flow and alignment between headquarters and the regions. [Read more](#)

CANADA: SHIP SOURCE OIL POLLUTION FUND

Effective March 17 the Fund's staff will be operating remotely until further notice. We will [still receive and evaluate claims](#). We encourage submissions via email at: claims@sopf-cidphn.gc.ca. Paper claims are still accepted, but it could potentially delay the process. Stakeholders are also encouraged to continue engaging with us and send questions via email at: info@sopf-cidphn.gc.ca.

Staff will remain available via email during this time. We will be suspending our participation to all external events until further notice. All events organized by the Fund, including webinars are postponed. <http://sopf.gc.ca/>

NEW ZEALAND: MARITIME NEW ZEALAND

Due to COVID-19 safety measures, all of our offices are closed. Our staff are working from home but we are changing the way we can continue to provide services for you [More info](#)

SWEDEN: ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

Our offices in Stockholm and Östersund are open but our employees are encouraged to work from home when possible, in accordance with recommendations from The Public Health Agency of Sweden. [More info](#)

UK: ENVIRONMENTAL AGENCY (ENGLAND)

Due to the impact of COVID-19 on our teams you may experience some delays in responses as most of our staff will be working from home. The best way to contact us is by email (enquiries@environment-agency.gov.uk) rather than the postal address. [More info](#)

UK: MARITIME & COASTGUARD AGENCY

During the current COVID-19 pandemic our Marine Offices are closed and staff are working remotely. Current contact details can be found [here](#). [More info](#)

UK: SCOTTISH ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

With our contact centre, regional and local offices impacted by reduced staffing due to current public health guidance: Report environmental incidents [here](#) Check live flooding information [here](#) Register for Floodline [here](#) Ask questions [here](#) [More info](#)

USA: ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION AGENCY

This is an emerging, rapidly evolving situation and the [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](#) will provide updated information as it becomes available, in addition to updated guidance. [Read the most-up-to-date information and guidance related to COVID-19.](#)

USA: NOAA OFFICE OF RESPONSE & RESTORATION

Given the importance of increasing social distance, we are operating almost entirely remotely in our provision of expert leadership, training, and time-critical services that benefit the environment, public, and economy. While our approach to delivery has adapted to the difficult external context, the mission remains the same.

While the number of our in-person connections to customers, partners, and stakeholders has dropped with the postponement of many events, we are actively involved in the coordinated National Ocean Service response to COVID-19 through the Disaster Preparedness Program, and all of the OR&R programs are delivering services remotely and exploring different ways of leveraging technology in support of our work and community connections in the context of the current public health emergency.

If you need to reach anyone from our office, please don't hesitate to e-mail or call your usual contacts, or reach through the various means listed on our [contact page](#). [See the full text of the message from Scott Lundgren, Director, Office of Response and Restoration](#)

USA: UNITED STATES COAST GUARD

The Coast Guard has created a Coronavirus Information page at <https://www.uscg.mil/Coronavirus/> and District and Regional Command Center Contact Information is posted at <https://www.uscg.mil/contact/>

NEWS REPORTS FROM AROUND THE WORLD (COUNTRIES LISTED IN ALPHABETICAL ORDER)

Note from your Editor: World news is currently dominated by reports on the advance of the Coronavirus pandemic. One consequence is that the usual sources of news that is specifically relevant to the interests of the spill response community have temporarily gone very quiet. Under this circumstance I would be particularly grateful to Members and other readers who send me news reports that will be of interest to Members and readers in their own countries and the wider world. john.mcmurtrie@spillcontrol.org

NAMIBIA CONTINUES TO STRENGTHEN ITS EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE

March 31 - WHO is in the process of supporting the Namibian government strengthen its capacity for assessing and analyzing health risks and to integrate the results in its emergency preparedness and response plans. A workshop held in May 2019 to map the country's vulnerability to all hazards and how these risks will be managed from a multi-sectoral perspective is part of a process which started in 2016 with a Joint External Evaluation (JEE) of the International Health regulations in response to an invitation by the Namibian government.

About 30 hazards were identified during the workshop using the standard hazard classification table. These included: ground shaking, flash flooding, riverine flooding, coastal flooding, drought, army worms, oil and gas spillage, chemical spill, fire, radiation, dams and bridge failure, air, road and water accidents, biological contamination, chemical contamination, explosive devices, international conflict, non-international armed conflict, human-animal conflict, civil unrest, anthrax, Viral Hemorrhagic Fevers (VHF), Crimean-Congo Hemorrhagic Fever (CCHF), Ebola Viral Disease (EVD), Pandemic Influenza, cholera, hepatitis E Virus, polio, measles and terrorism. Africa News / [Read more](#)

USA: LATEST ACTIVITY REPORTS FROM NOAA OR&R

March 27 – Please click on the links below to read the latest News Reports from NOAA OR&R

[Disaster Preparedness Program Continues to Support NOAA's Internal Response to COVID-19](#)

The NOS Disaster Preparedness Program continues to provide Incident Coordination for the NOS Incident Management Team (IMT).

[How OR&R's Emergency Response Division Continues to Provide Services](#)

As a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, NOAA's Emergency Response Division (ERD) staff are working remotely, though our staff continues to take calls and to provide our core service of scientific support during spills and other emergencies.

[Marine Debris Program Presents at Virtual 2020 Virginia Marine Debris Leadership Team Meeting to Update the Virginia's Marine Debris Reduction Plan](#)

On March 17, NOAA's Marine Debris Program participated in the virtual 2020 Virginia Marine Debris Leadership Team Meeting to update Virginia's Marine Debris Reduction Plan hosted by Virginia's Coastal Zone Management Program and Longwood University.

[Article on Long-Term Data Management Published in Special Deepwater Horizon 10-Year issue of Shore & Beach](#)

NOAA's Office of Response and Restoration and the Restoration Center are pleased to announce a new publication in the journal Shore & Beach that highlights our work and leadership on long-term data management in the Gulf of Mexico.

The paper in this special Deepwater Horizon 10 year dedicated issue highlights the summary of collaborative work, findings, and recommendations from two workshops and over two years of working groups led by NOAA and involving experts from over 30 organizations including State, Federal, non-governmental organizations, and restoration practitioners.

OR&R and Restoration Center jointly sponsored and led the workshops and working groups, which were facilitated by Dr. Nancy Kinner, co-Director of the Coastal Response Research Center (CRRC) at the University of New Hampshire. All workshop reports and presentations are [available on the CRRC website](#).

USA: EPA CORRECTS THE RECORD AFTER RECKLESS REPORTING ON TEMPORARY COMPLIANCE GUIDANCE

March 30 - The mission of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is to protect human health and the environment, and during this time of unprecedented public health concerns, that mission is even more critical. On March 26, EPA released a temporary policy regarding the agency's enforcement of environmental legal obligations during the COVID-19 pandemic. This temporary policy is not a license to pollute.

We strongly encourage the press to actually read EPA's Temporary Policy before repeating reckless propaganda about it. Instead of including factual information about the policy, outlets such as E&E News, The Hill, the AP, and the New York Times are relying on sources who falsely claim that the policy provides a blanket waiver of environmental requirements or creates a presumption that the pandemic is the cause of noncompliance.

Here are some of the facts that have been conveniently left out of the press narrative:

The policy says that EPA will not seek penalties for noncompliance with routine monitoring and reporting requirements, if, on a case-by-case basis, EPA agrees that such noncompliance was caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. Regulated parties must document the basis for any claim that the pandemic prevented them from conducting that routine monitoring and reporting and present it to EPA

NEWS REPORTS FROM AROUND THE WORLD (CONTINUED)

upon request. This action was necessary to avoid tying up EPA staff time with questions about routine monitoring and reporting requirements and instead allow EPA to focus on continued protection of human health and the environment.

The policy does not say that the COVID-19 pandemic will excuse exceedances of pollutant limitations in permits, regulations, and statutes. EPA expects regulated entities to comply with all obligations and if they do not, the policy says that EPA will consider the pandemic, on a case-by-case basis, when determining an appropriate response. Further, in cases that may involve acute risks or imminent threats, or failure of pollution control or other equipment that may result in exceedances, EPA's willingness to provide even that consideration is conditioned on the facility contacting the appropriate EPA region, or authorized state or tribe, to allow regulators to work with that facility to mitigate or eliminate such risks or threats.

EPA has been inundated with questions from both state regulators and the regulated community about how to handle the current extraordinary situation where contractors are not available because they cannot travel, state and local governments are imposing stay at home orders, and the number of people who have contracted COVID-19 and are in quarantine is rising. EPA developed the Temporary Policy to allow EPA to prioritize its resources to respond to acute risks and imminent threats, rather than making up front case-by-case determinations regarding routine monitoring and reporting. The development of the policy was a group effort, involving multiple calls and with drafts shared among EPA staff and managers, both career and political, at both headquarters and in the regions.

It is important to note EPA expects regulated facilities to comply with regulatory requirements, where reasonably practicable, and to return to compliance as quickly as possible, once the COVID-19 threat is over. Additionally, the policy makes clear that EPA expects operators of public water systems to continue normal operations and maintenance during this time, as well as required sampling, to ensure the safety of vital drinking water supplies.

The measures in this policy are temporary and will be lifted as soon as normal operations can resume, which may occur sooner in some locations than others. We take our environmental mandate to protect human health and the environment very seriously and will continue to carry it out during this time. From US EPA [Thanks to Bill Hazel, VP, Marine Pollution Control Corp., Detroit]

ISCO NEWS

ANOTHER NEW DOCUMENT UPLOADED IN MEMBERS' AREA OF ISCO WEBSITE

The new document is titled "ISCO By-Laws, Guidelines and Reference Information" and will be available to members by logging in to the Members' Area of the website. In the meantime, you can also view the document at - http://www.spillcontrol.org/downloads/ISCO_By-Laws_Rev_2.docx

ISCO MEMBERSHIP FEES WILL BE INCREASED WITH EFFECT FROM 1st JUNE 2020

After extended discussions the Secretariat has determined that, after having managed to avoid increasing membership dues for about eight years, the need for an increase cannot be delayed any longer. The feedback received from members indicates an acceptance of ISCO's need to take this step, especially after having kept the cost of membership at a low level for a very long time.

The increase will be approximately 10% and will apply to all membership fees and other charges. As an example, the cost of Individual membership will increase from £75 to £85 per annum.

The online subscription payments page at <http://www.spillcontrol.org/2013-02-05-10-50-47/subscriptions> will be updated to reflect the new rates on 1st June 2020. This means that there will be a limited time "window of opportunity" to join ISCO or renew your membership at the old rates before the new rates come into effect.

NEW READERS ADDED TO THE ISCO NEWSLETTER MAILING LIST

During February and March 2020 the ISCO Newsletter welcomed 90 new subscribers. The new readers are located in USA, Russia, UK, Brazil, Belarus, Indonesia, Japan, Saudi Arabia and China.

CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC

The problems caused by the pandemic are going to be with us for a long time and ISCO Members are asked to share information on the practical measures they are taking to cope with the ongoing situation. It will be of benefit to all of us to do this and the ISCO Newsletter will support this sharing process by publishing helpful contributions received from members and other sources.

OIL SPILL RESPONSE LTD. – COVID-19 – LATEST STATEMENT



Oil Spill Response

This updates the statement from OSRL published in the March 19th issue of the ISCO Newsletter

April 3 - On Tuesday 31st March we shared with our members our [“Readiness Dashboard”](#). This site provides live updates on our readiness to respond and more detailed information including:

- The Covid-19 Appendix of our Business Continuity Plan
- Response Tactical Impact Assessment Plan
- Logistics Tactical Impact Assessment Plan

We are currently finalising circa 20 Country-specific plans which we will add to this suite of information for our Members over the coming weeks.

On 26th March OSRL ran an internal drill to test our ability to run our mobilisation processes remotely. Commencing during the Singapore working day and continuing through the UK working day; this drill was delivered remotely over an MS Teams platform. The scenario was a UKCs incident and involved the mobilisation of OSRL third party service providers including aviation, Global Dispersant Stockpile (GDS) mobilisation support, road transport hauliers. OSRL’s virtual EOC worked well throughout the exercise and whilst there were many lessons learnt to drill was a success. For OSRL personnel and contractors the drill was run to the point of personnel having been identified and confirmed as available with bags packed and ready to leave home but halted at this stage to maintain social distancing guidance.

This week OSRL have also run No-Notice drills in the last week with our aerial surveillance assets based in the UK and West Africa with aircraft being flown in both cases.

Personnel Deployment

The ability to safely deploy personnel to support our members during a response remains a priority for OSRL. We have been working with trusted partners to remain updated on the ever-changing landscape of border controls enforced by authorities across the globe. Based on this information, OSRL have taken a number of pro-active measures to ensure we are positioned to ensure we are able to support members in-country:

Work closely with our Travel Management company to be aware of global immigration controls and restrictions.

Build a network with private jet organisations to overcome limitations with commercial passenger flights.

Put in place pre-written template letters to submit to authorities to allow entry to the incident location and free movement within the country in the event the lock-down measures have been implemented

Regional bases working with authorities and member companies to understand detailed requirements and measures

Where possible, registration of OSRL and 3rd party contractors with authorities to allow unrestricted access upon country arrival

OSRL also use 3rd party contractors to support response operations and critical maintenance of equipment. As such, we have extended all proactive measures to these contractors to ensure our full response capability is maintained.

Whilst high level Logistics and Travel Tactical Plans have been developed, detailed country plans are also being rolled out to provide specific detail on how OSRL would support members. These country plans provide further information on the status each government has implemented regarding emergency response requirements.

It should be noted that restrictions are ever changing and whilst OSRL are taking all possible proactive measures, a delay in response time may occur, however OSRL has a global pool of personnel which gives us excellent flexibility in the event of a response.

As with equipment movements, in accordance with our Participants’ Agreement, we do still rely on the assistance of the mobilising party to help OSRL secure access to the impacted location.

INTERTANKO - NOTE FROM THE MANAGING DIRECTOR

April 3 - In line with guidance from governments and public health authorities our offices remain closed and staff work from home. You can reach us by email and phone as normal as all desk phone extensions are redirected.

As highlighted previously, we have postponed all physical Committee and Panel meetings until restrictions are lifted, including, unfortunately, our Annual Tanker Event in Oslo. We are however running virtual meetings to ensure the work of our various bodies does not get delayed unduly and will continue to do so until the situation improves. We do not anticipate to have the opportunity for physical meetings until Q3 2020 at the earliest.

NEWS FROM ISCO MEMBERS (CONTINUED)

Mindful of Members' Covid-19 focus and workload, we have shortened and restructured the Regional Panel meetings, delivering them as webinars (available to all members), and highlighting urgent and important issues surrounding the pandemic, as well as ongoing challenges arising from the implementation of the 2020 Sulphur Regulations. Through these sessions, we are also keeping the focus on relevant regional content, such as a 'European Update' at the European Panel, and an intervention from RADM Timme of USCG at the North American one. Presentations from these sessions are [available on our website](#) and you can see a [full report from the North American panel here](#).

REPORT FROM MARINE POLLUTION CONTROL, DETROIT, USA



MPC is being kept busy with Coronavirus disinfection and deep cleaning work for various clients – such as a shipping company, a fire service, hotel, etc. This without compromising its usual capacity for emergency response call-out and other services for contracted clients.

The company has implemented a COVID-19 Preparedness Plans and incorporated Related Documents and Guidance. MPC is monitoring its inventories of critical supplies and has activated a supply chain plan to identify and address potential shortages. Travel restrictions are in place and evaluations have been made on how they could impact our response times outside its base of operations. Air, and other forms of public transportation, will be limited to critical/essential travel only.

MPC has developed a COVID-19 disinfection protocol. Disinfection services are being offered based on analysis of each request and on emergent conditions. With its long history of HNS intervention response the company has a valuable resource of trained and experienced personnel.

Depending on detailed analysis of requirements, techniques can include use of EPA-Registered Chlorine or Peroxide-Based Cleaners, Ultraviolet (UV) Light Disinfection and Vaporized Hydrogen Peroxide (VHP) Mist Fogger. Key routine procedures include donning and doffing of Personal Protection Equipment (PPE), including Respiratory Protection, correct disposal of Waste Marked as Biohazard and Decontamination Team Health Monitoring. [Thanks to Charles G. Usher, President, Marine Pollution Control Corp.]

<https://marinepollutioncontrol.com/>

MESSAGE FROM JVZ RESPONSE

John Zimmer reports - "I am home officing and maintaining my social distance resultant of the ongoing pandemic controls. While in "lock-down" I have use the U.S. Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) internet site to continue my emergency preparedness and response education.

Also, Inasmuch as face-to-face emergency preparedness and response training/exercise has ground to a halt, I have made available on-line training and exercise materials. My hope is that "Self-Managed" material will allow for continued training and exercise of our industry personnel during this time period when face-to-face training and exercise is not a safe option".

<https://www.jvzresponse.com/> [More info on Self-Managed Emergency Response Training](#)

CONTRIBUTED ARTICLE

INLAND RESPONSE - GOOD PRACTICE GUIDELINES FOR INCIDENT MANAGEMENT AND EMERGENCY RESPONSE PERSONNEL

Part 6 of a serialised article contributed by IPIECA and IOGP



Preface - This publication is part of the IPIECA-IOGP Good Practice Guide Series which summarizes current views on good practice for a range of oil spill preparedness and response topics. The series aims to help align industry practices and activities, inform stakeholders, and serve as a communication tool to promote awareness and education.

The series updates and replaces the well-established IPIECA 'Oil Spill Report Series' published between 1990 and 2008. It covers topics that are broadly applicable both to exploration and production, as well as shipping and transportation activities. The revisions are being undertaken by the IOGP-IPIECA Oil Spill Response Joint

Industry Project (JIP). The JIP was established in 2011 to implement learning opportunities in respect of oil spill preparedness and response following the April 2010 well control incident in the Gulf of Mexico.

Response techniques

The suite of response techniques appropriate to inland aquatic spills is not the same as for marine spills. The larger containment and recovery equipment (e.g. ocean booms and skimmers) used on marine spills are generally inappropriate for use on the smaller water bodies encountered inland. However, smaller-scale containment and recovery equipment, as typically used nearshore in coastal spills, will be suitable for many inland water bodies. If the use of booms is considered, it should be noted that there are specific deployment tactics for their use in fast flowing waters. For oil stranded on freshwater shores, manual recovery of the oil is likely to be the dominant approach in many countries. The use of dispersants is typically limited to marine waters deeper than a specific minimum depth and beyond a specified distance from the coastline, where dilution can quickly mitigate the impact of dispersed oil and facilitate biodegradation; furthermore, dispersants are not usually formulated for use in fresh water and, as such, are much less effective in a fresh water context. This technique is therefore not normally considered for an inland response. Controlled in-situ burning, however, may be suitable for use in a wide variety of inland habitats.

Oiled wildlife response procedures and processes are almost identical for both inland and marine oil spills. Oiled animals in inland spills may include domesticated livestock or pets.

Oiled waste must be collected, stored and disposed of in accordance with applicable government regulations. The principles of waste minimization and segregation apply. In contrast to offshore spills:

- liquids recovered from spills at fixed facilities may be recycled back into storage tanks at the facilities; and
- contaminated soils may be removed or remediated in place.

Oil from smaller spills is often recovered using sorbents, and relatively large amounts of oily solid waste may be generated for disposal. Most countries have regulations that treat these wastes as hazardous, requiring greater levels of analysis and care in handling.

Isolating sites for safety reasons and keeping the public away from the clean-up crews and the oil may be difficult if the oil is on, or adjacent to, their land or property. Participation in the decision-making process by the public and their elected local representatives can be intense and can easily divert response leadership from the operational aspects of aspects of cleaning up the oil. Challenges facing the incident management team can include relocating families, supplying drinking water, reopening roads, and handling claims for damages and lost income.

Containment and recovery- Containing spilled oil and then manually or mechanically recovering it is by far the most common inland response technique. The concepts are simple and many operations do not require special equipment - an important factor when an oil spill might occur at a considerable distance from a stockpile of specialized response equipment. Containment is used to prevent the spilled oil from spreading and to concentrate it in quantities that can be more easily recovered. The types of equipment used range from local construction materials and earthmoving equipment to smaller versions of the booms and skimmers used in offshore and nearshore marine spills.

Photos: Below left, piles of soil used to contain spilled gasoline; Below right, sorbents being used to contain oil for recovery



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Most aquatic inland oil spills originate as spills on land. Responders initially want to keep the oil from flowing into surface waters and from penetrating into the ground. If spills are on impenetrable surfaces, responders will construct berms or other barriers to keep the oil contained. Sorbent booms have been used for the same purpose on small spills. Drains for storm water runoff are often protected by blocking them off with specially designed covers or by placing sheets of plastic over them weighted down with sand piles or sandbags.

Small streams and ditches are often dammed with local construction materials such as clay and gravel. This is especially useful when containment booms are not readily available or cannot be deployed because the stream is too narrow, or the current is too fast or the depth too shallow. Underflow dams use pipes installed through the dam to allow water to pass while retaining surface oil for collection. In deep streams, pipes just need to be placed at the bottom of the stream bed to allow the water to pass. Care must be taken to provide enough capacity for the flow of water, otherwise the dams may be washed away. For shallower streams where the constructed dam raises the water level, the pipes, or at least some of them, may be angled with the high ends on the downstream side of the dam providing a means to regulate the water level. Increased run-off due to rain or snow melt can overwhelm the flow-through capacity of these temporary dams, hence it is advisable to monitor the weather to ensure dams are appropriately constructed, maintained and able to retain their integrity.

Locations for these dams should be chosen so that water does not spill out of the stream onto adjacent terrain and result in unintended exposures upstream of the dam.

Photos: Below left, underflow dam with angled pipes to raise the water level and allow surface oil to be retained for collection; Below right, Underflow weir using plywood sheet.



Sheets of plywood can be used effectively to block culverts, ditches and very small streams. These need to be cut into the stream bank and secured. If there is flow in the stream or ditch, they can be raised off the bottom to create a simple underflow dam. Some wooden dams can be pre-constructed and inserted where needed or they can be built on-site. They will often have a centre section which can be raised and lowered to control the water level and trap oil. As with the other damming techniques, the function of these structures needs to be monitored for flow changes and maintained for structural integrity.

Containment booms are designed to control the oil floating on water. Booms of different sizes are readily available for a variety of conditions. Small booms are usually used on rivers and streams because they possess relatively low freeboard and are easier to handle.

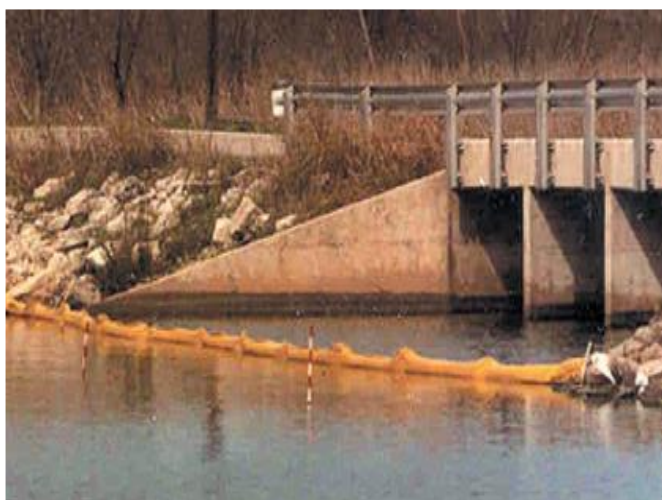


Photo: Left, booms used to exclude oil from side channels.

The physics of water flowing under a containment boom is such that very low water velocities (even below one knot or 0.5 metres per second) can cause oil to become entrained in the water flowing underneath a boom. As a result, containment booms are usually deployed at an angle to the water current direction so that the effective water velocity is reduced and no oil is lost. However, even sharply angled booms will fail to hold back oil in currents greater than three knots (1.5 metres per second). When current speed and direction varies due to estuarine tidal cycles, flood events and other normal water variations, it can be challenging to deploy containment booms that will continue to hold back flowing oil. The forces exerted on containment booms by flowing water are high, and a skilled crew is required for successful deployment of a boom (or booms) in the proper configuration, and for regular boom

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maintenance. In some instances, such as floods, it may not be practical to deploy booms due to worker safety considerations. Deployed booms should be monitored periodically to ensure proper function and adjusted as required.

Photos: Below left, booms used to divert oil to a collection point; Below right, a deflector is used to position the boom at the desired angle



Booms can be deployed to exclude oil from sensitive resources or to divert the oil to a collection point. For example, deflection booming may be used to deflect oil away from relatively small but particularly sensitive areas such as a water intakes. Multiple booms can be cascaded down a watercourse to achieve these aims. Booms need to be anchored to hold them in place. Deploying long sections of boom in a proper configuration with anchors and ropes can be difficult and time consuming. Boom deflectors have been developed that use the force of the flowing water to hold a boom in place.

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To be continued next week

PUBLICATIONS

CEDRE: "WILDLIFE REHABILITATION" OPERATIONAL GUIDE OUT NOW IN ENGLISH!

The English language version of the operational guide on wildlife rehabilitation has just been released in digital format. This practical guide focuses on wildlife response in the event of oil pollution.

In addition to bird rehabilitation, it also addresses the procedures applicable to pinnipeds, otters and turtles. The document can be downloaded free of charge from our website in both English and French. [More info](#)

IOPC FUNDS: ANNUAL REPORT 2019 NOW AVAILABLE

The Annual Report 2019 is now available to download from the [Publications section](#) of the website. Hard copies of the Report are also available on request via the Publications section.

This year's report provides details of the main activities and achievements of the IOPC Funds during the year, as well as key figures for 2019 in relation to expenditure, reports of contributing oil received and contributions levied.

Significant developments in 2019 relating to open incidents are also described. Further details of incidents, and in many cases a full case study, can be found under the Incidents section of this website. <https://www.iopcfunds.org/>

CONTRACTS, TENDERS & BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

INTERNATIONAL OPEN TENDER NOTIFICATION SERVICE

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

OTHER OPPORTUNITIES: USA & EUROPE

USA - Government solicitations are frequently posted in Technology Innovation News Survey and US EPA Tech Direct.

EUROPE – European Maritime Safety Agency invitations to tender are often posted in The EMSA Newsletter. See "Links for other publications" for links to download current issues.

ISCO Members are welcome to post tender invitations in this section.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Event organisers are requested to notify ISCO immediately if a listed event is cancelled or postponed

Your Editor is doing his best to keep this listing up-to-date but it should not be assumed that listed events have not been cancelled or postponed. It is recommended that you check with event organisers before finalising your attendance plans.

If an event title is not printed in blue ink it is not hyperlinked to the event website, this because the website is not yet available.

COUNTRY	2019	TITLE OF EVENT	LOCATION
For more information click on Title of Event			
COUNTRY	2020	TITLE OF EVENT	LOCATION
USA	POSTPONED	Clean Waterways Conference	Indianapolis, IN
GHANA	POSTPONED	Workshop on the ratification and effective implementation of IMO conventions relating to oil pollution and liability and compensation	Accra
CROATIA	April 28	National workshop on liability and compensation	Rjeka
USA	CANCELLED	Oil Spill Response Strategies & Tactics Training	Leonardo, NJ
USA	POSTPONED	APICOM GM Meeting	New Orleans, LA
USA	POSTPONED	International Oil Spill Conference & Exhibition	New Orleans, LA
UK	POSTPONED	HAZMAT 2020 Conference	Stratford on Avon
IRELAND	POSTPONED	European Maritime Day Forum Event	Cork
CANADA	POSTPONED	43rd AMOP Technical Seminar on Environmental Contamination and Response.	Edmonton, Alberta
USA	CANCELLED	Elastec's Spring 2020 River Workshop	Carni, IL
USA	June 8 -	Science of Oil Spills Class	New London, CT
UK	June 8-12	2020 IOPC Funds' Short Course	London
NORWAY	POSTPONED	INTERTANKO Annual Tanker Event	Oslo
USA	June 9-11	Clean Pacific Conference & Exhibition	Seattle, WA
USA	June 22 -	Science of Oil Spills Class	Seattle, WA
NETHERLANDS	June 24-25	European Environmental Ports Conference 2020	Rotterdam
USA	August 3-5	Clean Waterways Conference & Exhibition	Indianapolis, IN.
SAO TOME & PRINCIPE	August 3-7	National workshop on the National Oil Spill Contingency Plan	Sao Tomé
ESTONIA	August 25-27	BALEX DELTA 2020 pollution response exercise	Talinn
USA	Sept. 8-11	HazMat Emergency Response Workshop	Sacramento, CA
AUSTRALIA	Sept. 15-17	Ecoforum Conference & Exhibition	Darwin
MALTA	October 6-7	Regional Meeting of National Experts on the Post-2021 Mediterranean Strategy for Prevention of and Response to Marine Pollution from Ships	Valetta
UK	October 12-13	EI Hazardous Area Classification	London
UK	October 19-23	IMO Marine Environment Protection Committee	London
USA	October 20-22	Clean Gulf Conference & Exhibition	San Antonio, TX
MONACO	October 27-29	Regional Workshop to enhance Marine Oil and HNS regional cooperation in the Mediterranean (MEDEXPOL 2020)	Monaco
GREECE	POSTPONED	Posidonia 2020	Athens
BAHREIN	December 7-8	EI Middle East HSE Forum	Bahrein
COUNTRY	2021	TITLE OF EVENT	LOCATION
NETHERLANDS	March 22-26	Interspill Conference & Exhibition	Amsterdam
MALTA	May 25-27	Fourteenth Meeting of the Focal Points of the Regional Marine Pollution Emergency Response Centre for the Mediterranean Sea (REMPEC)	Valetta
CANADA	June 8-10	43rd AMOP Technical Seminar on Environmental Contamination and Response	Edmonton, Alberta

LINKS FOR DOWNLOADING & READING OTHER PUBLICATIONS

Alga Cronicle	News from Australia on Contaminated Land Remediation	February 2020
AMSA Update	Latest news from the Australian Maritime Safety Authority	February 2020
ATRAC Newsletter	News from the Adriatic Training and Research Centre	December 2019
AUSMEPA Bulletin	News from the Australian Marine Environment Protection Assoc'n	Summer 2020
BIMCO Bulletin	Marine and shipping-related news from BIMCO	December 2019
Newsletter from George Holliday	News and commentary on HSE issues from George Holliday	On request email
Cedre Newsletter	News from Cedre in Brittany, France	February 2020
Clean Nigeria Associates Newsletter	News from CNA about Oil Spill Response in Nigeria	December 2018
EMSA Newsletter	News from the European Maritime Safety Agency	Current issue
GEF Newsletter	Monthly Newsletter from the Global Environment Facility	December 2019
GESAMP	Group of Experts on the Scientific Aspects of Marine Environmental Protection	Latest news
GISEA Quarterly Newsletter	News from Global Initiative for South-East Asia	Q4 2019
IMO News Magazine	News from the International Maritime Organization	Winter 2019
IMO Publishing Newsletter	New and forthcoming IMO publications	April 2020
ITOPF Ocean Orbit	News from the International Tanker Owners Pollution Federation	October 2019
JOIFF "The Catalyst"	Int'l Organisation for Industrial Hazard Management	Q1 2020 issue
Maritime Executive Magazine	Often contains articles of interest to the spill response community	Jan.-Feb. 2019
MEDNEWS	News from UNEP Mediterranean Action Programme	01 / 2020
MOIG Newsletter	News from the Mediterranean Oil Industry Group	January 2020
NCEC Newsletter	News from the National Chemical Emergency Centre	March 2020
Nautical Institute News	News from the Nautical Institute	Jan.-Feb. 2020
Navigate Response	Global crisis communications network for shipping & marine	October 2019
NOAA OR&R	Weekly round-up of news from NOAA's Office of Response & Restoration	Latest issue
Oceanbuzz	Newsletter giving news on the Ocean Technology Industry	Current issue
OCIMF Newsletter	News from the Oil Companies International Marine Forum	February 2020
OHMSETT Gazette	Oil Spill Response Research & Renewable Energy Test Facility Quarterly	Summer 2019
OSPAR Newsletter	Protecting & Conserving the N.E. Atlantic and its resources	End of year 2019
PEMSEA Newsletter	Healthy oceans, people and economies in the East Asian Seas	September, 2019
Pollution Online Newsletter	News for pollution prevention & control professionals	Current issue
Safe Seas, Clean Seas	Quarterly Newsletter from Maritime New Zealand	July 2018 issue
Salvage World	Quarterly Newsletter of the International Salvage Union	Current issue
Sea Alarm Foundation Newsletter	Oiled wildlife Preparedness and Response news from Sea Alarm	Current issue
Technology Innovation News Survey	News from US EPA – Contaminated Site Decontamination	Feb. 16-29, 2020
USA EPA Tech Direct	Remediation of contaminated soil and groundwater	April 1, 2020
WestMOPoCo	Western Mediterranean Region Marine Oil & HNS Pollution Cooperation	January 2020

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

HISTORY

DEEPWATER HORIZON: AS IT HAPPENED

Geoff Maitland looks back on the Gulf of Mexico oilspill, ten years ago this month. An article by Geoff Maitland FICHEMÉ.

20 April 2010 was to be a special day for the rig and crew of Deepwater Horizon, Transocean's semi-submersible offshore drilling rig contracted by BP to drill a 20,000 feet exploration well into the Macondo reservoir, situated 4 miles below the ocean surface in the Gulf of Mexico, 41 miles off the SE coast of Louisiana. The drilling had been taking place in one mile of deep water for some 4 months and the project was six weeks behind schedule – due to a series of delays arising from drilling through some quite sensitive and weak rock formations that required careful and circumspect drilling. However, today was the day when, having reached the target zone, the well was to be completed and left in a safe state of readiness for future production.

[Continue reading this excellent article from *The Chemical Engineer*](#)

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