

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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GLOBAL PROJECT LAUNCHED TO TACKLE PLASTIC LITTER FROM SHIPS AND FISHERIES



The GloLitter Partnerships Project agreement was signed by IMO Secretary-General Kitack Lim and His Excellency Wegger Chr. Strømme, Norway's Ambassador to the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, on Thursday 5 December, 2019. The project aims to prevent and reduce marine plastic litter from shipping and fisheries.

April 15 - The International Maritime Organization (IMO) and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) have formally signed an agreement to move forward and jointly implement the GloLitter Partnerships Project, initially launched in December 2019, with funding from Norway, to prevent and reduce marine plastic litter from shipping and fisheries (read more [here](#)). The agreement specifies how the agencies will jointly execute the project and marks the next step towards many strategic partnerships anticipated under the project. Both agencies will now reach out to their respective fields to strengthen cooperation, not least private sector participation through a Global Industry Alliance. IMO / [Read more](#)

EUROPEAN MARITIME SAFETY AGENCY'S COMMITMENT TO POLLUTION RESPONSE

April 14 - Coastal states will continue to benefit from the wide range of marine pollution response services available from EMSA, including oil spill response vessels, seaborne dispersant spraying, equipment assistance, and RPAS drone monitoring. These services will continue to be part of exercises in 2020 to enhance the capacity of member states to respond to pollution at sea. EMSA Outlook / [Read more](#)

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INTERNATIONAL NEWS (CONTINUED)

GI WACAF CHAIRMAN – “OUR WORK MUST CONTINUE”

“The work that we do must continue for the certain benefit of West Africa and our members and partners. So whilst all face to face meetings have been postponed, Julien and Emilie continue to work from home, running GI WACAF with frequent phone and digital contact with in country focal points, industry members, IMO, IPIECA and related professionals. Our heartfelt thanks go out to them for their continued backing to safely deliver our technical cooperation programme in these most challenging times. As the situation further develops, we will endeavour to keep you updated” – Rupert Bravery
GI WACAF / [Read more](#)

REMPEC LAUNCHES ITS BRAND-NEW WEBSITES: REMPEC AND MENELAS



**Regional Marine Pollution Emergency
Response Centre for the Mediterranean Sea
(REMPEC)**

April 17 - REMPEC is pleased to announce the launch of its new website accessible on <https://www.rempec.org> as well as the new website of the Mediterranean Network of Law Enforcement Officials working to MARPOL, within the framework of the Barcelona Convention (**MENELAS**) accessible on <http://www.menelas.org/>.

The new websites are responsive for both mobile and desktop.

REMPEC's new website was prepared in line with its communication strategy, with the support of Mediterranean Action Plan of the United Nations Environment Programme (**UNEP/MAP**) and the International Maritime Organization (**IMO**), and the assistance of the Information and Communication Regional Activity Centre (**INFO/RAC**).

The Centre's new website targets Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention, inter-governmental and non-governmental regional and international organisations, research and funding institutions, the civil society, the private sector and other partners.

REMPEC's new website has been developed to increase visibility on the work of the Centre and to facilitate the access to reports, meeting documents, technical documentation and guidance documents, legal instruments, studies, regional and national overviews and publications, and other material published by REMPEC in the field of prevention of, preparedness for and response to marine pollution from ships.

In accordance with the Centre's mandate, the new website provides a framework for the exchange of information on operational, technical, scientific, legal and financial matters, and promoting dialogue aimed at conducting coordinated action at the national, regional and global levels for the implementation of the 2002 Prevention and Emergency Protocol. It also provides a platform for 24/7 emergency communication (notification and exchange of information) in case of emergency.

The REMPEC team hope you will enjoy this new platform and welcome any suggestion for further improvements.

ISU MEMBERS' VITAL CONTRIBUTION TO ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

Members of the International Salvage Union (ISU) provided 214 services to vessels carrying 2,308,756 tonnes of potentially polluting cargo and fuel during operations in 2019 demonstrating the importance of ISU members' role in protecting the marine environment. The data come from the results of the ISU's Annual Pollution Prevention Survey for operations in 2019. "Attitudes to the natural world have changed dramatically in recent years and the environment is now at the centre of political and business decision making. It is essential that there continues to be global provision of expert salvage services to respond to maritime emergencies and, in most cases, it is only the professional salvors – members of the ISU – who have the experience and equipment to make those interventions and prevent environmental catastrophes." ISU / [Read more](#)

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

AUSTRALIA: OPERATIONAL UPDATES—YM EFFICIENCY

April 17 - Crew on the MV Pride worked overnight to raise four containers from the seabed off the Hunter Coast. Operations now are underway to clear the seabed of debris from a broken container following deployment of a diamond wheel cutting saw to separate a stack of three containers. Waste processing of nine containers taken ashore on Monday is continuing at Port of Newcastle where a bobcat is being used to clear out debris from the containers. A shipment of mobile scooters is being processed and batteries are being separated out for safe disposal. Weather conditions are forecast as favourable and the salvage is expected to continue over the weekend.

This site - <https://www.amsa.gov.au/news-community/campaigns/operational-updates-ym-efficiency> - also includes links for previous updates and other information about the ongoing salvage operation.

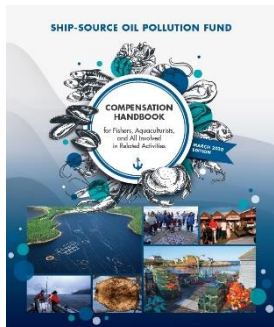
CANADA: OPERATIONS SITREP FROM WESTERN CANADA SPILL SERVICES

April 1 - WCSS recognizes that our member companies have been responding to an extraordinarily severe impact to their operations, and we'd like for you to know that we are working diligently (from home where possible) to ensure that your equipment is in a state of preparedness and that your training needs are being addressed. Each of our team members is available via phone and/or email, ready to support your spill preparedness needs. We encourage you to refer to our website homepage or LinkedIn page for all updates, and encourage you to forward them on as you see fit.

Due to provincial and federal government direction to cease all group events and practice physical distancing, our Board of Directors has agreed with our recommendation to offer the Spill Responder 100 online training to anyone (including both member and non-member companies) at no cost throughout 2020. This will ensure that companies can still meet the regulatory requirements for oil spill response training. For companies that used this option to meet compliance requirements in 2019, the inability to do so in consecutive years – as outlined in Section 16.1.1 of AER's Directive 071 – will be waived.

Lots more information at https://www.wcss.ab.ca/CO_TheStream6_2020_Apr_01.pdf

CANADA: NEWS FROM SHIP-SOURCE OIL POLLUTION FUND



April 16 - Despite operating remotely, the Fund is still receiving and evaluating claims. We are also creating new publications for potential claimants.

We are thrilled to announce the launch of our Compensation Handbook for Fishers, Aquaculturists, and All Involved in Related Activities.

This Handbook is a starting point for a broad audience across the fishing sectors, including workers and business-owners, Indigenous communities, and those pursuing commercial and non-commercial activities, both in fresh and salt water.

SOPF / [Read more](#)

GERMANY: THE CENTRAL COMMAND FOR MARITIME EMERGENCIES (CCME)

The CCME is a joint institution of the German Federal Government and the Federal Coastal States. It was established to set up and carry out a mutual maritime emergency management in the North Sea and in the Baltic Sea. It is based in Cuxhaven (Northwest Germany). The Central Command for Maritime Emergencies is headed by a federal official. During daily work routine the CCME consists of about 40 employees, working in five different sections. The five sections are –

Maritime Emergencies Reporting and Assessment Centre (MERAC)

Marine Pollution Control / Coastal Section

Marine Pollution Control / High Sea and Salvage Section

Fire Fighting, Rescue and Medical Response Section

Public Relations Section

More info - <https://www.havariekommando.de/EN/home/home-node.html>

USA: LATEST ACTIVITY REPORTS FROM NOAA OR&R

April 13 – Please click on the links below to read the latest News Reports from NOAA OR&R

[28th Annual Joint Safety and Environmental Professional Development Symposium](#)

On April 9, 2020, LCDR Michael Doig presented at the [28th Annual Joint Safety and Environmental Professional Development Symposium \(PDS\)](#)([link is external](#)). LCDR Doig's presentation was on NOAA Scientific Support for Oil and HAZMAT Spills. Every year, there are thousands of oil and chemical spills in coastal waters around the nation. These spills range from small ship collisions to fuel transfer mishaps to massive spill events like the BP Deepwater Horizon oil spill.

[Northeasterly Destinations](#)

Collin Buckner is a Disaster Planning Associate with the DPP. Located in Mobile, Alabama at the Disaster Response Center (DRC), Collin is responsible for coordination efforts throughout the Northeast as well as the Gulf of Mexico. It has been more than a month since Collin traveled to the northeast United States to work with some of our key NOAA partners. The mission's purpose was not only to deliver presentations about NOAA's Disaster Preparedness Program (DPP) but to learn more about potential areas where the DPP could collaborate to enhance regional preparedness.

[Fishing for Energy Partnership Announces Bin Program 2020 Request for Proposals](#)

Last week the [National Fish and Wildlife Foundation](#)([link is external](#)) (NFWF) announced the [Bin Program 2020 Request for Proposals](#)([link is external](#)) from the [Fishing for Energy partnership](#)([link is external](#)).



Fishing for Energy gives fishers a place to dispose of old, derelict, or unusable fishing gear. Image credit: NFWF.

The NOAA Marine Debris Program is pleased to be part of this collaboration, along with NFWF, [Covanta](#)([link is external](#)), and [Schnitzer Steel](#)([link is external](#)). The Fishing for Energy partnership facilitates the proper disposal of retired and derelict commercial fishing gear for recycling and for energy conversion at select ports across the United States, reducing the amount of derelict fishing gear in and around our coastal waterways.

USA: EPA ISSUES GUIDANCE FOR CLEANUPS DURING CORONAVIRUS CRISIS

April 13 - Cleanups of polluted sites across the nation may be suspended if workers get sick with COVID-19, can't maintain proper social distancing or face a host of other coronavirus-related factors, the [U.S. Environmental Protection Agency](#) said Friday.

In an effort to create a nationally consistent decision-making process for regulators overseeing Superfund sites and other types of cleanups, the EPA issued guidance Friday to all its regional offices with instructions about when a cleanup effort should be shut down.

The EPA recently said that this type of cleanup work is considered "essential" and that it has continued to respond to environmental emergencies at Superfund sites, risk management program facilities, facility response plan facilities, or in situations where the agency "is called upon to protect human health and the environment from the releases of chemical, oil, radiological, biological and other hazardous materials."

The EPA said that work can be reduced or suspended at sites if:

- State, tribal or local health officials have requested a stoppage.
- Any workers have tested positive for or exhibited symptoms of COVID-19.
- Workers may closely interact with high-risk groups or those under quarantine.
- Contractors are not able to work due to state, tribal or local travel restrictions or medical quarantine.
- Workers can't maintain proper social distancing. [Law 360 / Read more](#) Related Article in [JDS Supra](#)

USA: FIRST GULF OF MEXICO-WIDE SURVEY OF OIL POLLUTION COMPLETED 10 YEARS AFTER DEEPWATER HORIZON

April 15 - Source: University of South Florida (USF Innovation)

Since the 2010 BP oil spill, marine scientists at the University of South Florida (USF) have sampled more than 2,500 individual fish representing 91 species from 359 locations across the Gulf of Mexico and found evidence of oil exposure in all of them, including some of the most popular types of seafood. The highest levels were detected in yellowfin tuna, golden tilefish and red drum.

The study, just published in Nature Scientific Reports, represents the first comprehensive, Gulf-wide survey of oil pollution launched in response to the Deepwater Horizon spill. It was funded by a nearly \$37 million grant from the independent Gulf of Mexico Research Initiative (GoMRI) to establish the Center for Integrated Modeling and Analysis of Gulf Ecosystems (C-IMAGE), an international consortium of professors, post-doctoral scholars and students from 19 collaborating institutions. [Science Daily / Read more](#)

PEOPLE IN THE NEWS

STEVE GUY, HEAD OF TRAINING AT BESL IN ABERDEEN HAS RETIRED



Steve Guy retired on 1st April 2020. As Head of Training at Briggs Environmental Services Ltd. (BESL). He travelled the world delivering oil spill response training courses in many countries and will be very much missed by the many organisations whose staff benefited from the first class theoretical and practical training courses he provided.

In a letter to ISCO he writes “On 1st April 2020 I finally retired from the Oil Spill Response Industry. I have spent 30 years learning from some of the best response people in the world and never stopped learning. From joining the industry way back in 1989 when I joined Alba International and under my mentor Bob McWhinnie I started to develop my engineering background by acquiring in-depth marine oil spill knowledge.

I spent my early years learning from everyone I came into contact with from John McMurtrie to Fraser Forbes to Bill Boyle and Attie Walls to name but a few. They turned me from being a competent mechanical engineer into an experienced marine oil spill response engineer. All of this was put into my 18+ years of delivering training courses.

I have been very privileged to have worked with and been associated with many harbour masters and industry leaders in my training career and I feel privileged to be able to call many of them good friends. Hopefully I will see some of you again in the future”.

ISCO wishes Steve a long and happy retirement.

ISCO NEWS

YOUR EDITOR NEEDS SOME HELP

I am really struggling to find to find news that will be of interest to our readers. World news is currently dominated by depressing reports on the advance of the Coronavirus pandemic and its consequence. Virtually nothing about spill response techniques, incidents, legislation, new developments, appointments, etc. etc. **I will 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. Thanks in anticipation for your kind assistance.** john.mcmurtrie@spillcontrol.org

JOB OPPORTUNITIES

Readers are reminded that job opportunities are posted on the ISCO website. Current positions available include Chief of the Emergency Response Division (ERD) at NOAA OR&R in Maryland, USA and Offshore Environmental Consultant at REMPEC in Valetta, Malta.

To find out more, please visit <http://www.spillcontrol.org/2013-02-05-11-11-41/job-vacancies>

ISCO WELCOMES NEW MEMBERS

ISCO is pleased to welcome new members who have recently joined the organization –

NEW PROFESSIONAL MEMBERS

Ihab El-Saftawi, Snr. Specialist, Oil Spill & HazMat – Crisis & Risk Management & Business Continuity Division, Abu Dhabi National Oil Company, Abu Dhabi, UAE has been elected as a Member of ISCO (MISCO). He has 17 years of experience in oil pollution control in Egypt, Oman and Abu Dhabi, during which he has acquired experience in contingency planning, training, response to major spill incidents and response base management.

NEW INDUSTRY PARTNERS

International Spill Accreditation Association (ISAA) – Headquartered in Bromsgrove, England, ISAA was formed specifically to “Improve the standards of oil spill response” It is a non-profit making company with any surplus funds being used to improve the standards of service offered. The organization carries out the independent assessment of oil spill response companies worldwide and awards accredited status to OSROs that meet exacting standards after conducting a very thorough assessment process.

Adriatic Training and Research Centre for accidental marine pollution preparedness and response (ATRAC). Headquartered in Rijeka, Croatia. ATRAC’s key role is to provide training and education to the personnel from all Adriatic countries in all matters related to oil spill preparedness and response. In the scope of our activities, ATRAC’s main goal is to improve cross-border cooperation and communication, so as to mitigate the risk of oil spills and manage crisis situations resulting in marine pollution.

NEW CORPORATE MEMBERS

Drainage Controls Ltd. (also known as Sandfield Penstock Solutions) – Based in Worcestershire, England, Sandfield Penstock Solutions manufacture and deliver a range of automated water pollution prevention products and services direct to customers and as well as through distributors. Sandfield Penstock Solutions works with its customers and suppliers to identify water pollution risk before designing and implementing the most appropriate firewater, spill and flood containment solutions to meet that specific risk.

JVZ Response Inc. – The company’s clients have access to a vast library of field-tested, scenario-based training resources designed to evaluate and strengthen on-site Emergency Response Plans. JVZ Response has decades of Incident Response experience and provides cost-effective, self-directed training tools empowering teams to respond confidently in a crisis.

Greener Vision Building & Landscaping – Based in Huddersfield, England, this family-run company has diversified and is now increasingly involved in oil spill response, carrying out remediation work for insurers, response contractors, local authorities, etc.

NEW INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS

Nicholas Addison (UK)

Festus Oshodin (Nigeria)

Azunna Cookey Nigeria)

Lawrence Malizzi (USA)

Dr Ed Owens (Washington, USA) – President of Owens Coastal Consultants and an internationally recognized expert on oil spill shoreline response

OBITUARY

ALUN LEWIS, Hon.FISCO



ISCO is sad to announce that Alun Lewis died on Friday 17th April. He had been receiving treatment for lung cancer since he was diagnosed in August 2019.

His going will be a big loss to our community and he will be greatly missed by all who knew him. Not only has he contributed directly to ISCO but he has been a sounding board for us in reviewing scientific articles before inclusion in the ISCO news. In his working career he was recognised by the oil industry, response industry, governments, research organisations and individual members and company members of ISCO as a leading voice in the industry.

His career began when he joined the BP Research Centre in the UK in 1967, yes 52 years ago, so he had opportunity to see the Torrey Canyon and Amoco Cadiz early in his career and by 1979, the same year as the IXTOC blowout he was posted to specialize in oil spill response studies.

He was responsible for the formulation and testing of oil spill dispersants, particularly for use in the Arctic, and developed the Enersperse range of dispersants. Yes, he was influential in ensuring that the ad-hoc detergents of Torrey Canyon were developed into the low toxicity and more effective Dispersants option we have available today. By 1986 he was a member of the IP Dispersants Working Group, which prepared the UK Guidelines on the Use of Dispersants. In support of which he took part in the dispersant sea-trials in the Beaufort Sea in 1986 and in several large scale sea-trials to test dispersants in UK and Norwegian sectors of the North Sea.

On leaving BP Research in 1992 he moved in to support the UK Government, Warren Spring laboratory, and participated in the sea trials programme involving deliberately creating a series of oil slicks for study of both the natural fate and the impacts and effects of the aerial application of demulsifiers and dispersants.

From 1993 he joined SINTEF in Trondheim, Norway and continued his work on the fate and behavior of spilled oil and the use of oil spill dispersants. He participated in many research programs on the “weathering” of spilled oils at sea. These included the development of better laboratory procedures to simulate the various oil “weathering” processes that occur at sea. He participated in several large-scale sea-trials from 1994 until 1996 to validate these laboratory techniques and to explore the operational aspects of dispersant spraying from ships and helicopters.

Photo: Alun (on right) pictured with Hugh Parker, former Technical Director of ITOPF, during MCA dispersant sea trials in the English Channel in 2003.

Returning to the UK in the middle of 1997, he continued his work with AEA Technology plc (the privatised successor of Warren Spring Laboratory) at Culham, Oxfordshire as project manager for the 1997 sea trial project which use Alaska North Slope and Forties crude oils and IFO-180 fuel oil.

He became an independent consultant in 1998 not taking it easy however and conducted numerous studies for the UK Maritime and Coastguard Agency including the planning of the 2003 UK dispersant sea-trial in the English Channel. His specialties were and are oil spill dispersants, the behaviour of spilled oil at sea and the aerial of oil at sea. He has worked with many clients, commercial and governmental, both in the UK and around the world He has participated in many national exercises and training courses.



In addition to all of the above, as I and I am sure many others will attest he was a pleasure to work with. I have never known him to be flustered, raise his voice and one could always guarantee to learn from conversations would and interactions with him.

All at ISCO would like to convey our sincere condolences to Alun’s wife and family. [Thanks to ISCO Secretary, Matthew Sommerville]

WALKING THE SHORE WITH ED OWENS



Owens Coastal Consultants (OCC) has placed a new, short video clip about oil on shorelines on YouTube. This clip is the first in an ongoing series of informal video chats that will look at some of the local Puget Sound shorelines near the OCC office on Bainbridge Island, Washington. Over the next few weeks these will cover a range of topics that talk about the character of the shorelines in this region, oil behaviour on the shores and operational considerations. This video clip can be accessed at <https://youtu.be/GolFM9o3v3E> . Keep any eye out on the OCC web site for links as new videos are added. Comments and ideas for future topics are always welcome. Be safe and well.

Ed Owens <http://owenscoastal.com/>

CORRESPONDENCE

A MESSAGE FROM DAN ARBEL, FORMER MEMBER OF ISCO COUNCIL

I hope and wish these lines find you all in good health and...."closed" at home, as we all in our global "village..."

I don't think that there is a better item that symbolized what's going on this month when all Christians, Jews and Muslims are celebrating, than the enclosed clip <https://www.youtube.com/andreabocelli> of the singer Andrea Bocelli singing last week in the church of Milan in the empty church, while all churches mosques and synagogues here in Israel are still closed for weeks already including next w/e... Take the time and listen – in particular to the last 5 minutes....

A "concert" and time to remember!!!

Keep well and stay safe and hopefully for not too long time before we'll live normally again!!!

[The video is quite a big file and may take a few minutes to download] sandan.arbel@gmail.com

EMERGENCY RESPONSE & CRISIS COMMUNICATION

From ISCO Member, John V. Zimmer of JVZResponse Inc. - The ongoing minute-by-minute reporting on the impact of the global pandemic crisis has been to varying degrees clear, comprehensive, and detailed.

There is value at this time for those of us in emergency preparedness and response community to refresh the basic approach to emergency response and crisis communication.

Effective emergency response and crisis communication to external stakeholders:

- Present the facts of the situation in an honest and a non-technical manner
- Vocalize clear, concise, and consistent "Key Messages"
- Strive for the necessary level of transparency
- Staff external communications teams with leadership and appropriate subject matter experts
- Align all communications team members on "Key Messages"
- Afford stakeholders a forum(s) to vocalize and have their concerns addressed
- Afford stakeholders appropriate time necessary to have their questions answered
- Promptly correct previous external message misstatements or mistakes
- Don't speculate, admit what you don't know and commit to follow-up
- Don't "over" promise and "under" deliver
- "How" you present your message matters as much as "What" you present
- Provide the professional media sufficient factual information to report "your" story

CORRESPONDENCE (CONTINUED)

“Key Messages” need to adhere to the “4-C’s” external communications:

- Concern ... for impacted stakeholders
- Communication ... to impacted stakeholders as frequently as needed
- Commitment ... to address and resolve the problem at hand
- Cooperation ... with government entities to understand their response priorities

John V. Zimmer, JVZResponse Inc. zimmer@jvzresponse.com

CONTRIBUTED ARTICLE

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

Part 8 of a serialised article contributed by IPIECA and IOGP



Response techniques (continued)

Controlled in-situ burning

There have been numerous cases of spilled oil accidentally catching fire and damaging facilities and vessels. However, deliberate burns have succeeded in limiting the spread of the spilled oil, rapidly removing oil from water, snow or ice surface and thereby mitigating its consequences from a NEBA perspective. Inland burning has been successfully and routinely used in North America.

Photo right : Controlled in-situ burning in a peatbog; the white powder is fire retardant.

Controlled in-situ burning is usually considered when access is limited or when it is necessary to remove the oil quickly. Mechanical equipment may not be able to access a spill site if, for example, the terrain is too steep, too forested or water-logged. While mechanical clean-up can take considerable time, controlled burns can remove large amounts of oil in a few hours. This saved time may be critical if heavy rains are forecast that could flush oil to wider or more sensitive areas. Another consideration is waste disposal. If large amounts of waste will be generated and/or there are no convenient disposal sites available, controlled in-situ burning may be the best option to remove the oil.



Wetlands and other sensitive environments are highly susceptible to damage by the intrusive actions of clean-up workers. Wet conditions may prevent equipment from accessing the site and can make responders' actions more damaging, but the moisture will protect plant roots and soil from the heat of a burn.

When considering the use of a controlled burn, the following should be borne in mind:

- Safety: responders and the public should be protected from any risk of spreading fire. Often local fire departments are present to wet surrounding vegetation to protect against the fire spreading beyond the spilled oil.
- Ignition: simple and safe methods are preferred. Flares, flare guns, torches and propane burners have been used successfully.

- **Moisture:** many ecosystems are tolerant of the heat from fires because fire is part of their life cycle (e.g. wetlands). However, heat from burning oil may be more intense than even these plants can tolerate. High moisture levels are therefore desirable, in particular to protect roots from heat stress and to limit the risk of the fire spreading beyond the oiled area.
- **Season:** in higher latitudes, winter burning often creates little environmental damage because many plants are dormant and could be covered in snow. Burns in late summer conditions can cause stress to plants as they are still building food reserves.
- **Weather conditions:** unpredictable weather can produce safety-related hazards at a controlled burn. Low, steady winds with no threatening storms or weather fronts are preferred because such conditions reduce the risk of the fire spreading. Atmospheric temperature inversions can trap the smoke plume and are not desirable because they restrict the dispersion of the smoke.
- **Residue collection:** some unburned oil or oily residue is almost always left after burning. If quantities are sufficient, the unburned oil could be collected and burned. Residues from crude oil burns can have varying consistencies from tarry to brittle; this residue needs to be collected. On water, oils subject to intense burns may create residues that sink after they cool, and it may be unacceptable to leave these behind.

Photos: Below left - Below left: snow and ice protects this wetland from oil exposure and aids fire control. Below right: a large smoke plume rises from a wetland burn.



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To be continued next week

JOB VACANCIES

MALTA - REMPEC IS LOOKING FOR AN OFFSHORE CONSULTANT

REMPEC has opened a call for mobilizing one consultant to perform a variety of technical, programme support and policy functions related to the protection of the Mediterranean Sea against pollution resulting from exploration and exploitation of the continental shelf and the seabed and its subsoil. The overall objective is to provide programme implementation support for the practical implementation of the Regional Offshore Protocol.

Title: Consultant on Environmental Protection Against Pollution Resulting from Offshore Activities

Assignment period: 1 June to 31 December 2020 **Type of assignment:** Home-based (Valletta, Malta)

Deadline for applications: 17 May 2020

The **Consultancy Assignment** is available at -

<http://www.imo.org/en/About/Careers/vacancies/Temporary/Documents/REMPEC%20consultancy%20assignment%20%28Offshore%20Consultant%29-vers4%20-%20FINAL.pdf>

JOB VACANCIES (CONTINUED)

How to apply: Consultancy applications must include an up to date **Personal History Form** and should be accompanied by a **cover letter** stating the reasons for applying and experience relevant to the consultancy assignment.

Submissions must be sent to the following email address: contracts@imo.org.

Only consultancy applications submitted via email will be accepted. Please state reference **CA 20-01** and the consultancy assignment title in the subject line.

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.

NEWS FROM EVENT ORGANISERS

A MESSAGE FROM CAREY BUCHHOLTZ, MARKETING DIRECTOR, CLEAN EVENTS

April 13 - We are currently facing a new reality fighting a global pandemic and are all stepping back from large gatherings, even if it means disruption of business or denying us the ability to catch up with friends. Most of us have been placed on lock down, with exceptions for those with the most vital services.

Among those vital services are the disinfecting and decontamination of businesses and sites in order to keep everyone safe and healthy. We know this community of emergency and spill response professionals are out there providing these services and we salute you.

During this time of uncertainty, the CLEAN Events would like to be a resource for you to turn to. We will be providing important coronavirus coverage and industry updates as the situation evolves. We also want to serve as a platform to network, share company updates, and spread positivity as we navigate these difficult times.

We’re promoting the hashtag #cleaneventsproud as an easy way to showcase your efforts to battle the coronavirus. Please include it in social media posts when sharing information about what your company is doing to move forward during this difficult time.

We also invite you to join our various social networks as a way to stay connected and engaged with the CLEAN event community. We are all in this together, and we think coming together as a community will help get us through it together.



Follow us on Twitter:

[@WaterwaysEvent](#)

[@CleanGulf](#)

[@CleanPacific](#)



Follow us on Facebook:

[CLEAN WATERWAYS](#)

[CLEAN GULF Conference & Exhibition](#)

[CLEAN PACIFIC](#)



Follow us on LinkedIn:

[CLEAN WATERWAYS Conference](#)

[CLEAN GULF Conference & Exhibition](#)

[CLEAN PACIFIC Conference](#)

We are #cleaneventsproud and while we don’t know what the future holds, we know we will get through this together. If you feel you have an important message the emergency and spill response community needs to hear, feel free to reach out to me personally at cbuchholtz@accessintel.com.

Stay safe and healthy,

Carey Buchholtz
Marketing Director
CLEAN Events

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
GHANA	POSTPONED	Workshop on the ratification and effective implementation of IMO conventions relating to oil pollution and liability and compensation	Accra
CROATIA	POSTPONED	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	POSTPONED	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	POSTPONED	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
CANADA	October 27-29	Arctic Shipping Forum North America	Montreal
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	POSTPONED	Interspill Conference & Exhibition	Amsterdam
USA	May 10-13	International Oil Spill Conference (IOSC 2021)	New Orleans
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
COUNTRY	2022	TITLE OF EVENT	LOCATION
	Details TBA	Interspill Conference & Exhibition	

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	April 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	March 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.

INCIDENT REPORTS

Editor – Very few spill reports in the press recently – probably not because there's only a few spills – but because the news media is focused on the Coronavirus Pandemic. Currently I depend on readers who send me reports and on Mikhail Voytenko of the Maritime Bulletin. He regularly advises on vessel abandonments, groundings and sinkings – several every week – but, unless there is an immediate release of oil or chemicals, spillages are not reported in the Maritime Bulletin. However, some of his reports cover incidents that are likely to result in significant pollution by oil or chemicals.

USA: OILY WATER LEAKS INTO PORT VALDEZ FROM PIPELINE TERMINAL

April 13 - The operator of the trans-Alaska pipeline has removed 326 barrels of oily water at the Valdez Marine Terminal after a mix of water and oil leached under snow and into the water near a small-boat harbor at the terminal. Alyeska Pipeline Service Co. said in a statement Tuesday that it's unknown how much oil was spilled. The source of the leak has been contained, the agency said. "Responders were on scene within the hour and continue response activities including deployment of sorbents sweeps, sausage boom and containment boom," Alyeska said in a statement. Anchorage Daily News / [Read more](#)

USA: TUG AND OIL BARGE AGROUND, DETROIT

April 15 - Pusher tug ALBERT pushing oil barge MARGET ran aground in Detroit river mouth, Lake St Clair, Great Lakes, early in the morning Apr 13, while en route to Green Bay with some 300 tons of diesel fuel. As of 1300 UTC Apr 15, tug and barge were still aground. Understood there is no hull breach, and no cargo loss. Maritime Bulletin / [Read more](#)

MALAYSIA: SMALL TANKER SANK OFF SINGAPORE IN MALAYSIAN WATERS

Apr 16 - Product tanker WAN DA reportedly capsized and sank on Apr 15 some 3 nm off Tanjung Penyusop, Johor, Malaysia, South China sea. All crew were rescued, all are safe. No other information available at the moment. Last AIS records dated Feb – early Mar. UPDATE: Capsized tanker drifted into shipping lanes and then further south, nearing Indonesian waters. The wreck understood to be taken on tow by Indonesian patrol ships. Maritime Bulletin / [Read more](#)

HISTORY

RECALLING THE 2010 DEEPWATER HORIZON SPILL (CONTINUED)

NOAA OR&R has published a series of articles about the Macondo Oil Well Spill, its environmental effects, remedial action undertaken and lessons learned. The links below will allow you to download and read these interesting articles written by members of the staff at OR&R and others.

[NOAA's Eyes in the Sky: How Satellite Technology Pioneered During Deepwater Horizon Patrols America's Oceans for Pollution](#)
By Juan Velasco and Ellen Ramirez, NOAA's National Environmental Satellite, Data, and Information Service

[How Deepwater Horizon Spurred Advances in Oil Toxicity Science](#) by Megan Ewald, Office of Response and Restoration

[How Deepwater Horizon Data Tools are Used to Protect America's Coastal Resources](#) by Megan Ewald, Office of Response and Restoration

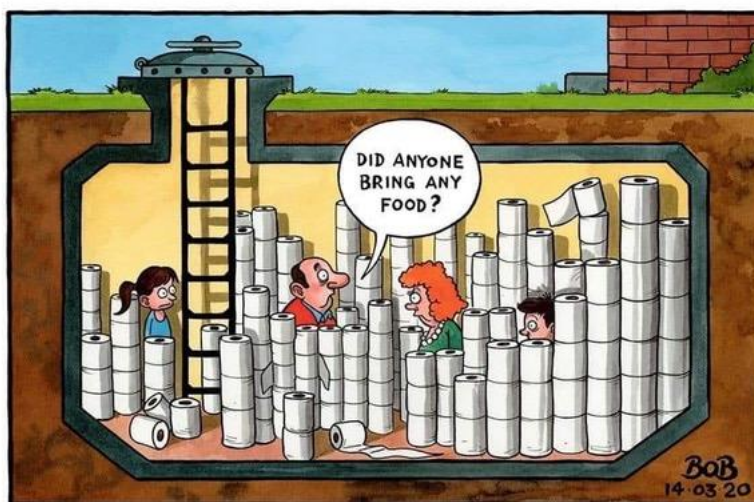
[Dolphin Discoveries in the Decade Since Deepwater Horizon](#) by Teri Rowles, Lori Schwacke (National Marine Mammal Foundation), and Megan Ewald

[Advances in Assessing Sea Turtles and Marine Mammals During Oil Spills](#) by Megan Ewald, Office of Response and Restoration

[How Thick is the Oil Slick? Classifying oil spill thickness using multiple remote sensors with research born from the Deepwater Horizon assessment](#) by Megan Ewald, Office of Response and Restoration

[With thanks to NOAA OR&R] <https://response.restoration.noaa.gov/>

AND NOW SOMETHING TO MAKE YOU SMILE ...



With thanks to Ian Ashworth. Members and readers are invited to send contributions to the Editor. We could all be doing with something to cheer us up.

Legal disclaimer: Whilst ISCO takes every care to ensure that information published in this newsletter is accurate unintentional mistakes can occur. No liability for consequences of errors is accepted but, if an error is brought to our attention, a correction will be printed in a following issue of this newsletter. Products and services featured in the ISCO Newsletter and/or the ISCO website, including the International Directory of Spill Response Supplies and Services, have not been tested, approved or endorsed by ISCO. Any claims made by suppliers of products or services are solely those of the suppliers and ISCO does not accept any liability for their accuracy. It should not be assumed that views and opinions expressed in linked reports, articles and other content reflect the views of the organization. Subscription is subject to acceptance of ISCO's Terms and Conditions as published on the website www.spillcontrol.org and your acceptance of ISCO's Data Protection and Privacy Policy.