

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

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MAURITIUS: IMO ASSISTING IN MV WAKASHIO OIL SPILL RESPONSE



Above: This photo provided by the French Defense Ministry shows oil leaking from the MV Wakashio, a bulk carrier ship that recently ran aground off the southeast coast of Mauritius, on Sunday. (EMAE via AP)

The International Maritime Organization (IMO) has joined international efforts to assist the Government of Mauritius, following an oil leak from the bulk carrier MV Wakashio, which ran aground on 25 July off Pointe d'Esny natural area, south-eastern coast of Mauritius.

IMO and the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)/United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) Joint Environment Unit have jointly deployed an oil spill response expert. Due to COVID-19 travel restrictions and border closures in Mauritius, the expert was (11 August) awaiting onward travel via specially chartered UN flight from Nairobi, following COVID tests.

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INTERNATIONAL NEWS (CONTINUED)

Approximately 3,894 tonnes of low-sulphur fuel oil, 207 tonnes of diesel and 90 tonnes of lubricant oil were on board the MV Wakashio. An amount of oil leaked following severe weather conditions. The affected area is located in a very sensitive zone that includes the Blue Bay Marine Park, Ile aux Aigrettes, and the Ramsar sites. Satellite mapping support is being sought from UNOSAT, to provide an indication of the extent of the spill and to inform the response effort.

Alongside IMO and OCHA, the United Nations development Program (UNDP) Mauritius and the International Tanker Owners Pollution Federation (ITOPF) are also mobilising environmental and oil spill experts. A number of countries, including France and Japan, are also assisting Mauritius, which has activated its national oil spill contingency plan.

IMO is supporting the Government of Mauritius by providing technical advice on oil spill response issues and in the coordination of assistance. <http://www.imo.org>

ISCO SECRETARY, MATTHEW SOMMERVILLE IS ON SCENE, ASSISTING THE MAURITIUS GOVERNMENT

Matthew Sommerville arrived on Tuesday 11th August, having been contracted by IMO and UNEP OCHA to assist in organising the spill response. He has been assessing the current situation, meeting with concerned parties, identifying priorities and advising on effective action to minimise environmental and economic damage. His initial report will be given as soon as available.

ITOPF MOBILISES EXPERTS TO OIL SPILL IN MAURITIUS

ITOPF is travelling to Mauritius to provide on-site technical advice and help coordinate response efforts to combat the oil spill that is contaminating shorelines on the south-east coast of the island.

Initial concerns focused on assessing damage to the underlying coral reef as the vessel shifted with heavy swells in the surf zone. At this stage, ITOPF provided remote advice to the vessel's insurer on the mitigation of reef damage as well as other potential pollution concerns.

ITOPF is providing advice on the mobilisation of additional equipment and personnel from overseas to support the shoreline clean-up operation. It is also advising the insurer, contractor and government on specific technical matters. ITOPF / [Read more](#)

WILD WELL CONTROL AND OIL SPILL RESPONSE SIGN STRATEGIC ALLIANCE AGREEMENT

Wild Well Control (WWC) and Oil Spill Response Limited (OSRL) have signed a strategic alliance agreement, which provides an increased capability to the oil and gas industry.

The collaboration between WWC and OSRL has been strategically implemented to further enhance the capabilities of the Global Subsea Response Network's (GSRN) services, as provided through OSRL's Subsea Well Intervention Services (SWIS). Designed to meet industry and regulatory expectations for an aligned and robust Source Control Emergency Response Planning (SCERP) solution, the partnership will offer industry best practice relating to response planning, exercises and when responding to a well control incident.

The combined capability of WWC and OSRL, two major emergency response organisations, provides a one-stop solution to the industry, covering all aspects of emergency response, from surface oil recovery to subsea capping and containment hardware, well control and well kill operations, relief well planning and drilling, and logistics support via air, sea and land.

Robert Limb, Chief Executive of Oil Spill Response Limited, said: "The collaboration between WWC and OSRL provides the industry with the most comprehensive international solution for preparing for and responding to Subsea Incidents on a global basis. At OSRL we are very excited about working closely with the WWC team to further strengthen industry capabilities to mitigate the environmental impact of any incident."

Bryan Ellis, President of Oil Wild Well Control, added: "This strategic alliance allows WWC and OSRL to provide a first-class full Subsea preparedness and response solution to the industry. We look forward to working with OSRL to introduce a new level of coordination and service on a global basis." Oilfield Technology / [Source document](#)

DATE OF NEXT MEETING OF THE IOPC FUNDS' GOVERNING BODIES CHANGED TO DECEMBER 2020

The International Maritime Organization (IMO) has restructured its 2020 calendar of meetings as a result of the ongoing COVID-19 global pandemic. The next meeting of the IOPC Funds' governing bodies has therefore been rescheduled to 2 to 4 December 2020 and will consist of the following sessions:

- the 25th session of the 1992 Fund Assembly;
- the 74th session of the 1992 Fund Executive Committee; and
- the 17th session of the Supplementary Fund Assembly.

The new IMO meeting schedule is based on the assumption that the IMO Headquarters building will not be available for full, physical meetings for the remainder of the year, thus the schedule is for remote sessions.

The Secretariat is making adjustments and completing the work required to assist Member States in managing their participation in the meeting and will endeavour, as always, to ensure that the meeting is run in the most efficient manner possible. For further information please visit the Governing Bodies page or email conference@iopcfunds.org

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

AUSTRALIA: BEIRUT DISASTER HIGHLIGHTS DANGEROUS AMMONIUM NITRATE STOCKPILES IN REGIONAL AUSTRALIAN CITY

August 13 - Last week's catastrophic explosion of 2,750 tons of ammonium nitrate at Beirut port has drawn fresh attention to the storage of up to four times this amount at Orica's Kooragang plant in New South Wales (NSW). The facility is 800 metres from residential areas in the Newcastle suburb of Stockton and just three kilometres from the regional port city's central business district. WSWs / [Read more](#)

ECUADOR: CAMPAIGNERS DEMAND COURT SHUTS DOWN ECUADOR'S OIL PIPELINES AFTER SPILL

August 12 - Communities in the Ecuadorian Amazon are calling for an end to "violence against Indigenous peoples and nature" as a trial into a devastating oil spill resumes today.

The Kichwa and Shuar tribes launched a lawsuit against the government and state-owned oil company Petroecuador in April after two pipelines ruptured. Around 27,000 Indigenous people already isolated by COVID-19 were left with little or no access to freshwater and fishing after [more than 15,000 barrels of crude oil](#) gushed into the Rivers Coca and Napa and downriver to Peru. The communities are seeking "immediate measures to guarantee the supply of water, food and access to health for the populations that have been affected", said Lina María Espinosa, lead attorney for NGO Amazon Frontlines, one of the groups bringing the case. Desmogblog / [Read more](#)

MAURITIUS: WAKASHIO GROUNDING AND OIL SPILL: WAS THE MAURITIAN GOVERNMENT UNPREPARED?

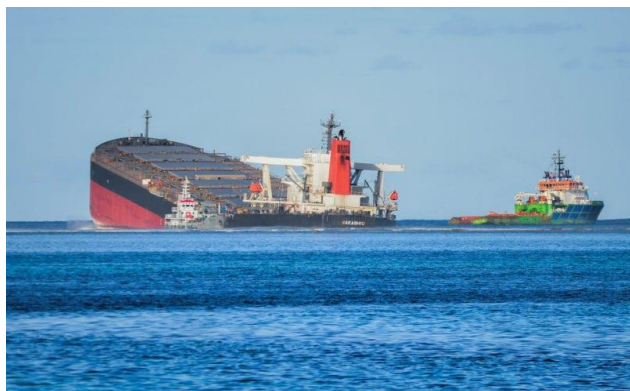


Photo: A general view shows the bulk carrier ship MV Wakashio, belonging to a Japanese company but Panamanian-flagged, that ran aground on a reef, at the Riviere des Creoles, Mauritius, August 11, 2020. REUTERS/Sumeet Mudhoo/L'Express Maurice

August 14 - The devastating oil spill that wreaked havoc on Mauritius' coastline raises the question of whether the response by the government was appropriate. Was the country unprepared for a disaster of this scale? Were officials over-confident or misjudged the risk?

Evidence indicates that Mauritius was very well prepared; the event did not come as a surprise. Importantly, the country dealt with similar incidents very successfully before. Yet, a public inquiry will have to address a number of questions. gCaptain / [Read more](#)

Editor – An interesting editorial from Professor Christian Bueger of Clean Seas – "The Mauritius oil spill tells us what can happen even if you are well prepared. Planning does not always go as intended. Capacity building and training has its limits".

MAURITIUS: WAKASHIO GROUNDING: WHO PAYS FOR THE OIL SPILL AND HOW MUCH?

August 14 - Under the 2001 International Convention on Civil Liability for Bunker Oil Pollution damage, which is referred to as the BUNKER convention and has been administered by the International Maritime Organization (IMO) since it came into force in 2008, the owners of vessels are responsible for damage caused by oil leaks. That means Nagashiki rather than Mitsui OSK is liable.

In an August 13 statement, Nagashiki said it would “deal with compensation claims based on applicable laws”.

Akihiko Ono, executive vice president of Mitsui OSK Lines, has apologised for the spill but a spokesman told Reuters it had no responsibility for the accident.

Compensation amounts paid by ship owners are governed by the 1976 Convention on Limitation of Liability for Maritime Claims and a subsequent amended convention agreed in 1996. The agreement also requires owners to ensure they have adequate insurance.

According to Toda Law Office in Tokyo, Mauritius has ratified the 1976 version, which limits payments to 2 billion yen (\$18.7 million) while Japan has signed the 1996 document which has an upper limit of 7 billion yen.

It will be up to any court ruling on compensation to decide which one applies in this case. gCaptain / [Read more](#)

MAURITIUS: WAKASHIO SHIP OWNER PROMISES COMPENSATION FOR GROUNDING



Photo: A section of the bulk carrier ship MV Wakashio, belonging to a Japanese company but Panamanian-flagged, ran aground on a reef, is pictured at the Riviere des Creoles, August 13, 2020. REUTERS/Reuben Pillay

August 13 - The Japanese owner of the MV Wakashio said it fully intends to compensate for any damages in accordance with applicable law from the ship’s grounding and subsequent oil spill in Mauritius.

The statement comes after the island nation’s Prime Minister, Pravind Kumar Jugnauth, told parliament that the government “will ensure that the insurance company of MV Wakashio compensates the state and any other entity or person affected by the calamity,” From Mike Schuler, gCaptain / [Read more](#)

NIGERIA: Ogoni Clean Up: HYPREP, ERA Disagree Over Remediation on 5 Sites

August 10 - Hydrocarbon Pollution Remediation Project, HYPREP, and Environmental Rights Action, ERA, have disagreed over the claim of the former that it had successfully completed cleanup work on five out of the 21 polluted sites it started in January, 2019. HYPREP said it was done with the five sites and waiting for internal and external verification of samples collected from the said sites, as well as the final results from statutory environmental regulatory bodies in the country, but ERA noted that the job done was below standard, noting that in as much as there was no certification from National Oil Spill Detection Response Agency, NOSDRA, on whether the job had been done properly, that no site has been completed. Vanguard / [Source report](#)

NIGERIA: OIL SPILL: EXPERTS CALL FOR PASSAGE OF NOSDRA BILL

August 12 - As the number of current oil spills in the Niger Delta rises above the 2000 mark, there is growing concern among some experts in the oil industry about the country’s current lack of capacity to tackle certain categories of oil spills.

Speaking at a webinar organized to discuss the delayed passage of the National Oil Spill Detection and Response Agency (NOSDRA) Bill, experts lamented the country’s lack of capacity to manage and mitigate the environmental impact of such events against the background of the escalating number of spills in the Niger Delta. Sun News Online / [Read more](#)

SOLOMON ISLANDS: GOVERNMENT TO RATIFY THE BUNKERS CONVENTION

August 10 – The government has approved the ratification of the Bunkers Convention recently. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs will soon ratify the Convention and allow them to pursue legal actions on oil spill related issues in the country.

Minister for Environment, Dr Culvick Togamana said the government has taken the issue seriously and now pursuing a collective lawsuit against Solomon Trader insurers concerning the Kangava oil spill last year. Sibconline / [Read more](#)

USA: LATEST ACTIVITY REPORTS FROM NOAA OR&R

August 9 – Please click on the links below to read the latest News Reports from NOAA OR&R

[Congressional Briefing: Oil Pollution Act of 1990](#)

On August 4, the Office of Response and Restoration (OR&R), in collaboration with the United States Coast Guard (USCG), hosted a virtual briefing on the Oil Pollution Act (OPA) of 1990. The briefing was open to all-interested staff, including relevant Senate and House committees. The briefing was led by the Director of OR&R, Scott Lundgren, and the Director of Emergency Management at USCG, Dana Tulis. The briefing provided an overview of the OPA, a behind-the-scenes look at how both NOAA and USCG prepare, respond, assess, and restore hazards after spills, as well as how both agencies remain vigilant to keep our coasts clean from spills and other disasters.

[OR&R Speaker Series: Dr. Kevin Kloesel, Director of the Oklahoma Climate Survey](#)

You are on the 16th fairway and having a great round, but the horizon is getting a bit dark. Fortunately, you have a weather app on your fancy smart phone. The red and yellow bands are still a ways in the distance and the thunder is only a low rumble. Someone else's problem. We all have smart phones and weather apps today, but few of us understand what we are seeing. Trained analysis for decision-makers saves lives.

[Disaster Preparedness Program Participates in South Carolina Hurricane Task Force](#)

On August 6, Charles Grisafi, Southeast Regional Preparedness Coordinator, represented the NOAA Disaster Preparedness Program (DPP) at a South Carolina Hurricane Task Force virtual meeting hosted by the [South Carolina Emergency Management Division](#)(link is external) (SCEMD).

[Disaster Preparedness Program Host Third Hurricane Preparedness Summit](#)

On August 3, NOAA's Disaster Preparedness Program (DPP) and the University of New Hampshire's Coastal Response Research Center (CRRC) hosted their third virtual Hurricane Preparedness Summit for the [National Ocean Service \(NOS\)](#).

[Rhode Island Congressional Round Table](#)

Ken Finkelstein, Regional Resource Coordinator with OR&R's Assessment and Restoration Division, recently attended a NOAA congressional round table for the state of Rhode Island.

[Marine Debris Program Participates in "Get Into Your Sanctuary" Event](#)

On July 31, the NOAA Marine Debris Program's (MDP) Pacific Island Regional Coordinator, Mark Manuel, participated in the NOAA Office of National Marine Sanctuaries (ONMS) "Get into Your Sanctuary" celebration to raise awareness about the value of our national marine sanctuaries as iconic destinations for responsible recreation and stewardship.

USA: QUOTING 'TO KILL A MOCKINGBIRD,' JUDGE STRIKES DOWN TRUMP ADMINISTRATION ROLLBACK OF HISTORIC LAW PROTECTING BIRDS

August 12 - A federal judge in New York has invalidated rule changes by the Trump administration that allowed individuals and corporations to kill scores of birds as long as they could prove they did not intentionally set out to do so.

In a blistering ruling that cited Harper Lee's "To Kill a Mockingbird," U.S. District Judge Valerie E. Caproni ripped the administration's interpretation of "takings" and "killings" of birds under the century-old Migratory Bird Treaty Act as applying only if the animals are specifically targeted. The Washington Post / [Read more](#)

VENEZUELA: OPPOSITION LAWMAKERS OPEN PROBE OF OIL SPILL ON CARIBBEAN COAST

August 12 - Venezuela's opposition-run congress has opened an investigation into an oil spill that continues to pollute palm-lined beaches along the South American nation's Caribbean coast, legislator Maria Gabriela Hernandez said on Wednesday. The legislature's environment commission is now asking government institutions, including state oil company PDVSA, for details on what maintenance was carried out at the 146,000 barrel-per-day El Palito refinery, where the oil is believed to have originated. Nasdaq / [Read more](#)

YEMEN: UN ENVOY MARTIN GRIFFITHS WRAPS UP SAUDI VISIT TO FURTHER PEACE PROSPECTS

August 13 - Yemeni government officials cite environmental risk from oil tanker as a major concern. UN Special Envoy to Yemen Martin Griffiths has concluded a visit to Saudi Arabia after talks with Saudi and Yemeni officials on a peace process to end Yemen's civil war. Mr Griffiths' proposal calls for a nationwide ceasefire, including all air, ground and naval hostilities, and for the parties to ensure compliance on the front lines between government forces and the Iran-backed Houthi rebels. But lack of trust between the two sides has slowed the UN's push for peace. The National / [Read more](#)

PEOPLE IN THE NEWS

DR TOM ARA COOLBAUGH JOINS ARA AS OHMSETT FACILITY MANAGER



Applied Research Associates, Inc. (ARA) announced Dr. Tom Coolbaugh has joined the team as the Program/Facility Manager for Ohmsett – The National Oil Spill Response Research & Renewable Energy Test Facility. He will have oversight of the day-to-day operations, maintenance and testing at the facility, while ensuring facility users' needs are met.

Dr. Coolbaugh recently retired after 32 years with ExxonMobil Corporation, most recently as the Technology and Advocacy Advisor in the Emergency Preparedness and Response organization. His focus areas have included oil spill response tools such as dispersants, in-situ burning, and remote sensing, in addition to training. He holds a Bachelor of Arts and a PhD in Chemistry, as well as a Master of Science in the Management of Technology. Offshore Engineer / [Read more https://www.ohmsett.com/](https://www.ohmsett.com/)

NEWS FROM ISCO MEMBERS

HIGH LEVEL OF TRAINING FOR LAMOR PERSONNEL BENEFITS OUR CUSTOMERS



My name is Diego Fernando Echeverri García, I'm General Manager in Lamor Peru and have worked in the oil spill response industry for almost twenty years. In this blogpost I will explain the importance of Lamor training and its significant value for our customers.

By having trained personnel Lamor ensures our clients receive high-quality products and services and get the best support and expertise for each service and project with Lamor. Lamor's clients put their trust in us. Training personnel in every needed matter is one of the ways Lamor responds to the responsibility we have been given.

Every employee receives mandatory training relevant to their position

Lamor ensures that all our personnel receive training in oil spill control at different levels and specialties depending upon their responsibilities (first respondent, incident command, crisis management). This may also include instruction in ICS incident command system; handling of hazardous materials; use of personal protective equipment (PPE); assessment of impacted areas; environmental and maritime legislation; HSE components; risk analysis; contingency and emergency plans; and operations in ports, oil facilities, terminals and transportation systems. <https://www.lamor.com>

HARBO TECHNOLOGIES "IT'S TIME TO ADD A FIRST RESPONSE LAYER FOR GLOBAL OIL SPILL RESPONSE"

With the oil spill still developing in Mauritius it is critical to emphasize a layer that's absent in international oil spill response - the immediate rapid first response layer. The ability to get anywhere in the world and deploy numerous kilometers of containment boom with a few local personnel and no ancillary equipment in less than 24 hours. This is the only chance we have to prevent the spill from spreading and causing damage to assets and the environment. Otherwise, we are just cleaning up spills after the damage is done.

NEWS FROM ISCO MEMBERS (CONTINUED)

HARBO Technologies offers a lightweight, compact, easy to use, technology that responds to oil spills immediately. Those who are familiar with us know that we are actively promoting the “Defibrillator/Fire Extinguisher” model for oil spill response. By proactively storing our technology at any location that has a potential for an oil spill before the spill happens, you can stop the spill before it spreads in minutes instead of waiting for hours or even days until responders arrive at the scene. This adds a new layer of response which doesn’t exist today, the most critical layer.

In our vision, every port / gov / tanker / refinery in the world will have this equipment on site and available. It could then be deployed in under an hour. Investing in this equipment before the spill happens could dramatically improve the preparedness in every country around the globe. We see this again and again, spills become a disaster, and this is because it often takes days or weeks to move equipment and crews before the first response starts.

This same layer is missing for our current international incidents. This is our vision for responding to an oil spill using our technology: at any time, in one of the various global locations -

- 10 kms of boom (10 tons of equipment) are loaded on a plane. The volume is less than 60 cubic meters / 3 small containers
- The booms are boxed in cartridges each carried by a single person.
- This strike team, just 2-3 people, joins this plane.
- Within 12 hours, they land anywhere in the world.
- Local first responders receive a short 3 minute online training and demonstration on how to use the booms.
- They work with local non trained personnel to deploy the equipment.

In less than 24 hours, 10kms of boom can be deployed anywhere in the world.

No mechanical equipment is needed to unload and deploy the boom units; it is designed to be carried and deployed by a single person, is safe to deploy, and can even be deployed at night. <https://www.harbo-technologies.com/>

CORRESPONDENCE

OSRL REMAINS READY TO RESPOND

COVID-19 Update (14 August 2020)

Dear Member/Shareholder Rep,

OSRL continues to monitor the pandemic status around the world. At present, The Americas and South Africa remain OSRL’s most impacted regions; however, we do retain our ability to respond at all locations. With the recent local lockdown in Aberdeen, the Aberdeen office has now gone back to red status from amber. We continue to monitor the situation in all our locations worldwide.

Since our last email, we have published one new Country Plan for the Cote d'Ivoire. We have also updated the country plans for the Netherlands and Spain. We now have a total of 56 country plans live and five translated versions. All these country plans and COVID-19 Field Guide appendices are available to view and download on our [website](#).

We continue to work with several clients providing preparedness services such as consultancy and remote training and were pleased to receive some positive feedback from several Members relating to our consultancy work including:

“Adriana understood the local regulations and the cultural aspects of how the regulation would be interpreted. She worked well with our team, even when our local leadership changed their minds at key junctures in the process. Short deadlines and multiple calls with our project/drilling and local leadership were never a problem for her. She went above and beyond, especially working several weekends with me to help get items delivered for government review.”

The MCA, OPRED and the Nautical Institute have now advised that the existing certificate extension due to COVID-19 will end on 31st August 2020.

Do you or a member of your team have an MCA and OPEP level training certificates that has expired since 23rd March 2020 or expires before 31st August 2020? If so, this latest statement means refresher training is now required before 30th November 2020 to maintain certification. The deadline takes into account the three months grace period to complete refresher courses.

Although face to face training might not be widely available at present, OSRL has developed a range of interactive, remote training options to enable you to maintain certification. View our remote courses [here](#)

The team in APAC has created a video addressing any questions you may have on our virtual mode of delivery. The video is available to view [here](#).

We have also published the next article in our Thought Leadership ‘Insights’ series - Is It Time To Say "Goodbye" To the Cavalry? Remote, low carbon, efficient. Responding to oil spills in a post pandemic virtual world. To read the article please click [here](#).

Our popular webinar series continues with our next webinar, Performing Under Pressure – Adapting the Red2Blue Model for Oil Spill Response taking place on 27th August. In this webinar, we will share with you how we are using the Red2Blue methodology within the world of oil spill response. Elite sports teams, major companies and the emergency services all use RED2BLUE. This webinar will

CORRESPONDENCE (CONTINUED)

cover the techniques required to perform well under pressure, demonstrating how we equip our oil spill professionals to think clearly, feel in control and perform when it matters most. Register to attend [here](#).

In our second instalment of a 'showcasing our people' series, Omasan Akporiaye, our Geomatics Specialist shares how his vast experience adds to the value of his work in OSRL. Click [here](#) to view.

Once more, we would ask for your feedback on OSRL's support to your organisation during the COVID-19 pandemic and ideas for what additional support we can offer going forward. You can participate in our 20 min survey [here](#).

We remain just a phone call away, ready to virtually support you and your operations. Should you have any questions, please email CMT@oilspillresponse.com or contact our Duty Managers.

Yours sincerely, Robert Limb, Chief Executive, Oil Spill Response Limited <https://www.oilspillresponse.com/>

AN APPEAL FOR SUPPORT FROM MALINA CHEENEESHASH IN MAURITIUS

Call for data/mapping experts to help with the set up of an oil spill tracking map (currently the only one that exists), used by NGOs and the public to intervene and keep track of the damage. There are many needs - for volunteers on site, PPEs and also wildlife protection. This is a marine park with endangered species and a Ramsar protected wetland site with mangroves that need special clean up. So we need to make the necessary and updated data available for different stakeholders, and it is critical! The oil is still reaching new spots. An existing local app already has an early version of the map running, but they lack the mapping/crisis expertise.

[#oilspill](#) [#environmentalscience](#) [#datascience](#) [#datamapping](#) [#data](#) [#maps](#)
[#ecology](#) [#disaster](#) [#crisismanagement](#) [#environmentalprotection](#)

Malina Cheeneeshash

WEBINARS & ONLINE TRAINING

CIRIA: CONTAINMENT SYSTEMS FOR POLLUTION CONTROL

This webinar will provide a series of case studies on the application of pollution control measures to containment systems through using CIRIA's guide C736: Containment systems for pollution control (2014)

Avoidance of water pollution from installations storing flammable, toxic or otherwise polluting material is a key environmental aim. CIRIA Report C736 (2014) is widely used in the industry, and many regulators require demonstration of compliance with the requirements of this document.

CIRIA has been undertaking a review of this guidance with a view to produce a supplement that captures experience with application of the guide and advances in approaches and technology.

This event will provide several industry case studies illustrating the application of the guidance and as well as an overview of the survey which will inform a workshop being planned with a range of stakeholder organisations. The workshop will, in turn, inform the development of a supplement to CIRIA guide C736.

When - Wednesday 02 September 2020 10:00 - 12:00 (UK time) [More info](#)

CHEMICAL WATCH: CHANGES TO EU SAFETY DATA SHEET (SDS) REQUIREMENTS

Ideal for anyone responsible for writing SDSs, our 90-minute upcoming training webinar, Changes to EU Safety Data Sheet (SDS) Requirements (6 October, 14:00 BST), will cover the specific requirements for:

- nanoforms to be included in SDSs;
- SDSs to take into account the EU's adoption of the UN's 6th and 7th revised editions of the GHS into its CLP Regulation;
- unique formula identifiers (UFIs) in SDSs; and
- SDSs with regard to substances and mixtures with endocrine disrupting properties. [More info](#)

OIL SPILL INDIA: PANEL DISCUSSION : SPILL PREPAREDNESS & RESPONSE READINESS DURING A CRISIS!

Aug 27, 2020, 11:00 AM - 12:30 PM (UK time) [More info and registration](#)

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 may be because the website is not yet available or because the link for the website has not yet been sent to the Editor.

COUNTRY	2020	TITLE OF EVENT	LOCATION
For more information click on Title of Event			
ESTONIA	August 25-27	BALEX DELTA 2020 pollution response exercise	Talinn
USA	CANCELLED	Oil Spill Response Strategies & Tactics Training	Leonardo, NJ
ONLINE	Sept. 15-17	Ecoforum Conference & Exhibition (Virtual)	Internet
INDIA	POSTPONED	Oil Spill Conference & Exhibition	Mumbai
ONLINE	September 16	UK Spill Annual General Meeting	Internet
ICELAND	Sept. 28-30	International Symposium on Plastics in the Arctic and Sub-Arctic Region	Reykjavik
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	El 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
ONLINE	October 27-29	Arctic Shipping Forum North America	Internet
MONACO	October 27-29	Regional Workshop to enhance Marine Oil and HNS regional cooperation in the Mediterranean (MEDEXPOL 2020)	Monaco
NETHERLANDS	November 4-5	European Environmental Ports Conference 2020	Rotterdam
UK	December 2-3	Salvage & Wreck Removal Conference	London
UK	December 2-4	Meetings of the IOPC Funds' Governing Bodies	London
BAHREIN	December 7-8	El Middle East HSE Forum	Bahrein
COUNTRY	2021	TITLE OF EVENT	LOCATION
FRANCE	March 23	CEDRE Information Day on Containers	Paris
USA	May 10-13	International Oil Spill Conference (IOSC 2021)	New Orleans, LA
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
USA	June 28-30	Clean Pacific Conference & Exhibition	Seattle, WA
USA	September 7-10	Hazmat Emergency Response Workshop	Sacramento, CA
COUNTRY	2022	TITLE OF EVENT	LOCATION
NETHERLANDS	Details TBA	Interspill Conference & Exhibition	Amsterdam

MESSAGES FROM EVENT ORGANISERS

CLEAN WATERWAYS

[CLEAN WATERWAYS Replay](#) kicks-off August 17th and offers three days of streamed sessions and a virtual coffee chat. During each session you'll have the opportunity to ask speakers a question and engage with fellow attendees. The streamed sessions, along with all recorded sessions from the in-person conference and a directory of exhibitors and sponsors, will be available on-demand through the end of the year so you can consume the content at your pace.

CLEAN WATERWAYS Replay Streaming Schedule

Monday, August 17th 10:00 AM – 11:30 AM ET Session: I've Got 99 Problems

This session will offer a review of some recent emerging concerns and their potential solutions in the inland response and environmental arena. Industry leaders will discuss resolutions to the rising concern of abandoned and derelict vessels littering U.S.

MESSAGES FROM EVENT ORGANISERS (CONTINUED)

waterways as well as the rising environmental and human health concerns of PFAS products in industrial facilities and aqueous film forming foam (AFFF).

Chair: Rebecca Garcia-Malone, Assistant Director, Vessel Services, T&T Salvage, LLC

Commercial Abandoned and Derelict Vessels (CADVs): A National Strategy Recommendation

Devon Grennan, President, Global Diving & Salvage, Inc.

PFAS: Challenges and Proactive Considerations

Ryan Thomas PhD, Environmental Scientist, GHD

Regulatory Perspective on Abandoned Vessels

Adam Davis, Scientific Support Coordinator, Emergency Response Division, Office of Response and Restoration, NOAA

Tuesday, August 18 10:00 AM – 11:30 AM ET Session: You Sank My Goo...Now What?

This session will give best practice methods for detection and recovery of non-floating oils and other toxic goo.

Chair: Jodi Billman-Kotsko, Manager, Ohio Environmental Protection Agency

Biocides and Oil Contamination

David Cage, On-Scene Coordinator, Indiana Dept. of Environmental Management

Release Case Studies: But it's just Mud??

Kurt Kollar, State On-Scene Coordinator, Ohio EPA

Wednesday, August 19 10:00 AM – 10:30 AM ET Morning Coffee Chat with Heritage Environmental Services – COVID-19

Grab your free coffee, compliments of Heritage Environmental Services, and join Angie Martin, Vice President of Heritage Environmental Services as she discusses responding to COVID-19, proper disinfection processes, and preventing the spread. Presentation will be followed by the opportunity for the audience to ask questions live.

11:00 AM - 12:00 PM EDT Session: Storage Tank Emergency Response

The session includes a case history on a well-known Texas tank fire response, rounded out by an industry perspective regarding planning for storage tank fires.

Case Study: ITC Storage Tank Fire, Pasadena, TX

Ryan Nawrocki, Chief Engineer, US Fire Pump Company, LLC

Storage Tank Emergencies: An Industry Perspectives

Stephen Pepper, Director, Crisis Management, Phillips 6

[Visit our website for more information](#)

THE JOIFF VIRTUAL INDUSTRIAL FIRE & HAZARD MANAGEMENT CONFERENCE & EXHIBITION 2021 - FEBRUARY 8TH & 9TH 2021

We are announcing the launch of The JOIFF Virtual Industrial Fire & Hazard Management Conference & Exhibition taking Place on 8th & 9th February 2021. This is a virtual Online Conference & Exhibition platform that will allow all JOIFF Members and the Global High Hazard Fire Community the opportunity to view Key Note conference presentations, meet and chat with latest equipment and technology suppliers, collate information electronically and communicate directly with colleagues from around the world without having to leave your desk. The event website is not available yet but more info should be posted soon at –

<http://www.joiffconferences.com/>

SALVAGE & WRECK CONFERENCE – DECEMBER 2-4, 2020

Available live and on-demand. After careful consideration and with the safety of everyone involved we are pleased to confirm that the 2020 edition of the Salvage & Wreck conference will now be delivered to you in an entirely virtual format, spanning over three event days. Take full advantage of this prime opportunity to connect with fellow attendees, speakers and sponsors to learn and build partnerships without having to leave your home or office.

Join us to hear expertise from around the globe and register [online](#) today. [View Agenda](#)

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.

LINKS FOR DOWNLOADING & READING OTHER PUBLICATIONS

ALGA Cronicle	News from Australasia on Contaminated Land Remediation	April 2020
AMSA Update	Latest News from the Australian Maritime Safety Authority	Current issue
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	June 2020
Newsletter from George Holliday	News and commentary on HSE issues from George Holliday	On request email
Cedre Newsletter	News from Cedre in Brittany, France	June 2020
Clean Nigeria Associates Newsletter	News from CNA about Oil Spill Response in Nigeria	Publication paused
EMSA Newsletter	News from the European Maritime Safety Agency	Current issue
Environmental Expert	Environmental News from Environmental Expert	Current issue
GEF Newsletter	Monthly Newsletter from the Global Environment Facility	Subscription
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	Q2 2020
IMO News Magazine	News from the International Maritime Organization	Summer 2020
IMO Publishing Newsletter	New and forthcoming IMO publications	June-July 2020
ITOPF Ocean Orbit	News magazine from ITOPF with interesting spill response articles	October 2019
JOIFF Catalyst Newsletter	Int'l Organisation for Industrial Hazard Management	Q3 2020 issue
Maritime Executive Magazine	Often contains articles of interest to the spill response community	March–April 2020
MEDNEWS	News from UNEP Mediterranean Action Programme	02 / 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	June 2020
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	July 2020
OHMSETT Gazette	Oil Spill Response Research & Renewable Energy Test Facility Quarterly	Spring 2020
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	March 2020
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	June 16-30, 2020
USA EPA Tech Direct	Remediation of contaminated soil and groundwater	August 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

UK: 'COOKING OIL' VISIBLE FOR 3KMS FOUND IN RIVER SOAR AFTER REPORTS OF DEAD FISH AND SWANS COVERED IN POLLUTANT

July 23 - The Environment Agency is investigating after an amount of pollutant, suspected to be cooking oil, was found in the River Soar. The river has become contaminated close to the Abbey Pumping Station, in Belgrave, Leicester. The pollutant has been seen in the water as far away as Birstall. Leicester Mercury / [Read more](#)

UK: THOUSANDS OF FISH KILLED IN DEVASTATING POLLUTION INCIDENT ON WELSH RIVER

August 7 - Almost all aquatic life has been killed along a stretch of the picturesque Afon Llynfi at the northern edge of Brecon Beacons National Park. A catastrophic pollution incident has killed almost all of the aquatic wildlife of a beautiful and thriving Welsh river. Thousands of fish are reported to have been killed in what is just the latest in a series of similar incidents to affect Welsh rivers in recent years. CountryFile Magazine / [Read more](#)

LEBANON: BEIRUT PORT EXPLOSIONS SITUATION REPORT NO. 3 (AS OF 10 AUGUST 2020) [EN/AR]

August 10 - At least 160 people were killed, and more than 5,000 people were injured in the Beirut Port explosions. Urban Search and Rescue (USAR) teams have found no indication of acute chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear (CBRN) threats in the incident area so far. Only minor chemical threats resulting from destroyed storage facilities (paint, solvents, asbestos, etc.) have been reported up to date. Further assessments are needed to understand any actual or potential secondary/cascading risks as a result of damage to any sites of concern. An oil spill has been reported at the port. OCHA Relief Web / [Read more](#)

MAURITIUS: UPDATES ON WAKASHIO OIL SPILL

Hundreds of press reports help to create a timeline on the developing scenario – what and when - is happening. This follows up on the reports given in last week's ISCO Newsletter.

August 10 - Helicopters Rush to Clean Major Oil Spill at Mauritian Coast - Mauritian prime minister says ship at risk of breaking apart. Island nation faces widespread pollution from incident - Helicopters were deployed to help with a major oil spill clean-up operation after a Nagashiki Shipping Co. tanker leaked fuel off the coast of Mauritius. A hose connection was established with the ship and helicopters helped to transfer oil, Nagashiki Shipping said in a statement on Monday. Clean-up crews had to contend with bad weather as they rushed to halt the leakage amid concern that the vessel could break apart. Bloomberg / [Read more](#)

August 10 - Race to drain stricken ship before it splits in half - "The ship is showing really big, big cracks. We believe it will break into two at any time, at the maximum within two days," Mauritian Wildlife Foundation manager Jean Hugues Gardenne warned. "So much oil remains in the ship, so the disaster could become much worse." Fox News / [Read more](#)

August 10 - Despite bad weather, Prime Minister Pravind Jugnauth said 500 tonnes had been safely pumped out on Monday. Fuel has been transferred to shore by helicopter and to another ship owned by the same Japanese firm, Nagashiki Shipping. BBC News / [Read more](#)

August 10 - Japan will dispatch a six-person disaster relief team, on the request of the Mauritius government, to help with removing the spilled oil, according to a statement by the Japanese Foreign Ministry on Sunday. France was also sending specialist teams and equipment to Mauritius, once a French colony, to help deal with the spill. gCaptain / [Read more](#)

August 10 - Thousands of volunteers, many smeared head-to-toe in black sludge, have marshalled along the coastline since Friday, stringing together miles of improvised floating barriers made of straw in a desperate attempt to hold back the oily tide. Deccan Herald / [Read more](#)

August 10 - "Thousands of species around the pristine lagoons of Blue Bay, Pointe d'Esny and Mahebourg are at risk of drowning in a sea of pollution, with dire consequences for Mauritius' economy, food security and health." Seatrade Maritime / [Read more](#)

August 10 - Salvors Stop Grounded Bulker's Fuel Leak – According to a statement from prime minister Pravind Jugnauth's office, the flow of oil from the ship's ruptured starboard tanks has been stopped for the moment. The estimates are that between 1,000 and 2,000 tons of fuel however have already leaked from the ship into the environmentally sensitive waters. The Maritime Executive / [Read more](#)

August 10 - Mauritians are making booms out of sugar cane leaves, plastic bottles and hair that people are voluntarily cutting off and floating them on the sea to prevent the oil spill spreading, island resident Romina Tello told Reuters. gCaptain / [Read more](#)

August 11 - The crack inside the hull of the ship has expanded. The situation is being continuously monitored by a professional team of salvors. Since this ship is unable to navigate by itself, a tow connection has been established between a tug and the Wakashio. In order to secure the vessel so that it will not drift. The Maritime Bulletin / [Read more](#) [URL Link to watch video](#)

INCIDENT REPORTS (CONTINUED)

August 11 - Around 800 tons of #fuel left on board. Work's over for tonight and to resume tomorrow. As of now, the hull looks very unstable as the sea go rougher. The Maritime Executive / [Read more](#)

August 11 - Oil pollution is expected to move north along the coast and could affect the regions of Grand Port, Bambous Virieux and Flacq, according to the OCHA, the United Nation's humanitarian agency. Strong currents on August 9 were pushing the oil slick toward Riviere des Creoles, it said. Money Web / [Read more](#)

August 12 - Almost all fuel oil pumped out of MV Wakashio - Mr Jugnauth said more than 3,000 of the 4,000 tonnes of oil from the ship's fuel reservoirs had been pumped out. A small amount remained on board elsewhere. BBC News / [Read more](#)

August 12 - Anger as Mauritius reels from a spreading oil spill - It's very difficult to predict how severe the impacts will be in Mauritius – and how quickly or well the environment might recover – from even detailed analyses of case studies and ecology of mangroves and coral reefs. There are just too many variables, including the complexity of the ecosystems, what mix of oil has been spilled, and how clean up is attempted, which can have negative environmental impacts too. Reaction Life / [Read more](#)

August 13 - The amount of oil spilled from the Japanese-owned ship nearby the lagoons and coastal areas of south-east Mauritius is relatively low compared to the big oil spills the world has seen in the past, but the damage it will do is going to be huge and long-lasting, experts say. Unlike most previous offshore spills, this has taken place near two environmentally protected marine ecosystems and the Blue Bay Marine Park reserve, which is a wetland of international importance. BBC News / [Read more](#)

August 13 - Clean-up Ops in Full Swing – A series of 43 photographs. News 18 Photogallery / [Read more](#)

August 13 - Police have launched an investigation into the accident and have seized the black box, log book and other items of interest from the vessel as part of their inquiries. The country has no active cases of coronavirus and had declared a wary victory after a long stretch without any new infections, but its borders remain closed. Phys Org / [Read more](#)

August 13 - Satellite photographs of the Mauritius oil spill. The Guardian / [Read more](#)

August 13 - A team of six Japanese experts says it will offer broad support to help Mauritius recover from an oil spill caused by a Japanese ship. A member of the team, Takechi Keiji, spoke to NHK in an online interview. He is a specialist in anti-ocean pollution measures with the Japan Coast Guard. Takechi noted that while almost all the oil in the sea has been cleared, the coastline has yet to be cleaned. Mauritian authorities are currently denying entry to foreign nationals as part of their efforts to prevent the spread of the coronavirus. NHK World / [Read more](#)

August 14 - Accusations Emerge of Misconduct as Clean-up Continues in Mauritius - Adding to the controversies are reports emerging in the local newspaper L'Express regarding the potential testimony of crew members being interviewed by the Central Criminal Investigation Department (CCID) and investigators with the Mauritius Shipping bureau. Reportedly, the crew members told investigators that the Wakashio intentionally steered closer to the Mauritius shore seeking local Wi-Fi signals possibly during or after a party held on board to celebrate a crew member's birthday. The Maritime Executive / [Read more](#)



August 16 - Capesize bulk carrier Wakashio broke up, fore part under tow - Understood on Aug 15, notwithstanding salvage attempts. The bigger, fore, half of the ship is to be towed away or is already under tow, destination unknown. Aft part with superstructure, engine room and fuel tanks, remains on the reefs, posing none or minimal pollution threat, because all fuel was siphoned out during salvage operation. The Maritime Bulletin / [Read more](#)

USA: WORK RESUMES AT GOLDEN RAY WRECK SITE TO PREPARE FOR CUTTING

August 10 - Working is resuming at the wreck site of the ro/ro Golden Ray according to the St. Simons Sound Incident Unified Command. Activity had recently been suspended due to the potential impact of Hurricane Isaias and the command had announced that the final cutting and lifting would be postponed until the fall after the peak of the hurricane season. The Maritime Executive / [Read more](#)

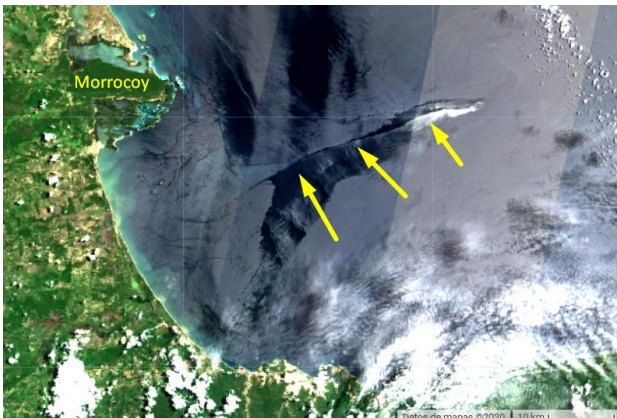
VENEZUELA: UPDATES ON OIL SPILL POLLUTION OF FALCON STATE BEACHES



August 10 – News received from Carlos Sagrera, MSc, MISCO, Member of ISCO Council for Panama –

“Concerning your news about the oil spill in Venezuela (ISCO Newsletter N° 748), let me say that there is now news with comments about a different origin of the spill. Your previous reports indicate that a cargo ship named Naura (Portuguese flag) and bound for Cuba was responsible for the spill.

According the Venezuelan links it is the El Palito Refinery (Puerto Cabello - Carabobo State) the responsible for these spills that hit the Palito Beach and the National Park Morrocoy, probably for the collapse of the oxidation lagoon, a subsidiary of PDVSA, the sewers do not work and when the pond overflows the waste falls into the sea. As normally there are not official information in Venezuela when occurs these incidents probably it will be difficult to know the real cause but it is easy to see the consequences. Photos and Venezuelan links are given below”.



https://www.abc.es/internacional/abci-culpan-iran-vertido-petroleo-costa-venezuela-202008100106_noticia.html

<https://www.cambio16.com/derrame-de-petroleo-afecta-al-parque-nacional-morrocoy-en-venezuela/>

<https://noticialdia.com/2020/08/derrame-petrolero-de-refineria-el-palito-afecta-nuevamente-playas-aledanas/>

<https://elestimulo.com/el-derrame-de-crudo-en-morrocoy-se-origino-en-la-refineria-el-palito/>

<https://talcualdigital.com/puerto-cabello-es-la-cuarta-localidad-afectada-por-derrames-de-crudo-en-una-semana/>

<https://elpitazo.net/centro/derrame-petrolero-de-la-refineria-el-palito-afecta-otra-vez-la-playa-cercana/>

<https://apuntoenlinea.net/2020/08/09/nuevo-derrame-petrolero-de-el-palito-contamina-las-costas-de-puerto-cabello-videos/>

<https://efectococuyo.com/la-humanidad/ambientalistas-exigen-a-pdvsa-evaluar-el-impacto-de-derrame-petrolero-en-falcon/>

<https://efectococuyo.com/la-humanidad/derrame-petrolero-en-falcon-llega-hasta-los-cayos-de-morrocoy/>

August 12 – Please see below some new comments and observations from the NGOs of Venezuela concerning this spill in El Palito Refinery.

<https://albertonews.com/nacionales/estudiantes-de-carabobo-documentan-derrame-petrolero-en-el-palito-para-denunciarlo-ante-la-oea-y-la-onu/>

<https://apuntoenlinea.net/2020/08/10/habra-responsables-el-derrame-de-petroleo-en-morrocoy-empezo-en-el-palito-video/>

<http://www.dinero.com.ve/din/destacados/expertos-aseguran-que-derrame-que-golpe-morrocoy-se-origin-en-el-palito>

<https://www.infobae.com/america/agencias/2020/08/12/alertan-de-riesgo-ambiental-por-un-derrame-petrolero-en-las-costas-de-venezuela/>

August 12 - Venezuela opposition lawmakers open probe of oil spill on Caribbean coast - Venezuela’s opposition-run congress has opened an investigation into an oil spill that continues to pollute palm-lined beaches along the South American nation’s Caribbean coast, legislator Maria Gabriela Hernandez said on Wednesday.

Authorities said last week they were cleaning up the oil slick that washed up on the coast of Falcon state, known for wetlands and nature preserves, but did not provide an estimate of how much had spilled or the cause of the incident. The legislature’s environment commission is now asking government institutions, including state oil company PDVSA, for details on what maintenance was carried out at the 146,000 barrel-per-day El Palito refinery, where the oil is believed to have originated. Reuters / [Read more](#)

UK: HEYSHAM PORT CLOSED OFF AS FIRE CREWS TACKLE SERIOUS TOXIC CHEMICAL LEAK ON TANKER

August 11 - Fire crews in hazmat suits are dealing with a spill of nitric acid which leaked from a tanker in dry dock at around 5am. Ambulance crews are at the scene on standby, but no injuries have been reported. Police have blocked access to Heysham Port from Port Way and lorries heading for the port are being 'stacked' on Princess Alexandra Way bypass. Lancaster Guardian / [Read more](#)

USA: PENNSYLVANIA - MARINER EAST CONSTRUCTION SPILLS 10,000 GALLONS OF DRILLING MUD INTO STATE PARK LAKE

August 12 - Sunoco's Mariner East pipeline construction caused an estimated 10,000 gallons of drilling mud, or bentonite clay, to spill into Marsh Creek and Marsh Creek Lake at a state park in Chester County this week. At Marsh Creek State Park in Upper Uwchlan, an estimated 10,000 gallons of drilling mud seeped into the creek and made its way into the lake, according to the DEP. Allegheny Front / [Read more](#)

HISTORY

USA: AN OIL SPILL'S SILVER LINING: THE 30TH ANNIVERSARY OF OPA 90

When an oil spill happens, whoever is responsible pays for the cleanup and restoration.

But this has not always been the case. Thirty years ago, on March 24, 1989, the oil tanker Exxon Valdez grounded on Bligh Reef, rupturing its hull and spilling almost 11 million gallons of crude oil into Alaska's Prince William Sound.

It was an unprecedented disaster, and at the time there was no comprehensive federal legislation to determine the scope of liability for costs of cleanup and restoration.

More than 1,300 miles of shoreline were oiled. The oil killed an estimated 250,000 sea birds, 2,800 sea otters, 300 harbor seals, 250 bald eagles, as many as 22 killer whales, and billions of salmon and herring eggs. Killer whale and several bird populations have not yet recovered 30 years later.

Photographs of dead and oiled wildlife captivated the American public like no spill had before. The public call for action culminated in the passage of the Oil Pollution Act by President George H.W. Bush on Aug. 18, 1990.

OPA established measures to prevent and respond to oil spills, and requires those responsible for oil spills to pay for costs associated with cleanup, assessment, and restoration of the environment.

This historic legislation also gives NOAA and other trustee agencies the authority to address impacts to natural resources caused by oil spills in U.S. waters and shorelines.

To ensure that the public's natural resources were assessed and restored after spills, NOAA established a new program, the Damage Assessment, Remediation, and Restoration Program (DARRP). The Maritime Executive / [Read more](#)

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