

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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ONLINE SEARCH TOOL TO IDENTIFY HNS UPDATED



The HNS Finder, the online HNS search tool developed and maintained by the IOPC Funds since 2011, has undergone a significant update and the new version is now available at hnsconvention.org. The Finder is aimed at facilitating the identification of HNS contributing cargo by entities liable to submit reports under the 2010 HNS Convention. It has been updated regularly by the IOPC Funds' Secretariat in the past. However, in 2019, in cooperation with the relevant technical divisions of the International Maritime Organization (IMO) and external experts, a full and thorough review of the entire list of substances included in the database. IOPC Funds / [Read more](#)

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INTERNATIONAL NEWS (CONTINUED)

THE NAUTICAL INSTITUTE FOUNDATION – A NEW CHARITY TO SUPPORT GLOBAL MARITIME SAFETY AND EDUCATION

The Nautical Institute (NI) is proud to announce the formal launch of The Nautical Institute Foundation, a new charitable initiative that will allow the NI to extend the scope and reach of its current activities. The Nautical Institute Foundation has its roots within the NI, and aims to improve standards in maritime safety and marine environmental protection.

"We identified the benefits that could arise from a separate charity focusing on maritime safety initiatives that would attract potential donors keen to support such projects but only via a separate charity," explained NIF Chief Executive Jonathan Stoneley FNI. "The NI Foundation is an excellent basis for developing and strengthening networking contacts with industry stakeholders, other foundations and specialist interest groups."

The NIF's vision is to be recognised by key industry stakeholders as a leading organisation in funding capacity-building solutions for the wider maritime community. These might, for example, include projects related to work such as marine surveying and training in port safety or environmental awareness – areas where the NI has an interest but which are not the main focus of its own activities.

Among other things, the Foundation will look at training and accreditation in the many maritime industries which are currently unregulated, focussing on areas with less developed safety cultures and standards.

The Foundation will plan its project delivery based on perceived need, by assessing safety and environmental statistics or by following up calls from industry bodies, NGOs or maritime communities. If a particular country suffers a series of incidents in a particular sector, for example, the Foundation may consider running local training. This would aim to address the issues that caused the accidents and provide workers with skills to avoid repeat incidents.

The first of these projects will look at bulk carrier safety, in particular at awareness surrounding cargo liquefaction. Proposed measures include a short, distance-learning course, which would be followed by a two-day workshop in relevant locations, leading to formal certificates valid for five years.

For more information please contact Jonathan Stoneley, Chief Executive of The Nautical Institute Foundation, Jonathan.Stoneley@nautinst.org



KNOWLEDGE GATHERING AND FURTHER STUDIES LAUNCHED TO IMPLEMENT THE ROAD MAP FOR THE POSSIBLE DESIGNATION OF THE MED SOX ECA

A range of knowledge gathering and further studies, which are outlined in the [road map for a proposal for the possible designation of the Mediterranean Sea, as a whole, as an Emission Control Area for Sulphur Oxides \(Med SOx ECA\)](#) pursuant to MARPOL Annex VI adopted by the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention in December 2019, have just been launched by REMPEC and its partners.

This initiative financed by the Mediterranean Trust Fund (MTF) is led by REMPEC, the Mediterranean Pollution Assessment and Control Programme (MED POL) and the Plan Bleu Regional Activity Centre (PB/RAC) and will address various topics, from updating the initial draft submission to the [International Maritime Organization](#) (IMO), to identifying land-based emissions control measures of SOx and PM in the Mediterranean coastal States, and to analysing fuel supply and alternative compliance methods.

The knowledge gathering and further studies are being carried out in accordance with the Terms of Reference that were reviewed by the [SOx ECA\(s\) Technical Committee of Experts](#), composed of representatives from all twenty-two (22) Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention.

The relevant outcomes, including various reports and supporting materials, will be submitted to the SOx ECA(s) Technical Committee of Experts for review and comments before submission to the Fourteenth Meeting of the Focal Points of REMPEC, to be tentatively held in Malta from 25 to 27 May 2021, for further consideration and deliberation.

REMPEC is administered by IMO in cooperation with the [Mediterranean Action Plan \(MAP\)](#) of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP). Its main objectives are to contribute to preventing and reducing pollution from ships, to combat pollution in case of emergency and to assist Contracting Parties to the Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment and the Coastal Region of the Mediterranean (Barcelona Convention) to meet their obligations under the Convention and its Protocols. The Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention are: Albania, Algeria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Cyprus, Egypt, France, Greece, Israel, Italy, Lebanon, Libya, Malta, Monaco, Montenegro, Morocco, Slovenia, Spain, Syrian Arab Republic, Tunisia, Turkey, and the European Union. REMPEC / [Source document](#)

OCIMF MEMBERS PLAN ON THE MARINE ENVIRONMENT

OCIMF is undertaking a project to develop a paper that sets out its ambition(s) and action plan on the marine environment that is in line with OCIMF Vision, Mission and Strategic Priorities.

The project team completed the members survey and consultations with excellent participation across the range of our membership allowing us to build a more complete view of our members' collective voice. They then completed analysis of the reviews and drafted a white paper that will be shared at an upcoming virtual stakeholder workshop.

The purpose of this workshop is to present the white paper summarising the findings of a desktop review, an online survey and complementary stakeholder consultations and to discuss development of the plan with key stakeholders. It has been scheduled to allow the maximum global participation and we thank those members that participate outside their working hours around the world to be with us on this call.

For enquiries, contact Ricardo Martinez, OCIMF Engineering Adviser ricardo.martinez@ocimf.org

APPLICATIONS NOW OPEN FOR 2021 ITOPF R&D AWARD

Applications are invited for the 2021 ITOPF R&D Award.

The Award is open to any reputable R&D establishment or other organisation worldwide intending to fund a PhD candidate or project team to undertake research aimed at improving our knowledge and understanding of issues related to accidental marine pollution from ships.

This year, special consideration will be given to projects addressing:

- HNS spills
- Plastic pollution derived from spills
- Mariculture
- Oil at sea weathering quantification
- Remote sensing (imagery and sampling/analysis)

The closing date for applications is 30th November 2020.

Further details and an application form are available here: - <https://www.itopf.org/in-action/r-d-award/application-process/>

If you have any questions regarding the Award or if you are unsure whether your project will qualify, please don't hesitate to contact us at any time, either at rdaward@itopf.org or duartesoares@itopf.org.

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

CANADA: NEIA ELECTS NEW BOARD OF DIRECTORS

August 31 - The Newfoundland and Labrador Environmental Industry Association (NEIA) held its Annual General Meeting (AGM) during the week of August 24-28, 2020. The AGM featured the election of its Board of Directors. Newly elected members of the Board of Directors include: Kris Costello (Oil and Gas Corporation of Newfoundland and Labrador); Don Drew (Newco Metal & Auto Recycling); Ashley Noseworthy (EDGEWISE Environmental); Deidre Puddister (Pennecon Limited); and Justin So (Wood Environment & Infrastructure Solutions). These new Directors join Chad Butler (Growler Energy); Melissa English-Barbour (Aker Solutions); and Joshua Green (Mysa Smart Thermostats). NEIA / [Read more](#)

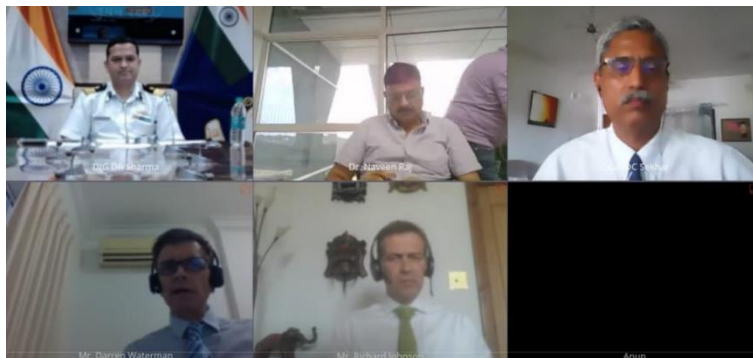
INDIA: REPORT ON THE OIL SPILL INDIA SEMINAR

August 31 - OSI organised a 90 minute panel discussion on Oil Spill preparedness on 27th Aug 2020. The panelists were -

DIG DR Sharma ICG, Dr. Naveen Raj CGM HSE ONGC, yours truly, Richard Johnson ITOPF Technical Director, Darren Waterman Director OSRL. The discussion was moderated by Capt.D.C.Sekhar India member on the non executive council of ISCO.

After the introductory remarks by all panelists, Capt.Sekhar posed questions to the panelists for their short responses. Some of the questions dealt with - Oil spill risks due to shipping traffic on the west coast; Well capping gear located near India; Response gear for furnace oil spills; Locating Tier III response stockpile in India; The ongoing spill response scenario in Mauritius; and most

interestingly what technological capability each panelist wishes to see few years from now.



In the photo - Clockwise from top left DIG DR Sharma ICG (Director F & E), Dr. Naveen Raj CGM HSE ONGC, Capt.DC Sekhar (India member on council of ISCO and Director AlphaMERS Ltd), Richard Johnson (Technical Director ITOPF), Darren Waterman Director OSRL.

DIG DR Sharma and ONGC CGM Dr.Naveen Raj wished for very environment friendly and non toxic spill dispersants which could be used more freely in shallow waters; Both wished for more satellite monitoring capability to reduce false positives in oil detection. This wishlist was reiterated by Darren Waterman. DIG DR Sharma wished for more reliable

weather predictions. Capt.Sekhar shared his wishlist for night response capability given the oil detection radars and technological capabilities available today. He also shared that a lot of spectrometric work is being done in laser in his associate circles, and a backpack bag size of oil fingerprinting device is a possibility in near future. Richard Johnson of ITOPF wished for more advanced technology with use of AI to improve situational awareness. He also wished for improving the oil recovery success rate from the current 15%.

There was a software glitch and the broadcast todelgates terminated after the initial 20 minutes, though the online panel discussions continued. Link to watch part of the video broadcast on twitter periscope - <https://www.pscp.tv/w/chhL0zFKUKVteWVvZ0J6RVB8MU1ZeE5WWExuZ094dxnnOVumID-PYD8iJDit4QOEXZ0dboTSHVwldnQVqqOq>

JAPAN TO SEND THIRD RELIEF TEAM TO MAURITIUS IN WAKE OF OIL SPILL

September 1 - Japan will dispatch a third relief team to Mauritius on Wednesday to help the island nation's response to an oil leak from a Japanese freighter that ran aground in July. The six-member team will help conduct detailed investigations of mangroves, coral reefs, wildlife and seawater quality to assess the impact of the oil leak, the Environment Ministry said.

The team includes Toyohiko Miyagi, an emeritus professor at Tohoku Gakuin University, Shuichi Fujiwara, technical counselor at environment conservation consultancy firm Idea Consultants Inc., and officials from the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), the ministry said. The Japan Times / [Read more](#)

KUWAIT: MEETING TO DISCUSS ENVIRONMENTAL KPC CONTINGENCY PLANS

August 26 - In accordance with article 118 of the Environmental Protection Act No. 42 of 2014, a meeting was held under the chairmanship of M. Samira Al-Kandari, Deputy Director General of Environmental Control Affairs, and in the presence of representatives from Kuwait Oil Company, Kuwait National Petroleum Company, Petroleum Chemical Industry Company, Kuwait Petroleum Tanker Company, Kuwait Petroleum Company, Kuwait Gulf Oil Company and Manufacturing Company Integrated petrochemicals, where the plans of the environmental emergencies of the companies belonging to the Kuwait Petroleum Corporation were discussed in the presence of the departments of the sector. Kuwait EPA / [Read more](#)

SOUTH AFRICA AIMS TO STOP MARINE LITTER AT ITS SOURCE



Photo: Plastic clogs Cuttings Beach near Durban. Every year, up to 250,000 tonnes of litter is dumped into the oceans around South Africa. Photo by Lisa Guastella

September 4 - A new project driven by the South African Department of Environment, Forestry and Fisheries aims to do exactly that. The department is joining forces with local officials, non-profit groups, like Coastwatch and Durban Green Corridors, and Plastics SA, a privately-owned company, to stem the flow of marine litter in five river systems in Kwazulu-Natal. Through increased litter collection and community-led waste sorting and recycling, the department will reduce litter generation at its source, thereby lessening the amount of pollution that reaches the ocean.

Litter booms, barriers that collect floating debris, will be installed in the uMngeni, uMlazi, uMbilo, uMhlutazana, and aManzimnyama rivers. Communities will help clean out the booms on a daily basis during the two-year

project. The booms have the added benefit of trapping invasive species, like the exotic water hyacinth, before they take root in waterways. UNEP News / [Read more](#)

UK: MCA – EMERGENCY TOWING AND MARPOL SURVEYORS

September 2 - An independent review of the risks to shipping within the UK's Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) has been published by the Maritime and Coastguard Agency. https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/uk-eez-shipping-risks-and-emergency-towage-provision-study?utm_source=0dec92cc-c94a-4bc5-956a-f764a7050569&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=govuk-notifications&utm_content=daily

September 4 - Guidance concerning the international convention for the prevention of pollution from ships (MARPOL) surveyors. https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/marine-pollution-marpol-annex-ii-surveyors?utm_source=1247d08a-25e7-467d-992e-5a85a29713b8&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=govuk-notifications&utm_content=daily

USA: HIGHLIGHTS FROM SCAA BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

September 3 - Several SCAA members attended Clean Waterways in Indianapolis, IN. There were an estimated 50 plus attendees and 20 plus exhibitors. SCAA was represented by three members for the opening round table "2020 Industry Challenges COVID-19 and Beyond." The event was well planned and the members that attended agreed that the networking was especially meaningful as there was a significant amount of quality time to spend with other attendees and exhibitors.

- SCAA received a Thank You letter from SEATUCK for the donation in memory of Jim Miller.
- A Texas company nominee will be forwarded to TGLO for the 2020 Oil Spill Prevention and Response Act Award
- Planning for participation and involvement in Clean Gulf – A survey will be sent in early September to determine the level of planned participation by member companies.
- Planning for 2021 Annual Meeting and Conference to be held in Washington, DC. SCAA / [Read more](#)

USA: OIL SPILL EXERCISE COMING TO PORTSMOUTH SEPT. 16

September 3 - The exercise is set for 9 a.m. to noon Sept. 16 and will provide participants with an opportunity to practice boom deployment skills and assess the capability to coordinate a spill response from remote locations. It will focus on performing command functions, decision making, coordination and integration with other organizations from remote locations using virtual meeting platforms. The expected outcome of the exercise will be improved working relationships between various local, state and federal agencies. The following agencies will participate in the exercise: the N.H. Department of Environmental Services, Fish and Game and Port Authority; Hampton Fire Department, the Maine Department of Environmental Protection, Inland Fish and Wildlife, Department of Marine Resources; the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and Coast Guard Northern New England and the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard Facility Response Team. Sea Coast Online / [Read more](#)

USA: LATEST ACTIVITY REPORTS FROM NOAA OR&R

September 4 – Please click on the links below to read the latest News Reports from NOAA OR&R

[Preparing for Hurricane Laura](#)

Hurricane Laura came crashing into the shores of Southwest Louisiana and southeast Texas on Thursday morning, August 27, as a Category 4 storm. Prior to the storm making landfall near Cameron, Louisiana, OR&R's Emergency Response Division (ERD), and its Scientific Support team were busy coordinating support for the U.S. Coast Guard response.

[OR&R Responds to Debris Pulse in Bering Strait](#)

Starting in the last days of July, a notably increased amount of debris was reported in the Bering Straits region, with volumes and types of debris well outside the baseline "normal" debris typically observed, much of which with foreign language labeling.

[OR&R Lecture Series: Dr. David Wiley, Underwater Behavior of Humpback Whales](#)

Just when you've finished surrounding your prey with bubbles in the classic humpback "bubble net" technique, another whale swoops in and steals the catch. This is just one of the revelations from Dr. David Wiley's research with advanced monitoring and tracking technologies on humpback whales.

Join us next week when RADM Tim Gallaudet, Asst. NOAA Administrator, discusses "Leadership in Crisis."

[Marine Debris Program Welcomes New Monitoring Coordinator](#)

On August 26, Hillary Burgess joined the Marine Debris Program (MDP) as the new Monitoring Coordinator for the Marine Debris Monitoring and Assessment Project (MDMAP).

[Marine Debris Program Participates in Trash Talk "Live" Event](#)

On September 2, Christy Kehoe, Mid-Atlantic Regional Coordinator, and Sherry Lippiatt, California Regional Coordinator, alongside

NEWS REPORTS FROM AROUND THE WORLD (CONTINUED)

Kathryn Youngblood, Citizen Science Director of the Marine Debris Tracker with the University of Georgia, will participate in a “Live” TRASH TALK from Baltimore, Maryland, moderated by Symone Barkely, host of Ocean Today.

[OR&R Speaker Series: Indo-Pacific Lionfish](#)

It is not a shark, it is not the Loch Ness Monster, it is not even a jellyfish, it is the Indo-Pacific Lionfish! An incredibly invasive species wreaking havoc on the Atlantic reef fisher community.

[New Agreement for Sensitivity Mapping in the Great Lakes Region](#)

OR&R recently established a new agreement with the U.S. Coast Guard to update the Environmental Sensitivity Index (ESI) maps for the St. Marys River, connecting Lake Superior to Lake Huron, and for the St. Lawrence River, from its start in Lake Ontario to the U.S./Canadian Border.

VENEZUELA: WHY ARE MORE AND MORE OIL SPILLS HAPPENING IN VENEZUELA?

September 1 - Given the persistent oil spills in Venezuela and the serious environmental impacts they cause in the short and long term, The Venezuelan Observatory of Political Ecology (OEPV) conducted this interview with oil expert Einstein Millán to learn more about the structural causes of this serious socio-environmental threat and the ways in which the problem is being managed by the industry. Venezuela Analysis / [Continue reading](#)

PEOPLE IN THE NEWS

COSTA RICA'S CARLOS MANUEL RODRIGUEZ TAKES OVER AS HEAD OF THE GLOBAL ENVIRONMENT FACILITY



Costa Rican conservationist Carlos Manuel Rodriguez today took up his new role as CEO and Chairperson of the Global Environment Facility, aiming to scale up action on forestry, food and land use, and biodiversity loss, and to support ambitious results from upcoming international climate and nature negotiations.

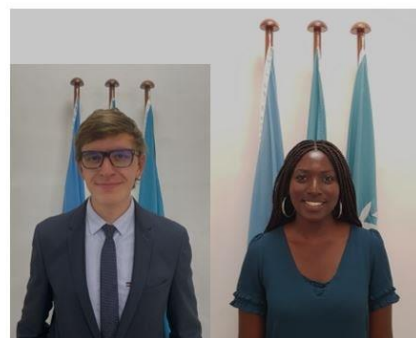
Rodriguez, an environmental lawyer and internationally recognized expert on financing for nature conservation, was selected for the post in June by the GEF Council, the multilateral trust fund's governing body representing 184 countries.

The GEF / [Read more](#)

REMPEC: FAREWELL TO MR. CHRISTOPHE BLAZY AND ARRIVAL OF THE NEW JUNIOR PROGRAMME OFFICER MRS. PHYLLIS THERDROS

Mr. Christophe Blazy, Junior Programme Officer - Voluntary International Scientific (VIS) of the French Government who was seconded in August 2018 to REMPEC by the French Oil Company Total S.A. has concluded his support to the Centre on 31 July 2020. REMPEC greatly appreciated his involvement and contribution to the work of the Centre in the field of preparedness for and response to marine pollution from ships. Christophe's contributions included the organisation of training courses and workshops abroad, participation in antipollution exercises, and representations of REMPEC at international events.

REMPEC is pleased to announce the arrival of Mrs. Phyllis Therdroso who took the position of Junior Programme Officer at REMPEC on 3 August 2020. Mrs Therdroso holds a master's degree in Digital Marketing and Web Management from Inseec Business School from Paris. Mrs Therdroso worked as a project manager for the European Institute of Innovation and Technology. She is seconded to REMPEC by the French oil company TOTAL S.A. as International Scientific Volunteer (VIS) for 18 up to 24 months. REMPEC / [Read more](#)



OBITUARY

IBAMA REGRETS TO REPORT THE DEATH OF WELLINGTON PERES

It is with regret that the Brazilian Institute of The Environment and Renewable Natural Resources (IBAMA) reports the early death of ICMBio environmental analyst Wellington Peres. Wellington suffered an accident on August 21, while fighting a fire around the Emas National Park in Goiás. An abrupt change of wind direction blew the flames in Wellington's direction, causing burns to 80% of his body. Our hero lost his life by protecting our environment - with great haste, courage and professionalism - fighting the fires that plague the country every year. We pray to God that he console and comfort the hearts of his family and friends. For all your effort, determination and resilience, we celebrate your struggle. Rest in peace, warrior! IBAMA / [Source document](#)

SEA ALARM'S FIRST 20 YEARS: WE ARE STRONGER TOGETHER (PART 2)



In our last 20-year anniversary article (Part 1) we introduced the importance of networking, the role Sea Alarm has had in initiating and coordinating NGO Response networks and reviewed the history of the European Network EUROWA. In Part 2, we continue the story, presenting the work of the Global Oiled Wildlife Response System (GOWRS) and some closing words on the significance of these networks, which leave the world better prepared for oiled wildlife response.

Read Part 1 [here](#).

GOWRS – the backstory through to today

The global oiled wildlife response community, like its European subset, includes specialised organisations in different parts of the world, which have an interest and activities in wildlife rehabilitation, and which have responded to oiled wildlife incidents in their home countries and/or abroad over the years. Sea Alarm began developing connections with a core of 10 global oiled wildlife response groups, initially through meeting at European spills where global wildlife responders provided assistance, then through informal exchanges at organised events including the Effects of Oil on Wildlife (EOW) Conferences.

Sharing experiences amongst the community demonstrated that a higher level of preparedness was needed for global oiled wildlife responses. This is especially important considering that oil spills can affect wildlife almost anywhere in the world, potentially impacting a wide range of different species, under varied climatic conditions and with many practical limitations and challenges, particularly in remote and unprepared countries.

Added to this is the varying degree of government understanding of the importance of dealing effectively with oiled wildlife, the uncertainty as to how local societies will value oiled wildlife and how they will react emotionally. This can place a huge pressure on the responsible party to deal effectively with animal casualties.



To begin to address these challenges, the global wildlife response community conceived an idea at the 2000 EOW conference to create an international Alliance of Oiled Wildlife Responders, in which Sea Alarm actively participated. The Alliance was set up to begin exploring the concept of creating a global wildlife response network and developing global standards.

After various meetings, the Alliance initiative came to an end in 2002 (partly due to a lack of sufficient funding to bring parties together regularly), however it made important inroads in bringing international groups closer together, identifying key players, recognising and respecting regional, cultural and experiential differences and starting to create collegial bonds between these groups. These early efforts, and experience gained, provided a strong foundation for today's GOWRS network and its spirit of collaboration.

From 2002 onwards, the global wildlife response groups that participated in the Alliance continued, and expanded, their informal networking and cooperation through meeting at EOWs and other events, most notably oil spills such as the Prestige in 2002 and the Estonia Mystery Spill in 2006.

An important opportunity for organisations to start working with the oil industry came when IPIECA contracted Sea Alarm to develop the “Guide to Oiled Wildlife Response Planning”, which was published in 2004 as Volume 13 in IPIECA’s Oil Spill Preparedness and Response Series. For this purpose, Sea Alarm created a consortium of oiled wildlife responders, representatives from the oil and shipping industry, and oil spill response organisations which met at a workshop to define the contents of the document and form writing teams.

The publication of the Guide, as well as its creation process, were important milestones in the formal recognition that the appearance of oiled wildlife during a spill represents a potential reputation risk, thus wildlife response is a topic that needs full attention and integration in an incident management system. From that moment on, oil companies started reaching out to professional wildlife organisations as potential partners in planning and preparedness processes and, in Europe, governments also increased their interest in wildlife response standards.

A first step to forming a cooperative global network of global wildlife responders came in 2011, when Sea Alarm started to drive a renewed effort to bring organisations together for discussions as a follow-up to the Deepwater Horizon oil spill incident in 2010. That incident resulted in a strong engagement of the global oil industry to undertake a wide-ranging review of its oil spill response procedures and arrangements across the board, providing a valuable opportunity to raise the issue of how oiled wildlife response was considered and if there was interest within the oil industry to help create a more robust infrastructure for global oiled wildlife response.

Sea Alarm convened a meeting of 10 leading wildlife response groups at the 2011 Portland International Oil Spill Conference to explore the way forward. The groups began to explore and identify the challenges ahead, to begin considering joint ways of working and ways to ensure that other parties (oil industry and shipping industry agents) understood their needs and requirements of wildlife responders when responding abroad.

A serious barrier to working together at a global level was the absence of financial means to meet in person frequently, to develop a truly global system of response services. All organisations expressed their explicit willingness to start collaborating at a second meeting that Sea Alarm organised in 2012, during the Effects of Oil on Wildlife Conference which was held in New Orleans that year.

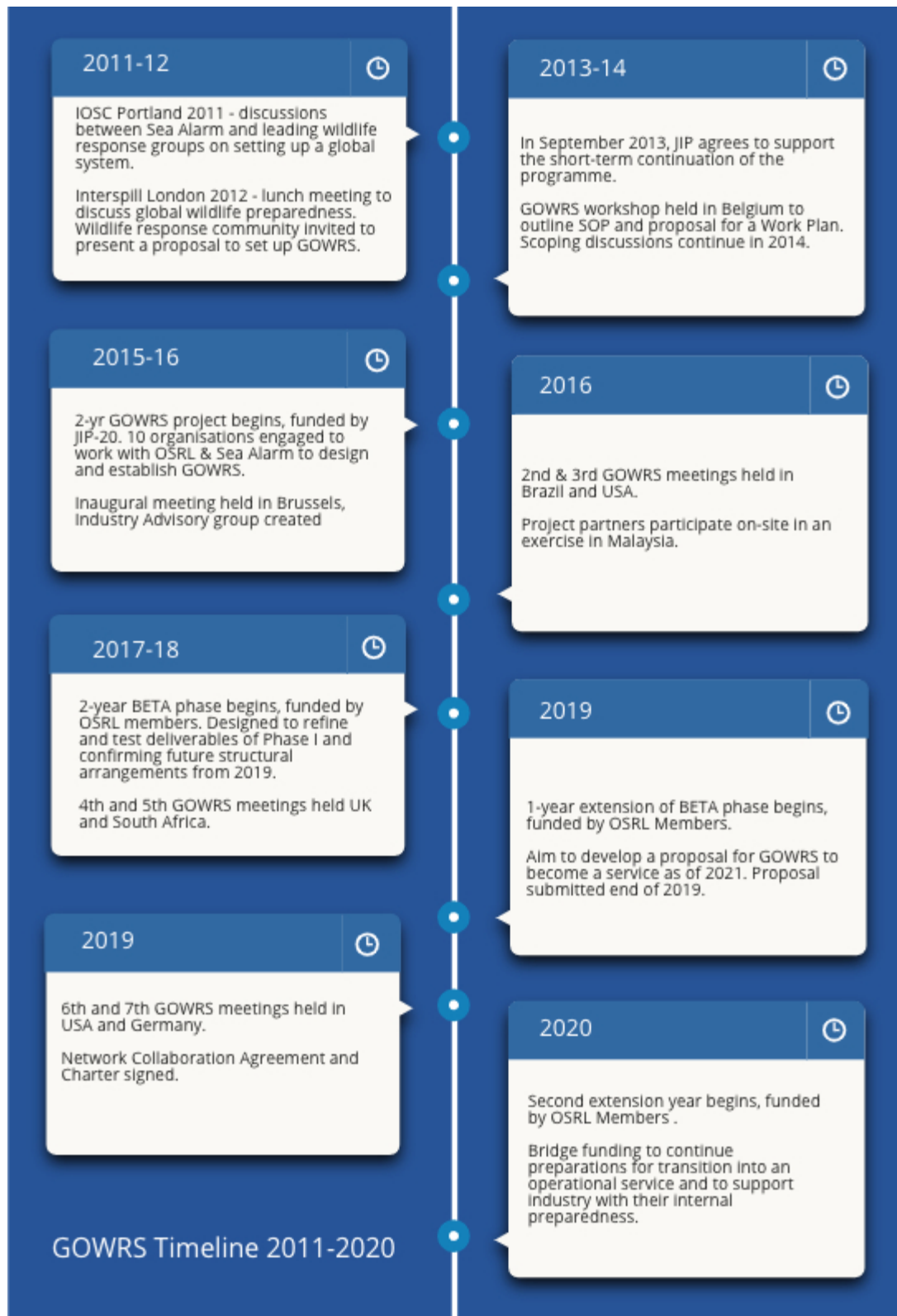
When Sea Alarm discussed these concerns with its partner, Oil Spill Response Limited (OSRL), it was decided to initiate and a host meeting between international stakeholders from industry, government, and the NGO sector to formally recognise and discuss the gap between the level of global wildlife response preparedness and other aspects of international oil spill response. The meeting was held during the London 2012 Interspill conference and hosted by OSRL. Representatives from some of the 10 oiled wildlife organisations met representatives of IMO, IOPC, ITOFF, IPIECA, OSRL, and the oil industry to ask for moral and financial support to help set up what eventually became GOWRS.

As a result of that meeting, the oil industry (recognising that they were initially most in need of such a system), invited the oiled wildlife response community to submit a preliminary proposal for a project to explore a work programme aimed at improving global wildlife response preparedness.

In 2013, the International Association of Oil and Gas Producers (IOGP) and IPIECA (the global oil and gas industry association for advancing environmental and social performance) provided initial funding, through the Joint Industry Project (JIP-20) for a pilot project, including a meeting hosted in 2014 by Sea Alarm in Brussels, to develop a full proposal and begin the development of a Standard Operating Procedure. The proposal for this pilot project was approved by the JIP and oil industry funds were released via IPIECA to Sea Alarm, as the main contractor, for a two-year project to start building GOWRS, which commenced in mid 2015.



Significant progress has been made on establishing more fixed governance structures for the longer term, culminating at a meeting in California in 2019 at which all project partners signed a Network Collaboration Agreement and Charter that define the partners’ shared identity and governance procedures. This has been one of the most significant outcomes of the GOWRS Project – the crystallising of an effective working relationship between participating wildlife response organisations into an international network. A strong bond has developed between the GOWRS groups and a deeper sense of trust and shared vision has resulted from the collaboration.



Whereas Sea Alarm continues to support the Network by facilitating contracts and the financial mechanisms, the Network is increasingly coordinating itself. It is expected that the relationship between the GOWRS Network and the oil industry will continue to strengthen in the years to come, creating great potential for global hands-on assistance in oiled wildlife incidents.

Interconnections

The benefits to an oiled wildlife organisation of being part of the EUROWA and GOWRS networks clearly go beyond developing capability, expertise and a track record on their own. By joining a formalised international network and adopting the standards and codes of conduct that go with it, member organisations gain credit and recognition. Authorities, oil industry and other key parties, will prefer to collaborate with organisations that are part of such networks, and this will help these parties in turn to also achieve higher standards for their national and international preparedness objectives. In this way the professional networks will assist in the development of preparedness and the better future results that can be expected from oiled wildlife response.

CONTRIBUTED ARTICLE (CONTINUED)

An example of this effect was visible in 2018, when the EUROWA network was mobilised alongside members of the GOWRS network to respond to the Bow Jubail incident in the Netherlands, where over 500 swans were cared for in a temporary wildlife rehabilitation facility. This was the first time the two networks had responded jointly to an incident, but the established relationships and friendly atmosphere amongst the wildlife responders involved, and their willingness to exchange and learn from each other, helped contribute in no small way to a successful response.

Sea Alarm has been able to play an important role in driving these networks forward by bringing people together, facilitating processes to agree texts and other deliverables and – importantly – ensuring funds are available for the work to continue. Our impartial role positions us well to drive the achievement of shared objectives and to make sure that all organisations communicate with each other, have a voice and are treated equally.

We believe wholeheartedly in the importance of these responder networks, so much so that Sea Alarm has made substantial investments, both in time and in supplementary financing, into the development of both the EUROWA and GOWRS initiatives over the years. We are proud to stand alongside the members of the GOWRS and EUROWA networks and call them partners and would like to thank them for their efforts, contributions and professionalism. Thanks is also due to our former colleague Paul Kelway who has put so much energy into the GOWRS network development, and continues to do so in his new role at Oil Spill Response Ltd. We will continue to do our best to drive these initiatives forwards, in support of building better preparedness for wildlife incidents around the world. <https://www.sea-alarm.org/>

WEBINARS & ONLINE TRAINING

WEBINARS FROM EXXONMOBIL - WEEK 2- EM DISPERSANTS / HERDERS

September 8 9 – 10:30 am Central

- Biodegradation of oil - Perspectives on biodegradation research and testing protocols Roger Prince
- Oil and dispersant toxicity Perspectives on challenges and opportunities related to toxicity testing. Tom Parkerton
- Fecundity hind cast modeling to predict ecosystem impacts from large offshore oil spills Findings from modeling studies evaluating the population level impacts of large offshore oil spills to red fish, red snapper, and arctic cod Benny Gallaway

Details of the complete series of the ExxonMobil webinars and joining instructions were published in Issue 751 of the ISCO Newsletter. For more info and to register please send email to tim.j.nedwed@exxonmobil.com

CLEAN PACIFIC ON DEMAND

CLEAN PACIFIC On-Demand is a digital portal with five videos of recorded sessions that were scheduled to take place at the live CLEAN PACIFIC Conference. If you have a question for any of the speakers in the sessions, the digital portal lets you communicate with all speakers and ask them any questions you have. Plus, you get access to a directory of CLEAN PACIFIC sponsors, which contains company collateral and ways to contact the sponsors.

Sessions include:

- Preparing your Incident Management Team (IMT)
- Moving the Needle on Abandoned and Derelict Vessels: Recommendations to Strengthen State and Federal Capacity to Address a Growing Threat
- Case Studies: Successful Response Communications
- Crisis Leadership Challenges and Advancements
- Emerging Non-Floating Oils Issues Access to the online portal is only \$99. [Sign up here!](#)

CLEAN WATERWAYS REPLAY PORTAL

The CLEAN WATERWAYS Replay portal allows you to watch all sessions that took place at the in-person conference on August 3-5 + three bonus sessions and a directory of all the exhibitors and sponsors. If you have a question for any of the speakers in the sessions, or want to get more information from one of our exhibitors or sponsors, the portal lets you communicate and ask them any questions you have.

Sessions include:

- 2020 Industry Challenges Round Table – COVID and Beyond
- Training the Next Generation of Spill Responders
- Information Sharing in the New World of Privacy
- Back to the Future – Oil Spill Response Technology
- After the Spill...Handling the Waste – Alliance of Hazardous Materials Professionals (AHMP)
- Salvage Operations in Dynamic, Fast Water Environments
- Huntington County – A Tale of Two Spills
- Case Studies in Inland Response
- I've Got 99 Problems
- You Sank My Goo...Now What?
- Storage Tank Emergency Response Access to the online portal is only \$199. [Sign up here!](#)

WEBINARS & ONLINE TRAINING (CONTINUED)

FROM NCEC – “PLANNING AND IMPLEMENTING A PROPORTIONATE RESPONSE TO A CHEMICAL INCIDENT” - 6th OCTOBER 2020

NCEC will be joined by incident command expert John Lord; hazmat and COMAH expert, Jon Crawley; and strategic expert for multi-agency crisis, David Rubens. They will discuss the six-phase approach to integrated emergency management and planning and implementing response, based on best practice, to an incident on a chemical site. This will be done using incident simulation.

Free event For more more information about this and other upcoming webinars from the National Chemical Emergency Centre, visit https://the-ncec.com/en/vbs?utm_source=Ricardo-

[AEA%20Ltd&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=11612815_NCEC%2FSM%2FTA%20email%207%20-%20PC%2C%20Brexit%20SCIP&dm_i=DA4,6WWI7,40C68,RSA5Q,1](https://the-ncec.com/en/vbs?utm_source=Ricardo-)

FROM CHEMICAL WATCH – “CHANGES TO EU SAFETY DATA SHEET (SDS) REQUIREMENTS” - 6 OCTOBER 2020

Led by Chemical Watch’s Cristina Garcia (senior regulatory and compliance analyst) and Miljan Minic (regulatory analyst), over the course of this 90-minute online training course. For more info about online webinars from Chemical Watch, visit

<https://events.chemicalwatch.com/training-courses>

PUBLICATIONS

A NEW BOOK ON SPILLS FROM ABOVE-GROUND STORAGE TANKS

Elsevier has initiated the production of a new book on the spills from above-ground storage tanks. The book will be ready in about two years. Chapters are due in about one year. The book is intended to provide a broad range of information on spills from tanks including the engineering aspects contributing to tank failures. The possible inclusion in the book are:

- Risk Analysis and Prevention
- Tank design and Engineering
- Leak Detection
- Tank Failure Modes
- Causative Forces
- Metal Fatigue, Cracking, Corrosion
- Extreme Weather – e.g. Hurricanes
- Geologic – e.g. slumping, earthquakes
- Regulations (focussed on spill prevention)
- Storage Tank Spills vs. Other Sources
- Case Histories

If anyone has suggestions for authors of chapters or for further information, please contact the editor, Dr. Merv Fingas, Hon.FISCO, at fingasmerv@shaw.ca.

JOB OPPORTUNITIES



United States Coast Guard
U.S. Department of Homeland Security

ALCOAST 321/20 - AUG 2020 SOLICITATION FOR RESEARCH DEVELOPMENT TEST AND EVALUATION (RDT&E) IDEAS

U.S. Coast Guard sent this bulletin at 08/28/2020 06:19 AM EDT R 271021 AUG 20 FM COMDT COGARD WASHINGTON DC//CG-9// TO ALCOAST UNCLAS //N03900// ALCOAST 321/20 COMDTNOTE 3900 SUBJ: SOLICITATION FOR RESEARCH DEVELOPMENT TEST AND EVALUATION (RDT&E) IDEAS

1. The Research, Development, Test & Evaluation (RDT&E) and Innovation Program invites all military, civilian, reserve, auxiliary, and contractor personnel to submit research project ideas for the FY22 RDT&E Project Portfolio. Visit the Coast Guard’s crowdsourcing platform, CG_Ideas@Work (<https://cg-ideasatwork.ideascalegov.com>), and submit ideas directly to: <https://cg-ideasatwork.ideascalegov.com/a/ideas/recent/campaigns/1078>

2. If you do not yet have a CG_Ideas@Work account, you can easily register using your ‘.mil’ email address to access the platform from any personal or Coast Guard device. If you are unable to access the idea submission form, please submit your idea via email to: research@uscg.mil including your idea title, a short summary, and your contact information.

JOB OPPORTUNITIES (CONTINUED)

3. The deadline to submit ideas for the FY22 RDT&E Project Portfolio is 11 SEP 2020. Project ideas will be reviewed and ranked by stakeholders from across the service at an Idea Submission Review in 1st Quarter FY21.
4. The Coast Guard's senior leadership has identified the following research priorities:
 - a. Growing Advanced Computing Capabilities to Maximize Readiness. How can we apply artificial intelligence, machine learning, and advanced analytics to manage risk and make decisions based on data?
 - b. Continued Development of Mobile Solutions to Deliver Mission Excellence Anytime, Anywhere. What mobile-enhanced tools can we provide to our members to improve the Coast Guard's operational impact and mission support delivery?
 - c. Utilize Autonomous Systems to Address the Nation's Complex Maritime Challenges. How can we integrate unmanned aerial systems (UAS), unmanned surface vehicles (USV), and unmanned underwater vehicles (UUV) to improve operational safety, effectiveness, and efficiency?
 - d. Strengthen Resilience, Safety, and Security of Coast Guard systems and personnel to Deliver Mission Excellence Anytime, Anywhere. What tools or ways of doing business can improve our members' safety and security and position the Coast Guard to take on complex and difficult to predict challenges like COVID-19 and emerging cyber threats?
 - e. Develop Human Machine Teaming to Maximize Readiness. How can we manage the relationship between our people and automated systems in a way that maximizes the capabilities of humans and machines while guarding against complacency and the loss of key skills?
 - f. Maximize Readiness Today and Tomorrow by Enhancing C5I capabilities. What command, control, communications, computers, cyber, and intelligence capabilities can we put in the field to make the Coast Guard more ready and more agile?
5. Not all great ideas fit in the priorities above. All potential research project ideas will be reviewed and considered. Your ideas and input are requested. For inspiration, check out the current RDT&E Project Portfolio and website here: www.dcms.uscg.mil/acquisition/rdte
6. POC: Ms. Alexandra Swan, COMDT (CG-926), at: 202-309-8255 or Alexandra.P.Swan@uscg.mil
7. RADM M. J. Johnston, Assistant Commandant for Acquisition and Chief Acquisition Officer, sends.
8. Internet release is authorized.

MESSAGES RECEIVED FROM EVENT ORGANISERS

SWEDISH NATIONAL OIL SPILL CONFERENCE 2020

The now annual Swedish National Oil Spill Conference 2020 is scheduled for the 26-27th Nov. The conference will be mostly online and conducted in Swedish. For more information, please visit <https://www.msb.se/sv/aktuellt/kalender/2020/november/nationell-konferens-for-oljeskadeskydd-2020/>

AGENDA FOR SALVAGE & WRECK REMOVAL CONFERENCE (VIRTUAL EVENT), LONDON 2-4 DECEMBER 2020

[Download the Agenda](#)

ARCTIC SHIPPING VIRTUAL WEEK: 27–30 OCTOBER 2020, VIRTUAL EVENT, LIVE-STREAMED & AVAILABLE ON-DEMAND AFTERWARDS

[Agenda and other information](#)

CONTRACTS, TENDERS & BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

INTERNATIONAL OPEN TENDER NOTIFICATION SERVICE

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

OTHER OPPORTUNITIES: USA & EUROPE

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

EUROPE – European Maritime Safety Agency invitations to tender are often posted in The EMSA Newsletter.

See "Links for other publications" for links to download current issues.

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

UPCOMING EVENTS

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

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

If an event title is not printed in blue ink it is not hyperlinked to the event website. This 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			
AUSTRALIA	Sept. 15-17	Ecoforum Conference & Exhibition (Virtual)	Online
UK	September 16	UK Spill Annual General Meeting	Online
ICELAND	POSTPONED	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	Online
UK	October 12-14	IMO Council Meeting	Online
UK	October 19-23	IMO Marine Environment Protection Committee	Online
USA	October 20-22	Clean Gulf Conference & Exhibition	San Antonio, TX
UK	October 27-29	Arctic Shipping Forum North America	Online
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
SWEDEN	Nov. 26-27	Swedish National Oil Spill Conference 2020	Online
UK	December 2-4	Salvage & Wreck Removal Conference	Online
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
ICELAND	March 2-4	International Symposium on Plastics in the Arctic and Sub-Arctic Region	Online
FRANCE	March 23	CEDRE Information Day on Containers	Paris
USA	May 9	APICOM GM Meeting	New Orleans LA
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 8-10	Elastec Spill Workshop 2021	Carmi, IL
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

LINKS FOR DOWNLOADING & READING OTHER PUBLICATIONS

[ALGA Cronicle](#)

[AMSA Update](#)

[ATRAC Newsletter](#)

[AUSMEPA Bulletin](#)

[BIMCO Bulletin](#)

[Newsletter from George Holliday](#)

[Cedre Newsletter](#)

[Clean Nigeria Associates Newsletter](#)

[EMSA Newsletter](#)

[Environmental Expert](#)

[GEF Newsletter](#)

News from Australasia on Contaminated Land Remediation

Latest News from the Australian Maritime Safety Authority

News from the Adriatic Training and Research Centre

News from the Australian Marine Environment Protection Assoc'n

Marine and shipping-related news from BIMCO

News and commentary on HSE issues from George Holliday

News from Cedre in Brittany, France

News from CNA about Oil Spill Response in Nigeria

News from the European Maritime Safety Agency

Environmental News from Environmental Expert

Monthly Newsletter from the Global Environment Facility

April 2020

Current issue

December 2019

Summer 2020

June 2020

On request email

June 2020

Publication paused

Current issue

Current issue

Subscription

LINKS FOR DOWNLOADING & READING OTHER PUBLICATIONS (CONTINUED)

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	August 2020
OHMSETT Gazette	Oil Spill Response Research & Renewable Energy Test Facility Quarterly	Spring 2020
Oiled Wildlife Log	Bi-annual Newsletter from Tri-State Bird Rescue & Research	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	July 16-30, 2020
The Maritime Advocate	Maritime News from Sandra Speares	Current issue
USA EPA Tech Direct	Remediation of contaminated soil and groundwater	September 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

CHINA: TANKER CATCHES FIRE OFF PORT OF SHANGHAI, 14 MISSING

August 20 - The Shanghai Maritime Search and Rescue Center and the Shanghai Emergency Management Bureau dispatched 20 response vessels to the scene, including SAR vessels, skimmers, salvage vessels, firefighting vessels and law enforcement boats. In addition, the the Shanghai Emergency Management Bureau has provided several hundred of tons of extra firefighting foam to resupply the firefighting boats. No significant pollution has been reported, but skimmers are standing by if required, CCTV said. The cause of the collision is under investigation. The Maritime Executive / [Read more](#)

USA: POLLUTION AND SALVAGE RESPONSE CONTINUES AFTER DREDGING VESSEL FIRE IN CORPUS CHRISTI

August 23 - The U.S. Coast Guard and partner agencies continue pollution and salvage response for the dredging vessel Waymon L Boyd in Corpus Christi, Texas. The Texas General Land Office, state lead for coastal oil spill response, was reported to be on scene and working contain any oil spilled. Approximately 1,600 gallons of diesel fuel has been removed from the water and 680 gallons of diesel fuel/water was skimmed overnight Saturday, the Coast Guard reported. gCaptain / [Read more](#)

MAURITIUS: CONTINUED REPORTS

August 30 - Fishermen battled on Sunday to save dozens of injured dolphins washed ashore in Mauritius where in recent days at least 40 of the animals were found dead in a lagoon near the site of an oil spill from a Japanese bulk carrier which struck a coral reef. Yasfeer Heenaye, a fisherman near Pointe aux Feuilles on the island's eastern shore, said he had counted at least 45 dead dolphins since they were first discovered on Wednesday, and said half a dozen more dolphins were in the bay fighting for their lives. Authorities, who put the death toll at 42, ruled out this is a possibility but said on Sunday they were still investigating the cause of death. "The preliminary autopsy report has excluded that oil played a role, however we sent some samples of the dead dolphins to La Reunion to determine why the animals couldn't swim and their radar wasn't functioning," Jasvin Sok Appadu from the Fisheries Ministry said on Sunday. So far veterinarians have examined only two of the dead dolphins, which bore signs of injury but no trace of hydrocarbons in their bodies, according to preliminary autopsy results. Autopsy results on all carcasses are expected on Monday, the official said. Devdiscourse / [Read more](#)

August 31 - Union Calls for Fair Trial for Wakashio Captain; PM Answers Questions. With the captain of the wrecked bulker Wakashio due to make his next court appearance on September 1, the Maritime Union of India issued a call for improved treatment and a fair trial for the captain. The union's actions come as Mauritius' prime minister Pravind Kumar Jugnauth, on Friday, August 28, replied to Private Notice Questions at the National Assembly, in Port Louis. Responding to specific questions, he reported that the National Coast Guard (NCG) Operations Room had begun tracking the Wakashio on July 23, two days before the grounding. The NCG first tried to make contact at 6:15 p.m. on July 25, approximately five minutes after it entered the country's territorial waters and called out to the ship five times before the vessel went aground at 7:25 p.m. Media reports say that it was not until 8:10 p.m. that the captain spoke to the NCG saying he had lost control of the vessel. The government has also instructed the Special Casualty Representative, who represents the interests of the insurer, that the dismantling of the aft section should be completed by November 1, prior to the forthcoming cyclonic season. The Maritime Executive / [Read more](#)

September 1 - Tug towing empty barge sank, 2 dead, 2 missing. Port tug SIR GAETAN collided with barge she was towing in stormy weather conditions in the evening Aug 31, off Mauritius northeast coast near Poudre d'Or. Tug sustained hull breaches and sank, of 8 crew on board, 4 escaped on a life raft (media are saying crew escaped on a lifeboat, but there's no place for a lifeboat on a small port tug) and were later rescued, 2 were recovered dead, 2 went missing. Tug was towing an oil barge, said by all media to be loaded with oil residues from bulk carrier WAKASHIO wreck, so expectedly, media already went amok. 23.6-meter long barge is empty, she was kept in a standby mode near WAKASHI wreck site as a precaution, to collect possible residue, but was towed away as unnecessary. Maritime Bulletin / [Read more](#)

September 4 - No oil damage confirmed at Ramsar sites in Mauritius: Japanese experts. A Japanese disaster relief team said Friday it has confirmed there has been no damage from oil spilled from a grounded Japanese freighter off Mauritius on corals and mangroves in wetland sites recognized by the Ramsar Convention. The seven-member team, including five environment experts, has been conducting on-site environmental probes since Aug. 21 at spots including those in two wetlands of international importance -- Blue Bay Marine Park and Pointe D'Esny. "No entry of oil has been confirmed in mangroves, and no oil coating on their roots has been observed either (in the wetlands)," said Noriaki Sakaguchi, a deputy team leader and an ecosystem conservation expert at the Japan International Cooperation Agency, said in an online briefing. The Mainichi / [Read more](#)

INDIA: 20 CONTAINERS LOST IN ARABIAN SEA

August 31 - 20 containers were reported drifting in vicinity 13 00N 074 00E at 0515 UTC Aug 31, Arabian sea NNW of Mangalore, India. Judging from ships tracks in the area, containers may be lost from container ship MSC BENEDETTA, en route from Colombo to Mumbai. Maritime Bulletin / [Read more](#)

VENEZUELA / TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO: VENEZUELAN FSO IS TAKING ON WATER

August 31 - An FSO off the coast of Venezuela is taking on water and threatening to sink, according to Eudis Girot, the head of the Unitary Federation of Petroleum Workers of Venezuela (FUTPV). In a social media post Sunday, Girot warned that the FSO Nabarima has about 1.3 million barrels of crude oil on board. She is in "very poor condition," he said, and she has about nine feet of water in her lower decks. The Maritime Executive / [Read more](#)

September 1 – Report received from Carlos Sagraera, Member of ISCO Council for Panama. "As if it were not enough, the situation of the FSO oil tanker Safer in Yemen waters (ISCO Newsletter 748 and others previous numbers), now there is a potential case with similar characteristics on the coasts of Venezuela and Trinidad and Tobago. According to information from PDVSA's workers unions, the FSO Nabarima, anchored in the Gulf of Paria (in an intermediate position between the Venezuelan coast and that of Trinidad and Tobago), with an estimated quantity of between 400,000 and 1,300,000 barrels of crude oil, has been damaged for several months, and its engine room is flooded with approximately two meters of water. Normally this situation must be considered a "major event" due to the flooding of the engine room with salt water. This means that the FSO is inoperable since the electrical equipment, the control systems, the gas detectors, the entire fire protection part has been affected.

They explain that the water does not come from a break in the tanker's hull, but from the internal part of the ship that also stores this liquid to stabilize the infrastructure. The Union's representatives warned that the FSO is adrift with a slight inclination to starboard, so it is feared that a new oil spill will occur off the Venezuelan coast and especially in the Paria Gulf, considered a very sensitive area from the environmental point of view. So far there are no official comments from PDVSA or the Government of Venezuela. Attached some Spanish links".

<https://primeraedicioncol.com/2020/08/31/hundimiento-del-nabarima-causa-alarma-por-posible-derrame-de-13-millones-de-barriles-de-petroleo/>

<https://talcualdigital.com/afirman-que-tanquero-nabarima-en-paria-no-corre-riesgo-de-derrame-ni-hundimiento/>

<https://apuntoenlinea.net/2020/09/01/argus-otra-potencial-catastrofe-ambiental-se-gesta-en-aguas-de-venezuela/>



September 2 – An update received from Carlos Sagraera, Member of ISCO Council for Panama. “Concerning my last e-mail here attached the Trinidad & Tobago’s news (English) and its actions in response to the situation of the FSO Nabarima with serious risks for the waters and coasts of Trinidad & Tobago in the Gulf of Paria (see attached map).”

September 3 – A further update. “According to press reports, there is some kind of reaction from the Venezuelan authorities and the owners of the FSO oil tanker Nabarima and the crude cargo (PDVSA and the Italian ENI). The press release indicates that both companies are considering options to unload the crude oil. Attached the Venezuelan link with the news and photos of the FSO Nabarima.”

<https://www.cnc3.co.tt/oil-to-be-taken-off-damaged-cargo-vessel-in-gulf-of-paria/#:~:text=The%20large%20oil%20cargo%20on,want%20to%20know%20exactly%20when.&text=It%20has%201.3%20million%20barrels%20of%20oil%20aboard>
<https://efectococuyo.com/economia/reuters-pdvs-a-y-eni-evaluan-opciones-para-transferir-petroleo-del-tanquero-nabarima/>

September 3 - Venezuela oil vessel stable, transfer afoot: Update - Trinidad minister remarks. “A floating oil storage and offloading vessel (FSO) that was listing off Venezuela's coast has been stabilized and a transfer is planned, according to Italy's Eni, a minority partner of Venezuelan state-owned PdV at the field where the Nabarima has been moored for 10 years”. Argus Media / [Read more](#)

September 3 - U.S. sanctions on Venezuelan crude exports are complicating remediation efforts for a listing tanker loaded with 1.1 million barrels of oil off the country’s coast, according to a person familiar with the efforts. Regina Leader-Post / [Read more](#)

September 3 - Eni seeks US clearance to transfer Venezuelan oil – from a repurposed tanker that has been tethered for 10 years. Eni said yesterday that the FSO has been stabilized and discounted any current risk of an oil spill. Oil & Gas 360 / [Read more](#)

USA: 31 OIL AND CHEMICAL SPILLS LINKED TO HURRICANE LAURA, EPA REPORTS

August 31 - The federal government received 31 reports of oil and chemical spills that are connected to Hurricane Laura, according to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

The National Response Center’s database, [which is available online](#), provides some information on these potential spills. The database lists more than two dozen calls from Louisiana energy and chemical companies during the days following Hurricane Laura. Texas, which suffered damage as well, also reported spills to the center during this time. New Orleans Public Radio / [Read more](#)

CANADA: OILSANDS DILUENT PIPELINE PARTLY CLOSED FOLLOWING SPILL NEAR FORT MCMURRAY

September 1 - According to the Alberta Energy Regulator, initial reports indicated about 550 barrels or 90,000 litres of light oil were released with no reported impacts to waterbodies or wildlife.

The pipeline is used to move light petroleum such as condensate from Edmonton to the region where it is used by oilsands companies to dilute heavy bitumen so it will flow in a pipeline to market. Global News / [Read more](#) [Thanks to Dr Merv Fingas, Hon.FISCO, Member of ISCO Council for Canada]

UK: WALES: LLANGENNECH: OIL SPILL SPREADS FOR MILES AFTER TRAIN DERAILMENT

September 1 - A huge clear-up operation is continuing after a train crash spilled hundreds of tonnes of oil into a wildlife haven. Ten wagons, each containing 75 tonnes of diesel, derailed and spilled oil into the Loughor Estuary, near Llanelli in Carmarthenshire, on Wednesday. Natural Resources Wales (NRW) said oil has now spread as far as Crofty, Swansea, about 4.5 miles (7km) away. NRW said thousands of litres of fuel had already been pumped from the wagons and the surrounding area. Over the weekend, trenches were dug and booms and absorbent pads put in place to try and contain the diesel, while "vacuuming and skimming operations" are also taking place, NRW said. "These techniques have proved to be working well and are removing a considerable quantity of diesel from the water courses," a spokesman said. BBC News / [Read more and watch video](#)

SRI LANKA: VLCC TANKER NEW DIAMOND IN LOAD ON FIRE, ABANDONED, 1 CREW MISSING

September 3 - Very Large Crude Carrier NEW DIAMOND issued distress signal early in the morning Sep 3, reporting fire in engine room, in Bay of Bengal some 40 nm east of southeast Sri Lanka coast. Understood fire was thought to be under control, but blazed out again, and judging from photo, is spreading from engine room to superstructure. AIS seems to be off. Navy and CG ships and planes, both Sri Lankan and Indian, are responding. Maritime Bulletin / [Read more](#)

September 3 - Tanker fire update: Sri Lankan authorities seek international help to deal with possible oil spill. Sri Lanka does not have the technical capacity to deal with a massive oil spill if a stricken oil tanker burning off the east coast discharges its cargo into the sea, officials warned. The cargo of crude oil on board is 2.7 million tons. The vessel has a carrying capacity of 2.9 million tons. The Navy has deployed three vessels to assist the tanker and the Sri Lanka Air Force has dispatched an aircraft for surveillance. Economynext / [Read more](#)

September 3 - : Latest photos from Indian CG, fire still not under control, but didn't get through cofferdam or cargo deck to cargo tanks, hopefully firefighters will manage to beat it off, and protect cargo tanks from fire. Maritime Bulletin / [Read more](#)



September 4 - According to Indian Coast Guard, fire is under control, and it looks like under control on latest photos. Tanker is ready to be towed either off to ocean away from Sri Lankan coast, or if/when fire is extinguished, to nearest most suitable port. Maritime Bulletin / [Read more](#)

September 4 - Sri Lanka tanker fire: Blazing ship towed away from coast amid oil spill fears. Water cannon and helicopter drops are being used as attempts to extinguish the fire enter a second day. Sky News / [Read more](#)

September 5 - At the intervention of the owner of the ship (Porto Emporios Shipping Inc) 10 British and Netherlands experts including rescue operation specialists, disaster evaluators and legal consultants will be arriving at the Mattala International Airport on Sunday (06th September) morning. This team of experts is scheduled to be transferred by a Sri Lanka Navy Fast Attack Craft from Kalmunei to the sea area where the distressed vessel, Crude Oil Tanker 'MT New Diamond' is currently at. News First / [Read more](#)

September 6 - NEW DIAMOND appointed SMIT Salvage as salvage company, British and Dutch joint team to arrive to Sri Lanka soon. Maritime Bulletin / [Read more](#)

UKRAINE: OIL PRODUCTS SPILL FROM SUNKEN DELFI TANKER IN BLACK SEA

Another petroleum products spill took place in the Black Sea near Odesa, where the sunken Delfi tanker remains on the seabed. Andriy Malyovanyi, the Head of State Environmental Inspection of Ukraine reported that on Facebook. "Yesterday, specialists of the State Environmental Inspection of Odesa region examined the waters near the sunken vessel and detected smears and the grey, silvery foam, 70 square meters of the area", the message says. The official claims that the spill took place because of the ongoing attempts to lift and stabilize the tanker. 112Ukraine / [Read more](#)

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