



ISCO & THE ISCO NEWSLETTER

The International Spill Control Organization, a not-for profit organization dedicated to raising worldwide preparedness and co-operation in response to oil and chemical spills, promoting technical development and professional competency, and to providing a focus for making the knowledge and experience of spill control professionals available to Intergovernmental, Governmental, NGO's and interested groups and individuals

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

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INTERNATIONAL NEWS

CLICK ON THE BANNER BELOW FOR MORE INFORMATION

CLEAN EVENTS PRESENTS:
2020 Industry Summit
RESPONSE IN A PANDEMIC
November 17, 2020 | Houston, TX

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COLLABORATION UNDER THE UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME/GLOBAL ENVIRONMENT FACILITY (UNDP/GEF) CARIBBEAN LARGE MARINE ECOSYSTEM (CLME+) PROJECT

November 1 - The Cartagena Convention Secretariat through its two technical Sub-Programmes on marine biodiversity (SPAW) and pollution (AMEP/LBS) in collaboration with [The Ocean Foundation \(TOF\)](#), is developing the "CLME+ baseline and (pre) feasibility assessment and investment plan for large-scale action on habitat protection and pollution prevention" under the [UNDP GEF CLME+ Project](#). This activity aims to join efforts on the international agenda, such as, the Decade of Restoration (2021 -2030)[1], which calls for the restoration of degraded and destroyed ecosystems to combat the climate crisis and improve food security, water supply, and biodiversity; the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)[2], specially SGDs 6, 13, 14, 15; the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and the Aichi Biodiversity Targets[3].



Within the Convention, the Sub-Programmes are mutually supportive and the implementation of one contributes to the achievement of the other. The results of this feasibility assessment and investment plan therefore support the objectives of the SPAW and LBS Protocols which focus on the need for habitat restoration and pollution prevention, respectively.

As one of the most biologically rich marine environments in the Atlantic, the Wider Caribbean Region (WCR) is highly dependent on its marine and coastal resources. The growing impacts of unsustainable coastal development, climate change, overfishing, and marine pollution threaten the viability of the region's marine and coastal ecosystems. [UNEP / Read more](#)

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INTERNATIONAL NEWS (CONTINUED)

UNEP/MAP COORDINATOR ADDRESSES "NETWORKING FOR TACKLING MARINE LITTER" WEBINAR

November 6 - On 6 November 2020 Gaetano Leone, Coordinator of the UN Environment Programme Mediterranean Action Plan (UNEP/MAP), took part in the webinar organized by Legambiente and titled "Networking for tackling marine litter in the Mediterranean Sea", which took place in the context of the digital edition of Ecomondo, an international event dedicated to green technology and the circular economy. UN Environment / [Read more](#)

LAUNCH OF THE CONSULTATION PROCESS ON THE DRAFT MEDITERRANEAN STRATEGY FOR THE PREVENTION OF, AND RESPONSE TO MARINE POLLUTION FROM SHIPS (2022-2031) AND ITS ACTION PLAN

November 4 - REMPEC launched a consultation process for the preparation of a Mediterranean Strategy for the Prevention of, and Response to Marine Pollution from Ships for the next ten years ((2022-2031) to address pressures from maritime activities exerted on marine ecosystems in the Mediterranean region

The consultation process involves national competent authorities from the 22 Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention, relevant regional and international institutions and stakeholders addressing challenges and offering expertise, resources, and funding to progress in the improvement of the prevention of and response to marine pollution from ships in the Mediterranean region. REMPEC / [Read more](#)



EMSA ANNUAL MEETINGS WITH THE POLLUTION RESPONSE COMMUNITY HELD ONLINE

November 6 - The 14th meeting of the Consultative Technical Group for Marine Pollution Preparedness and Response (CTG MPPR) and the 10th Pollution Response Services User Group (PRS-UG) were held for the first time online on 13-14 October. Fifty marine pollution experts from EU, EEA/EFTA, European Enlargement Countries and the European Commission (DG ECHO) joined EMSA online to participate in this unique platform provided at EU level, aiming to exchange information, share good practices and define relevant priority actions on topics of common interest across the EU. The two meetings addressed operational updates regarding EMSA's oil and HNS pollution response services, discussed progress made on the various projects conducted under the CTG MPPR work programme, exchanged experiences gained from recent incidents and shared information on relevant marine pollution projects conducted at national, regional and EU levels. EMSA / [Read more in the November 2020 EMSA Newsletter](#)

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

AUSTRALIA: AMSA RESPONSE TO DAMAGED SHIP TO AVOID ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS

November 3 - The Australian Maritime Safety Authority (AMSA) has successfully brought a damaged vessel into the Port of Geraldton. The Marshall Islands flagged livestock carrier MV Barkly Pearl, had sustained damage to its hull and was approximately 120 kilometres north of Geraldton when AMSA became involved.

Last night, AMSA tasked its Challenger search and rescue jet to fly over the vessel and it was able to confirm damage to the starboard side of the vessel, which was listing to port. AMSA General Manager of Response Mark Morrow said there were significant concerns for the integrity of the vessel and its ability to safely reach Indonesia, its planned destination. AMSA / [Read more](#)

BELGIUM: PORT OF ANTWERP USING EMSA RPAS FOR POLLUTION MONITORING

November 6 - Port authorities in Antwerp, Belgium, are making use of EMSA's Remotely Piloted Aircraft System (RPAS) to support their day-to-day monitoring of port operations and rapid response to pollution incidents in the port area. The RPAS will enable the authorities to inspect at a distance their complex port environment which extends over an area of some 120km². The specific RPAS being employed is a highly flexible, lightweight Indago quadcopter operated by a pilot from EMSA's contractor, Nordic Unmanned. The focus is on using unmanned technology to help port authorities conduct safe and efficient surveillance of ship and port operations as well as to respond to safety and pollution incidents rapidly. The operation which has been running since the beginning of October continues until the end of the year and is the first time EMSA has provided RPAS services for the purpose of port monitoring. EMSA / [Read more in the November 2020 EMSA Newsletter](#)

BRAZIL: IBAMA PROMOTES THE LARGEST BEACH MONITORING PROJECT IN THE WORLD

October 29 - Ibama has established, as a condition for oil and gas production and exploration activities carried out by Petrobras in the Santos Basin, the Beach Monitoring Program (PMP-BS). Considered the largest on the planet, the program covers the coastline between Laguna/SC and Saquarema/RJ.

2020-11-03-programa-monitoramento-praias-PMP-BS-CemarIn Brazil, PMPs are usually determined throughout the environmental licensing of offshore oil and gas projects. These programs help to evaluate the interference of the sector's activities on birds, turtles and marine mammals through systematic coastal monitoring. Another guideline of the program is to provide specialized care for each identified occurrence.

Every day, teams rescue marine fauna that reaches the beaches. Active monitoring (routine rounds) and activation by the population are the main ways of locating animals that are often found injured by boats, fishing materials, affected by solid waste, intoxicated by oil or other contaminants, or without life. IBAMA / [Read more](#)



CANADA: NATIONAL WORKSHOP – QUEBEC MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT

Venue: Remote delivery, 18/01/2021

As part of a two-week training programme (18-29 January 2021) for emergency responders organised by the environmental emergency service ('Urgence-Environnement'), Quebec Ministry of Environment, the IOPC Funds have been invited to deliver a presentation on the international liability and compensation regime. The Canadian Ship-source Oil Pollution Fund (SOPF) will also be contributing to the programme to present the compensation system in place in Canada. IOPC Funds / <https://www.iopcfunds.org/>

GABON: 1992 FUND CONVENTION ENTERS INTO FORCE

November 5 - The Republic of the Gambia has become the 117th Member State of the 1992 Fund after the 1992 Civil Liability and Fund Conventions entered into force for the State on 30 October 2020.

The Gambia already has a history with the IOPC Funds having been Party to the 1971 Fund Convention until it ceased to be in force in May 2002. However, it was one of the few States which did not accede to the new 1992 Fund Convention at the time and therefore, had ceased to be covered by the IOPC Funds. The Gambia was also one out of seven remaining States Parties to the 1969 CLC only. IOPC Funds / [Read more](#)

GEORGIA: EMSA TRAINING EVENT

Venue: Remote training, 26/11/2020

The IOPC Funds have been invited to participate in a training event on civil liability and compensation being organised and delivered for the Maritime Administration of Georgia by the European Maritime Safety Agency (EMSA). The event will take place remotely on 26 and 27 November 2020 and the IOPC Funds will deliver presentations on the 1992 Civil Liability and Fund Conventions as well as on the 2010 HNS Convention. IOPC Funds / <https://www.iopcfunds.org/>

ROMANIA: BORDER AUTHORITIES USING EMSA RPAS FOR COAST GUARD SURVEILLANCE

October 29 - EMSA says a lightweight Remotely Piloted Aircraft System (RPAS) is currently being used by Romania's Border Police for multipurpose coast guard surveillance over the Black Sea. The service, provided by the European Maritime Safety Agency (EMSA), started in August and is being used to support a wide range of tasks including maritime pollution, detection of illegal fishing, border surveillance and search and rescue operations. Port News / [Read more](#)

SINGAPORE: OIL SPILL RESPONSE EQUIPMENT AND VESSEL RATES

October 25 - The Maritime and Port Authority (MPA) of Singapore has published revised charges applicable for the use of oil spill response and anti-pollution services provided by the agency and its supporting oil spill response service providers. GISEA / [More info](#)

UK: POOLE HARBOUR COMMISSIONERS PRACTICE OIL SPILL DRILL



November 6 - POOLE Harbour Commissioners simulated a major oil spill to test their capability and processes in response to a tier two hydrocarbon spill.

PHC works in collaboration with more than 15 organisations, including the Maritime and Coastguard Agency, Environment Agency, BCP Council and Perenco to carry out these exercises.

However, current Covid-19 restrictions and social distancing requirements meant this year's task was held online for the first time. This year's scenario involved an articulated lorry recently disembarked from a ferry, colliding with a 3,000l waste oil bulk storage tank causing waste oil to spread over the quay and head towards the water. Daily Echo / [Read more](#)

USA: WISCONSIN - NEW TEAM FORMED TO SPEARHEAD COMPLEX CONTAMINATION CLEANUP

October 31 - The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources has formed a new team to address PFAS contamination linked to a Marinette manufacturer of firefighting foam, which the agency says has resulted in the largest, most complex environmental investigation and cleanup in the state's history.

The team will focus solely on a Tyco Fire Products investigation and remediation of so-called forever chemicals known as PFAS that have been linked to Tyco facilities. Tyco, a subsidiary of Johnson Controls International, has been investigating contamination stemming from its fire training center in Marinette. GM Today / [Read more](#)

USA: STUDY: U.S. IS A MAJOR CONTRIBUTOR TO OCEAN PLASTIC POLLUTION

November 1 - A new study published Friday in the journal Science Advances estimates that the United States may be one of the world's largest contributors to ocean plastic pollution - not just because of littering, but because of improper handling in other nations where the U.S. has historically shipped plastic scrap for recycling.

In the study, a research team led by Kara Lavender Law of Woods Hole's Sea Education Association determined that the United States produced 42 million tonnes of plastic waste in 2016, more than any other nation. Based on existing per-capita estimates for littering and illegal dumping, they estimated that roughly 2-3 percent (1-1.25 million tonnes) was improperly disposed of within America. Most of the rest was landfilled or incinerated, with a small nine percent share recycled. The Maritime Executive / [Read more](#)

USA: LATEST NEWS REPORTS FROM NOAA OR&R

November 1 – Please click on the links below to read the latest News Reports from NOAA OR&R

[OR&R Conducts Socially Distant Oil Studies](#)

OR&R Senior Scientist Lisa DiPinto joined scientists from the EPA and U.S. Coast Guard to conduct experiments at the Ohmsett test tank facility in Leonardo, New Jersey to prepare for larger scale experiments being planned for later this year.

[CAMEO Team Participates in Online Hazardous Materials Conference](#)

Over the past several weeks, members of the CAMEO® team participated in the virtual Fall 2020 National Association of SARA Title III Program Officials ([NASTTPO\(link is external\)](#)) Conference, a meeting for members of the hazmat planning community to share best practices, hear updates on hazmat regulation and policy, and learn about tools and aids to help in hazmat management and response.

[Canada Multi-Partner Research Initiative Advisory Committee and NOAA Updates](#)

OR&R Director Scott Lundgren and Senior Scientist Lisa DiPinto joined the Canadian [Multi-Partner Research Initiative\(link is external\)](#)

NEWS REPORTS FROM AROUND THE WORLD (CONTINUED)

(CAMPRI) Advisory Committee held virtually on Wednesday October 28. CAMPRI is part of the Canadian National Oceans Protection Plan and is mid-way through five years of research that draws upon the expertise and experience of oil spill experts in Canada and internationally.

[Changing Seas: A Decade After Deepwater](#)

An OR&R biologist was part of a discussion panel for the Eighth Annual Friday Harbor (Washington) Film Festival on October 25. The panel discussed the featured PBS documentary film, Changing Seas: A Decade After Deepwater, which showcased the Gulf of Mexico Research Initiative (GoMRI) research program and its scientists over the last ten years.

[OR&R Scientist Pen Pals](#)

With the start of school, OR&R scientists began another year of exchanging letters with "pre-scientists" around the country. This month OR&R scientists participating in the [Letters to a Pre-Scientist\(link is external\)](#) program received their first pen pal letters.

[Marine Debris Program Chief Scientist Interviewed for Podcast](#)

On October 21, The Plastic Shift published an interview with Dr. Amy V. Uhrin, Chief Scientist of the NOAA Marine Debris Program (MDP).

USA: LOUISIANA OFFICIALS SAY CHEMICAL, OIL RELEASES AFTER HURRICANES DELTA, LAURA, WERE MINIMAL

November 6 - A spill of more than 15,000 gallons of crude oil just east of the town of Cameron during Hurricane Laura has been determined to be significant enough to trigger a federal-state natural resource damage investigation, according to the Louisiana Oil Spill Coordinator's Office.

Apart from the well-documented fire and release of chlorine gas at a BioLab chemical manufacturing facility in Westlake, the oil release -- from a White Oak Operating Co. production facility -- is so far the only major environmental incident in the aftermath of Laura and Hurricanes Delta and Zeta that has triggered regulatory actions by state agencies beyond initial checks and follow-ups. NOLA / [Continue reading \(this is quite a detailed report\)](#)

PEOPLE IN THE NEWS

USA: ED LEVINE IS HONOURED WITH NOAA DISTINGUISHED CAREER AWARD



Ed Levine, FISCO, has been honoured with the award of the NOAA Distinguished Career Award for Professional Achievement

This award is for sustained excellence in contributions to oil spill science, preparedness and response through over 30 years of service to NOAA and the nation.

USA: CSX'S ATKINSON CLAIMS AAR ENVIRONMENTAL EXCELLENCE AWARD

CSX Manager of Environmental Programs Meaghan E. Atkinson has received the 2020 Professional Environmental Excellence Award from the Association of American Railroads, described as "the highest honor for railroad industry environmental professionals." The award "recognizes leading contributions to environmental responsibility and excellence in the industry." Atkinson is the tenth CSX employee to receive this honor in the past 19 years. Railway Age / [Read more](#)



BASF CEO DR. MARTIN BRUDERMÜLLER ELECTED NEW PRESIDENT OF CEFIC



Cefic General Assembly welcomes new President at a turning point for Europe and for the chemical sector.

Martin Brudermüller, CEO of BASF was elected President of Cefic, effective immediately, at Cefic's annual General Assembly. He succeeds Daniele Ferrari, CEO of Versalis (Eni) who has held this post since October 2018. CEFIC / [Read more](#)

LAUNCH OF NEW ISCO WEBSITE

The new ISCO website has been launched and over time further improvements will be made to extend its lay-out and functionality. The location of the new site continues to be www.spillcontrol.org

Hopefully the transition will be without problems but members are requested to report any glitches or difficulties to info@spillcontrol.org with cc to Mike@mwadigital.com

ISCO NEWSLETTER WELCOMES 69 NEW READERS DURING SEPTEMBER AND OCTOBER 2020.

Our new readers are in USA, Russia, Canada, France, Cambodia, China, South Korea, Italy, Taiwan China and in 12 other countries.

DO YOU KNOW IF YOUR MEMBERSHIP IS PAID UP-TO-DATE?

If you are not sure if your dues are paid or you need us to update the name and email address of the person responsible for handling account matters, please get in touch with Mary Ann Dalglish at mrydetroit@aol.com

NEWS FROM ISCO MEMBERS

NEWS FROM OSRL - COVID-19 UPDATE (6TH NOVEMBER 2020)

We are pleased to confirm we have de-escalated the alert level for three of our OSRL bases. Bahrain and Ghana from Red to Amber and Norway from Amber to Yellow.

The alert status is important to each of our operating locations since they determine the activities, we are able to conduct, the extent of the controls we put in place, and the methods by which we review and approve both the activities and the controls.

The de-escalation of these locations comes following a detailed assessment of the level of Covid infection in the community, the availability of adequate health care in the area, the availability of Covid testing capacity, the international advice relating to the location, and how you, our members are operating within the region.

We continue to monitor the status of all our locations weekly. The monitoring involves looking carefully at all the indicators and how they are trending. We use a range of data sources and cross-check the data wherever possible. Typically, these datasets are the ones distributed by the relevant national health authorities. It's important to note that we consider both local, regional, and national data in the assessment process.

On the 15th October, we ran an internal exercise in Singapore incorporating Assurance No Notice Drill on International Air Response (IAR), operator for OSRL C130 Aerial Dispersant Aircraft. The focus was to verify readiness and the IAR call-out procedures with an actual flight and simulation of spray run with water from the C130 Hercules. It was also an opportunity to familiarise and put into practice the COVID-19 health and safety measures for the duty team in the EOC environment.

The exercise went very well; the team successfully achieved the objectives set. There were no safety concerns; the duty team members were well-accustomed to the COVID-19 health and safety measures put in place. It was clear that the OSRL Duty Team understood the COVID related measures that enable their physical presence in the EOC. The team worked efficiently, and the measures did not impede effectiveness.

Further testing and exercising with the IAR using different location scenarios will take place as part of ongoing assurance. Testing and exercising are pertinent, given the changing impacts of the pandemic on international mobilisation.

The benefit of practising in an exercise setting allows all parties to identify challenges and valuable learnings from the experience which can be addressed in peacetime and applied to managing a real response.

In the UK, the Southampton team held a No-Notice Drill this week (3rd and 4th Nov) which included shoreline and offshore deployments for our teams and also mobilisation of the UKCS aerial surveillance asset and the B727. These drills and exercises are crucial in providing OSRL, and its Members, with the assurance of our maintenance of team competence and that safe, effective and efficient spill response can still be delivered. In-field Covid-19 measures were well observed in all cases, and we met all exercise objectives.

We will publish Lessons Learnt from both drills in the coming weeks.

This week we have published a NEBA guidance document which details NEBA considerations under COVID-19, we have also talked about this in a previous webinar. [Click here](#) to download the guidance and [click here](#) to watch the webinar on Guidance Documents for Response During a Pandemic.

We have also published our latest webinar recording which ran last week; [No such thing as a bad exercise?](#) presented by Lee Barber. Lee, Preparedness Solutions Manager, gives an overview of the different types of exercises usually conducted as well as

NEWS FROM ISCO MEMBERS (CONTINUED)

what we have found works and also what doesn't work. We received some good feedback and great questions.

Over the last two weeks we have updated Country Response Plans for Brazil, Japan, Gabon, The Netherlands and Senegal. We have also published Tunisia translated into Arabic. These Country Response Plans can be found on our Covid micro-site [here](#).

As always, 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.

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

NEW OIL SPILL CLEANING TECHNOLOGY BREAKS DOWN 84% OF CRUDE OIL

October 22 - A grave ecological concern has emerged in recent times: A surge in oil extraction through offshore drilling that has resulted in spillage of oil — accidentally or due to negligence. Industrial effluent discharge, waste burn-out and other manmade disasters polluting the marine environment are among other concerns.

Cleaning up of the oil spillage from the oceans without damaging the marine ecosystem is becoming an increasingly challenging task. The National Institute of Ocean Technology (NIOT) has developed an eco-friendly crude oil bioremediation mechanism technology using consortia of marine microbes wheat bran (WB) immobilized on agro-residue bacterial cells.

Bioremediation can be defined as any process that uses microorganisms or their enzymes to remove and or neutralize contaminants within the environment (i.e., within soil and water) to their original condition.

During the study, nine different hydrocarbon-degrading bacteria extracted from the ocean sediment and collected from a depth of 2,100 metres, were used.

These hydrocarbon degrading bacteria don't depend on hydrocarbon for survival, but have a metabolic mechanism where they use petroleum products as carbon and energy source and thus, help cleaning up oil spills.

It was found that complete breakdown and degradation of crude oil was achievable using wheat bran marine bacterial consortia (which are low-cost non-toxic agro-residues) immobilised on low-cost nontoxic agro-residues bacterial cells in an environmentally sustainable manner.

It was also found that they were more effective in their immobilised state than the free bacteria cells in degrading the oil spills, in addition to being more versatile and resistant to adverse conditions.

The NIOT study found that immobilised bacterial cells had better oil degrading capacity than the free bacterial cells. They could remove 84 per cent of the oils within 10 days. The free bacterial cells degraded a maximum of 60 per cent of the crude oil at optimised conditions.

In marine ecosystem, hydrocarbonoclastic deep sea microbial consortium (two or more group of bacteria) plays an important role in breaking down oil in the event of a spill. The microbial community serves as energetic primary degraders of complex mixture of petroleum hydrocarbons into various aldehydes, ketones and acidic metabolites.

Led by G Dharani, the research team comprised A Ganesh Kumar, N NivedhaRajan and R Kirubakaran of NIOT, Union Ministry of Earth Sciences. The research work was published in the Journal of Marine Pollution Bulletin. Down to Earth / [Read more](#) [Thanks to Dan Sheehan, Hon.FISCO, Member of the ISCO Executive Committee]

CONTRIBUTED ARTICLE

RESEARCH ADVANCING POLLUTION RESPONSE AND RESTORATION IN 2020

Part Two of an article by Megan Ewald, NOAA Office of Response and Restoration



Photo on left - A broad cross-section of stakeholders from the international oil spill response community participated in the January 2020 Response Oil Assay Workshop, to provide input to OR&R as it collects data for a new, publicly available database of oil physio-chemical properties. Image credit: NOAA.

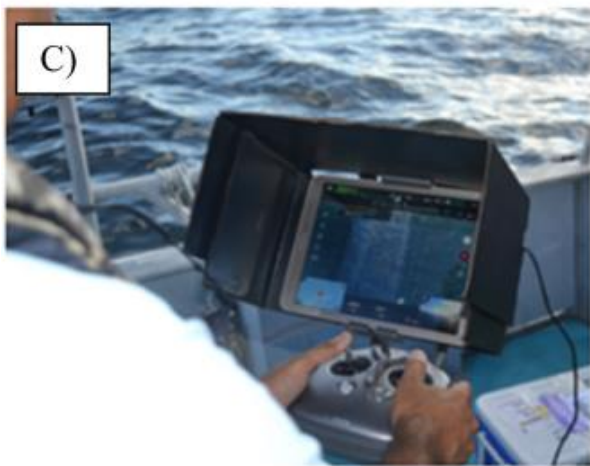
New Publicly Available Database of Oil Properties

Over the past few years, OR&R has expanded a database of oils (test version), recently making it available to the global spill response community. These enhancements include a new set of software tools for managing, presenting, editing, and sharing the data through a publicly available web application and application

CONTRIBUTED ARTICLE (CONTINUED)

programming interface. All the software and the data itself will be made available for anyone to use for response or research and development. In addition, the Emergency Response Division has initiated an effort to define a community-based response oil assay—the data that are sought about oil types in order to support response.

Using Three Tools to Measure How Long Oil Stays on Water



“[Measuring Oil Residence Time with GPS-drifters, Satellites, and Unmanned Aerial Systems \(UAS\)](#)” used drifters, drones, and satellites to measure where oil goes on water and how long it stays there. One of their findings was that GPS-tracked “drifters” floating on the surface of the ocean can be used to help estimate how long oil stays in one place.

Establishing Guidelines for Marine Mammals During Oil Spills



“[Guidelines for Assessing Exposure and Impacts of Oil Spills on Marine Mammals](#)” is a NOAA technical memorandum that provides best practices for oil spills that could impact marine mammals.

These guidelines incorporate knowledge gained from previous oil spills, especially the 2010 Deepwater Horizon spill, to prepare to respond to marine mammals in future disasters.

Leveraging Deepwater Horizon Long-Term Data Management to Advance Science

EXPLORE AVAILABLE DATA

DIVER
Explorer

Data Integration Visualization
Exploration and Reporting (*DIVER*)
Explorer allows users to search and download a broad array of **environmental characterization** and **project planning data** specific to geographic regions or activities.

Regions shown on map: Northwest & Arctic, Southwest & Pacific Islands, Great Lakes, Northeast, Southeast.

SELECT A REGION

“Coordination of Long-term Data Management in the Gulf of Mexico: Lessons Learned and Recommendations from Two Years of Cross-agency Collaboration” summarizes insights from data management experts, and those who utilize this data, in the Gulf of Mexico. The paper relays findings from over two years of collaborative workshops exploring how quality data management opens up scientific opportunities. This highly collaborative work was crucial to the Deepwater Horizon data management’s success and can be used as a model for other initiatives.

New Response Guide for a Difficult Challenge in Oil Spill Response



Photo on left: Dr. Jacqui Michel of Research Planning Inc. conducts training related to sunken oil mats. Image credit: RPI.

“A Response Guide for Sunken Oil Mats (SOMs): Formation, Behavior, Detection and Recovery” is a recently completed guidance document to help oil spill experts better manage sunken oil mats. Sunken oil mats can form near the shoreline under a range of circumstances and present unique and difficult challenges in oil spill response. This guidance was developed based on an extensive review of incidents where mats formed and will substantially improve our ability to locate, and remove, this problematic form of shoreline oiling.

To learn more about NOAA Office of Response and Restoration research please visit our website.

ISCO thanks NOAA OR&R for kind permission to re-print this article.

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 given.

COUNTRY	2020	TITLE OF EVENT	LOCATION
For more information click on Title of Event			
UK	Nov. 16-20	IMO Marine Environment Protection Committee	Online
USA	November 17	"Response in a Pandemic" – Clean Events Summit	Houston TX/Online
USA & CANADA	November 18	Pacific States/British Columbia Oil Spill Task Force Annual Meeting	Online
SWEDEN	Nov. 26-27	Swedish National Oil Spill Conference 2020	Online
MALTA	December 2	Fourth Meeting of the Mediterranean Network of Law Enforcement Officials relating to MARPOL within the framework of the Barcelona Convention	Online
UK	December 2-4	Salvage & Wreck Removal Conference	Online
UK	December 2-4	Meetings of the IOPC Funds' Governing Bodies	Online
VIRTUAL EVENT	December 7-11	59th GEF Council Meeting	Online
UK	December 8-10	Marine Insurance London	Online
COUNTRY	2021	TITLE OF EVENT	LOCATION
VIRTUAL EVENT	February 2-4	Sustainability Leaders Forum 2021	Online
VIRTUAL EVENT	February 8-9	The JOIFF Industrial Fire & Hazard Management Virtual Conference & Exhibition 2021	Online
ICELAND	March 2-4	International Symposium on Plastics in the Arctic and Sub-Arctic Region	Online
MALTA	March 10	Regional Meeting of National Experts on the Post-2021 Mediterranean Strategy for Prevention of and Response to Marine Pollution from Ships	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
USA	Nov. 16-18	Clean Gulf Conference & Exhibition	San Antonio, TX

Please advise the Editor if any of the above entries require correction or updating. John.mcmurtrie@spillcontrol.org

WEBINARS & ONLINE TRAINING

Postings for publication in this section should be sent to the Editor – john.mcmurtrie@spillcontrol.org

MANAGING MEDIA COMMUNICATIONS DURING A MARITIME CRISIS

Learn how the communications experts at Navigate Response provide 24/7 global support to shipowners, managers and operators in our series of 20-minute webinars throughout November.

[The Media Crisis Response Timeline](#)

10 November at 10 am (GMT)

Discover a typical case chronology and the importance of a fast-moving partner

[Leveraging Technology for Media Training and Preparedness](#)

17 November at 10 am (GMT)

COVID-19: How we're keeping our clients prepared and trained remotely

WEBINARS & ONLINE TRAINING (CONTINUED)

[Reviving Drills and Exercises with Realistic Media Pressure](#)

24 November at 10 am (GMT)

Why media simulation in drills matters

THE RESPONDER'S TOOLBOX – AT SEA RESPONSE TECHNIQUES



GI WACAF

GI WACAF webinar series

Webinar #4: the responder's toolbox
Part 1 – at sea response techniques

18 November 2020
2:00 pm (GMT)

Also available in French, same date, at 11:00 am GMT

REGISTER NOW
Link in description

Speakers:

- Lucy Short, Principal Consultant, OSRL
- Dr Annabelle Nicolas-Kopec, Senior Technical Adviser, ITOFF
- Peter Taylor, Project Manager, OSPRI

Facilitation by:
Julien Favier, GI WACAF Project Manager

This fourth live webinar will be dedicated to at-sea response techniques and will discuss the key technical aspects of these oil spill response techniques. For this webinar, we will enjoy the company of leading international experts from Oil Spill Response Limited (OSRL), ITOFF, and OSPRI.

Register now: <https://event.webinarjam.com/register/23/7w7r3cq>

USA: OHMSETT: OVERVIEW, RECENT ACTIVITIES, AND FUTURE PLANS



November 19, 2020 at 3:00 pm EST

The next episode of NOAA's *You Don't Know What You Don't Know* will feature Ohmsett's Facility Manager Dr. Tom Coolbaugh. He will discuss the facility's recent activities and future plans.

Be sure to tune in: noaaorr.adobeconnect.com/orrlectureseries/

UK AND IRELAND SPILL ASSOCIATION - COMMERCIAL WEBINAR FOR CORPORATE AND ACCREDITED MEMBERS

The webinar will be about funding available to support businesses.

WEBINARS & ONLINE TRAINING (CONTINUED)

We will have a presentation about the various government schemes that are currently running and how to apply for them.

We will also be joined by the UK's largest R&D tax credit specialist, ForrestBrown. They'll be shedding light on this lucrative funding source and explaining how businesses in our sector can qualify for R&D tax incentives. In their 30 minute presentation, you'll learn:

- How to access this funding quickly and accurately.
- How much the incentive could be worth to you, with examples from businesses in this sector.
- How to unlock more value from your current claim and use R&D tax credits for long-term financial resilience.

We will also hear about support from UK Trade and Investment for businesses that want to innovate and for those who wish to export.

For more info email info@ukspill.org

SALVAGE & WRECK - THE FUTURE OF SALVAGE CONTRACTS AND SOLUTIONS FOR WRECK REMOVAL

Virtual Event – 2-4 December 2020 – Available live and on-demand

As the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic continues to shape the world as we know it, it's now obvious that even well into next year it will be dictating our personal and professional lives.

Join us this December at *Salvage & Wreck's* first virtual conference as our high-level speakers provide all the information you need to get through the next year and beyond. [Agenda, registration and more info](#)

CONTRACTS, TENDERS AND 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 of these publications.

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

LINKS FOR DOWNLOADING AND READING OTHER PUBLICATIONS

Some publication links have been removed because they appear to have ceased publication or a URL link is not being provided. The removed links are for the following publications – *ALGA Cronicle; Clean Nigeria Associates Newsletter; Nautical Institute eNewsletter; Maritime New Zealand “Safe Seas, Clean Seas”*. To request renewal of a deleted link or to add a publication link for another publication please contact the editor.

[AMSA Update](#)
[ATRAC Newsletter](#)
[AUSMEPA Bulletin](#)
[BIMCO Bulletin](#)
[Newsletter from George Holliday](#)
[Cedre Newsletter](#)
[EMSA Newsletter](#)
[Environmental Expert](#)
[GEF Newsletter](#)
[GESAMP](#)
[GISEA Quarterly Newsletter](#)
[IMO News Magazine](#)
[IMO Publishing Newsletter](#)
[ITOPF Ocean Orbit](#)
[JOIFF Catalyst Newsletter](#)
[Maritime Executive Magazine](#)
[MEDNEWS](#)

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 the European Maritime Safety Agency
Environmental News from Environmental Expert
Monthly Newsletter from the Global Environment Facility
Group of Experts on the Scientific Aspects of Marine Environmental Protection
News from Global Initiative for South-East Asia
News from the International Maritime Organization
New and forthcoming IMO publications
News magazine from ITOPF with interesting spill response articles
Int'l Organisation for Industrial Hazard Management
Often contains articles of interest to the spill response community
News from UNEP Mediterranean Action Programme

Current issue
October 2020
Summer 2020
September 2020
On request email
September 2020
Current issue
Current issue
Subscription
Latest news
Q3 2020
Summer 2020
September 2020
October 2019
Q4 2020 issue
March–April 2020
02 / 2020

LINKS FOR DOWNLOADING AND READING OTHER PUBLICATIONS (CONTINUED)

MOIG Newsletter	News from the Mediterranean Oil Industry Group	January 2020
NCEC Newsletter	News from the National Chemical Emergency Centre	October 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	Autumn 2020
Oiled Wildlife Log	Bi-annual Newsletter from Tri-State Bird Rescue & Research	Fall 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	Current issue
Pollution Online Newsletter	News for pollution prevention & control professionals	Current 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
Society of Maritime Industries	News from the UK's maritime engineering and business services sector.	October 2020
Technology Innovation News Survey	News from US EPA – Contaminated Site Decontamination	Sept. 16-30, 2020
The Maritime Advocate	Maritime News from Sandra Speares	Current issue
USA EPA Tech Direct	Remediation of contaminated soil and groundwater	November 1, 2020
WestMOPoCo	Western Mediterranean Region Marine Oil & HNS Pollution Co-operation	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. Publishers are kindly requested to advise the editor if any of the links are not up-to-date.

INCIDENT REPORTS

DECOMMISSIONED FSO SEEKS FINAL DESTINATION – NOT (YET) AN INCIDENT BUT ANOTHER OLD FSO IS A MATTER OF CONCERN



Radiant (seen here as the J Nat, ex name Jesslyn Natuna) and the offshore tug S Cas (NGO Shipbreaking Platform)

November 1 - A decommissioned FSO that was sold to a Bangladeshi breaker for scrap is now anchored off Mumbai, awaiting news on her final resting place.

The Radiant, ex name Jesslyn Natuna, is a 1983-built FSO previously flagged and operated in Indonesia. In 2018, after she ceased her term of commercial service at the Natuna offshore field, she drifted aground near Tambelan. She was refloated and sold for scrap to a cash buyer, identified by NGO Shipbreaking Platform as SOMAP International.

According to the NGO, Jesslyn Natuna departed Indonesia in mid-April with a substantial quantity of hazardous waste on board. The organization contended that she was carrying 1,000 tonnes of slop oil, 500 tonnes of oily water and 60 tonnes of sludge oil. The sludge allegedly tested out at nearly 400 milligrams of mercury per kilo, a level considered unusually high.

The NGO Shipbreaking Platform, Basel Action Network (BAN), European Environmental Bureau (EEB), IPEN, Nexus3 Foundation and Zero Mercury Working Group contended that the vessel's export violated international laws on the transborder transfer of toxic waste. They called on the three primary shipbreaking nations - Bangladesh, India and Pakistan - to refuse permission for entry. Bangladesh and India both followed the recommendation and have refused entry to the vessel. The Maritime Executive / [Read more](#)

UK: DUTCH FREIGHTER LOST CONTAINERS IN NORTH SEA UPDATE AT LEAST 33 CONTAINERS LOST

November 2 - At least 33 containers were lost, UK CG responding, with deployment of tug, plane and coastal navigational providers. FRANCISCA meanwhile, is cruising in legs back and forth, alongside northernmost Scotland coast. As of 0230 UTC Nov 2, she was still cruising, with tug nearby, probably she's still having problems with containers on board, remaining in danger of falling overboard. Maritime Bulletin / [Read more](#)

USA: DELAWARE OIL SPILL CLEANUP INCHES CLOSER TO COMPLETION; SOURCE REMAINS UNKNOWN

November 2 - Cleanup crews have collected and disposed of more than 75 tons of oiled debris and tar balls from Delaware's coastline following an Oct. 19 oil spill. The Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control announced Monday the cleanup effort is nearing completion.

An estimated 215 gallons, or five barrels, of oil from an unknown source washed ashore at Broadkill Beach two weeks ago. The spill affected about 60 miles of coastline, impacting Beach Plum Island, the Roosevelt Inlet and Lewes, as well as parts of the Maryland coastline. WHYY / [Read more](#)

MAURITIUS: WAKASHIO'S STERN REMOVAL EXPECTED TO BE COMPLETED BY SPRING AS CONTRACT AWARDED

November 5 - A contract to remove the stern of the Wakashio has been awarded in Mauritius as the salvage and clean-up continues more than three months after the ship grounded. The contract was awarded to China-based Lianyungang Dali Underwater Engineering on October 20 by Nagashiki Shipping Co., the manager of the Wakashio. The company is currently mobilizing materials and equipment to Mauritius so it can commence work.

The work is scheduled to start in December with final removal of the Wakashio's stern expected to be completed by Spring 2021, according to the latest update from Okiyo Maritime Corp. the owner and Nagashiki Shipping Co. gCaptain / [Read More](#)
Read a related report in [The Maritime Executive](#)

USA: VIDEO: GOLDEN RAY WRECK CUTTING BEGINS

November 6 - After a long series of delays, salvors have finally begun the process of cutting the capsized ro/ro Golden Ray into sections with a chain and a giant heavy lift barge.

The cutting operations for the first section of the wreck began at about 1030 hours on Friday morning, according to the Georgia Department of Natural Resources. The Unified Command (UC) for the response estimates that cutting and hoisting each section will take 24 hours.

"We expect there will be noise, fires, product discharges, and debris once we begin the cutting and lifting process. It would be unrealistic to say that this operation will be clean and perfect," said State On-scene Coordinator John Maddox of the Georgia Department of Natural Resources. "We installed a multi-layer environmental protection system and have practiced prevention and response strategies for several months. We are prepared to protect the community and environment of St. Simons Sound." The Maritime Executive / [Read more](#)

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