

## 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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## UNEP/MAP AND COMPSUD STEP UP COOPERATION FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT IN THE MEDITERRANEAN REGION



Above: Professor Moh Rejdali, Chairman, signs the MoU on behalf of COMPSUD

April 12 - The Mediterranean Action Plan of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP/MAP) and the Circle of Mediterranean Parliamentarians for Sustainable Development (COMPSUD) announced a Memorandum of Understanding aiming to foster bilateral cooperation for healthy marine and coastal ecosystems that underpin sustainable development in the Mediterranean region.

Tatjana Hema, the UNEP/MAP Coordinator, and Moh Rejdali, the COMPSUD Chairperson, signed the MoU at a ceremony held on 12 April 2022 in Zappeion Megaron in Athens, Greece.

Building on previous collaborations, the two institutions will work together to accelerate the implementation of the Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment and the Coastal Region of the Mediterranean (Barcelona Convention) and its Protocols through coordinated advocacy efforts and a strengthened science-policy interface.

UNEP / MAP / [Read more](#)

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## INTERNATIONAL NEWS (CONTINUED)

### ISCO NEWS

#### ISCO MEMBERS PARTICIPATE IN CLEAN WATERWAYS EVENT

Over 350 industry professionals participated in Access Intelligence LLC's 6th annual CLEAN WATERWAYS conference ([www.cleanwaterwaysevent.org](http://www.cleanwaterwaysevent.org)) held on 5 to 7 April 2022 at the David L Lawrence Convention Center in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania USA.

As with other CLEAN events, which were held both virtually and in-person during the pandemic, attendance is approaching pre-COVID levels. According to conference organizers, more than 40 exhibitors have been retained, and sponsorship is increasing.

ISCO members Balaena, LLC; CTECH, LLC; HalenHardy; Ohmsett; Texas Boom Company, and T&T Salvage provided informative displays in the exhibit hall. In addition, CTECH, Ohmsett, and T&T Salvage served on the CLEAN WATERWAYS planning committee, chaired sessions, and presented papers.

Ten technical sessions focused on spill prevention and response for Inland Regions & Waterways, with topics ranging from: Including Indigenous Communities in Response Planning; to Swift Water Response; Wildlife Emergency Management, Unmanned Aerial Response Systems; Response Case Studies; Contractor Management Best Practices; Ice Response Issues; Emerging issues included PFAs (perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances; Post-COVID training programs; and Response Planning for Unique Hazards.

As with the recent CLEAN GULF in San Antonio, Texas, USA, CTECH hosted an opening night reception featuring highlights of the host region. The Pittsburgh reception was held in a large space with floor-to-ceiling windows overlooking the Allegheny's confluence with the Ohio and Monongahela Rivers. Sample local delicacies including Polish pierogies, kielbasa with sauerkraut, pretzel-based fruit desserts, and the world-famous "Pittsburgh sandwich" comprising warm meat covered with melted cheese, then stacked with French fried potatoes, shredded cabbage slaw, and tomatoes -- "A Whole Meal in a Sandwich"

Guests had the opportunity to try local craft beer brewers' unique twists with selections including Hefe Weizen, Double Chocolate, Mango, and Wet Hops varieties.

Keeping to tradition, the ISCO booth featured an opportunity to win a bottle of single malt scotch. This year, John Allen, Executive Director of the Spill Control Association of America (SCAA) honored ISCO by performing the draw. This year's winner of Laphroaig scotch whiskey is Denise Dzurenka, Environmental Scientist with the Department for Environmental Protection in the US state of Kentucky (see photo).

ISCO welcomes all industry professionals to network both online ([www.spillcontrol.org](http://www.spillcontrol.org)) and in person at upcoming Interspill ([www.interspill.org](http://www.interspill.org)), CLEAN PACIFIC ([www.cleanpacific.org](http://www.cleanpacific.org)) and CLEAN GULF ([www.cleangulf.org](http://www.cleangulf.org)) events.

[Thanks to Helena Rowland - Helena hosted visitors to the ISCO booth at Clean Waterways and also sent in photos that you can see on Page 2 of last week's ISCO newsletter].

#### A MESSAGE OF THANKS FROM CHARLES USHER OF MPC, DETROIT

"I want to thank all of our fellow ISCO members for their kind words on the passing of my Father, David Usher. ISCO was and is still, I believe, very close to my Dad's heart.

He made a great many friends and colleagues along the way from all corners of our planet. I think it is fair to say that he had a big personality along with a warm touch. It was very heartwarming to see all of your kind words, they mean a lot to myself and our family". [cusher@marinepollutioncontrol.com](mailto:cusher@marinepollutioncontrol.com)

#### OBITUARIES FOR THE LATE DAVID USHER, PRESIDENT OF ISCO

Please read the obituaries on Pages 5-8 of this week's newsletter.

#### ISCO DONATION TO MÉDECINS SANS FRONTIÈRES

ISCO has received a letter of thanks for its recent donation in support of humanitarian relief work in the Ukraine.



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Mike Watson at  
[spillcontrol@mwadigital.com](mailto:spillcontrol@mwadigital.com)

## **MORE INTERNATIONAL & REGIONAL NEWS**

### **NEW CEFIC POSITION PAPER HIGHLIGHTS INDUSTRY'S EFFORTS AND THE ROLE OF CHEMICAL RECYCLING IN ENABLING PLASTIC WASTE TO BECOME A VALUABLE RESOURCE**

April 7 - A combination of complementary solutions is necessary for higher recycling rates for plastics. Currently, there are three main routes for recycling of plastics.

Mechanical recycling, dissolution recycling, and chemical recycling. The latter can treat mixed and contaminated plastic waste that cannot be recycled mechanically and has the potential to remove undesired additives and impurities. It breaks down the plastic into feedstocks and monomers so new chemicals and plastics can be made equivalent to those made from fossil resources, and compliant with REACH. It makes it possible to produce chemicals and plastics from the plastic waste which now goes to landfill or gets incinerated or exported. CEFIC / [Read more](#)

### **COUNTRIES PLEDGE RECORD SUPPORT TO THE GLOBAL ENVIRONMENT FACILITY**

April 8 - Twenty-nine countries have jointly pledged more than \$5 billion for the Global Environment Facility, providing a major boost to international efforts to protect biodiversity and curb threats from climate change, plastics, and toxic chemicals through collaborative action this decade.

The new support, totaling \$5.25 billion, increases the GEF's funding by nearly 30 percent compared to its most recent four-year operating cycle. It comes at a critical moment for developing countries whose ability to tackle worsening environmental challenges has been strained by fiscal pressures from the COVID-19 pandemic and rising inflation. The GEF / [Read more](#)

### **USA: NOAA'S RESPONSE ASSET DIRECTORY: HELPING STREAMLINE DISASTER RESPONSE**

April 8 - Cataloging assets can be a daunting task. Where do you begin? What should be included in your inventory? How should it be categorized? How often should the inventory be reviewed and updated? Fortunately, several years ago, NOAA's Gulf of Mexico Disaster Response Center developed an asset directory that provides structure, guidance, and a user-friendly design. Cataloging your assets on "blue sky days" allows you to work more effectively, efficiently, and with less stress when the inevitable disaster strikes NOAA / [Read more](#)

### **CARTAGENA CONVENTION SECRETARIAT TO PARTICIPATE IN SUSTAINABLE OCEAN INITIATIVE CAPACITY-BUILDING WORKSHOP FOR THE WIDER CARIBBEAN AND CENTRAL AMERICA**

April 11 - From 20-21 April and 27-28 April 2022, the Cartagena Convention Secretariat will participate in the Sustainable Ocean Initiative Capacity-Building Workshop for the Wider Caribbean and Central America on Other Effective Area-Based Conservation Measures in the Marine Fishery Sector.

The workshop, which will be held virtually, is being convened by the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) in collaboration with various partners, including the Cartagena Convention Secretariat, the Caribbean Regional Fisheries Mechanism, the Western Central Atlantic Fishery Commission, the UNDP/GEF PROCARIBE+ PPG Coordination Unit, and the Fisheries Expert Group of the IUCN-Commission on Ecosystem Management. The organization of this workshop is being financially supported by the Government of the Republic of Korea, through the Ministry of Oceans and Fisheries. UNEP / [Read more](#)

### **EUROWA HOSTS INTEGRATED MANAGEMENT WORKSHOPS FOR EUROPEAN AUTHORITIES**

April 12 - In February and March of 2022, as part of the EUROWA-2 project, a pair of workshops on dealing effectively with wildlife challenges during pollution emergencies introduced participants to the ways in which various authorities should be involved in response to wildlife within a wider emergency response. EUROWA / [Read more](#)

### **THE UN BIODIVERSITY CONFERENCE: THE ROAD TO A BOLD NEW AGREEMENT FOR NATURE**

April 14 - "This year's UN Biodiversity Conference is an opportunity to strike a landmark agreement to guide global actions through 2030 to achieve a nature-positive world, one where society halts and reverses the loss of biodiversity. The world needs to take concrete steps to shift our unsustainable consumption and production patterns to ones that allow both people and the planet to thrive," said Doreen Robinson, UNEP's Head of Biodiversity and Land. UNEP / [Read more](#)

### CROATIA: PROJECT NAMIRS



April 11 - As one of the partners in the NAMIRS project, ATRAC attended the presentation of the project in Trieste, on March 31, 2022. The aim of the project is to strengthen regional cooperation between the northern Adriatic countries in the event of sudden marine pollution in the area in order to prevent devastating environmental and economic consequences. ATRAC / [Read more](#)

### FRANCE: EMERGENCY RESPONSE ACTIVITY SUMMARY FOR MARCH 2022

The WEC Van Eyck continued to keep our team busy in March, after losing 4 containers overboard in February (see Newsletter n°309). While one of these, for general use, appears to have rapidly sunk, the other three were tank containers, two loaded with glycerine and one with flammable liquefied gas. Cedre was first contacted by the French maritime authority for the Atlantic to provide information on the hazards and behaviour of these products, then by the French maritime authority for the Channel and North Sea to advise on the safety measures to be implemented during the recovery and unloading of the tanks. Cedre benefited from the support of INERIS' Emergency Situation Response Unit CASU and worked with the MAR-ICE service to gain wider access to experts abroad. Additionally, we continued to dialogue with the State services and the Saint-Pierre-et-Miquelon court of justice following the spill that occurred last month.

Cedre also provided information on a pesticide after a farm trailer overturned in Eure-et-Loir. We were called upon twice by MRCC La Garde to analyse images.

Finally, we took part (on site and from Brest) in an offshore response exercise organised by Ailes Marines in the bay of Saint-Brieuc. [Read more in the latest CEDRE newsletter](#)

### USA: LATEST NEWS FROM NOAA OR&R

April 8 - Please click on the links below to download and read the latest news reports from NOAA OR&R.

[OR&R's Disaster Preparedness Program Completes 2021 Hurricane Season After-Action Report for the National Ocean Service](#)

On Dec. 1, 2021, the day after the official end of the Atlantic hurricane season, the Disaster Preparedness Program kicked off continuous improvement efforts to prepare for the 2022 season.

[Marine Debris Program Announces the Inaugural Marine Debris Foundation Board of Directors](#)

On April 6, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration announced the inaugural board of directors for the new Marine Debris Foundation.

[7th International Marine Debris Conference Call for Abstracts and Posters is Open](#)

On March 31, the 7th International Marine Debris Conference (7IMDC) launched a call for abstracts and posters, which is open until Friday, April 29, 2022. The 7IMDC is scheduled to take place from Sept. 18-23, 2022 in Busan, Republic of Korea.

## YEMEN: U.N. SEEKS \$80 MILLION TO PREVENT 'IMMINENT' OIL SPILL

April 9 - The United Nations is seeking nearly \$80 million from donor nations for an emergency operation to remove a million barrels of crude oil from a tanker anchored off the coast of war-ravaged Yemen and avert a catastrophic oil spill in the Red Sea.

A statement from the U.N. on April 8 said that the two-stage operation would involve the hazardous cargo being pumped from the storage platform to a temporary replacement vessel at a cost of \$79.6 million. The U.N. emphasized that "the plan cannot begin without donor funding," adding that the Netherlands is set to host a donor meeting. It said "rapid donor commitments of funds" were needed to begin work by the second half of May. Frontline / [Read more](#)

## OBITUARY

### AN OBITUARY FOR DAVID USHER

David Usher had an amazing life, deservedly renowned in both the worlds of jazz and pollution control. He was a genial, outgoing and much-liked person, meriting respect and forming good friendships with many.



Born in Detroit in 1929, his parents had come from Ukraine. His father's company was in waste oil reclamation and as a young man David helped in the family business, and developed new techniques for purifying waste oil. Having already gained a reputation as "trouble-shooter" his first significant oil spill was back in the 1960s when he received an appeal for help from the Ford Motor Company. At this time oil pollution response was in its infancy with little equipment around but he responded to the challenge and successfully cleaned up a 20,000 gallon oil spill in the Rouge River using some early Slickbar boom and modified vac-tankers.

This experience led to the formation of his company, Marine Pollution Control (MPC) in 1967 where he developed new oil spill response techniques, including the design and build of two ground-breaking oil skimming vessels – Buda 1 and Buda 2 – a model of one of which is on display at the London HQ of the International Maritime Organization.

I recall visiting Dave's waterfront MPC office in Detroit and, as always, he gave me a warm welcome. With a twinkle in his eye, Dave, who always loved a good story, took delight in showing me the "boat wells" (installed by a previous owner of the property) under his office floor. In the days of prohibition, these had been used by Al Capone for the hidden offloading of illegal booze smuggled in at night from across the water in Canada.

Dave was a pioneer in oil spill prevention – in particular the lightering of troubled oil tankers. This led Dave on to a major project – the creation of a network of emergency oil offloading pump systems at many US port locations and in the UK and Singapore. Much later on, in 1989, Dave's company successfully off-loaded thousands of tons of oil from the grounded Exxon Valdez oil tanker in Alaska, greatly reducing the potential size of the oil spill. Based on his experience of emergency lightering, Dave also went on to develop and produce improved design emergency lightering pumps.

*Photo (right) From the cover of Dave's book, Dizzy Gillespie and Dave in Paris in 1987*

In parallel with his oil pollution control activities Dave had amazing times in the music industry. About 1944 he met and began a life-long friendship with the famous trumpeter, bandleader and composer, Dizzy Gillespie. Dave established himself as a record producer (Argo Records and Dee Gee Records) recording Dizzy and his band and many other musicians. He accompanied Dizzy at many gigs held in the US and on overseas tours in South America, Cuba, Nigeria, Namibia and other countries making recordings of Dizzy and his band. These experiences can be read in Dave's fascinating book, "Music is Forever", published in 2014.

Another long term friend of Dave was the renowned blues singer, Annie Ross for whom he recorded many albums. Many of us who attended major oil pollution conferences like IOPC will recall with great pleasure the magical evening parties where we listened to Dizzy and his band, sometimes accompanied by Annie Ross singing her heart out to enthralled audiences.

Dave was a great innovator. One of his projects was a two man submarine designed for sub-sea oil recovery (Photo on Page 8). The resplendent bright yellow submarine had pride of place in the exhibition area of a major oil spill conference not long after the Deepwater Horizon oil spill. At the closing speeches at the end of the event the spokesman for BP famously remarked "I want one". Dave was delighted!







*Photo (left): The ISCO Delegation at an IMO OPRC-HNS Technical Group meeting. From left to right, standing – Dr Wierd Koops, Honorary Member, (Netherlands); Dr Merv Fingas, Member of ISCO Council for Canada; seated – John McMurtrie, ISCO Secretary (UK); David Usher, ISCO President (USA); Dr Douglas Cormack, Honorary Member (UK). Photo: Courtesy of Josée Lamoureux.*

One of Dave's greatest achievements was the creation of a co-operative culture in our industry that enabled groups of businesses to work together and improve best practice. This contribution was manifested in his leading role in the founding of industry organisations including the American Salvage Association (ASA), The Spill Control Association of America (SCAA), the Marine Response Alliance (MRA) and the International Spill Control Organisation (ISCO).

World Leaders, including the White House and the United Nations sought his council on environmental

legislative issues. He was particularly proud to have been called on by President George Bush in 1991 to lead the UN / IMO / US Inter-Agency Team in Saudi Arabia in the response to the world's largest ever oil spill which resulted from Saddam Hussein's invasion of Kuwait.

Dave deservedly received many honours for his contributions to the development of the oil spill industry. He was truly a world citizen, always internationally orientated and leading by his actions and example. He was a remarkable man.

*"It was a great privilege to have been a friend and colleague of Dave for 40 years. It's going to be very hard to accept that I will not be able to see and speak with him again" – John McMurtrie*

## **DAVID USHER - IN MEMORIAM – FROM MARC SHAYE, Hon.FISCO.**

"As we reflect on the life and accomplishments of DAVID USHER, we remember one of the decisive actions he took as president of the Spill Control Association of America in 1989 in support of those adversely impacted by an environmental disaster. His personal efforts made to the Bush Administration were not only to recognize and use private sector resources for response and remediation by oil spill contractors following the grounding of the oil tanker "Exxon Valdez" but extended further with the passage of the Oil Pollution Act of 1990, a cornerstone of our country's Clean Water Act.

David Usher was a man of vision, and his instincts were always spot on in knowing that a decisive first step could have consequences of significance. David's epoch meeting with Dizzy Gillespie when he was 14 years old is emblematic of the of his legendary nature remembered by friends and family. Certainly, any vignettes we may reflect on are in keeping with how David spent his rich life of 92 years. If you were his friend, you most likely were his friend for life. His friendships span the globe, and the encounters were always celebrity level interactions even if you were a laborer at the location of an oil spill.

Yes, David Usher had a fledgling career in music, and it served him throughout his life. However, he is the consummate ambassador for environmental cleanup.

The nature of his embryonic oil spill response and cleanup business in 1960 seemed beyond the then norms of business and ethics. "You want to clean up what?" "You care about the environment?" These are reactions the unwashed might have in first encountering David. However, all he needed to do was to share his love of jazz and you were hooked. You wanted to know more about how someone could travel in two worlds flawlessly and become an international success in both.

He formed the Marine Pollution Control Corporation after having worked with his father in the waste oil business. His very nature, however, led him to form and lead the International Spill Control Organization with members in over 50 countries".

*"You will forever be in my heart. Marc K. Shaye".*

## **DAVID USHER - IN MEMORIAM – FROM THE AMERICAN SALVAGE ASSOCIATION**

It is with a heavy heart that the American Salvage Association announces the passing of David Usher at the age of 92 on April 7th, 2022.

David Usher was the founder and Chairman of Detroit based, international company, Marine Pollution Control (MPC) and one of the original members of the ASA. A pioneer in cleaning up oil spills throughout the world, David passed peacefully in his home surrounded by the endless love of his family and friends.

## OBITUARY (CONTINUED)

Usher, a world renowned expert in cleaning up oil spills, began MPC in 1968 as the first spill response company in the Great Lakes region and one of the very first in the United States. As the organization continued to grow, David and the MPC team would later come to find themselves responding to one of the nation's largest crude oil spills, the 1989 Exxon Valdez incident in Alaska which resulted in the release of more than 10 million gallons of crude oil into Prince William Sound.



Usher and his team would later be assigned by former U.S. President George H.W. Bush to lead the international cleanup of the Persian Gulf after Iraqi forces dumped millions of gallons of oil into the gulf during the Iraq War (Operation Desert Storm) in 1991.

Back in the U.S., David would lead MPC's response efforts to the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina in 2005, the costliest natural disaster in U.S. history. He would also play a major role in the cleanup efforts associated with the Kalamazoo River oil spill in 2010 in which a 30-inch pipeline ruptured near Marshall, Michigan, spilling over one million gallons of diluted bitumen into the surrounding tributary.

Usher also helped launch the Spill Control Association of America (SCAA), of which he served as president for many years. He was also president of the International Spill Control Organization (ISCO), a director of the Marine Response Alliance, vice chairman of the American Society for Testing Materials (ASTM), and director and past president of the Liquid and Industrial Waste Haulers and Processors. He was also crucial in the development of the American Salvage Association and the implementation of the Oil Pollution Act of 1990 that continues to protect U.S. waters today.

Those who were fortunate enough to have known David would know that his first career was in music. He worked as an A & R man for Argo Records, producing jazz greats such as James Moody, Ahmad Jamal, and Yusef Lateef. He even enjoyed a 50-year friendship with the great jazz trumpeter, Dizzy Gillespie. They traveled the world together and produced some of the trumpeter's famed musical numbers. Usher would also become a partner in Gillespie's label, Dee Gee Records.

Usher is survived by four children: Lisa, Ellen (Michael Rancilio), Amy and Charles (Hope), seven grandchildren and four great-grandchildren. He was predeceased by his parents, Charles and Hannah Usher, siblings William, Morris, and Reva, daughter Mary Belinda, and ex-wife and dear friend Althea Dionne Usher.



## OBITUARY (CONTINUED)

On a personal note: I first met David when I represented Marine Pollution Control (MPC) within the Marine Response Alliance. David, who was also a world class charmer, immediately took me under his wing. Not only would he insist on coming to client meetings with me so I could observe and learn from his 'spiel', but he selflessly dedicated many long hours teaching me the history of MPC and the OPA-90 / SMFF regulations. I was so proud to represent someone as proactive as David and the MPC family. Many may not be aware, but David saw the need for a more robust environmental response infrastructure in the U.S well before many others.

In fact, he strategically placed MPC's high-capacity pumping systems around the United States prior to the implementation of OPA 90 and so, when the Exxon Valdez incident occurred, his equipment was first on the scene to begin lightering and pollution control. Dave, as his acquaintances would call him, was an incredible innovator and businessman who fought for the protection of our seas and an IMO ambassador, but more importantly, he was a genuinely kind and good human being who touched the lives of nearly everyone around him. I fondly recall the occasion where Dave, at 85 years of age, flew out to Park City Utah in the middle of winter to attend my late husband's, Capt. Rich Habib, funeral and to be by my side. I will never forget David and look forward to honoring him at the next ASA AGM with the ASA Lifetime Achievement Award.

*May your memory be a blessing, Dave. On behalf of the ASA, I wish you fair winds and following seas.*

*With fond memory, Lindsay Malen-Habib, Immediate Past President, ASA*



## RECENT INTERESTING PEER-REVIEWED OIL SPILL PUBLICATIONS



### CONTINUING THIS NEW COLUMN CREATED BY DR. MERV FINGAS

This is part of a weekly column which provides the references and abstracts of new peer-reviewed scientific publications on oil spills. These references are selected on the basis of those papers that provide new insights into the fate, effects and control of oil spills. Readers may choose to obtain the full publications and to do so, one of three methods is suggested; contact your library, search the internet with the DOI (digital object identifier) provided, or search the internet for the exact title. These are given in the order of likely success in obtaining the article. We hope that this provides useful information. Merv Fingas, ISCO colleague.



**16. OIL POLLUTION OF BEACHES (2022) CURRENT OPINION**

Huettel, M.

Chemical Engineering, 36, art. no. 100803

DOI: 10.1016/j.coche.2022.100803

**ABSTRACT:** Oil contamination of beaches causes significant damage as these ecosystems are unique habitats that provide foraging and nesting grounds for a variety of animals including endangered species, and play pivotal roles in shore line protection and coastal economies. Even small oil spills in the ocean result in sizable slicks that currents transport to sandy beaches that line a third of the global shoreline. Weathering during transit reduces the degradability, viscosity and density of the oil, influencing its fate at the shore. While photolysis, biodegradation, tidal pumping, and seasonal sediment movement facilitate relatively rapid removal of stranded oil from sandy beaches of temperate and warm climates, thick buried oil layers persist for decades in armored gravel beaches of cold shores, emphasizing the controls of beach morphodynamics, biodegradation, and climate in the recovery from beach oil pollution.

**17. THE INFLUENCE OF SALINITY ON THE CHRONIC TOXICITY OF SHALE GAS FLOWBACK WASTEWATER TO FRESHWATER ORGANISMS (2022)**

Golding, L.A., Kumar, A., Adams, M.S., Binet, M.T., Gregg, A., King, J., McKnight, K.S., Nidumolu, B., Spadaro, D.A., Kirby, J.K.

Journal of Hazardous Materials, 428, art. no. 128219, .

DOI: 10.1016/j.jhazmat.2022.128219

**ABSTRACT:** The potential environmental risk associated with flowback waters generated during hydraulic fracturing of target shale gas formations needs to be assessed to enable management decisions and actions that prevent adverse impacts on aquatic ecosystems. Using direct toxicity assessment (DTA), we determined that the shale gas flowback wastewater (FWW) from two exploration wells (Tanumbirini-1 and Kyalla 117 N2) in the Beetaloo Sub-basin, Northern Territory, Australia were chronically toxic to eight freshwater biota. Salinity in the respective FWWs contributed 16% and 55% of the chronic toxicity at the 50% effect level. The remaining toxicity was attributed to unidentified chemicals and interactive effects from the mixture of identified organics, inorganics and radionuclides. The most sensitive chronic endpoints were the snail (*Physa acuta*) embryo development (0.08–1.1% EC10), microalga (*Chlorella* sp. 12) growth rate inhibition (0.23–3.7% EC10) and water flea (*Ceriodaphnia* cf. *dubia*) reproduction (0.38–4.9% EC10). No effect and 10% effect concentrations from the DTA were used in a species sensitivity distribution to derive “safe” dilutions of 1 in 300 and 1 in 1140 for the two FWWs. These dilutions would provide site-specific long-term protection to 95% of aquatic biota in the unlikely event of an accidental spill or seepage.

**18. RESILIENCE OF LARVAL WOOD FROGS (*RANA SYLVATICA*) TO HYDROCARBONS AND OTHER COMPOUNDS RELEASED FROM NATURALLY WEATHERED DILUTED BITUMEN IN A BOREAL LAKE (2022)**

Patterson, S.A., Denton, D.T.J., Hasler, C.T., Blais, J.M., Hanson, M.L., Hollebhone, B.P., Rodriguez-Gil, J.L., Langlois, V.S., Patey, G., Yang, Z., Orihel, D.M.

Aquatic Toxicology, 245, art. no. 106128

DOI: 10.1016/j.aquatox.2022.106128

**ABSTRACT:** The risks to aquatic wildlife from spills of diluted bitumen (dilbit) into inland waters are poorly understood. In this paper, we describe the response of larval wood frogs (*Rana sylvatica*) to hydrocarbons and other compounds released from experimental spills of dilbit in a temperate boreal lake. To simulate a wide range of environmentally relevant oil spill scenarios, different volumes of Cold Lake Winter Blend dilbit (0, 1.5, 2.9, 5.5, 18, 42, 82, and 180 L) were added to 10 m diameter in-lake limnocorrals. Larvae ( $n = 360$ ) were reared (from Gosner Stage (GS) 25 to ~42) in land-based aquatic microcosms, where they were first exposed to clean water during a 2-week baseline phase, and then (at GS ~30), to contaminated water withdrawn from the limnocorrals for 3 weeks. We observed no statistically significant trends in survival, growth, or development of larvae as a consequence of exposure to the chemical compounds released from naturally weathered dilbit. Likewise, neither cytochrome P450 1A biomarkers nor levels of thyroid hormones in wood frogs near metamorphic climax were significantly related to volume of the oil spills. However, there was a modest statistically significant decrease in larval activity (up to 8.7% relative to the control), but no change in other behavioral metrics (i.e., sociality or space use). Our work adds to the limited body of literature on the effects of unconventional oils on aquatic wildlife and helps to inform risk assessments regarding pipeline projects.

**19. HIGH RESOLUTION ORBITRAP MASS SPECTROMETRY ANALYSIS OF OXIDIZED HYDROCARBONS FOUND IN FRESHWATER FOLLOWING A SIMULATED SPILL OF CRUDE OIL (2022)**

Heshka, N.E., Peru, K.M., Xin, Q., Dettman, H.D., Headley, J.V.

Chemosphere, 292, art. no. 133415,

DOI: 10.1016/j.chemosphere.2021.133415

**ABSTRACT:** Negative ion electrospray Orbitrap mass spectrometry was used to analyze water samples taken from a pilot-scale spill tank test of conventional crude oil on freshwater. A 56-day spill test was performed, and water samples were taken at regular intervals throughout the test to determine what changes in water chemistry occur with time. Orbitrap mass spectrometry was used to measure oxidized species in water samples, and oxidized species are analyzed by carbon number, double bond equivalent and hydrocarbon class. Emphasis is placed on changes with time over the course of the spill test, to examine changes by weathering processes that

## RECENT INTERESTING PEER-REVIEWED OIL SPILL PUBLICATIONS (CONTINUED)

could occur naturally in a field spill scenario. Results demonstrate that while the concentrations of polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons decrease in the water phase over time, the concentrations of total organic carbon and oxidized species in the water increase with time, where quantities of O2 and O3 species have the highest abundance. Measurement of increasing concentrations and changing relative abundances of these oxidized compounds can be used to assess how oil behaves in a freshwater aquatic environment after a spill.

## TRAINING COURSES

### USEFUL LINKS

- INTERNATIONAL – IMO E-LEARNING PLATFORM [e-learning platform](#)
- AUSTRALIA – AMOSC - <https://amosc.com.au/training/>
- AUSTRALIA & NEW ZEALAND – ALGA - <https://landandgroundwater.com>
- EUROPE – [EMSA Academy 2022. Courses Catalogue](#)
- FRANCE - CEDRE - Click on these links [training catalogue](#) and [2022 calendar](#).
- UK & WORLDWIDE – OIL SPILL RESPONSE LTD. - <https://www.oilspillresponse.com/training/courses/>
- UK & WORLDWIDE – BRIGGS ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES LTD. - <https://www.briggsmarine.com/services/training/>
- UK – NCEC HAZMAT ACADEMY – [More info](#)
- USA – TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY – NATIONAL SPILL CONTROL SCHOOL <http://nscs.tamucc.edu/schedule-2020-2021.html>
- USA – MPC, DETROIT - <https://marinepollutioncontrol.com/services/training-and-compliance>
- USA – ALLIANCE OF HAZARDOUS MATERIALS PROFESSIONALS - [https://www.ahmpnet.org/events/event\\_list.asp](https://www.ahmpnet.org/events/event_list.asp)

Members who would like to be listed here, please contact your editor – [john.mcmurtrie@spillcontrol.org](mailto:john.mcmurtrie@spillcontrol.org)

## UPCOMING EVENTS

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To see ALL of the posted events you will need to click on “LOAD MORE” at the foot of each opened “upcoming events” page. Event organisers are requested to notify ISCO immediately if a listed event is cancelled or postponed. Your Editor does his best to keep the 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. Please advise the Editor if any of the entries require correction or updating. If you are holding an event you would like to be featured here, please send details to [John.mcmurtrie@spillcontrol.org](mailto:John.mcmurtrie@spillcontrol.org)

**Newly added to the Upcoming Events page – 5th Premium Conference 2022, The Netherlands, 22<sup>nd</sup> June**

## UPCOMING WEBINARS & PODCASTS

**TO VIEW UPCOMING WEBINARS PLEASE CLICK ON** <https://spillcontrol.org/upcoming-webinars/>

To see ALL of the posted webinars you may need to click on “LOAD MORE” at the foot of the opened “upcoming webinars” page.

Webinar organisers are requested to notify ISCO immediately if a listed webinar is cancelled or postponed. Your Editor does his best to keep the listing up-to-date but it should not be assumed that listed webinars have not been cancelled or postponed. It is recommended that you check with webinar organisers before finalising your attendance plans. Please advise the Editor if any of the entries require correction or updating. If you are holding a webinar you would like to be featured here, please send details to [John.mcmurtrie@spillcontrol.org](mailto:John.mcmurtrie@spillcontrol.org)

**Newly added – Envirotech - Spills & Soil Contamination Webinar – 20<sup>th</sup> April**

**Recently added – Informational Webinar on National Resources Canada’s \$10 million Oil Spill Response Challenge**

## MESSAGES FROM EVENT ORGANISERS

### UK & IRELAND SPILL ASSOCIATION - INLAND CONFERENCE 28 APRIL

The Inland Conference is taking place at The Terrace, Exhibition Centre, Liverpool. [Programme & Registration](#)

### AUSTRALIA & NEW ZEALAND – ECOFORUM 2022

The papers submission deadline is May 16, 2022 5:00 PM. [More info](#)

**REMINDER: REGIONAL WORKSHOP ON THE ROLE OF VOLUNTEERS IN POLLUTION RESPONSE ALONG THE COAST AND IN THE SHORELINE, 10-11 MAY 2022, SOUTH HAMMAMET-TUNISIA** [Registration](#)



## MESSAGES FROM EVENT ORGANISERS (CONTINUED)

### USA: CLEAN GULF CONFERENCE & EXHIBITION – REGISTRATION OPEN

Registration has officially opened for the CLEAN GULF Conference & Exhibition, taking place November 8-10 in New Orleans. We are currently offering loyalty registration rates, which are the lowest rates we will offer all year! Rates expire on May 13th and will increase by \$150 [Register for Clean Gulf](#)

### CANADA: INTERNATIONAL OIL SPILL SCIENCE CONFERENCE 2022 OCTOBER 4-7

IOSSC 2022 REGISTRATION IS OPEN - Attendees will be able to connect with the oil spill response community, government, industry, and academia to work together to deal with the challenges in the field of oil spill response. The conference will bring experts from around the world to present their latest research in the field of oil spill science including spill prevention, contingency planning, and environmental rehabilitation. [About IOSSC 2022](#) [Call for Abstracts](#) [Registration](#)

### EUROPE: INTERSPILL DELEGATE REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN

Please [CLICK HERE](#) to register to attend this event at RAI Exhibition and Convention Centre, Amsterdam on 21-23 June. There is a form to fill in which will prompt a request for payment for the options you select.

### USA: CLEAN PACIFIC CONFERENCE & EXHIBITION: AUGUST 23-24 - PRELIMINARY CONFERENCE AGENDA

[View the preliminary agenda](#) [Register for Clean Pacific](#) ISCO Members should register with VIP Code ISCO

### CANADA: 44<sup>th</sup> AMOP TECHNICAL SEMINAR ON ENVIRONMENTAL CONTAMINATION AND RESPONSE

The 44<sup>th</sup> AMOP Technical Seminar on Environmental Contamination and Response will take place from June 7 to 9, 2022. On behalf of Environment and Climate Change Canada, we are announcing that the 44<sup>th</sup> AMOP Seminar will be a virtual-only format Seminar. The Seminar provides a forum for professionals working in the field of oil and hazardous materials spills. The forum facilitates the transfer of scientific results and is intended to link research and the operational community. All submitted papers are peer-reviewed by scientific and technical experts.

<https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/services/science-technology/arctic-marine-oilspill-program.html>  
[Registration form: 44rd AMOP technical seminar on environmental contamination and response - Canada.ca](#)

### THE NETHERLANDS – 5<sup>th</sup> PREMIAM CONFERENCE

5th Premiam Conference 2022 – book your place! Registration is now open. It is our pleasure to announce after previous years delays due to COVID we can announce that the 5th Premiam conference will be held on the 22 June 2022 at the RAI, Amsterdam as part of the larger Interspill Conference running between 21-23 June. [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

US Government solicitations are frequently posted in Technology Innovation News Survey <https://clu-in.org/products/tins/> US EPA Tech Direct <https://clu-in.org/techdirect/td012022.htm> and USA Federal Contracts Update <https://clu-in.org/Federal-Contract-Opportunities> European Maritime Safety Agency invitations to tender are often posted in The EMSA Newsletter. (Look in “Links for other publications” for the current issue of this publication)

## LINKS FOR DOWNLOADING AND READING OTHER PUBLICATIONS

### TO VIEW LINKS FOR DOWNLOADING AND READING OTHER PUBLICATIONS PLEASE CLICK ON

<https://spillcontrol.org/2021/10/19/links-for-downloading-and-reading-other-publications/>

As a service to its Members ISCO provides a listing of publications that may be of interest to our community. This page provides details and links for downloading more than 40 publications most of which can be accessed at no cost. This page is frequently updated. ISCO depends on regular receipt of updated URL links for listed publications. If these are not received, relevant entries will

## LINKS FOR DOWNLOADING AND READING OTHER PUBLICATIONS (CONTINUED)

be discontinued. Publishers are kindly requested to advise the editor [john.mcmurtrie@spillcontrol.org](mailto:john.mcmurtrie@spillcontrol.org) if any links are not up-to-date. Readers wishing to recommend the addition of additional publications should contact the editor.

## NEW PUBLICATIONS

### CEDRE NEWSLETTER N° 310, MARCH 2022

Contents –

- Emergency response
  - Cedre Information Day: Consideration of Environmental Impacts
  - Cedre is recruiting work-study students!
  - Cedre will be at Interspill!
  - Inland water incident management course
  - IMO 2 training course in Martinique
  - Review for the port of Lorient
  - Webinars to present litter monitoring networks
  - New trials in the Polludrome®
  - CleanAtlantic project extended until June 2023
  - Mission in Martinique
  - From the Landes to the Basque Country
  - MANIFESTS project meeting in Spain
  - Yvelines fire brigade training at Cedre
- [Download the latest CEDRE Newsletter](#)

## JOB SEEKERS

### ISCO STUDENT MEMBER MARKO DORDEVIC

Marko is looking for a company to challenge him and grow his skill set in oil spill response, environment, and new technology. Marko's CV and contact info can be found at <https://spillcontrol.org/job-seekers/>

## INCIDENT REPORTS

### USA: NOAA OR&R INCIDENT RESPONSES FOR MARCH 2022

This month OR&R responded to 13 incidents in March, including oil discharges, grounded vessels, and other pollution-related incidents. Here is the complete list of last month's incidents, click on the links to find out more:

- [Ethanol Release in Port of Palm Beach, FL.](#)
- [Ballast Water Tank Contaminated with Acetic Acid, Galveston, TX.](#)
- [Diesel release - offshore Bodega Bay, CA.](#)
- [Pipeline Leak Adjacent to Slough, Unalakleet, AK.](#)
- [Oil Pipeline Discharge into Cahokia Canal, Edwardsville, IL.](#)
- [Containership Grounded off Gibson Island in Chesapeake Bay.](#)
- [Floating Humpback Whale Carcass off of Carolina Beach, NC.](#)
- [Compromised Fuel Transfer Pipe Spills Oil into Oswego New York Harbor, Oswego, NY.](#)
- [Tug Vessel Loses Power, Grounds, and Leaks Diesel in Neva Strait, Sitka, AK.](#)
- [Sailing Vessel Sunk Off Santa Cruz, CA.](#)
- [Tug Boat Sunk at its Pier, Duluth, MN.](#)
- [Satellite-Detected Anomaly Northwest of Point Reyes, CA.](#)
- [Navy Plane Crashed on Chincoteague Island, VA.](#)



Above: Containership grounded off Gibson Island in Chesapeake Bay. Image Credit – US Coast Guard

[More info / Source document](#)



### SOUTH AFRICA: UPL POLLUTION DAM AT CHEMICAL DEPOT SPILLS

April 13 - A pollution control dam at UPL Ltd.'s fire-damaged chemical warehouse near the eastern South African city of Durban has spilled following heavy rains. The dam, a re-purposed storm-water facility, had been carefully managed and its contents taken to a landfill, the company said in a statement. Bloomberg / [Read more](#)

### BRAZIL: MAERSK CONTAINER SHIP LOST CONTAINERS OVERBOARD AT SANTOS

April 14 - Two containers fell into water from Maersk-operated (EQUASIS) container ship MONTE CERVANTES during cargo operation at Tecon container terminal, Santos Port, Brazil, on Apr 14. Four containers stacks collapsed but these containers remained on board. Maritime Bulletin / [Read more](#)

### TUNISIA: BUNKER TANKER SINKING OR SANK OFF GABES

April 15 - Bunker tanker XELO issued distress signal on Apr 15, reporting water ingress, flooded engine room, at Gabes Anchorage, Tunisia, Gulf of Gabes. All 7 crew (Azerbaijani, Armenian, Turkish nationalities) were reportedly evacuated. Ship loaded with 750 tons of fuel was en route from Sfax Tunisia to probably, Egypt. Maritime Bulletin / [Read more](#)

April 16 - Fuel ship sinks off Tunisia, threatens marine life. Navy rescues crew; authorities activate 'national emergency plan' to prevent pollution from oil spill. The cause of the incident was bad weather, the Environment Ministry said. The Hindu / [Read more](#)

#### REPORTS IN THE MARITIME BULLETIN

In the Maritime Bulletin, Mikhail Voytenko regularly advises on vessel abandonments, groundings and sinkings – several every week – but, unless there is an immediate and significant release of oil or chemicals, spillages are not reported. However many of Mikhail's reports cover incidents that may have potential to cause pollution. To view all of his reports, visit <https://www.maritimebulletin.net/>

#### NO NEWS FROM YOUR PART OF THE WORLD ?

Members and other readers are invited to help rectify the balance of world news reporting. News stories from North America, UK, Australia, etc. are much more accessible on the internet than reports from other parts of the world and especially from non-English-speaking countries. To make it easier for readers in other parts of the world to contribute stories your editor is considering options to include links for interesting articles in other languages. If you come across a report or an article that you think worth sharing with other members of the response community, why not send it to the editor at [info@spillcontrol.org](mailto:info@spillcontrol.org)

#### JOIN ISCO ONLINE – IT'S QUICK AND EASY

**There are lots of positive advantages in joining this organisation which has a worldwide membership in over 50 countries –**

Being part of a worldwide community of professionals who share a common interest + Receive rapid advice of emergency spill response supply requirements from governments, responsible parties and others arising from major spills and have the opportunity to offer support services, equipment and materials + Receiving ISCO's weekly newsletter keeping you up-to-date on events, developing technologies, new legislation and other matters of mutual interest + Access to a comprehensive online Technical and Reference facility for oil and HNS - spill response tools, guidelines, manuals and other information + Identifying opportunities for providing new products and services needed in domestic and overseas markets + Practical help in building incident response capacity and competence enhancement + Through ISCO, having a voice in the drafting of new legislation that will affect your area of interest + Opportunities to participate in ISCO work groups developing new ideas and projects + Through the International Offers of Assistance initiative opportunities to have a role in the response to major oil spill events + Networking with other members, sharing experiences, discussing problems and helping find good solutions + Free listing in ISCO's International Directory of Supplies and Services with your entry hyperlinked to your own website. [Download the Joining Form](#)

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