

## 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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- Mr John McMurtrie, VP and Editor (UK)
- Ms Mary Ann Dalgleish, VP M'ship (USA)

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Individuals marked with \* are members of IE

- Mr Neil Marson \* (UK)
- Mr John McMurtrie\* (UK)
- Ms Mary Ann Dalgleish \* (USA)
- Captain Bill Boyle (UK)
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- Mr Dan Sheehan (USA)
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- Ms Helena Rowland (USA)
- Dr Larissa Montas (USA)
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## HEADLINE INTERNATIONAL NEWS

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## INTERGOVERNMENTAL NEGOTIATING COMMITTEE (INC) ON PLASTIC POLLUTION

*Progress being made towards legally binding international rules*

**Intergovernmental negotiating committee (INC) to develop an international legally binding instrument on plastic pollution, including in the marine environment.**

In February 2022, at the resumed fifth session of the United Nations Environment Assembly ([UNEA-5.2](#)), a historic resolution (5/14) was adopted to develop [an international legally binding instrument on plastic pollution, including in the marine environment with the ambition to complete the negotiations by end of 2024](#).

The instrument is to be based on a comprehensive approach that addresses the full life cycle of plastic. The INC will consider how to promote sustainable production and consumption of plastics from product design to environmentally sound waste management through resource efficiency and circular economy approaches.

As at 14<sup>th</sup> January 2023, governments are contributing US \$ 11,413,830 to the fund for developing a legally binding instrument on plastic pollution. UNEP / [Read more](#)

[Resolution adopted by the United Nations Environment Assembly on 2 March 2022](#)

The second session of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee to develop an international legally binding instrument on plastic pollution, including in the marine environment, will take place in Paris, France from 29 May to 2 June 2023. The session will be preceded by regional consultations on 28 May 2023. UNEP / [Read more](#)

[From your editor – ISCO was originally established in 1984 “to raise 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”

In recent years plastic pollution has come to be recognised as at least as important a threat to the marine environment as spills of oil and chemicals. Many ISCO members have become increasingly interested in making a contribution to the development of their capabilities in equipment manufacturing, counter-pollution response services, training and consultancy provision. ISCO has reacted in a positive way and has broadened its scope of activity to also address plastic pollution. In the ISCO Newsletter we have been giving more prominence to heightening awareness of the problems being caused by plastic pollution, publicising relevant member activities and aiming to promulgate information on technical developments that can be usefully adopted with benefit to our community and our environment.]

## ISCO AMBASSADORS

(Members with special responsibilities in specified geographical areas)

Carlos Sagrera Latin America (Spanish speaking)  
Matthew Sommerville UK London  
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Wu Yue China

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## INTERNATIONAL AND REGIONAL NEWS

### 6TH MEETING OF STAC REITERATES IMPORTANCE OF IMPLEMENTING PROTOCOL CONCERNING POLLUTION FROM LAND-BASED SOURCES AND ACTIVITIES

February 13 - Contracting Parties and Observers at the Sixth Meeting of the Scientific, Technical and Advisory Committee (STAC) to the Protocol Concerning Pollution from Land-Based Sources (LBS) and Activities in the Wider Caribbean, have reiterated the urgent need to protect our very valuable but fragile and vulnerable coastal and marine ecosystems from the negative impacts of marine pollution. The Virtual Meeting, held from February 1-3, was hosted by the UNEP Cartagena Convention Secretariat as part of its mandate under the Convention to support governments in protecting the Caribbean Sea.

Countries in the Wider Caribbean are heavily dependent on the ocean for economic livelihoods and social well-being. Key economic sectors which depend on the ocean such as fishing, tourism and shipping employ millions. A conservative estimate of USD 407 billion was made in 2012 of the gross revenues generated by the ocean economy in the Caribbean Sea alone.

Despite the overwhelming social and economic dependence on the ocean in the region, the Vision of a healthy Caribbean Sea is threatened by poorly planned urbanization and unsustainable and harmful production and consumption practices, which put an unhealthy strain on the coastal and marine environment. Research suggests that the Caribbean generates 14,000,000 tonnes of solid waste annually or approximately 39,000 every day. It is said that more than 50% of this waste ends up in open air dumps and rivers.

The Protocol Concerning Pollution from Land-Based Sources was adopted in Oranjestad, Aruba, on the 6th October 1999 and entered into force on the 13th August 2010. This marked a major regional milestone since to date, it represents the only regional binding agreement for countries in the Wider Caribbean to address marine pollution from all land-based sources. UN Environment / [Read more](#)

## ISCO NEWS

At the AGM held last Thursday Dr Larissa Montas volunteered to take charge of progressing ISCO's initiative in regard to the Nurdles matter. Members of the Interim Executive (IE) have accepted her gracious offer. She will very much appreciate help and support from members and readers in fulfilling this role.

Members of the Executive Committee are preparing summary minutes of the AGM meeting. This will be published in next week's newsletter.

Mike Watson is collating the AGM voting forms and the results will be published next week.

John Wardrop is going to prepare a series of short articles for the newsletter and ISCO website to assist members in their understanding of the roles and responsibilities of ISCO officers and committees.

John McMurtrie is looking for help from members and readers in preparing content for the weekly ISCO weekly newsletter. Items for publication in the new "Nurdles" section would be especially welcome and, as always, he is looking for interesting articles that will be of interest to our worldwide community.

News items from Members of ISCO Council (ISCO's national representatives) are very welcome. Your editor makes weekly visits to websites of many national environmental agencies and other in-country organisations every week but many of these are short of any current news content and time does not allow for engagement with multiple social media sites.

Members and readers are reminded that ISCO needs to increase its membership in order to generate more funds needed to maintain and enhance the range of services it provides for its members. Your help is requested.

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## NEWS REPORTS FROM AROUND THE WORLD

### AUSTRALIA: NAVY AND AMSA JOIN TO ENHANCE MARITIME OPERATIONS

February 16 - Today, the Royal Australian Navy and Australian Maritime Safety Authority (AMSA) have strengthened the relationship between military and civilian maritime jurisdictions to support safety at sea and delivery of naval capability.

Chief of Navy, Vice Admiral Mark Hammond AM, RAN and Chief Executive Officer AMSA, Mr Mick Kinley, signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) which provides the process to move vessels from Australia’s civilian regulation authority (known as Flag administration) to operate under a Defence Flag administration. Vice Admiral Hammond said the MOU provided greater agility for Defence and partner

agencies to quickly respond to a variety of needs and contingencies in the maritime environment. AMSA / [Read more](#)

### BRAZIL: IBAMA PERFORMS RELEASE OF 1.1 MILLION TURTLE SUPINES IN THE TAPAJÓS RIVER

February 16 - The Quelons of the Amazon Program (PQA), a biodiversity conservation initiative coordinated by Ibama, reached on Wednesday (15/02) the mark of 1,115,724 Amazonian turtle (*Podocnemis expansa*) chicks born in only one reproductive period. The new record was reached in the reproductive area known as Tabuleiro de Monte Cristo, on the Tapajós River (PA), where actions were carried out to protect and monitor the species, from the migration of the shoals to the hatching of the eggs. The number exceeds in more than four thousand puppies the previous record, reached at the same place in the 2017-2018 season. Typically, playback takes place from August to February. IBAMA / [Read more](#)

## ADVERTISEMENT

By advertising in the ISCO Newsletter you will be directly supporting the work of ISCO and helping to ensure the continuation of this publication. ISCO is 100% dependent on the support of the international spill response community it serves.

**ISCO’s Articles of Association state** – “The income and property of the Company, whencesoever derived, shall be applied solely towards the promotion of the objects of the Company as set out in this Memorandum of Association, and no portion thereof shall be paid directly or indirectly by way of dividend, bonus or otherwise by way of profit, to the Members of the Company”.

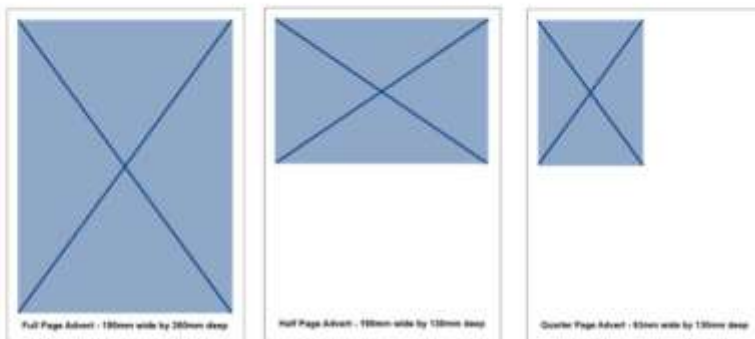
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### What is the ISCO Newsletter?

ISCO’s weekly newsletter is focused in international, regional and national news that is of interest to professionals, companies and organisations involved in oil and chemical spill control and the emerging field of CBRN incident response.

Through the Newsletter and its other activities, ISCO is disseminating information on new developments – technical advances, legislation, events and other matters that affect the international spill response community.

## To receive a copy of the new media pack please contact [spillcontrol@mwadigital.com](mailto:spillcontrol@mwadigital.com)

## **CANADA: STRENGTHENING THE CANADIAN ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION ACT, 1999 AND RECOGNIZING A RIGHT TO A HEALTHY ENVIRONMENT**

February - Since its reintroduction in February 2022, the bill Strengthening Environmental Protection for a Healthier Canada Act, also known as Bill S-5, has been carefully studied and reviewed; it first underwent a review by the Senate and is currently under review by the House of Commons' Standing Committee on Environment and Sustainable Development. The Committee has invited over 30 witnesses, ranging from various experts, organizations, and communities, to share their points of view and recommendations. The Bill includes numerous amendments to modernize the Canadian Environmental Protection Act, 1999 (CEPA) for the first time in twenty years. Government of Canada / [Read more](#)

## **TUNISIA: MOIG DIRECTOR MAKES VISIT TO CEDRE**



*Photo courtesy of MOIG*

February 13 - 08 February 2023, The MOIG Director conducted a visit to the Center of Documentation, Research and Experimentation on Accidental Water Pollution (Cedre), Technical Partner based in Brest-France.

The MOIG Director met Mr. Christophe Logette, Director, Mr. Arnaud Guéna, Operations Manager, Mme. Nathalie Monvoisin, Studies and Training Department Manager, Mme. Marion Lavenir, Management Assistant Events and Communication, Mme. Anne-Cecile Jan from the Information Department - Librarian and Mme. Nathalie Padey from the Information Department - Audiovisual.

The main objective of this visit was to identify common interests and opportunities for mutually beneficial cooperation between Cedre and MOIG. During the visit, the MOIG Director accompanied by the operations manager was afforded the opportunity to see all the areas of Cedre facility such as: The Oil spill training and cleanup areas, the warehouse containing oil spill response equipments, the maintenance workshop, the laboratories and the documentation center. MOIG / [Read more](#)

## **EGYPT: THE MINISTERS OF ENVIRONMENT AND HIGHER EDUCATION DISCUSS WAYS TO SUPPORT COOPERATION BETWEEN THE TWO MINISTRIES**

February 9 - Dr. Ayman Ashour, Minister of Higher Education and Scientific Research, received Dr. Yasmine Fouad, Minister of Environment, to discuss ways to support cooperation between the two ministries in a number of joint files, at the headquarters of the Ministry of Higher Education. Dr. Yasmine Fouad stressed the importance of preparing qualified human cadres to work in areas related to the environmental sector and climate change in Egypt. EEAA / [Read more](#)

## **EGYPT: IMAREST LAUNCHES NEW STUDENT SECTION IN ALEXANDRIA**

February 13 – “We are excited to launch our newest IMarEST Student Section in Alexandria, Egypt, to support networking and professional development opportunities for those studying a marine discipline in the region. Building on the local presence of the existing IMarEST Egypt Branch, the new Student Section is based at the Arab Academy for Science, Technology and Maritime Transport (AASTMT). Formed towards the end of 2022, the Section has been busy with a number of events, including a careers fair at the Academy. The event attracted many of the shipping, oil, and gas companies that operate in Egypt, throughout the Middle East, and North Africa regions. IMarEST / [Read more](#)

### FRANCE: POLLUTION CONTROL TRAINING: PRACTICES AND ISSUES (2023)

February - Cedre Information Day, 21 March 2023, at La Défense - On the initiative of its Strategic Committee, Cedre is organising an Information Day on training practices and challenges in the field of pollution control.

The day, which is expected to be opened by an IMO representative, will be divided into three parts. A first session will address the needs of public authorities responsible for pollution response. Speakers representing European civil protection, land and sea authorities in charge of ORSEC/POLMAR-Land and Sea provisions will discuss the organisation of training in Europe and France. Examples of France and international implementation will then be presented by interlocutors from different countries.

CEDRE / [Read more](#)

### FRANCE : EMERGENCY RESPONSE

February - Cedre's duty team was very busy in January:

- Integration of Cedre in a UNEP/OCHA response team, via the European Union, sent to the Saint Brandon archipelago off Mauritius after a Taiwanese fishing vessel ran aground on a coral reef. An engineer from Cedre provided her expertise to the Mauritian authorities during a 2-week mission.
- Many occurrences of plastic pellets, in varying quantities, reported to the on-call team by DDTM, marine parks and MRCCs in Finistère, Morbihan, Loire-Atlantique, Vendée and Manche. Mobilisation of 4 technical advisers in Loire-Atlantique, Vendée and North Finistère for field surveys.
- Drafting of summary reports/situation reports for the municipalities affected by plastic pellets for the land-based authorities (MTECT/DEB, DGAMPA/PNE, DDTM44, Préfecture du Finistère, Préfecture de la zone de défense et de sécurité ouest).
- Assistance and advice to the Seine-et-Marne fire brigade (SDIS 77) following a leak of a corrosive, basic, inorganic liquid "CARGO 4100 FORTE" into the sewer system.
- Reporting by MRCC Corsen of viscous micro-tarballs in Plouharnel (Morbihan)
- Spill of 100 litres of home heating oil into the Aber marsh in Crozon (Finistère) reported by the Iroise Marine Nature Park PNMI.
- Drift forecast request from MRCC Jobourg following the receipt of a CleanSeaNet alert in the bay of the Seine River in relation to a FAME (Fatty Acid Methyl Ester) spill.
- contacted during an ICE exercise involving phenol in solution launched by the Swedish ICE centre and during a MAR-ICE exercise involving phenol and ammonia launched by Spain (SASEMAR).
- Contacted by CEPOL during an exercise organised in La Reunion. During this exercise, Cedre was questioned on the recovery and the health risks related to the temporary storage of fuel oil in the open air.

[Read more in CEDRE's January Newsletter](#)

### UK: NATIONAL CHEMICAL EMERGENCY CENTRE (NCEC) – NEW DANGEROUS GOODS PROJECT

February - NCEC is conducting a project on behalf of the Department for Transport. The Department wishes to better understand the frequency, location and details of dangerous goods incidents and accidents which may be occurring and encourage incident reporting where appropriate.

The project aims to gather data on the occurrence of incidents and accidents relating to the carriage of dangerous goods in the UK. It is hoped that increased data will lead to a better understanding of current formal reporting levels and whether these are an accurate reflection of the national picture. The project also aims to raise awareness and promote the reporting requirements for dangerous goods incidents that occur on the road network and to support this, we have compiled the below bulletin.

It is anticipated that a social value will result from this project in terms of economic and environmental benefits, by highlighting the incidents occurring and enabling consideration to be given to measures that might reduce the number of dangerous goods related incidents. It is our intention to share back any insights gathered with contributing agencies as the project develops.

[Download your copy of the DfT bulletin](#) [Thanks to ISCO Committee Member, John Wardrop for sending in this news]

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

February 13 – Please click on the links below to download and read the latest news from NOAA OR&R

#### **NOAA and Partners Release New Report on Estimating and Measuring Oil Slick Thickness**

NOAA and partners recently released a new report on oil slick thickness, "[Comparing Recent Advances in Estimating and Measuring Oil Slick Thickness: An MPRI Technical Report](#)(link is external)

#### **NOAA Engages the Public on Marine Debris at Smithsonian National Museum of Natural History**

Last month, the NOAA Marine Debris Program, within the Office of Response and Restoration, participated in an "Expert Is In" program at the Smithsonian National Museum of Natural History in Washington, D.C.

## NEWS REPORTS FROM AROUND THE WORLD (CONTINUED)

### Report on Recycling Abandoned, Derelict and End-of-Life Recreational Vessels Now Available

Last week, NOAA's Marine Debris Program, within the Office of Response and Restoration, released the report, "[Recycling Opportunities for Abandoned, Derelict, and End-of-Life Recreational Vessels\(link is external\)](#)."

### NOAA Contributes to Pollution Assessment and Data Harmonization Effort

Last month, NOAA's Marine Debris Program, within the Office of Response and Restoration, presented at the workshop "Data and Harmonization to Improve the Circularity of Plastics" hosted by the National Institute of Standards and Technology.

## USA: HIGH-PROFILE CHEMICAL SPILLS ON RAILS, ROADS PROMPT TRANSPORT CONCERNS

February 15 - Recent chemical spills on the nation's roads and rails, including from a fiery train derailment this month in northeast Ohio, have spurred questions about the safety of transporting toxic chemicals on long distances and through American towns.

While images of flames and overturned rail cars near the Pennsylvania border highlighted the consequences of crashes, transportation officials and experts say there's no indication of a rise in such events. Despite the high-profile spills, federal data shows chemical leaks while in transit are happening less often. The number of hazmat incidents resulting from crashes or derailments across all modes of transportation fell to 80 last year, down from more than 360 a decade ago.

Washington Post / [Read more](#)

## PEOPLE IN THE NEWS

### LAURENT DUVERNAY-TARDIF APPOINTED AS THE CANADIAN COAST GUARD'S FIRST HONORARY CAPTAIN

February 8 - The Canadian Coast Guard is proud to announce the appointment of Laurent Duvernay-Tardif as our very first Honorary Captain. By accepting this honorary title, Mr. Duvernay-Tardif will act as an ambassador to promote the mission and values of the Canadian Coast Guard. He has distinguished himself through his love of sailing and the marine environment.

Canadian Coast Guard / [Read more](#)

## NEWS FROM ISCO MEMBERS

Corporate Members of ISCO can by submitting news about new products and services in the "News from ISCO Members" section of the ISCO Newsletter. This is a free facility for Members. Given that the ISCO Newsletter has a large and highly targeted readership in over 50 countries, it's a cost-effective way to promote your company. If you have some news you would like to share with readers of the ISCO Newsletter, send it to [John.McMurtrie@spillcontrol.org](mailto:John.McMurtrie@spillcontrol.org)

## CASE STUDY – ULTRAFILTRATION FOR PRODUCTION OF POTABLE WATER



## NEWS FROM ISCO MEMBERS (CONTINUED)

Climate change increases extreme weather conditions around the world. Latin-America especially has suffered from severe storms during the rainy season, which generates challenges to traditional municipal infrastructure operations.

Our client in Brazil had challenges to produce potable water from river water during the rainy season. Heavy rain generates soil erosion which increases the solids accumulation into the river water, which impacts the treatment process.

Lamor has developed a solution for this demanding need and deployed an ultrafiltration rental unit for the pretreatment of more than 120,000 m<sup>3</sup>/month of potable water in Brazil.

Our fully automated ultrafiltration system is integrated into a 40 ft HC container, producing 180 m<sup>3</sup>/hour, and operating "stand-alone". We have also our latest remote control and diagnostics approach implemented into the setup. The sensor technology enables precise process control and operation, which ensures stable quality of the treated water. Lamor / [Read more](#)

## NURDLES - PREVENTION, CLEAN-UP TECHNOLOGY AND ONGOING R&D WORK

*The ISCO Executive Committee is looking into how our organisation can assist by co-operating with others in promulgating better prevention and response capabilities that can be adopted on a worldwide basis. Readers of the ISCO Newsletter are invited to contribute information that can be shared within our community and help to improve our capability to counter this pollution in more effective ways.*

**ISCO** – Dr Larissa Montas, Member of ISCO’s Executive Committee, is co-ordinating ISCO’s project to disseminate information that will be of value to our international community in preventing and countering pollution resulting from nurdle spills.

**CEDRE** - In January, Cedre sent an engineer to the Saint Brandon archipelago (Mauritius) as part of the UNEP/OCHA mission, and was involved in the response to large quantities of plastic pellets washing up on the west coast of France, in collaboration with “DDTM 44. Cedre also launched the first 2023 annual shoreline litter monitoring campaign. Finally, various discussions were held, in particular with CEPPOL, GPD Atlantique and the IRA-MAR project partners. More details about these events are available in the articles below and on our website [www.cedre.fr](http://www.cedre.fr)

**UN and IMO** - The International Maritime Organization, a UN agency, has asked pollution experts to examine the options for “reducing the environmental risk associated with the maritime transport of plastic pellets (nurdles)”. The IMO said a panel of experts would submit their findings for a meeting in April 2023. Source – [Article in The Guardian](#).

**UK & IRELAND SPILL ASSOCIATION** – Webinar on Wed, 15 Mar 2023, 15:00 GMT on “ Identifying and operating effective equipment for microplastic recovery” Details can be downloaded from “Upcoming Events” at <https://spillcontrol.org/upcoming-events/>

**Universities and Academia** carrying out R&D work on countering nurdle pollution are invited to share info on their work.

## SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

If you are interested in new technology you may find it useful to visit Technology Innovation News Survey at <https://clu-in.org/products/tins/> and Tech Direct at <https://clu-in.org/techdirect/archive/>

### ESTIMATING AND MEASURING OIL SLICK THICKNESS – WORKSHOP REPORT

Characterization of the degree and extent of surface oil during and after an oil spill is a critical part of emergency response and Natural Resource Damage Assessment (NRDA) activities. More specifically, understanding floating oil thickness in real-time can guide response efforts by directing limited assets to priority cleanup areas; aid in ‘volume released’ estimates; enhance fate, transport and effects modeling capabilities; and support natural resource injury determinations. An international workshop brought researchers from agencies, academia and industry who were advancing in situ and remote oil characterization tools and methods together with stake holders and end users who rely on information about floating oil thickness for mission critical assignments (e.g., regulatory, assessment, cleanup, research). In total, over a dozen researchers presented and discussed their findings from tests using various different sensors and sensor platforms. The workshop resulted in discussions and recommendations for better ways to leverage limited resources and opportunities for advancing research and developing tools and methods for oil spill thickness measurements and estimates that could be applied during spill responses.

One of the primary research gaps identified by the workshop participants was the need for side-by-side testing and validation of these different methods, to better understand their respective strengths, weaknesses and technical readiness levels, so that responders would be better able to make decisions about what methods are appropriate to use under what conditions, and to answer the various questions associated with response actions.

“Comparing Recent Advances in Estimating and Measuring Oil Slick Thickness” is a recent published MPRI Technical Report. University of New Hampshire Scholars' Repository / [Read more and find link for downloading this report](#)

[Thanks to Dr Larissa Montas, Member of ISCO Executive Committee, for contributing this article]



### A COLUMN CREATED BY DR. MERV FINGAS, MEMBER OF ISCO COUNCIL

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. Merv Fingas, ISCO Colleague.

#### **41. The recalcitrance and potential toxicity of polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons within crude oil residues in beach sediments at the BIOS site, nearly forty years later**

Hunnie, B.E., Schreiber, L., Greer, C.W., Stern, G.A.  
 (2023) *Environmental Research*, 222, art. no. 115329, .  
 DOI: 10.1016/j.envres.2023.115329

**ABSTRACT:** The Arctic is a unique environment characterized by extreme conditions, including daylight patterns, sea ice cover, and some of the lowest temperatures on Earth. Such characteristics in tandem present challenges when extrapolating information from oil spill research within warmer, more temperate regions. Consequently, oil spill studies must be conducted within the Arctic to yield accurate and reliable results. Sites of the Baffin Island Oil Spill (BIOS) project (Cape Hatt, Baffin Island, Canadian Arctic) were revisited nearly 40 years after the original oil application to provide long-term monitoring data for Arctic oil spill research. Surface and subsurface sediment samples were collected from the intertidal zone of the 1981 nearshore oil spill experiment (Bay 11), from 1980 supratidal control plots (Crude Oil Point) and 1982 supratidal treatment plots (Bay 106). Samples were analyzed for Polycyclic Aromatic Hydrocarbons (PAHs) and alkylated homologues via Gas Chromatography – Mass Spectrometry (GC-MS). Our results suggest that total mean concentrations of all measured PAHs range from 0.049 to 14 mg/kg, whereas total mean concentrations of the 16 US EPA priority PAHs range from 0.02 to 2.1 mg/kg. The relative proportions of individual PAHs were compared between sampling sites and with the original technical mixture. Where available, percent loss of individual PAHs was compared with data from samples collected at the BIOS site, in 2001. All three sites featured samples where concentrations of various priority PAHs exceeded the established Interim Marine Sediment Quality Guidelines. All supratidal samples contained potentially toxic levels of PAHs. Even after nearly four decades of weathering, the recalcitrant crude oil residues remain a potential hazard for the native organisms. Continued monitoring of this unique study site is crucial for establishing a timeline for oil degradation, and to observe a reduction in toxicity over time.

#### **42. Disturbance legacies and shifting trajectories: Marsh soil strength and shoreline erosion a decade after the Deepwater Horizon oil spill**

McClenachan, G., Turner, R.E.  
 (2023) *Environmental Pollution*, 322, art. no. 121151,  
 DOI: 10.1016/j.envpol.2023.121151

**ABSTRACT:** Marsh resilience post disturbance is strongly dependent on the belowground dynamics affecting the emergent plants aboveground. We investigated the long-term impacts at the marsh-water interface in coastal wetlands of south Louisiana after the 2010 Deepwater Horizon oil spill with a combination of fieldwork (2010–2018) and spatial analysis (1998–2021). Data were collected on shoreline erosion rates, marsh platform elevation heights and cantilever overhang widths, and soil strength up to 1 m depth. Oil concentration in the top 5 cm of the marsh soil were determined using gas chromatography/mass spectrometry and were 1000 times higher than before the spill and remained 10 times higher eight years post-oiling. The oiling initially caused the marsh edge to subside, and chronic effects lowered soil strength, creating a faster erosion rate and deeper water within 150 cm of the shoreline. Soil strength declined by 50% throughout the 1 m soil profile after oiling and has not recovered. The mean erosion rate for 11 years post-spill was double that before oiling and there was an additive impact on erosion rates after Hurricane Isaac. Erosion appeared to have recovered to pre-spill rates by 2019, however from 2019 to 2021, the rate increased by 118% above the pre-spill rate. The continuing loss of soil strength indicates that the belowground biomass was seriously compromised by oiling. The perpetuation of oil in the remaining marsh may have set a new baseline for soil strength and subsequent storm induced erosional events. The remaining marsh soils retain chronic physical and biological legacies compromising recovery for more than a decade that may be evident in other marsh habitats subject to oiling and other stressors.

#### **43. Investigating beaked whale's regional habitat division and local density trends near the Deepwater Horizon oil spill site through acoustics**

Li, K., Sidorovskaia, N.A., Guilment, T., Tang, T., Tiemann, C.O., Griffin, S.



(2023) *Frontiers in Marine Science*, 9, art. no. 1014945, <https://www.scopus.com/inward/record.uri?eid=2-s2.085147177488&doi=10.3389%2ffmars.2022.1014945&partnerID=40&md5=7014724d5335f5ea8394dc7e5eca9aef>  
DOI: 10.3389/fmars.2022.1014945

**ABSTRACT:** Pre-spill and post-spill passive acoustic data collected by multiple fixed acoustic sensors monitoring about 2400 km<sup>2</sup> area to the west of the Deepwater Horizon oil spill in the northern Gulf of Mexico (GoM) were analyzed to understand long term local density trends and habitat use by different species of beaked whales. The data were collected in the Mississippi Valley/Canyon area between 2007 and 2017. A multistage algorithm based on unsupervised machine learning was developed to detect and classify different species of beaked whales and to derive species- and site-specific densities in different years before and after the oil spill. The results suggest that beaked whales continued to occupy and feed in these areas following the Deepwater Horizon oil spill thus raising concerns about (1) potential long-term effects of the spill on these species and (2) the habitat conditions after the spill. The average estimated local density of Cuvier's beaked whales at the closest site, about 16 km away from the spill location showed statistically significant increase from July 2007 to September 2010, and then from September 2010 to 2015. This is the first acoustic study showing that Gervais' beaked whales are predominantly present at the shallow site and that Cuvier's species dominate at two deeper sites, supporting the habitat division (ecological niche) hypothesis. The findings call for continuing high-spatial-resolution long-term observations to fully characterize baseline beaked whale population and habitat use, to understand the causes of regional migrations, and to monitor the long-term impact of the spill.

#### **44. Establishing connectivity patterns of eastern oysters (*Crassostrea virginica*) on regional oceanographic scales.**

Powers, S.P., Roman, H., Meixner, J., Wirasaet, D., Brus, S., Fricano, G., Westerink, J.  
(2023) *Ecosphere*, 14 (1), art. no. e4337, .  
DOI: 10.1002/ecs2.4337

**ABSTRACT:** Localized depletion of marine and estuarine populations often results from large-scale natural and anthropogenic disturbances (e.g., hurricanes, oil spills) as well as overharvest of fisheries resources. Understanding how such localized depletions may affect populations at larger regional scales requires knowledge of connectivity among local populations within the larger regional landscape or metapopulation. Efforts to restore populations following such decreases require similar knowledge. During the 2010 Deepwater Horizon oil spill, dramatic declines of oysters occurred throughout estuaries west and east of the Mississippi River. We examined trajectories of particles, which were parameterized to mimic oyster larvae, using the ADvanced CIRCulation (ADCIRC; <https://adcirc.org>) model to evaluate potential connectivity within and among embayments from Western Louisiana to Alabama. Patterns of larval settlement, which we defined as the intersection of a larval particle with known or expected oyster habitat at any point 13–21 days post-release, reflected much greater local contributions, with 50%–90% of settled particles originating within the same subdivision of embayments. Exchange among subdivision was much less (0%–40%) and settlement originating from outside the embayment of release was trivial under most scenarios (0%–14%). Connectivity between adjacent basins was greatest for larvae released in the southern portions of the embayment, whereas connectivity among nonadjacent basins was not predicted under the scenarios modeled. Because most local populations are relatively isolated on ecological timescales, areas suffering from extensive local depletion are likely to require extensive time to recover due to the lack of larval subsidy from the overall regional population. Restoration would require building stepping-stone populations or reefs within and among basin to restore a high degree of connectivity.

#### **45. Cold sediment microbial community shifts in response to crude oil water-accommodated fraction with or without dispersant: a microcosm study,**

Hafez, T., Ortiz-Zarragoitia, M., Cagnon, C., Cravo-Laureau, C., Duran, R.  
(2023) *Environmental Science and Pollution Research*,  
DOI: 10.1007/s11356-023-25264-6

**ABSTRACT:** In cold environments, the low temperature slows down microbial metabolisms, such as the biodegradation processes of hydrocarbons, which are often stimulated by the addition of dispersants in oil spill disasters. In this study, we investigated the effects of hydrocarbon water-accommodated fraction (WAF) prepared with and without dispersant on benthic microbial communities in a microcosm experiment in which hydrocarbon removal was observed. Both WAFs contained similar polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbon (PAH) content. The microcosm experiment, set up with either pristine or contaminated sediments, was conducted for 21 days at 4 °C under WAF and WAF + dispersant conditions. The behavior of bacterial communities in response to WAF and WAF + dispersant was examined at both DNA and RNA levels, revealing the effect of WAF and WAF + dispersant on the resident and active communities respectively. The contaminated sediment showed less taxa responsive to the addition of both WAF and WAF + dispersant than the pristine sediment, indicating the legacy effect by the presence hydrocarbon-degrading and dispersant-resistant taxa inhabiting the contaminated sediment.

**46. Variations in Polycyclic Aromatic Hydrocarbon Contamination Values in Subtidal Surface Sediment via Oil Fingerprinting after an Accidental Oil Spill: A Case Study of the Wu Yi San Oil Spill, Yeosu, Korea,**

Min, B., Jeong, H., Oh, J., Paek, K., Paeng, W., Lee, J., Cho, C., Cho, H.  
(2023) Water (Switzerland), 15 (2), art. no. 279,  
DOI: 10.3390/w15020279

**ABSTRACT:** This study determined the PAH contamination variations in the subtidal surface sediment with oil fingerprinting in the Wu Yi San oil spill in Yeosu, Korea, in January 2014. The  $\Sigma 16$  PAHs and  $\Sigma$ alkyl PAHs were investigated in surface sediment and seawater 1 month after the oil spill for 1 year at 3-month intervals in the accident (St. A-F) and adjacent areas (St. 1-20). The averaged  $\Sigma 16$  PAHs and  $\Sigma$ alkyl PAH concentration in the five samplings were 42.2–171.7 ng/g and 211.5–221.8 ng/g, respectively. Comparing the PAH levels in St.E and St.17 indicated a decreased tendency, from 357.9 to 31.1 ng/g dw. in  $\Sigma 16$  PAHs, and from 1900.9 to 211.5 ng/g dw. in  $\Sigma$ alkyl PAHs. The PAHs were not statically correlated between surface sediment and seawater ( $p > 0.05$ ), implying that the fate of PAHs was rapidly dispersed toward adjacent coasts and beaches. Pyrogenic origin was predominant in 16 PAHs, and petrogenic origin in alkylated PAHs. Notably, C2-D/C2-P and C3-D/C3-P ratios in the accident area during the first sampling were similar to accident oil, but the similarity was not shown in other samplings. Only the C2-naphthalene (St.A), C1-phenanthrene (St.A and St.B), and C2-phenanthrene (the entire accident area points) concentrations were higher than the ERL SQG.

**TRAINING COURSES (**

**Training Course Providers – Please check entries below and advise editor on any necessary updates.**

**USEFUL LINKS**

- INTERNATIONAL – IMO E-LEARNING PLATFORM [e-learning platform](#)
- AUSTRALIA – AMOSC - <https://amosc.com.au/training/>
- AUSTRALIA & NEW ZEALAND – ALGA - <https://landandgroundwater.com>
- CHINA - <http://www.sioetc.com>
- EUROPE – EMSA Academy 2022. [Courses Catalogue](#)
- FRANCE - CEDRE - <https://wwz.cedre.fr/Menu-secondaire/A-la-une/Le-calendrier-des-formations-2023-est-disponible>
- 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 <https://www.tamucc.edu/research/nscs/>
- 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)

**CERTIFICATE IN MARINE POLLUTION & MANAGEMENT – LLOYD’S MARITIME ACADEMY**

Online, 12 weeks, Starts 15<sup>th</sup> March 2023 [Visit website for more info](#)

**CERTIFICATE IN ALTERNATIVE FUELS – LLOYDS MARITIME ACADEMY**

Online, Starting 25 April 2023 Delivered by digital learning over 14 weeks. [Visit website for more info](#)

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

**TO VIEW UPCOMING EVENTS CLICK ON [HTTPS://SPILLCONTROL.ORG/UPCOMING-EVENTS/](https://spillcontrol.org/upcoming-events/)**

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)

**FEBRUARY 2023**

- JAPAN – HYBRID PAJ OIL SPILL WORKSHOP 2023 – “LATEST CHALLENGES FOR MAJOR OIL SPILL RESPONSE” – TOKYO, February 22nd 2023
- Canada – Winter 2023 Oceans Protection Plan (OPP) Dialogue Forum, 22-23 February 2023
- WEBINAR FROM HALENHARDY – “MITIGATING THE IMPACTS OF STORMWATER POLLUTANTS”, 22 FEBRUARY, 10 AM EST
- Portugal – World Ocean Summit & Expo, February 27 – March 1, Lisbon, Portugal

## MARCH 2023

- WEBINAR – EM OSR KNOWLEDGE TRANSFER- “OIL SPILL ASSESSMENT AND CLEAN-UP THROUGH THE AGES”, DR ERICH GUNDLACH. 7TH MARCH
- WEBINAR from UK & Ireland Spill Association – “Identifying and Operating Effective Equipment for Microplastic Recovery”, Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> March, 1500 GMT
- NORWAY – NOSCA SEMINAR 2023, BODO, NORWAY, 20-24 MARCH, 2023
- WEBINAR FROM ALGA – “MICROPLASTICS POLICIES & RESEARCH AROUND THE GLOBE”, THURSDAY 23 MARCH, 8.00AM – 9.30AM AEDT
- Gabon – OSRL Technical Forum, 23 March 2023
- Ireland – UK & Ireland Spill Association – Regional Networking Event – Belfast, 29<sup>th</sup> March 2023

## APRIL 2023 & ONWARDS

- OSRL WEBINAR – “SUBSEA RESPONSE READINESS”, WEDNESDAY 5 APRIL, 1400 GMT
- WEBINAR FROM UK SPILL & IRELAND ASSOCIATION – “SUSTAINABLE SPILL RESPONSE”, WEDNESDAY 19 APRIL, 1500 BST
- Canada – 45<sup>th</sup> Technical Seminar on Environmental Contamination & Response, Edmonton, Alberta, 4-6 June, 2023
- USA – Clean Waterways Conference & Exhibition, Denver CO, 11-13 April 2023
- European Maritime Day, Brest, France, 24-25 May, 2023
- UK: Hazmat 2023 Conference, 24-25 May 2023

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## SOME OTHER INFO AND UPCOMING EVENTS

Details of 7 more webinars from US EPA at <https://clu-in.org/techdirect/td022023.htm>

Australia – April 26 & 27 – PFAS Training & Workshop, University of Technology, Sydney – [More info](#)

USA: May 8. 2023 - APICOM GM Meeting, Santa Barbara, CA, Location - MSRC's facility at Carpinteria

Recordings of past EM OSR Knowledge Transfer Webinar Recordings – [Access and Download](#)

## MESSAGES FROM EVENT ORGANISERS

### NORWAY: NOSCA SEMINAR 2023: MARCH 20-24, 2023

NOSCA will arrange the next NOSCA Seminar in week 12/23 (20-24.03.23) in Bodø, Norway.

The seminar will focus on following topics:

- Early warning, remote sensing technologies
- Subsea dispersion
- Experiences from recent incidents
- Standardization project
- Technology transfer: From traditional oil spill prevention to combat marine litter
- Observation of OKEA's large scale exercise “Draugen”

Price: NOK 16.500 incl. hotel accommodations and all local transports. Please register by Dec 31, 2022 by using the link below (payment by Paypal) or send an email to [info@nosca.no](mailto:info@nosca.no) Our main topic will be "Tomorrow's challenges and solutions within oil spill response". Beside of two conference days, the seminar participants will be able to observe the large scale exercise “D1H” which will be carried out by NOFO and OKEA. For more information and registration please read <https://www.nosca.no/nosca-seminar/>

### USA: COLORADO - CLEAN WATERWAYS 2023, DENVER, 11-13 APRIL, 2023

Clean Waterway takes place at the Hilton Denver City Center Hotel in Denver, CO, on April 11-13. [More News re conference & abstract submission](#) [Registration](#) [Introduction to the Planning Committee](#) [EXHIBIT SPACE AND SPONSORSHIPS ARE AVAILABLE](#) [Agenda](#). Updated information received on 8th February

### CROATIA: ADRIASPILLCON 2023, OPATIJA, 16<sup>th</sup> - 18<sup>th</sup> MAY, 2023

ADRIASPILLCON 2023 will be held in Opatija, Croatia, between 16 and 18 May 2023 and is being organized by ATRAC - Adriatic training and education centre for accidental marine pollution preparedness and response, with the support of the Ministry of Maritime Affairs, Transport and Infrastructure. The Conference, complemented with an exhibition of relevant products and services, aims at providing a forum for exchange of experience and knowledge in the fields of prevention, preparedness for and response to accidental marine pollution by oil and other hazardous and noxious substances (HNS), among the participants from the Adriatic region and their counterparts from other parts of Europe and the Mediterranean.

All the relevant information will soon be available on the Conference website <https://adriaspillcon.com/>.

## MESSAGES FROM EVENT ORGANISERS (CONTINUED)

### CANADA: 45TH AMOP TECHNICAL SEMINAR ON ENVIRONMENTAL CONTAMINATION AND RESPONSE: EDMONTON, 6-8 JUNE 2023

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. The Technical Seminar features plenary sessions of 10- or 20-minute presentations on spill-related topics including Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear, and Explosives (CBRNE). Sessions will begin at 8:00 a.m. each day. The presentations are followed by a 5- or 10-minute question and answer period. Sessions may also conclude with Speaker's Corner presentations at which results of more recent research can be discussed without an associated paper. Government of Canada / [Seminar Information](#)

### AUSTRALIA: BRISBANE - SPILLCON 2023: 11-15 SEPTEMBER 2023

The Australian Institute of Petroleum (AIP) and the Australian Marine Oil Spill Centre (AMOSC) invite you to attend the international oil spill conference for the Asia-Pacific region, Spillcon 2023. Spillcon 2023 will bring together local, regional and global environmental and shipping representatives across industry, government and non-government organisations to provide an avenue to discuss issues including causes and prevention, preparedness, response management and environmental issues. Spillcon 2023 has been confirmed for 11 – 15 September 2023 at the Brisbane Convention and Exhibition Centre, Queensland, Australia. This website will be regularly updated with further information for sponsors, exhibitors and delegates. <https://www.spillcon.com/>

### USA: CLEAN GULF CONFERENCE & EXHIBITION – SAN ANTONIO, NOVEMBER 7-9, 2023

**Time is running out for submission of abstracts - Deadline is 24<sup>th</sup> February. For more info and list of topics, click [HERE](#)**

**Now Accepting Reservations for Exhibit Space and Sponsorships for CLEAN GULF 2023** - Make an impact on buyers from oil & gas, maritime, rail, environmental companies and regulatory agencies with an exhibit space or sponsorship at the [CLEAN GULF Conference & Exhibition](#). Attendees at CLEAN GULF are looking for new products, services, and technologies to help them better prepare or respond to a hazardous spill or environmental emergency.

### USA: IOSC 2024 CALL FOR PAPERS AND POSTERS REMINDER

The International Oil Spill Conference (IOSC) brings together the broadest range of global oil spill response professionals to discuss the latest research, technology, and resources impacting our community today. Submit a proposal to become a leader at our next convening in New Orleans, Louisiana, May 13 - 16, 2024.

Click on <https://ssl.linklings.net/conferences/IOSC/> to visit the submission site. Then, select the "Create an Account" tab at the top of the page to begin your submission. All submissions are due April 24, 2023

## CONTRACTS, TENDERS AND BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

### INTERNATIONAL OPEN TENDER NOTIFICATIONS

This is a subscription service. <https://www.tender247.com/keyword/oil+spill+tenders+global>

### 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/archive/> and USA Federal Contracts Updates <https://clu-in.org/Federal-Contract-Opportunities> European Maritime Safety Agency invitations to tender are often posted in The EMSA Newsletter <https://www.emsa.europa.eu/newsroom/newsletters.html>

### EMSA HAS LAUNCHED A NEW PROCUREMENT PROCEDURE FOR SERVICE CONTRACT FOR EQUIPMENT ASSISTANCE SERVICE (EAS) IN THE BALTIC SEA AND THE NORTH SEA. [More info](#)

## LINKS FOR DOWNLOADING AND READING OTHER PUBLICATIONS

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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. ISCO depends on regular receipt of updated URL links for listed publications. If these are not received, relevant entries will be discontinued.

## NEW PUBLICATIONS

### CEDRE NEWSLETTER FOR JANUARY 2023

In January, Cedre sent an engineer to the Saint Brandon archipelago (Mauritius) as part of the UNEP/OCHA mission, and was involved in the response to large quantities of plastic pellets washing up on the west coast of France, in collaboration with DDTM 44. Cedre also launched the first 2023 annual shoreline litter monitoring campaign. Finally, various discussions were held, in particular with CEPPOL, GPD Atlantique and the IRA-MAR project partners. More details about these events are available on our website [www.cedre.fr](http://www.cedre.fr) [Download the CEDRE Newsletter](#)

### THE UK DANGEROUS GOODS EMERGENCY ACTION CODE LIST 2023 IS NOW AVAILABLE



The Dangerous Goods Emergency Action Codes List 2023 is now available. The new list has again been produced by the NCEC, in co-operation with the UK Home Office and is published by TSO.

The EAC List 2023 is effective immediately in connection with the use of ADR/RID 2023 Edition and is mandatory from 1 July 2023. The Emergency Action Code List 2021 should no longer be used from that date.

Duty holders are required to use the 2023 EAC List for the application of the appropriate EACs under Schedule 1 of the Carriage of Dangerous Goods and Use of Transportable Pressure Equipment Regulations 2009 (CDG 2009) (as amended); and of the Carriage of Dangerous Goods and Use of Transportable Pressure Equipment Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2010 (CDG 2010) (as amended).

[Download the Dangerous Goods Emergency Action Code List](#)

## INCIDENT REPORTS

### MARITIME ACCIDENT REPORTS FROM THE MARITIME BULLETIN [www.maritimebulletin.net](http://www.maritimebulletin.net)

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/>

### USA: NOAA OR&R INCIDENT RESPONSES FOR JANUARY 2023

In January 2023, OR&R responded to 14 new incidents in 10 different states. The new incidents included 11 actual or potential oil spills, one natural gas well, one chemical spill, and one marine debris (tracking a derelict drift net). Here are some of January's notable incidents. Here is the complete list of January's incidents, click on the links to find out more

- [Inspected Tow Vessel \(ITV\) Taking on Water, Port of Milwaukee, WI](#)
- [Risks from Decommissioned U.S. Navy Torpedo Recovery Vessel, Edisto Island, SC](#)
- [Derelict Tug Sheening on Black River, Lorain, OH](#)
- [Broken Wellhead Discharge, Houston Ship Channel, Pasadena, TX](#)
- [Derelict Gill Net in Florida Keys NMS; Florida Keys](#)
- [Sheen Report at Summerland Beach, Summerland, CA](#)
- [Diluted Bitumen \(Tar Sands oil\) Spill into Mill Creek, Devon, KS](#)
- [Barge Collision, Lower Mississippi River, Angola, LA](#)
- [Spill from U.S. Naval Vessel during Transfer Operations, Norfolk, VA](#)
- [Sunken Dredge Barge, MM 85 of the Mississippi River](#)
- [Mystery Spill in Breton Sound, LA](#)
- [Oil Discharge from Platform in Lake Washington, Port Sulphur, LA](#)
- [Navy Vessel Sunk after Collision with Security Zone Boom, Bangor Trident Base, WA](#)
- [Sunken tug vessel, Conneaut, OH](#)

### NIGERIA: FRESH OIL SPILL HITS RIVERS COMMUNITY

February 12 - The Shell Petroleum Development Company on Saturday confirmed an oil spill in Ebubu, Eleme Local Government Area of Rivers State. A spokesperson for Shell, Michael Adande, in a statement in Port Harcourt on Saturday night said the incident occurred at the company's Ebubu and Oghale Manifold 12" pipeline in Rivers State. Punch / [Read more](#)

### VIETNAM: SINGAPORE-REGISTERED CONTAINER VESSEL COLLIDES WITH BAHAMIAN SHIP

February 13 - The 2,038 TEU Wan Hai 288 and the 920 TEU Resurgence collided on the Long Tau river in southern Vietnam on 11 February. The two ships were severely damaged and several containers from the first ship were destroyed as the port bow of the vessel was hit by Resurgence, whose bow was crunched in the incident. Safety4Sea / [Read more](#)

### USA: OHIO – CONTINUATION OF REPORTS ON RAILROAD DERAILMENT

**February 14** - Norfolk Southern plans wells to monitor groundwater as part of East Palestine remediation. Trains / [Read more](#)

**February 14** - Ohio cleaning up toxic train derailment as pollution 'plume' moves downstream. Reuters / [Read more](#)

**February 15** - Ohio town faces possible health, environmental disaster U News / [Read more](#)

**February 16** - Dead animals and reports of sickness as ecological disaster unfolds Independent / [Read more](#)

**February 16** - Experts struggle to gauge potential health impacts of chemical spill ABC News / [Read more](#)

**February 17** - What to Know About the Ohio Train Derailment and Chemical Spill: A Timeline of Events People / [Read more](#)

### BANGLADESH: 60,000 LITRES OF OIL SPILL AS TRAIN DERAILS IN CHATTOGRAM

February 15 - Three wagons of an oil-laden train derailed at Chattogram Goods Port Yard (CGPY) at Halisahar of Chattogram. Among them, nearly 60,000 litres of oil spilled from two wagons, posing a serious threat to the environment. The derailment took place around 7:00pm on Wednesday evening. It is feared that the spilled oil could reach the Karnaphuli river through the canals. Prothomalo / [Read more](#)

### INDIAN OCEAN: TROUBLED TANKER SHELTERED

February 17 - Feb 17: Tanker half-submerged, setting on bottom by bow part. Spill reported and visible on photo, either fuel or asphalt, not clear. Bitumen tanker AASHI reportedly encountered unspecified issues in Indian ocean while en route from UAE to Padang, West Sumatra, while passing Nias island on Feb 10, developed list and understood, tried to shelter at Nias west coast on Feb 11, probably anchored Maritime Bulletin / [Read more](#)

## HISTORY

### 27 YEARS ON: A LOOK BACK AT THE SEA EMPRESS OIL SPILL

TWENTY-SEVEN years ago, on February 15, 1996, the Sea Empress oil tanker was entering the mouth of the Cleddau Estuary on her way to Milford Haven.

Unfortunately for the tanker and the wildlife around the Pembrokeshire coast, she would run aground off St Anne's Head, hitting rocks that damaged the hull of the ship.

She was carrying 130,018 tonnes of Forties light crude oil according to the Marine Accidents Investigation Branch's 1997 report, with 71,800 tonnes slowly starting to spill into the sea, polluting 120km of coastline according to Natural Resources Wales (NRW).

The oil spill was the cause of the deaths of thousands of birds and marine life and affected the local fishing industry with orders put in place banning fishing in the affected areas. These orders were beginning to be lifted around three months after the spill as testing of the waters and fish showed returns to normal. Around 7,000 birds were collected covered in oil and the ITOPI report states around half of them survived and were released into the wild after cleaning. However, around 23 per cent of the guillemots that were rescued died shortly after being released. South Wales Argus / [Read more](#)

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