

## 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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## HEADLINE INTERNATIONAL NEWS

PLEASE CLICK ON THE BANNERS BELOW FOR MORE INFORMATION



## UN DELEGATES REACH HISTORIC AGREEMENT ON PROTECTING MARINE BIODIVERSITY IN INTERNATIONAL WATERS



*Marine biologists have discovered that whales capture tonnes of carbon from the atmosphere. Photo courtesy of Unsplash/Thomas Kelley*

March 5 - Secretary-General António Guterres has congratulated UN member countries for finalizing a text to ensure the conservation and sustainable use of marine biological diversity of areas beyond national jurisdiction, calling it a “breakthrough” after nearly two decades of talks.

“This action is a **victory for multilateralism** and for global efforts to counter the destructive trends facing ocean health, now and for generations to come,” said the UN chief in a statement issued by his Spokesperson late Saturday evening just hours after the deal was struck at UN Headquarters in New York, where **tough negotiations** on the draft treaty have been under way for the past two weeks.

The agreement reached by delegates of the Intergovernmental Conference on Marine Biodiversity of Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction, better known by its acronym **BBNJ**, is the culmination of UN-facilitated talks that began in 2004.

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(Members with special responsibilities in specified geographical areas)

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## INTERNATIONAL AND REGIONAL NEWS

Already being referred to as the 'High Seas Treaty', the legal framework would put more money into marine conservation and covers access to and use of marine genetic resources.

Through his Spokesperson, Mr. Guterres said the treaty is crucial for addressing the triple planetary crisis of climate change, biodiversity loss and pollution. United Nations / [Read more](#)

### IMO WELCOMES NEW OCEANS TREATY

March 6 - IMO Secretary-General Kitack Lim says landmark treaty will reinforce efforts to protect biodiversity.

IMO has been present throughout the negotiations for the new oceans treaty.

IMO has welcomed the landmark agreement on a new oceans treaty to protect marine biodiversity on the high seas.

The new legally binding international instrument on the conservation and sustainable use of marine biological diversity in areas beyond national jurisdiction – known as 'BBNJ' was agreed on 4 March, following conclusion of the fifth round of treaty negotiations at the United Nations headquarters in New York, United States.

IMO Secretary-General Kitack Lim said:

"Following almost two decades of discussions and negotiations, I am pleased to see the conclusion of the new legally binding instrument on marine biodiversity in areas beyond national jurisdiction, which was finalized in New York on Saturday 4 March. This landmark achievement will no doubt reinforce efforts to protect biodiversity in line with the aims of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Kunming-Montreal Global Framework for Biodiversity. IMO has participated throughout the negotiations given the organisation's mandate and expertise and will continue to participate, in the implementation of the new instrument. IMO looks forward to further strengthening our cooperation with Member States, the UN family and all other stakeholders." [IMO / Read more](#)

### UN SECURES EURONAV TANKER TO OFFLOAD OIL FROM DECAYING 'FSO SAFER' IN RED SEA

March 9 - The United Nations has purchased a large tanker to store about 1.1 million barrels of oil that will be transferred from a decaying vessel off Yemen's coast in a bid to avert an environmental disaster, officials said on Thursday.

U.N. officials have been warning for several years that the Red Sea and the coastline of Yemen was at risk as the Safer tanker could spill four times as much oil as the 1989 Exxon Valdez disaster off Alaska.

But the top U.N. official in Yemen, David Gressly, said no-one had stepped up to donate a tanker and no company was willing to lease a vessel that would be used near a civil war "even though this situation has calmed down considerably."

The United Nations has said the clean-up of a spill could cost \$20 billion, but yet it is struggling to raise the \$129 million needed to remove the oil from the Safer and pay for the vessel bought from Euronav for \$55 million. gCaptain / [Read more](#) Related Reports in [The Maritime Executive](#) and [BBC News](#) [Thanks to Marc Shaye, Hon.FISCO]

### PLASTIC ENTERING OCEANS COULD NEARLY TRIPLE BY 2040 IF LEFT UNCHECKED -RESEARCH

March 8 - Plastics entering the world's oceans have surged by an "unprecedented" amount since 2005 and could nearly triple by 2040 if no further action is taken, according to research published on Wednesday.

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## INTERNATIONAL & REGIONAL NEWS (CONTINUED)

An estimated 171 trillion plastic particles were afloat in the oceans by 2019, according to peer-reviewed research led by the 5 Gyres Institute, a U.S. organisation that campaigns to reduce plastic pollution.

Marine plastic pollution could rise 2.6 fold by 2040 if legally binding global policies are not introduced, it predicted. The study looked at surface-level plastic pollution data from 11,777 ocean stations in six major marine regions covering the period from 1979 to 2019 Reuters / [Read more](#)

### THE IOPC FUNDS IS PROUDLY CELEBRATING INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY

March 8 - The IOPC Funds is proudly celebrating International Women's Day on 8 March and is committed to supporting gender equality and the empowerment of women throughout the year as per the UN Sustainability Goal 5.

Among other initiatives, the IOPC Funds continues to actively participate in the IMO Gender programme, the mentorship scheme developed by the International Maritime Organization for female students of the International Maritime Law Institute (IMLI) and the World Maritime University (WMU). Senior personnel of the IOPC Funds Secretariat are again acting as mentors for students in both institutions this year. [IOPC Funds](#)

## ISCO NEWS

The recently launched ISCO Basecamp platform for the use of ISCO Working Groups, Members of the Executive Committee (EC) and Secretariat, and our Student Members has proved to be very successful. Each "room" on the site is completely private enabling members of relevant working groups to exchange ideas, views and information with only the members of their own groups. This greatly reduces the number of email exchanges. The ability to find and review past correspondence easily without having to trawl through emails is a major advantage. Any work group participants, committee members, etc. who are not yet using the new communications platform should start to do so ASAP.

Members of the ISCO Executive Committee, Matthew Sommerville, Hon.FISCO, and Carlos Sagrera, Hon.FISCO, are working in co-operation with ISCO Corporate Member, Oceanpact Servicios Maritimos S.A. on an exciting new ISCO project to organise a Seminar which will take place in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, later this year. Updated progress reports will be posted in the ISCO newsletter and members of the Executive Committee will be able to monitor progress via the EC page in our communications platform.

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**MPC IS OSRO #003**

**BRUNEI: ONLINE WORKSHOP FOR THE MARITIME PORT AUTHORITY OF BRUNEI DARUSSALAM**



March 6 - On 6 March 2023, the IOPC Funds was delighted to present an online workshop to the Maritime Port Authority of Brunei Darussalam.

Senior Claims Manager, Chiara Della Mea, provided an overview of the role of the IOPC Funds, how it is financed and the claims covered under the international liability and compensation regime. Claims Manager, Mark Homan, then gave a general explanation of the 2010 HNS Convention, its application and the importance of a consistent and efficient reporting system for contributing cargo under the Convention. He also referred to the latest developments in that regard. IOPC Funds / [Read more](#)

**CANADA: RESPONDING TO ENVIRONMENTAL INCIDENTS IN A TIME OF GREATER SCRUTINY**

March 7 - Recent cases in Canada have illustrated that Environment and Climate Change Canada, and other regulatory bodies, are issuing substantial penalties for violations of legislation - including for infractions of the *Fisheries Act*, the *Canadian Environmental Protection Act*, and the *Migratory Bird Convention Act*.

A critical step to navigating this heightened scrutiny is to be ready to respond immediately. A conviction for an environmental offence can attract unwanted media attention and greatly impact an organization reputationally and financially.

[Watch our video](#) with partner and Chair, Environmental Disputes, Investigations and Enforcement, Jennifer Fairfax, to learn more about these issues and how you can proactively take steps to mitigate risk for your organization. Mondaq / [Read more](#)

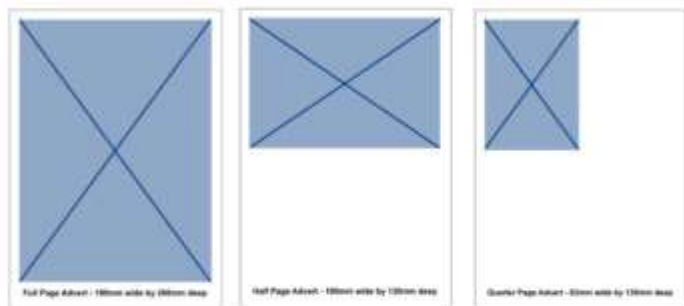
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**What is the ISCO Newsletter?**

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)**

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.

### FINLAND: ITOPF ATTENDS NEW EU MODEX EXERCISE IN FINLAND

March 2 - Dr Conor Bolas of our Technical Team has been in Porvoo, Finland this week representing ITOPF in an EU Module Exercise (MODEX), a new discussion based exercise as part of the EU Civil Protection programme.

Taking part as a Subject Matter Expert, Conor has spent the week engaging with marine and environmental administrations, coast guards, navies and government representatives, in a spill response scenario.

The 20 participating nations and their respective authorities also came together to discuss previous incidents, comparing how their response approaches vary from one another and how the different regions (Baltic, Atlantic and North Sea, Mediterranean and Black Sea) can learn from neighbouring countries. [.ITOPF](#)

### FINLAND SUPPORTS UKRAINE IN ASSESSMENT AND DOCUMENTATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL DAMAGES AND IN REBUILDING

March 10 - On Friday 10 March, Minister of the Environment and Climate Change Maria Ohisalo signed two memorandums of understanding with the Ukrainian Ministry of Environmental Protection and Natural Resources, Ministry of Infrastructure and Ministry of Communities and Territories Development. The purpose of these is to assist Ukraine extensively in monitoring the state of the environment, and in rebuilding the country and in the green transition. The aim is also to support Ukraine in harmonising its regulatory framework with that of the EU and, thus, the country's EU convergence. Ministry of Environment / [Read more](#)

### ISRAEL: TWO YEARS SINCE MAJOR COASTAL TAR SPILL, MARINE UNIT STILL WAITING FOR EXTRA FUNDS

March 7 - Prime minister visited spill site, a ministerial committee made recommendations – but in terms of preparedness for a future spill, nothing has actually changed

Two years have passed since Israel's coastline was devastated by tar from an oil spill at sea, but the Environmental Protection Ministry says it has yet to see any of the promised money to prepare better for the next marine disaster.

The Times of Israel / [Read more](#)

### JAPAN SENDS 8 DISASTER RESPONSE TEAM PERSONNEL TO AID OIL SPILL INCIDENT IN MINDORO, PHILIPPINES

March 10 - Eight personnel from Japan will help the Philippines address the oil spill incident in Oriental Mindoro and nearby areas, the Japanese Embassy in Manila said.

The Japan Disaster Relief (JDR) Expert Team is composed of two personnel from the embassy, five from the Japan Coast Guard and one from the Japan International Cooperation Agency. CNN / [Read more](#)

### PANAMA OCEAN CONFERENCE DRAWS \$20 BILLION, MARINE BIODIVERSITY COMMITMENTS

March 6 - International delegates attending the eighth annual Our Ocean Conference in Panama March 2-3 have pledged billions to protect the world's oceans. Participants made 341 commitments worth nearly \$20 billion, including funding for expanding and improving marine protected areas and biodiversity corridors.

Previous Our Ocean conferences have generated more than 1,800 commitments worth approximately \$108 billion.

The president of Panama, Laurentino Cortizo Cohen, who inaugurated the event, said the conference was an opportunity for "countries of the world to hold frank conversations with the purpose of committing ourselves to actions for the preservation and strengthening of life in the ocean. Mongabay / [Read more](#)

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

March 6 – Please click on the links below to download and read the latest news from NOAA OR&R

#### [NOAA Connects St. Petersburg with Hands-On Marine Debris Learning](#)

Last month, staff from NOAA's Marine Debris Program, within the Office of Response and Restoration, participated in the two-day [St. Petersburg Science Festival](#)(link is external).

#### [NOAA Disaster Response Center Contributes to Weather Data in the Mobile, Alabama Area](#)

In early December 2022, the [Disaster Response Center in Mobile, Alabama](#) installed its new Davis weather station and launched Davis WeatherLink Live.

#### [NOAA Kicks Off Development of Southern New England Marine Debris Action Plan](#)

Last month, the NOAA Marine Debris Program led the first virtual workshop to create the Southern New England Marine Debris Action Plan.

## NEWS REPORTS FROM AROUND THE WORLD (CONTINUED)

### **Cape May, NJ, Harborside Chat Features NOAA-Led Discussion on Abandoned and Derelict Vessels**

Last month, staff from NOAA's Marine Debris Program, within the Office of Response and Restoration, spoke about the issue of abandoned and derelict vessels at a public event in Cape May, New Jersey.

### **NOAA and Partners Hold Second Heat-Focused Tabletop Exercise**

Extreme heat is one of the leading causes of [weather-related illness and death\(link is external\)](#) in the United States, causing more fatalities in a typical year than hurricanes, tornadoes, severe storms, and floods. As climate change continues to increase the likelihood of weather extremes, the impacts of heat on communities—especially on their most vulnerable citizens—is likely to worsen.

### **NOAA Kicks Off Development of Southern New England Marine Debris Action Plan**

Last month, the NOAA Marine Debris Program led the first virtual workshop to create the Southern New England Marine Debris Action Plan.

### **NOAA Connects St. Petersburg with Hands-On Marine Debris Learning**

Last month, staff from NOAA's Marine Debris Program, within the Office of Response and Restoration, participated in the two-day [St. Petersburg Science Festival\(link is external\)](#).

## **USA: COMMANDANT DELIVERS 2023 STATE OF THE COAST GUARD**



*Photo courtesy of US Coast Guard*

Admiral Linda Fagan, Coast Guard Commandant, recently addressed Congress, federal stakeholders, and industry partners on the State of the Coast Guard in 2023.

“For nearly 233 years our service has provided safety and security for the American people,” Fagan said. “Today we uphold that tradition and the Coast Guard’s future is bright. I am proud of the dedication, professionalism, and passion of every individual who serves in the United States Coast Guard. These sentinels are my highest priority.”

“Your dedication and devotion to duty are the reason the Coast Guard is called upon and relied on to *Protect, Defend, and Save*. Our blue uniforms and iconic red racing stripe are symbols of professionalism and good maritime governance.”

She delivered the annual update in Washington, D.C. at the Reserve Organization of America this year. You can watch the full video on the Commandant's [Home Page](#) and on [Youtube](#). ([www.uscg.mil/alwaysready/](http://www.uscg.mil/alwaysready/)). US Coast Guard / [Read more](#)

## PEOPLE IN THE NEWS

### **OIL SPILL RESPONSE LIMITED WELCOMES EXPERIENCED OIL AND GAS EXECUTIVE, VANIA DE STEFANI, AS NEW CEO STARTING 1ST APRIL**

March - Oil Spill Response Limited (OSRL) is pleased to announce the appointment of Vania De Stefani as its new CEO, effective from 1st April. Vania brings over 20 years of experience in the oil and gas industry, with a strong background in engineering, operations and process safety.

Vania began her career at Imperial College, where she led the scientific team responsible for developing fire and explosion models. She later joined BP, where she held various executive positions and most recently served as the Vice President of Operations for Mauritania and Senegal.

In this role, she led geographically and culturally diverse teams and played a key role in the response to the Deepwater Horizon incident in the Gulf of Mexico. Vania has also led operational crises in other regions, including Europe, Asia, Africa, and the Middle East. Vania holds a Masters degree in Process Engineering from the University of Padua and a PhD in Thermophysics from Ecole Nationale Supérieure de Mines de Paris. Her technical expertise and leadership skills make her an excellent fit for OSRL. OSRL / [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)

### LAMOR



Lamor had the pleasure of hosting a tour in the EMSA NBS EAS warehouses upon the request of The European Maritime Safety Agency (EMSA).

Experts from marine authorities, environmental agencies and civil protection from 14 European countries got an introduction to different equipment that are used in the event of a major marine accident.

Today, a discussion-based EU MODEX on Marine Pollution conference was held in Porvoo with many interesting topics and presentations.

In the conference Lamor's Technical Director Markus Nystedt gave a presentation on challenges in recovery of low-sulphur fuels and bio-fuel oils.

You can find videos and more material from the conference here <https://hubs.la/Q01DZJCR0>

We would like to thank all participants for a great tour and conference!

[#EUMODEX](#) [#EUCivPro](#) [#EUSavesLives](#) [#Lamor](#)

### MEKE MARINE

[#MEKE](#) carried out a "Desk Drill" with all its employees in order to be prepared for pollution caused by petroleum and other harmful substances and to carry out an effective intervention in case of a possible pollution [#oilspillresponse](#) [#emergencyresponse](#)



## 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.*

### **THIS WEEK: WEBINAR FROM UK & IRELAND SPILL ASSOCIATION – WEDNESDAY 15<sup>th</sup> MARCH**

#### **PPWG Webinar 4: Identifying and operating effective equipment for microplastic recovery**

This is the fourth webinar in our series of eight webinars from the Plastic Pollution Working Group. This webinar is presented by staff members from Oil Spill Response, ITOPF and Oracle Environmental all of whom have practical experience using the equipment about which they are talking based on recent field experience of recovering plastic from beaches and estuaries following an unplanned release.

They will talk about the equipment used to recover the plastic, its effectiveness, and its constraints. Importantly they will also discuss the equipment used to segregate or sieve recovered plastic to separate it from the sand or mud with which it has mixed.

This Webinar is scheduled to take place on **15th March, 2023** and will focus on “IDENTIFYING AND OPERATING EFFECTIVE EQUIPMENT FOR MICROPLASTIC RECOVERY”. This should be of considerable interest to many ISCO members. Details of how to register your attendance are available on the ISCO website and at <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/ppwg-webinar-4-tickets-523437715297?aff=ebdsoporgprofile>

The UK and Ireland Spill Association, (UKAISA) an Industry Partner of ISCO, has an ongoing Working Group focused on Plastic Pollution and is running an excellent series of webinars. ISCO is delighted to announce that our Executive Committee member, Dr Larissa Montas, has been invited to join the UKAISA Working Group (WG). ISCO is very glad to be represented on the WG and looks forward to contributing to its work.

For a long time ISCO has also recognised the growing threat posed to the marine and shoreline environment by plastics pollution. 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 worldwide community and our environment.

ISCO's aim is to work with UKAISA and others and to help make knowledge about effective microplastics pollution prevention and countermeasures available on a worldwide basis



## 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/>

### BIOREMEDIATION - ELIMINATING THE ENTIRE SPECTRUM OF HYDROCARBONS THROUGH A ONE-TIME APPLICATION

Ethier, M. REMTECH 2022: The Remediation Technologies Symposium, Banff, AB, Canada, 11-14 October. Environmental Services Association of Alberta, Edmonton, AB (Canada), 26 slides, 2022

A bioremediation technology, Bio-Reclaim™ was developed to transform hydrocarbon contaminants into water and a minute amount of carbon dioxide using a 100% environmentally sustainable and safe process. The technology provides an environmentally sustainable solution for shorter- and longer-chain hydrocarbons. Biosurf™, the delivery agent for Bio-Reclaim, decreases the surface tension, allowing microbe delivery into soil contamination pockets. The presentation includes case studies demonstrating use of the technologies to remediate petroleum hydrocarbons. In the first case study, Bio-Reclaim was used to treat an ~ 8,000 m<sup>3</sup> plume located in seven different subsites at a former fuel station. Hydrocarbons from all four fractions were detected in differing concentrations throughout the site, in addition to BTEX and miscellaneous aromatic compounds. Injection of Bio-Reclaim was conducted in July 2021, and subsequent sampling indicated a significant reduction in petroleum hydrocarbons. In the second case study, petroleum hydrocarbons were detected in two areas in soil and groundwater at a retail fuel station and commercial site in Olds, Alberta. Area 1 was treated with 800 L of inoculated Bio-Reclaim mixed with a water solution using direct push drilling equipment. Area 2 was treated with 1,750 L of solution using the same methods. The treatment successfully reduced ethylbenzene, xylenes and PHC F2 concentrations to within guidelines in both areas.

Slides: <https://esaa.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/11/RT22Ethier.pdf>

Longer abstract: <https://esaa.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/09/RT2022-program-Abstracts-6.pdf>

Technology Innovation News Survey <http://www.clu-in.org/products/tins/>

## RECENT INTERESTING PEER-REVIEWED OIL SPILL PUBLICATIONS



### 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.

#### 58. The fate and behavior of petroleum biomarkers in diluted bitumen and conventional crude oil exposed to natural sunlight in simulated seawater

Yang, Z., Shah, K., Courtemanche, C., Hollebhone, B.P., Yang, C., and, Beaulac, V.  
(2023) Chemosphere, 320, art. no. 137906,  
DOI: 10.1016/j.chemosphere.2023.137906

**ABSTRACT:** Given that the physicochemical properties of diluted bitumen (dilbit) can differ from those of conventional crude oil, understanding the fate and behavior of this petroleum product in the environment becomes vital. This study involves the analysis of the photolytic behavior of some representative petroleum biomarkers, bicyclic sesquiterpanes (BSs), adamantanes (ADs), diamantanes (DAs), and mono- and triaromatic steranes (MASs and TASs), by exposing Cold Lake Blend (CLB) and Alberta Sweet Mixed Blend (MSW) to winter and summer insolation after being spilled onto artificial brines. Aromatic steranes in all control samples remained relatively stable, whereas the biomarkers of BSs, ADs, and DAs were less stable. Similar to the exhaustive loss of the C<sub>10</sub>–C<sub>17</sub> alkanes, 91%–99% of BSs, ADs, and DAs were lost after five days of insolation, especially in summer. Both MASs and TASs were lost gradually in most scenarios, although both of them were lost faster in MSW than observed for CLB. The removal of MASs and TASs did not differ significantly from each other, although their loss was less than observed for PAHs having similar number of rings and greater than for the C<sub>21</sub>–C<sub>33</sub> n-alkanes. Therefore, photooxidation, not evaporation or biodegradation, was the main factor responsible for oxidizing these aromatic steranes. However, biomarkers of BSs, ADs and DAs were mostly lost through evaporation. Therefore, aromatic steranes have the potential to be utilized to evaluate the photolytic behavior of petroleum hydrocarbons, while BSs, ADs, and DAs should not be used for this purpose.

### 59. Enhancement of oil forensic methodology through the addition of polycyclic aromatic nitrogen heterocycle biomarkers for diagnostic ratios

McCallum, P., Filewood, T., Sawitsky, J., Kwok, H., Brunswick, P., Yan, J., Chibwe, L., TikkiSETTY, K., Shang, D. (2023) *Environmental Monitoring and Assessment*, 195 (3), art. no. 416, DOI: 10.1007/s10661-023-10941-3

**ABSTRACT:** Current oil spill forensic identification of source oils relies upon hydrocarbon biomarkers resistant to weathering. This international technique was developed by the European Committee for Standardization (CEN), under EN 15522–2 Oil Spill Identification guidelines. The number of biomarkers have expanded at pace with technological advances, while distinguishing new biomarkers becomes more challenging due to interference of isobaric compounds, matrix effects, and high cost of weathering experiments. Application of high-resolution mass spectrometry enabled exploration of potential polycyclic aromatic nitrogen heterocycle (PANH) oil biomarkers. The instrumentation showed reduction in isobaric and matrix interferences, allowing for identification of low-level PANH and alkylated PANHs (APANHs). Weathered oil samples, obtained from a marine microcosm weathering experiment, enabled comparison with source oils to identify new, stable forensic biomarkers. This study highlighted eight new APANH diagnostic ratios that expanded the biomarker suite, increasing the confidence for identifying highly weathered oils back to their source oil.

### 60. Persisting Effects in *Daphnia magna* Following an Acute Exposure to Flowback and Produced Waters from the Montney Formation

Boyd, A., Luu, I., Mehta, D., Myers, S.P., Stewart, C.B., Shivakumar, K.R., Snihur, K.N., Alessi, D.S., Rodriguez Gallo, M.C., Veilleux, H., Wiltse, M.E., Borch, T., Uhrig, R.G., Blewett, T.A. (2023) *Environmental Science and Technology*, 57 (6), pp. 2380-2392. DOI: 10.1021/acs.est.2c07441

**ABSTRACT:** Hydraulic fracturing extracts oil and gas through the injection of water and proppants into subterranean formations. These injected fluids mix with the host rock formation and return to the surface as a complex wastewater containing salts, metals, and organic compounds, termed flowback and produced water (FPW). Previous research indicates that FPW is toxic to *Daphnia magna* (*D. magna*), impairing reproduction, molting, and maturation time; however, recovery from FPW has not been extensively studied. Species unable to recover have drastic impacts on populations on the ecological scale; thus, this study sought to understand if recovery from an acute 48 h FPW exposure was possible in the freshwater invertebrate, *D. magna* by using a combination of physiological and molecular analyses. FPW (0.75%) reduced reproduction by 30% and survivorship to 32% compared to controls. System-level quantitative proteomic analyses demonstrate extensive perturbation of metabolism and protein transport in both 0.25 and 0.75% FPW treatments after a 48 h FPW exposure. Collectively, our data indicate that *D. magna* are unable to recover from acute 48 h exposures to  $\geq 0.25\%$  FPW, as evidence of toxicity persists for at least 19 days post-exposure. This study highlights the importance of considering persisting effects following FPW remediation when modeling potential spill scenarios.

### 61. Temporal variability of microbial response to crude oil exposure in the northern Gulf of Mexico,

Brock, M.L., Richardson, R., Ederington-Hagy, M., Nigro, L., Snyder, R.A., Jeffrey, W.H. (2023) *Frontiers in Ecology and Evolution*, 11, art. no. 1096880, DOI: 10.3389/fevo.2023.1096880

**ABSTRACT:** Oil spills are common occurrences in the United States and can result in extensive ecological damage. The 2010 Deepwater Horizon oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico was the largest accidental spill recorded. Many studies were performed in deep water habitats to understand the microbial response to the released crude oil. However, much less is known about how planktonic coastal communities respond to oil spills and whether that response might vary over the course of the year. Understanding this temporal variability would lend additional insight into how coastal Florida habitats may have responded to the Deepwater Horizon oil spill. To assess this, the temporal response of planktonic coastal microbial communities to acute crude oil exposure was examined from September 2015 to September 2016 using seawater samples collected from Pensacola Beach, Florida, at 2-week intervals. A standard oil exposure protocol was performed using water accommodated fractions made from MC252 surrogate oil under photo-oxidizing conditions. Dose response curves for bacterial production and primary production were constructed from <sup>3</sup>H-leucine incorporation and <sup>14</sup>C-bicarbonate fixation, respectively. To assess drivers of temporal patterns in inhibition, a suite of biological and environmental parameters was measured including bacterial counts, chlorophyll a, temperature, salinity, and nutrients. Additionally, 16S rRNA sequencing was performed on unamended seawater to determine if temporal variation in the in situ bacterial community contributed to differences in inhibition. We observed that there is temporal variation in the inhibition of primary and bacterial production due to acute crude oil exposure. We also identified significant relationships of inhibition with environmental and biological parameters that quantitatively demonstrated that exposure to water-soluble crude oil constituents

was most detrimental to planktonic microbial communities when temperature was high, when there were low inputs of total Kjeldahl nitrogen, and when there was low bacterial diversity or low phytoplankton biomass

## 62. Acute exposure of early-life stage zebrafish (*Danio rerio*) to Deepwater Horizon crude oil impairs glomerular filtration and renal fluid clearance capacity

Bonatesta, F., Messerschmidt, V.L., Schneider, L., Lee, J., Lund, A.K., Mager, E.M.  
(2023) *Environmental Science and Pollution Research*, 30 (8), pp. 21990-21999.  
DOI: 10.1007/s11356-022-23805-z

**ABSTRACT:** The pronephros (early-stage kidney) is an important osmoregulatory organ, and the onset of its function occurs relatively early in some teleost fishes. As such, any defects in kidney development and function are likely associated with a decreased ability to osmoregulate. Previous work has shown that early-life stage (ELS) zebrafish (*Danio rerio*) acutely exposed to Deepwater Horizon (DWH) crude oil exhibit transcriptional changes in key genes involved in pronephros development and function, as well as pronephric morphological defects and whole-animal osmoregulatory impairment. The objective of this study was to examine the acute effects of crude oil exposure during zebrafish ELS on pronephros function by assessing its fluid clearance capacity and glomerular filtration integrity. Following a 72-h exposure to control conditions, 20% or 40% dilutions of high-energy water-accommodated fractions (HEWAF) of DWH crude oil, zebrafish were injected into the common cardinal vein either with fluorescein-labeled (FITC) 70-kDa dextran to assess glomerular filtration integrity or with FITC-inulin to assess pronephric clearance capacity. Fluorescence was quantified after the injections at predetermined time intervals by fluorescence microscopy. The results demonstrated a diminished pronephric fluid clearance capacity and failed glomerular perfusion when larvae were exposed to 40% HEWAF dilutions, whereas only a reduced glomerular filtration selectivity was observed in zebrafish previously exposed to the 20% HEWAF dilution.

## 63. Semi-quantitative risk assessment of marine mammal oil exposure: A case study in the western Gulf of Mexico,

Ramírez-León, M.R., Sosa-Nishizaki, O., Pérez-Brunius, P., Romo-Curiel, A.E., Ramírez-Mendoza, Z., Fajardo-Yamamoto, A., Herzka, S.Z., García-Aguilar, M.C.  
(2023) *Frontiers in Marine Science*, 10, art. no. 1034647,  
DOI: 10.3389/fmars.2023.1034647

**ABSTRACT:** Marine mammals are highly vulnerable to oil spills, although the effects at both individual and population levels are not fully understood. A first approximation to evaluate the possible consequences of oil spills on marine life is using ecological risk assessments, which are analytical tools used to assess the likelihood of adverse environmental effects due to exposure to stressors derived from human activities. We developed a semi-quantitative framework to evaluate the risk of oil spill exposure on marine mammals that combines the likelihood of exposure based on species-specific biological and ecological traits, and the feasibility of encounter, which considers not only the overlap between the distribution of the species and the total affected area by a spill but also considers the distribution of spilled oil within this area, thus reducing the uncertainty in the estimate. We applied our framework to assess the risk of exposure of eight cetaceans to scenarios of large heavy oil (API gravity<22) spills originating from three hypothetical deep-water wells in the western Gulf of Mexico. High habitat suitability areas obtained using the maximum entropy (MaxEnt) modeling approach were used as a proxy for the geographic regions where each species is likely to be distributed, and oil spill scenarios were generated using numerical models incorporating transport, dispersion, and oil degradation. The analysis allowed identifying those species for which there is a significant risk of exposure in each spill scenario. However, our results suggest that the risk does not appear to be high for any species under any scenario. The information generated by our risk assessment is key to developing management plans in those areas of the Gulf of Mexico where deep-water activities of the hydrocarbon industry are currently being developed or planned.

## 64 . Macrofauna abundance and diversity patterns of deep sea southwestern Gulf of Mexico, Quintana-Retama

O., Vázquez-Bader, A.R., Gracia, A.  
(2023) *Frontiers in Marine Science*, 9, art. no. 1033596,  
DOI: 10.3389/fmars.2022.1033596

**ABSTRACT:** The diversity and distribution of macrofaunal communities in the deep-sea bottoms of Gulf of Mexico (GoM) Mexican waters are poorly known compared to the northern GoM. This study was designed to contribute to the knowledge of macrofauna communities through (i) evaluate the taxonomic composition of macrofauna communities at major taxa level, and (ii) analyze the spatial distribution patterns in the deep sea of the southwestern GoM. Benthic macrofauna composition was analyzed in a large

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

geographical area (92.67°–96.70° W 18.74°–23.04° N) and bathymetric gradient (185-3740 m depth). Samples were collected on board the R/V Justo Sierra (Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México) with a Reineck-type box corer during the oceanographic cruises SOGOM-3 and SOGOM-4 carried out on April 21–May 15, 2017, and on August 29–September 20, 2018, respectively. Thirteen environmental parameters were measured (among them, depth, salinity, temperature, O<sub>2</sub>, sediment grain size, hydrocarbons, and organic matter). Twenty-five taxa were registered in SOGOM 3 (2315 individuals) all of which were observed in SOGOM 4 (1721 individuals) with exception of the mollusk Class Solenogastres. The average abundance (ind. m<sup>-2</sup>) registered was 517 (range: 150-1388 ind. m<sup>-2</sup>), and 347 (range: 38-1088 ind. m<sup>-2</sup>) for SOGOM 3, and SOGOM 4, respectively. In SOGOM 3 Polychaeta, Nematoda, Amphipoda, Tanaidacea, and Bivalvia contributed with 75% of the total abundance, which were also the most abundant in SOGOM 4 representing 82% of total macrofauna abundance. Highest abundance was registered to the south of the study area near the coast, and the lowest one was found in deeper areas. Macrofauna abundance decreased with depth in both cruises. High diversity values were registered at intermediate depths in the south and west zones of the study area. Both cruises separated in a nMDS analysis. During SOGOM 3 dissolved oxygen, aromatic hydrocarbons, and organic matter (%) were the environmental variables related to macrofauna whereas, in SOGOM 4, depth was the most important one. This study fills a gap in the knowledge of diversity and distribution of macrofaunal communities of the deep-sea bottoms of a large area covering the whole bathymetric range of southern Gulf of Mexico and provides a baseline useful to compare with polluted areas and for assessing the impact of chronic pollution and/or potential oil spill accidents.

## 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/en/content/download/10912/file/CalendrierFormation2023\\_EN.pdf](https://wwz.cedre.fr/en/content/download/10912/file/CalendrierFormation2023_EN.pdf)
- 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](#)

### FRANCE: "Combating accidental oil pollution at sea and on the coast"

There are a few places left. Sign up! A few places are still available for the next session of the training "Combating accidental oil pollution at sea and on the coast" which will take place from 3 to 7 April 2023. Do not hesitate any longer and register. This training is delivered to IMO 2 standard. Find all the information about this training in its dedicated sheet. The next session of this training will take place from 05 to 09 June 2023.

### USA: Elastec Fall Workshop, New Harmony, Indiana, 3-5 October 2023. [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)

## UPCOMING EVENTS (CONTINUED)

### MARCH 2023

- 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
- FRANCE – CEDRE INFORMATION DAY – “Spill Response Training, Responses & Challenges” Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> 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
- WEBINAR – from Cedre “Reducing EPS Litter in the N. E. Atlanti”, 27<sup>th</sup> March
- IRELAND – UK & Ireland Spill Association – Regional Networking Event – Belfast, 29<sup>th</sup> March 2023
- WEBINAR – Maritime Solutions- Classification of Pellets as Harmful at Sea, 29<sup>th</sup> March, 9.30-10.30 am GMT

### APRIL 2023 & ONWARDS

- UK & ONLINE – IMO, IOPC Funds & Transport Canada, HNS Workshop, 3-4 April 2023
- OSRL WEBINAR – “SUBSEA RESPONSE READINESS”, WEDNESDAY 5 APRIL, 1400 GMT
- WEBINAR FROM UK SPILL & IRELAND ASSOCIATION – “SUSTAINABLE SPILL RESPONSE”, WEDNESDAY 19 APRIL, 1500 BST
- CROATIA – ADRIASPILLCON Conference & Exhibition, Opatija, 16-18 May 2023
- CANADA – 45<sup>th</sup> Technical Seminar on Environmental Contamination & Response, Edmonton, Alberta, 4-6 June, 2023
- AUSTRALIA – University of NSW, “Bioremediation Symposium”, 7<sup>th</sup> June 2023
- USA – Clean Waterways Conference & Exhibition, Denver CO, 11-13 April 2023
- FRANCE - European Maritime Day, Brest, France, 24-25 May, 2023
- UK: Hazmat 2023 Conference, 24-25 May 2023
- AUSTRALIA – Risk Assessment Symposium, Adelaide, 22 June 2023
- USA – Elastec Fall Workshop. New Harmony. Indiana, 3-4 October 2023
- UK – Seatrade Maritime Salvage & Wreck Conference, 6-7 December 2023

WHEN YOU OPEN THE UPCOMING EVENTS PAGE YOU WILL SEE MORE UPCOMING EVENTS

### SOME OTHER INFO AND UPCOMING EVENTS

Details of 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

[PREVIEW THE SPEAKER & SESSION OFFICER LINE-UP FOR CLEAN WATERWAYS 2023](#)

## MESSAGES FROM EVENT ORGANISERS (CONTINUED)

### 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 is now available on the Conference website <https://adriaspillcon.com/>.

### 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

**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

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. The IOSC is looking for technical and policy papers and posters under five general categories: Preparedness, Prevention, Remediation, Response, Restoration. [More info](#)

## 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>

## LINKS FOR DOWNLOADING AND READING OTHER PUBLICATIONS

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

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.

## JOB VACANCIES

### IMO – REMPEC – HEAD OF OFFICE

The Head of Office of the Regional Marine Pollution Emergency Response Centre (REMPEC) for the Mediterranean Sea provides management oversight and functional and policy direction to the work of REMPEC. In this capacity, the Head of Office formulates and implements the substantive work programme of REMPEC, ensures that programmed activities are carried out in a timely fashion and co-ordinates work in the different technical areas both within the office, and with IMO and UNEP/Mediterranean Action Plan Office. Qualified female candidates are particularly encouraged to apply. For more details please visit <https://imo-recruit.azurewebsites.net/vacancies/728> or <https://spillcontrol.org/job-vacancies/>

## INCIDENT REPORTS

### MARITIME ACCIDENT REPORTS FROM 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/>

### BERMUDA: MSC CONTAINER SHIP LOST OVERBOARD 45 CONTAINERS

March 2 - Bermuda Maritime Operations Centre reported containers loss from container ship MSC SHRISTI some 350 nm east of Bermuda. Some 45 empty containers fell overboard on 3 different occasions, in rough weather. According to track and AIS records, containers loss occurred during Mar 1- 2, when the ship was en route from Boston to Caucedo. Maritime Bulletin / [Read more](#)  
Related reorta in [gCaptain](#) and [The Maritime Executive](#)

### BLACK SEA: OIL SPILL REPORTED FOLLOWING DEADLY CARGO SHIP SINKING

March 6 - Authorities in Russia have reported an oil spill resulting from a cargo vessel sinking that left one person dead off the country's Black Sea coast late last month.

In a recent social media post, the Federal Service for Supervision of Natural Resources confirmed the discharge of diesel fuel following the breaking apart and sinking of the Comoros-flagged general cargo vessel Seamark in storm conditions off Novorossiysk on February 21. The incident, which also left one person dead, caused an oil spill that ultimately stretched for over 1.5 kilometres. However, authorities have yet to determine the total volume of diesel that had leaked into the sea. Baird Maritime / [Read more](#)

### PHILIPPINES: MT PRINCESS EMPRESS OIL SPILL UPDATES

**March 6 - Philippines Rushes to Locate Sunken Tanker Leaking Oil** - Philippine authorities believe they have found the location of a tanker that sank off a central province last week, as they raced to assess the extent of an oil spill that has prompted a fishing ban, and to contain further environmental damage. The tanker, the MT Princess Empress, is thought to be lying at about 1,200 feet (366 metres) below sea level, off Oriental Mindoro province, though the information still needed to be verified, the environment ministry said in a statement on Monday. [gCaptain](#) / [Read more](#)

**March 6 - Spill From Sunken Tanker Spreads Through Central Philippine Islands** - According to local officials, the wreck of the tanker Princess Empress has been located, aiding the effort to contain her cargo of fuel oil and potentially stop the leakage. The Maritime Executive / [Read more](#)

**March 7 - Residents fall sick as Philippine oil spill spreads across coastal towns** - At least 14 residents from ??one of ?the ?nine coastal towns affected by a massive oil spill ?in the Philippines have fallen sick. They were taken to hospital with symptoms including nausea, difficulty in breathing and dizziness. Straits Times / [Read more](#)

**March 11 - Philippines seeks international help as oil spill spreads** - Philippine authorities said on March 10 that they had sought help from Japan and the US to contain and clean up an oil spill 10 days after a tanker sank. Vietnam Plus / [Read more](#)

### USA: KANSAS - KEYSTONE'S BIGGEST OIL SPILL CLEANUP CONTINUES

March 7 - In early December 2022, the Keystone pipeline carrying crude oil from Alberta, Canada to Houston, Texas, ruptured. The Environmental Protection Agency estimates 588,000 gallons of oil were spilled over land and into Mill Creek. TC Energy says it has cleaned up most of the oil, but it's predicted there's still months more work ahead, at a total cost of half a billion dollars [WESA](#)

## INCIDENT REPORTS (CONTINUED)

### INDIA: 'FIND PERMANENT SOLUTION TO OIL SPILL IN COASTLINE IN NAGAPATTINAM'

March 7 - Citing the ongoing protest of the fishermen community in Pattinamcherry following the oil spill from the crude oil pipeline of the Chennai Petroleum Corporation on March 2, EPS said the fishermen have refrained from fishing since the leakage was noticed DT Next / [Read more](#)

### USA: WEST VIRGINIA - TRAIN DERAILMENT INJURES 3 AND SPILLS DIESEL

March 8 - Parts of the train caught on fire and at least one fuel car fell into the New River as a result of the derailment, spilling an "unknown quantity of diesel fuel and oil," CSX said in a news release. Forbes / [Read more](#)

### TRINIDAD & TOBAGO: 7,000 BARRELS OF LIQUID REMOVED AFTER GUAYAGUAYARE OIL SPILL

March 8 - 7,000 barrels of fluids have been removed from the site of a February 11 oil spill in the Ferrier Circular, Guayaguayare operations of the Heritage Petroleum Company. Affected residents who complained about the air quality in the aftermath are now breathing a sigh of relief, as the clean-up is said to be 60 per cent completed.

The company's CEO Arlene Chow and leadership team visited Guayaguayare on March 5 to meet with residents to review the progress of the remedial work. Heritage said in a statement that its incident management team is continuing its cleanup and rehabilitation at the site. Newsday / [Read more](#)

## INFORMATION FOR CORPORATE MEMBERS OF ISCO

### ANNOUNCING NEW PRODUCTS & SERVICES

Disseminating news about new technical developments is of value to our community. Corporate Members are invited to contribute articles.

Corporate Members of ISCO can benefit from 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 60 countries, it's a cost-effective way to promote your company.

Because the ISCO Newsletter is initially prepared as a Word document it's essential that text and photographs submitted can be easily copied and pasted into the preliminary draft of the newsletter. Please note that submissions must also comply with ISCO's editorial policy. Submissions should not include photos that cannot be used without permission of copyright owners.

1. The Editor has sole discretion over what is accepted for publication
2. The Editor reserves the right to edit press releases
3. Information in press releases must be factual and free from sales hype and exaggerated claims
4. Subject matter of press releases must be relevant to the interests of the spill response community
5. Space availability for printing press releases is limited and they should be kept short
6. If a press release is too long only part of it will be printed but a link can be included for downloading its entirety
7. Links for downloading additional information or viewing video material can be included
8. Depending on space availability press releases may be included in the next newsletter or held over for inclusion in a later issue.

### HAVE YOU ALLOWED YOUR MEMBERSHIP TO LAPSE?

ISCO welcomes lapsed members who decide to re-join. This way you can preserve your access to all our membership benefits, including delivery of the ISCO Newsletter. To re-join, just click on <https://spillcontrol.org/membership-application-form/>

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