

## ISCO & THE ISCO NEWSLETTER

The International Spill Control Organization, a not-for-profit organization dedicated to raising worldwide preparedness & co-operation in response to oil and chemical spills, marine & freshwater pollution by plastics. promoting technical development and professional competency, & 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 & observer Status at the International Oil Pollution Compensation Fund

### ISCO EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Members of the Executive Committee who act as the INTERIM EXECUTIVE (Acting in lieu of President, and as Members of SECRETARIAT (Core Management Team)

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

Other Members of Executive Committee who also act as members of the SECRETARIAT

- Captain Bill Boyle (UK)
- Mr Marc Shaye (USA)
- Mr Michael Watson (UK)

### Other Members of the EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

- Mr Kerem Kemerli (Turkiye)
- Mr Dan Sheehan (USA)
- Mr Matthew Sommerville (UK)
- Mr Neil Marson (UK)
- Ms Helena Rowland (USA)
- Dr Larissa Montas (USA)
- Capt. D C Sekhar (India)
- Dr Mervyn Fingas (Canada)
- Ms Jane Delgado (USA)
- Mr Carlos Sagrera (Panama)
- Mr Ed Levine (USA)
- Mr Rupert Bravery (UK)

### COUNCIL (NATIONAL REPRESENTATIVES)

- Mr John Wardrop (Australia)
- Mr Elkhan Mamedov (Azerbaijan)
- Dr Merv Fingas (Canada)
- Captain D. C. Sekhar (India)
- Major Ben Benny (Israel)
- Mr Sanjay Gandhi (Kenya)
- Mr Dennis van der Veen (Netherlands)
- Mr Carlos Sagrera (Panama)
- Mrs Fatima B. Shaik (South Africa)
- Dr Ali Saeed Al Ameri (UAE)
- Mr Flavio P. de Andrade (Brazil)
- Mr Kerem Kemerli (Turkiye)
- Mr Wu Yue (China)

## HEADLINE INTERNATIONAL NEWS

PLEASE CLICK ON THE BANNERS BELOW FOR MORE INFORMATION



## FIRST STEPS AGREED ON PLASTICS TREATY AFTER BREAKTHROUGH AT PARIS TALKS

**Delegates from 180 nations set out pathway to binding global agreement on tackling plastic pollution as soon as 2025**

June 7 – “The banging of a recycled-plastic gavel, on Friday night at Unesco headquarters in Paris, signalled the end of a fraught process, marked by accusations of exclusion and industrial lobbying. Talks threatened to fall apart, but in the end delegates were able to broadly agree on key elements that the treaty should contain, laying the groundwork for the future agreement.

The treaty has an unusually ambitious timescale for globally binding agreements, with the next round of talks in Kenya scheduled for this year, and the final agreement planned for late 2024.

“It’s clear that most governments in the world want this and are ready to put in place global regulations on plastics,” said Eirik Lindebjerg, a policy manager at WWF. “It’s a massive opportunity to create an environmental agreement that will really make a positive difference to people’s lives.” [The Guardian / Read more](#)

June 5 – From an article in the Maritime Executive – “As the globe marks World Environment Day, negotiators meeting in France over the past week resolved to prepare a draft resolution on plastic pollution setting in motion the process to develop a Global Plastics Treaty that could be adopted as soon as the end of next year.

UN Secretary-General António Guterres is spearheading the push for a binding treaty, urging all stakeholders including governments, companies, and consumers to break the world’s addiction to plastics. It is part of his initiatives championing zero waste to build a truly circular economy. “Together, let us shape a cleaner, healthier, and more sustainable future for all,” he said to mark World Environment Day”. [Continue reading](#)

June 7 – From Chemistry World – “RSC science policy lead Dan Korbelt, who was in Paris representing the organisation during the treaty negotiations, called the progress ‘landmark’, and said a ‘nuanced approach’ is needed that strikes a balance between ‘the great ambition the global plastics crisis warrants and what is feasible from the scientific, technoeconomic and societal perspective’ [Continue Reading](#)

## ISCO AMBASSADORS

(Members with special responsibilities in specified geographical areas)

Carlos Sagrera Latin America (Spanish speaking)  
Matthew Sommerville UK London  
John Noble UK London & South'ton

## MEMBERSHIP OF ISCO

[Benefits of Membership](#)

[Online Membership Application Form](#)

YOU ARE INVITED TO JOIN THE ISCO DISCUSSION GROUP ON LINKED-IN



Click on the link below –

<https://www.linkedin.com/groups/4016064/>

ISCO'S FACEBOOK GROUP



Click on the link -

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/388528312842431>

WHATSAPP GROUP FOR STUDENTS, TRAINEES & APPRENTICES

Here is the link for joining this group –

<https://chat.whatsapp.com/KMxdW7IEal79namyNibVqg>

ADVANCE YOUR CAREER BY GAINING

PROFESSIONAL RECOGNITION Professional

recognition is a visible mark of quality, competence and commitment, and can give you a significant advantage in today's competitive environment. All who have the relevant qualifications and the required level of experience can apply for Professional

Membership of ISCO. The organization offers independent validation and integrity. Each grade of membership reflects an individual's professional training, experience and qualifications. You can apply for MEMBERSHIP (MISCO) or FELLOWSHIP (FISCO)

[About Professional Membership](#)

[Professional Membership Application Form](#)

## INTERNATIONAL & REGIONAL NEWS

### NEW APP HELPS TURN THE TIDE ON PLASTIC WASTE

June 2 - The Implementing Sustainable Low and Non-Chemical Development in Small Island Developing States (ISLANDS) program calls on young climate activists today, launching a new app to encourage over 100,000 young people around the world to turn the tide on plastic pollution. The GEF / [Read more](#)

### INC CHAIR TO PREPARE ZERO DRAFT OF INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENT ON PLASTIC POLLUTION AS PARIS NEGOTIATIONS END

June 3 - The second session of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee to develop an international legally binding instrument on plastic pollution, including in the marine environment (INC-2), concluded today in the French capital with a mandate for the INC Chair, with the support of the Secretariat, to prepare a zero draft of the agreement ahead of the next session, due to take place in Nairobi, Kenya, in November. UNEP / [Read more](#)


### THREE FACTS ABOUT THE MEDITERRANEAN EXPERIENCE IN TACKLING PLASTIC POLLUTION

June 5 - At INC-2 in Paris, as negotiators were poring over the preparation of an international legally binding instrument to prevent plastic pollution, a PAMEx side-event held on 31 May 2023 adopted a joint position of 12 countries and five regional organizations calling for the Mediterranean experience in tackling plastic pollution to be considered in the negotiations.


Thanks to cooperation among the Contracting Parties (21 coastal countries and the European Union), catalyzed by the UNEP/Mediterranean Action Plan (MAP)-Barcelona Convention System, the Mediterranean region has accumulated significant experience in formulating and deploying action at multiple levels to turn off the tap on plastic pollution.

Here are three facts about what the Mediterranean has accomplished in this field: UNEP / [Continue reading](#)

### IOPC FUNDS DIRECTOR DELIVERS GUEST LECTURE AT WORLD MARITIME UNIVERSITY

June 6 - The Director, Gaute Sivertsen, was delighted to be invited back to the Events worldwide marking World Oceans Day.  Add your event and join the global community celebrating the ocean. World Maritime University (WMU) in Malmö, Sweden on 5 June 2023 to deliver a lecture to 50 students specialising in Maritime Safety and Environmental Administration (MSEA) and Maritime Law (MLP). During the course of the morning, he covered the legal framework of the international liability and compensation regime, the role of the IOPC Funds and the challenges which the organisation is currently facing. He also discussed other international conventions and national systems in place for marine pollution. Mr Sivertsen then held an open discussion session with the students, who represented, among others, the Coast Guard, Navy, and Maritime Administrations of several different States. IOPC Funds / [Read more](#)

### WORLD OCEANS DAY – CALENDAR OF EVENTS

June 8 - Events worldwide marking World Oceans Day.  Add your event and join the global community celebrating the ocean. UN World Ocean Day / [See info on events taking place around the world/](#)

### VIDEO: SALVAGE TEAM REPORTS PROGRESS AT DERELICT FSO SAFER

June 9 - PUBLISHED JUN 9, 2023 12:16 PM BY THE MARITIME EXECUTIVE

Twelve days after arriving at the FSO Safer, the salvage team from Boskalis' SMIT Salvage reports they are making progress with the plan to prepare the vessel for the ship-to-ship oil transfer. During the first phase of the UN-sponsored effort, the team is working to survey the vessel and stabilize it before the transfer can begin. The Maritime Executive / [Read more](#)



# Marine Pollution Control Worldwide Problem Solvers Since 1968

## PLAN

Tactical Response Planning

## PROTECT

Monitoring and  
Plan Improvement

## PREPARE

Training, Drills and Exercises

## RESPOND

On Land and Sea

**Marine Pollution Control**  
+1 (313) 849-2333 - 24/hour  
[www.MarinePollutionControl.com](http://www.MarinePollutionControl.com)



**MPC IS OSRO #003**

## ISCO-OceanPact Brazil International Seminar

### *Maritime Pollution and 21st Century Oil Spills*

**Lessons Learned for Brazil &  
Latin America Preparedness,  
Response and Crisis  
Management**

*Case Studies*



**Rio de Janeiro  
27 October 2023**

Click on the above advertisements for more information

### ISCO TO FORM MOU WITH LATIN AMERICAN ORGANISATION SLOM

Following on discussions over recent months between Carlos Sagrera (ISCO's representative in Latin America) other ISCO members and the principles of The Sociedad Latinoamericana de Operadores de Terminales Marítimos Petroleros y Monoboyas – SLOM, the Executive Committee of ISCO has approved a proposal to form a Memorandum of Understanding with SLOM.

The Sociedad Latinoamericana de Operadores de Terminales Marítimos Petroleros y Monoboyas – SLOM, is an international, non-profit association, that seeks integration between Maritime Oil Terminals and organizations, authorities and companies in the industry, through organizing activities for the exchange of technical experiences, in order to promote safe, sustainable and efficient operations by the standardization of best practices.

Since 2005, SLOM organizes annually the Jornadas de Operadores de Terminales Marítimos Petroleros y Monoboyas, the planning and development of this event is an effort that has as its main objective make our Maritime Oil Ports safer and cleaner as well as more efficient and competitive. This annual conference is the best scenario for the dissemination of new technologies and for offering specialized products and services for the oil, maritime and port sectors of Latin America and the world.

More information about SLOM can be found at <https://www.slom.co/en>

## NEWS REPORTS FROM AROUND THE WORLD

### AUSTRALIA: PACIFIC MARITIME LEADERS TO MEET ON MARITIME ISSUES THIS WEEK IN SYDNEY

June 5 - This week Australia will host the annual Asia Pacific Heads of Maritime Safety Agencies (APHoMSA) forum to promote a safe, secure and sustainable maritime industry and a clean marine environment in the Pacific region.

APHoMSA connects maritime leaders from countries lining the Pacific Ocean to develop solutions for shared maritime priorities.

Australia is represented by the Australian Maritime Safety Authority (AMSA) and participates in the APHoMSA forum both as a Pacific region member state and as the permanent APHoMSA secretariat. AMSA / [Read more](#)

### CANADA: KEY INTERNATIONAL MEETING ON LEGALLY BINDING INTERNATIONAL PLASTIC POLLUTION AGREEMENT SET FOR CANADA IN 2024

June 2 - At the conclusion of the second session of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee (INC-2) on Plastic Pollution meeting in Paris, France, the Honourable Steven Guilbeault, Minister of Environment and Climate Change, announced that Canada looks forward to bringing the world together for the fourth session of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee (INC-4) on Plastic Pollution in Ottawa in April 2024. Environment and Climate Change Canada / [Read more](#)

### CANADA: GOVERNMENT WELCOMES 40 NEW FLEET OFFICERS AT THE CANADIAN COAST GUARD COLLEGE GRADUATION CEREMONY

June 3 - Today, the Canadian Coast Guard College celebrates its 54th graduating class of 40 Officer Cadets from across seven different provinces. The Honourable Joyce Murray, Minister of Fisheries, Oceans and the Canadian Coast Guard, honoured the graduating class of 2023 during a ceremony at the Canadian Coast Guard College in Sydney, Nova Scotia. Canadian Coast Guard / [Read more](#)

### CANADA TO HOST SEVENTH ASSEMBLY OF THE GLOBAL ENVIRONMENT FACILITY



June 5 - Today, on World Environment Day, the Honourable Harjit S. Sajjan, Minister of International Development and Minister responsible for the Pacific Economic Development Agency of Canada, announced that Canada will host the Seventh Assembly of the Global Environment Facility (GEF) in Vancouver, British Columbia, from August 22 to 26, 2023.

This meeting comes at a time of significant diplomatic momentum with the historic Global Biodiversity Framework deal reached at COP15. The GEF / [Read more](#)



### CHILE: MARITIME AUTHORITY CARRIED OUT EXERCISE TO COMBAT POLLUTION IN IQUIQUE

June In the context of the annual training plan for the personnel of the Captaincy of the Port of Iquique, an exercise to combat pollution was carried out in the city bay, an activity that was attended by workers from the Iquique International Terminal and Pesquera Camanchaca. During the exercise, the oil spill was simulated from a wrecked ship in the bay, activating the protocols established in the Local Center to Combat Pollution of Iquique (Celconique) to face the emergency and mitigate possible damage to the aquatic environment. The Local Maritime Authority deployed naval personnel and maritime units, in order to contain, recover, clean and properly dispose of the spilled waste. Armada de Chile Directemar / [Read more](#)

### CHINA: PORTS IN OIL HUB SHANDONG SCRUTINIZING OLD TANKERS

June 6 - Last week, the maritime safety administrations at Qingdao and Rizhao, which covers the oil terminals at the port of Lanshan, notified shipping agencies to submit details on their ships' age, where a ship is flagged, insurance coverage, and any instances where the ship changed its name and ownership in the past 36 months as well as past inspection records, said a shipping agent and two traders who handle Chinese oil imports. Reuters / [Read more](#)

### CUBA: OPRC WORKSHOP – LEVELS I & II – HAVANA, CUBA – JUNE 13-16, 2023 [More info](#)

### ISRAEL: DEFENSE COMPANY TO LAUNCH ENVIRONMENTAL MONITORING SYSTEM



Photo courtesy of BIRD Aeorosystems

June 9 - BIRD Aerosystems will launch a new environmental monitoring system at the Paris Air Show later this month. The defense technology company usually develops solutions for governments and related agencies to protect the air, sea and land. Its new ASIO solution will address the critical challenge of maritime pollution detection by preventing costly and ecologically devastating oil spills. Jerusalem Post / [Read more](#)

### MALTA: FIFTEENTH MEETING OF THE FOCAL POINTS OF THE REGIONAL MARINE POLLUTION EMERGENCY RESPONSE CENTRE FOR THE MEDITERRANEAN SEA

The Fifteenth Meeting of the Focal Points of the Regional Marine Pollution Emergency Response Centre for the Mediterranean Sea (REMPEC) will be held in Kappara, Malta from 13 to 15 June 2023

The principal objectives of the Meeting are:

- ① to examine the implementation of REMPEC activities and deliverables pursuant to the Programme of Work (PoW) of the Mediterranean Action Plan (MAP) of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), also referred to as UNEP/MAP, since the Fourteenth Meeting of the Focal Points of REMPEC (online, 29 May-1 June 2021); and
- ② to discuss and agree upon the activities and deliverables of the draft UNEP/MAP PoW for the biennium 2024-2025, as proposed by REMPEC, prior to their submission, for approval by the next Meeting of the MAP Focal Points (Istanbul, Türkiye, 12-15 September 2023), and for adoption by the Twenty-third Ordinary Meeting of the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention and its Protocols (COP 23) (Izola, Slovenia, 4-8 December 2023). REMPEC / [View the Working Documents](#)

### NEW ZEALAND: MARINE OIL SPILL EXERCISE BEING HELD ON WEDNESDAY

June 2 - The exercise will be headed by Tairāwhiti regional on-scene commander Phil Nickerson and includes staff from Gisborne District Council, Fire and Emergency New Zealand (FENZ) and the Marine Pollution Response Service. Scoop Regional / [Read more](#)

### NIGERIA: PLASTIC POLLUTION THREATENS MANGROVES IN N'DELTA, SAYS HYPREP

June 8 - The Hydrocarbon Pollution Remediation Project has expressed concerns that plastic pollution was an emerging threat to mangroves in the Niger Delta region. It stated it would soon commence the shoreline clean up and mangrove restoration of oil-impacted areas in Ogoniland. Punch / [Read more](#)

### NIGERIA: NOSDRA, STAKEHOLDERS MOVE TO TACKLE OIL SPILL MENACE

June 8 - The Chairman, Governing Board of NOSDRA and Emir of Keffi, Dr Shehu Yamusa (III), made the call on Thursday, June 8, 2023, in Abuja, at a stakeholders meeting with oil companies operating in Nigeria. The Royal Father was represented by Mr Idris Musa, the Director-General, National Oil Spill Detection and Response Agency (NOSDRA). He said that stakeholders would discuss action plans on the management of oil spills in 2023, with emphasis on reviewing regulatory procedures with regards to reportage. Environews Nigeria / [Read more](#)

**PANAMA: TIER 1 EQUIPMENT DEPLOYMENT DRILL - PANAMA BAY - OPRC COURSE LEVEL I**

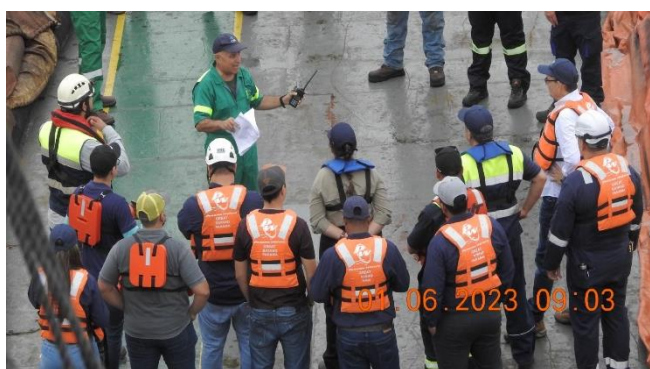
June 5 – A report from Carlos Sagrera, Member of ISCO Council for Panama and ISCO Representative for Latin America - News of this event held last week in Panama and sponsored by ISCO, with our representation in Latin America. The event was important, since it seeks to solve the endemic problem of unanswered spills that occurs in this area where many ships, that later transit through the Panama Canal, converge.



**Participants of the OPRC Level 1 Course**



**OSRV Defender**



**Operational instruction for participants**



**Deployment of Containment Booms**

**Tier 1 Equipment Deployment Drill in Panama Bay of Panama ROC Taboga and OPRC Course Level I IMO Model – Panama**

Between May 29 and 30, an OPRC Level I Course for First Responders was developed in Panama at the GOPC facilities ([https://www.facebook.com/oceanpollutioncontrol/?locale=es\\_LA](https://www.facebook.com/oceanpollutioncontrol/?locale=es_LA)) in Corozal, Panama City.

It was developed under the auspices of ISCO and by the Response Operations Center (ROC Taboga), which is promoted by the Association of Panamanian Shipowners - ARPA (<https://www.armadorespa.com/>), being its main recipient IME ([www.ime.com.pa](http://www.ime.com.pa)) one of the main Surveyor companies in this country and for the first time in Panama for this type of organization, as well as representatives of the main ports and agencies in Panama (PPC, MIT, INCHCAPE). IME, which was represented by its main Staff as observers and participants (CEO - Mr. Javier Bru and Mr. Eloy Collado - General Manager) also has representations and offices in Dubai, Shanghai, Ho Chi Minh and Asunción, for which it manages risk scenarios in terms of spill control and advice to P&I in different parts of the world. The Course was complemented by a Tier 1 Equipment Deployment Drill (IPIECA – Oil Spill Exercises – IOGP Report 515) in a maritime scenario on June 1, 2023, from the Response Operations Center located in the Bay of Panama (ROC Taboga), under the responsibility of its Coordinator and Director of ARPA Exercises, Juan Diego Reyna, and with the support of the OSRO GOPC (Darío Tejeira – Chief of Operations).

This COR has been developed by the efforts and initiatives of the Panamanian maritime private sector, based on the endemic problem of oil spills that exists in the Bay of Panama and effects on the nearby island of Taboga (ISCO Newsletter No. 743 - Year 2020; ISCO Newsletter No. 792 - Year 2021; ISCO Newsletter No. 823 - Year 2022). Course Instructor and Drill Director, Carlos Sagrera (ISCO Representative in Spanish-speaking Latin America).

**SOLOMON ISLANDS CALLS FOR REDUCTION ON GLOBAL PLASTIC PRODUCTION**

“We need to stop plastic at its source, we are calling for an ambitious instrument that is legally binding and looks at the entire lifecycle of plastics, from the sourcing of raw materials all the way to the remediation of legacy pollution leaked into the environment,” said Ms Debra Kereseka, the Deputy Director of Environment in the Solomon Islands.

See photograph - Gizo Vegetable market in the Western Province, Solomon Islands are providing traditional coconut baskets for shoppers as part of the little town's initiative to go plastic free. Solomon Times / [Read more](#)

### UAE: STRICTER SHIP INSURANCE RULES LOOK TO CUT OIL SPILL RISKS

June 7 - Tougher requirements for some ship insurers covering United Arab Emirates ships are aimed at boosting environmental safety, the UAE state news agency (WAM) reported, amid growing concerns over unregulated shipping.

The UAE's energy and infrastructure ministry in a June 2 circular announced it would tighten insurance criteria for vessels registered under its flag for insurers that are not part of the leading International Group of ship insurers, known as P&I clubs, which cover 90% of the world's ocean-going fleet. [gCaptain / Read more](#)

### USA: EPA STRENGTHENS STANDARDS TO ADVANCE OIL SPILL RESPONSE EFFORTS

June 1 - The Environmental Protection Agency has developed stronger standards to improve response efforts under the National Contingency Plan to oil spills and hazardous substance releases into US waters and adjoining shorelines, [according to the agency Wednesday](#). [Bloomberg Law / Read more](#)

### USA: SACKETT V. EPA: SCOTUS CLARIFIES "THE WATERS OF THE UNITED STATES" AND NARROWS THE REACH OF THE CLEAN WATERS ACT

June 5 - Prior to the Court's decision in Sackett, the outer boundaries of the Act's geographical reach were subject to the EPA's guidance, which was convoluted and constantly evolving. This combined with the severe consequences for violating the act, posed a massive risk to land users who were often forced to obtain an expert's opinion just to determine whether the act applied to them or their property. By the EPA's own admission, nearly all waters and wetlands were potentially susceptible to regulation under the pre-Sackett "significant-nexus" test used to establish jurisdiction over "adjacent" wetlands. [Mondaq / Read more](#)

### USA: COAST GUARD TO CONDUCT POLLUTION RESPONSE EXERCISE IN THE BERING STRAIT



*Photo courtesy of the US Coast Guard*

June 5 - The Coast Guard is scheduled to conduct a pollution response exercise in the Bering Strait June 7, 2023. The exercise will test Coast Guard and pollution response industry air and surface capabilities to respond to a simulated tanker-based crude oil spill originating on the Russian side of the Bering Strait, which subsequently affects U.S. waters and interests.

Involved in the exercise are: A Coast Guard HC-130J from Air Station Kodiak, and a commercial 737 aircraft from the Marine Spill Response Corporation modified for aerial spraying operations (freshwater only for

this event). Together these assets will practice coordinated pollution response equipment deployment, tactics, and communications under the direction of the Coast Guard Federal On-Scene Coordinator at Coast Guard Sector Anchorage. [Kiny Radio / Read more](#)

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

June 12 – Please click on the links below to download and read the latest news from NOAA OR&R

#### OR&R Staff Recognized with Public Service Award

Six members of OR&R were recognized on May 2, 2023 as part of an Outstanding Group Award presented by the Seattle Federal Executive Board (SFEB). Recognized OR&R staff included: CDR Faith Knighton, LTJG Kyle Vincent, Chris Barker, and Andrew Mason. Two OR&R contractors, Dylan Righi with Genwest and Megan Ewald with CSS, also contributed to this accomplishment.

#### Second Session of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee on Plastic Pollution

From May 29 - June 2, representatives from around the world met in Paris, France, for the Second Session of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee (INC-2) to develop an international legally binding instrument on plastic pollution, including in the marine environment.

#### Settlement Finalized from MC209 Pipeline Spill in Gulf of Mexico Federal Waters

On June 6, 2023, the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Louisiana entered the consent decree finalizing settlement between NOAA and LLOG Exploration Offshore, LLC. The settlement, valued at \$3.1 million, resolves LLOG Exploration Offshore, LLC of their liability for natural resource injuries resulting from a [pipeline spill](#) that discharged oil into the deep waters of the Gulf of Mexico, approximately 70 miles southeast of Venice, Louisiana.

#### Mashpee-Wampanoag Tribe Oil Spill Response Plan Workshop

On May 16-17, William Whitmore, OR&R's Northeast Scientific Support and Regional Preparedness Coordinator, participated in a two-



## NEWS REPORTS FROM AROUND THE WORLD (CONTINUED)

day oil spill planning workshop with MIT Sea Grant and the Mashpee-Wampanoag Tribe. The workshop, which was funded through OR&R's Disaster Preparedness Program and the National Sea Grant Office, was the first step in a collaborative effort to help the Mashpee-Wampanoag tribe create an oil spill response plan for its aquaculture sites along the south coast of Cape Cod, Massachusetts.

### Science of Chemical Releases Class Held in Jacksonville, FL

After teaching [Science of Chemical Releases \(SOCR\)](#) classes virtually since 2020, the OR&R training team, comprised of Kim Albins, Bob Bradley, Adam Davis, Charlie Henry, Dalina Thrift-Viveros, Savannah Turner, and Al Valeriotti, offered the class in person again. This class was held at the U.S. Coast Guard (USCG) Sector Jacksonville, Florida facility from May 22- 25, 2023. There were 36 students representing the USCG, U.S.

### OR&R Staff Present at Public Webinar Hosted by the National Nanotechnology Initiative

On May 22, the NOAA Marine Debris Program's Chief Scientist, Amy V. Uhrin, gave a presentation during a virtual public webinar hosted by the [National Nanotechnology Initiative](#) ([link is external](#)). Seven speakers across as many federal agencies each provided a broad overview of their key research activities addressing micro- and nanoplastic pollution. Each of the speakers are members of the informal U.S. government nanoplastics interagency interest group that coordinates activities on this subject across federal agencies.

## 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 Committee Member, Dr Larissa Montas, is a contributor to this section in the ISCO Newsletter and her next update will appear in a later issue.*

## RECENT INTERESTING PEER-REVIEWED OIL SPILL PUBLICATIONS

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



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.

#### 141. Remote sensing reveals unprecedented sublethal impacts of a 40-year-old oil spill on mangroves

Lassalle, G., Scafutto, R.D.M., Lourenço, R.A., Mazzafera, P., de Souza Filho, C.R.  
(2023) Environmental Pollution, 331, art. no. 121859,  
DOI: 10.1016/j.envpol.2023.121859

**ABSTRACT:** Oil spills cause long-lasting mangrove loss, threatening their conservation and ecosystem services worldwide. Oil spills impact mangrove forests at various spatial and temporal scales. Yet, their long-term sublethal effects on trees remain poorly documented. Here, we explore these effects based on one of the largest oil spills ever recorded, the Baixada Santista pipeline leak, which hit the mangroves of the Brazilian southeastern coast in 1983. Historical, Landsat-derived normalized difference vegetation index (NDVI) maps over the spilled mangrove reveal a large dieback of trees within a year following the oil spill, followed by a eight-year recolonization period and a stabilization of the canopy cover, however 20–30% lower than initially observed. We explain this permanent loss by an unexpected persistence of oil pollution in the sediments based on visual and geochemical evidence. Using field spectroscopy and cutting-edge drone hyperspectral imaging, we demonstrate how the continuous exposure of mangrove trees to high levels of pollution affects their health and productivity in the long term, by imposing permanent stressful conditions. Our study also reveals that tree species differ in their sensitivity to oil, giving the most tolerant ones a competitive advantage to recolonize spilled mangroves. By leveraging drone laser scanning, we estimate the loss of forest biomass caused by the oil spill to be 9.8–91.2 t ha<sup>-1</sup>, corresponding to 4.3–40.1 t C ha<sup>-1</sup>. Based on our findings, we encourage environmental agencies and lawmakers to consider the sublethal effects of oil spills on mangroves in the environmental cost of these accidents. We also encourage



petroleum companies to use drone remote sensing in monitoring routines and oil spill response planning to improve mangrove preservation and impact assessment.

#### 142. Effect of hydrocarbons on the germination of *Larrea divaricata* and *Pappostipa speciosa* in the Monte Desert of Argentina

Pérez, D.R., Llanos, M.M., Rodríguez Araujo, M.E.  
(2023) *Journal of Arid Environments*, 211, art. no. 104939,  
DOI: 10.1016/j.jaridenv.2023.104939

**ABSTRACT:** In Monte Desert, one of the most arid regions in Argentina, there is an important hydrocarbon basin and the main shale oil reservoir in South America. An intense oil activity takes place there through rock fractures, where failures and spills can occur. Loss of hydrocarbons due to high pressure conditions, produce emissions into the air in the form of sprays that can be deposited in large areas on the ground (blow outs). In samples of uncontaminated soil and soils affected by a blow out event we evaluated seed germination under laboratory conditions of keystone species: *Larrea divaricata* Cav. and *Pappostipa speciosa* (Trin. & Rupr.) Romasch. In uncontaminated controls, germination probabilities varied between 0.55 and 0.66 for *L. divaricata* and between 0.76 and 0.86 for *P. speciosa*. In contrast, in contaminated soils, germination probability was significantly lower for both species: 0.01–0.02 for *L. divaricata* and 0.2–0.25 for *P. speciosa*. We conclude that the presence of hydrocarbons significantly decreases germination of the studied species. Therefore, natural regeneration in arid regions can be seriously affected by hydrocarbon spills.

#### 143. Diversity and Degradative Potency of Extant Autochthonous Crude Oil-Metabolizing Species in a Chronically Polluted River

Osadebe, A.U., Ogugbue, C.J., Okpokwasili, G.C.  
(2023) *Pollution*, 9 (2), pp. 795-809.  
DOI: 10.22059/POLL.2023.351238.1688

**ABSTRACT:** Persistent pollution of surface waters by hydrocarbon compounds is one of the foremost threats to limited global freshwater resources. This study analyzed the abundance, diversity and degradative capacities of hydrocarbon-utilizing bacteria in chronically polluted Kono River in the Nigerian Niger Delta in order to establish the bacterial drivers of ecological regeneration of the river after an oil spill. The study further aimed to develop a specialized bacterial consortium for application in bioremediation interventions. *Bacillus*, *Pseudomonas* and *Enterobacter* spp. were predominant out of the 82 isolates obtained. *Klebsiella pneumoniae* and two species of *Enterobacter cloacae* were identified as the most efficient hydrocarbon utilizers. The isolates were also confirmed as biosurfactant producers and possessed the *alkB1* and *nahAc* genes for degradation of aliphatics and aromatics. *E. cloacae*-K11, *K. pneumoniae*-K05, *E. cloacae*-K12 and their consortium were able to degrade the total petroleum hydrocarbons and polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons in batch systems by 59.37% - 96.06% and 68.40% - 92.46% respectively. *K. pneumoniae*-K05 showed the greatest petroleum degradation capacity of the three isolates but hydrocarbon degradation was most efficient with the bacterial consortium. The results obtained showed no significant differences at  $p \leq 0.05$  between the degradation capacities of *K. pneumoniae*-K05 and the consortium for PAHs but a significant difference ( $p \leq 0.05$ ) was seen with TPH degradation. A viable hydrocarbon degrading bacterial consortium was developed at the end of the study and it was concluded that the polluted river water displayed inherent potential for effective natural attenuation.

#### 144. Oil Transport Following the Deepwater Horizon Blowout

Boufadel, M.C., Özgökmen, T., Socolofsky, S.A., Kourafalou, V.H., Liu, R., Lee, K.  
(2023) *Annual Review of Marine Science*, 15, pp. 67-93.  
DOI: 10.1146/annurev-marine-040821-104411

**ABSTRACT:** The Deepwater Horizon oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico in 2010 was the largest in US history, covering more than 1,000 km of shorelines and causing losses that exceeded \$50 billion.

While oil transformation processes are understood at the laboratory scale, the extent of the Deepwater Horizon spill made it challenging to integrate these processes in the field. This review tracks the Deepwater Horizon oil during its journey from the Mississippi Canyon block 252 (MC252) wellhead, first discussing the formation of the oil and gas plume and the ensuing oil droplet size distribution, then focusing on the behavior of the oil on the water surface with and without waves. It then reports on massive drifter experiments in the Gulf of Mexico and the impact of the Mississippi River on the oil transport. Finally, it concludes by addressing the formation of oil-particle aggregates. Although physical processes lend themselves to numerical modeling, we attempted to elucidate them without using advanced modeling, as our goal is to enhance communication among scientists, engineers, and other entities interested in oil spills.

**145. No observed developmental effects in early life stages of capelin (*Mallotus villosus*) exposed to a water-soluble fraction of crude oil during embryonic development**

Nahrgang, J., Granlund, C., Bender, M.L., Sørensen, L., Greenacre, M., Frantzen, M.  
(2023) *Journal of Toxicology and Environmental Health - Part A: Current Issues*,  
DOI: 10.1080/15287394.2023.2209115

**ABSTRACT:** The rise in offshore oil and gas operations, maritime shipping, and tourism in northern latitudes enhances the risk of oil spills to sub-Arctic and Arctic coastal environments. Therefore, there is a need to understand the potential adverse effects of petroleum on key species in these areas. Here, we investigated the effects of oil exposure on the early life stages of capelin (*Mallotus villosus*), an ecologically and commercially important Barents Sea forage fish species that spawns along the coast of Northern Norway. Capelin embryos were exposed to five different concentrations (corresponding to 0.5–19 µg/L total PAHs) of water-soluble fraction (WSF) of crude oil from 6 days post fertilization (dpf) until hatch (25 dpf), and development of larvae in clean seawater was monitored until 52 dpf. None of the investigated endpoints (embryo development, larval length, heart rate, arrhythmia, and larval mortality) showed any effects. Our results suggest that the early life stages of capelin may be more robust to crude oil exposure than similar life stages of other fish species.

**146. Acute inhibition of bacterial growth in coastal seawater amended with crude oils with varied photoreactivities**

Headrick, E.L., Nigro, L.M., Waidner, L.A., Ederington-Hagy, M., Simmering, A.L., Snyder, R.A.  
(2023) *Frontiers in Ecology and Evolution*, 11, art. no. 1113899,  
DOI: 10.3389/fevo.2023.1113899

**ABSTRACT:** The increased potential for contamination of seawater by crude oils requires studies of bacterial biodegradation potential, but little is known of the differential negative impacts of oils on bacterial growth. No two wells generate chemically identical oils; and importantly, solar exposure of crude oil may differentially affect the bacterial response. Elucidating the role that sunlight plays on the potential toxicity of spilled crude oils is imperative to understanding how oil spills might affect microbes in the tropical and subtropical waters of Florida. This study examined light exposure of six different crude oils, and subsequent microbial responses to altered oils. Marine bacterioplankton heterotrophic activities were measured via <sup>3</sup>H-leucine incorporation after the addition of oils' water accommodated fractions (WAFs) that were created under varied solar conditions. Inhibition of production increased with higher concentrations of WAFs, but dose-response trends varied among the oils. Increased solar exposure during WAF preparation generally led to more inhibition, but trends varied among oils. WAFs were also prepared under different parts of the solar spectrum. Solar-irradiated WAFs resulted in significant but variable acute toxicity vs. dark counterparts. Solar-induced toxicity was primarily a result of visible and not ultraviolet light exposure. Results indicate responses to oil spills are highly dependent on the source of the oil and solar conditions at the time and location of the spill. The data presented here demonstrate the importance of photochemical changes and oil source in modulating microbial activity and bioremediation potential.

**147. Tracking the early signals of crude oil in seawater and plankton after a major oil spill in the Red Sea**

Kottuparambil, S., Ashok, A., Barozzi, A., Michoud, G., Cai, C., Daffonchio, D., Duarte, C.M., Agusti, S.  
(2023) *Environmental Science and Pollution Research*,  
DOI: 10.1007/s11356-023-27111-0

**ABSTRACT:** Understanding the immediate impacts of oil spills is essential to recognizing their long-term consequences on the marine environment. In this study, we traced the early (within one week) signals of crude oil in seawater and plankton after a major oil spill in October 2019 in the Red Sea. At the time of sampling, the plume had moved eastward, but we detected significant signs of incorporation of oil carbon into the dissolved organic carbon pool, resulting in a 10–20% increase in the ultraviolet (UV) absorption coefficient ( $a_{254}$ ) of chromophoric dissolved organic matter (CDOM), elevated oil fluorescence emissions, and depletion of the carbon isotope composition ( $\delta^{13}C$ ) of the seawater. The abundance of the picophytoplankton *Synechococcus* was not affected, but the proportion of low nucleic acid (LNA) bacteria was significantly higher. Moreover, specific bacterial genera (*Alcanivorax*, *Salinisphaera*, and *Oleibacter*) were enriched in the seawater microbiome. Metagenome-assembled genomes (MAGs) suggested that such bacteria presented pathways for growing on oil hydrocarbons. Traces of polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs) were



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

also detected in zooplankton tissues, revealing the rapid entry of oil pollutants into the pelagic food web. Our study emphasizes the early signs of short-lived spills as an important aspect of the prediction of long-term impacts of marine oil spills.

## SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY (

If you are interested in new technology you might 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/>

### INSTITUTE DEVELOPS AMPHIBIOUS EQUIPMENT FOR SEA OIL SPILL CLEANUP



*Photos courtesy of the Korea Research Institute of Ships and Ocean Engineering show newly-developed amphibious oil recovery equipment.*

May 25 - New equipment has been developed that can clean up oil spills at sea much more efficiently than previous methods used.

The Korea Research Institute of Ships and Ocean Engineering on Wednesday held a demonstration of their newly-developed amphibious oil recovery equipment, capable of swiftly recovering oil along coastal lines.

This equipment consists of a tracked vehicle that can operate in shallow waters, sandy beaches, and gravel fields. Additionally, it includes four types of detachable oil recovery devices designed to ensure optimal retrieval of oil under various environmental conditions. Korea Bizwire / [Read more](#)

## CONTRIBUTED ARTICLE (

### ALASKANS HAVE BEEN PHOTOGRAPHING THIS VOLKSWAGEN BEETLE-SIZED BOULDER FOR 33 YEARS

June 6 – From Donna Roberts of NOAA OR&R – “Hello ISCO team. Hakai Magazine recently published a great article about the work of Dr. Alan Mearns, scientist emeritus in NOAA’s Office of Response and Restoration, and his namesake boulder in Prince William Sound.

Dr. Mearns has been monitoring Mearns Rock and other boulders for 33 years, visually documenting Prince William Sound’s recovery from the Exxon Valdez oil spill in 1989. When funding ran out for that work, he recruited volunteers who took over for him.

We thought you might be interested in sharing the article with your colleagues and partners”.

**An article by J. Besl – “In 1990, a scientist began visually documenting Prince William Sound’s recovery from the Exxon Valdez oil spill. When funding ran out, volunteers took over”.**

David Janka stands at the helm of the Auklet, an 18-meter charter boat that’s traveled Alaska’s waters longer than the region has been an American state.

It’s the peak of summer as he putters into Snug Harbor, a shallow curve in a shoreline of Knight Island walled by towering cliffs and stands of cedar, spruce, and hemlock. He steers toward the beach, aiming for a potato-shaped rock the size of a Volkswagen Beetle. He’s here to take its picture.

For 33 years, someone has traveled here each summer to photograph the unassuming boulder, nicknamed Mearns Rock. Collectively, the photos are an unexpected offshoot of one of the United States’ worst environmental disasters.

In 1989, the Exxon Valdez supertanker ran aground on Bligh Reef, dumping 40 million liters of thick black crude into Prince William Sound. Oil spread to Snug Harbor, 80 kilometers away. Mearns Rock and all its marine denizens were “totally painted in oil,” says Alan Mearns, the rock’s eponym, who worked on the hazmat team for the US National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) in the spill’s aftermath.

During the cleanup, Exxon crews and contractors power washed oil off shorelines into the ocean, where it was easier to corral. But the effort also ripped away marine life.

“Our concern immediately became, Is a cleanup going to be worse than leaving the oil on?” says Mearns.



*Above: Just two years after being coated in crude oil from the 1989 Exxon Valdez spill in Alaska, this Volkswagen Beetle–sized boulder boasted a healthy crop of rockweed. Photo by Alan Mearns/NOAA*

In the end, Exxon washed some sections of the coast and left others untreated. Mearns Rock remained oiled. For the next decade, Mearns and a team of NOAA chemists and biologists returned to dozens of sites in the region to assess the ecosystem’s recovery from oil exposure and power washing.

Mearns started photographing these research visits, using boulders like Mearns Rock as landmarks. When the larger study ended, Mearns and his NOAA colleague John Whitney secured funding to keep taking yearly photos until 2012. Since then, the project has survived on the enthusiasm of volunteers like Janka, who now consistently photograph eight of the original sites, stopping in when they’re nearby. The dedicated group has included skippers, scientists, and local coast guard volunteers.

Side by side, the [33 images of Mearns Rock](#) look like a collection of a child’s yearly school photos. In one, the boulder boasts a thick topper of rockweed. Another year, it’s buzz-cut bare, followed by a stubby growth of barnacles the next summer. Together, the photos demonstrate the dynamism of the intertidal zone, where mussels, barnacles, and seaweed clamor for real estate.





*Above: By 1994, the seaweed had died back and mussels were elbowing in. Photo by Alan Mearns/NOAA*



*Above: In 2002, barnacles dominated the rock's surface. Photo by Alan Mearns/NOAA*

"There's a lot that we can learn from a simple picture," says Scott Pegau, a research manager at the Oil Spill Recovery Institute in Cordova, Alaska. This June, during an aerial herring survey, he'll dock his floatplane in Shelter Bay, 20 kilometers southwest of Snug Harbor, to photograph two refrigerator-sized boulders named Bert and Ernie.

The decades-long photo series is also helping researchers understand the region's natural variability, where the intertidal zone changes from boulder to boulder, bay to bay, year to year.

While mussels and barnacles rebounded to natural numbers within a few years of the spill, not all species were so



## CONTRIBUTED ARTICLE (CONTINUED)

lucky. [Several populations still haven't recovered](#), including a local killer whale pod. To this day, when Janka has guests on the *Auklet*, he can stop at certain beaches and find pockets of toxic oil just a spoonful of sand beneath the surface.



*On left: In 2022, rockweed was flourishing again. Photo by David Janka/NOAA*

Janka has been intimately familiar with the oil spill since the night of the Exxon Valdez wreck. He shuttled journalists into the disaster zone during the five frenzied days after the spill, and he met Mearns when NOAA later hired him to ferry scientists to their sites. Though he retired from chartering this year, Janka plans to return to Mearns Rock to snap another photo this summer.

The Exxon Valdez proved to Janka the power of visual documentation. So many positive things happened because images of the spill were passed around the world, he says. The US government implemented oil spill legislation, formed citizen councils to oversee Prince William Sound's oil industry, and legislated double-hulled tankers. "I don't think that would have happened if there weren't photographs," he says.

The ongoing project feels less attached to the 1989 oil spill and more focused on the future, says Mearns, who retired from NOAA in 2018 but continues to steward the photo collection. Prince William Sound has made a tentative recovery but could be devastated again. Alaska's waters are warming, new species are moving north, and rising seas are pushing the intertidal zone up the shoreline. A citizen council just flagged the Valdez oil terminal in Prince William Sound as an "unacceptable safety risk." Who knows what the next 33 years will bring? The team is actively looking for volunteer photographers to keep the project running.

"I turn 80 this summer. I keep thinking, well, maybe I should back off. But I can't. It's fun," Mearns says. As long as his friends keep sending photos, he'll keep building the boulder albums, checking out each rock's latest look as he adds another photo to the end of the line.

## 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 – <https://www.emsa.europa.eu/newsroom/latest-news/item/3609-emsa-training-catalogue-2019.html>
- 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)

- **USA:** Elastec Fall Workshop, New Harmony, Indiana, 3-5 October 2023. [More Info](#)



## TRAINING COURSES (CONTINUED)

- **COLOMBIA** -The OSRO Varichem of Colombia, corporate member of ISCO, announces new course in Latin America - Date: June 14th, 15th and 16th of June 2023.

The IMO I course aims to implement plans to manage and coordinate a first response team and the development and implementation of a contingency plan. This program provides participants the basic and strategic knowledge to develop skills required to an oil spill response. Our courses are taught by nationally and internationally trained and certified instructors, with extensive experience in handling all types of environmental contingencies, which guarantees the quality of the programs. Varichem de Colombia is the only one in Colombia with DIMAR certification for OMI 4.02, 4.03, 4.04; therefore, the students will receive double certification endorsed by DIMAR (General Maritime and Port Authority) and the International Nautical Institute. Cartagena Registration link:

<https://forms.office.com/r/3DpikvTG> For more information please e-mail [sales@varichem.com](mailto:sales@varichem.com)

## 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)

### JUNE 2023

- **WEBINAR** – From ITRC & ALGA, "Microplastcs", 13<sup>th</sup> June
- **UK** – UK & Ireland Spill Association Regional Networking Meeting, Consett, Co. Durham, 14<sup>th</sup> June, 2023
- **NETHERLANDS** – Chemical Watch Expo – "Emergency Response Compliance", Amsterdam, 15-16 June 2023
- **AUSTRALIA** – Risk Assessment Symposium, Adelaide, 22 June 2023
- **UK** – Socotec Summer Environmental Event in partnership with UK & Ireland Association, Bretby, Derbyshire, 29<sup>th</sup> June 2023

### JULY 2023 & ONWARDS

- **WEBINAR** – ExxonMobil Oil Spill Response Knowledge Transfer, "Input of Oil to the Sea", Webinar 18, 12<sup>th</sup> July 2023
- **WEBINAR** – ExxonMobil Oil Spill Response Knowledge Transfer, "Accidental Spill Mitigation", Webinar 19, 1<sup>st</sup> August 2023
- **WEBINAR** – ExxonMobil Oil Spill Response Knowledge Transfer, "Oil Chemistry and Fates of Oil in the Sea", Webinar 20, 5<sup>th</sup> September 2023
- **AUSTRALIA** – SPILLCON Conference & Exhibition, Brisbane, 11-15 September 2023
- **AUSTRALIA** – SPREP/IMO/ARPEL Workshop, "Developing Oil Spill Preparedness & Response Planning In Pacific Small Islands & other Developing States", Brisbane, 15<sup>th</sup> – 17<sup>th</sup> September 2023
- **USA** – Elastec Fall Workshop. New Harmony. Indiana, 3-4 October 2023
- **WEBINAR** – ExxonMobil Oil Spill Response Knowledge Transfer, "Environmental Effects of Oil in the Sea", Webinar 21, 3<sup>rd</sup> October, 2023
- **ITALY** – ECOMONDO Exhibition & Conference, Rimini, 7-12 November 2023
- **WEBINAR** – ExxonMobil Oil Spill Response Knowledge Transfer, "Human Health Effects of Oil in the Sea", Webinar 22, 7<sup>th</sup> November 2023
- **WEBINAR** – ExxonMobil Oil Spill Response Knowledge Transfer, "Round Table Discussion to provide Summary and Recommendations", Webinar 23, 5<sup>th</sup> December 2023
- **UK** – Seatrade Maritime Salvage & Wreck Conference, 6-7 December 2023

### SOME OTHER INFO

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

UK & Ireland Spill Association Alternative Marine Fuels And Their Implication For Spill Response Webinar is [now available to watch on YouTube.](#)

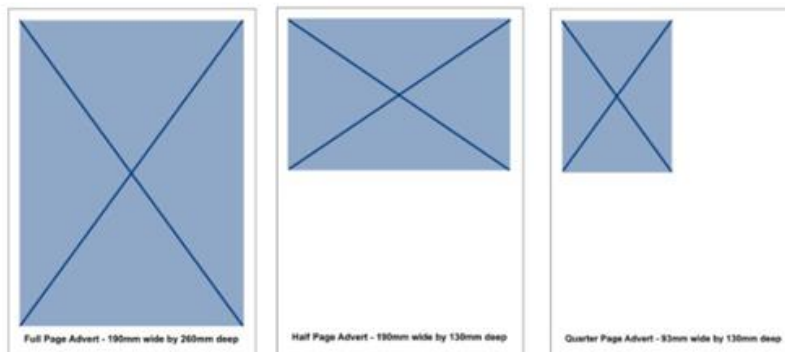
# New advertising opportunities available within the ISCO Newsletter

## Why Advertise?

With a dedicated readership, the ISCO Newsletter is sent to nearly 3000 invested individuals once a week.

This loyal readership continues to find value in the ISCO Newsletter since it started more than 17 years ago.

Advertising in the newsletter gives advertisers direct access to highly motivated and niche audience of senior business people and decision makers.



## 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.

## MESSAGES FROM EVENT ORGANISERS

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

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/>  
<https://mailchi.mp/64c839ee8f69/spillcon-2023-delegate-bookings-open?e=ce373d43ca>

A Regional Workshop has been organised by SPREP/IMO/ARPEL for the weekend immediately following Spillcon 2023. 15 - 17 September 2023 Brisbane Convention & Exhibition Centre

The Regional Workshop aims to share international experience and up-to-date knowledge on key issues of oil spill preparedness and response, aimed specifically at those based in the island nations of the South Pacific Area. It will also assist in the use of a suite of environmental management and governance tools for governments as well as present the experience gathered in other parts of the world with similar characteristics. Information, including the registration form for this Regional Workshop being held on 15 - 17 September 2023 in Brisbane, will be available [here](#). Should you have any additional questions please [contact Paul Irving at SPREP](#).

Keynote Speaker - Tuesday 12 September. The Spillcon team is delighted to announce that Ms Rachael Robertson has been confirmed as the keynote speaker for the first day of Spillcon 2023.

Rachael Robertson returned to Australia after 12 months in the Antarctic, where she successfully led the 58th Australian National

## MESSAGES FROM EVENT ORGANISERS (CONTINUED)

Antarctic Research Expedition to Davis Station. She was only the second female to ever lead a team at the Station and one of the youngest ever leaders. [Read more](#)

### 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. Clean Gulf Conference & Exhibition | November 7-9, 2023 | <https://ssl.linklings.net/conferences/IOSC/> Henry B. Gonzalez Convention Center | San Antonio, TX [Registration Now Open for CLEAN GULF 2023 + Sessions Announced!](#)

### 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 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

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

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

As a service to its Members ISCO provides a listing of publications that may be of interest to our community. This page provides details and links for downloading more than 40 publications most of which can be accessed at no cost.

## 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/>

### PHILIPPINES: MT PRINCESS EMPRESS OIL SPILL UPDATES

June 10 - PCG: Oil spill cleanup ops likely finished by June 19. Canadian Enquirer / [Read more](#)

### USA: OKLAHOMA - OIL-LACED MUD SPILLS INTO NORTHERN CREEK AFTER HEAVY RAINFALL

June 6 - Cleanup is underway after about 42,000 gallons of mud containing crude oil and other drilling waste spilled out of a pit and into a northern Oklahoma creek. When the area received heavy rains last week, the mud pit took on water. The resulting slurry either leaked through or spilled over the pit's dike and into Nine Mile Creek. Kosu / [Read more](#) [Related Report in Oklahoman](#)

### UKRAINE: EXPLOSION OF KAKHOVKA PLANT DISPLACES NEARLY 1900 HOUSEHOLDS – FLOATING LANDMINES AND OIL SPILL POSE FURTHER THREAT

June 7 - One day after the devastating explosion of the Kakhovka hydroelectric power plant in the Kherson region in South Ukraine, the water level is expected to rise by another meter in the next 20 hours.



## INCIDENT REPORTS (CONTINUED )

At least 150 tons of oil have been released into the Dnipro River with the risk of further leakage of more than 300 tons. This may lead to the Nyzhniodniprovskiy National Nature Park to disappear, which is more than 80.000 hectares of protected land. Care International / [Read more](#)

### PERU: VIDEO: INDIGENOUS PERUVIANS ATTACK AND BLOCK OIL COMPANY'S VESSELS

June 8 - PetroTal, a Canadian-based company that reports it is the largest crude oil producer in Peru, said that its vessels and crews are coming under attack by the indigenous population as it works to move oil and supplies along the rivers in Peru's Amazon region. The company reports the attacks escalated with kidnappings, commandeering of its vessels, and blocking river transport. They released a brief video showing the population in small boats surrounding and attacking one of the company's vessels that was moving a barge on the river.

In the latest attacks, PetroTal reports that multiple small boats blocked the river and that others surrounded their vessels. Working from the native canoes, they report the attackers are throwing Molotov cocktails (homemade incendiary devices) at the crews and vessels. The company highlights that the attacks are putting their crews and vessels at risk as well as the environment. The Maritime Executive / [Read more](#)

### SUEZ CANAL: SUEZMAX WITH RUSSIAN CRUDE TROUBLED

June 9 - Suezmax crude oil tanker EXPLORER was disabled by engine failure at around 0440 UTC Jun 9, shortly after entering Suez Canal with southbound convoy, in Kilometer 5 mark area. Canal Traffic Control tugs responded, tanker was taken under control, towed back to Med. Tanker, apparently in load, is en route from Novorossiysk to Ulsan Korea. Maritime Bulletin / [www.maritimebulletin.net](http://www.maritimebulletin.net)

### BRAZIL: CAPE SIZE TRUE CONRAD, UPDATE REFLOATED

June 9 1415 UTC Update - Refloated at around 1015 UTC Jun 9, as of 1415 UTC was under way to Angra dos Reis with tug's escort, ETA Jun 9. Capesize bulk carrier TRUE CONRAD ran aground between islets Grande and Marambala, Itaguaí, Brazil, in the morning May 10, while leaving Itaguaí with cargo of ore, bound for Singapore. Still aground as of May 17, with at least 1 tug responding. Extent of damages unknown, she might be breached judging from starboard side list she developed, though it might be the result of tides. Maritime Bulletin / [www.maritimebulletin.net](http://www.maritimebulletin.net)

## REMINDER – HAVE YOU RENEWED YOUR SUBSCRIPTION ?

ISCO is grateful that most members pay their annual dues on time but unfortunately there are some exceptions.

All members are reminded that membership fees should be paid annually in advance on the date of the anniversary of the date on which you first joined the organization.

Currently, our Membership Director Mary Ann Dalgleish is spending a considerable amount of time in chasing up overdue subscriptions. This task is made even more difficult in cases where invoices and reminders get bounced because contact details are no longer valid. If you have not received an invoice or payment reminder please contact Mary Ann at [mrydetroit@aol.com](mailto:mrydetroit@aol.com) without delay.

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/>

The continued publication of the ISCO Newsletter depends on the regular receipt of subscriptions – so, if you are behind with remittance of your subscription, please act now. You can do this online. **We really do need your support.**

Please go to <https://spillcontrol.org/subscriptions> where it only takes a minute to renew your subscription online. If you are finding it difficult to make your payment, please let us know. ISCO takes a sympathetic view and, rather than strike a member off the register would far rather allow you extra time than have to go through the very considerable amount of work involved in reinstatement of memberships that have been allowed to lapse.

---

Legal disclaimer: Whilst ISCO takes every care to ensure that information published in this newsletter is accurate unintentional mistakes can occur. No liability for consequences of errors is accepted but, if an error is brought to our attention, a correction will be printed in a following issue of this newsletter. Products and services featured in the ISCO Newsletter and/or the ISCO website, including the International Directory of Spill Response Supplies and Services, have not been tested, approved or endorsed by ISCO. Any claims made by suppliers of products or services are solely those of the suppliers and ISCO does not accept any liability for their accuracy. It should not be assumed that views and opinions expressed in linked reports, articles and other content reflect the views of the organization. Subscription is subject to acceptance of ISCO's Terms and Conditions as published on the website [www.spillcontrol.org](http://www.spillcontrol.org) and your acceptance of ISCO's Data Protection and Privacy Policy.

---