



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

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INTERNATIONAL & REGIONAL NEWS

PLEASE CLICK ON THE BANNERS BELOW FOR MORE INFORMATION



UN REACHES SIGNIFICANT MILESTONE IN FSO SAFER OIL TRANSFER OPERATION

The operation to transfer over 1 million barrels of oil from the decaying FSO Safer in the Red Sea has reached a significant milestone after obtaining insurance coverage for the operation.

The binding insurance coverage was announced by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) on Monday.

Securing insurance is described as a pivotal milestone in allowing the ship-to-ship transfer (STS) to move forward as it reduces the financial risk associated with the operation for the various stakeholders involved. "Insurance became a critical element of enabling this salvage operation to proceed," said UNDP Administrator Achim Steiner. "Without it, the mission could not go forward."

gCaptain / [Read more](#) Related Report in [The Maritime Executive](#)

IUCN: 8,500 SUNKEN AND ABANDONED VESSELS POSE IMMEDIATE RISK OF SPILLS



U.S. Navy salvors pump fuel oil from the wreck of the WWII cruiser Prinz Eugen in the pristine lagoon of Kwajalein Atoll, 2018. The rusting wreck contained 250,000 gallons of fuel (Photo courtesy of US Navy)

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INTERNATIONAL & REGIONAL NEWS (CONTINUED)

IUCN is warning that marine pollution from sunken and abandoned vessels in the ocean could peak within this decade. Out of an estimated 3 million sunken and abandoned vessels in the ocean, IUCN (International Union for Conservation of Nature) classifies over 8500 of them as potentially polluting wrecks. The Maritime Executive / [Read more](#)

ITOPF SIGNS AGREEMENT WITH THE IOPC FUNDS

Photo courtesy of ITOFF

ITOPF and the International Oil Pollution Compensation Funds have signed two agreements stipulating how both organisations will work together during an incident involving a qualifying ship not insured by a member of the International Group of P&I Clubs. ITOFF / [Read more](#)



ISCO NEWS

VOLUNTEERS & MEMBERS ONLINE MEETING – JUNE 22

Our next Zoom meeting will take place at 3 pm USA Detroit time on Thursday 22nd June. That's 8pm BST or the equivalent time and date in your own country.

The link for joining the meeting is <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/5220550000>

Meeting ID 522 055 0000

Find your local number <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/kcuvEcxv0t>

There is no predetermined agenda but suggested topics include ISCO awards and "Forever Chemicals". Another unresolved matter is how to resolve the matter of making access to our online meetings easier for members who are in time zones that are not convenient for joining from their locations. We look forward to seeing you at the meeting.

NEWS REPORTS FROM AROUND THE WORLD

BRAZIL: ON THE HEELS OF BIODIVERSITY DEAL, GEF PRESENTS RECORD WORK PROGRAM AND PREPARES TO HOST NEW FUND

June 14 - When it meets this month in Brasilia, the Global Environment Facility's governing body will consider a record \$1.4 billion work program and set the contours of a new Global Biodiversity Framework Fund, speeding up international efforts to confront species loss and related crises. The 64th GEF Council meeting comes six months after countries agreed to a new Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework and sounded the alarm about the need for fast and accessible funding for the protection, restoration, and sustainable use of nature. The GEF / [Read more](#)

FRANCE: MAY 2023 ACTIVITIES OF THE CEDRE DUTY TEAM

- Discussions with MRCC Corsica, Corsen, Jobourg, La Garde and Réunion following CleanSeaNet detections or aerial observations: discussions on the nature of the spill, drift slick forecast requests;
- Requests from MRCC Corsica and MRCC Jobourg following various pollution incidents: aerial observation of black water being discharged near the Sanguinaires Islands and a diesel spill in the Port of Granville;
- Participation in the RAMOGEPOL and LyondellBasell exercises;

Please continue reading this Report from CEDRE on Page 4

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FRANCE: MAY 2023 ACTIVITIES OF THE CEDRE DUTY TEAM (Continued)

- Request from Scarmor for advice following a spill of a glycol-water mixture into a stormwater basin;
- Call from the Saint Pierre and Miquelon authorities (DTAM) in relation to pollution in a port, advice on taking and analysing samples for legal purposes;
- Discussions with the Manche authorities (DDTM) after a large quantity of litter washed up on the east coast of the Cotentin peninsula, including empty medical containers (nasal sprays). Cedre is following up closely on this issue, as strandings of this type of litter have been regularly reported on the English coast since 2019.

UPCOMING TRAINING COURSES

- Oil spill response in inland waters: 12-16 June at Cedre for [SDIS 78](#), then 19-23 June for [SDIS 77](#)
- POLMAR training course: 19-23 June, in Saint Pierre and Miquelon
- Crisis management: pollution of water resources: 20-22 June, at [IMT Mines Alès](#)
- Training course on oil spill management & training course on HNS spill management (IMO 3): 20-27 June, for the [Taiwan Ocean EVEConservation Administration \(OCA\)](#), at Cedre

EVENTS

- 3 July, 11 am-12 noon: 2nd Cedre 2023 webinar on oil behaviour on the coast of French Guiana. [Register now!](#)
- 25-27 October: [13th edition of the "Assises Port du Futur"](#) (Port of the Future conference) organised by [Cerema](#) and the Mediterranean Days organised by [AIPCN France](#) will be held jointly in Sète

ITALY: ATRAC TRAINING IN TRIESTE

June 15 - ATRAC held second training course within the 'NAMIRS' project from the 12th to the 14th of June 2023 in Trieste, Italy. This course was focused on At-sea Response and was developed based on IMO OPRC Tier 2 training courses. The program was made by ATRAC and approved by other project partners. Attendees of this course were all members of the Italian Coast Guard (Guardia Costiera) and the course was held on the Harbour Masters Office premises.

The first two days of this course were dedicated to the theoretical part, whereas the third day was meant for a 'Table-top' exercise. Attendees were given an oil spill scenario in which they had to use given resources to put together an organized response. In this scenario, a tanker vessel was on its way to the SIOT terminal in Trieste, and due to an explosion on the vessel, an oil spill happened west of the city of Umag, Croatia. The training course was finished with a discussion about the 'Table-top' exercise. [No web link provided].

JAMAICA: BEAT PLASTIC POLLUTION JA LAUNCH | YOUNGSTERS GET STAKE IN REDUCTION OF PLASTICS POLLUTION

June 6 - JAMAICA'S YOUNG people are being given an opportunity to identify or otherwise champion solutions to the growing problem of plastics pollution, with the launch of the competition dubbed 'Beat Plastic Pollution JA'. The competition was kicked off by the United Nations Environment Programme's Caribbean Environment Programme (CEP) and partners on World Environment Day.

"This is a joint United Nations initiative aimed at highlighting the urgent need for action to reduce plastic pollution, which is a major challenge in the Caribbean and globally. The Caribbean is the biggest plastic polluter per capita in the world," explained a release from the UNEP CEP, citing the 2018 research work of Hannah Ritchie and Max Roser. UNEP / [Read more](#)

KUWAIT: REDUCING SINGLE-USE OF PLASTICS

June 8 - The Environment Public Authority participated in the Healthy City of Laayoune and the Daiya Health City to urge citizens and residents to reduce the use of single-use plastics, coinciding with the World Environment Day and with the campaign launched by the Authority in cooperation with the United Nations Environment Program "Behavioral Change to Reduce Single-Use Plastic Waste" [Kuwait EPA](#)

PHILIPPINES: IOPC FUNDS – SYMPOSIUM ON COMPENSATION FOR DAMAGE TO THE MARINE ENVIRONMENT

June 8 - On 8 June 2023, at the invitation of the University of the Philippines Law Center – Institute for Maritime Affairs & Law of the Sea, and the Research program "Resource Inventory, Valuation and Policy in Ecosystem Services under Threat" (RE-INVEST Project), the IOPC Funds participated in a symposium on compensation for damage to the marine environment. IOPC Funds / [Read more](#)

PUERTO RICO & US VIRGIN ISLANDS: DOJ ANNOUNCES LAUNCH OF PUERTO RICO AND U.S. VIRGIN ISLANDS (USVI) ENVIRONMENTAL CRIMES TASK FORCE

June 14 - On May 11, 2023, the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) announced the launch of its Puerto Rico and U.S. Virgin Islands (USVI) Environmental Crimes Task Force. This new task force will focus specifically on combating environmental crime in the United States' Caribbean territories, with a particular emphasis on clean air, clean water, and the territories' diverse natural resources. J D Supra / [Read more](#)

SWEDEN: MEASURES TO STOP PLASTIC POLLUTION

May 29 - Plastic pollution represents one of the most significant environmental challenges today. As businesses navigate the complex issue of plastic waste globally, legal frameworks and policies continue to evolve. This article focuses on the legal framework and policies in Sweden that are in place to tackle plastic pollution.

In recent years, there has been an increase in Swedish legislation aiming to reduce plastic waste. This is due to the need for Sweden to implement EU directives and reach its national environmental goals Lexology / [Read more](#)

UK: ENVIRONMENT AGENCY SOFTENS HVO STANCE AND SPONSORS STUDY

June 12 - At long last the Environment Agency has swung behind the use of hydrotreated vegetable oil (HVO) as a cleaner alternative to diesel and has commissioned consultants to set out its position.

The Environment Agency (EA) is working with the Sustainability Supply Chain School to set out the risks and benefits of using HVO. UK & Ireland Spill Association / [Read more](#)

USA: OR&R STAFF RECOGNIZED WITH PUBLIC SERVICE AWARD



Photo: A U.S. Coast Guard team removing the floating fishing nets from the F/V Aleutian Isle on August 24, 2022. Image credit: U.S. Coast Guard

June 12 - 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.

The NOAA team—members of OR&R, Center for Operational Oceanographic Products and Services (CO-OPs), National Weather Service (NWS), and

National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS)—along with federal, state, local, tribal, and community partners, were recognized with the prestigious award. This community response team seamlessly conducted maritime environmental protection and safety operations in August-September 2022, resulting in the safe and successful recovery of the fishing vessel Aleutian Isle. Their work minimized impact to the environment, culturally sensitive areas, and other protected resources throughout the San Juan Islands, Washington.

The interagency team established a Unified Command to coordinate a robust response for 45 consecutive days, involving over \$1.2 million of equipment salvaged in a complex deep water dive operation, and the critical protection of endangered Southern Resident Killer Whales (SRKW) and other ecologically sensitive habitats.

Utilizing state of the art remotely operated vehicles and commercial diving operations, pollution response efforts successfully identified the sunken vessel at a depth of 240 feet and provided key information that led to the recovery of nearly 2,500 gallons of oily water mixture and 590 gallons of pure diesel fuel, as well as the salvage and disposition of the vessel. [Continue Reading](#)

USA: EPA TOUGHENS RULES ON CHEMICALS USED TO BREAK UP OIL SLICKS

June 16 - The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has announced stricter standards governing the response to offshore oil spills and releases of hazardous substances into the waters of the United States and its adjoining shorelines, a press release from the EPA said.

The new standards under the National Contingency Plan (NCP) encourage the development of products like biological and chemical agents used to mitigate oil spills that are safer and more effective, require increased transparency in the use of these products and give emergency responders more information on better targeting their use of the agents.

The new rules come amid ongoing concerns about the effects chemical disasters have on public health and wildlife. The EPA had not updated its rule regulating the chemicals since 1994, reported The Guardian. Ecowatch / [Read more](#)

USA: LATEST NEWS REPORTS FROM NPAA OR&R

June 20 – Please click on the links below to download and read the latest news from NOAA OR&R

[NOAA Publishes Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands Marine Debris Emergency Response Guide](#)

NOAA’s Marine Debris Program is pleased to release the “[Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands Marine Debris Emergency Response Guide](#)” (Guide). This Guide is the first published for the Pacific Region and aims to improve preparedness for responding to marine debris after typhoons and other disasters in the Commonwealth.

[USCG Sector Delaware Bay Hosts Oil Detecting Canine Demonstration](#)

On May 19, 2023, the U.S. Coast Guard Sector Delaware Bay hosted a demonstration of using trained canines to detect subsurface shoreline oiling at Slaughter Beach in Milford, Delaware. The day started off with an introduction by Paul Bunker, the owner and Principal of Chiron K9 LLC, a canine consultancy company specializing in detection, based in San Antonio, Texas.

[NOAA Participates in U.S. Coast Guard-Led Response Roadshow](#)

The NOAA Office of Response & Restoration participated in a three-day Response Roadshow hosted by the U.S. Coast Guard Atlantic Strike Team in Fort Dix, New Jersey on June 6-8, 2023. The purpose of the meeting was to build relationships as a response community to better understand how federal, state, and local governments, as well as private industry work together to prevent, mitigate, and respond to human-made and natural disasters.

[Spotlight on Marine Debris at National Museum of Natural History](#)

On June 8, the NOAA Marine Debris Program joined artists and scientists from around the Washington, DC, area at the [Smithsonian National Museum of Natural History World Ocean Day](#)([link is external](#)) celebration.

PEOPLE IN THE NEWS

ITOPF WELCOMES NEW ADDITIONS TO THE TEAM



ITOPF is delighted to welcome Amanda Cini, Team Coordinator, Travel and Events and Jarrell Duggan, IT Support Engineer to the team.

Amanda previously spent 10 years working in corporate travel in Australia, where she started as a travel consultant, then moving into supplier relations and moving up into account management. She made sure designers, suppliers, and clients from Cotton-On group, David Jones and Country Road had their travel and account needs met.

Jarrell joins us from Segro, where he solved backend problems for frontend solutions in bespoke applications and software, as well as dealing with in-depth technical issues.

THE PRESIDENT OF ISPRA AND SNPA IS THE NEW VICE PRESIDENT OF THE MANAGEMENT BOARD OF THE EUROPEAN ENVIRONMENT AGENCY

The 99th meeting of the Management Board of the European Environment Agency was held today. Among the items on the agenda, the election of the new vice president: the President of ISPRA and SNPA, Stefano Laporta, was elected with 26 votes out of 29, confirming Italy as vice president of the management board.

“Honoured by this appointment, I thank the Minister of the Environment, Gilberto Pichetto Fratin for his support and Alessandro

PEOPLE IN THE NEWS (CONTINUED)

Bratti for the work done and my colleagues for their trust. Also in this capacity I will continue my commitment to strengthen the country's position in the community context and to accelerate the pace on the path towards sustainability" - declared President Laporta. [Press release from ISPRA](#)

OBITUARY

DAVE NEILSON – A SAD LOSS FOR OUR COMMUNITY, HE WILL BE VERY MUCH MISSED

Your editor has heard from Matthew Sommerville (former ISCO Secretary General) of the death of Dave Neilson on 9th June 2023.

Dave first qualified as a Marine Engineer in 1966 and went on to serve in our industry for well over 40 years. He was a much liked and respected oil spill response consultant. Career highlights included work on the setting up of a new response organization for Alaska (post-Exxon Valdez), consultancy, training and operations management support for BP and OSRL during many major incidents including Deepwater Horizon and OSR support at worldwide locations including Trinidad and Aberbaian.

Matthew Sommerville wrote "A sad loss and a lifetime of experience gone but in reality spread and sprinkled by him freely and generously into those he worked with, trained and shared a beer with".

Long time friend and colleague Tim Endean has created a testimonial with photos and tributes from many who knew and worked with Dave. You can download and read this [HERE](#). ISCO sends its sincere condolences to Dave's family, colleagues and friends.

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 60 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

CAN-ROSS HAS A NEW ADDRESS

We would like inform you about an important address change that is taking place at Can-Ross. Effective June 26th, we will be relocating our business operations to a new location. Our new address is as follows:

Can-Ross Environmental Services Ltd. 410 Lewis Rd, Unit 115 Stoney Creek, ON, L8E 5Y7 Canada

We kindly request that you update your records to reflect the new address and direct all future correspondence, pick ups and deliveries to the new address found above, starting on June 26 th . All other contact information, including our phone numbers, email addresses, and website, will remain unchanged. You can continue to reach us at: Phone: 905 847-7190 Fax: 905 847-7175 Toll Free: 1 888 847-7190 info@canross.com www.canross.com

Should you have any questions or require further assistance regarding the address change, please do not hesitate to reach out. We sincerely appreciate your support and understanding during this transition. We value our business relationship and look forward to serving you from our new location.

FASTANK WORKING WITH UN TO AVERT POTENTIAL OIL DISASTER IN RED SEA



Photo: Seamus Connolly, managing director of Fast Engineering and inventor of the FASTANK, who is working alongside the UN to help prevent a humanitarian and environmental disaster in the Red Sea.

Fast Engineering, which manufactures the 'FASTANK' containment units, has been tasked by the UN Development Programme and the International Maritime Organization, with positioning their portable containment units at the mouth of the Red Sea in the event of a loaded oil supertanker rupturing or exploding. Mr Connolly said his firm has been asked to urgently air freight the entirety of its FASTANK stock to Djibouti, located across the narrow straights from where the FSO Safer is moored. The Irish Times / [Read more](#)

LAMOR MAKING AN IMPACT ON KUWAIT'S SOIL

Lamor together with Khalid Ali Al-Kharafi is cleaning the largest global anthropogenic oil spill. The Kuwait Environmental Remediation Program (KERP), which is managed by the United Nations, was established for the aftercare of the Gulf war, aiming to clean, remediate and revegetate the affected area.

With the strategy already defined during the initial stage of the project, the objective for 2023 is to treat close to 1.5 million tons of contaminated soil with bioremediation techniques and 300,000 tons of highly contaminated soil with our soil washing plants.

[Watch a short video of the project](#)

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. She has been taking a break and her next contribution 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.

148. Biomarker responses in mussels (*Mytilus trossulus*) from the Baltic Sea exposed to water-accommodated fraction of crude oil and a dispersant at different salinities

Turja, R., Benito, D., Ahvo, A., Izagirre, U., Lekube, X., Stankevičiūtė, M., Butrimavičienė, L., Soto, M., Lehtonen, K.K. (2023) Marine Pollution Bulletin, 192, art. no. 115100, DOI: 10.1016/j.marpolbul.2023.115100

ABSTRACT: Oil spills pose significant environmental risks, particularly in cold seas. In the Baltic Sea, the low salinity (from 0 to 2 up to 18) affects the behaviour of the spilled oil as well as the efficiency and ecological impacts of oil spill response methods such as mechanical collection and the use of dispersants. In the present study, mussels (*Mytilus trossulus*) were exposed under winter conditions (5 °C) to the water-accommodated fraction (WAF) of Naphthenic North Atlantic crude oil prepared by mechanical dispersion or to the chemically enhanced fraction (CEWAF) obtained using the dispersant Finasol OSR 51 at salinities of 5.6 and 15.0. Especially at the lower salinity, high bioaccumulation of polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons was recorded in mussels in the CEWAF treatments, accompanied by increased biomarker responses. In the WAF treatments these impacts were less evident. Thus, the use of dispersants in the Baltic Sea still needs to be carefully considered.

149. Concentration of polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs) and histological changes in *Anomalocardia brasiliensis* and *Crassostrea rhizophorae* from Pernambuco, Brazil after the 2019 oil spill

Costa, G.K.D.A., da Silva, S.P.A., Trindade, M.R.C.M., Santos, F.L.D., Carreira, R.S., Massone, C.G., Sant'Ana, O.D., da Silva, S.M.B.C. (2023) Marine Pollution Bulletin, 192, art. no. 115066, DOI: 10.1016/j.marpolbul.2023.115066

ABSTRACT: The present study aimed to analyze the concentrations of polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs) in populations of the shellfish *Anomalocardia brasiliensis* and oysters *Crassostrea rhizophorae* three years after the 2019 oil spill, as well as evaluate

histopathological changes on the gill tissues of the bivalves. Individuals of both species were sampled at points along the northern and southern coast of Pernambuco, Brazil. The permanence of oil residues was confirmed, evidenced by the total concentration of PAHs in the shellfish from the northern coast, which was roughly four times higher than the southern one. Among the PAHs analyzed, the low molecular weight compounds naphthalene and anthracene were the main contributors to the total concentration. Histological changes in the gills of the bivalves, were more severe in the specimens sampled on the north coast indicating alterations in the bivalve's health, mainly on the state's northern coast.

150. Insights into abundance, adaptation and activity of prokaryotes in arctic and Antarctic environments

Holmberg, S.M., Jørgensen, N.O.G.
(2023) *Polar Biology*, 46 (5), pp. 381-396.
DOI: 10.1007/s00300-023-03137-5

ABSTRACT: Microorganisms perform many important functions in Arctic and Antarctic environments, but their activity and occurrence can be difficult to detect. At sub-zero temperatures, many bacteria retain their viability, but they may stay inactive for long periods. In this review, we describe essential elements of adaptation, abundance and activity of microorganisms in Arctic and Antarctic environments, and we give examples on their participation in key biogeochemical processes in permafrost soils, snow and ice. Microbes have adapted to low temperatures by adjusting the content of fatty acids and proteins in the cell membranes, and some bacteria produce a thicker cell wall. In the cytoplasm, cryoprotectants reduce freezing effects, chaperones ensure correct folding of macromolecules, and enzyme are optimized by lowering enthalpy and increasing the proportion of α - vs β -helices. Abundant microbial taxa in cold environments often belong to Proteobacteria, Actinobacteria and Acidobacteria, possibly due to their ability to survive at low nutrient levels and a high metabolic diversity, e.g., production of extracellular enzymes and fixation of N_2 . Some bacteria demonstrate growth at subzero temperatures (lower than $-10\text{ }^\circ\text{C}$) by adjusting vital processes, e.g., protein synthesis, maintenance metabolism and by reducing mobility. Important microbial ecosystem functions are exemplified by cycling of methane in oxic and anoxic conditions and by bioremediation of oil spills by indigenous microbes. Further, the significance of microbial transformation of the pollutants mercury, polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) and perfluorinated alkylated substances (PFAS) in polar regions is discussed.

152. Hydrocarbons occurrence and transcriptomic response of oyster *Crassostrea virginica* from lagoons of the Southern Gulf of Mexico,

López-Landavery, E.A., Galindo-Sánchez, C.E., López-Galindo, L.L., Ramírez-Álvarez, N., Saavedra-Flores, A., Amador-Cano, G., Ventura-López, C., San Martín-Del Ángel, P., Hernández-Herrera, R.I.
(2023) *Frontiers in Marine Science*, 10, art. no. 1085858,
DOI: 10.3389/fmars.2023.1085858

ABSTRACT: The Gulf of Mexico is an important crude oil reserve worldwide, and the oyster *Crassostrea virginica* is an excellent candidate to study the oil spill impacts on marine invertebrates. In this work, the concentrations of polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs) and aliphatic hydrocarbons (AHs) from eight productive oyster areas in the Gulf of Mexico were measured on sediment, water, and tissues from *C. virginica*. In water, the highest AHs concentration was detected in Tamiahua (0.50 ng/mL), while for PAHs, the highest concentration was $> 0.10\text{ ng/mL}$ in Tampamachoco. In sediment, Tamiahua and Tampamachoco lagoons had the highest AHs concentrations with values near $2.5\text{ }\mu\text{g/g}$ dry weight. Considering the PAHs, Tamiahua, Carmen, and Tampamachoco lagoons registered the highest levels, with values $> 60\text{ ng/g}$ dry weight. In tissues from *C. virginica*, La Pesca, Cármen and Mecocacán presented the highest PAHs concentrations with values between 0.20 and $0.25\text{ }\mu\text{g/g}$ dry weight. Furthermore, from the molecular analysis of genes related with different phases of the xenobiotic detoxification process such as hypoxia inducible factor (*hif-1a*), cytochrome P450 10 (*cyp10*), flavin mono-oxygenase (*fmo*), glutathione S-transferase (*gstO1*), multidrug resistant protein (*mrd1*), catalase (*cat*), among others, the differences between lagoons were significant ($P < 0.05$) and generally with Las Enramadas showing the highest expression levels. From genes evaluated in this study, *hif-1a*, *cyp10*, *fmo*, *mrd1* and *cat* presented the highest expression differentials between lagoons. The above allowed us to validate the utility of molecular markers in the assessment of the hydrocarbons effect on oyster under the conditions from the Southern Gulf of Mexico.

153. Lagrangian Oil Spill Simulation in Peter the Great Bay (Sea of Japan) with a High-Resolution ROMS Model

Prants, S.V., Budyansky, M.V., Fayman, P.A., Uleysky, M.Y., Didov, A.A.

RECENT INTERESTING PEER-REVIEWED OIL SPILL PUBLICATIONS (CONTINUED)

(2023) Pure and Applied Geophysics, 180 (1), pp. 551-568.

DOI: 10.1007/s00024-022-03197-4

ABSTRACT: Oil spill incidents with tankers, port terminals and offshore platforms impact seriously on marine life and socio-economic services. They occur more and more frequently and require immediate and effective response which starts with good knowledge of the likely pathways of spilled oil in the region where a pollution has occurred. The drift of a hypothetical oil spill from the main oil port in Peter the Great Bay (PGB) in the Sea of Japan is simulated from a Lagrangian point of view based on the retrospective velocity field of the ROMS circulation model with horizontal resolution of 600 m. The particle-tracking experiments with the effects of oil evaporation and biodegradation have been performed releasing hourly passive tracers at the beginning of every month during a few years. These numerical experiments showed pathways of spilled oil in different seasons, size of the open-sea area covered by the oil and risks of coastline contamination. Three main scenarios of propagation of the spilled oil in the surface layer have been found and analyzed. In the first one, the spilled oil drifts fast away from the coast due to prevailing north/northwest winds in the cold season (from December to April). The second scenario predominantly occurs in the warm season (from May to November) with prevailing south/southeast winds when the oil slick remains near the coast in the first days after an incident. The third scenario is an intermediate one with the dispersal of the spilled oil away from the coast but not too far from the oil spill site. To explain this behavior, we used the Lyapunov maps which allowed us to identify Lagrangian fronts in the study area that shape passive tracer evolution. As a Lagrangian front moves, the oil slick moves with it. At the same time, the front acts as a transport barrier preventing cross-frontal spreading of oil.

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY (

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LIQUID CARGO OF THE MONTH – VINYL ETHYL ETHER

May 10 - The BIMCO Liquid Cargo database is intended for use by for shore-side staff and to some extent for newcomers on board tankers and should only be used as a reference tool providing brief information regarding the approximately 310 commonly transported liquid cargoes including Vinyl Ethyl Ether.

The liquid cargo “Vinyl Ethyl Ether” is also known as; Ethyl vinyl ether; EVE; Ethoxy ethene.

Highly flammable and toxic liquid with a very high vapor pressure. Extremely reactive, can be polymerized in liquid or vapour phase. The cargo has a severe fire and explosion risk. BIMCO / [Read more](#)

PLANTS AID BREAK DOWN OF POLLUTION IN PETROLEUM-CONTAMINATED SOILS

June 13 - Initial choices about fertilization and grass seeding could have a long-lasting effect on how plants and their associated microbes break down pollution in petroleum-contaminated soils, a research team led by a University of Alaska Fairbanks professor recently reported.

Microbiology professor [Mary Beth Leigh](#) and the team found that planting grasses or adding fertilizer, or a combination of both, to a contaminated site had surprisingly persistent effects on the microbes associated with local vegetation.

The study, recently published in the journal [Microbiology Spectrum](#), indicates that an even greater importance should be placed on initial phytoremediation strategies— the use of plants to restore environments contaminated by pollutants.

Technology Networks / [Read more](#)

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

TRAINING COURSES (CONTINUED)

- 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

Members who would like to be listed here, please contact your editor – john.mcmurtrie@spillcontrol.org

- 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

JUNE & JULY 2023

- AUSTRALIA – Risk Assessment Symposium, Adelaide, 22 June 2023
- WEBINAR – Cedre – “Hydrocarbon Behaviour on the Guineese Coast”, 3rd July 2023
- UK – Socotec Summer Environmental Event in partnership with UK & Ireland Association, Bretby, Derbyshire, 29th June 2023
- WEBINAR – ExxonMobil Oil Spill Response Knowledge Transfer, “Input of Oil to the Sea”, Webinar 18, 12th July 2023

AUGUST 2023 & ONWARDS

- WEBINAR – ExxonMobil Oil Spill Response Knowledge Transfer, “Accidental Spill Mitigation”, Webinar 19, 1st August 2023
- USA – AHMP Annual Conference, Nebraska, 27-30 August 2023
- WEBINAR – ExxonMobil Oil Spill Response Knowledge Transfer, “Oil Chemistry and Fates of Oil in the Sea”, Webinar 20, 5th 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, 15th – 17th 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, 3rd October, 2023
- THAILAND – Economist – “Global Plastics Summit”, Bangkok, 11-12 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, 7th November 2023
- WEBINAR – ExxonMobil Oil Spill Response Knowledge Transfer, “Round Table Discussion to provide Summary and Recommendations”, Webinar 23, 5th 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.](#)

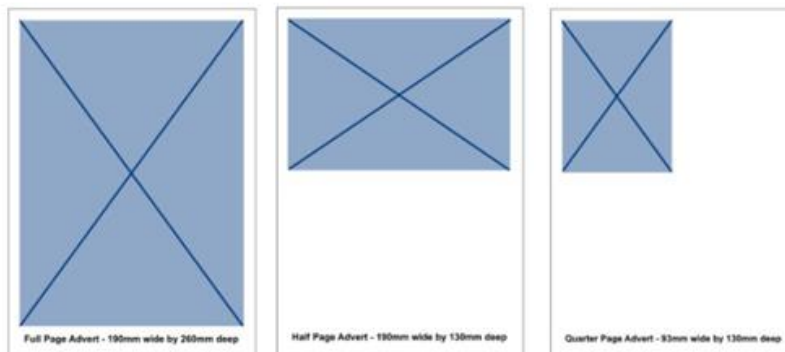
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MESSAGES FROM EVENT ORGANISERS

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

The Australian Institute of Petroleum (AIP) and the Australian Marine Oil Spill Centre (AMOSOC) 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](#).

The Spillcon team is delighted to announce that Ms Shirley Chowdhary has been confirmed as the keynote speaker for the second day of Spillcon 2023. Shirley is an internationally experienced executive leader with diverse credentials across law, financial services, investment management, the NFP sector and journalism. Career highlights include being Regional Counsel Asia Pacific for JP

MESSAGES FROM EVENT ORGANISERS (CONTINUED)

Morgan Investment Management, host of the Women's Agenda podcast series The Leadership Lessons, and author of a range of writings, including a biography for a WW2 POW. [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](#)

Scholarship Applications Now Accepted - In order to make it as easy as possible to attend this important conference, IOSC is launching the Scholarship Program. This program is intended to assist government representatives, academics, NGO's or those involved in spill response whose attendance will enhance preparedness in their region of the world. Scholarships are need-based and awarded to applicants only after review and approval by the IOSC 2024 Scholarship Committee.

Key Deadlines - Application site closes: June 29, 2023; Scholarship recipient selection: Late August 2023; Official notification: September 5, 2023 [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 Federal Contract Opportunities are posted at <https://clu-in.org/Federal-Contract-Opportunities>

European Maritime Safety Agency invitations to tender are often posted in The EMSA Newsletter at - <https://www.emsa.europa.eu/newsroom/newsletters.html>

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

NEW PUBLICATIONS

CEDRE NEWSLETTER FOR MAY 2023

In May, Cedre took part in a number of events and meetings: the European Maritime Days, ADRIASPILLCON in Croatia, the annual OTSOPA meeting in Denmark, meetings with aquatic litter monitoring network operators and with our partners the Iroise Marine Nature Park (PNMI) and RTE. In relation to projects, the website for the Mic GIVER project was launched. A test was carried out in the Polludrome® to study the behaviour of a vegetable oil methyl ester, and finally, training courses were organised both in France and internationally. [Download and read the May Newsletter](#)

CONCAWE - PERFORMANCE OF EUROPEAN CROSS-COUNTRY OIL PIPELINES (REPORT 6/23)

Statistical summary of reported spillages in 2021 and since 1971. ConcaWE has collected 51 years of spillage data on European cross-country oil pipelines. At over 35,000 km the current inventory covered by the ConcaWE survey includes the majority of such pipelines in Europe, transporting some 650 million m3 per year of crude oil and oil products. This report covers the performance of these pipelines in 2021 and a full historical perspective since 1971. [Download this Report](#)

USA: NOAA OR&R – INCIDENT RESPONSES FOR MAY 2023



Every month, [OR&R's Emergency Response Division](#) provides scientific expertise and services to the U.S. Coast Guard on everything from running oil spill trajectories to model where the spill may spread, to identifying possible effects on wildlife and fisheries and estimates on how long the oil may stay in the environment. We also get requests to track and model other floating objects.

So far this year, OR&R has provided support to 64 incidents. In May 2023, OR&R provided response support to 19 incidents, including nine new incidents in eight different states.

Here is the complete list of May's incidents. Click on the links to find out more:

- [Bulk Carrier Strikes Pier at Dock 20 on the Cuyahoga River, Cleveland, OH](#)
- [Large Explosion at Pharmaceutical Chemical Factory, Newburyport, MA](#)
- [Explosion and Fire at Refinery, Deer Park, TX](#)
- [Release of Petroleum Coke \(PET\) from Sunk Barge, MM 54 of Lower Mississippi River, Davant, LA](#)
- [Freighter Aground at Belle Isle, Detroit River, Detroit, MI](#)
- [Refinery Fire, Inner Harbor, Corpus Christi, TX](#)
- [Twin Otter Airplane Crash, 35 Miles West of Pacifica, CA](#)
- [Pipeline Rupture of Crude Oil into Marsh Area, Hackberry, LA](#)
- [Diesel Storage Tank Release, Teller, AK](#)

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/>

USA: MISSISSIPPI - BARGE RELEASES 3,400 GALLONS OF OIL INTO MISSISSIPPI

June 13 - On Monday, first responders worked to managed a discharge of oil from a barge on the Lower Mississippi near Natchez.

Coast Guard Sector Lower Mississippi River received a call at about 2200 hours on Saturday from tug and barge operator Kirby Inland Marine. The company reported a petroleum discharge from one of their barges, which was under tow by the towboat Leviticus. The spill occurred at mile marker 339 on the Lower Mississippi, a few miles downstream from Natchez, Mississippi.

Coast Guard pollution responders from Vicksburg and Sector Lower Mississippi River deployed to assess the situation. The crew of the Leviticus halted the discharge, and they estimated that about 3,400 gallons of product entered the water. Another 1,000 gallons leaked but were contained on the deck of the barge without going into the water. The Maritime Executive / [Read more](#)

RUSSIA: TWO TANKERS COLLIDE ON RUSSIA'S LENA RIVER, SPILLING GASOLINE

June 13 - Russian authorities are investigating a collision involving two tankers on the Lena River, and initial evidence suggests that the master of one of the ships may have been intoxicated.

The two tankers collided on the Lena River in the Kirensky District, a remote area about 400 miles to the northeast of Irkutsk in central Siberia. One tanker was carrying 140 tonnes of gasoline, according to the regional governor, Igor Kobzev. About 60-90 tonnes likely entered the water and has drifted downstream. The Maritime Executive / [Read more](#) Related Report in [Big News Network](#)

USA: NORTH DAKOTA - PRODUCED WATER, CRUDE OIL SPILL OCCURS FRIDAY

June 14 - The North Dakota Department of Environmental Quality was recently notified of a produced water and crude oil spill resulting from tank overflows at a well pad in Mountrail County.

Initial estimates indicate about 7,140 gallons of produced water, and 7,140 gallons of oil were released from the tank overflows. About 5,880 gallons of produced water and oil impacted pastureland surrounding the location. Produced water is a by-product of oil and gas development. Personnel from Environmental Quality are inspecting the site and will continue to monitor the investigation and remediation. Minot Daily News / [Read more](#)

PERU: PROTESTERS IN PERUVIAN AMAZON FREE CAPTURED OIL BARGES

June 14 - Indigenous protesters in Peru's Amazon have released two seized vessels belonging to the Canadian oil company PetroTal, and freed the 14 crew members, the company said Tuesday.

"The barges have been released" and the crew members — Brazilians and Peruvians — are in good condition, an oil company source told AFP. The source said the vessels were seized June 6 and freed last Saturday, when they were returned along with 40,000 barrels of oil that one of them was carrying. Macau Business / [Read more](#)

AUSTRALIA: URGENT SEARCH FOR MYSTERY OIL SPILL IMPACTING WA SEABIRDS AS VOLUNTEER GROUPS WORK TO RESCUE AND WASH PELICANS

June 15 - Environmental authorities are "urgently" searching to find the source of a mystery oil spill contaminating seabirds south of Perth, in an event WA Wildlife says they haven't seen in at least a decade.

WA Wildlife director of operations Dean Huxley said it was estimated more than 20 pelicans had been drenched in oil from a chemical spill of unknown origin, causing the birds to become distressed and waterlogged. "We have now had nine oiled pelicans admitted to the WA Wildlife Hospital and, our friends at Western Australian Seabird Rescue believe there are at least a dozen others, possibly more, out there that they've been trying to catch," he said. The West Australian / [Read more](#)

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