



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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- Mr Wu Yue (China)

INTERNATIONAL & REGIONAL NEWS

PLEASE CLICK ON THE BANNERS BELOW FOR MORE INFORMATION



IMO MEPC 80: ACTION TAKEN ON RANGE OF ENVIRONMENTAL REGULATIONS

July 12 - The IMO's MEPC 80 session adopted the 2023 IMO Strategy on Reduction of GHG Emissions from Ships and advanced other environmental initiatives.

The revised IMO GHG Strategy includes an enhanced common ambition to reach net-zero GHG emissions from international shipping close to 2050, a commitment to ensure an uptake of alternative zero and near-zero GHG fuels by 2030, as well as indicative check-points for 2030 and 2040. [Marine Link / Read more](#)

UN REPORTS OIL TRANSFER FROM DECAYING FSO SAFER TO BEGIN NEXT WEEK TO BEGIN NEXT WEEK



Above: FSO Safer oil transfer to begin FSO Safer with Boskalis vessel alongside, (Photo courtesy of Boskalis)

July 10 - During a briefing to the UN Security Council, it was reported that the oil transfer from the decaying FSO Safer off the coast of Yemen is scheduled to begin next week. The UN expects the transfer of more than 1.1 million barrels of oil to the replacement tanker should be completed by the end of July. The Maritime Executive / [Read more](#)

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Carlos Sagrera Latin America (Spanish speaking)
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INTERNATIONAL & REGIONAL NEWS (CONTINUED)

NORTH-EAST ATLANTIC'S BIGGEST MARINE PROTECTED AREA EXTENDED TO INCLUDE THE SEAFLOOR: OSPAR COMMISSION MEETING 2023

June 30 - Countries from around the North-East Atlantic met this week in Oslo, Norway for the 2023 meeting of the OSPAR Commission for the Protection and Conservation of the North-East Atlantic.

OSPAR Contracting Parties agreed to extend its largest Marine Protected Area (MPA) to include the seabed and a number of additional species and habitats, such as coral gardens and deep-sea sharks, within the scope of the MPA. OSPAR / [Read more](#)

ISCO NEWS

ONLINE MEETING OF ISCO EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

This meeting took place as planned on Wednesday 12th July 2023. The minutes are in course of preparation and will be published ASAP.

ISCO AS OBSERVER AT THE COORDINATION MEETING ON SPILL PREVENTION CONTROL AND OSROS ACTIVITIES - MARITIME AUTHORITY AND PORTS OF TAMPICO AND ALTAMIRA, MEXICO



With the presence of ISCO as Observer, on Thursday, June 28, a presentation was made at the "Club de Industriales" by Mr. Juan Carlos Rivera (former General Director of the Merchant Marine of Honduras and referent of the Regulation of Pollution Prevention and Control and OSROs in that country - <https://marinamercante.gob.hn/wp-content/uploads/2019/03/Reglamento-de-Prevenci%C3%B3n-y-Control-de-Contaminaci%C3%B3n-Marina.pdf>), on the advantages of having prevention contracts for the case of oil spills in waterways and maritime waters in Mexican ports.

It was organized by the Marterra Group (<http://www.marterra.mx/en/>), a corporate member of ISCO, and was attended by its CEO Mr. Francisco López Lerma, who explained the reasons for the event and its importance for the port community of Tamaulipas.

The new attributions of SEMAR, in force since 2016 (DOF 19.12.2016) with the Government of the current President López Obrador, are well known, the one that attributed to it the responsibility of the Mexican Port Captaincies (hereinafter ASIPONAS and that previously depended on the Ministry of Transportation and Communications) and among them those related to Marine Pollution Protection.

Within this framework PROMAM (<https://digaohm.semar.gob.mx/promam.html>) advises SEMAR and ASIPONAS and requires and supports preventive measures for companies and agencies at risk of oil spills in Mexican ports. PROMAM

was represented at the event by T/N (Ing. Química) Teresa Guadarrama, who has extensive experience in spill control and who emphasized the increasing demands of Mexican environmental laws (LFRA - https://www.diputados.gob.mx/LeyesBiblio/pdf/LFRA_200521.pdf) and environmental and energy sector authorities (SEMARNAT, PROFEPA and ASEA), which requires response with equipment and human resources adequate to the risks with oils handled by ports and ships. The representatives of the Altamira Port Captaincy (Capts. L.M. Rodriguez, J.A. Ramirez and M. Gomez) confirmed these needs and requirements that will be demanded for vessels operating in their port.

Although there is still no explicit regulation for OSROs in Mexico, SEMAR has an updated Contingency Plan and also the MEXUS Agreement with the USA (<https://www.glo.texas.gov/ost/spill-response-resources/additionaldocs/mexusplansspanish.pdf>), which allows it to respond in situations of cross-border spills between both countries (Tier III), which is very important in the deepwater area off the State of Tamaulipas and the offshore exploitation that is in full development. The topic was raised by Mr. Gabriel Alvarez (<https://interlogoffshore.com.mx/en/>) with services in the deepwater offshore areas of the State of Tamaulipas, which require answers and services also local for their operations. The recent incident at the Nohoch-A oil rig in Cantarell (Sonda de Campeche), ISCO Newsletter N° 897, confirms the need for greater controls and prevention activities by local authorities in the event of possible spills as a consequence of platform fires and explosions.

Spill prevention and control situations for Tier I and II spills must be addressed by local OSROs in Mexico and therefore port authorities and shipping agencies promote the presence of OSROs in their ports capable of responding effectively to these contingencies. One of the alternatives presented was **RESPONSECON**, developed by ISCO and BIMCO (<https://spillcontrol.org/response-contract/>) and already in force in neighboring countries such as Honduras.

Mr. Juan Carlos Rivera also presented different possible contract options for prevention and response with the local OSRO Marterra, which had a positive response from the private sector represented by “Distribuidora de Diesel Rio Panuco” (Mrs. Mabel Castillo -<https://distribuidorariopanuco.com/>) who endorsed the actions currently being taken in the port of Tampico and, especially, awakened the interest of the Golmar Group, one of the most important consortiums of Mexican shipping agencies (represented by Mr. Armando Reyna and Mrs. Paola Reyna - <http://www.acgolmar.com.mx/directory.htm>), with representation in the ports of Tampico, Altamira, Veracruz, Tuxpan and Coatzacoalcos. The Captaincy of the Port of Tampico was represented by Mr. Juan Martín Maldonado, on behalf of its chief, Capt. Marysol Esparza (<https://www.elsoldetampico.com.mx/local/quien-es-marysol-esparza-por-primera-vez-tampico-tendra-una-capitana-de-puerto-10087239.html>). [Thanks to Carlos Sagrera, MSc., External Advisor IMO, ISCO Representative in Latin America (Spanish Speaking)]

NEWS FROM AROUND THE WORLD

ANTIGUA & BARBUDA: REGIONAL MEETING OF DIRECTORS AND HEADS OF MARITIME ADMINISTRATIONS (DIHMAR)

June 28 - RAC/REMPEITC was invited to present at the second annual Regional Meeting of Directors and Heads of Maritime Administrations (DIHMAR) regarding recent work of the Center and to address concerns of delegates regarding pollution from ships across the region. Nadia Gour and Matthew Martin submitted a written report to the meeting and responded to questions from member delegates. The Center received a warm welcome from the people of Antigua and Barbuda and we thank the DIHMAR delegates for their continued support of the Center's mission. RAC-REMPEITC / [Read more](#)

AUSTRALIA: STATE OF THE FLEET—A STRATEGIC OVERVIEW OF MARITIME SAFETY IN AUSTRALIAN WATERS

July 13 - The Australian Maritime Safety Authority (AMSA) has released its inaugural State of the Fleet overview, which showcases its regulatory interactions with the people and vessels that worked in Australian waters in 2022, and foreshadows forthcoming compliance priority areas. AMSA is responsible for regulating safety on domestic commercial vessels, regulated Australian vessels, and foreign-flagged vessels operating to and from Australian ports, and through Australian waters. AMSA / [Read more](#)

CANADA: COAST GUARD ISSUES FIRST FINE FOR A HAZARDOUS VESSEL

July 7 - Recently, the Canadian Coast Guard exercised its authority under the *Wrecked, Abandoned or Hazardous Vessels Act* to issue its first fine, in the form of an Administrative Monetary Penalty, to a vessel owner in British Columbia. Canadian C. G. / [Read more](#)

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CANADA IMPLEMENTS NEW MEASURES TO MODERNIZE MARINE PROTECTION AND SAFETY

July 13 - Today, the Minister of Transport, the Honourable Omar Alghabra, announced that with the passage of Bill C-47, the Budget Implementation Act, new legislative changes to help the Government of Canada protect our oceans are now in force. This includes new measures to strengthen marine safety, respond faster and more effectively to more types of marine pollution, to take action on abandoned boats in our waters, and to provide better compensation for communities impacted by a spill.

Mirage News / [Read more](#)

CHINA: THE NEXT IMO SECRETARY-GENERAL: ZHANG XIAOJIE

July 13 - Meet the seven candidates for secretary-general of the International Maritime Organization this week as Lloyd's List sits down with each for a one-on-one chat as part of a special podcast series CHina's candidate Zhang Xiaojie tells Lloyd's List he thinks his chances are 'pretty good' at securing enough votes when the election for secretary-general is held next Tuesday

Lloyds List / [Read more](#)

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

June 6 – 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 (UNEP) Caribbean Environment Programme (CEP) and partners on World Environment Day, June 5. UNEP / [Read more](#)

KENYA: THE NEXT IMO SECRETARY-GENERAL: NANCY KARIGITHU

July 13 - Meet the seven candidates for secretary-general of the International Maritime Organization this week as Lloyd's List sits down with each for a one-on-one chat as part of a special podcast series. Kenya's candidate Nancy Karigithu tells Lloyd's List how she fell in love with the sea as a small girl living in rural Kenya. Lloyds List / [Read more](#)

KUWAIT: RECSO BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

July 13 - RECSO Board of Directors meeting was held in KOC – Ahmad Al-Jaber Oil & Gas Exhibition – VIP Conference Room, Kuwait, from 14th to 15th June 2023 RECSO / [read more](#)

PANAMA: THE NEXT IMO SECRETARY-GENERAL: ARSENIO DOMINGUEZ

July 11 - Lloyd's List launches a podcast series interviewing all seven candidates for the top job in shipping, beginning with special guest and Panama candidate, Arsenio Dominguez. First up is Panama candidate, Arsenio Dominguez, one of several favourites for the job. He is known for his diplomacy and attention to detail as the director of the marine environment division at the IMO. His website and manifesto is [here](#). Lloyds List / [Read more](#)

SINGAPORE: IMB RAISES CONCERN ON RESURGENCE OF MARITIME PIRACY AND ARMED ROBBERY IN GULF OF GUINEA IN 2023 MID-YEAR REPORT

July 12 - IMB raises concern on resurgence of maritime piracy and armed robbery in Gulf of Guinea in 2023 mid-year report. Sixty-five incidents of piracy and armed robbery against ships were recorded in the first half of 2023, an increase from 58 incidents for the same period in 2022. Hellenic Shipping News / [Read more](#)

SRI LANKA: AFTER HIGH PROFILE MARINE DISASTERS, SRI LANKA APPROVES FRENCH-FUNDED OIL SPILL MONITORING SERVICE



July 15 - After two major marine disasters, the Sri Lanka cabinet has approved a French funded move to establish a satellite system to detect data on oil spills caused by ships within Sri Lankan waters, the island nation's government said.

Sri Lanka has witnessed two worst marine disasters within nine months since 2020 September: MT New Diamond, a very large crude carrier and X-press Pearl MV with large amounts of chemicals. The new move will be funded by over 600,000 euro from the French government, the government said. Economy Next / [Read more](#)

TUNISIA: KERKENNAH TIER 1 OIL SPILL RESPONSE EXERCISE

July 7 - on behalf of the Management Committee Members, I am pleased to invite you to participate to Kerkennah Tier 1 Oil Spill Response Exercise N°2; which will be held on 21th September 2023, in Cercina field, in Kerkennah Island-Tunisia.

The exercise will be organized jointly by Thyna Petroleum Services (TPS); member and the Mediterranean Oil Industry Group (MOIG). The event will open on Thursday, 21th September 2023 at 10:00 am and expected to close on the same day at 14:00 pm. The main objectives of the exercise will be the following:

- Notifications: To test the notifications procedures identified in the Oil Spill Contingency Plan;
- Operations: To demonstrate the ability to coordinate or direct operations related to the implementation of response action contained in the respective emergency plan;
- Containment: To demonstrate the ability of the response team to contain the oil slick in the containment area;
- Recovery: To demonstrate the ability of the response team to deploy skimmers into the containment area;
- Safety Affairs: To demonstrate the ability to monitor all field operations and ensure compliance with safety standards.

MOIG / [Read more](#)

USA: LATEST NEWS REPORTS FROM NOAA OR&R

July 17 – Please click on the links below to download and read the latest news from NOAA OR&R

\$5.38 Million Settlement Proposed for Pollution in Gloucester, MA

On July 12, 2023, [a \\$5.38 million settlement was proposed](#)([link is external](#)) in Federal District Court to restore natural resources impacted by contaminants discharged along the Gloucester, Massachusetts waterfront.

Monitoring and Visualizing an Ecosystem’s Recovery after a Catastrophic Oil Spill

NOAA scientists, aided in recent years by citizen scientists, have been photographing a boulder in Prince William Sound for 33 years. Why? The rock was coated in oil in 1989 when the Exxon Valdez supertanker ran aground on Bligh Reef, dumping more than ten million gallons of crude oil into the Sound. Today, the boulder is known as Mearns Rock, nicknamed after Dr. Alan Mearns, a scientist emeritus in NOAA’s Office of Response and Restoration.



New Lectures Announced in OR&R’s Lecture Series

On Thursday of this week, July 20th, the [You Don’t Know What You Don’t Know](#) lecture series begins its second annual OR&R 101 series!

Disaster Preparedness Program Team Building, Strategizing, and Planning

Staff of the [Disaster Preparedness Program](#) (DPP) and representatives from across OR&R met at the [Gulf of Mexico Disaster Response Center](#) to strategize program operations for fiscal year 2024. For three days staff focused on building strong connections, strengthening portfolio redundancy, and developing an Operational Plan for FY24 that is both ambitious and practical.

PEOPLE IN THE NEWS

NIKOLAUS H. SCHÜES ELECTED BIMCO PRESIDENT



BIMCO, the world’s largest shipping association, has elected Nikolaus H. Schües, CEO and owner of Reederei F. Laeisz as President at the organisation’s general meeting in Hong Kong on Thursday 25 May 2023.

Nikolaus H. Schües takes over as the 46th President of BIMCO and the first German national holding the position since 2011. He takes over from Sabrina Chao of Wah Kwong Maritime Transport Holdings Limited, who has completed her two-year term.

“I am honoured to be elected President of an organisation that represents over 60 percent of the world’s tonnage at a time when the task of decarbonising our industry is becoming increasingly urgent,” says Schües.

Schües takes over after a two-year period as President Designate. At the general meeting, Paul Pathy of Fednav International Ltd, Canada, was elected as President Designate. BIMCO / [Read more](#)

OBITUARY

IN MEMORIAM: DR. MOHAMED T. EL-ASHRY



The Global Environment Facility extends deep condolences to the family, friends, and colleagues of Dr. Mohamed T. El-Ashry following his passing. Mohamed served as the first Chief Executive Officer and Chairperson of the GEF, from 1994 to 2003. He also led the GEF during its pilot phase, from 1991 to 1994. His vision and committed leadership were instrumental to the long-term success of the multilateral fund, which has grown over the past three decades into the largest financier of environmental action worldwide. The GEF's unique impact is due in large part to the important role Mohamed played as a champion of the Rio Conventions, creating an avenue for countries to come together to address environmental priorities in a collaborative and integrated way. The entire GEF partnership offers gratitude for his contributions in support of a healthier, more sustainable future.

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

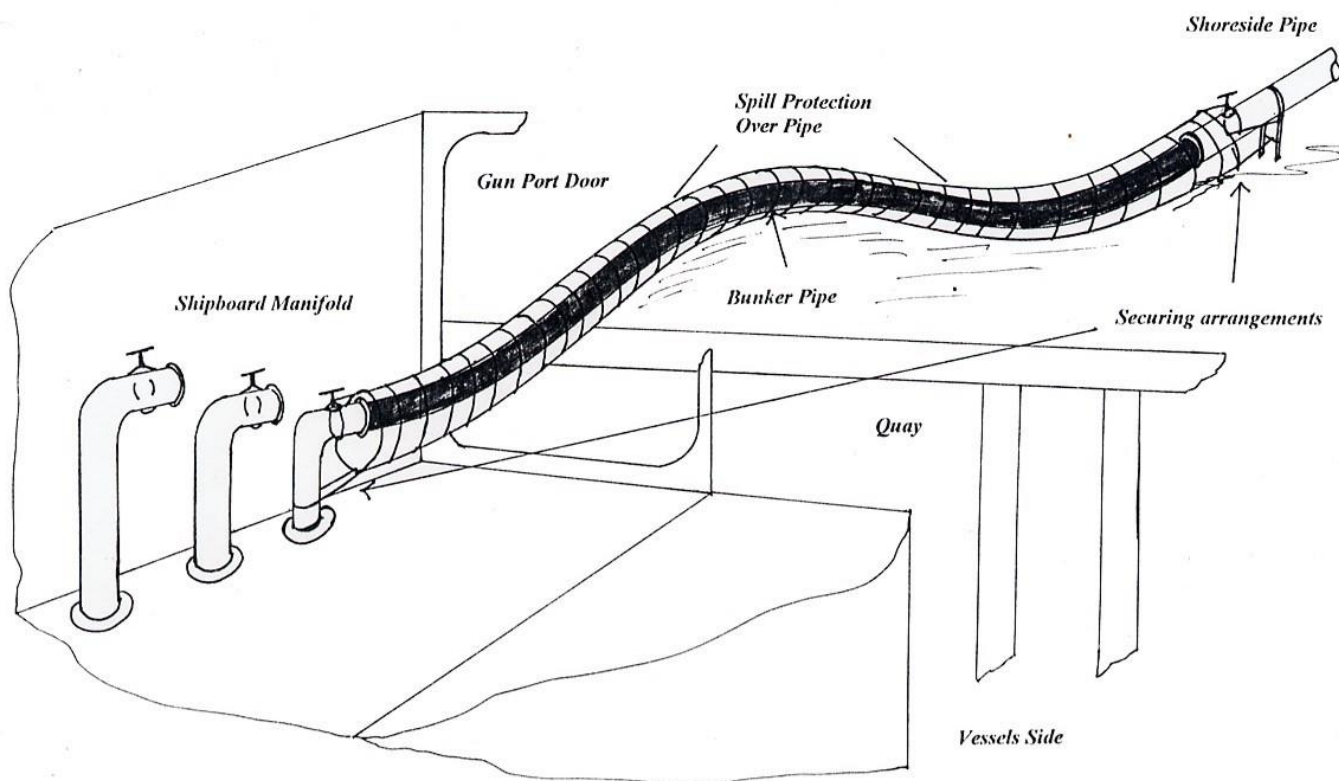
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SAVEALL SYSTEM FROM EDGE ENVIRO SERVICES



Nigel Collingwood of Edge Enviro Services writes "The SaveAll System is used for bunkering and ship-to-ship transfer. We launched this system some 20 years ago and as such it is not being used as much as it should be. In this day of environmental awareness we should be doing everything to prevent spills that we can.

Get more information from Nigel Collingwood - contact@edge-enviro.com www.edge-enviro.com

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.

Nurdles are produced by petrochemical companies from oil and gas and transported by truck, rail, and container vessels to the manufacturers of the end product. Pellet losses and leakage into the environment can take place at any point from the manufacturing site to the end-user. Preventing plastic pellet loss in inland or marine environments requires engaging with governments, civil society and local communities, companies, and organizations across the plastics value chain. Additionally, a better understanding of the toxicity of plastic pellets in the marine environment is needed to inform spill response and waste disposal operations, among others. In the coming weeks we endeavour to inform our readers about new developments regarding this issue.

This study uses insights from Elinor Ostrom - 2009 Nobel Prize in Economic Sciences- and scholars of the Bloomington School of Political Economy to analyze nurdles pollution as a global commons problem. The article highlights how plastic producers and shippers are not solely responsible for the nurdles problem. Nurdle pollution is also driven by demand for jobs. This problem is part of a complex network of interconnected industries and consumers. The ideas presented by the article, informed by Elinor Ostrom's research on the global commons, argue that polycentric regulation is more appropriate for the nurdle issue. The article provides an interesting contrast to the call for global regulation of nurdles. More details available here: details available here:

<https://www.mdpi.com/2071-1050/15/9/7031>

A recent study by various scientists from research and academic institutions in Italy, Spain and the Marine Biological Association based in the United Kingdom, has characterized "plastitar" a new geological formation consisting of plastic debris admixed to petroleum oil residue. The scientists report its widespread occurrence across the Mediterranean coast. Results suggested that tar entraps plastics, including nurdles (maximum concentration 2 items/g) through a stepwise process and is a sink for them. Results also show it is possible some of the tar residues probably originate from accidentals spills or unregulated tank washings caused by marine traffic. The pre-print of the study, which is currently under the peer review process, and more details available here:

https://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract_id=4498320

Our common goal is to eliminate all loss of pellets to the environment. Readers of the ISCO Newsletter from all countries and territories are invited to contribute information that can be shared within our community and hopefully improve our capability to counter this pollution in more effective ways. We encourage our readers to contribute information on collaborations between the plastic industry, and government, public and private partnerships aimed at reducing plastic pellet loss. Please send to our editor john.mcmurtrie@spillcontrol.org

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.

173. Freshwater turtle populations as bioindicators following an oil spill: Delayed demographic changes reveal long-term impacts

Otten, J.G., Williams, L., Refsnider, J.M.
(2023) Ecological Indicators, 154, art. no. 110519,
DOI: 10.1016/j.ecolind.2023.110519

ABSTRACT: Chronic, long-term impacts of oil spill disasters on wildlife often exceed short-term, highly visible mass mortalities and widespread oiling of individuals. Species with long lifespans, late maturation, and low recruitment rates are particularly vulnerable

to long-term population-level impacts but can be useful as indicator species for ecosystem recovery. In 2010, one of the largest freshwater oil spills in the U.S. occurred in the Kalamazoo River, MI, when 3.2 million L of spilled oil impacted 56 km of river and associated wildlife. During cleanup and restoration efforts in 2010–2011, thousands of northern map turtles (*Graptemys geographica*) were captured, cleaned, and released. During 2019–2020 northern map turtles were captured to evaluate changes in the population size, demography, and size classes nine to ten years later. Population demography shifts occurred in the first few years after the spill in a species that otherwise exhibits minimal demographic fluctuation under “normal” conditions. In comparing demographic parameters at the time of the oil spill to values ~ 10 years post-spill, a nearly 30% reduction in population size was detected, distribution of body size shifted to smaller males and females, and there was a shift in the population sex ratio between 2011 and 2019. There were also signals of failed recruitment in cohorts that would have hatched during the years immediately before and after the oil spill. These data suggest that beyond the direct mortality caused by the spill, declines in the estimated population size and shifts in the size distribution of northern map turtles are likely indicative of negative demographic impacts incurred following the 2010 oil spill and resulting cleanup.

174. Diffusive fluxes of persistent organic pollutants between Arctic atmosphere, surface waters and sediments

Moran, I.L., Tidwell, L., Barton, M., Kile, M., Miller, P., Rohlman, D., Seguinot-Medina, S., Ungwiluk, B., Waghiyi, V., Anderson, K. (2023) *Science of the Total Environment*, 892, art. no. 164566, DOI: 10.1016/j.scitotenv.2023.164566

ABSTRACT: Arctic communities are disproportionately exposed to pollutants from sources including global atmospheric transport and formerly used defense sites (FUDS). The effects of climate change and increasing development in the Arctic have the potential to exacerbate this problem. Yupik People of Sivuqaq, or St Lawrence Island, Alaska are one such community with documented exposures to pollutants from FUDS, and their traditional lipid-rich foods such as blubber and rendered oils of marine mammals. Troutman Lake, adjacent to the Yupik community of Gambell, Alaska, was used as a disposal site during the decommissioning of the adjacent FUDS, leading to community concern about exposure to military pollution and intrusion from historic local dump sites. In collaboration with a local community group, this study utilized passive sampling devices deployed in Troutman Lake. Air, water and sediment deployed samplers were analyzed for unsubstituted and alkylated polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs), brominated and organophosphate flame retardants and polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs). PAH concentrations were low and comparable to other remote/rural locations. PAHs were generally in deposition from the overlying atmosphere into Troutman Lake. Of the flame retardants, brominated diphenyl ether-47 was detected in all surface water samplers while triphenyl phosphate was detected in all environmental compartments. Both were at concentrations equivalent or lower than other remote locations. Of particular interest, we measured higher atmospheric concentrations of tris(2-chloroethyl) phosphate (TCEP) (0.75–2.8 ng/m³) than previously reported in the literature for remote Arctic sites ($0.017\text{--}0.56\text{ ng/m}^3$). TCEP was found to be in deposition to Troutman Lake at magnitudes from 290 to 1300 ng/m²/day. No PCBs were detected in this study. Our findings demonstrate the relevance of both modern and legacy chemicals from local and global sources. These results help us to understand the fate of anthropogenic contaminants in dynamic Arctic systems providing valuable data for communities, policy makers and scientists.

175. Simulating oil droplet underwater dispersal from a condensate field spill in the South China Sea

Wang, Q., Lü, Y., He, L., Huang, X., Feng, J. (2023) *Ocean Engineering*, 284, art. no. 115090, DOI: 10.1016/j.oceaneng.2023.115090

ABSTRACT: A better understanding of oil droplet dispersal, oil-water interaction, and transport in the South China Sea (SCS) is needed to enhance the response to potential spill risks from subsea oil and gas development in the region. Herein, an offline oil spill prediction system was employed considering the physical processes of hydrocarbon from the leakage source to the sea surface. The components of this system included the droplet size distribution, plume dynamics, hydrodynamics, and Lagrangian particle. The system was applied to simulate a hypothetical spill occurring in a deepwater condensate field. The results predicted a stratification-dominated plume captured by neutral buoyancy at 282 m above the source. Submerged oil droplets were transported in the 60° and 240° directions and the diffusion range gradually expanded. The first oil droplet reached the surface 22 h after the release began. More than 99% of the oil droplets floated up into the upper water column after 50 h. Particularly, droplets larger than 4 mm mainly contributed to the oil slick. After 72 h, the distribution area of the oil slick on the sea surface was ~18 km². The simulation results would be valuable for contingency planning regarding the emergency response to an underwater oil spill.

176. Numerical modeling of liquid spills from the damaged container and collision of two rising bubbles in partially filled enclosure using modified Volume-Of-Fluid (VOF) method

Merabtene, T., Garoosi, F., Mahdi, T.-F.

(2023) *Engineering Analysis with Boundary Elements*, 154, pp. 83-121.

DOI: 10.1016/j.enganabound.2023.05.037

ABSTRACT: In the present work, two crucial shortcomings associated with Volume-Of-Fluid (VOF) model namely: (1) spurious interface smearing arising from false-diffusion errors, and (2) non-physical velocity fluctuation across the physical discontinuities, are systematically addressed, aiming to establish a unique methodological foundation and guidelines for the enhancement of interface-capturing techniques in handling multi-fluid flows. To accomplish this objective, first, a novel third-order bounded convection scheme is derived based on the Normalized Variable Diagram and Total Variation Diminishing concepts (NVD-TVD) and is then applied for the discretization of the volume-fraction equation. To cope with the instability issue induced by pressure fluctuation, the standard version of the implicit non-iterative PISO algorithm is first modified by incorporating the third pressure-correction step into the algorithm and is then utilized for the treatment of the pressure-velocity coupling. A feasibility and applicability of the proposed modifications in dealing with violent free-surface and multi-fluid flows are demonstrated against the five different challenging benchmark cases including two-dimensional dam-break flow over the dry bed, oil spill from the damaged container, single bubble rising, merging of two rising bubbles and two-fluid Rayleigh-Taylor Instability problems. The comparison of the obtained results with previously published literatures vividly corroborates the robustness and versatility of the modified VOF model in handling multi-fluid flows involving interface coalescence and breakup events. In the last staged, three new benchmark solutions namely (1) coalescence of two consecutive bubbles inside the partially filled enclosure, (2) two-dimensional three-fluid Rayleigh-Taylor Instability, and (3) oil/water spilling from the damaged tank are analyzed using the verified VOF method, aiming to provide a high-quality validation data for CFD simulations.

177. Spatial ecology and habitat partitioning of two sympatric ophichthid eel species in the Gulf of Mexico

Murawski, S.A., Gracia, A.

(2023) *Bulletin of Marine Science*, 99 (2), pp. 71-94.

DOI: 10.5343/bms.2022.0031

ABSTRACT: Ophichthid eel species are abundant and diverse in tropical and semitropical seas but there are few studies of snake eel life histories and factors influencing spatial distributions. Here we analyze 12 demersal longline sampling expeditions circumnavigating continental shelves in the Gulf of Mexico (GoM) during 2011-2017. Two ophichthid eels were dominant components of fish assemblages: king snake eel (KSE), *Ophichthus rex*, and palespotted eel (PSE), *Ophichthus puncticeps*. Relative abundance (CPUE) of KSE was highest in the north central GoM, lower in the northwest and southeast and on the West Florida Shelf, and absent from northwest Cuba and the Yucatán Platform. Contrariwise, PSE abundance was highest on the Yucatán Platform, lower in the north central GoM and on the West Florida Shelf, and absent from the northwest and southwest GoM and Cuba. GAM-based species distribution models were fit to presence-absence data from sampled stations using a variety of environmental covariates including water depth, longitude, and sediment type (sand vs mud/silt). Although the two species were caught in similar depths and bottom temperatures, they were only caught together at 1% of the stations. This study extends the record length of KSE to 226 cm (total length). Despite being abundant in areas overlapping the footprint of the Deepwater Horizon oil spill in 2010, concentrations of polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs) and their metabolites were relatively low in KSE, perhaps related to copious slime production which, in other studies, has been determined to be a vector for PAH excretion in fishes.

178. An examination of onshore produced water spills in the state of California: incident frequency, spatial distribution, and shortcomings in available data

Rossi, R.J., DiGiulio, D.C., Shonkoff, S.B.C.

(2023) *Environmental Science and Pollution Research*, 30 (7), pp. 18631-18642.

DOI: 10.1007/s11356-022-23391-0

ABSTRACT: Accidental releases (i.e., spills) of produced water can occur at any point during oil and gas development operations, potentially resulting in chronic and/or catastrophic loadings of produced water to nearby ecosystems and exposures of human populations to toxic constituents including trace metals (e.g., arsenic), organic compounds (e.g., benzene), and/or radionuclides (e.g., radium). Despite California being one of the largest oil and gas producing states in the USA, no comprehensive reviews of

RECENT INTERESTING PEER-REVIEWED OIL SPILL PUBLICATIONS (CONTINUED)

produced water spills in the peer-reviewed literature have been published. To address this knowledge gap, produced water spill incident data contained within the California HazMat database were synthesized to elucidate trends in produced water spills in California. During the period of 2006–2020, a total of 1029 incidents involving produced water spills were reported. Despite the potential threat to environmental and human receptors, there are significant knowledge gaps concerning these incidents. Specifically, only ~ 6% of spill incidents contained geographic coordinates, greatly hindering assessments of the impacts of these events to public health and the environment. Moreover, updated spill volumes are not rapidly retrievable from the HazMat database, and during the years 2018–2020 volumes of produced water spilled were underreported in initial reports anywhere from 35–2750%. Further, it is unclear if groundwater monitoring is performed following spill events. This study highlights significant shortcomings in produced water spill reporting in California and recommends improvements to aid future investigations that assess the environmental and public health impacts of spill incidents.

179. Geochemical evidence for Alberta Oil Sands contamination in sediments remote to known oil sands deposits in Alberta, Canada

McCerery, R., Esegue, O., Jones, M., Winter, K., McHale, G., Woodward, J.
(2023) Environmental Forensics,
DOI: 10.1080/15275922.2023.2218304

ABSTRACT: Oil spills and natural oil seeps are sources of petrogenic hydrocarbons in soils and sediments. To determine the source of hydrocarbon contamination in the environment the geochemical signature of the contaminant needs to be characterised. Here, we present biomarker and other molecular marker diagnostic ratios of Alberta Oil Sands using gas chromatography-mass spectrometry to characterise the deposits and detect their incorporation in surficial sediments. Diagnostic ratios of steranes, terpanes, and aromatic steroids (e.g. C27, C28, and C29 regular sterane abundance, Gammacerane Index, Ts/Tm, TAS/(TAS + MAS), and MPI-2) were measured in samples of Alberta Oil Sands providing a set of criteria for their identification. Seven surficial sediment samples from central and southeast Alberta were then analysed using these criteria to detect Alberta Oil Sands contamination and other petrogenic and pyrogenic source inputs. Geochemical signatures consistent with Alberta Oil Sands hydrocarbons were identified in surficial sediments in Lamont County and glacial sediments from a moraine in Beaver County. Both sites are in Central Alberta, ~300 km south of any oil sands extraction sites and natural exposures in northern Alberta, indicating long-distance sediment transport processes mobilised the deposits. These results show that the oil sands have been eroded and transported beyond the boundaries of their current known limits. This is important for understanding sediment transport processes as well as for remediation and reclamation purposes.

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THE ROLE OF AI IN SUSTAINABLE CHEMICAL POLLUTION REMEDIATION

July 8 - Artificial intelligence (AI) has emerged as a powerful tool in various fields, and its potential in addressing environmental challenges is becoming increasingly evident. One area where AI is making significant strides is in sustainable chemical pollution remediation. By harnessing the capabilities of intelligent machines, scientists and researchers are finding innovative ways to ensure safe and sustainable chemical use. Anyuakmedia / [Read more](#)

FOAM, OIL, AND PAINT: EGLE GETS COMPLAINTS ABOUT LOOK-ALIKE NATURAL SUBSTANCES IN LAKES, RIVERS

July 12 - With warmer weather here, the Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (EGLE) hears from Michiganders about all kinds of suspicious-looking situations that turn out to be naturally occurring phenomena. Algae that look like paint, for example. Or bacteria that mimic an oil sheen.

To help people determine if what they're looking at is pollution, EGLE has a webpage devoted to [naturally occurring phenomena](#). Michigan.gov / [Read more](#)

NON-PROFIT PLANS TO CONVERT BULKER INTO PLASTICS RECYCLING CENTER

July 14 - A German non-profit environmental group is developing a plan to convert an existing bulker into a floating environmental center as part of their system to capture and recycle ocean and on shore plastics. According to the group in addition to the mobile

nature of the vessel, it also provides a turnkey solution that requires no additional space in targeted metropolitan areas and has financial advantages. The Maritime Executive / [Read more](#)



Above: The non-profit group looks to use a bulk carrier as a floating recycling center (Photo courtesy of One Earth - One Ocean)

CASE HISTORY

LIKE THE SICK OF THE CAT “I DON’T LIKE TO SAY IT, BUT IT IS LIKE THE SICK OF THE CAT” - SAID A VOICE ON THE ’PHONE. HEAR HOW AN OIL SPILL CONTRACTOR RESCUED THE HOLIDAY SEASON FOR A PRIME TOURIST LOCATION FACED WITH A TIDE OF STINKING ALGAE WASHING UP ON ITS PRISTINE HOLIDAY BEACHES.

THE GROUNDLINE ANCHORING SYSTEM – AN INNOVATION THAT SUCCESSFULLY PROTECTED ITALIAN HOLIDAY BEACHES

A Case History contributed by George Ross - a historical case history where an initial setback was resolved by innovation that led to a successful outcome. For more than 40 years George has travelled the globe, leading the response at major oil spill events, carrying out training and undertaking projects to build response preparedness all over the world. He is a well-known and respected figure in the international spill response community.



Photo: An aerial view of the mucilage pollution off the Italian coast.

When the initial request for assistance was received in Aberdeen, Alba International’s agent in Italy said “It is not nice. It is like the sick of the cat”. The stinking mess was washing up on several of the prime holiday beaches at popular holiday beaches in the Veneto region of Italy.

Details of this anomaly are well documented. The tourist industry was ravaged by this decaying Algae bloom and losses were estimated at \$800 million. The Italian government were under great pressure to do something to protect the tourist beaches from Algae that was turning the beaches to mud with dead bloom being washed ashore.

In desperation the Government decided to try a deflection strategy as the Algae could not be collected at sea or even on the beaches. This was a PR exercise by the government. Many companies worldwide deployed booms of all kinds during the trial period. The scope of operations depicted booms to be positioned no further than 500m from shore. Water depth was four metres.

CASE HISTORY (CONTINUED)

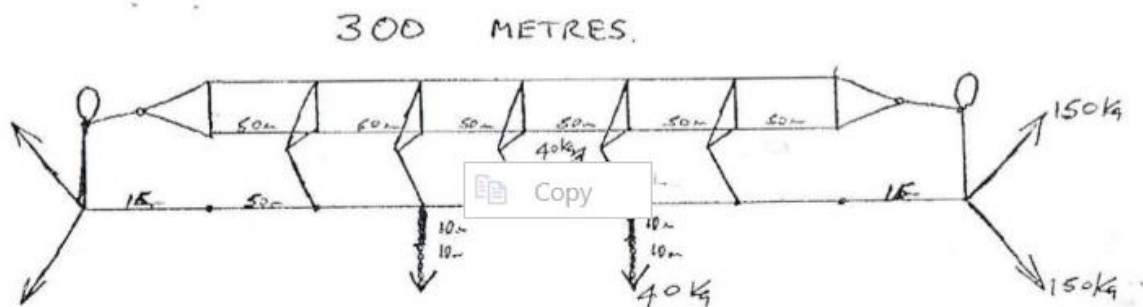
Alba International and Jackson booms got together with Seaboard Anchors. Three chevrons of 50m lengths of Jackson boom were positioned with two 25kg anchors at each end of the chevrons for the trial period that was supposed to last for one month.

Four days after the trial began a storm hit the Adriatic with winds of 70mph. In such shallow water the seas that hit the booms were breakers and nothing stood a chance. All trial booms were driven ashore except the Jackson boom. It remained at sea but was rolled up and a shambles. Four days after recovery this boom it was re-built and ready to deploy again. The boom suffered no damage. Spreader bars only had to be changed but the competition was totally destroyed

This might have been a PR exercise for the government but it presented a great problem for Alba - How to moor a semi-permanent boom in such shallow water and subject to such ferocious conditions. A conclusion was reached that the reason the boom rolled up was because the broken seas were hitting the entire 50m length at the same time. To counteract this a decision was made to extend the diversion booms from 50m to

300m so as the boom not being hit could support that which was being hit but also to bridle this boom at each 50m connection.

To set such a configuration of Anchors in single mode and in a straight line would be impossible. Thus the Ground-line concept was adopted. The ground-line could be deployed, tensioned, and anchored in one operation that left only Risers and anchor lines every 50m ready to accept the Jackson Boom.



In the sketch above the anchors along the length of the groundline are shown as 40 Kg. but may also have been 75 Kg. The area and prevailing weather would govern the anchor size and could vary depending on location. Similar sketches show the different lay-outs for anchoring boom lengths of 400 m, 450 m. and 500 m.

Gavel-end anchors were 150kg and two were set at each gavel. The first riser each end was attached to a large Buoy. Risers down the line were supported by smaller Norwegian type buoys. Anchors along the line were two towards the land three to seaward alternating. Each anchor along the line weighed 75kg and was set with a 2m buoyed tripping line for recovery.



Pictured left: Boom assembly in progress at Jackson Trawl's Peterhead factory.

The entire ground-line system was assembled in the Jackson factory in Peterhead and made of combination wire rope. Anchor lines and Risers were pre-positioned. Deployment was fast and precise. Joining sections of boom with Unicon connectors took a little time but got faster with practice.

This boom configuration survived for six months and weathered everything the Adriatic could throw at it including three storms with winds over 60mph. There were no twists and no rolling up of the boom. When recovered the boom sustained no damage. The Ground-line sustained no damage and only one 75kg Anchor was so deep in the sand it couldn't be recovered.

The mucillagine problem was repeated over two years (1989 and 1990) and during this time Alba teams installed some 10 km. of diversionary boom at various holiday resorts. At the end of each season the protection systems were retrieved, cleaned and placed in storage ready for re-use when required.

In summary - This mooring system is easy to deploy and can be assembled on land. That is a major factor. Straining the line is also achievable after setting the anchors on the first Gavel. The entire line can be tensioned when setting the anchors of the opposite gavel. With the main line under tension the landward and seaward anchors can be set precisely. Everything is rigged for recovery and tripping lines are attached to each anchor.

In the Adriatic the Jackson boom was used because of its strength but since then we have also had occasion to use Ro-Boom solid buoyancy boom at other locations. The system allows for access when required with an opening gateway that can be closed quickly. Gate risers are joined by a pennant underwater at a depth to allow vessels' draft to clear. This pennant retains the integrity of the floating configuration. Ground-lines can be any length required - there is no limit.



Above: Adriatic Coast – Protection boom installed by Alba Team to prevent pollution of holiday resort beaches by Mucillagine

Main Ground-Line 18mm combination wire rope

Risers 16mm Combination wire rope

Anchor lines 16mm Combination wire rope

[Editor: The original version of this case history can be found under the heading “Technical Articles” in the Members Only section of the ISCO website]

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-ems-a-training-catalogue-2019.html>
- FRANCE - CEDRE - 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
- USA - Elastec Fall Workshop, New Harmony, Indiana, 3-5 October 2023. [More Info](#)

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

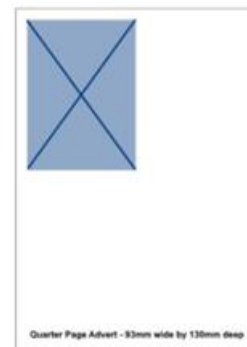
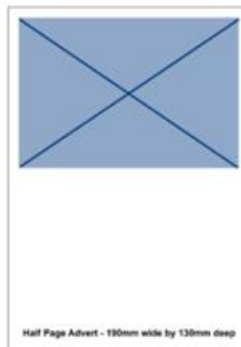
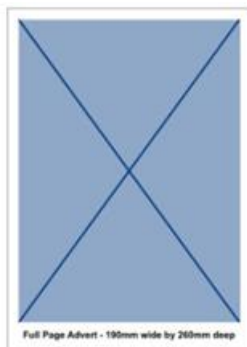
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JULY & AUGUST 2023

- WEBINAR – ExxonMobil Oil Spill Response Knowledge Transfer, "Input of Oil to the Sea", Webinar 18, 12th July 2023
- USA – AHMP Annual Conference, Nebraska, 27-30 August 2023
- WEBINAR – ExxonMobil Oil Spill Response Knowledge Transfer, "Accidental Spill Mitigation", Webinar 19, 1st August 2023

SEPTEMBER 2023 & ONWARDS

- 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

UPCOMING EVENTS (CONTINUED)

- **WEBINAR – ExxonMobil Oil Spill Response Knowledge Transfer, “Environmental Effects of Oil in the Sea “, Webinar 21, 3rd October, 2023**
- **CANADA – Remediation Technologies Symposium (REMTECCH) 2023, Fairmont Banff Springs, 11-13 October 2023**
- **THAILAND – Economist – “Global Plastics Summit”, Bangkok, 11-12 October 2023**
- **BRAZIL – International Seminar – ISCO & Ocean Pact Brazil “ Lessons Learned for Brazil & Latin America, Preparedness, Response & Crisis Management, Case Studies”, Rio de Janeiro, 27th 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**
- **USA – Clean Gulf Conference & Exhibition, “Prepare, Respond and Recover”, San Antonio, TX, 7-9 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.](#)

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](#).

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! More info](#) Time to Lock in Your Participation at CLEAN GULF 2023 The 2023 CLEAN GULF Conference & Exhibition is still 4 months away but only 25 exhibit spaces remain! Book your space today and secure access to 1,500+ potential buyers from oil & gas, maritime, rail, environmental companies, and regulatory agencies. These buyers will be walking the exhibit hall, actively looking for new technologies, equipment, and services to help them better prepare, respond, or recover from, an environmental emergency. [View Floor Plan](#) [See who's already exhibiting](#)

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](#)

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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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NEW PUBLICATIONS

EMSA NEWSLETTER – JUNE 2023



In this issue: EMSA Administrative Board unanimously renews Ms Markovčić Kostelac's mandate; first EMSA-led multipurpose maritime operation underway in the Baltic Sea; annual European Coast Guard event fosters cooperation across borders and sectors; EMSA hosts 6th RPAS user group to share valuable operational experience; IMS for member states: 20th user consultation meeting; hands-on training in Baltic Sea: demonstrating the capabilities of emsa's oil spill response equipment; EMSA boosts pollution response capabilities in Ukraine and Georgia; EMSA successfully completes EU-funded project to strengthen maritime capacities in IPA II beneficiaries; first ISO-certified Copernicus Maritime Surveillance training; CISE operational phase discussed at 13th stakeholder group meeting; potential for CISE use in crossborder anti-drug trafficking operations; European Maritime Day 2023: advancing maritime security and collaboration; future of CISE a topic of interest at European Maritime Day 2023.

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: Oil spill detected in Southern Leyte – PCG

July 10 - An oil spill was detected in the vicinity waters off Barangay Benit, San Ricardo, Southern Leyte on Friday, the Philippine Coast Guard reported Monday. The PCG said the incident occurred approximately 500 meters from LCT Georgia-1 – one of the two suspected vessels that caused the oil slick. CNN / [Read more](#)

USA: INDIANA & ILLINOIS - Ethanol Spill Raises Alarms for Kankakee River Residents

July 11 - A reported alarming ethanol spill from the South Bend Ethanol plant has triggered widespread concern among communities along the Kankakee River in Indiana and Illinois. The extent of the spill remains uncertain, intensifying worries about the potential environmental impact of this incident. Country Herald / [Read more](#)

INDONESIA Seizes Iranian-Flagged Tanker Suspected of Illegal Oil Transfer

July 11 - Indonesia's coast guard said on Tuesday it seized an Iranian-flagged supertanker suspected of involvement in the illegal transshipment of crude oil, and vowed to toughen maritime patrols. The MT Arman 114 was carrying 272,569 metric tons of light crude oil, valued at 4.6 trillion rupiah (\$304 million), when it was seized last week, the Indonesian authorities said. The Very Large Crude Carrier (VLCC) was suspected of transferring oil to another vessel without a permit on Friday, the Southeast Asian nation's maritime security agency said. gCaptain / [Read more](#) Related report in [The Maritime Executive](#)

NIGERIA: Attack Helicopter Destroys Oil Theft Tanker

July 11 - Nigerian authorities have seized and destroyed a small tanker for allegedly stealing oil from an offshore well in Ondo State. The tanker, identified as the Tura II (ex name Ali Riza Bey, IMO 6620462), was captured by contractor Tantita Security Services at an offshore location, according to NNPC. After the vessel was seized and the crew detained, the ship was destroyed by a Nigerian military helicopter, without court proceedings. [Video footage was captured by security personnel.](#)
The Maritime Executive / [Read more](#) A Critical Report in [Enviro News](#)

USA: NEW JERSEY - USCG Says Fire is Out and Salvage is Beginning on Grimaldi Vessel

July 11 - The Unified Command led by the U.S. Coast Guard declared that the fire at Port Newark aboard Grimaldi's vessel the Grande Costa d'Avorio has been extinguished. They are moving into a salvage operation that will run concurrently with a multi-agency investigation to determine the cause of the fire and lessons to be learned from the tragic incident which took the lives of two local firefighters and injured six others. The Maritime Executive / [Read more](#)

FRANCE: Port-Valais: major hydrocarbon leak in the port of Bouveret

July 11 - A major oil pollution took place Monday evening, around 18:20 p.m., in the port of Bouveret. It touched the lake at several mooring docks. A parked boat lost an undetermined amount of fuel. It poured into Lake Geneva. The reasons for this leak have yet to be determined. Le Nouvelliste / [Read more](#)

FIJI: Ministry of Health issues warning about chemical spill in Walu Bay area

July 12 - The Ministry of Health and Medical Services is issuing a preliminary advisory to inform the public about a recent incident involving a chemical spill in the Walu Bay Creek area, which resulted in a dark blue colouration of the Walu Bay River. They say their team has conducted an initial inspection and identified the leak of a chemical dye from a private company located in the vicinity. Fiji Village / [Read more](#)

AUSTRALIA: IFAW deploys rescue officer and aid to oil spill

July 13 - Seabirds are facing the effects of a recent oil spill in Western Australia. Dozens of pelicans are drenched in oil and in need of rescue. Authorities are investigating the cause of the spill. In response, IFAW is deploying Animal Rescue Officer Robert Leach to help our partner WA Wildlife treat and manage the influx of pelicans coming into their care. The rescue centre and hospital are at capacity, with 30 pelicans currently needing treatment and more likely to be rescued in the coming weeks. IFAW / [Read more](#)

ISRAEL: Tar spill reported at nature reserve in Hadera

July 13 - A tar spill was reported at the Gedor Sea Reserve in Hadera in northern Israel on Tuesday, the Israel Nature and Parks Authority announced on Thursday morning. The entire length of the coastline and also beyond the boundaries of the reserve is contaminated with tar," said Guy Levian, the director of the marine unit in the Center district. Jerusalem Post / [Read more](#)

SUMATRA: Two coastal tankers beached

July 14 - Two coastal tankers, Karya Budi Terang VI and SjumbeR Jaya 01, were beached by strong current near Batang Harau River mouth, Patang City, Western Sumatra coast, early in the morning Jul 14. both tankers are said to be loaded with fuel. crews are safe, no leak reported so far. Maritime Bulletin / [Read more](#)

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