



ISCO & THE ISCO NEWSLETTER

The International Spill Control Organization, a not-for-profit organization dedicated to raising worldwide preparedness & co-operation in response to oil and chemical spills, marine & freshwater pollution by plastics, promoting technical development and professional competency, & to providing a focus for making the knowledge and experience of spill control professionals available to Intergovernmental, Governmental, NGO's and interested groups and individuals. ISCO holds consultative status at the International Maritime Organisation & observer Status at the International Oil Pollution Compensation Fund

ISCO EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

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

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

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

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

Other Membrs of the EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

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

COUNCIL (NATIONAL REPRESENTATIVES)

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



**SEASON'S GREETINGS
TO ALL OUR READERS**



PLEASE CLICK ON THE BANNER BELOW FOR MORE INFORMATION



CLEAN WATERWAYS
APRIL 9-11, 2024 | CINCINNATI, OH

INCIDENT PREVENTION & RESPONSE
FOR INLAND REGIONS & WATERWAYS

Save \$100 on registration
VIP code: ISCO

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

UNEP EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR STATEMENT ON THE CLOSING OF COP28

"[COP28](#) has delivered, for the first time at climate talks, a clear call on countries to transition away from fossil fuels. The deal is not perfect, but one thing is clear: the world is no longer denying our harmful addiction to fossil fuels. Now we move beyond bargaining to action. As the Secretary-General has said, the phase-out of fossil fuels is inevitable.

"This means real action on a rapid transition away from fossil fuels, especially for the G20, and real action on the many other positives agreed at COP28: the framework on the Global Goal on Adaptation, operationalizing the Loss and Damage Fund, and new commitments on sustainable cooling, methane reduction, tripling renewable energy targets and nature breakthroughs.

"The reality, as outlined in [UNEP's Emissions Gap report](#) released ahead of the COP, is that we are not on track to deliver a resilient, low-carbon and just world. UNEP / [Read more](#)

IMO BIDS FAREWELL TO SECRETARY-GENERAL KITACK LIM

The IMO Assembly (A 33) has adopted a resolution commending outgoing IMO Secretary-General Kitack Lim for his services over eight years.

The resolution on Appreciation of the Services to the Organization of Mr. Kitack Lim commends his leadership and the many achievements of IMO during the past eight years, including the landmark adoption of the 2023 Strategy on the Reduction of Greenhouse Gas Emissions from Ships. The resolution notes, among other achievements, his tireless resolve to secure inter-agency collaboration for the development of appropriate responses to the humanitarian crisis impacting the well-being of seafarers caused first by the COVID-19 pandemic and then by geopolitical conflicts including the armed conflict in Ukraine.

A farewell event at IMO Headquarters (6 December) saw the launch of the IMO history book, "Safer shipping, cleaner seas - A celebration of 75 years of IMO", an initiative of Secretary-General Lim. IMO / [Read more](#)

ISCO AMBASSADORS

(Members with special responsibilities in specified geographical areas)

Carlos Sagrera Latin America (Spanish speaking)

Matthew Sommerville UK London

John Noble

UK London & South'ton

Flavio P. de Andrade

Brazil

MEMBERSHIP OF ISCO

[Benefits of Membership](#)

[Online Membership Application Form](#)

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



More than 6,000 polluted sites fester across Amazonian countries Click on the link below –

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

ISCO'S FACEBOOK GROUP



Click on the link -

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

WHATSAPP GROUP FOR STUDENTS, TRAINEES & APPRENTICES

Here is the link for joining this group –

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

ADVANCE YOUR CAREER BY GAINING PROFESSIONAL RECOGNITION Professional recognition is a visible mark of quality, competence and commitment, and can give you a significant advantage in today's competitive environment. All who have the relevant qualifications and the required level of experience can apply for Professional Membership of ISCO. The organization offers independent validation and integrity. Each grade of membership reflects an individual's professional training, experience and qualifications. You can apply for MEMBERSHIP (MISCO) or FELLOWSHIP (FISCO)

[About Professional Membership](#)

[Professional Membership Application Form](#)

REGIONAL NEWS

FACILITATING REGIONAL COOPERATION TO ADDRESS MARINE POLLUTION INCIDENTS

In a concerted effort to bolster collaboration in responding to marine pollution incidents, the Korea Coast Guard organised an international workshop in Yeosu, Republic of Korea, on November 30, 2023. Gathering Coast Guard officials from the Philippines, the Republic of Korea, and the United States of America, alongside participants such as the Northwest Pacific Action Plan (NOWPAP), the International Tanker Owners Pollution Federation Limited (ITOPF), Oil Spill Response Limited (OSRL), Korea Marine Management Cooperation (KOEM), Korea Research Institute of Ships & Ocean Engineering (KRISO), and the Korea Environmental Institute (KEI), the workshop served as a platform for knowledge exchange and strategic planning. UNEP / [Read more](#)

ISCO NEWS

THE NEXT ISSUE OF THE ISCO NEWSLETTER WILL BE PUBLISHED ON MONDAY 8th JANUARY 2024

Your Editor is taking a short holiday and will look forward to seeing you in the New Year. He wishes you all a happy holiday.

NEWS FROM AROUND THE WORLD

CANADA: FEDERAL COURT STRIKES DOWN ORDER DESIGNATING PLASTICS AS TOXIC SUBSTANCES

December 13 - On November 16, 2023, the Federal Court (Court) in *Responsible Plastic Use Coalition v. Canada* (Environment and Climate Change) struck down the federal government's Order-in-Council (Order) adding "plastic manufactured items" (PMIs) to the List of Toxic Substances in Schedule 1 of the Canadian Environmental Protection Act, 1999 (CEPA) as unreasonable and unconstitutional.

The Court determined that PMIs were too broad to be included on Schedule 1 of the List of Toxic Substances as there was no evidentiary basis to establish that all PMIs were harmful. Further, the Court held that the Order extended beyond the federal government's ability to regulate the environment through its criminal law power. The Court ultimately quashed the Order and declared it invalid and unlawful. Monday / [Read more](#)

CROATIA: IMO OPRC LEVEL 2 AND LEVEL 3 TRAINING COURSE HELD IN ATRAC

December 14 – In the period from 23rd to 26th of October 2023, ATRAC held an IMO OPRC lv2 training course on its premises. This course was attended by the members of MRCC and Ministry of the Sea, Transport and Infrastructure, including Harbour Masters. First part of the course was dedicated to planning of operations, oil properties and its impact on people and the environment. The second part of the course included demonstration of specialized equipment and a Table-top exercise that was organized by experts from ITOPF, a non-profit organisation from the United Kingdom. This Table-top exercise had a scenario in which a container ship got stranded on an island and it released certain amount of oil into the sea. This exercise was enriched with the use of VR glasses to visually simulate aerial surveillance of the spill.



The IMO OPRC lv3 training course was also held at ATRAC's premises from the 11th to the 14th December 2023. Attendees of this course were members of National Headquarters, Ministry of the Sea, Transport and Infrastructure, MRCC and Civil Protection. This

NEWS FROM AROUND THE WORLD (CONTINUED)

course was focused on communication, making strategic decisions, existing regional and global regimes and examples of good and bad decisions from past oil spill cases. Attendees were familiarized with the complexity of the whole system, they were shown areas that have a priority in protection during oil spill response and were given advice on future activities. An expert from IOPC Funds joined virtually to tell attendees about the mechanisms of damage claims in accidental pollution cases. A Table-top exercise was held in the second part of the course, in which the trainees faced possible hurdles that are present in real decision-making situations. This training course was successfully closed after discussion about the held exercise. ATRAC / [Read more](#)

FRANCE: CEDRE DUTY TEAM EMERGENCY RESPONSE - NOVEMBER 2023

Discussions with the MRCCs for French Antilles-Guiana and Corsica following CleanSeaNet detections or aerial observations of marine pollution: discussions on the nature of the products spilled, requests for drift forecasts, advice on the operations to be carried out;

Discussions with the Côtes-d'Armor fire brigade (SDIS 22) on the recommended actions after discovering sheen and a whitish substance in a river in Cozic (Côtes-d'Armor). Samples sent to Cedre for analysis;

Pollution of a lake following the rupture of a fuel oil tank. Discussions with the Finistère fire brigade (SDIS 29) on the recommended actions. Mobilisation on-site of two of Cedre's technical advisers;

Spill of 1,700 litres of caustic soda in the immediate vicinity of the river Seine. Discussions with DDTM Seine-Maritime on recommended actions and potential risks for the environment;

Advice to the harbour master's office of the port of Lorient in relation to the presence of oil in the port;

Technical advice to Chantiers de l'Atlantique following the presence of 100 L of oil in its basins;

Spill of 400 litres of hydraulic oil near the coast (Finistère);

Discovery of old oil patties following erosion on the beach at Fabrégas (Var);

Drift forecasting and technical advice for Eoliennes en mer, AEM Maritime Prefecture for the Channel and the North Sea, and the Dieppe offshore wind farm project after a bird radar broke loose from its mooring;

Stranding of a 200-litre drum in Landunvez (Finistère) with no indications as to its contents. Discussions with the Landunvez authority and the Finistère fire brigade (SDIS 29) on the recommended actions. Samples were taken by the Finistère fire brigade and analysed at Cedre;

Stranding of a leaking 200-litre drum of oil on the coast at Plonévez-Porzay (Finistère). Response action by SDIS29;

Discussions with the Pornic local authority after plastic pellets were washed up on the shoreline;

Discussions with Surfrider Foundation, the MRCC and the POLMAR 40 correspondent after bags of plastic pellets were washed up in Les Landes;

Presence of an orange substance and foam near the Elorn river (Finistère). Discussions with DDTM Finistère. Natural phenomenon suspected;

Discussions with CODIS 50 and the Barneville-Carteret local authority: presence of brownish organic matter on the beach at Bobigny (Manche) followed by the stranding of a block of what is thought to be vegetable oil. Sampling carried out by the gendarmerie;

Deposits of small tarballs in Kerlouan (Finistère). Technical discussions with the Kerlouan local authority, Vigipol and the POLMAR 29 correspondent (DDTM Finistère). Samples taken for analysis at Cedre;

Presence of contaminated dead birds on the north coast of Finistère and Côtes-d'Armor. Discussions with LPO and sampling carried out for analysis at Cedre;

Participation in an exercise with the Indre-et-Loire fire brigade (SDIS 37);

Participation in an exercise with Eau du bassin Rennais and Veolia;

Request for information on the flash point of a product under the UTMD Convention.

FRANCE: CEDRE MEETINGS, PROJECTS AND TRAINING ACTIVITIES

Read all about these Cedre activities in the November 2023 newsletter. [Click Here](#)

GREECE: HELMEPA IN THE COUNTRY'S BORDER SCHOOLS

December 14 - HELMEPA visited Kindergartens and Primary Schools of Florina and Armenochori and discussed with children (members of HELMEPA Junior) and teachers (volunteers) about the dangers that threaten the marine environment and how they can protect it.

NEWS FROM AROUND THE WORLD (CONTINUED)

The on-site face-to-face discussion with children and teachers remains HELMEPA's commitment and priority as it encourages interaction and improves the understanding, awareness and motivation of young volunteers with the valuable guidance of their teachers, from the very first school years. HELMEPA: [Read more](#)

INDIA: TAJ CITY GREEN ACTIVISTS DEMAND URGENT MEASURES TO SAVE DYING YAMUNA RIVER

December 10 - Green warriors in Agra on Sunday demanded urgent measures to save the dying Yamuna river, the lifeline of the Sri Krishna land (Braj Bhoomi), from pollution and restricted flow of fresh water from upstream barrages. At a people's conference held at the Etmauddaula View Point, the activists expressed concern and disgust at the continued neglect of the Yamuna river in Agra, the city of the Taj Mahal and other glorious Mughal monuments that attracted millions of tourists round the year.

Daiji World / [Read more](#)

INDIA: TAMIL NADU GOVERNMENT FORMS SPECIAL TASK FORCE TO MONITOR IMPACT OF OIL SPILL ON OLIVE RIDLEY TURTLES

December 12 - In the wake of an oil spill in Ennore-Manali region, the Tamil Nadu government has constituted a special task force to monitor the effects of the spillage on Olive Ridley turtles as the annual turtle nesting season is set to begin. The committee, which comprises E. Prasanth, Wildlife Warden, Chennai; Ravi Meena, District Forest Officer, Kancheepuram; Sreevalsan, Assistant Conservator of Forests, Kancheepuram; Forest Range Officer, Headquarter(Wildlife); and Students' Sea Turtle Conservation Network, will perambulate areas affected by the oil spill and report the adverse impacts on turtles and their nesting habitats, as per an order issued by Additional Chief Secretary of Environment, Climate Change and Forests Department on December 12.

The Hindu / [Read more](#)

INDIA: SUSTAINABLE INDIA: AWARENESS, ACTION AND INNOVATION

December 12 - In its pursuit of a sustainable future, India is at the forefront of global environmental leadership, taking an array of awareness, action, and innovation efforts. The historic announcement of the Global Biofuels Alliance (GBA) by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, as well as breakthrough innovations such as Toyota Kirloskar Motor's Electrified Flex Fuel Vehicle, illustrate India's unwavering commitment to a greener future. The GBA will further accelerate India's ongoing biofuel initiatives such as PM-JIVAN Yojana, SATAT, and GOBARdhan scheme. Mondaq / [Read more](#)

INDONESIA: TO FIGHT PLASTIC WASTE, AN INDONESIAN CAMPAIGN AIMS HIGH

December 7 - For the industries that make and use disposable plastic packaging, developing countries are huge growth markets. But nations such as Indonesia are struggling to cope with the vast tide of waste this business strategy leaves behind.

Tiza Mafira, cofounder of Plasticdiet Indonesia, says the volume of throwaway plastic that's deluging consumers and clogging waterways is unmanageable, and her group calls for the government to slash its use. Since 2016, Plasticdiet has worked with cities and districts across the nation to craft plastic-bag bans; more than 100 of Indonesia's approximately 500 local governments now have such bans in place.

In an interview with Yale Environment 360, Mafira — a lawyer who is also the director of the Jakarta office of the Climate Policy Initiative — says Plasticdiet aims to move beyond bags and press consumer product, food, and beverage companies to reduce their reliance on single-use plastic packaging too. Such a shift, she says, would require strong legislation to build systems enabling collection, cleaning, and reuse of packaging. Yale Environment 360 / [Read more](#)

JAPAN: GEF CEO STATEMENT ON JAPAN'S PLEDGE TO THE GLOBAL BIODIVERSITY FRAMEWORK FUND

December 11 - The Global Environment Facility welcomes the 650 million yen contribution to the Global Biodiversity Framework Fund announced by Japan during COP28 in Dubai. This early financial support is essential to the success of the GBF Fund, whose grants will support urgent action to help stop and reverse biodiversity loss – turning the ambitious targets agreed one year ago in Montreal into reality. With its contribution, Japan joins Canada, Germany, and the United Kingdom as the first four donors to the GBF Fund. We are grateful to the Government of Japan for its long-term partnership, trust, and leadership in support of a nature-positive future. The GBF Fund will have its first governing body meeting in February, with projects set to be funded by the end of 2024. GEF / [Read more](#)

KUWAIT TACKLES OIL POLLUTION: \$128M CLEAN-UP DRIVE WITH WORLEY

December 11 - In a significant step towards environmental remediation, Australian-based Worley Company has been awarded a contract valued at approximately \$127.8 million to offer consultancy services for an extensive oil pollution clean-up operation in Kuwait. This development, as reported by a local newspaper, signifies a crucial move in tackling environmental issues in the area.

Oil & Gas / [Read more](#)

NIGERIA TO PLANT 10MLN MANGROVE SEEDLINGS IN NEXT 3 YEARS

December 10 - Dr. Ishaq Salako, Minister of State for Environment in the Federal Republic of Nigeria, said that Nigeria, the third-largest country in the world in terms of the amount of mangrove trees, continues to implement its plan to plant about 10 million mangrove seedlings in the next three years, as they play an important role in the Nigerian ecosystem.

During his participation in a discussion session on mangrove planting on the sidelines of the Nature, Land Use and Oceans Day at COP28, Dr. Salako told the Emirates News Agency (WAM) that Nigeria is working to establish a US\$1 billion hydrocarbon pollution remediation project that includes restoring mangrove forests in the Niger Delta region, adding that the country has rehabilitated about 460 hectares of mangroves out of 3,000. Zawya / [Read more](#)

PHILIPPINES: OIL SPILL MAY REVERBERATE LONG AFTER CLEANUP DECLARED COMPLETE

December 13 - Working together to lift an outrigger from the clear, teal water onto a white sand beach, a group of fishers had just returned home to Verde Island with their catch. A ways down the beach, other fishers sat sewing their nets or painting their boats. Out at sea, cargo vessels and ferries slowly traversed calm waters.

These ordinary activities suggested that life in the Verde Island Passage, between the Philippines' main islands of Luzon and Mindoro, was slowly returning to normal when Mongabay visited in mid-September. An oil spill earlier this year polluted local waters and prompted authorities to impose a ban on fishing that sent local communities into a tailspin. Cleanup activities are finished and the two provinces closest to the spill, Oriental Mindoro and Batangas, have formally terminated their responses to the incident. However, experts say the effects of the oil spill on the ecosystem could linger over the long term. Mongabay / [Read more](#)

USA: NTSB RECOMMENDS CHANGES FOLLOWING 2021 OIL SPILL OFF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA COAST

December 6 - The National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) has recommended new alarms and procedures for pipeline incursions and a change to an anchorage following an [oil spill off the coast of Southern California](#) in 2021. The spill, which occurred near the ports of Los Angeles and Long Beach, resulted from ship anchors damaging an underwater pipeline. According to NTSB investigators, the oil leak in San Pedro Bay began on October 1, 2021, but resulted from an anchor strike on the pipeline that happened eight months earlier. The containerhips *Beijing* and *MSC Danit* dragged their anchors and contacted the pipeline during high winds and seas caused by a cold front. Approximately 588 barrels of oil leaked from the pipeline, causing around \$160 million in damages, including cleanup costs. gCaptain / [Read more](#)

USA: WEST VIRGINIA & PENNSYLVANIA - LOCAL GROUPS VOICE FRUSTRATIONS OVER MASSIVE OIL SPILL CLEANUP ON THE MONONGAHELA RIVER

December 13 - In the last six months, oil sheens up to 18 miles long were reported on the Monongahela River in West Virginia and Pennsylvania. But that's not the only river affected. When one area is polluted, it has harmful effects miles away. In this case, for example, the Monongahela's confluence with the Allegheny and Ohio rivers in Pennsylvania means that the pollution reaches drinking water sources for millions.

"We were able to see the effects of the oil spill 50 miles downriver lasting weeks," said captain Evan Clark, the waterkeeper at Three Rivers Waterkeeper, an organization working to protect the water quality of the Monongahela, Allegheny, and Ohio rivers. "The oil spill left not only a sheen on the river, but also significant, potentially recoverable, emulsified oil built up along the banks, docks, and fallen trees at the river's edge." Prism Reports / [Read more](#)

USA: NOAA OR&R 2023 ACCOMPLISHMENTS: THE YEAR IN REVIEW

December 14 - NOAA's Office of Response and Restoration works to protect and restore ocean and coastal resources from the impacts of threats such as marine debris, oil spills, hazardous materials, and disasters, thus benefiting the environment, public, and economy.

NOAA's Office of Response and Restoration works to protect and restore ocean and coastal resources from the impacts of threats such as marine debris, oil spills, hazardous materials, and disasters, thus benefiting the environment, public, and economy. In fiscal year (FY) 2023, we:

- awarded approximately \$67 million in federal funds to 13 transformational projects to remove marine debris through funding provided by the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law and leveraged funds from the Inflation Reduction Act;
- helped to recover \$92.8 million from pollution settlements for restoration in six states;
- supported coastal communities during disasters by providing a broad range of scientific, technical, and policy experts to support response and inform recovery;

NEWS FROM AROUND THE WORLD (CONTINUED)

- awarded more than \$630,000 to fund innovative all-hazard preparedness, response, and recovery initiatives in coastal communities;
- partnered with the U.S. Coast Guard Great Lakes Center of Expertise to advance science capabilities for freshwater spill responses and assessments; and
- launched technological advances for key NOAA response and assessment tools.
- awarded approximately \$67 million in federal funds to 13 transformational projects to remove marine debris through funding provided by the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law and leveraged funds from the Inflation Reduction Act;
- helped to recover \$92.8 million from pollution settlements for restoration in six states;
- supported coastal communities during disasters by providing a broad range of scientific, technical, and policy experts to support response and inform recovery;
- awarded more than \$630,000 to fund innovative all-hazard preparedness, response, and recovery initiatives in coastal communities;
- partnered with the U.S. Coast Guard Great Lakes Center of Expertise to advance science capabilities for freshwater spill responses and assessments; and
- launched technological advances for key NOAA response and assessment tools. NOAA OR&R / [Read more](#)

USA: LATEST NEWS REPORTS FROM NOAA OR&R

December 18 – Please click on the links below to read the latest news.

[United States Marine Debris Emergency Response Guide: A New National-Level Comprehensive Guide](#)

The NOAA Marine Debris Program, within OR&R, is pleased to release the [United States Marine Debris Emergency Response Guide](#) (Guide). The Guide is a product of a collaborative process with federal agencies. The Guide aims to improve preparedness for responding to marine debris after hurricanes and other disasters in coastal areas of the United States and the Great Lakes.

[OR&R FY2023 Hurricane Season in Review](#)

The 2023 hurricane season had an above average amount of storms, with 20 storms in the Atlantic and 16 in the Pacific compared to the average of 14. Now, OR&R is taking a look back at its accomplishments from this past hurricane season.

[NOAA Marine Debris Program Participates in Mid-Atlantic Marine Debris Summit](#)

On December 6th and 7th, Mid-Atlantic Regional Coordinator Katie Morgan participated in the Mid-Atlantic Regional Council on the Ocean's (MARCO) [Marine Debris Summit](#)([link is external](#)), held in Ocean City, Maryland. This two-day summit is typically held every two years.

[Settlement Proposed to Restore Wetlands, Floodplains and Riverbank Along the Raritan River, New Jersey](#)

On December 7, 2023, the US Department of Justice (DOJ) [released a proposed legal settlement](#)([link is external](#)) to compensate for natural resource injuries resulting from hazardous substance releases from the [American Cyanamid Superfund Site](#) in Bridgewater, New Jersey.

[OR&R Participates in Oiled Wildlife Response Training in Texas](#)

OR&R's Texas-based scientific support coordinator, Paige Doelling, Ph.D., participated in an Oiled Wildlife Response Training Workshop held in Corpus Christi, Texas, along with a diverse group of oil spill and wildlife response professionals.

NEW BENEFIT FOR CORPORATE MEMBERS OF ISCO



ISCO has launched a major new benefit in the form of FREE advertisements for our Corporate Members.

Each advertisement provides a "one click" facility that instantly displays the advertiser's web page.

The ISCO Newsletter goes out every week to companies involved in supporting the pollution response industry in about 60 countries worldwide. Government agencies, oil companies, port authorities, and many others also use the Newsletter as a key source of information.

The new ads will be regularly be seen by a very large number of potential purchasers of the featured products and services.

The ads will be positioned alongside text in the ISCO website and an example is shown on this page. Please try opening the website by clicking on the above advertisement.

You can contact Mike Watson at spillcontrol@mwadigital.com for advice on setting up your free ad.

NEWS FROM ISCO MEMBERS – ANOTHER FREE ISCO MEMBERSHIP BENEFIT

Corporate Members of ISCO can benefit by submitting news about new activities, 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. Members who would like to place a regular advertisement in the ISCO Newsletter can also benefit from preferential discounted rates. For more info please contact Mike Watson at mike@mwadigital.com. He will be happy to help you.

ISCO MEMBER AQUA-GUARD FINALIST - NATURAL RESOURCES CANADA “OIL SPILL RESPONSE CHALLENGE” RECEIVES UP TO \$1.0M

Natural Resources Canada - Oil Spill Response Challenge advances innovative and rapidly deployable solutions to effectively detect oil spills and improve response time or to increase the oil spill recovery rate when compared against conventional tools in diverse Canadian aquatic environments.

“Aqua-Guard, after significant progress in Stage 2, is working to develop a scalable solution that can be integrated into our RBS TRITON™ oil skimming systems that have been supplied world-wide over the past 30+ years. This advancement is looking to fill a major gap in oil spill response, enabling recovery of both thin layers and thick oils with unprecedented efficiency and capacity.” - Cameron Janz, CEO of Aqua-Guard Spill Response Inc.

Read full press release here: <https://aquaguard.com/news/aqua-guard-finalist-in-natural-resources-canada-oil-spill-response-challenge>

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.

279. Responding to Spills of Marine Distillate Fuels

Halonen J.

(2023) TransNav, 17 (3), pp. 675 - 683,

DOI: 10.12716/1001.17.03.19

ABSTRACT: The current spill response capability in Finland is built to respond to oil spills caused by heavy fuel oils and the most transported oil cargoes. However, the implementation of the Sulphur Directive in 2015 changed the fuel profiles of the ships: prior to the new regulation ships operating in the Baltic Sea mainly used heavy fuel oil (HFO), whereas now ships use marine gas oil (MGO DMA) or marine diesel (MDO DMB) known as marine distillate fuels. This paper reviews the effectiveness of the current recovery techniques in responding to spills of marine distillate fuels based on the oil recovery field tests. The results indicate that conventional recovery techniques are only partially applicable to marine distillate fuels, which calls for a reassessment of the marine oil spill response capability and further research. The use and availability of low-carbon marine fuels will continue to increase as emission regulations become more stringent. This will require a continuous assessment of the oil recovery capabilities and the adaptation of spill response preparedness accordingly.

280. Microbial remediation of oil-contaminated shorelines: a review

Dai X., Lv J., Fu P., Guo S.

(2023) Environmental Science and Pollution Research, 30 (41), pp. 93491 - 93518,

DOI: 10.1007/s11356-023-29151-y

ABSTRACT: Frequent marine oil spills have led to increasingly serious oil pollution along shorelines. Microbial remediation has become a research hotspot of intertidal oil pollution remediation because of its high efficiency, low cost, environmental friendliness, and simple operation. Many microorganisms are able to convert oil pollutants into non-toxic substances through their growth and metabolism. Microorganisms use enzymes' catalytic activities to degrade oil pollutants. However, microbial remediation efficiency is affected by the properties of the oil pollutants, microbial community, and environmental conditions. Feasible field microbial remediation technologies for oil spill pollution in the shorelines mainly include the addition of high-efficiency oil degrading bacteria

(immobilized bacteria), nutrients, biosurfactants, and enzymes. Limitations to the field application of microbial remediation technology mainly include slow start-up, rapid failure, long remediation time, and uncontrolled environmental impact. Improving the environmental adaptability of microbial remediation technology and developing sustainable microbial remediation technology will be the focus of future research. The feasibility of microbial remediation techniques should also be evaluated comprehensively.

281 Damage assessment of Baghjan oil field blowout on terrestrial and aquatic ecosystems near Dibru Saikhowa Biosphere Reserve, Assam India

Arandhara B., Shukla J., Dhyani S.

(2023) Remote Sensing Applications: Society and Environment, 31, art. no. 100999,

DOI: 10.1016/j.rsase.2023.100999

ABSTRACT: Ecosystems can be severely damaged by oil field blowouts. There is growing need to improve and enhance use of advance scientific tools and techniques for monitoring, mapping, and estimating the impact of oil spills on the terrestrial and aquatic ecosystems. It is also required to estimate the extent of spills to develop effective remediation plans, that ensures improved monitoring systems in place to spot early leakages. The Baghjan oil field blowout in Assam, India, adjacent to the Maguri-Motapung Wetland and the Dibru-Saikhowa National Park, substantially affected the health of nearby terrestrial and aquatic ecosystems. To assess the impact of the oil spill on the vegetation, we used Normalized Difference Vegetation Index and Case 2 Regional.CoastColour algorithm data to assess the pre and post blowout conditions. Results reflected to 41% increase in senescing vegetation followed by 25% increase in chlorophyll-a, and 35% of the total suspended matter (TSM) during the initial months. During the blowout period total TSM exceeded 175 kg/m³, which was observed to be exceptionally high for the wetland ecosystem. Areas cleared of vegetation after the oil spill were reported to have various levels of re-vegetation in the later year, according to change detection conducted for the two dates. Present study reflects the necessity of using high spatial resolution studies to map precise locations where the oil from the spill entered and later also to evaluate the impact of blowout on the vegetation. Study observed post-blowout changes in plant growth and survival which could be monitored to check ecosystem recovery after a year of oil spill.

282. Simulation of the drift and diffusion of marine oil spill under the effect of wind, current and tides

Jiang X., Teng S., Gan J., Jin C.

(2023) International Journal of Modeling, simulation, and Scientific Computing, 14 (3), art. no. 2350048,

DOI: 10.1142/S1793962323500484

ABSTRACT: Oil spill accidents occur in marine traffic accidents. Once the accidents happen, oil spill will drift and diffuse on the ocean as impacted by wind and tidal current, which has considerably impacted the work on wharfs and their surrounding environment. This study aimed to investigate the effect of wind, ocean current and tides on oil spill movement for the building of the drift and weathering models of oil particles to predict and assess the risks of oil spill on the ocean. In these models, the oil film drift algorithm considers the joint action of wind, ocean current, wave and density flow on oil spill. In this study, the fluid dynamic model was adopted to determine the drift motion generated by the tidal field, and the diffusion process was calculated with the random walk method. In addition, the random movement model of oil particles was employed for simulating the transport and weathering of the oil spill, as an attempt to simulate marine oil spill. Furthermore, the Ningbo port was taken as an example to obtain the numerical sum of the flow field obtained by the simulation, which can guide the prediction of oil spill risks near ports.

283. Immediate Socioeconomic Impacts of Mindoro Oil Spill on Fisherfolk of Naujan, Philippines,

Agaton C.B., Guno C.S., Labog R.A., Collera A.A.

(2023) Resources, 12 (9), art. no. 102,

DOI: 10.3390/resources12090102

ABSTRACT: In February 2023, an oil tanker carrying 5660 bbl of industrial fuel oil sank off Naujan in the Philippines, causing an oil spill in the waters of Oriental Mindoro and nearby provinces. The disaster affected fishing communities as well as marine ecosystems including the Verde Island Passage, which is at the “center of the world’s marine biodiversity”. This study assessed the immediate social and economic impacts of this oil spill on various communities of the Naujan coast. We conducted semi-structured interviews and employed a narrative analysis to explore the lived experiences of fisherfolk after the oil spill and to understand the socioeconomic impacts. With the prohibition of fishing and other aquatic activities, the participants lost up to USD 1300 of income per week from fishing. The participants had no other source of income due to the lack of other skills or an opportunity for an alternative livelihood in the community. While the government provided food packs and financial assistance, the participants found these insufficient to sustain their basic family needs including food, utilities, education, and health. Traces of oil were also found in the sources of potable water affecting their daily household activities. The fisherfolk, who live in communities that are vulnerable to natural and human-

RECENT INTERESTING PEER-REVIEWED OIL SPILL PUBLICATIONS (CONTINUED)

made hazards, had their subsistence, food security, and human well-being highly compromised. The findings provided recommendations for government interventions to mitigate the impacts of an oil spill and other future disasters, considering social, economic, and human ecological perspectives.

284. Déjà vu: New oil spill poses cumulative risks to protected coastal environments in the South Atlantic

Soares M.O., Brandão D.B., Teixeira C.E.P., Cavalcante R.M., Oliveira A.H.B.D., Bezerra L.E.A., Barros E.L.
(2023) *Marine Policy*, 155, art. no. 105764,
DOI: 10.1016/j.marpol.2023.105764

ABSTRACT: In 2022, new oil spills appeared again on tropical beaches; this time, they were concentrated on the Brazilian semiarid coast. This equatorial region was already impacted by the 2019/2020 event, but the impact of this new spill and its risks have not yet been discussed in literature. This article aims to provide the first data on this latest oil spill event as well as the cumulative risks presented by the two oil spills. The 2022 spill was mainly composed of fragments smaller than 0.15 m, with ~ 11.6 m³ of oil collected. Oil was detected across the Equatorial coastline, over an extension of ~ 342 km. The oil started arriving on the east coast of the Ceará State on January 25 and drifted westward, reaching new sites, until February 16. The 2022 spill reached 14 municipalities, 15 marine protected areas (MPAs), and 84 beaches. Geospatial analysis of this event—overlapped with data from the most extensive spill ever recorded in the tropical oceans (2019/2020)—indicates that 8 MPAs and 73.5 % of the beaches have been affected for a second time. The repeat of such an oil incident suggests that improved detection and mitigation strategies are necessary, along with management systems in the event of future pollution occurrences.

285 Double-plume Lagrangian particle tracking model and its application in deep water oil spill,

Ye X.-W., Niu X.-J., Jiang J.
(2023) *Journal of Hydrodynamics*, 35 (3), pp. 571 - 581,
DOI: 10.1007/s42241-023-0043-x

ABSTRACT: Due to the density stratification of sea water, the dispersed oil droplets and gas bubbles with small diameters, as well as the dissolved components, may remain in some specific depths. The double-plume Lagrangian particle tracking model for bubbly plumes in vertical density stratified environments is improved and applied to predict the underwater pollutants in a blowout. This model considers the different properties and dissolution processes of components in crude oil and focuses on their behavior and stratification differences in the plume. The crude oil components are divided into several groups and the dissolution of oil and gas is also considered. The model is applied to simulate the “Deepwater Horizon” oil spill accident in the Gulf of Mexico in 2010. The results show several enrichment layers of oil and gas at different depth and the differences in concentration between components, which corresponds to the distribution of petroleum pollutants in the in-situ observation.

286 The role of microorganisms in petroleum degradation: Current development and prospects

Chunyan X., Qaria M.A., Qi X., Daochen Z.
(2023) *Science of the Total Environment*, 865, art. no. 161112,
DOI: 10.1016/j.scitotenv.2022.161112

ABSTRACT: Petroleum hydrocarbon compounds are persistent organic pollutants, which can cause permanent damage to ecosystems due to their biomagnification. Bioremediation of oil is currently the main solution for the remediation of petroleum hydrocarbon pollutants in ecosystems. Despite several lab studies on oil microbial biodegradation efficiency, still there are various challenges for microorganisms to perform efficiently in outside environments. Herewith, investigating efficient biodegradation technologies through discovering new microorganisms, biodegradation pathways modification, and new bioremediations technologies are in great demand. The degradation of petroleum pollutants by microorganisms and the remediation of contaminated soils are achieved through their key enzymes and metabolic pathways. Although, several challenges hinder the effective biodegradation processes such as the toxic environment, long chains and versatility of petroleum hydrocarbons and the existence of the full metabolism pathways in a single microorganism. There are several developed oil biodegradation strategies by microorganisms such as synthetic biology, biofilm, recombinant technology and microbial consortia. Herewith, the application of multi-omics technology to discover oil-contaminated environments microbial communities, synthetic biology, microbial consortia, and other technologies would help improve the efficiency of microbial remediation.

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY (

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

MICROPLASTIC POLLUTION IN MARINE ECOSYSTEM AND ITS REMEDIATION

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY (CONTINUED)

Since the initiation of the plastic industrial manufacturing, its production rate has been continuously increasing and attaining high records. However, along with the increase in its production, generation of the huge plastic waste also begins. Plastic polymers are extremely difficult to degrade and might accumulate within the environment for years. Also, poor plastic waste handling or management issues are responsible for the huge plastic pollution, most of which have also reached the marine environment. Eventual degradation of the plastics in the marine environment from long time generates microplastic pollutants there. Presence of microplastics in the marine environment would be responsible for evolution of the potential plastic-consuming organisms. Microorganisms attached to plastic surface make biofilm by electromagnetic interaction forces. Further, extracellular and intracellular microbial catalysts or enzymes metabolize plastics eventually. Although remediation of such microplastics in the marine environment is a difficult task, potential strategies could be implemented for the removal of such pollutants. Based on the technique of ocean currents, these microplastic pollutants would have transferred from their high concentration in ocean to low concentration at coastal regions and eventually settled there in coastal sediments. Potential microplastic remediation techniques could be applied on the different coastal region such as coastal sediment circulation, implementation of controlled natural reactors in intertidal regions, and use of specialized membrane. This would establish a continuous transport of microplastic pollutants from ocean to coastal region to maintain microplastic particulate equilibrium, thereby evacuating microplastics from the marine environment. Springer/ [Read More](#)

PERSISTENT FREE RADICALS ON BIOCHAR FOR ITS CATALYTIC CAPABILITY: A REVIEW

Biochar is an economical carbon material for water pollution control, which shows great promise to be applied in the up-scale wastewater remediation processes. Previous studies demonstrate that persistent free radicals (PFRs) on biochar are critical to its reactivity for wastewater remediation. A series of studies have revealed the important roles of PFRs when biochar was applied for organic pollutants degradation as well as the removal of Cr (VI) and As (III) from wastewater. Therefore, this review comprehensively concludes the significance of PFRs for the catalytic capabilities of biochar in advanced oxidation processes (AOPs)-driven organic pollutant removal, and applied in redox processes for Cr (VI) and As (III) remediation. In addition, the mechanisms for PFRs formation during biochar synthesis are discussed. The detection methods are reviewed for the quantification of PFRs on biochar. Future research directions were also proposed on underpinning the knowledge base to forward the applications of biochar in practical real wastewater treatment. Science Direct / [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 – EMSA** - <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
- **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 & WORLDWIDE – AMBIPAR GROUP** <https://ambipar.com/uk/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
- **CANADA - CONTAMINATED SITES HEALTH & SAFETY REFRESHER (8-HOUR HAZWOPER) – FROM ECONEXT – [MORE INFO](#)**
- **ONLINE – LLOYDS MARITIME ACADEMY – CERTIFICATE IN ENVIRONMENTAL MARITIME MANAGEMENT.** Starts on 24th January <https://informaconnect.com/certificate-in-maritime-environmental-management/>
- **ONLINE - LLOYDS MARITIME ACADEMY – CERTIFICATE IN MARINE POLLUTION PREVENTION & MANAGEMENT.** Starts on 14th March 2024 - <https://email.informaconnect.com/q/12ErXbQNGaNK08lQrkPeq62v/wv>

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

UPCOMING EVENTS

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

UPCOMING EVENTS (CONTINUED)

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

The listings below give only very basic details – To get access to all information visit <https://spillcontrol.org/upcoming-events/>

JANUARY 2024 & ONWARDS

- UAE – International Conference on Environmental Pollution & Remediation, (ICEPR), Dubai, 15-16 February 2024
- AUSTRALIA – Alga – “Chlorinated Hydrocarbons Groundwater Fate & Transport Symposium”, Adelaide, 22-23 February 2024
- PORTUGAL – Economist – “11th Annual World Ocean Summit & Expo”, Lisbon, 11-13 March 2024
- GERMANY – “14th International Conference on Environmental Pollution & Remediation”, Berlin, August 25-27, 2024
- SPAIN & ONLINE – “14th International Conference on Environmental Pollution & Remediation, Barcelona, August 25-27, 2024

SOME OTHER INFO - Recordings of past ExxonMobil OSR Knowledge Transfer Webinar Recordings – [Access and Download](#) UK & Ireland Spill Association Alternative Marine Fuels and their Implications For Spill Response Webinar is [available to watch on YouTube](#). All six of UK & Ireland Spill Association’s Webinar Series on the Wakashio Spill are also available to watch. [More info](#)

UPDATES FROM EVENT ORGANISERS

USA: CLEAN WATERWAYS 2024 – REGISTRATION NOW OPEN - CLICK ON LINKS BELOW

If you have leftover funds in your marketing budget from this year, use it to invest in your business for 2024 and secure participation at the [CLEAN WATERWAYS Conference](#), April 9-11 in Cincinnati, OH. We are accepting exhibit/ sponsorship applications and registration is open, with early bird discounts expiring at the end of January!

[TRACK PLANNING & PREPAREDNESS](#) [PRELIMINARY AGENDA ANNOUNCED](#) [2024 PRELIMINARY SESSION LINE-UP](#)
Registration has officially opened for the 2024 CLEAN WATERWAYS Conference, taking place at the Duke Energy Convention Center in Cincinnati, OH, April 9-11. [Registration information](#) April 9-11, 2024, Cincinnati, OH – “Incident Prevention & Response for Inland Regions & Waterways” [View the website](#)

The CLEAN WATERWAYS program is developed by a government/industry-based committee of approximately 50 professionals, and the committee is looking for leaders to help shape the conference. All abstracts submitted are reviewed for content and relevance by the committee and are selected by consensus

USA: REGISTRATION NOW OPEN FOR IOSC 2024

[International Oil Spill Conference \(IOSC\)](#) in New Orleans, May 13-16, 2024

Registration has officially opened for the International Oil Spill Conference (IOSC), May 13-16, 2024 at the New Orleans Convention Center in New Orleans, LA USA.

Meet Dr. Leonard Marcus, IOSC 2024 Keynote Speaker. Join us, May 13 - 16, 2024 in New Orleans, LA for the 2024 International Oil Spill Conference (IOSC) and be inspired by our opening keynote speaker, Dr. Leonard Marcus. [Read about Dr. Marcus](#)

[Why are Sponsorships at IOSC So Valuable?](#) Click to read more

IOSC provides a vital forum for professionals from the international response community, private sector, government, and non-governmental organizations to come together to tackle the greatest challenges facing us with sound science, practical innovation, social engineering and imagination. Mark your calendars and start planning your trip to join over 1,500 attendees from over 50 countries, representing government agencies, contractors, researchers, industry, and other stakeholders as they exchange ideas and lessons learned from actual spill responses and research around the world.

Learn More about IOSC 2024 Be sure to follow IOSC on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), and [LinkedIn](#) for updates and announcements about #IOSC2024. Please contact registration@iosc.org for questions or additional information. Interested in exhibiting or sponsorship? Please reach out to: exhibits@iosc.org

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>

ISCO Members can post requests for submission of invitations to tender for supplies / services in this section. The ISCO Newsletter is circulated to nearly 3,000 registered subscribers in 60 countries worldwide and represents a well targeted audience for sourcing invitations to tender. Send requests to the Editor – john.mcmurtrie@spillcontrol.org



Marine Pollution Control Worldwide Problem Solvers Since 1968

PLAN Tactical Response Planning	PROTECT Monitoring and Plan Improvement
PREPARE Training, Drills and Exercises	RESPOND On Land and Sea

Marine Pollution Control
+1 (313) 849-2333 - 24/hour
www.MarinePollutionControl.com

MPC IS OSRO #003



[CLICK ON THE ABOVE ADVERTISEMENT FOR MORE INFORMATION](#)

LINKS FOR OTHER PUBLICATIONS

TO VIEW LINKS FOR DOWNLOADING AND READING OTHER PUBLICATIONS PLEASE CLICK ON <https://spillcontrol.org/2021/10/19/links-for-downloading-and-reading-other-publications/>

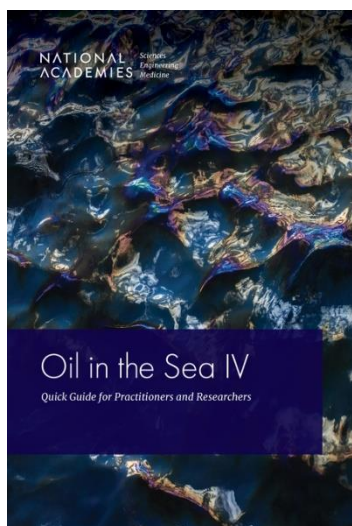
As a service to its Members ISCO provides a listing of publications that may be of interest to our community. This page provides details and links for downloading more than 40 publications most of which can be accessed at no cost. This page is managed by Mike Watson mike@mwadigital.com

NEW PUBLICATIONS

CEDRE NEWSLETTER NOVEMBER 2023 - N°328

In November, Cedre held its 58th Strategy Committee meeting and its annual Technical Day on the theme of plastic pellets. Numerous meetings were held over the course of the month, in particular with Ailes Marines, Iberdrola and France's National Museum of Natural History. Workshops and working group meetings were held as part of various projects and partnerships. Finally, two training sessions were run at Cedre on the topics of chemical pollution and aerial observation at sea.

[Read the Cedre Newsletter](#)



Oil in the Sea IV: Quick Guide for Practitioners and Researchers

A companion to the 2022 report *Oil in the Sea IV: Inputs, Fates, and Effects*

This booklet provides key insights from *Oil in the Sea IV: Inputs, Fates, and Effects* (2022), which benefited from significant advancements in scientific methods to detect the input and fates of oil in the sea, and from lessons learned from the Deepwater Horizon explosion and oil spill in 2010. Going beyond previous reports

Oil in the Sea IV includes analysis of human health impacts of oil in the sea, oil in the Arctic marine environment, and prevention and response efforts that can help to both reduce the amount of oil reaching the sea and minimize its effects.

The booklet is meant to serve as a reference guide to all those involved in oil spill research and response.

Report : Oil in the Sea IV: Inputs, Fates, and Effects

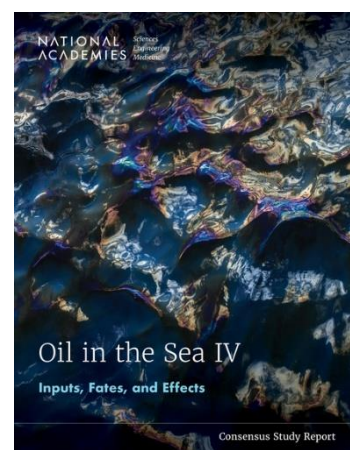
Oil and natural gas represent more than 50 percent of the worldwide energy supply, with high energy demand driven by population growth and improving standards of living.

Despite significant progress in reducing the amount of oil in the sea from consumption, exploration, transportation, and production, risks remain.

This report, the fourth in a series, documents the current state-of-knowledge on inputs, fates and effects of oil in the sea, reflecting almost 20 additional years of research, including long-term effects from spills such as the Exxon Valdez and a decade-long boom in oil spill science research following the Deepwater Horizon oil spill.

[Download the Booklet](#) | [Download the Report](#)

NAS / [Read more](#)



IMO HISTORY BOOK LAUNCHED



A book detailing the history of the International Maritime Organization (IMO) has been published to mark 75 years since the adoption of the IMO Convention, creating for the first time a global body to promote the safety and security of shipping and the protection of the marine environment.

“Safer shipping, cleaner seas - A celebration of 75 years of IMO” was launched at a farewell event for the outgoing IMO Secretary-General Kitack Lim (6 December).

NEW PUBLICATIONS (CONTINUED)

It was Mr. Lim's idea to celebrate the Organization's first 75 years with a book. Through 213 pages, it chronicles the history of IMO in four parts - setting the scene for its establishment, outlining its structure and how its work developed through the second half of the 20th century, and the challenges facing the Organization in the 21st. It lists the major IMO Conventions, features photographs showing key figures in its history, and moments such as the visit to IMO Headquarters in 2018 of the late Queen Elizabeth II.

Secretary-General Lim has written a foreword to the book in which he acknowledges the work of those who have, over the course of IMO's existence, "steered and operated the ship". He says: "It truly is a voyage together – a journey that will continue towards future safe and clean shipping across all the seas." IMO / [Read more](#)

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/>

INDIA: CHENNAI DEALS WITH OIL SPILL AFTER CYCLONE MICHAUNG, COAST GUARD DEPLOYS SHIPS, HELICOPTERS

December 11 - A week after the impact of Cyclone Michaung, many parts of the southern Indian city of Chennai are back to their daily routine. However, tears continue to flow for those living in certain parts of north Chennai, a part of the city that houses petrochemical December of an oil spill that spread across their locality, along with the surging floodwaters. With the floodwaters receding, the major issue remains the thick, smelly oil slick on their walls, doors, roads and inside their homes. WIO News / [Read more](#)

December 14 - Chennai Oil Spill Crosses 20 Sqkm Into Sea, Efforts On To Contain Leak - The oil spill in Chennai that originated from the refinery of Chennai Petroleum Corporation Ltd (CPCL) has now crossed at least 20 square kilometre into the sea, said the coast guard. A week after the oil spilled, the damage to Chennai's eco sensitive Ennore creek is only getting worse. Oil is floating all over river Kosasthalaiyar. Tar balls and thick layers of oil are seen in several pockets along the coastline. A trail of oil deposits can also be seen on the shores and the fishing boats. NDTV / [Read more](#)

RED SEA : SEVERAL INCIDENTS

Decembee 11 - On Monday evening, shortly after two maritime security consultancies reported a new attack on a merchant ship in the Red Sea, U.S. Central Command confirmed that a tanker has been hit by a cruise missile launched from Yemen. The vessel has been identified as the Norwegian-owned tanker Strinda. At the time of the strike, the ship was about 60 nm to the north of Bab el-Mandeb, an American official told ABC. A fire and damage were reported, but no injuries, CENTCOM said. The destroyer USS Mason has diverted to the scene to assist the tanker. The Maritime Executive / [Read more](#)

December 12 - UPDATE: Tanker is carrying cargo of palm oil. Confirmed 22 all-Indian crew are safe. Houthis attacked northbound Norwegian tanker STRINDA in Bab al-Mandab Strait area at around 2030 UTC Dec 11, some 14 nm west of Yemeni port of Al Mukha, firstly ordering the ship to sail to Yemeni waters, and later after she changed course and tried to sail further west away from Yemeni coast, rebels fired a missile. The ship according to the US Navy, UKMTO and Arabian sources, suffered damages and fire. Tanker's AIS is off since around 2200 UTC Dec 11 She's en route from Singapore to, according to previous AIS records, Italy. Houthis vowed to attack Israeli-owned or bound ships, so why they decided to attack this one, is a mystery. Most probably, they just don't care much enough to thoroughly search for ships details, and decided to attack most convenient target, believing themselves to be immune from retaliation. Ship's crew is said to be safe, let's hope it is so. A mob unleashed wave of terror attacks in one of most important global shipping routes, and it's like nobody can do anything about it. <https://www.maritimebulletin.net/>

December 13 - Houthi Forces Attempt to Board Tanker off Yemen - Incidents in the Red Sea are increasing after the Houthi rebels issued a statement saying that they would expand their efforts to include any vessel they believed was bound for Israel or involved in trade with Israel. U.S., UK, and French naval forces are all reporting encounters with at least one tanker attacked today, December 13, and in a further escalation the attackers took to a small boat while individuals identifying as "Yemeni authorities" continued to demand that vessels divert. U.S. Central Command confirmed an attempted Houthi attack on the Marshall Island-registered chemical tanker Ardmore Encounter (49,500 dwt) while sailing near the Bab el-Mandeb Strait. The shipping company confirmed to the Associated Press that the vessel had been approached and fired upon but said the crew was safe and the vessel was proceeding with

INCIDENT REPORTS (CONTINUED)

an escort from a U.S. warship. The incident began at 0830 when the tanker, which is transporting a cargo of jet fuel from India to Europe, first reported being approached by a small boat. The Maritime Executive / [Read more](#)

December 14 - Maersk Ship Targeted by Missile in the Red Sea - A.P. Moller-Maersk, one of the world's largest shipping companies, reported that its containership Maersk Gibraltar was targeted by a missile near the Bab-el-Mandeb Strait, the latest attack against shipping in the region. The attack occurred as the ship was en route from Salalah, Oman, to Jeddah, Saudi Arabia, Maersk said. Fortunately, the crew and ship were reported safe. The U.S. has determined the missile was a ballistic missile fired from a Houthi-controlled area of Yemen. gCaptain / [Read more](#)

JAMAICA: NEPA INVESTIGATING OIL SPILL IN RIO COBRE

December 12 - The National Environment and Planning Agency (NEPA) said it is investigating an oil spill in the Rio Cobre. In a news release Tuesday, NEPA said it received a report of the oil spill in the Bog Walk Gorge about 5pm Monday and dispatched a team immediately to the area to do an assessment. It said its probe revealed the source of the spill as coming from a factory operating in the area. "NEPA has since met with the company's management team who is cooperating with the agency to undertake the necessary clean-up exercise. NEPA has reached out to Petrojam for assistance in this regard and they have agreed to provide the necessary resources to extract the oil and to prevent its movement further downstream," the agency said. Jamaica Observer / [Read more](#)

USA: WASHINGTON - BP RESTARTS PIPELINE AFTER GASOLINE SPILL

December 15 - BP (BP.L) has restarted its Olympic Pipeline that had leaked roughly 25,000 gallons of gasoline near Mount Vernon in Washington state, a source familiar with the pipeline's operations said on Thursday. The pipeline was restarted following repairs, integrity testing, and regulatory approval of the restart plan, the source said. The company has been cleaning up the spill since Sunday with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and local officials. Nearly 7,000 gallons had been recovered, according to the latest update from BP and the EPA on Wednesday. Reuters / [Read more](#)

HISTORY

FLASHBACK IN MARITIME HISTORY: TANKER ERIKA SINKING AND OIL SPILL 12 DEC 1999

On 12 December 1999, the Erika, a 25 year-old single-hull oil tanker, broke in two off France, polluting almost 400 km of French coastline and causing unprecedented damage to the marine environment, claiming the title of one of the most major environmental disasters of maritime history.

On 11 December 1999, the Maltese tanker, Erika, laden with 31,000 tonnes of heavy fuel oil (N°6), was en route from Dunkirk (France) to Livorno (Italy) when it was caught in very rough sea conditions (westerly wind, force 8 to 9, with 6 m swell). After sending out an alert message, then proceeding to transfer cargo from tank to tank, the captain informed the French authorities that the situation was under control and that he was heading to the port of Donges, at reduced speed.

On 12 December, at 6:05 am he sent out a Mayday: the ship was breaking in two. A rescue operation was immediately launched and the crew was winched to safety by French Navy helicopters, backed up by Royal Navy reinforcements, in extremely difficult conditions. The Erika split in two at 8:15 am (local time) in international waters, some thirty nautical miles south of Penmarc'h (Southern Brittany). The quantity of oil spilt at that time was estimated at between 7,000 and 10,000 tonnes.

The bow section sank the following night, a small distance from where the ship had broken up. The stern was taken in tow by the salvage tug Abeille Flandre on 12 December, at 2:15 pm, to prevent it from drifting towards the French island of Belle-Ile. It sank the following day at 2:50 pm. The two parts of the wreck ended up 10 km apart from each other, 120 m deep.

Maritime Cyprus / [Read more](#)

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