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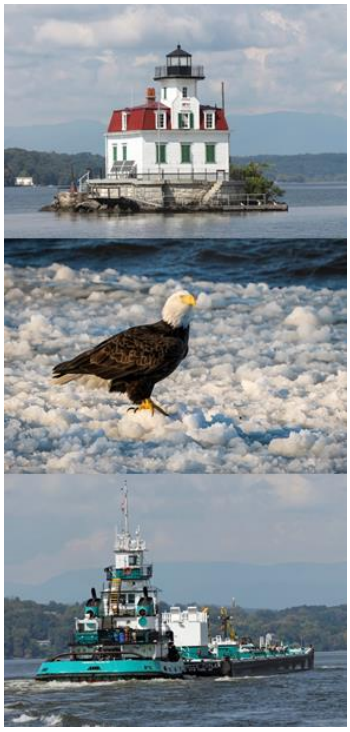
Hudson River Oil Spill Risk Assessment Workshops

16–17 October 2018
Empire State Plaza Convention Center
Albany, New York



Day 1: Resources at Risk in Hudson River Oil Spills	
Goal	Inform key stakeholders and interest groups of potential spill impacts to sensitive resources; measures to be taken to protect resources
Who	Stakeholders advocating for protection of specific resources; community officials responsible for protecting constituent resources/interests
Technical Level	Moderately technical; assumes knowledge of resources, but not necessarily oil spills

Day 2: Operations, Contingency Planning & Risk Mitigation	
Goal	Inform key decision-makers of HROSRA study results to foster contingency and emergency response planning, risk assessments, vessel traffic planning
Who	USCG, NOAA, NYSDEC, OSROs, Area Committee members, response planners, industry representatives, decision-makers
Technical Level	Highly technical; assumes experience with or in-depth knowledge on oil spills

The Hudson River Oil Spill Risk Assessment (HROSRA), commissioned by Scenic Hudson, was conducted by Dr. Dagmar Schmidt Etkin of Environmental Research Consulting with Dr. Deborah French McCay and Jill Rowe of RPS Ocean Science, Dr. Andrew Wolford of Risknology, Inc., and John Joeckel of SEAConsult LLC. The HROSRA provides both quantitative and qualitative information on oil spill risk that can be used for a variety of purposes:

- Assessing the efficacy of existing spill prevention measures;
- Developing or evaluating the potential for new spill prevention measures;
- Assessing the current state of spill response preparedness;
- Developing or evaluating the potential for new spill response preparedness measures;
- Assessing current spill contingency planning; and
- Developing new spill contingency planning measures.

The study is also provides a measure of the degree to which the ecological and socioeconomic resources of the Hudson River might be affected by oil spills and the likelihood of that occurring. An understanding of the potential consequences of spills in the Hudson River supports the need to consider the mitigation of spills through prevention, preparedness, and response.

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Workshop Day 1: Resources at Risk

9:00–9:15: Introduction

9:15–10:45: Presentations on HROSRA Modeling Results and Generic Oil Effects

- Brief perspective on spill probability (worst-case discharges, more likely scenarios)
- Brief explanation of HROSRA scenarios
- Brief explanation of SIMAP model
- General findings on oil behavior (oil types) in Hudson River (tides, ice, seasons)
- More in-depth look at three selected scenarios that show variety of outcomes

10:45–11:00: Break

11:00–11:30: Presentations on Oil Spill Exposure and Potential Resource Effects

- Explanation of the important differences between oil exposure, effects, and impacts
- Explanation of the exposure results in the SIMAP modeling

11:30–12:00: Panel Discussion on HROSRA Findings on Oil Behavior and Spill Effects

Invited Panelists: NOAA, NYSDEC, Nature Conservancy, Audubon, Hudson Estuary Program, Poughkeepsie Water Plant Administration, Hudson River Boat &Yacht Club Association

12:00–1:00: Catered Lunch

1:00–1:15: Question &Answer on Oil Behavior/Spill Effects

1:15–1:45: Presentation on Strategies to Protect Sensitive Resources

- ESI mapping and identification of Hudson River sensitive resources
- Protective booming and management strategies for sensitive resources

1:45–2:00: Break

2:00–2:30: Question &Answer/Discussion on Resource Protection

2:30–3:00: Breakout Session A (Participants Pick One Topic)

3:00–3:30: Breakout Session B (Participants Pick One Topic)

Breakout Topics

- Human health/safety issues regarding drinking/municipal water
- Human health/safety issues regarding fire/explosion
- Recreational boating/marinas
- Fish protection, habitat rehabilitation, and fisheries issues
- Wetland/shoreline protection strategies
- Birds/wildlife protection/rehabilitation
- River community issues/involvement for preparing for spills and protecting sensitive resources
- Further demonstration of specific modeled SIMAP scenarios

3:30–4:00: Panel: Wrap-Up Discussion and Next Steps

Workshop 2: Oil Spill Operations, Contingency Planning, & Risk Mitigation

9:00–9:15: Introduction

9:15–10:00: Presentation on HROSRA Oil Spill Probability Analysis Results

- HROSRA oil spill probability analysis assumptions and approaches
- Vessel/railroad/ facility/pipeline spill analyses under current/potential future traffic scenarios
- Overall expected spill frequencies under current/potential future scenarios

- Hudson River conditions affecting spill probability (traffic, ice, fog, anchorages, configuration)
- Potential strategies to prevent accidents and spills

10:00–10:30: Panel Discussion on Oil Spill Probability and Spill Prevention Issues

Invited Panelists: USCG COTP, Hudson River Pilots, American Waterways Operators, CP Rail, Port of Albany, Global Companies

10:30–10:45: Break

10:45–11:30: Presentation on HROSRA Oil Spill Fate/Behavior Modeling

- Oil behavior/fate in modeled HROSRA scenarios
- River conditions affecting oil behavior/fate (tides, currents, ice, flow, configuration)
- Effect of oil type
- Potential for oil submergence

11:30–12:00: Panel Discussion on Oil Spill Fate/Behavior Modeling and Spill Response Issues

Invited Panelists: USCG COTP, EPA Region II RRT, American Salvage Association, Marine Spill Response Corporation, National Response Corporation, New York State Association of Fire Chiefs,

12:00–1:00: Catered Lunch

1:00–1:30: Presentation on Strategies to Respond to Oil Spills in the Hudson River

- Specific challenges for responding to spills in the Hudson River (currents, ice)
- Brief discussion on existing resources (OSROs and tiered resources in region)
- Brief discussion on Geographic Response Plans/Geographic Response Strategies
- Brief discussion on shoreline response issues for Hudson

1:30–1:45: Break

1:45–2:15: Presentation on Potential for Fire and Explosions in Hudson River Oil Spills

- Brief discussion on fire and explosion issues for tanker, rail, and facility spills
- Discussion of HROSRA fire/explosion scenarios

2:15–2:45: Breakout Session A (Participants Pick One Topic)

2:45–3:15: Breakout Session B (Participants Pick One Topic)

Breakout Topics

- Vessel traffic challenges (piloting, VTS, ATON) and prevention of vessel accidents/spills
- Vessel anchorage issues specifically related to spill probability/accident prevention
- Spill response preparedness and contingency planning
- Spill response resource availability and distances
- Crude-by-rail and diesel locomotive spill issues
- Emergency response for fire/explosion potential
- Salvage and emergency towing issues
- Overcoming spill response issues (booming in high currents, ice)
- Submerged oil concerns
- Geographic Response Plans/Geographic Response Strategies
- Shoreline/wetland cleanup issues
- Detailed review of specific SIMAP HROSRA model runs/scenarios
- Incident Command System (ICS)/jurisdictional issues

3:15–4:00: Panel: Wrap-Up Discussion and Next Steps