

## **Oil Pollution in the North Sea: An Overview**

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Oil pollution can enter the marine environment from many sources including accidental or intentional pollution from shipping or from oil installations. It can have significant impacts on the marine environment that, depending on the type of oil, can last for prolonged periods of time. Monitoring oil pollution in the North Sea region from ships and oil installations has been conducted using a variety of surveillance methods over several decades. This presentation will provide an overview of the sources and volumes of oil entering the North Sea, identify trends in pollution levels, and will review aerial and satellite surveillance activities undertaken by a range of agencies in the region.