Virtual Issue #1: Oil Spill Research in the Bulletin of Environmental Contamination and Toxicology

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The Bulletin of Environmental Contamination and Toxicology has been a venue for publishing oil spill research for over 40 years. Rehwoldt et al. (1974) published the first oil spill focused paper in the Bulletin, reporting on the aquatic toxicity of two spill-mitigating agents. I published some of my own original oil spill research in the Bulletin in 1999 on the aquatic toxicity of a weathered middle distillate (Barron et al. 1999a, b). A search of the term “oil spill” shows 316 articles published in the Bulletin on the fate, acute and sublethal effects, and monitoring of petroleum and dispersants. The articles encompass terrestrial, freshwater and marine spills of petroleum products and spill control agents, and include papers on the major international spills of the last 40 years including Ixtoc-1, *Exxon Valdez*, Gulf War, *Hebei Spirit* and Deepwater Horizon.

The articles selected for this virtual issue on oil spills encompass publications since the April 2010 Deepwater Horizon spill, and include 24 papers published between 2012 and 2017 (<http://www.springer.com/environment/pollution+and+remediation/journal/128/PS2>). The articles are from nine countries and four continents, showing both the diversity of authorship and geographic regions impacted by oil spills. The articles report on the biodegradation,

toxicity, and contamination monitoring of a range of petroleum products, including gasoline, aviation fuel, kerosene, crudes, and heavy fuel oils. I hope this compilation will be of interest and application in your own research. For further reading on recent oil spill research, please see the recent Special Issue on Oils Spills in the Archives of Environmental Contamination and Toxicology (<https://link.springer.com/journal/volumesAndIssues/244>) and recent book edited by H. Ward entitled “Habitats and Biota of the Gulf of Mexico: Before the Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill” (<http://www.springer.com/us/book/9781493968947>).

References

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