



ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

P.O. BOX 1439
WENO, CHUUKSTATE
FEDERATED STATES OF MICRONESIA

TEL: (691) 330-4158

Situation Report (SITREP) (6)

SITREP No. __6__ Name/contacts of person completing this report: __EPA/JMAS__

Date/time of SITREP: __9/30/25__ Date/time of incident: __10/1-17/2025__

Location of incident: 7°18'08.68"N 151°53'36.61"E (WWII Vessel/Rio De Janeiro Maru)

Taskforce Mission:

To identify and coordinate response actions, response priorities, and cooperative oil spill response arrangements.

Incident: A significant marine oil spill from Rio De Janeiro leaked into/onto Uman Island and potentially on nearby islands.

Situation to Date: 10/20/25

- State Emergency extended for another 15 days beginning Oct 8.
- National Government Declaration extended till January 2026
- Continuation of onsite monitoring and oil collection
- EPA soliciting voluntary groups with shoreline cleanup activities beginning September 23rd, 2025
- Follow-up shoreline assessment and current conditions of affected sites

Actions to Date: Oct 1-15, 2025

- Despite the lawsuit being served, JMAS continues to monitor, replace and collect oil containers from Rio De Janeiro three (3) times a week.
- A follow-up shoreline assessment was conducted across the coastal areas of Uman, including Naka (Nukanap), Hinote (Sapota & Sapotiw), Panitiw, Mwanukun, and Sapou. The objective was to evaluate the current condition of the shoreline, mangrove ecosystems, seawalls, and dock structures following the oil spill incident, and to compare the findings with previous assessment results.
- Clean-up activities on two villages coordinated by EPA and Uman volunteers

Observations/Investigation results:



ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

P.O. BOX 1439
WENO, CHUUKSTATE
FEDERATED STATES OF MICRONESIA

TEL: (691) 330-4158

1. Results of oil collection confirms that the spill has minimized over the past few weeks. Additionally, a new leak point was detected on Oct. 17th but only lasted for a day. Containment was also placed around this new leak point (see attached photos)

2. Follow-up Assessment Results:

Nukanap Village:

A strong odor of oil persists, particularly from Achocho to the beginning of Hinote (Sapota), with the heaviest concentration noted around Nefanemo. Odor of oil remains in some of the affected areas and some visual observations on the sandy roads by the coastline suggest that tidal activity is transporting residual oil trapped between rocks and other areas, inland.

Hinote (Sapota) Seawall:

A visible “**sporadic**” **oil sheen** remains present on the water surface, and oil residues are trapped between the rocks.

Sapotiw Dock:

The dock structure remains **lightly stained** with oil after previous scrubbing by the local response team and natural cleaning from high tides.

Mangroves (General Observation) Naka, Hinote, & Sapou:

Mangrove roots and leaves in proximity to contaminated shorelines continue to exhibit traces of oil. Ongoing monitoring is essential to identify any delayed ecological repercussions.

Panitiw, Sapou and Mwanukun:

No new oiling or visible sheen observed. These areas show **stability and partial natural recovery** since the initial assessment.

3. Comparison with Previous Assessments

Area	Previous Findings	Current Findings	Remarks / Trend
Naka (Achocho–Hinote/Sapota)	Strong oil odor and minor staining.	Motor oil odor persists; minor sand discoloration; oil carried inland during high tide through rocky seawalls	Condition slightly deteriorated.
Sapota Seawall	Light oil sheen observed	Visible sheen remains; oil trapped among rocks and seawalls	No major improvement.
Hinote (Sapotiw) Dock	Thick oil observed on docks scrubbed by response team.	Light oil coating still present; leached into dock surface even	Minimum contamination.



ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

P.O. BOX 1439
WENO, CHUUKSTATE
FEDERATED STATES OF MICRONESIA

TEL: (691) 330-4158

Area	Previous Findings	Current Findings	Remarks / Trend
		after scrubbing during previous visits	
Hinote (Sapota)	Light staining and moderate odor.	Minor sand discoloration; odor returned	Recontamination likely.
Panitiw, Sapou & Mwanukun	Slight sheen offshore; minimal oiling.	No new oiling observed; area stable.	Improved / Stable.
Mangroves (Sapou, Hinote)	Early signs of oil stress.	Still at risk; continued monitoring required.	Ongoing concern.

4. Environmental Concerns

- Uncleaned oil and debris can cause chronic leaching until oil hardens
- **Docks and coastal structures** still show that oil has adhered to the rough surfaces forming a distinct oil band during high tides.
- Mangroves: Oil coating on prop roots and tree trunks are still visible. Re-oiling from resuspended or released oil residues may cause additional injury over time.
- Light-oil sheen continues to move across the flat/sandy area and accumulates at the high-tide line. Deposition of oil occurs on a falling tide.

5. Clean-up Activity: 2 Voluntary Groups

- Total of 80 Trash bags collected/4 boats load
- Delivered to Weno, Neauo Dumpsite

Proposed Actions/Recommendations:

- Continue with shoreline cleanups, prioritizing collecting oily waste to reduce odor and leachate.
- Heavy and weathered oils are more difficult to remove, requiring manual scraping and/or high-pressure, hot-water flushing.
- Removal of oiled debris in the crevices will be difficult. We would recommend replacing of rocks and/or cover up with Quikrete concrete mix.
- Sorbent pads/booms can be placed in front of oiled mangroves to recover oil released naturally. In most cases, no other cleanup activities are recommended.
- Manual removal of discolored sand is preferred. However, cleanup should be done only during low tide, thus giving us a narrow window of opportunity.



ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

P.O. BOX 1439
WENO, CHUUKSTATE
FEDERATED STATES OF MICRONESIA

TEL: (691) 330-4158

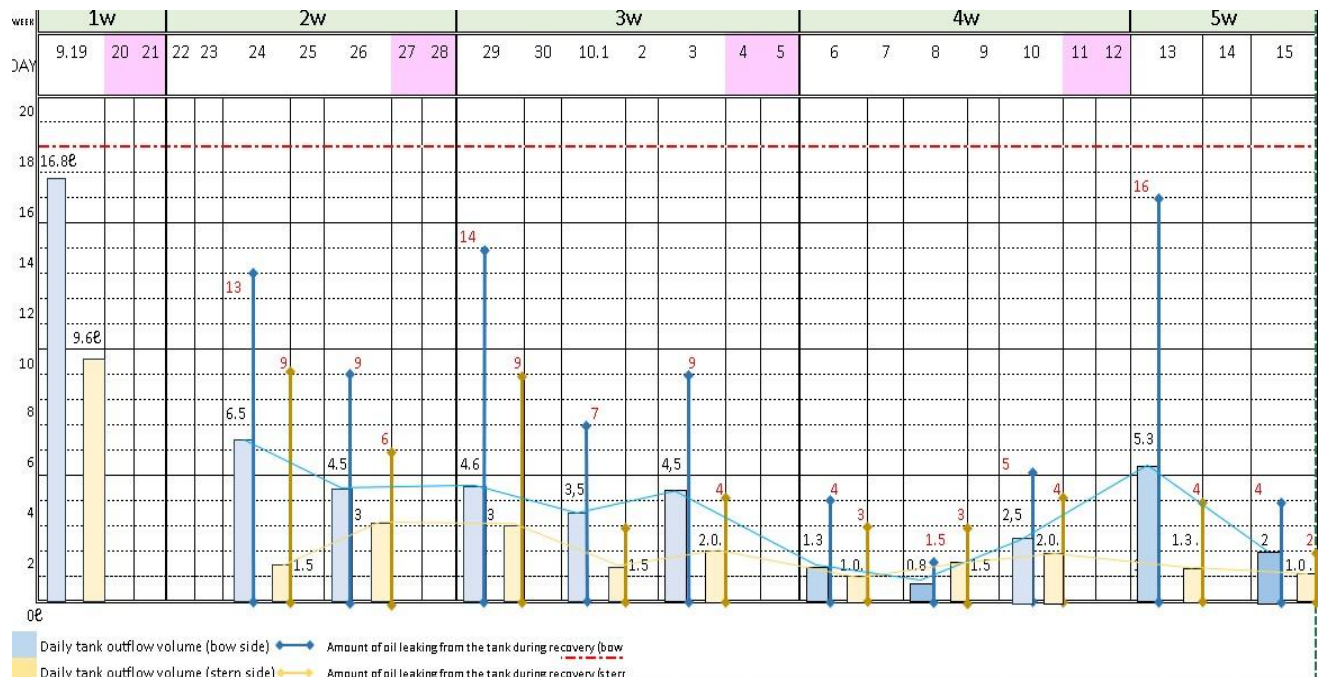
- Continue to establish working groups from Uman Municipality to support and take lead in response activities.
- We would like to recognize Salvation Army for their contribution, Governor's office and IOM for their delivery assistance and Chuuk Youth Association for packaging and their voluntary assistance. Suggestion: Need to have a basis for the deliverance of goods/food items.

Other Issues/Risks:

- Oct 10th- EPA received technical and operations support proposal from a private salvaging company with a draft MOU in place. MOU is currently being reviewed.
- Oct 14th- Official visit to Japan Embassy
- Oct 14th- Coordination call with United Nations Office for the Coordination of Human Affairs (UNOCHA). Transmittal letter delivered to request UNOCHA's support on environmental impact assessment and information collecting/reporting tools.
- Oct 27-29th, Proposed site assessment by Japan Government
- Special acknowledgement to:
 - Salvation Army for donated food items
 - Chuuk Youth Association for packaging and coordination
 - IOM for delivery services

Photos 1.

Image 1. Graph indicating that the oil has decreased.





ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

P.O. BOX 1439
WENO, CHUUKSTATE
FEDERATED STATES OF MICRONESIA

TEL: (691) 330-4158

Image 2: New leak point detected

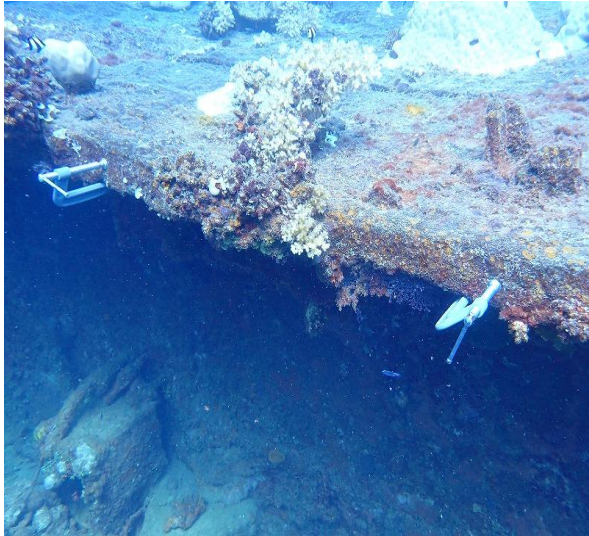


Image 3: New leak point contained

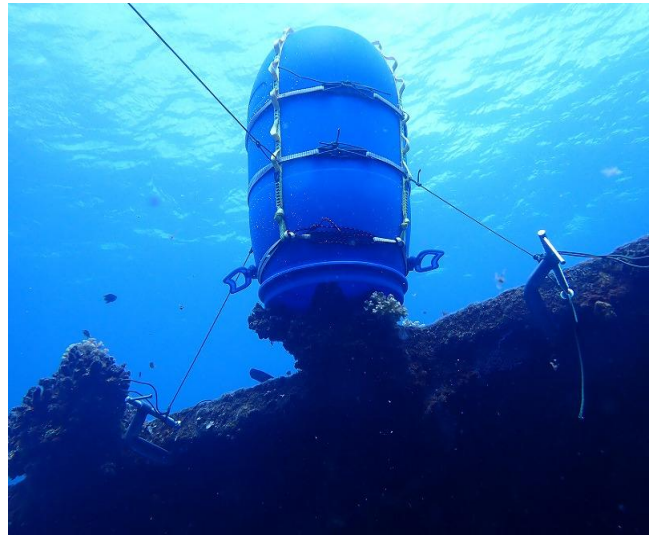
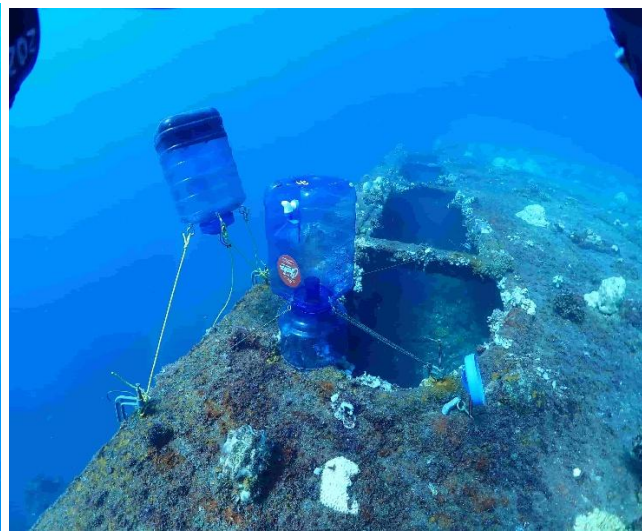


Image 4: Oil containment m



Image 5: Minimum collection of oil





ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

P.O. BOX 1439
WENO, CHUUKSTATE
FEDERATED STATES OF MICRONESIA

TEL: (691) 330-4158

2. Current Conditions:

Image 6. Discoloration sandy road/oil carried inland during high-tide



Image 7. Remnants of dried oil on shoreline structures still visible on affected areas



Image 8. Mangroves still stained with oil



Image 9. Oil trapped in rock crevices



Image 10. Light oil sheen continues to move across flat/sandy area as tide changes



Image 11. Uncleaned areas can leach further inland





ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

P.O. BOX 1439
WENO, CHUUKSTATE
FEDERATED STATES OF MICRONESIA

TEL: (691) 330-4158

3. Clean up Activity: Nukanap Village

Before



After



2. Total of 80 trash bags



3. Coordinated delivery from Uman-Weno, every Tuesdays

