



ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

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

TEL: (691) 330-4158

Situation Report (SITREP) (4)

SITREP No. __4__ Name/contacts of person completing this report: __EPA/JMAS /DECEM__

Date/time of SITREP: __9/20/25__ Date/time of incident: __9/19/25 910hrs/
1600hrs__

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: 9/19/25

- On 9/19/25, another assessment mission was carried out in Uman to monitor the oil spill impacts. The team included representatives from the National Government, Assistant Secretary of Environment Ms Cynthia Ehmes of DECCEM, Mr. Michael Yarofaitoar, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Emergency Response of FSM DCO, Isen Rainis of Chuuk State Disaster Office, Department of Marine Resources and Chuuk EPA. Meetings were held with Hon. Mayor of Uman, Chief David of Nukanap, and local chiefs from Sanuk, Panitiw, Sapoti, Sapou, and Aranga.
- The assessment confirmed continued oil presence, affected coastal shoreline and land areas as well as widespread community health concerns.
- JMAS/EPA installation of makeshift containment and oil remediation

Current Findings:

- **Oil Spill Impact:**
 - While light thin oil sheen was observed on the open coast, thick black oil residue (discharged on 9/14) was still visible on docks, seawalls, house posts, mangroves, and shoreline structures.
 - Strong smell of oil was especially intense in Nukanap, Sapota, and Sapoti villages, presenting serious health risks.
- **Health Concerns:**



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- Two adults from Nukanap were transported with dizziness, headaches, and coughing.
- Reports of persistent coughing spreading in the community over recent days.
- Assessment team members also experienced chest discomfort and breathing abnormalities due to oil fumes during the site visit.
- **Community Livelihoods:**
 - Fishing, swimming, and use of marine areas remain unsafe due to contamination.
 - Residents expressed concern over long-term health and food security
- **Underwater Assessment:** Oil leakage confirmed coming from lubricating Oil Drainage tank located below the Engine room, on the centerline about midship. Likely beneath the engine and difficult to access

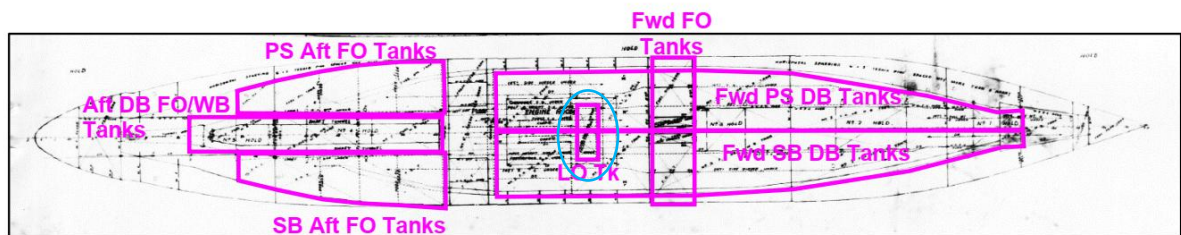


Figure 2-2: Extract from GA Showing Fuel Tank Locations (Plan view at Hold deck)

Actions to Date:

Coastal/ Land Assessment:

- Conducted on-site meetings with village chiefs and community members in the most affected villages.
- Observed and documented the extent of oil presence on infrastructure and the shoreline.
- Noted direct community health impacts and raised awareness of urgent medical needs.
- Oil collection using absorbent materials
- Oil remediation using dispersants
- Drone footage

Underwater Assessment:

- Installed makeshift oil collection containers at the two leak points identified on the 17th to measure the amount of oil leaked over 2 hours.
- Measured the area around the leak points (length, width, etc.)

Survey Results:

- Installed makeshift oil collection containers at the two leak points and collected oil for 2 hours. As a result, the estimated amount of oil leaked was approximately 6.8L (1.7gals) per 24 hours. (Precise measurement scheduled for the 22nd)
- In 2 hours, oil was contained and no leakage on site



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- No leakage was observed from the third leak point identified on the 17th.

Proposed Actions:

- **Health Response:**
 - Department of Health to **urgently deploy a medical team** to Uman with face masks and other PPE for both the community and responders.
 - Continuous health monitoring and treatment support for affected residents.
- **Community Safety:**
 - Chuuk EPA strongly advised residents to **avoid marine contact** — no fishing, swimming, or cleaning of boats in the ocean until further notice.
- **Environmental Action:**
 - Intensify shoreline cleanup of oil residues (tar, oil on mangroves and structures).
 - Enhance air quality monitoring in affected villages.
 - Municipal Clean-Up as the islands is not only dealing with oil pollution but also wastes/liter especial at the coastal shoreline
 - Continuous monitoring of oil and impacts
- **Confirmation with taskforce members on options to:**
 - Immediately and completely stop the leak
 - Temporary containment method until the leak naturally subsides/ including periodic collection of oil accumulated in the containers beginning next week
 - Recommend to prohibit divers entering inside of wrecks to avoid another oil spill incident

Issues/Risks:

- On land, the situation remains **critical** due to ongoing health risks from toxic oil fumes and residual shoreline contamination.
- Communities are at heightened risk, particularly vulnerable populations (children, elderly, and those with pre-existing health conditions). Without immediate health intervention and strengthened cleanup efforts, both human health and the marine ecosystem will continue to deteriorate.
- JMAS: oil is expected to decrease in the following weeks. If not, options for containment is highly recommended.
- Acknowledging receipt of donated dispersants from: Island Mart (15 cases) and CPUC (10 cases)

Photos:



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Photo 1: Make shift oil containment with results in 2 hrs.

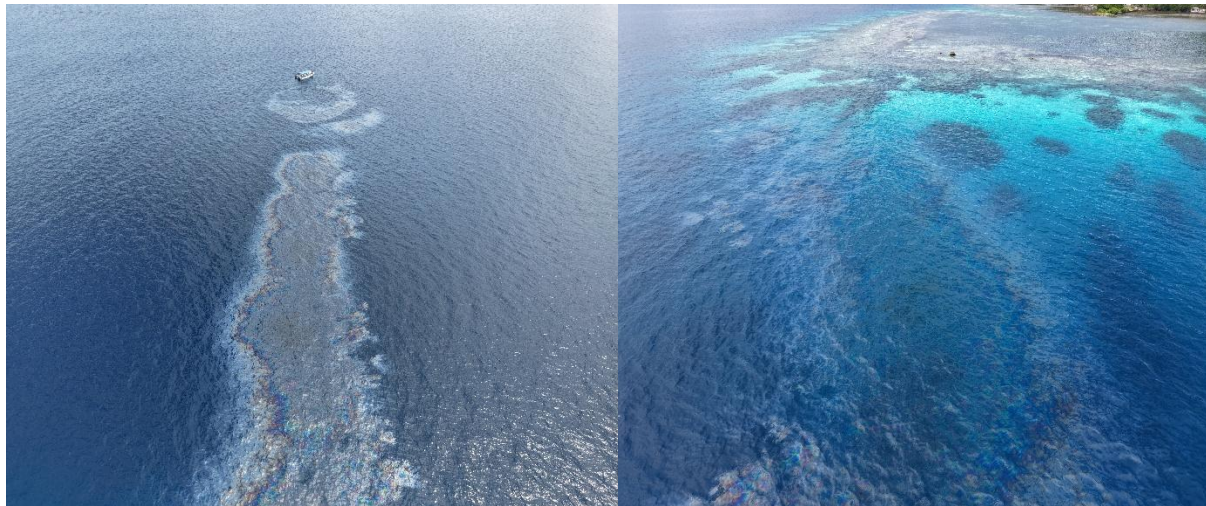


Photo 2: (L) Aerial footage of site upon arrival 900hrs (R) Light thin rainbow sheen dispersed



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Photo 3: Containment of oil with absorbent materials/ dispersants



Photo 4: Oil contained in 2hrs/ no visible leak