

Oil Spill Preparedness Program Overview



SCAA 2026 Annual Meeting

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March 25, 2026

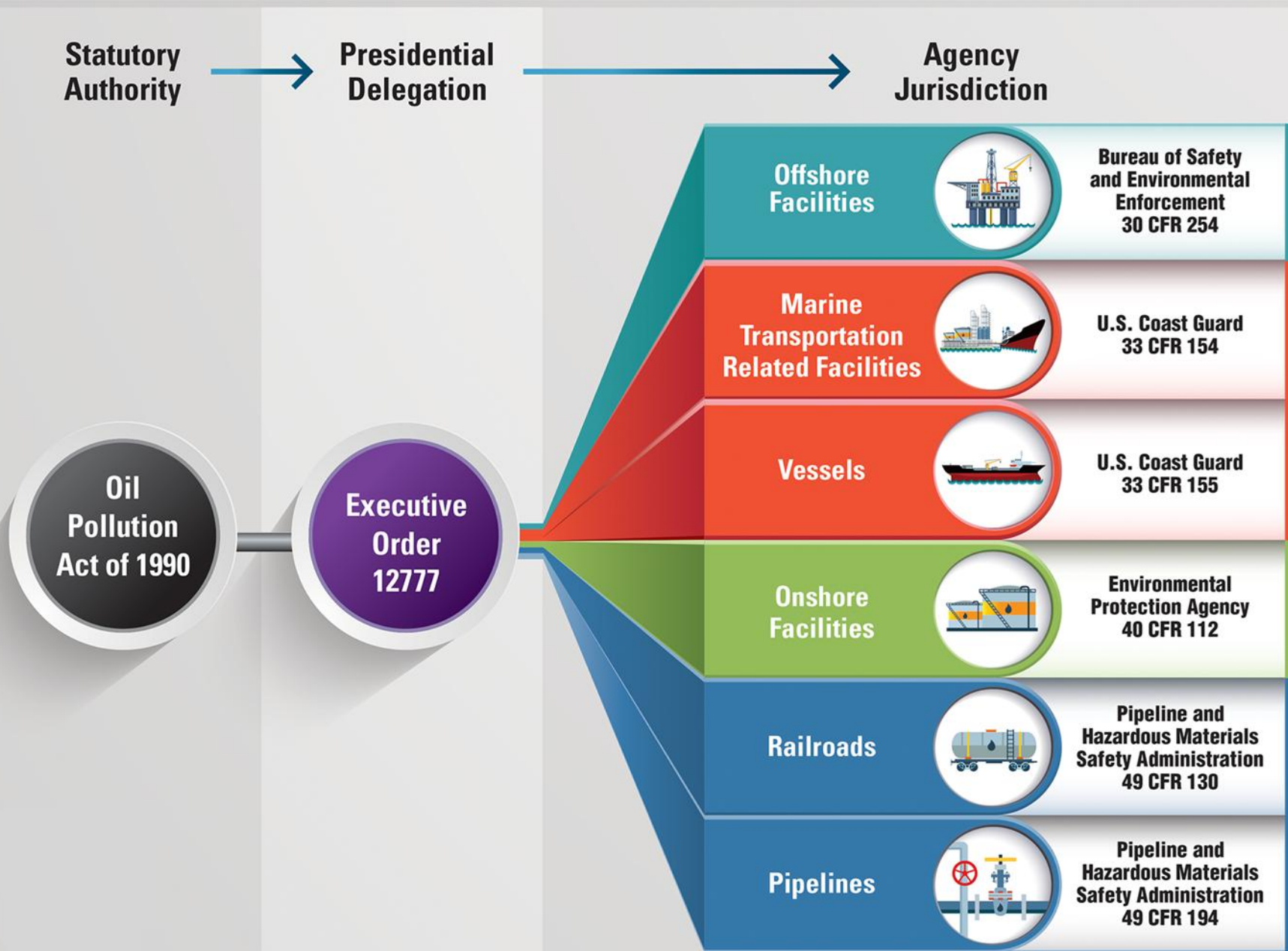


March 24, 1989
Exxon Valdez oil spill.

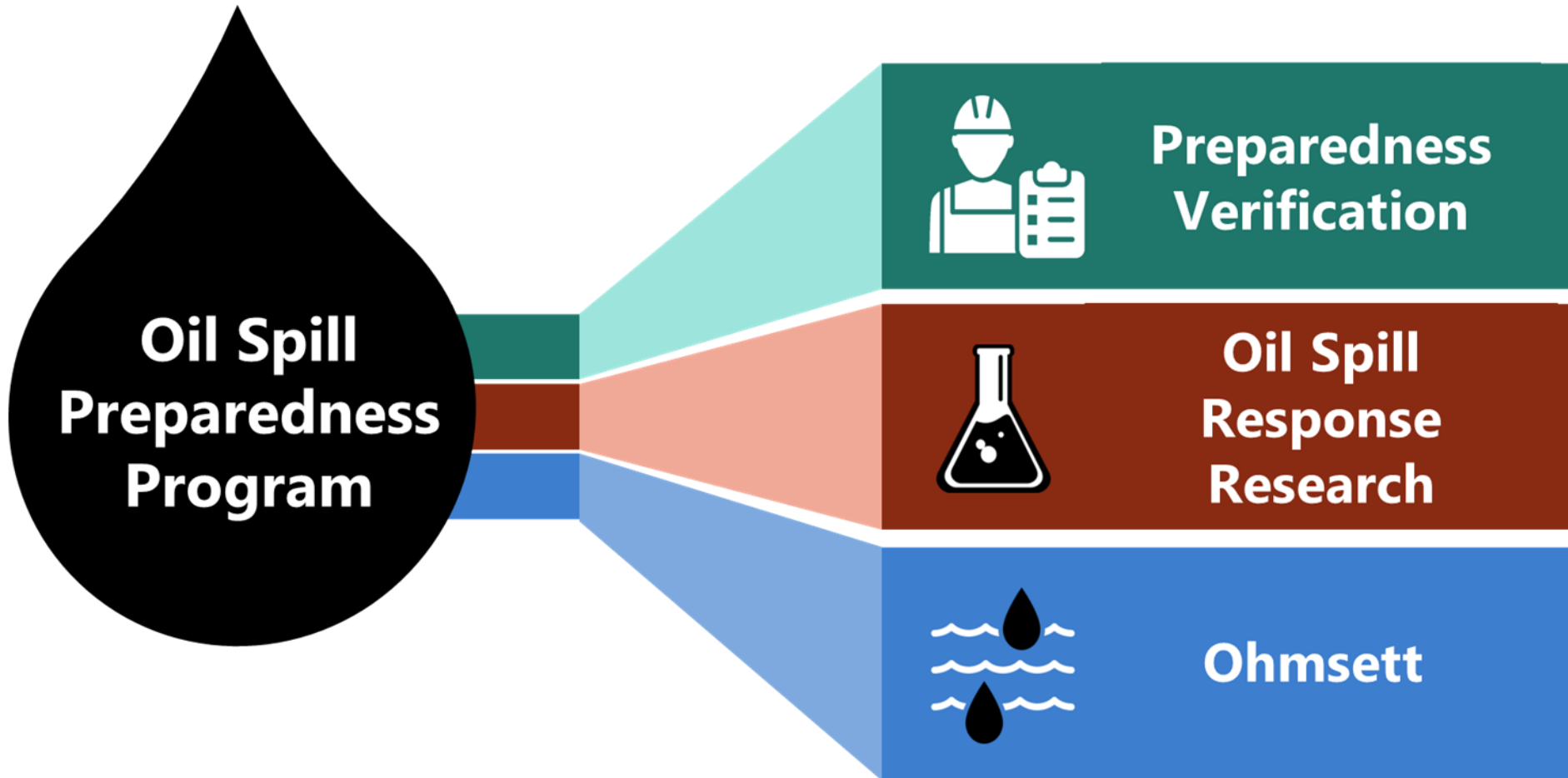


Photo: Rob Stapleton

Vessel and Facility Response Plans



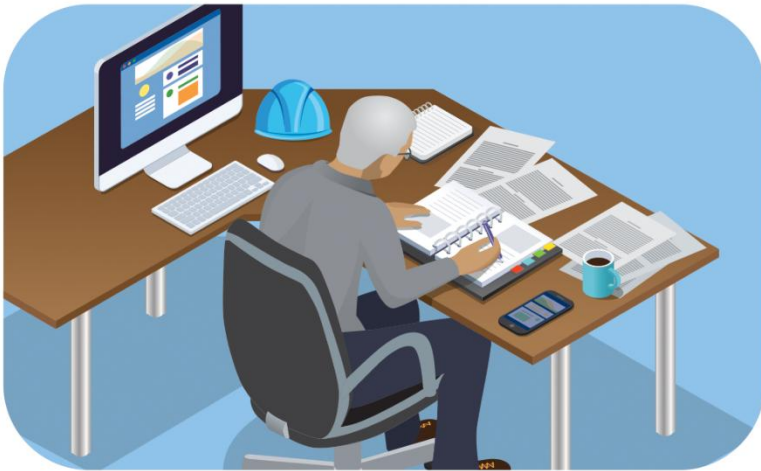
National Program with three Roles.



Our mission statement summarizes the purpose and intent of the Program.



“We mitigate the impact of offshore facility oil spills by ensuring energy producers are ready to respond; by performing cutting-edge research and development; and by supporting the National Response System.”



Oil Spill Preparedness Division



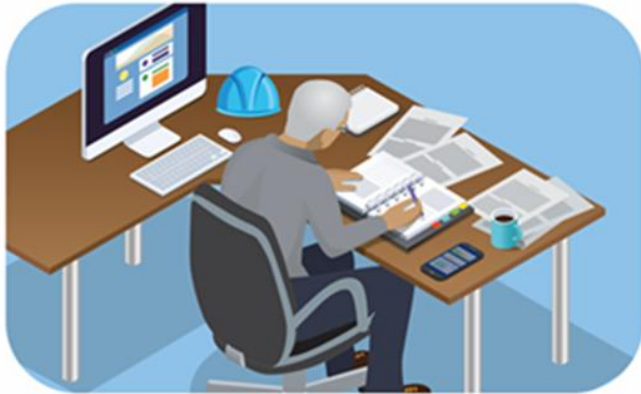


Oil Spill Preparedness Program



**Preparedness
Verification**

30 CFR 254 Notice of Proposed Rule-making



Review Oil Spill Response Plans



Support the National Response System



Audit Industry Spill Training and Exercises



Conduct Government Initiated Unannounced Exercises

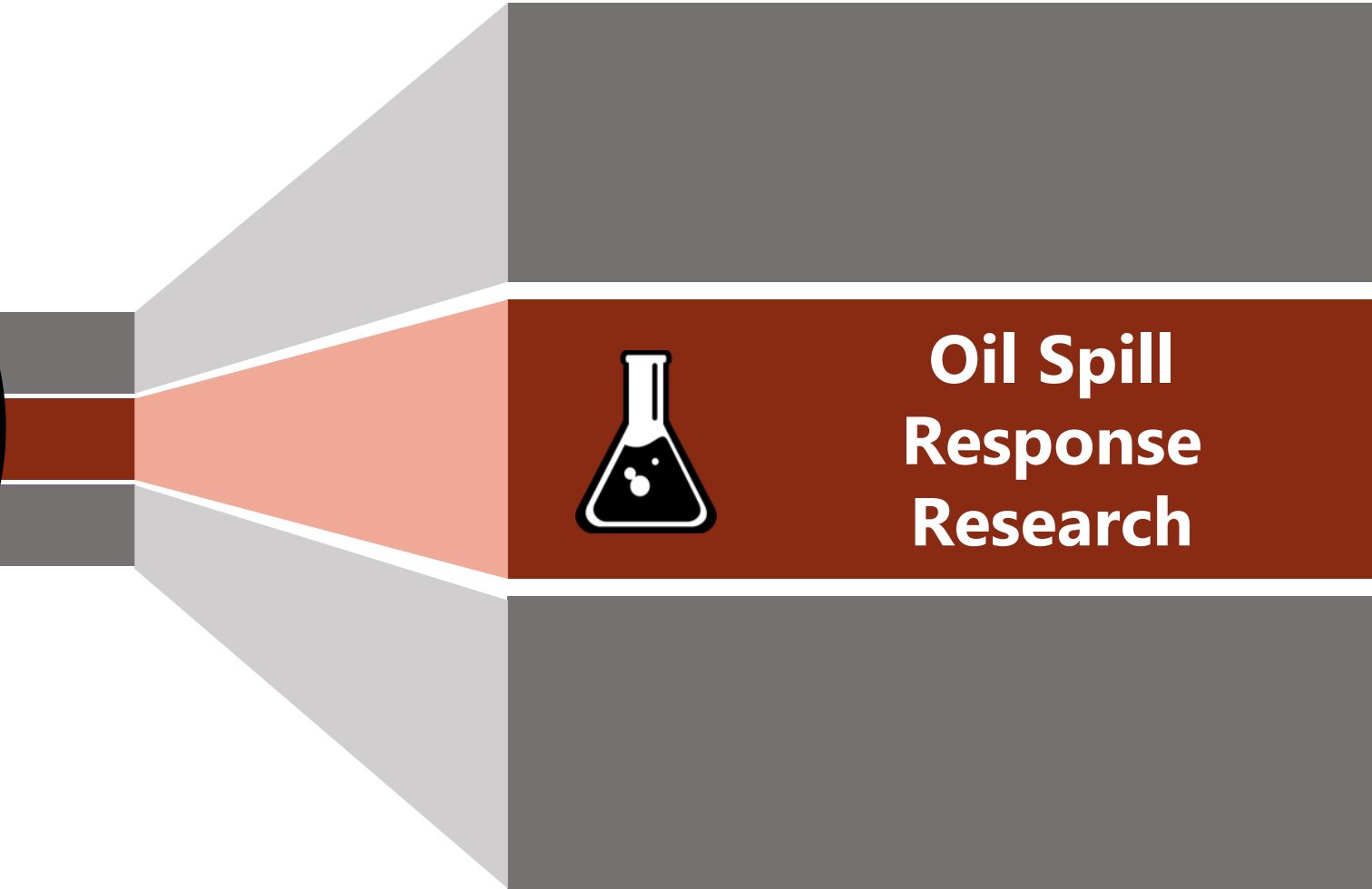


Inspect Response Equipment

The Program Audit of Oil Spill Preparedness continues.



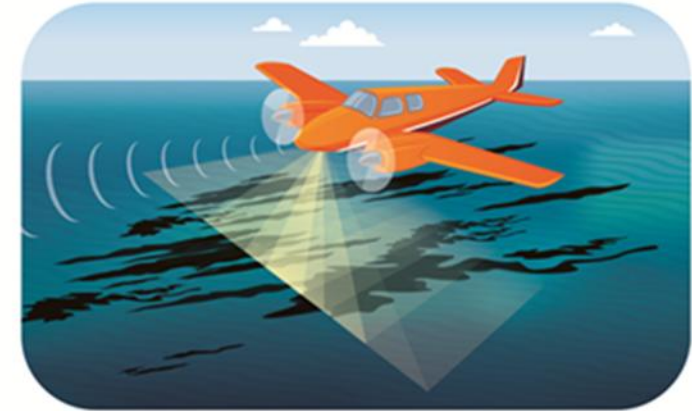
1. To what extent does the BSEE review of oil spill response plans ensure that owners and operators of facilities in offshore waters are prepared to respond to a worst-case oil spill?
2. To what extent do BSEE spill drills and oil spill preparedness verification activities improve oil spill preparedness and response?
3. To what extent has Ohmsett led to improved oil spill response performance?



OSPD is a significant oil spill response R&D provider.



Chemical Treatments



Remote Sensing



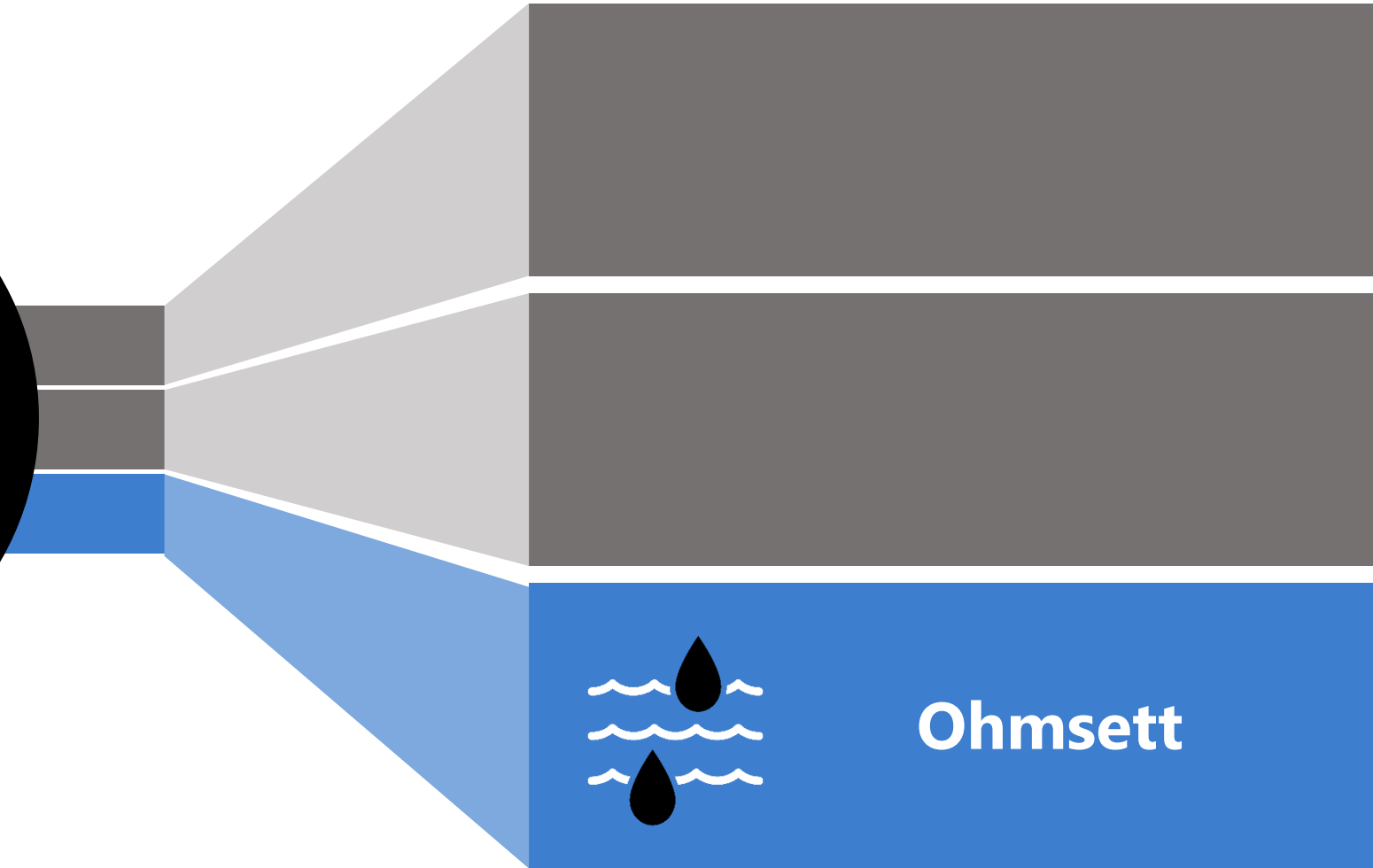
In Situ Burning



Mechanical Containment & Recovery



Shoreline Response



Ohmsett

National Oil Spill Response Research and Renewable Energy Test Facility



Dimensions

203 meters long
20 meters wide
2.4 meters deep

Volume

9,744 cubic meters

Research

Crude oil effects on whale baleen

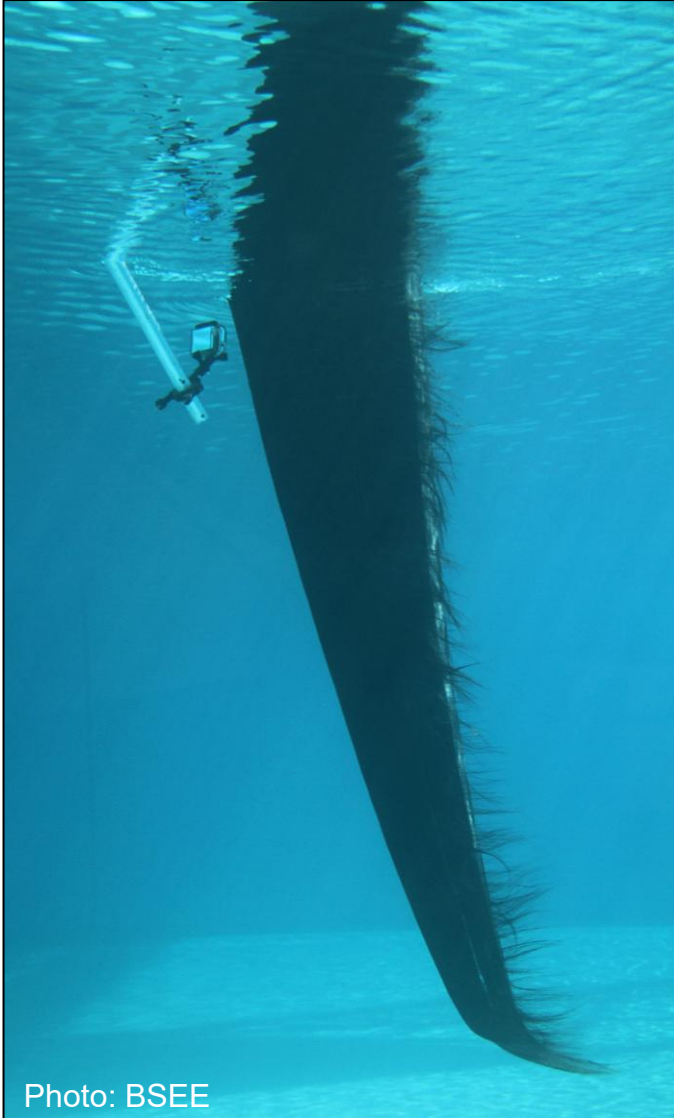


Photo: BSEE

Training

Practice with a weir skimmer

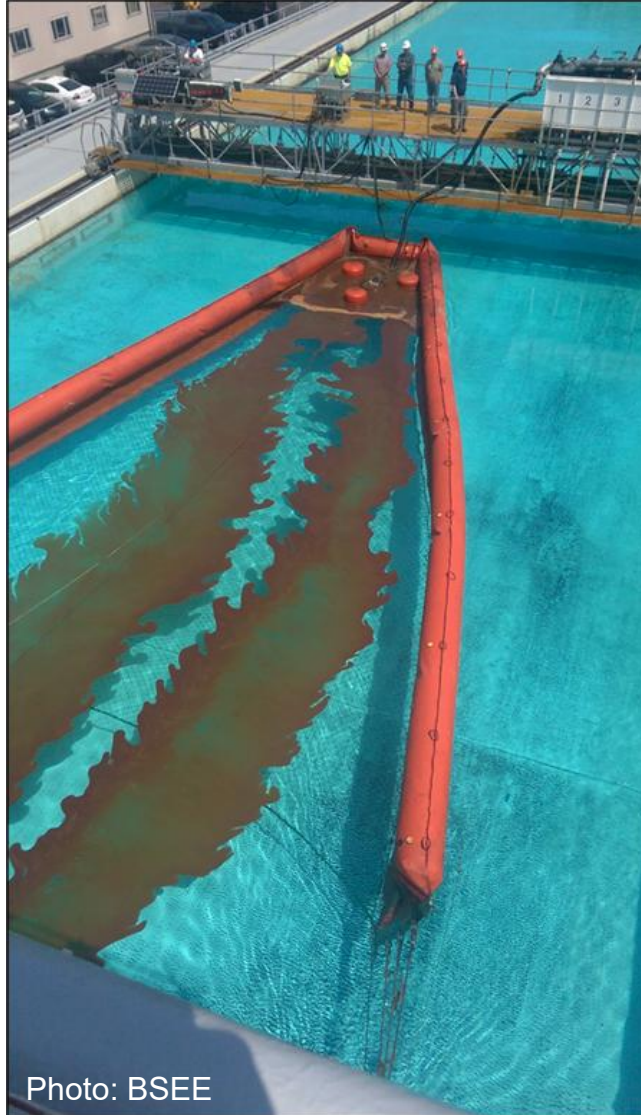


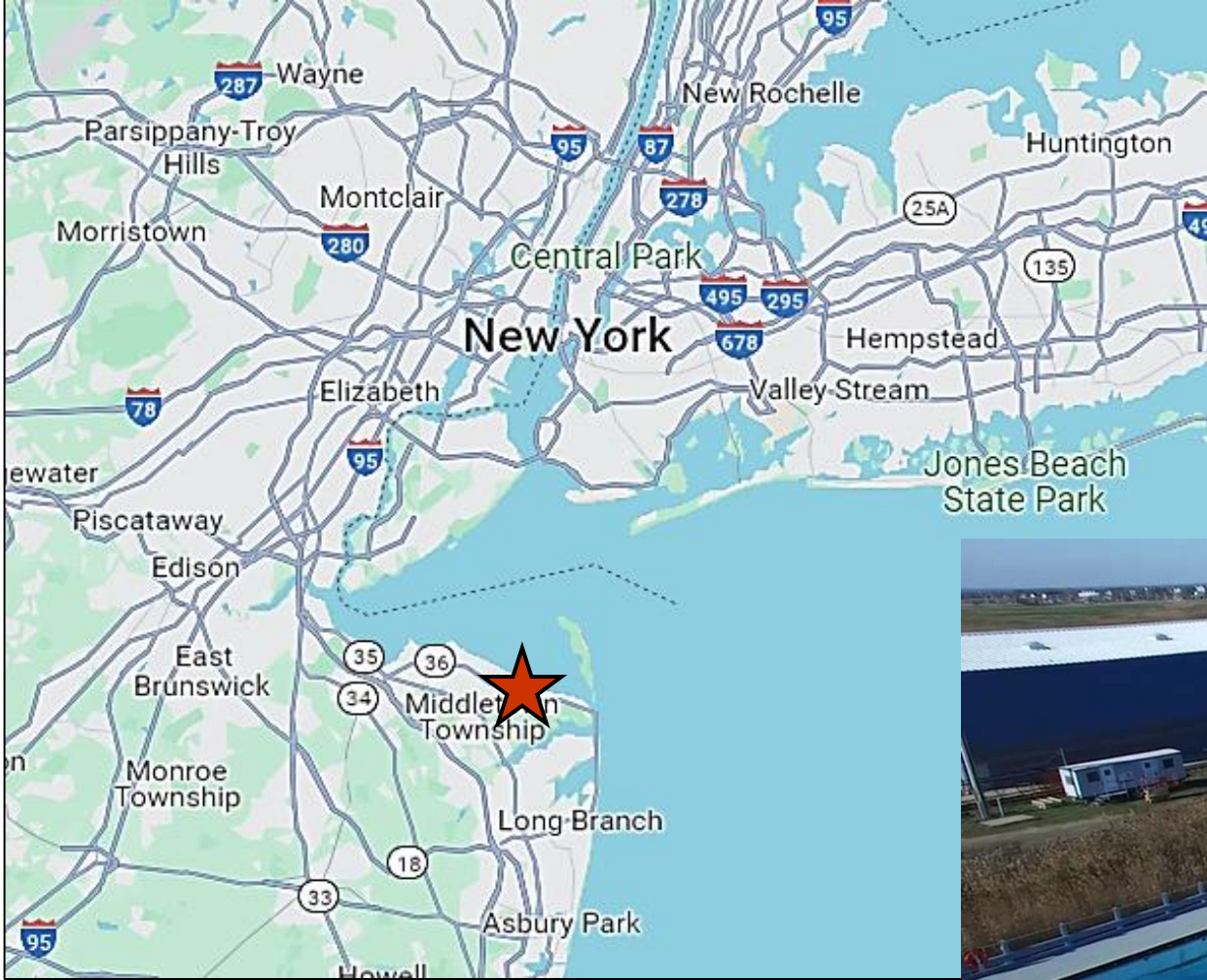
Photo: BSEE

Evaluation

Autonomous underwater vehicle test



Photo: BSEE



Large quantities of ice can be made for testing and training during New Jersey's fall and winter seasons.



Photos by BSEE.

Side-by-side comparison of dispersed and non-dispersed oil slicks.



Photos: ARA

Ohmsett provides several services to support its customers.



Laboratory



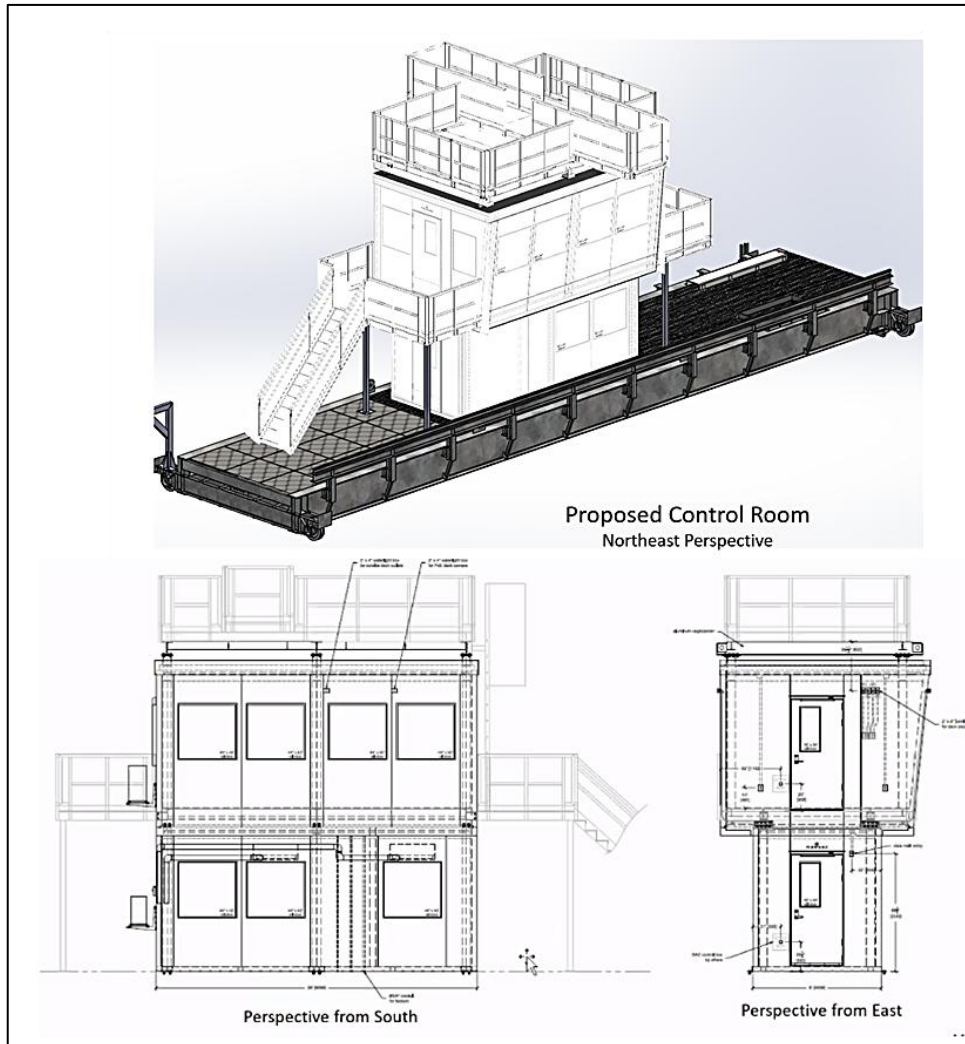
Machine Shop



Classroom



This year's highlight was the design and installation of a new two-story bridge house.



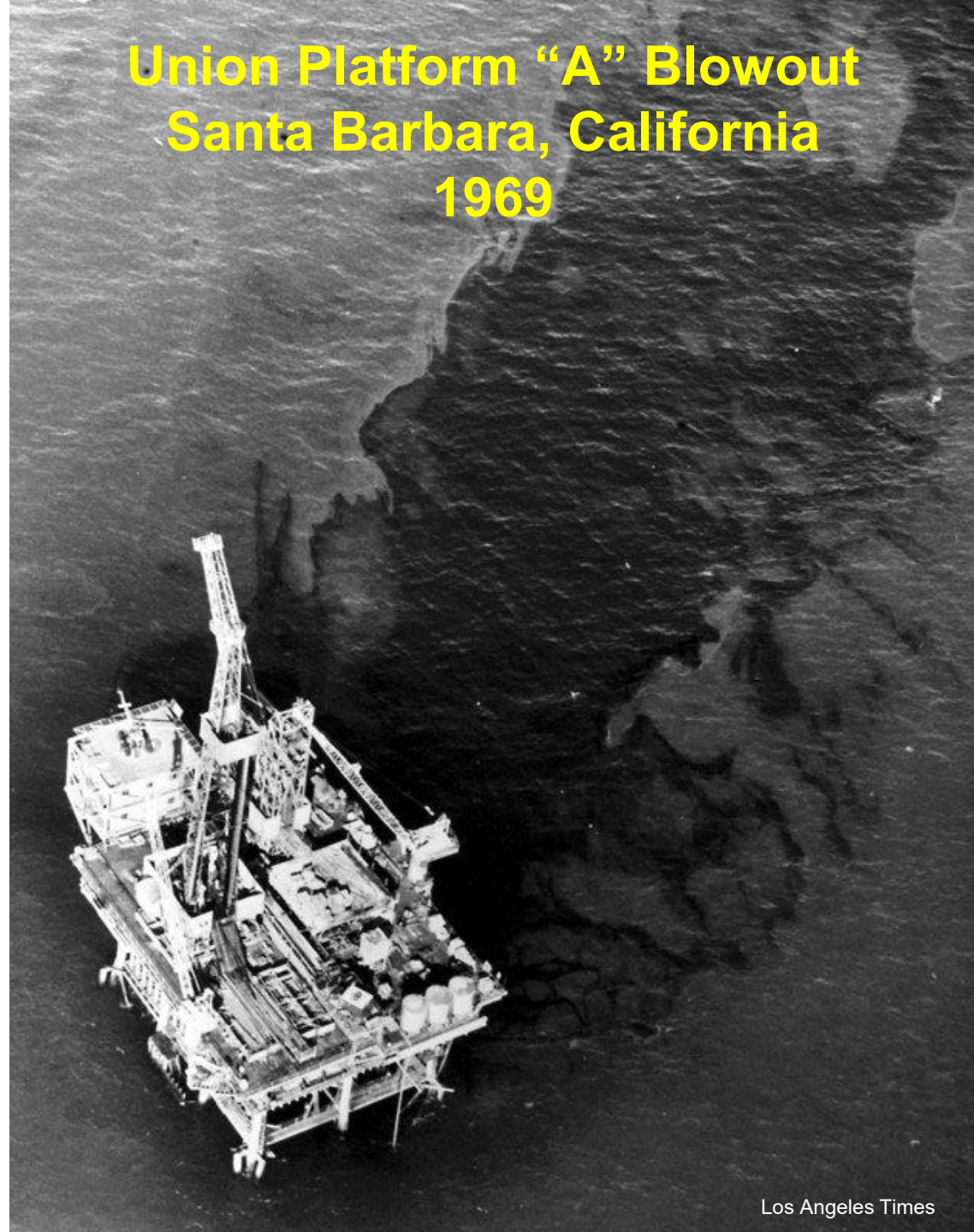


Ohmsett Archive Project

**Torrey Canyon
Cornwall, England
1967**



**Union Platform "A" Blowout
Santa Barbara, California
1969**





SUN JUN 20 1971

A FLYING SAUCER?

Oil Slicks

What appears to be a Daliesque flying saucer sitting on the water is really a scale model version of an oil spill control device being developed for the American Petroleum Institute by Reynolds Sub-Marine Service Corp. of Miami. The "Medusa," as it is called, is designed to take in spilled oil and water at

a rate up to 10,000 gallons a minute and separate the two by centrifugal action within the module. The "Medusa" and two other Reynolds spill control components are scheduled for final sea tests within the next several months. The project is part of API's continuing research program.

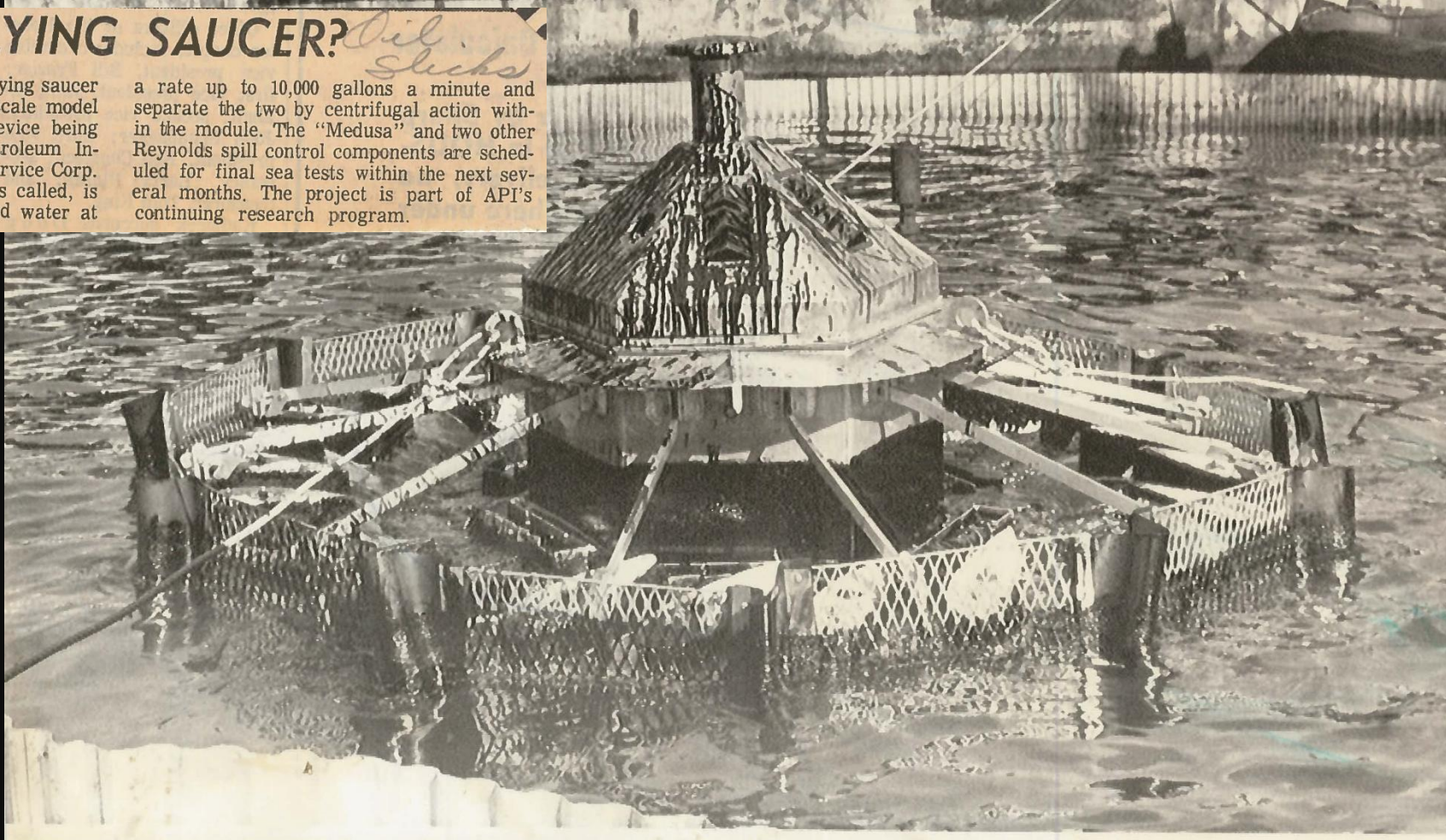


Photo: Associated Press

O.H.M.S.E.T.T. – Oil and Hazardous Materials Simulated Environmental Test Tank



Ohmsett groundbreaking circa 1973.

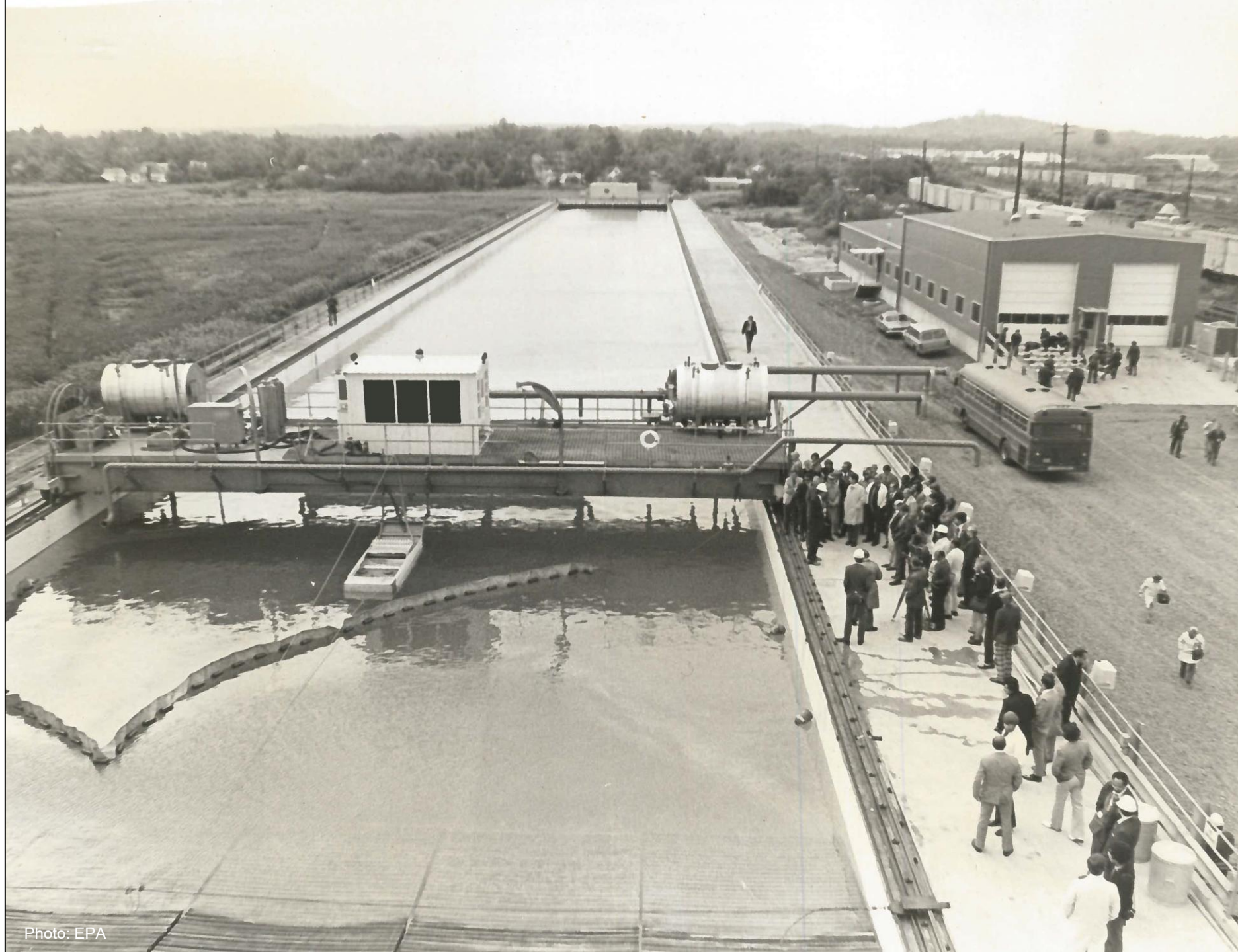


Photo: EPA



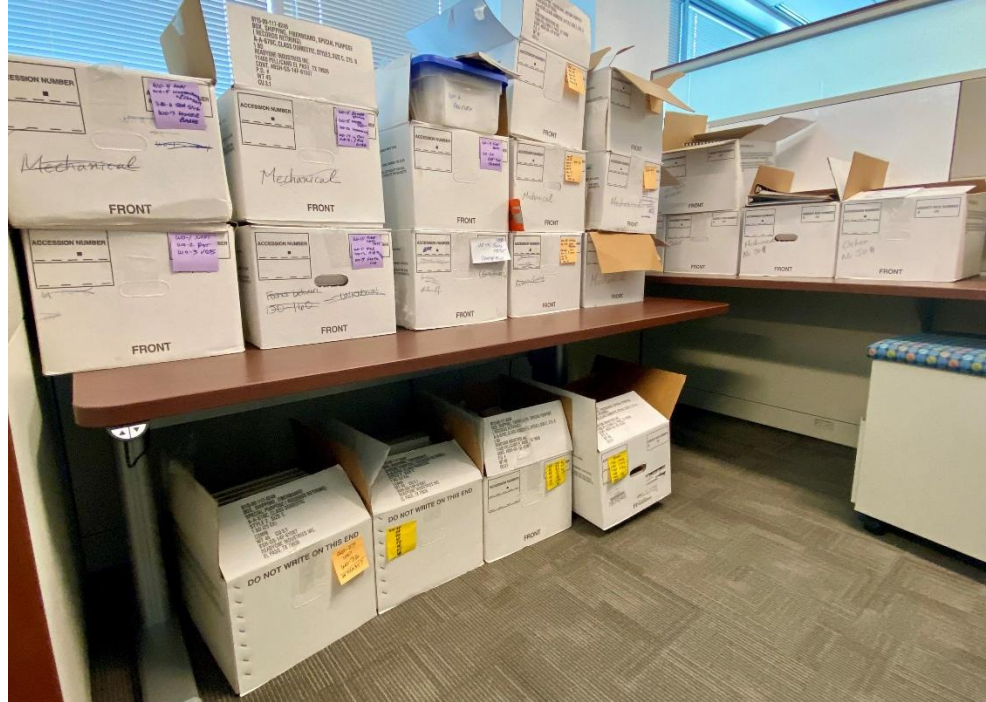
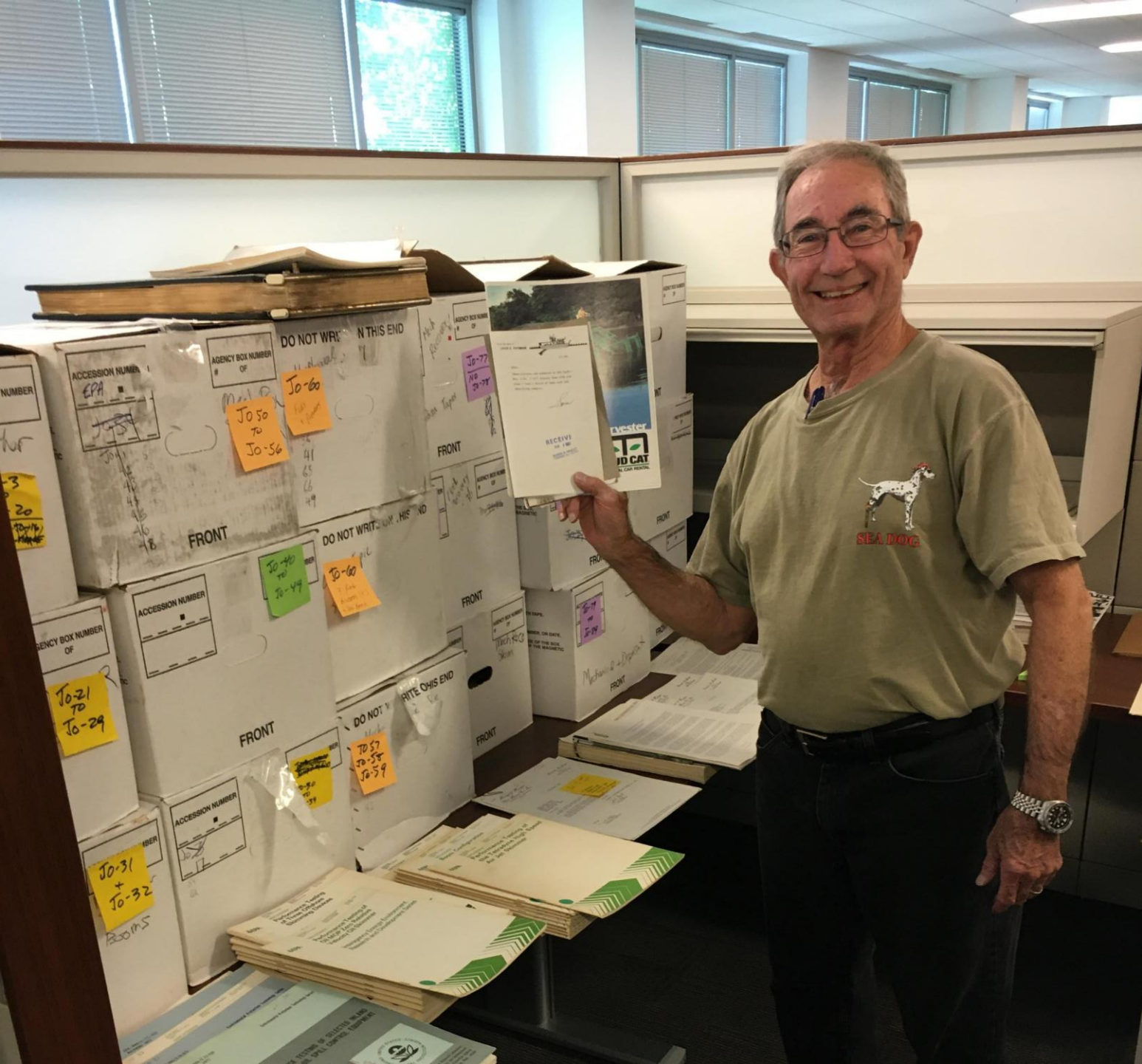
Ohmsett has three eras of federal government management.



1974

1991

2011





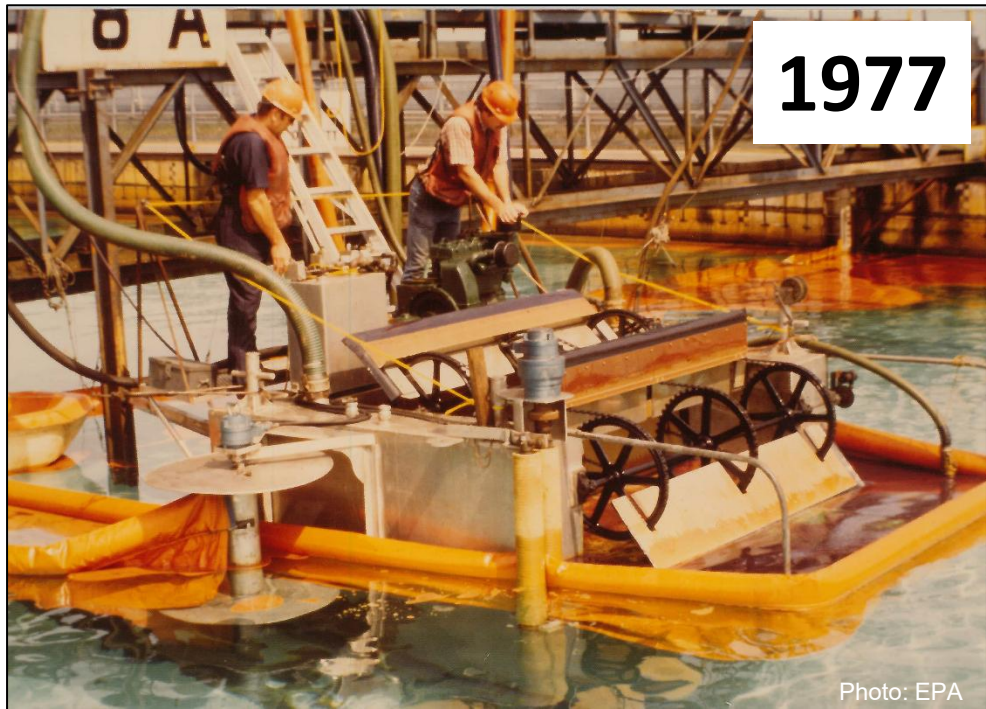


1977



1976

Photo: EPA

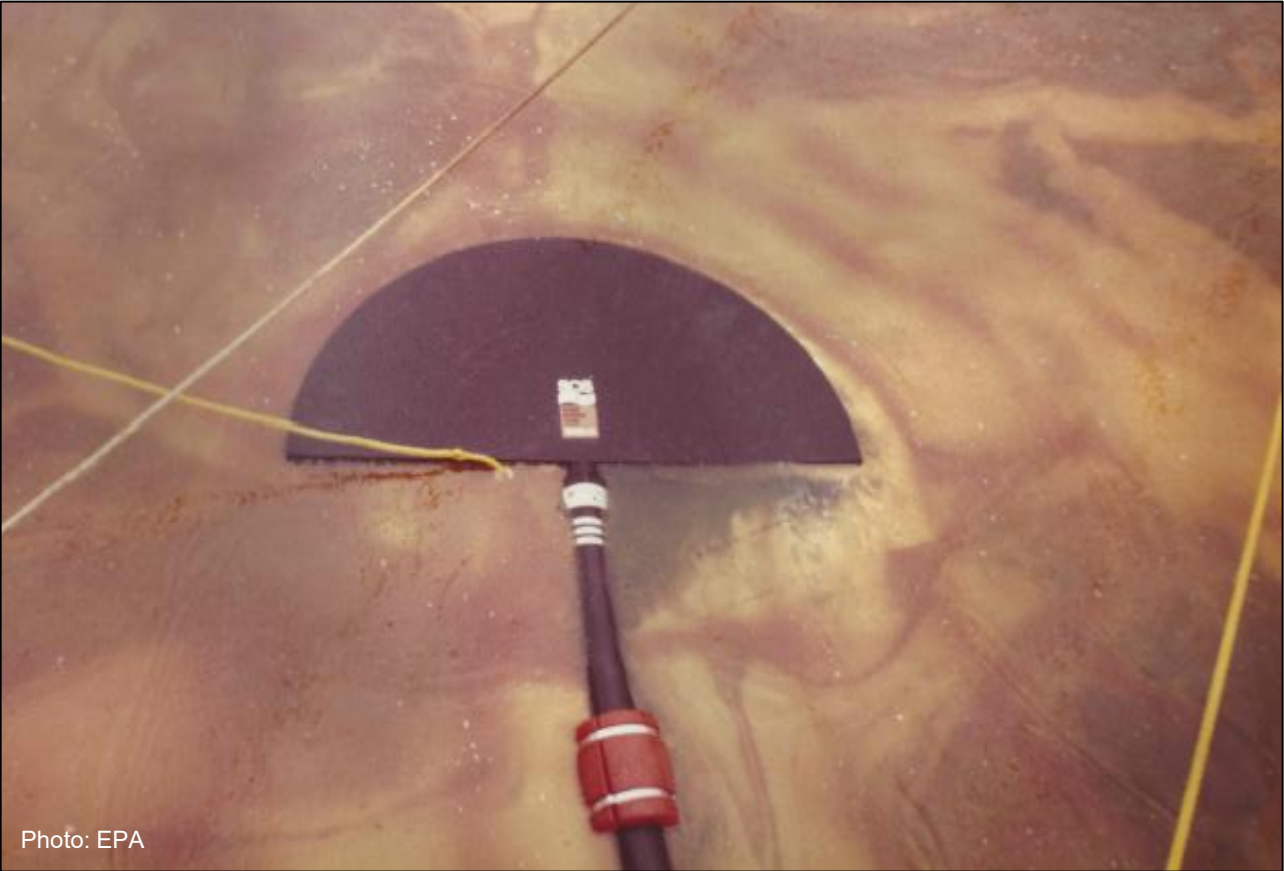


1977

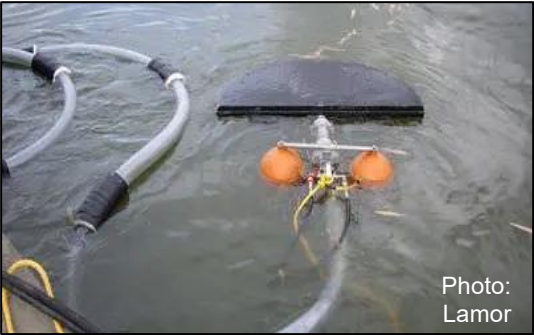
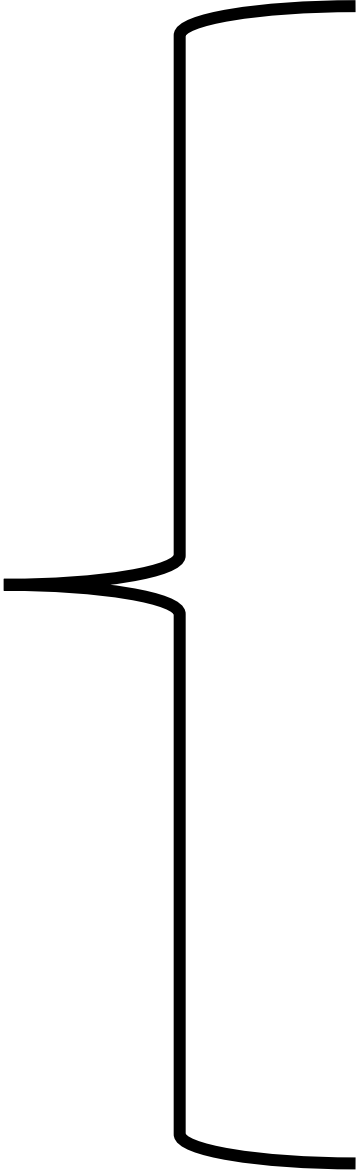
Photo: EPA

Photo: EPA

Manta Skimmer prototype tested at Ohmsett in 1975.



Today's commercial descendants.



Next steps for the project . . .



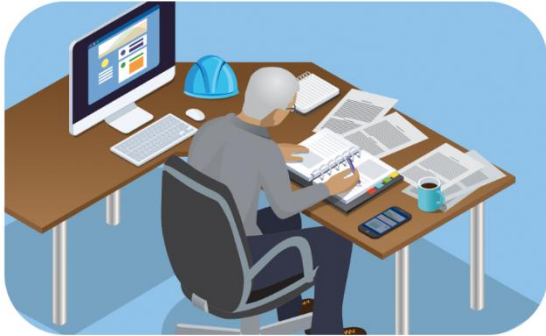
**Review and
Organize Files**



Digitization



**Post to National Archives
and Ohmsett Websites**



Thank you!

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