

**Marathassa Oil Spill
Interim Update to Vancouver City
Council
April 14, 2015**

Water Safety Notice

Due to an oil spill from a cargo ship in
English Bay
it is recommended that people
and pets temporarily avoid going in the water.

Clean up will be coordinated by Federal Coast
Guard officials and their contractors.

Please also refrain from attempting to
clean up the spill as it can cause
further impact.

~~Call~~ 3-1-1 to report any concerns or
observations as we continue to manage
this unfortunate incident.





The Spill

Ship Information

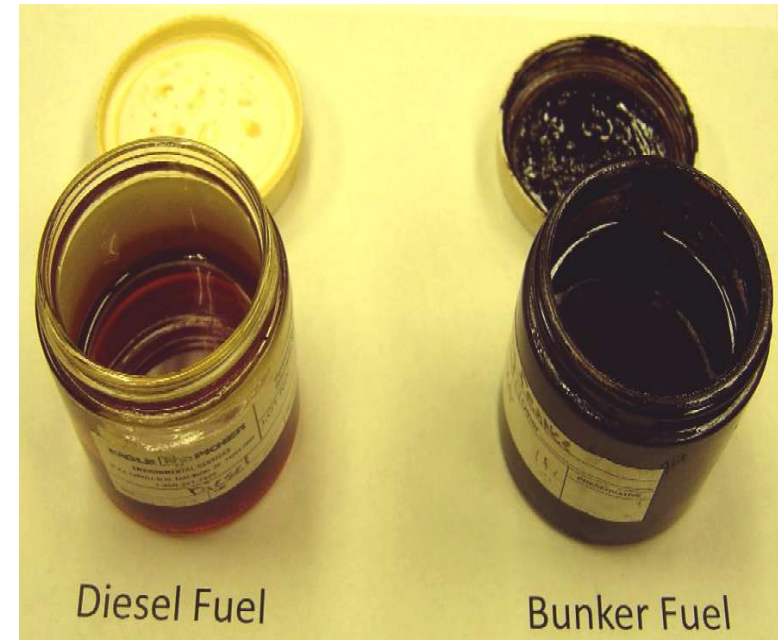
- Panamax sized bulk grain carrier
- Commissioned 2015
- Maiden voyage from Busan, Korea - March 18th
- Cyprus flag, Limassol registered
- Managed by Alassia NewShips Management Inc (based in Athens, Greece)



- It is unknown with any certainty what the amount of the spill was
- No official estimates since first 24 hours of the total volume of oil spilled - still under review
- Cause of spill determined by divers
- Investigation ongoing by Transport Canada
- Small releases of oil have continued up until yesterday
- There remains about 40 sq meters (surface area) of oil under the vessel hull which still needs to be recovered

Bunker C Oil – ISO 380

- Used to fuel the ship
- Highly toxic, highly viscose
- Residual oil from refinery mixed with distillates to meet specifications
- Less than 5 to 10% is expected to evaporate within the first hours of a spill
- Oil can be carried hundreds of miles in the form of scattered tarballs by winds and currents
- During the Selendang spill in Alaska, tar balls were found 1-3 meters below surface



First oil spill report from boater April 8, 2015 – his account

- **Approx. 5pm:** Out on a flat water sailboat, saw a blue sheen on the water surface and “thousands” of black balls under the surface (ranging from size of a pea to a fist)
- **17:05pm:** Checked online to the VPD Marine Unit website which directed him to call 911 and he called in the oil slick
 - 911 put him in touch with Coast Guard
- **17:08pm:** Coast Guard called him back and said that the spill had already been reported and Coast Guard and Marine Spill Response Units were on their way.
- **Approx. 18pm:** Port Metro Vancouver vessel arrived at the site
- **19:50pm:** Rob went back into shore with his boat, PMV vessel still the only marked boat in the vicinity, Coast Guard had not yet arrived.

Approximate Timeline of Response



Wed April 8, 2015	5:10 pm	Canadian Coast Guard (CCG) receives a report of a slick around the bulk carrier Marathassa in Vancouver Harbour – VIA 911 – dispatches PMV boat to review
	6:08 pm	CCG directs Western Canada Marine Response Corporation (WCMRC) to stand-by for a potential response
	8:06 pm	WCMRC officially activated
	9:25 pm	WCMRC crews arrive on scene
	9:53 pm	CCG calls VPD to ask if there are any additional reports of an oil spill
Thurs Apr 9, 2015	5:06 am	City of Vancouver notified of an oil spill BY WCMRC
	5:50 am	City of Vancouver activates Emergency Operations Centre
	5:53 am	Boom secured around the vessel
	9:17 am	Twitter report of oil on beach at Denman and Davie
	10:30 am	City of Vancouver holds news conference to give an update on spill, substance identified as possible bunker fuel
	7:00 pm	Canadian Coast Guard estimates that 80% of original detected slick has been recovered
Friday Apr 10, 2015	2:00 pm	Shoreline clean up operations begin
	8:00pm	Responsible party confirmed
Sat Apr 11, 2015	12:55 am	Transport Canada issues a detention order on Marathassa

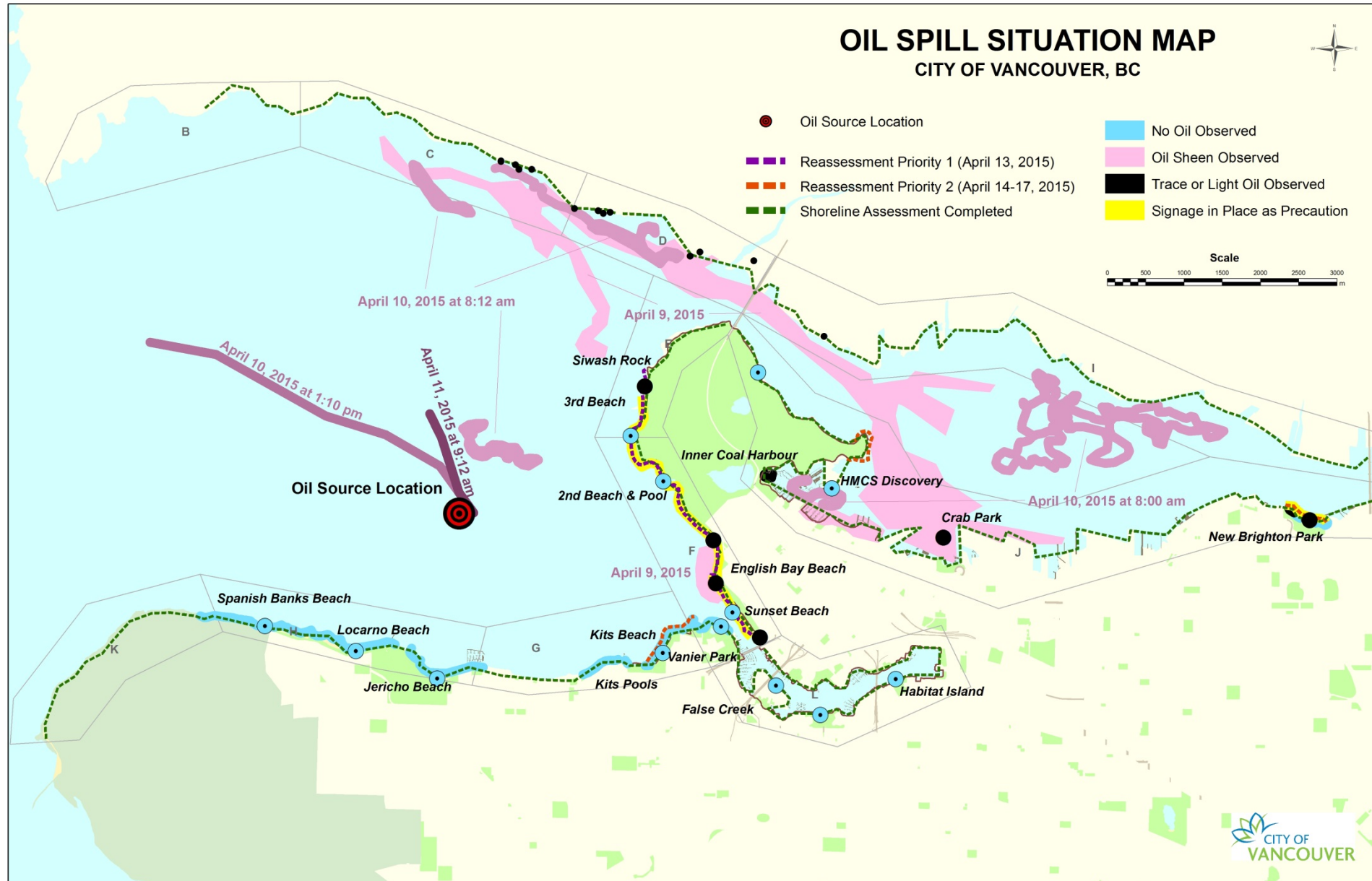
Distribution of Oil

OIL SPILL SITUATION MAP

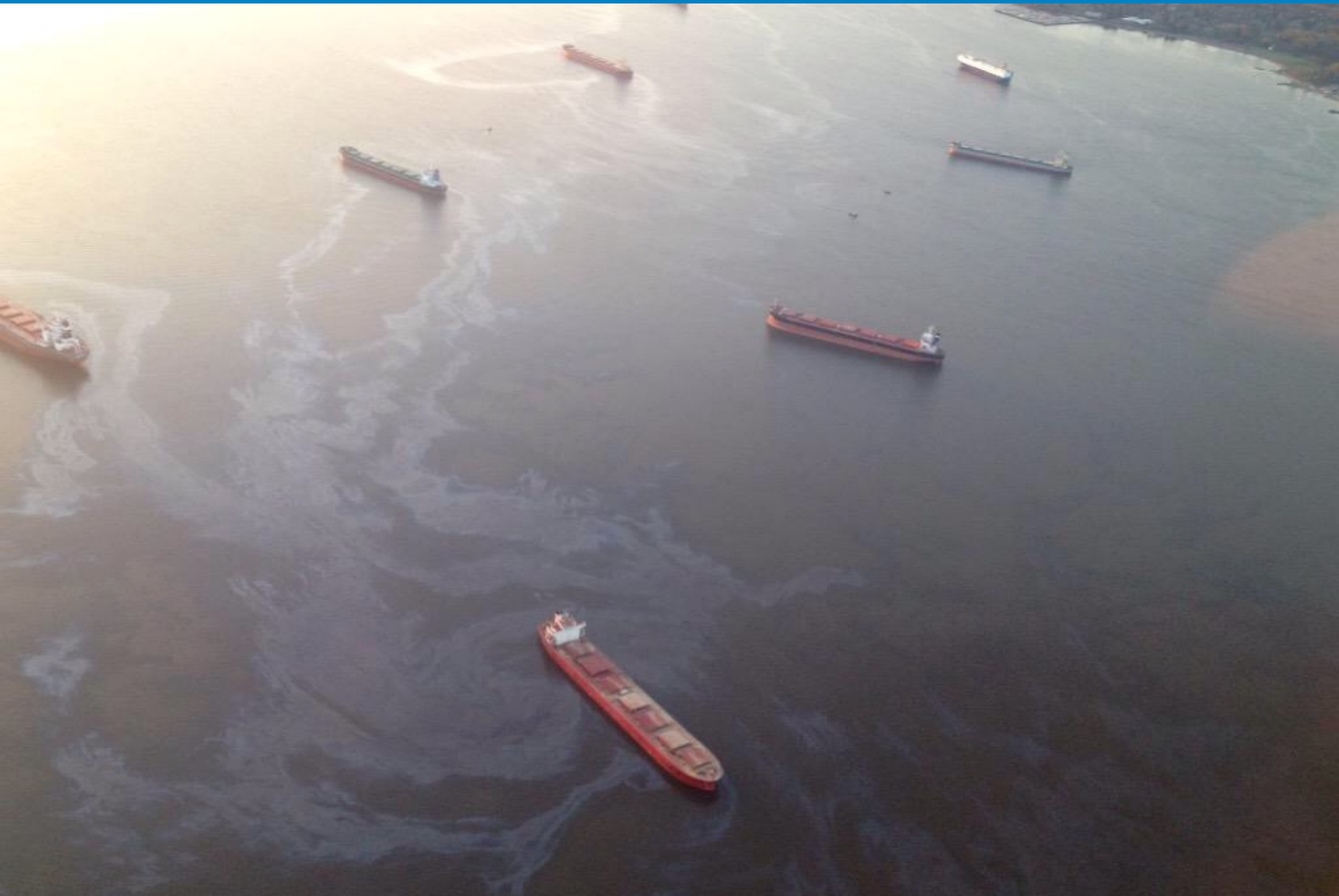
CITY OF VANCOUVER, BC



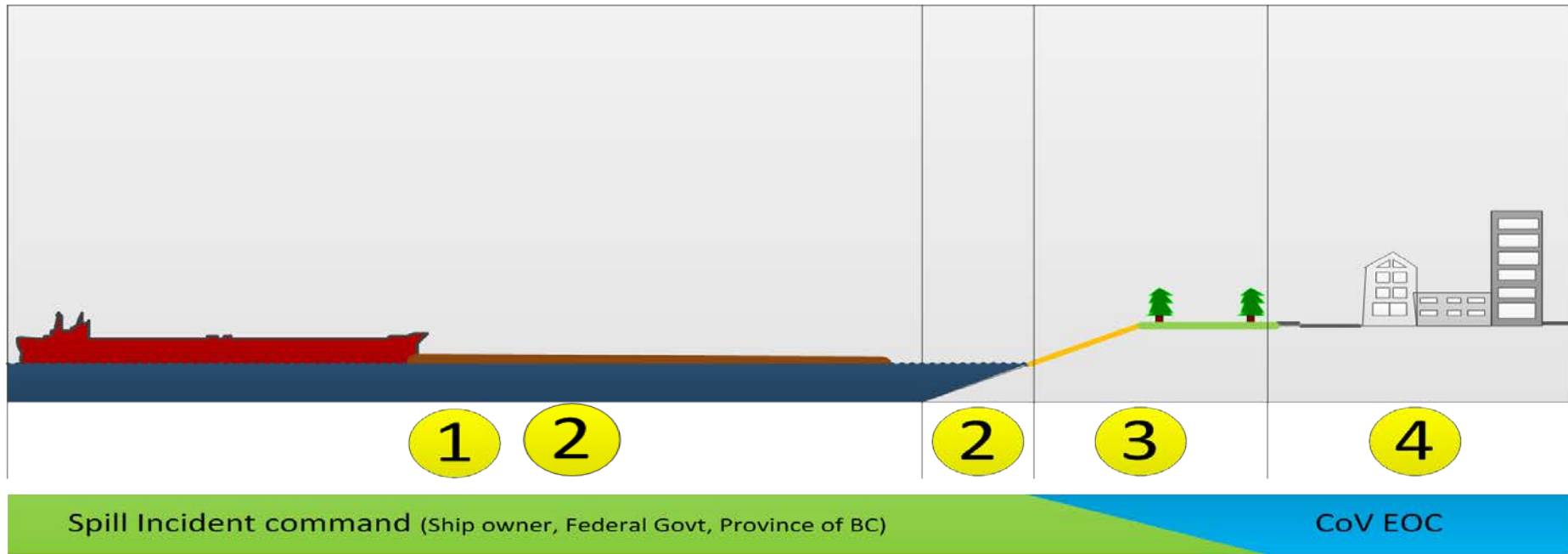
- Oil Source Location
- Reassessment Priority 1 (April 13, 2015)
- Reassessment Priority 2 (April 14-17, 2015)
- Shoreline Assessment Completed
- No Oil Observed
- Oil Sheen Observed
- Trace or Light Oil Observed
- Signage in Place as Precaution



Aerial Visual of Spill



Standard Roles and Responsibilities



	Primary	Tasks	Secondary	Tasks
1	Responsible party/ Canadian Coast Guard	Incident command, liable for costs	Western Canadian Marine Response Corporation (WCMRC)	On water oil clean up
2	WCMRC	On water and Beach clean up	BC MoE	Environmental monitoring and Shoreline Assessment (SCAT)
3	Canadian Wildlife Services	Wildlife response	City of Vancouver	Beach closure, security, infrastructure
4	City of Vancouver West Van	EoC, volunteer management, communication	Vancouver Coastal Health	Public health

- Privately owned and funded by industry
- Transport Canada Certified Response Organization
- WCMRC - over 2000 ship-owner members
- Responsible for 27,000 km of BC shoreline
- 28 response vessels
- Aprox. 24 full-time staff
- Tabletop and deployment exercises run to meet certification requirements



Booms and Skimmers

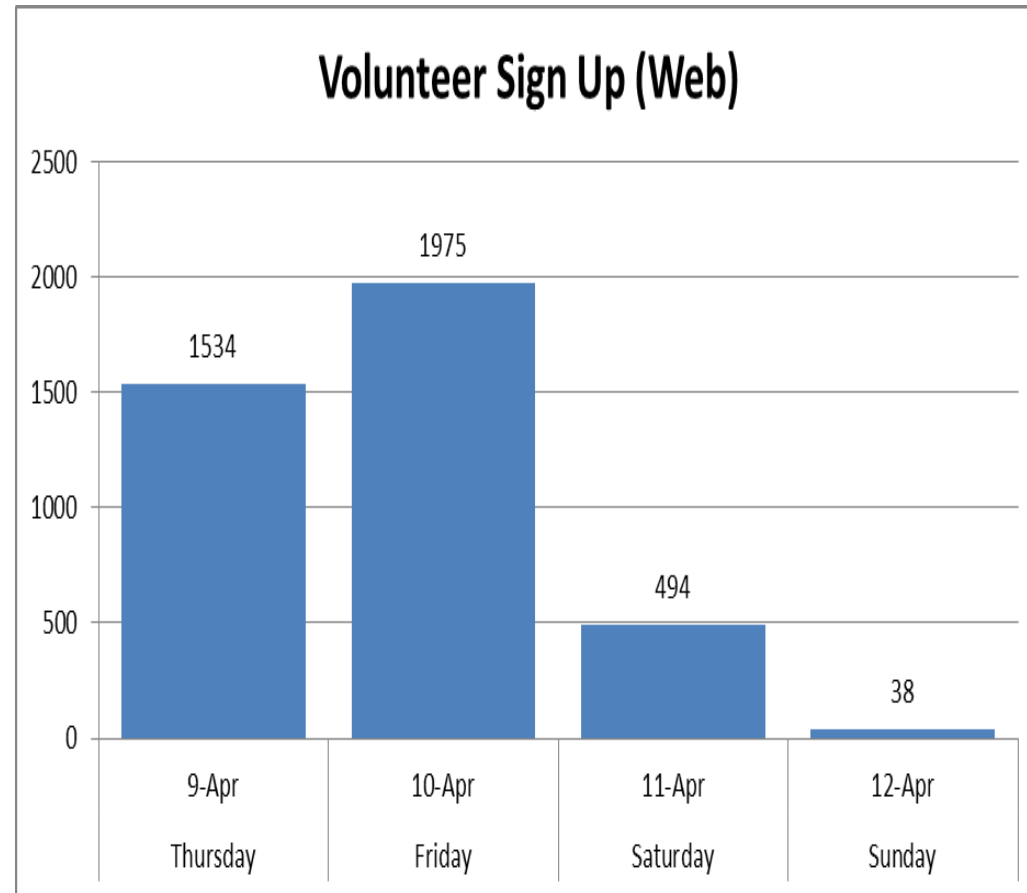


- Member of Unified Command with:
 - Coast Guard, Port Metro, Transport Canada, Ministry of Environment, other munis, First Nations
- COV EOC activation – support of city staff at Unified Command
- Operational response as decided by UC and COV Policy Group
- Mobilization of volunteers
- Communication with public

- COV Engaged experts to advise on our response:
 - **Elise de Cola** – Nuka Research and Planning, expert on spill response, planning and tactics.
 - **Jeff Short** – Marine toxicologist, expert on oil fate and behavior. Lead US Federal Scientist on Exxon Valdez
 - **Peter Ross** – Vancouver Aquarium Marine mammal toxicologist
 - **Carmen Morales**- Vancouver Aquarium, Research Scientist at the Ocean Pollution Research Program
 - **Rashid Sumaila** – UBC, Marine Fisheries Economist
 - **Rob Dudgeon**- Director of the San Francisco Department of Emergency Management
 - **Stafford Reid**-Enviromerge Consulting, expert in spill response and shoreline clean-up

Volunteers

- Vancouver Volunteer Corps:
 - Mobilization of Neighborhood Emergency Assistance Team (NEAT): education, monitoring and crowd support during clean-up efforts
- Over 4000 “convergent volunteers” registered with the City to help in foreshore recovery
 - “eyes on the shore”
- Trained wildlife response volunteers - wildlife response



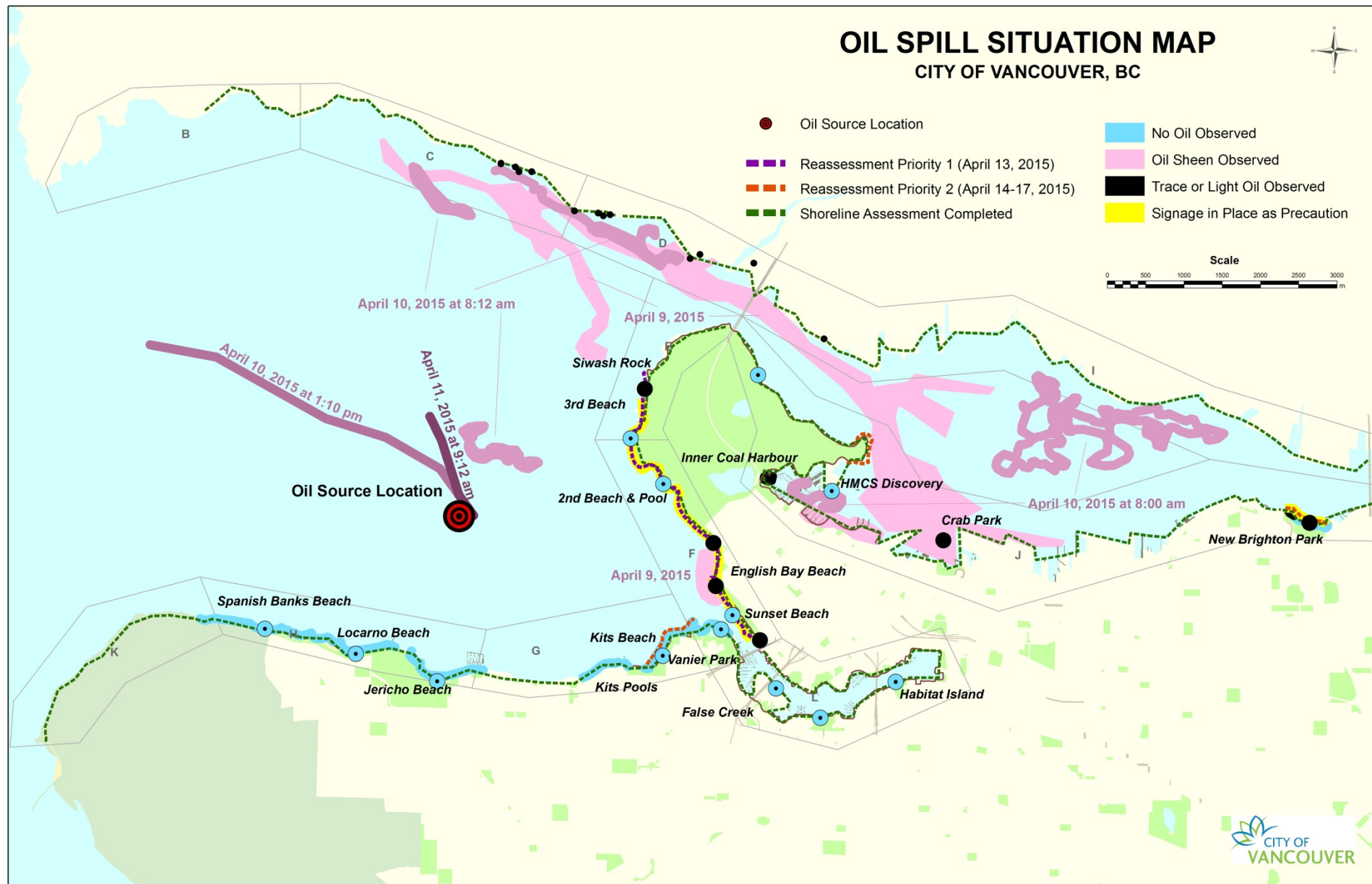
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OIL SPILL SITUATION MAP

CITY OF VANCOUVER, BC



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Oiled Beaches Treated include:

- Crab Beach
- New Brighton
- Stanley Park (Siwash Rock, Second Beach)
- English Bay
- North Shore Beaches

Beach Clean-up



Siwash Rock



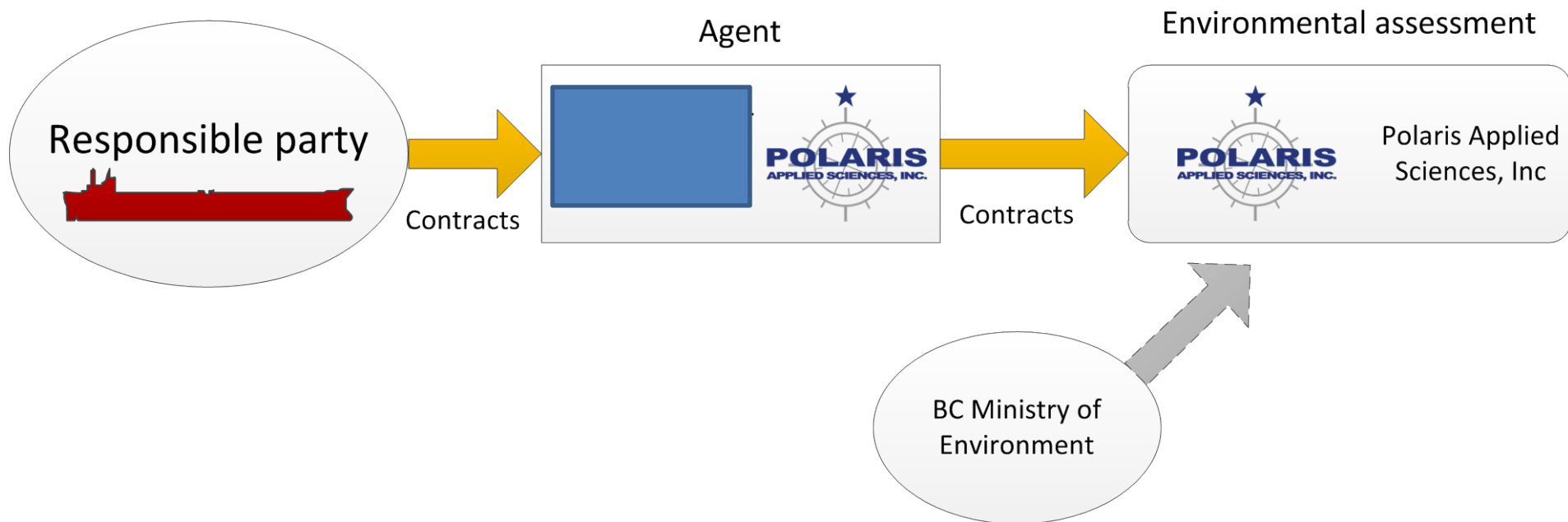


Wildlife Recovery

- 20 – 30 birds impacted, mostly ducks. 15 – 20 currently at Vanier Park
- Fencing off of ponds at Vanier and Jericho Park to protect wildlife.
- 3 birds being treated at wildlife rescue association
- Prospects for rehabilitation remain uncertain

- Initial sampling of oil, water and sediment (now ongoing)
- Long term environmental plan to be developed by MOE Environmental Unit – support from
 - CoV, West Vancouver
 - First Nations
 - DFO
 - Environment Canada
 - Responsible Party.
- CoV has recommended expert scientists to advise this planning
- Plan to be approved by Unified Command

Determining Completion of Clean-up: Site by Site

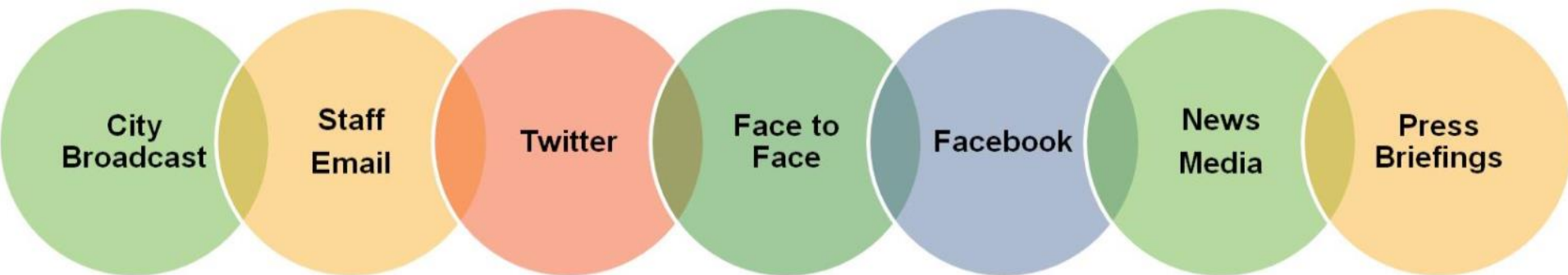


- Total funds for clean up and recovery are made up of:
 - \$28 million (early estimate) - liability cap on ship owner contributions
 - \$162 million- Canadian Ship-source Oil Pollution Fund (SOPF) is accessible if ship owner contributions caps are exceeded
 - Payment from the funds may require a lengthy process and potentially litigation
 - City of Vancouver can file claims for reimbursement of expenses



Communications

Methods of Outreach

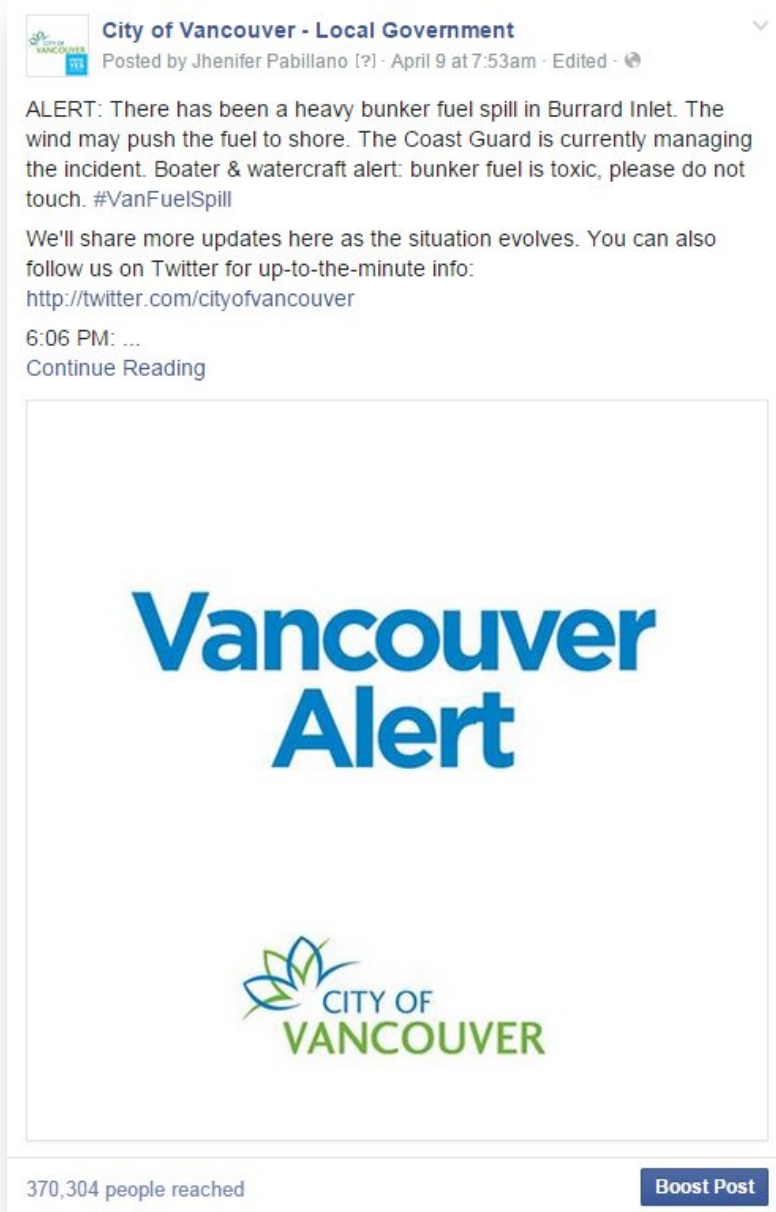


- Main channels were Twitter and Facebook
 - Twitter to reach media & influencers
 - Facebook to reach everyday Vancouverites
- Powerful tools that ultimately reached large audience quickly with key updates

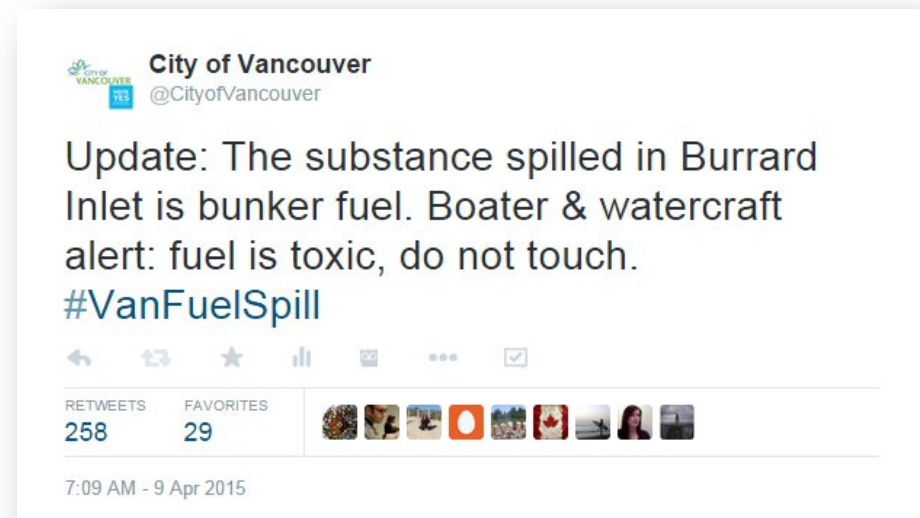
- Media calls: 31
- Media briefings:
 - COV – 2
 - CCG - daily
- Media advisories: 3
- Information bulletins/
News Releases: 3



- **1 main post for Apr 9**
- **Reached 370,304**
Port post reached 248k
- **Shared 2517x**
Port post shared 1372x
- **Gained 260 followers**

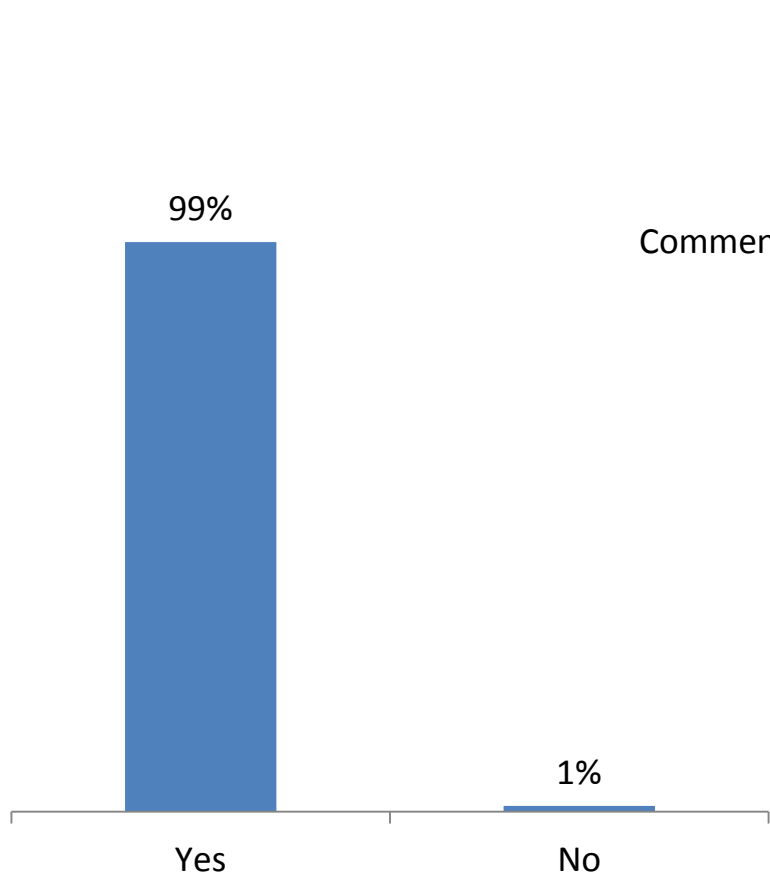


- 38,339 Twitter mentions of oil spill keywords by estimated 20,108 users
 - 174 million impressions
 - 75% are retweets
 - City tweet about toxic oil is one of the most retweeted of all mentioned – 236 retweets

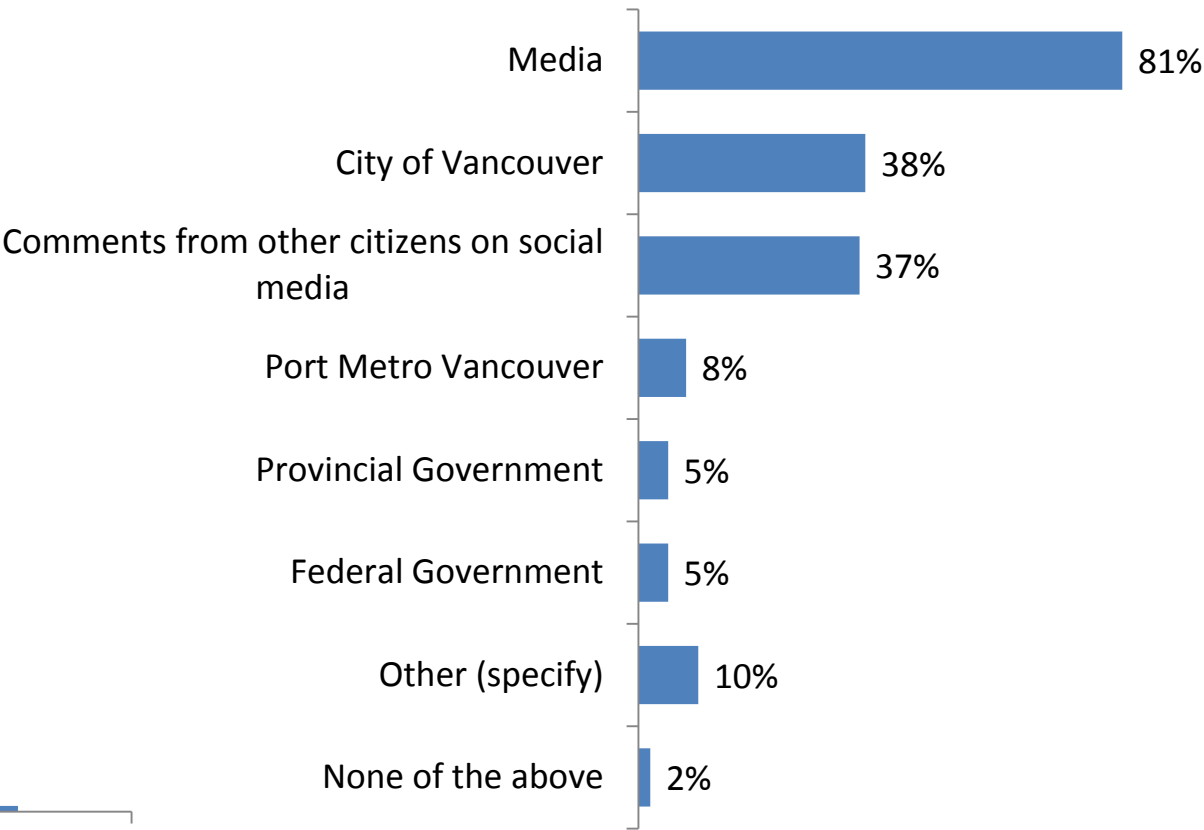


- Short survey promoted through social media channels (Twitter and Facebook) beginning on April 11, 2015
- An invitation sent to all members of Talk Vancouver, the City's online panel. The invitation was mailed on April 13, 2015.
- The questionnaire is set to close on April 30, 2015.
- To date, a total of **725** questionnaires have been completed.

Are you aware of the fuel spill that occurred in English Bay on April 8th ?



Thinking about the information sources that provided you with updates during this emergency situation, which of the following did you turn to for accurate, up-to-date information?



Note: respondents were able to select more than one response option; therefore, percentages total more than 100%.

- Small spill, mild weather; little wind (best case scenario for a spill)
- ~6 Km of beaches impacted
 - Impact mild and recovery well underway
- Limited impact on wildlife
- Impact on fishery – too early to know
- New relationships with key partners: CCG, TC, EC, MOE
- Many questions unanswered still regarding quantities, submergence, notification protocols...
- Will continue to have oil washing up on our shores
- Long-term plan for on-going monitoring and clean-up under development