

From: Sea Alarm secretariat@sea-alarm.org
Subject: EUROWA News June 2015: The Project has launched
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EUROWA Newsletter June 2015



Welcome to the EUROWA Module Project newsletter. We will be sending out regular updates on our activities over the two years the project will run.

The EUROWA Project

The project aims to develop a European Module for Oiled Wildlife Assistance (EUROWA Module), which is an international team of oiled wildlife response experts and equipment, capable of providing Tier-3 response assistance to countries confronted with an oiled wildlife incident. This two-year project (Jan 2015- Dec 2016) will develop a Standard Operating Procedure and training and exercise packages leading to accreditation of Module personnel and their coordinated mobilization via existing European frameworks such as CECIS.

Activities under EUROWA are co-financed by the European Commission under the Civil Protection Instrument, and carried out by a group partners and subcontractors, including Sea Alarm, Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (RSPCA), Wildlife Rescue Centre Ostend, ProBird, WWF Finland, Estonian Fund for Nature (ELF), and Nantes Atlantic College of Veterinary Medicine, Food Science and Engineering (Oniris)

Why a EUROWA Module?

The integration of oiled wildlife response into existing oil spill response and preparedness systems is taking shape in Europe. Regional Agreements such as HELCOM, the Bonn Agreement and the Barcelona Convention have recognized the need to integrate oiled wildlife response into national plans and preparedness systems, and many member countries either have national plans for oiled wildlife response in place or are developing them.

The need for international assistance, especially in more challenging scenarios where national processes have difficulty coping, has been recognized for years. Regional Agreements were created to provide the frameworks for mutual assistance between countries, which now often include wildlife response aspects, however a clear international standard for expertise in this area was lacking.

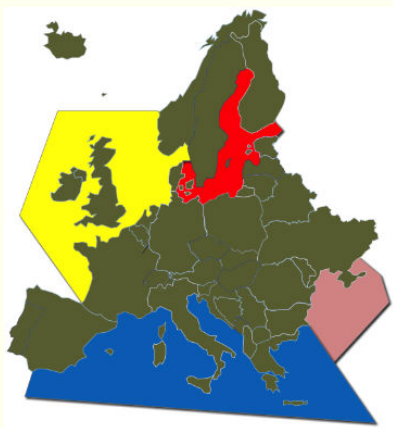
The EUROWA Module project aims to fill that gap by defining oiled wildlife response standards and providing a procedural framework for mobilizing a team. These standardized expert training packages will be offered to interested individuals and organisations, with training events to be organized in the autumn of 2016.

First EUROWA workshop held in February



A week-long meeting in the UK of all partner organisations and subcontractors got the EUROWA project off to a strong start. As standardising training of oiled wildlife response personnel is a key component of this project, the participants worked on defining the skills and responsibilities of multiple levels of responders—convergent and advanced volunteers, specialists, managers and veterinarians—needed to provide best possible care for oiled wildlife. [Read more...](#)

Presentations to Regional Agreements



Sea Alarm recently informed HELCOM RESPONSE, OTSOPA and the Meeting of REMPEC FOCAL POINTS about the EUROWA Module project and how it is envisaged that the Module will become part of the wider European oils spill preparedness systems. [Read more...](#)

On the agenda

The project will organise a number of events in the months and year to come, with the following highlights, on which we will report in future newsletters.

October 2015	Equipment exercise
November 2015	Project Team event
Autumn 2016	Training events

Further information

www.oiledwildlife.eu/eurowa



EUROWA is a project co-financed by the EU under the Civil Protection Financial Instrument, developed in cooperation with Wildlife Rescue Centre Oostende, RSPCA, WWF Finland, Pro-Bird, Estonian Fund for Nature, CVFSE, Tim Thomas and coordinated by the Sea Alarm Foundation.



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