

Oil/Environment Work Summary

Professor Rick Steiner (Oasis Earth, Anchorage Alaska USA)

- Alaska – Professor and marine conservation biologist at University of Alaska from 1980 – 2010. In early 1980s conducted workshops in Arctic communities re: risks of offshore oil development; participated in 1989 Exxon Valdez oil spill -- advised emergency response, helped develop the U.S. Oil Pollution Act of 1990, co-founded the Prince William Sound Science Center, initiated establishment of the Regional Citizens Advisory Councils (RCACs), and proposed settlement of government/Exxon legal case and use of funds for habitat protection; continued public outreach on offshore oil/environment issues. Co-founded and served as Facilitator of the *Shipping Safety Partnership* to reduce risk of ship casualties/spills in Aleutian Islands, Bering Sea, and Arctic Ocean (2004).
- Russia – Co-Principal Investigator for project on oil spill prevention and response on Sakhalin Island (1999); taught oil spill workshops in Russia Far East, Siberia, and Western Russia; advised Russian government, Russian Duma, and Russian Academy of Sciences on macroeconomic energy policy, oil royalty and taxation issues (2001); served as foreign technical expert on public review commission for the Siberia Pacific Pipeline project (2003); served as oil spill expert on IUCN/Shell Independent Scientific Review Panel to review the Sakhalin II offshore oil project in Sea of Okhotsk and its threat to the critically endangered Western Pacific Gray Whale (2005).
- Kazakhstan and Azerbaijan - Worked with civil society groups to enhance oil sector and government transparency, and enhance government take of oil revenues.
- Africa – Nigeria: worked with Nigeria Ministry of Environment, NGOs, and state governments in assessing and mitigating environmental damage from oil development in Niger Delta (2006); advised Delta State governor on oil spill environmental injury and restoration (2010); served as expert witness in lawsuits re: environmental damage from oil; conducted assessment of oil industry divestment, decommissioning, and abandonment in Niger Delta (2023); served as Technical Advisor to Ijaw Diaspora Council. *Mauritania and Senegal*: worked to enhance citizen oversight of offshore oil industry.
- Pakistan - Developed and served for Pakistan Environmental Protection Agency and UNDP as Chief Technical Advisor for first comprehensive oil spill Natural Resource Damage Assessment in a developing nation, for Tasman Spirit oil spill in Arabian Sea (2003-2004).
- Lebanon - During Israeli/Hezbollah war of 2006, advised the government of Lebanon on issues regarding the Jiyeh oil spill caused by Israeli air strikes; briefed the Israeli government in Tel Aviv on the spill and recommended financial settlement from Israel to Lebanon.

- Israel – Wrote Independent Expert Opinion on Leviathan Offshore Gas Project for several NGOs in Israel (2018); presented Expert Opinion at conference in Israel, to government agencies, and media.
- China – Conducted rapid response mission to Dalian oil spill, advised Chinese NGOs and media on spill (2010). Advised NGOs, media, and governments re: Sanchi disaster in East Sea (2018).
- Gulf of Finland – Conducted workshops in 2005 on behalf of U.S. State Department on oil spill prevention, response, damage assessment, and restoration in Finland, Russia, Estonia.
- Canada – Advised Indigenous tribes in B.C. re: risks of oil transport and pipelines proposed to north coast.
- U.K. – Advised Shetland Island government, media on Braer Oil Spill (1993).
- U.S. – Conducted several projects in U.S. re: oil spill prevention and response, including for state of Hawaii, advised groups in Gulf of Mexico BP spill in 2010, many speaking engagements re: risks of oil, etc.
- Belize – Conducted rapid assessment of environmental aspects of oil development in Belize for citizen’s coalition (2011).
- Japan – Conducted oil spill prevention, response, and impacts workshops around Hokkaido Island (2004).
- Spain/Canary Islands – Served as technical expert for Fuerteventura Council, Canary Islands, to review deepwater drilling proposal in Canary Islands (2013).
- New Zealand – Provided expert witness affidavits for offshore oil exploratory drilling legal cases, (2012 and 2015).
- Norway/Svalbard – Co-principal scientist on research cruise re: offshore oil drilling off Svalbard Norway, Barents Sea (2014).
- Australia – Wrote Independent Expert Opinion on risks and potential impacts of worst-case oil spill in Great Australian Bight, released report from M/V *Rainbow Warrior* in Melbourne (2018).
- Solomon Islands – Technical advisor to Solomon Islands government and United Nations re: Solomon Trader oil spill; participated in scoping mission to Rennell Island atoll spill site, helped develop environmental damage assessment program (2019).
- United Nations – Drafted manual for UNEP/IMO on *Natural Resource Damage Assessment & Restoration from Major Oil Spills* (2005).
- Other - Authored dozens of technical and popular publications on environmental risks of oil, including international manual on environmental damage assessment and restoration after large marine oil spills for UNEP and IMO, commented regularly to media on oil risks, etc. (see below) The UK’s Guardian described Prof. Steiner as “one of the world’s leading marine conservation scientists,” and “one of the most respected and outspoken academics on the oil industry’s environmental record.”

Selected Oil/Environment Publications

- Steiner, Rick. 2026. Climate cost of Alaska oil is in the trillions of dollars. *Fairbanks News Miner*, Feb 4. *Anchorage Daily News*, Feb 7.
- Steiner, Rick. 2026. U.S. Attack on Venezuela Highlights Our Oil Addiction. *Common Dreams*, Jan. 5.
- Steiner, Rick. 2025. Trump and Congress Just Gifted Big Oil a Multimillion Dollar Stocking Stuffer. *Common Dreams*, Dec. 19.
- Steiner, Rick. 2025. Trump's Threat to Invade Venezuela is Indeed About Drugs – Oil, That Is. *Common Dreams*, Nov. 28. *Fairbanks News Miner*, Nov. 30. *Anchorage Daily News*, Dec. 5.
- Steiner, Rick. 2025. The Time Has Come to Establish the International Arctic Ocean Sanctuary. *Common Dreams*, June 8.
- Steiner, Rick. 2024. Biden's missed chance to safeguard America's oceans. *The Hill*, Dec. 28; *Common Dreams*, Dec. 30; *Fairbanks News Miner*, Dec. 31; *Anchorage Daily News*, Dec. 31.
- Steiner, Rick, 2023. The Arctic Ocean should be protected, not exploited. *Common Dreams*, Dec. 27. *Anchorage Daily News*, Jan 1, 2024; *Fairbanks News Miner*, Jan. 2, 2024.
- Steiner, Rick, 2023. Just Transition: Reforming Oil Industry Divestment, Decommissioning, and Abandonment in the Niger Delta, Nigeria. Dec. 6.
- Steiner, Rick; Iniruo Wills, 2023. Why Nigeria Must Reform Oil Industry Divestment. Commentary, *EnviroNews Nigeria*. Dec. 6; *ThisDay*, Dec. 8; *Newsroom Nigeria*, Dec. 9; *Sahara Reporters*, Dec. 9.
- Steiner, Rick. 2023. For Earth Day, let's end our addiction to oil. *Common Dreams*, April 20.
- Steiner, Rick. 2023. Biden administration must accelerate ocean protection. *The Hill*, Mar. 23.
- Steiner, Rick. 2022. Alaska oil tankers must adopt whale-strike reduction measures. *Juneau Empire*, Dec. 22; *Anchorage Daily News*, Dec. 27; *Fairbanks News Miner*, Dec. 28.
- Steiner, Rick. 2022. Biden administration must expand and accelerate its ocean conservation effort. *Common Dreams*, Nov. 21.
- Steiner, Rick. 2022. Exxon Valdez habitat restoration program must continue until it's done. *Anchorage Daily News*, Sept. 6; *Fairbanks News Miner*, Sept. 9.
- Steiner, Rick. 2022. Bali G20 summit may be our last best chance to solve the climate crisis. Opinion, *The Jakarta Post*, Jakarta Indonesia, June 23; *Juneau Empire*, June 23; *Philippine Daily Inquirer*, June 26.
- Steiner, Richard. 2021. Nembe oil disaster must catalyze a new paradigm of oil responsibility in Nigeria. *Environewsigeria*; *Primebusiness*, Africa; *Cityvoice*, Nigeria. Dec. 28.
- Steiner, Rick. 2021. After Glasgow failure, G20 must reconvene in emergency session to solve climate crisis. *Fairbanks News Miner*, Nov. 13; *Callaway Climate Insights*, Nov. 16; *Anchorage Press*, Nov. 16; *Anchorage Daily News*. Nov. 18.

- Steiner, Rick. 2021. Scientists urge Biden to go big on ocean protection. *Seattle Times*, June 14; *Anchorage Daily News*, June 25; *Fairbanks News Miner*, June 27.
- Steiner, Rick. 2021. Biden's '30x30' conservation plan falls short. *Juneau Empire*, May 14; *Fairbanks News Miner*, May 15.
- Steiner, Rick. 2021. President Biden must protect, restore Alaska's troubled oceans. *Anchorage Daily News*, Feb 5; *Ketchikan Daily News*, commentary, Feb. 3; *Fairbanks News Miner*, Feb 4; *Dutch Harbor Fisherman*, *Bristol Bay Times*, *Arctic Sounder*, Feb 5.
- Steiner, Rick. 2021. Arctic Refuge lease sale an act of desperation. *Juneau Empire*, Jan. 10; *Anchorage Press*, Jan 14; *Ketchikan Daily News*, Jan. 19; *Cordova Times*, Jan 22; *Nome Nugget*; Jan 22.
- Steiner, Richard. 2020. Time running out to prevent catastrophic spill from abandoned oil tanker in Yemen. *The Ocean Foundation*. August 10.
- Steiner, Rick. 2020. Don't let government give up on Exxon Valdez restoration. *Anchorage Daily News*, June 18; *Cordova Times*, June 21.
- Steiner, Rick. 2019. Canada must push for ban on Arctic shipping heavy fuel oil. Opinion, *Montreal Gazette*, May 16
- Steiner, Rick. 2018. Drilling in the Great Australian Bight not worth the risk. *The Guardian Australia*, Commentary Nov. 23.
- Steiner, Richard. 2018. Crude Intentions: Risks of drilling and spilling in the Great Australian Bight. Independent Research Report, *Greenpeace Australia and Pacific*. 53 pp. Nov. 20.
- Steiner, Rick. 2018. Walker fails in government transparency. *Juneau Empire*, Sept. 11.
- Steiner, Richard. 2018. Environmental Risks of Condensate Releases – Leviathan Offshore Gas Project, Israel. Independent Expert Opinion, for Guardians of the Coastal Plain, Homeland Guards, and Zalul Environmental Association, Israel. July 15. 73 pp.
- Steiner, Rick. 2017. Trump's Offshore Oil Rush a Disaster for Oceans and Climate. *Huffington Post*, Dec 26. *Anchorage Daily News*, Jan. 4, 2018; *Fairbanks News Miner*, Jan. 7, 2018
- Steiner, Rick. 2017. Governor's new climate committee is political cover for his inaction. *Juneau Empire*, Nov. 22. *Fairbanks News Miner*, Nov. 23.
- Steiner, Rick. 2016. Trump's EPA nominee would 'make America polluted again.' Commentary, *Juneau Empire*, Dec. 13.
- Steiner, Rick. 2016. Obama's marine monument designations are good but ignore coastal waters. *Alaska Dispatch News*, Commentary, Sept. 23. *Huffington Post*, Sept. 25. *Juneau Empire*, Sept. 26. *Fairbanks News Miner*, Oct. 6.
- Steiner, Rick. 2016. Alaska reverses its opposition to investigations into Exxon climate fraud. *Juneau Empire*. Commentary, Sept. 1. If Alaska has shifted policy on global warming, good. *Alaska Dispatch News*, September 5. *Fairbanks News Miner*, Sept. 7.
- Steiner, Richard. 2016. Time to end "blood oil" disaster in the Niger Delta. *Huffington Post*, March 10.

- Steiner, Richard. 2015. Gulf Spill Settlement Good, But Needs Fine-Tuning. *Huffington Post*, July 13.
- Steiner, Rick. 2014. Exxon Valdez spill isn't over. Commentary, *Juneau Empire*, *Alaska Dispatch News*, Nov. 14.
- Vester, H., F. Matos, and R. Steiner. 2014. Environmental Risks of Offshore Oil Exploration in the Barents Sea. Technical Paper submitted to the Government of Norway, in support of Public Complaint, Sept. 4.
- Steiner, Richard. 2014. New Offshore Oil Plan Could be 'Game Over' for Climate. *Huffington Post*, July 17.
- Steiner, Rick. 2014. New CO2 rule should be applied to oil, gas industries. *Juneau Empire*, June 6. *Fairbanks News Miner*, June 8. *Anchorage Daily News*, June 17.
- Steiner, Rick. 2014. Lesson of the Exxon Valdez: Don't trust oil industry safety assurances. *Juneau Empire*, March 25.
- Sterritt, Art, and Rick Steiner. 2014. Oil spills – the 10 lessons we must learn. Special to *The Vancouver Sun*. March 23.
- Steiner, Richard. 2014. Promises broken by the Exxon Valdez oil spill, 25 years later. *Seattle Times*, March 22.
- Steiner, Richard. 2014. Exxon Valdez 25th Anniversary: Lessons Learned, Lessons Lost. *Huffington Post*, March 5.
- Steiner, Richard. 2014. The True Cost of Our Oil Addiction, *Huffington Post*, Jan. 15.
- Steiner, Rick. 2013. Exxon spill case still unresolved. *Juneau Empire*, August 26. *Alaska Dispatch*, September 15. *Fairbanks News Miner*, Sept. 16. *Anchorage Daily News*, Sept. 17.
- Steiner, Richard. 2013. Gulf citizens deserve greater role in offshore oil oversight. *Huffington Post*, August 1.
- Steiner, Rick. 2013. Citizens' Council calls for increased spill funding. *Juneau Empire*, commentary, April 9. *Homer Tribune*, April 10. *Cordova Times*, April 12. *Alaska Dispatch*, April 13. *Anchorage Daily News*, April 25.
- Steiner, Rick. 2012. Oil Spill Transport and Area Impacted by the 2008/2009 Trans Niger Pipeline Spills at Bodo, Niger Delta, Nigeria. Expert Report for *Leigh Day & Co.*, London, representing the community of Bodo, Nigeria. 25 pp. Oct. 1. [Attorney-Client Privileged].
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- Steiner, Richard. 2012. Dear Shell: Please be Honest About Risks from Your Arctic Ocean Oil Drilling this Summer. *Huffington Post*, May 21.
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- Steiner, Rick. 2011. Preliminary Estimate of Recovery Time for Fishery Resources damaged by the 2008/2009 Bodo Oil Spills. Expert Report for *Leigh Day & Co.*, London, representing the community of Bodo, Nigeria. 16 pp. Nov. 30. [Attorney-Client Privileged].
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- Steiner, Rick. 2010. Lessons of the Deepwater Horizon (Day 35 Update), On-line at *Mudflats, Firedoglake*, and segments on ITN Channel 4 London, UK. May.
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