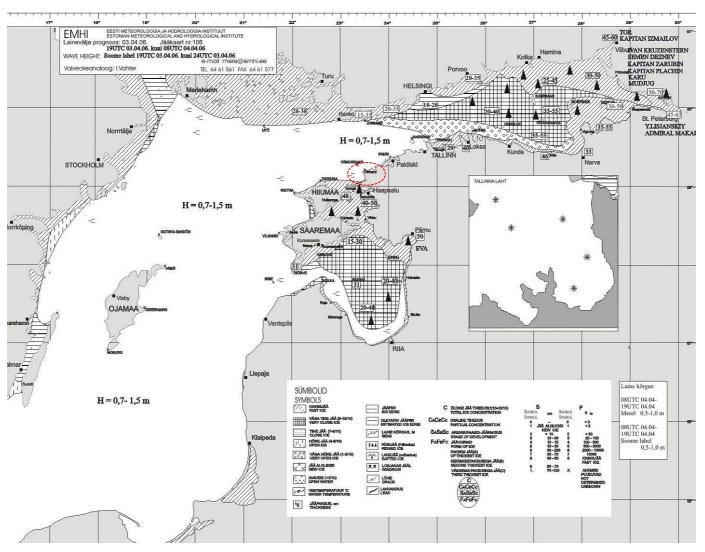


Mystery Oil Spill – Estonia, Winter 2006





Weather conditions



40 tons of crude oil, collected 10 t along, 35 km of shoreline



First sight





First sight





Oil, snow and cold











Birdwash at first in firedept-s rooms





Temporary bird hospital in public sauna



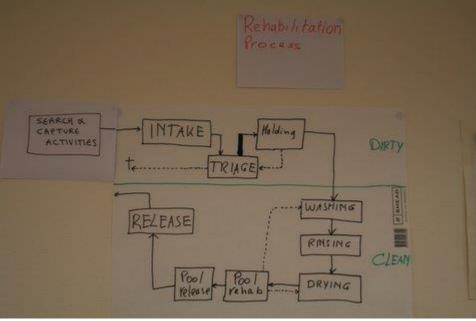


Temporary bird hospital in public sauna





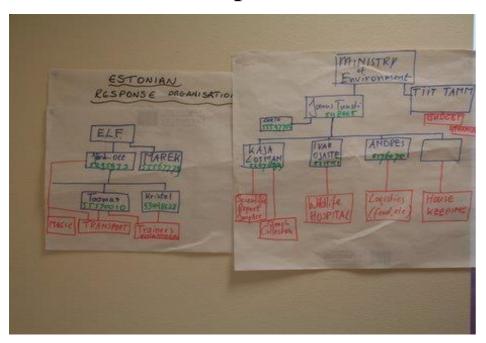


















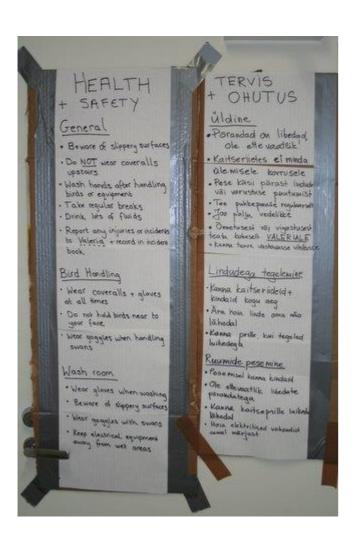
Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals



The International Fund for Animal Welfare



























EST-BRA washing team





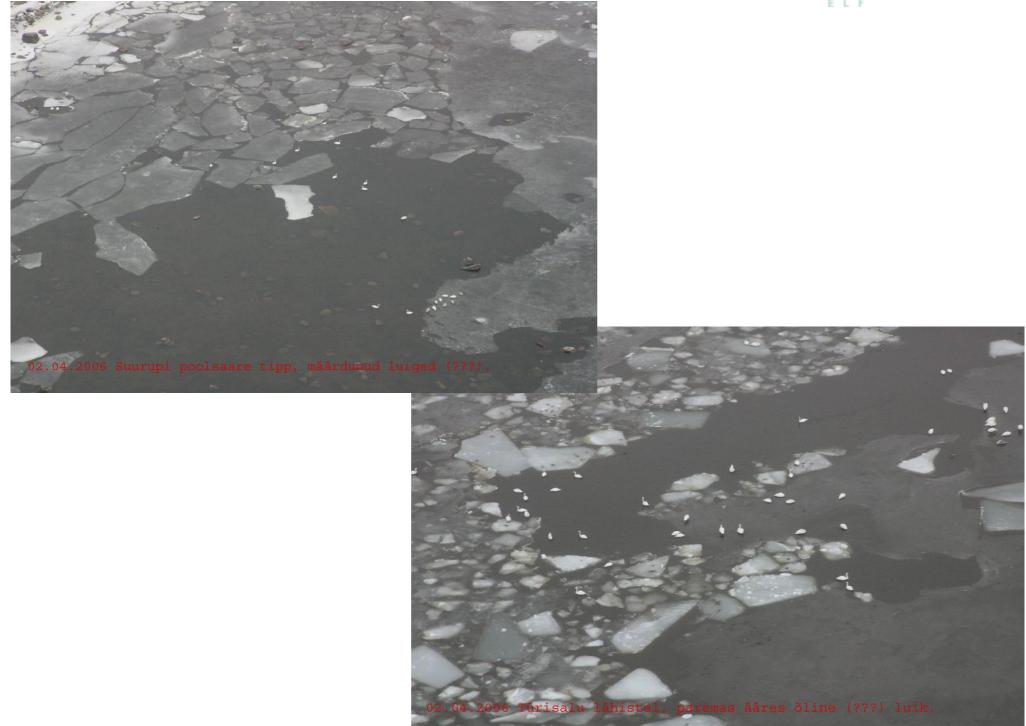


Estimated $20\ 000 - 30\ 000$ birds died, rescued 161 birds











ELF's actions:

- Mobilising volunteers, altogether about 400 people came
- Campaign for raising money, altogether
 gathered about about 33 000 EUR
- Organising bird rehabilitation, contacting international organisations (such as IFAW;
 IBRRC, Sea Alarm, WWF) for help



Results

- ELF's board turned to government to talk about the need of developing Oil Foundation to compensate oil traffic accidents
- -Government started negotiations and came to an agreement to develop Oil Foundation
- Basic decision of developing Oil Foundation in April 2006 (still not existing)



Results

- ELF was roped into governments crisis
 regulation commission dealing with 2 mayor
 accidents: the oil spill in North-Western coast
 in winter and case of drowned Runner IV in
 spring
- Governments decision to cover ELF-s
 expenses concerning oil spill from
 governments reserve foundation



Runner IV accident





Results

- Experiences, knowledge, know-how
- Cooperation with governmental institutions
- Wide media reflection, raise of public awareness about environmental issues in general, particularly about risks and dangers from oil traffic and vulnerability of Baltic Sea.
- Database of volunteers



Lessons learned

- Cooperation is the best model of dealing with accidents like this one
- If the objects are clear, people can work together as one without national, ethnical, positional or any other problems
- -There are actually a lot of people who care



Why ELF was ready to react?

- ELF's and WWF Finland's mutual INTERREG IIIA
 project since the end of year 2005, which aims are:
- to improve oil combating preparedness on both coasts of the Gulf of Finland
- Trained and equipped volunteers, cooperation with rescue and environmental authorities
- Building a strong international network with other
 NGO-s, especially in oiled wildlife rehabilitation issues
- Finding compensational means for oil combating work



Project actions after the spill

- Equipment purchased for 400 volunteers, trailer for transportation
- About 200 trained volunteers,
- Handbook of oil combating and bird rehabilitation to be published th
- Training video
- Large media campaign
- Contract with Rescue Board



Volunteers – the most important resource

















ACTIVITIES IN 2019

- Training course for group leaders (April).
- Participation in courses organized by Estonian
 Rescue Board: usage of containment booms (June-August).
- Equipment checkup (August-September).
- Gathering exercise (September).







ACTIVITIES IN 2020









Questions?

-Thank you!

- Jüri-Ott Salm
- -jott@elfond.ee
- -www.elfond.ee



Authors of the pictures unknown! Thank you authors!