



Prevention of Oil Pollution Act 1971

1971 CHAPTER 60

General provisions for preventing oil pollution

3 Discharge of certain oils from pipe-lines or as the result of exploration etc. in designated areas.

- (1) If any oil to which section 1 of this Act applies, or any mixture containing such oil, is discharged into any part of the sea—
- from a pipe-line; or
 - (otherwise than from a ship) as the result of any operation for the exploration of the sea-bed and subsoil or the exploitation of their natural resources in a designated area,

then, subject to the following provisions of this Act, the owner of the pipe-line or, as the case may be, the person carrying on the operations shall be guilty of an offence unless the discharge was from a place in his occupation and he proves that it was due to the act of a person who was there without his permission (express or implied).

- (2) In this section “designated area” means an area for the time being designated by an Order made under section 1 of the ^{M1}Continental Shelf Act 1964.
- (3) A person guilty of an offence under this section shall be liable [^{F1}on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding £50,000 or on conviction on indictment to a fine][^{F1}on summary conviction, or on conviction on indictment, to a fine].

Textual Amendments

- F1** Words in s. 3(3) substituted (E.W.) (12.3.2015) by [The Legal Aid, Sentencing and Punishment of Offenders Act 2012 \(Fines on Summary Conviction\) Regulations 2015 \(S.I. 2015/664\)](#), reg. 1(1), [Sch. 4 para. 6\(3\)](#) (with reg. 5(1))

Modifications etc. (not altering text)

- C1** S. 3 excluded (20.8.2005) by [Offshore Petroleum Activities \(Oil Pollution Prevention and Control\) Regulations 2005 \(S.I. 2005/2055\)](#), regs. 1, [18\(1\)](#)

Changes to legislation: There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Prevention of Oil Pollution Act 1971, Section 3. (See end of Document for details)

Marginal Citations

M1 [1964 c. 29](#).

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