

**INDUSTRIAL ECONOMICS, INCORPORATED**

## Natural Resource Damage Assessment

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Industrial Economics, Incorporated (IEc) is nationally known as the leading provider of natural resource damage assessment (NRDA) services for Federal, State, and Tribal trustees. We are experts in evaluating ecological injuries resulting from discharges of hazardous materials, and are widely regarded for designing creative and scientifically valid restoration programs. We offer a full range of NRDA services including emergency spill response, rapid injury assessment, and comprehensive damage assessment. IEc also is the leading consulting organization in the areas of NRDA case management, cooperative negotiation, litigation support, and policy development.

IEc applies comprehensive scientific, regulatory, and institutional perspectives to all phases of damage assessment. Our in-depth understanding of the current technical and policy issues defining the field combined with our extensive experience translates into the practical knowledge necessary to work with trustees and responsible parties to restore natural resources. Since 1984, we have conducted more than 40 damage assessments in terrestrial, estuarine, ocean, and freshwater ecosystems throughout the United States. IEc's interdisciplinary NRDA staff of more than 20 professionals are specialists in the fields of ecology, regulatory analysis, environmental science, molecular biology, natural resource economics, coastal engineering, and chemistry.

### **Emergency Spill Response**

IEc maintains 24 hour emergency response capabilities for oil and hazardous material spills. Upon notification of a spill, IEc's team of experts mobilizes at the site, identifies resources affected by the release, and collects critical ephemeral data. IEc's sampling methodologies and analytical results are designed to ensure accurate documentation of natural resource injuries and are proven to stand-up under legal review.

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### **Rapid Injury Assessment**

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IEc recognizes the need to efficiently assess and resolve natural resource damage claims. We conduct rapid evaluations of potential natural resource injuries based on existing data, regulatory requirements, and our extensive experience conducting damage assessments throughout the country. We recommend our rapid assessment model to clients who want to evaluate the strength of a case prior to initiation of a formal assessment or to achieve equitable settlement with a minimum outlay of resources.

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### **Comprehensive Damage Assessment**

IEc plans and implements comprehensive damage assessments for sites typically characterized by severe and/or complex injuries to natural resources. These cases often involve advanced scientific studies of the impacts of contaminants on critical habitats and organisms. Our rigorous approach to full-scale assessments is characterized by detailed planning, analytic precision, demanding quality assurance, and comprehensive peer-review. We support trustees through sampling design and implementation, laboratory analysis, injury assessment, source identification, restoration planning and scaling, and settlement negotiations.

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### **Case Management and Litigation Support**

IEc is the leading provider of case management and litigation support services for NRDA. Our multidisciplinary staff specializes in developing assessments that integrate scientific findings and engineering requirements within the current legal and regulatory framework. As case managers, IEc will identify and manage teams of experts to assess resource injury, calculate damages, and develop restoration plans. We have extensive practical experience helping attorneys define damage assessments within the rules of federal practice and procedure and preparing principal investigators for depositions and trial.

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### **Development of Guidance Documents**

As the leader in the field of NRDA, IEc has been retained by various trustees to develop damage assessment guidance documents and to assist in regulation development. IEc has authored guidance manuals for injury assessment under the Oil Pollution Act of 1990, the use of economics in NRDA, and the conduct of damage assessments following major oil spills. We also developed adjudication procedures for claims submitted to the National Pollution Funds Center, and we have advised our clients on the development of expedited damage assessment regulations under the Oil Pollution Act of 1990.

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