

ConocoPhillips says China spill mostly cleaned up

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China's State Oceanic Administration (SOA) had ordered the firm to seal off all [oil](#) leaks near a platform in Bohai Bay which is jointly operated by state-owned CNOOC and halt any more spillages by the end of August.

ConocoPhillips said in a statement on its website it had cleaned up most of the slick but was continuing to "capture any potential remnants that

may work their way to the [seabed](#)".

The company added that it "sincerely regrets these incidents in Bohai Bay and accepts its responsibility".

About 3,200 barrels of oil and oil-based mud -- a substance used as a lubricant in drilling -- have leaked into Bohai Bay, the official Xinhua news agency has said, citing ConocoPhillips China president Georg Storaker.

The SOA-- which supervises and manages China's seas -- has said it plans to sue ConocoPhillips and seek compensation for the spill, which was first detected in early June.

A Chinese lawyer is also suing CNOOC and ConocoPhillips over the leaks, state media has said.

[Fishermen](#) in the Shandong, Hebei and Liaoning provinces that border Bohai Bay, east of Beijing, allege that oil from the leaks has killed a large part of their harvest.

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