

# Water Transportation Infographic



## ACCIDENTS AT SEA

Some of the world's most iconic oceans are also the most at risk. The South China Sea and East Indies, east Mediterranean and Black Sea, North Sea and British Isles were found to be dangerous hotspots for accidents involving ships. WWF is reinforcing the importance of ensuring that vessels are built, maintained and operated to a high standard so as to lower the risk of accidents.

**50%**  
OF ANNUAL  
SHIP LOSSES

### FOUNDERING

Sinking due to rough weather, leaks or breaking in two, but not collisions, causes 50% of all annual ship losses.



**90%**  
SHIPPING  
DELIVERS 90%  
OF ALL WORLD  
TRADE

### PRESTIGE OIL SPILL

In 2002, the Prestige oil tanker sunk resulting in over 70,000 tonnes of oil being released into the Atlantic Ocean off the Spanish coast. It caused not only devastating environmental impacts but economic losses estimated at €8 billion. But out of this disaster came a bridge of trust between fishermen and environmentalists that still exist today.



## WWF FOR SAFER SEAS

- The shipping industry needs to promote greater owner and operator responsibility
- Ships should register with better flag states
- Highlight irresponsible and badly performing flag states
- Bad and unsafe practices should be scrutinized publicly

### DEFINITION OF FLAG STATE

The flag state is the country the ship is registered to and that has the authority and responsibility to enforce regulations over vessels.



**172**  
IN 2010 172  
VESSELS  
WERE LOST  
AT SEA



### THE RISK FACTORS

The greatest probability of a shipping accident occurring is when all of the following factors act together:

Key hotspots + Vessels over 10 years old + Poorly performing flag states + Being a general cargo or fishing vessel =



### GROUNDING

Wrecked or stranded vessels caused by striking the sea bottom, shore or underwater wrecks is the second most common cause of ship losses



**50%**  
GENERAL CARGO  
VESSELS  
ACCOUNT FOR  
NEARLY 50%  
OF ALL VESSEL  
TYPES LOST  
AT SEA



### ACCIDENTS HOT SPOTS

NORTH SEA  
AND BRITISH  
ISLES

EAST MEDITERRANEAN  
AND BLACK SEA

JAPAN AND  
KOREAN  
SEA

SOUTH CHINA  
SEA AND  
EAST-INDIES

The Coral Triangle

### THE CORAL TRIANGLE'S ECONOMIC VALUE

Shipping accidents in the Coral Triangle could severely impact the livelihoods and food security of the 120 million people that rely on the areas resources.

Marine resources contribute to a growing nature-based tourism industry, valued at over US\$12 billion annually

**76%**  
OF THE  
WORLD'S  
CORALS



**6**  
OF THE  
WORLD'S  
TURTLE  
SPECIES

Tuna spawning and nursery grounds support a multi-billion dollar tuna industry and supply millions of consumers worldwide



Source: <https://wwf.panda.org>