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## **Newly-Upgraded Oil and Gas Monitoring Tools Released Today**

### **Free, User-Friendly Platforms More Accurately Track Methane Flaring, Oil Spills in the Ocean and Polluting Fossil Fuel Infrastructure Worldwide**

Today a suite of newly-enhanced oil and gas monitoring tools was released by [SkyTruth](#), a nonprofit conservation technology organization. These platforms are intended for journalists, activists, government agencies and others to democratize access to critical environmental data and empower global efforts to protect our planet.

**If you are a journalist and have questions for SkyTruth about how to most effectively use these tools for your reporting, please reach out to [shayna@ripplestrategies.com](mailto:shayna@ripplestrategies.com) to schedule a one-on-one walk-through.**

Below are brief summaries of the three newly upgraded tools:

#### **Cerulean: AI-Powered Ocean Oil Pollution Detection**

[Cerulean](#) is the world's first free, publicly available technology that uses artificial intelligence and satellite imagery to track ocean oil pollution and identify potential sources. Cerulean's initial 12-month analysis revealed more than 1,000 oil slicks from vessels, suggesting that ships may be dumping more than 80 million gallons (approximately 1.8 million barrels) of oily sludge annually, taking a toll on marine ecosystems, coastal communities, and the climate. Cerulean has already supported numerous media outlets with their investigative research, including the Financial Times which used the platform to identify chronic oil pollution hotspots in Southeast Asian waters, [naming Indonesia as the worst-affected region](#).

Key improvements to Cerulean include:

- Enhanced slick detection accuracy, including more precise size estimates to measure impact
- A redesigned user interface with higher-resolution imagery and improved mobile compatibility
- New location search features, reducing time spent finding areas of interest by approximately 25%

## **Monitor: Comprehensive Environmental Change Tracking**

Formerly known as SkyTruth Alerts, the newly rebranded [Monitor](#) platform has undergone a significant overhaul to enhance its capabilities for tracking human activities that impact the environment. Monitor technology was used by Peru's Service for Natural Protected Areas, for example, to find timely and accurate visual evidence of unregulated mining - one of the most devastating ecological threats to the Amazon. This technology also provides satellite imagery for local groups working to protect the Colorado River Basin which provides water, hydropower, fish and wildlife habitat, and other benefits to seven U.S. states.

Monitor's key new features include:

- Visualization and exploration of satellite imagery from various public sources
- Map annotation and data upload capabilities with before and after comparisons
- Access to a wide range of environmental data layers

## **Natural Gas Flaring Map**

Flaring - the act of burning off excess natural gas from oil wells when it can't economically be stored and sent elsewhere - is a significant source of greenhouse gas emissions that often goes unnoticed. SkyTruth's [flaring maps](#) show satellite detections of natural gas flaring across the entire planet. These tools have already proven invaluable in uncovering critical environmental issues, including a recent investigation by [Energy Monitor](#) which used this data to expose how Europe's energy crisis has boosted fracking prospects in the Middle East, potentially threatening fragile water supplies in desert regions.

The updated Natural Gas Flaring Map offers:

- Daily updates on global gas flaring activities
- Tools to estimate flaring volumes and environmental impact