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Contact: Rachel Rokicki - (212) 782-8455, rrokicki@randomhouse.com; Blue Ocean Institute, 631-659-3746 or email: admin@blueocean.org

Carl Safina Releases *A Sea in Flames, The Deepwater Horizon Oil Blowout*

New book deconstructs the causes and exposes the ecological impacts of 2010's Gulf of Mexico oil spill

Cold Spring Harbor, NY --

Carl Safina, founder and president of Blue Ocean Institute, is delighted to announce the release of his new book, *A Sea in Flames: The Deepwater Horizon Oil Blowout*, a blistering account of the months long, man-made disaster that tormented a region and mesmerized the nation.

A Sea in Flames takes us deep into the faulty thinking that caused the lethal explosion, deconstructing the series of calamitous misjudgments that caused the Deepwater Horizon blowout. Traveling across the Gulf to make sense of an ever-changing story and its often-nonsensical twists, Safina expertly:

- Zeroes in on BP's misstatements, evasions, and denials
- Reassesses his own reaction to the government's crisis handling
- Reviews the consequences of the leak - and what he considers the real problems

Based on extensive research and interviews with fishermen, coastal residents, biologists, and government officials, *A Sea in Flames* has some surprising answers on whether the blowout was "Obama's Katrina", whether the Coast Guard was as inept in its response as BP was misleading, and whether this unintended release of oil was really the worst ecological disaster in America's history.

Impassioned, moving, and even sharply funny, *A Sea in Flames* is ultimately an indictment of America's main addiction. Safina writes: "In the end, this is a chronicle of a summer of pain - and hope. Hope that the full potential of this catastrophe would not materialize, hope that the harm done would heal faster than feared, and hope that even if we didn't suffer the absolute worst - we'd still learn the big lesson here. We may have gotten two out of three. That's not good enough. Because: there'll be a next time."



About the Author

Carl Safina is the founder and president of the Blue Ocean Institute. He was recently named by Audubon magazine among the leading one hundred conservationists of the twentieth Century. His books have won him a Pew Fellowship, a Lannan Literary Award, the John Burroughs Medal, a Guggenheim Fellowship and a MacArthur Fellowship. He's been profiled by The New York Times and on Nightline and Bill Moyers Journal. Safina has also appeared on The Colbert Report, NPR, and CNN.

Safina has engaged in many successful conservation efforts. He helped ban high-seas driftnets and overhaul federal fisheries laws in the U.S., and persuaded fishermen to call for and abide by international agreements to restore depleted populations of tuna, sharks, and other fish, as well as creatures that constitute bycatch (marine life unintentionally captured by fishermen), such as albatrosses, dolphins and sea turtles. In 1995 Safina was a force behind the passage of a new fisheries treaty through the United Nations, and in 1996 the U.S. Congress incorporated some of his ideas in the Sustainable Fisheries Act, which required rebuilding of marine-life populations depleted by fishing.

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