

newsletter

Union Géographique Internationale

International Geographical Union

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Norbert P. Psuty, Editor

Objectives: The Commission on Coastal Systems encourages the study of coastal systems throughout the world. The Commission sponsors and supports activities leading to the exchange of information regarding coastal systems among our members and throughout the IGU at large. The focus of attention is on interactive systems, both human and physical, and the areas of inquiry include issues such as sea-level rise, land-use changes, estuarine resources, coastal tourism and shoreline development, coastal recreation, and coastal zone management. The Commission will make concerted efforts to emphasize issues of Global Change.

Message from the Chair

This was a busy summer for the Commission on Coastal Systems, and it looks like this fall will continue with another round of activities. The commission participated in the organization of two meetings in July. First was the IGU Regional Congress in Brisbane, and the second was CoastGIS '06 also held in Brisbane immediately following the Regional Congress. Meeting reports, by **David Kennedy** and **Colin Woodroffe**, respectively, are presented below. There are also three CCS co-sponsored meetings in September: two in Brazil and one in Poland. Details of these three meetings are also presented below, and there is still time to make travel plans. Despite this series of activities, it is important to point out that we are always interested in opportunities to initiate meetings, organize field symposia, or co-sponsor events that are consistent with our mission to encourage "...the study of coastal systems throughout the world." We address this mission primarily through professional meetings and the production of publications. In all of these activities we rely exclusively on the efforts of the membership. Our recognized ability to facilitate the international exchange of research results, ideas, and to develop collaborations is the justification for our commission. Please look for ways to help us fulfill our mission. If you are unsure whether the event you are thinking about is appropriate, please feel free to contact any CCS officer or member of our steering committee. Please also be reminded that this Newsletter is an outlet for announcements concerning research initiatives and programs that you are involved in, or that should be of interest to our commission. Please forward such information to **Norb Psuty** so that we can keep our members informed.

About six years ago the IGU and the Società Geografica Italiana collaborated to establish the Vila Celimontana - Home of Geography in Rome. The historical building houses the official archives of the IGU, and is also intended to be a center for visiting geographers, international collaborations and small meetings, with a conference room with a capacity of 100. The Vila Celimontana - Home of Geography website (<http://www.homeofgeography.org>) is a resource for announcements of IGU initiatives and publications. Back issues of the IGU Newsletter can also be accessed there. That Newsletter, like this one, is now distributed only in electronic format. If you are not receiving the IGU Newsletter and wish to (it is

worthwhile), you may sign up via the website. The Home of Geography is also a venue for the promotion of major international events that you might be participating in, especially to the extent that CCS (or another commission) is involved. The VC-HOG mission statement (from their website) states that:

The International Geographical Union and the Società Geografica Italiana recognise that the Villa Celimontana-Home of Geography will

1. *host, process, and manage the IGU archives,*
2. *serve as a focal point to network geographers from all the world,*
3. *provide room and facilities for geographers and other scholars to carry out research, as well as for meetings and short courses,*
4. *provide technical assistance for implementing the participation of geographers in international research and education programmes and in promoting new international research projects,*
5. *collaborate with the IGU Executive Committee in disseminating information about geography. In this context, the SGI will open its library, map collection, and museum to geographers who wish to visit the Home of Geography.*

The above mentioned functions will be operated to serve geographers from all the world, without political, religious, ethnic, social and gender discrimination, and in a spirit of ecumenical collaboration, solidarity, and friendship.

Please visit, in digital or analog format, the Home of Geography and let them know that you care.

One last reminder for your calendars – the 31st congress of the International Geographical Union is slated for 12-15 August, 2008, in an exhibition center just outside of Tunis. A circular will soon be available at the Home of Geography website, and further details will be included in the Newsletter as they become available. There will be a 2010 Regional Congress in Tel Aviv.

DOUG SHERMAN

*****COASTAL COMMISSION MEETING*****

2008 IGU CONGRESS IN TUNISIA

We are looking for volunteers to help organize coastal sessions and a field excursion in association with this meeting. Any who are interested are encouraged to contact **Doug Sherman** and/or **Norb Psuty**.

CCS CO-SPONSORED MEETINGS

**SEPTEMBER 17-22, 2006. BALNEARIO CAMBORIU, SANTA CATARINA, BRAZIL
IGCP 495 meeting on "QUATERNARY OCEAN & LAND INTERACTION: CLIMATIC,
TECTONIC & ANTHROPOGENIC INFLUENCE"**

For more information refer to: <http://aoceano.org.br/igcp/index.php>

The first two conference days will be paper sessions (talks and posters) and the last 4 days will be a field trip along the Santa Catarina and Paraná coasts. The Hotel will be: RECANTO DAS ÁGUAS (there will be special conference rates) (<http://www.hotelrecantodasaguas.com.br/english/>) More information will be available in February on the website, or contact **Rodolfo José Angulo** (Universidade Federal do Paraná) angulo@ufpr.br, or **Antonio Henrique da Fontoura Klein** (Universidade do Vale do Itajaí) klein@univali.br

SEPTEMBER 18-20, 2006, GDANSK, POLAND
Littoral 2006, 8th International Conference "Coastal Innovation and Initiatives"

Conference details are available at: <http://www.littoral2006.gda.pl/>

Sessions will cover the following major topics:

- Socio-economic Value of Coastal Areas - Regional Coastal Economies
- Coastal Information, Communications, and Data Network
- Coastal and Marine Tourism and Recreation
- Trends and Processes in Coastal Environment
- Exploration and Exploitation of Live Marine Resources
- Coastal Protection, Dynamics and Geomorphology
- Protection of Marine and Coastal Habitats
- Conservation of Coastal Culture Heritage and Landscape Values
- Integrated Coastal Zone Management and Maritime Administration
- Coastal Policy, Planning and Land Use Conflicts
- Changing Nature of Coastal Communities
- Coastal Research and Development Programme and Implementation - Connecting Science and Policy
- Education and Training
- Urban Waterfront Development
- Ports and Harbours
- Coastal Energy

All the papers will be reviewed and accepted papers will appear in the conference proceedings. The accepted papers will be presented during regular or poster sessions.

Littoral 2006 will also include a small number of one-day or half-day, peer-reviewed **workshops**. The aim of the workshops is to bring together professionals from academia and industry to exchange ideas, experiences and identify obstacles and propose solutions in littoral domains.

Contact the local organizer at: littoral@zie.pg.gda.pl

For more information about the conference, see <http://www.littoral2006.gda.pl/>

SEPTEMBER 6-10, 2006, GOIANIA-GO, BRAZIL
VI Brazilian Symposium on Geomorphology / IAG - Regional Conference on Geomorphology

Tropical and subtropical Geomorphology: process, methods and techniques

iag_ugb@yahoo.com.br

From **Thiago Morato**, tmorato@infonet.com.br

Main objectives: Promote the discussion of geomorphologic scientific results, models, methods and techniques related to humid and wet-dry tropical as well as sub-tropical environments.

Sessions organized by IAG and UGB (Brazilian Geomorphology Union) working groups in other Geomorphologic topics are welcome.

Preliminary Thematic Sessions:

- 1- Geomorphology, weathering and soil generation
- 2- Fluvial Geomorphology and Paleohydrology
- 3- Slope generation, dynamic and evolution
- 4- Accelerated geomorphic processes: erosion, siltation, desertification and others
- 5- Karst Geomorphology
- 6- Coastal Geomorphology
- 7- Aeolian activity in the tropics
- 8- Structural Geomorphology and Neotectonic
- 9- Geomorphology and Planning and Urban Geomorphology
- 10- Geotechnologies and Geomorphologic Cartography
- 11- Teaching geomorphology

For further information contact: iag_ugb@yahoo.com.br

or **Dr. Selma de Castro** (selma@iesa.ufg.br) and/or **Dr. Edgardo Latrubesse**

(latrubes@terra.com.br) Universidade Federal de Goiás-IESA-Campus II-74001-970-Goiânia-GO-Brazil Tel/fax-(00-55) 62-35211095

The registration form is on the Conference website iag_ugb@yahoo.com.br

MARCH 28-31, 2007, VALENCIA, SPAIN

International Symposium in Marine Sciences

The ISMS is organized by all the Spanish Faculties of Marine Sciences in collaboration with the “Global Ocean Ecosystem dynamics” (GLOBEC) and “Integrated Marine Biogeochemistry and Ecosystem Research” (INBER) Spanish Committees of the International Geosphere Biosphere Program. The Group of Marine Sciences of the Catholic University of Valencia serves as the local committee of the organization. The Symposium is open to all Marine Scientists; it includes posters and communication sessions, as well as plenary conferences in Oceanography and Marine Sciences. The program, inscription, abstract format, and all the information is available at: www.ucv.es/isms07.

Abstracts are due by December 15, 2006.

The local contact is:

Secretaria tecnica

C/Guillem de Castro 94

C.P., 46003 Valencia, Spain

Email: simposioccm@ucu.es

REPORTS ON MEETINGS

The **First International Tsunami Field Symposium** was one of the activities of the Coastal Commission and of IGCP 495 and sponsored by NOAA's Sea Grant Program from Puerto Rico University. It was held on Bonaire Island (Netherlands Antilles) March 2-6, 2006. It was organized by **Anja Scheffers** from the

University of Duisburg-Essen (Germany). 23 participants from 11 countries took part and presented papers on paleo-tsunami and new results from the Andaman-Sumatra-Tsunami of 2004.

The main emphasis of the meeting was to discuss open questions during three field trips, which presented many different examples of evidences for extreme hurricane events (including Ivan in 2004, Lenny in 1999, Tecta in 1877 and an older one, dated about 600 BP) as well as paleo-tsunamis, for which more than 100 absolute data are available on Bonaire Island. They cluster around 4200 BP, 3600 BP, 3000 BP (the strongest event, destroying a fringing reef along the east coast without recovering during the last 3000 years), 1500 BP, and 500 BP, the latter concentrated along the southern and western shorelines. Although tsunami deposits comprise ridges and ramparts up to 4 m high, 100 m wide, and many kilometers long as well as single boulders of more than 200 tons far apart from the modern cliff, ideas arose during the discussions that super-cyclones from the past may have transported these debris. The most important result from this meeting may be to define the questions and problems we all agree about, but more important the problems which are still under debate. In the latter, the storm versus tsunami hypothesis is still one of the big questions. Research will continue, and basic material has been taken from American and Italian colleagues for modeling transport processes under debate. After the meeting, initial corings in mangrove swamps and dry lagoons from the last interglacial took place to identify the complete history of the coastal evolution of Bonaire during the last 6000 years.

An introductory volume, including field guide, has been printed for the Symposium (Scheffers, Anja (2005): Coastal Response to Extreme Wave Events - Hurricanes and Tsunami on Bonaire. - Essener Geographische Arbeiten, vol.37: 97 pp., including 126 figs. (many in color), and the proceedings will be published as Special Volume of Zeitschrift für Geomorphologie, NF., Suppl. Bd. No. 146, ed. by Anja Scheffers and Dieter Kelletat, to be published at the end of 2006.

Dieter Kelletat
Dept of Geography
University of Essen

3-7 JULY, 2006. IGU REGIONAL CONGRESS, BRISBANE, AUSTRALIA.

A multinational group of over 30 researchers from seven countries attended the coastal sessions at the Brisbane regional conference. The four coastal and a coastal GIS session were very successful covering topics from coastal dune vegetation to tsunami and coral reefs. Two of the field trips also had a coastal theme, one along the coast north of Brisbane and the second to the Quaternary dune systems of North Stradbroke Island. Both trips ran mid conference prior to the talk sessions providing the ideal lead in prior to sitting in a lecture hall.

Prof **Roger McLean's** plenary address set the scene for the group outlining the development of geographical thought on the coast in an Australasian setting from the Davisian thoughts of Cotton in the first half of 1900's in New Zealand, to the magnitude-frequency debate of landform development, the latter debate reinvigorated by the 2004 Indonesian Tsunami. This was despite the fire alarm initiated evacuation of the conference building half way through his talk.

The challenge set during the opening session and subsequent discussions was how the discipline can respond to the challenges of coastal change over human timescales, those most of interest to managers. While many broad scale geomorphic models exist and process scales of minutes to days are understood, it is the prediction of change of decades that is often the most difficult to establish. As this timeframe also

falls within the current predictive models of human-induced climate change such knowledge is seen as particularly critical.

The success of the IGU sessions was observed in these themes were found to run through each coastal session, with the conference theme of 'regional responses to global changes: A view from the Antipodes' being well represented. Beach/Barrier systems of the Australian and New Zealand coast were discussed, including changes to foredunes related to exotic European grass introductions and the role of tsunamis. The impact of the 2004 Indonesian event was also discussed along the coast of India and in the Maldives. The session on Tropical coasts investigated the impact of climate change and hurricane events on coral reefs and urban centres. While several studies from beyond the Antipodes, including Canada, Brazil, and Italy provided very interesting points for discussion and comparison with the broad issues highlighted Down Under.

The sessions were organised by **Colin Woodroffe**, **David Kennedy**, and **Doug Sherman**, with **Marji Puotinen** also contributing to the running of Coastal GIS. Thanks especially go to all the participants for making it such a successful few days.

David Kennedy

School of Geography, Environment and Earth Sciences
Victoria University of Wellington, New Zealand

**13-17 JULY 2006, COASTGIS '06,
EXTENDING THE SPATIAL DATA INFRASTRUCTURE
Wollongong and Sydney, NSW, Australia.**

Approximately 150 delegates, drawn from all inhabited continents, converged on Sydney Olympic Park and Wollongong University in New South Wales, Australia, for the 7th International CoastGIS meeting.

CoastGIS, the International Symposium on GIS and Computer Mapping for Coastal Management, is a series of conferences that began in Cork, Ireland, in 1995 as a collaboration between the Commission on Coastal Systems of the International Geographical Union and the Commission on Marine Mapping of the International Cartographic Association. Although that meeting was planned as a one-off, it was such a success that CoastGIS has now evolved into a regular, two-yearly event. Subsequent CoastGIS meetings have now been held in Aberdeen, Scotland (1997); Brest, France (1999); Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada (2001); Genoa, Italy (2003); and Aberdeen again (2005). And now, in 2006, CoastGIS came to the Southern Hemisphere for the first time, and the meeting was just held in Australia.

Fully in keeping with the CoastGIS tradition, the latest meeting was a great success on all fronts. Before the Symposium itself, a pre-conference visit and workshop was held at the Sydney Olympic Park, co-hosted by the Park Authority, SOPA, and the Department of Geography at Sydney University. In the morning of the Workshop, delegates were treated to a fascinating guided tour of the entire site, and learned about the history, current management and future plans for SOPA. Of particular interest and focus, of course, were detailed overviews and descriptions of the role GIS plays in the process. This was followed, in the afternoon, by a workshop on oil spill modeling, and a choice of half-day workshops on Fuzzy GIS, or nearshore seabed mapping, before the delegates travelled on to Wollongong in the evening.

The conference offered three days of papers and poster presentations, on topics as diverse as technologies for capturing and managing data for on- and off-shore environments; the challenges inherent in joining up marine and terrestrial data into integrated seamless databases; institutional aspects of designing and

implementing spatial data infrastructures; and GIS-based modelling of coastal processes and activities; as well as a broad diversity of applications of the techniques for coastal zone planning, management, and administration.

In all, more than 80 presentations were delivered. Whereas the majority of papers were understandably and inevitably concerned with aspects of the Australian coast, a much broader geographical reach was ensured, with other papers focusing on coasts from China to Europe, Kenya, the United States, Brazil, and even the lakeshores of Azerbaijan and northern Iran. For this reviewer, one particularly satisfying aspect of the conference programme was the balance achieved between the technical and the more theoretical or conceptual papers, and also the mix of presentations from academics and those from practitioners in a wide diversity of coastal science and management agencies and disciplines. As regards the academic presentations, particular mention should also be made of the number of extremely high-quality papers presented by postgraduate (and, in at least one case, undergraduate) students, describing research work undertaken in the course of their thesis projects. If this particular sample is indicative of the current status of graduate research and training, then it seems clear there is a dynamic new generation of very able, engaged and GIS-committed coastal managers and scientists working their way up through the system, and about to emerge into the professional arena.

Two other interesting trends were also evident, particularly to those participants who have attended a number of CoastGIS meetings over the years. The first of these concerns a clear gradual shift of geographic focus, from mainly land-based coastal issues that were discussed in early CoastGIS meetings, particularly Cork, Aberdeen, and Brest, to a progressively greater marine and deep-sea focus seen at the conferences in Halifax and Genoa. Now, at the 2006 meeting in Wollongong, the pendulum seems to be starting to shift back again, with increasing attention being devoted to the not inconsiderable challenges of integrating and linking the landward and seaward elements of the coast into truly unified, seamless 3- and 4-dimensional geospatial databases.

The second observation worthy of note relates to the evolution of coastal GIS applications presented at successive CoastGIS meetings. In part this clearly reflects the emergence, development, and availability of new technologies, but to my mind it also indicates a more deep-seated and growing maturity of the field of Coastal GIS itself, with a correspondingly greater degree of confidence and innovation on the part of the practitioner community. At early CoastGIS meetings, most presentations focused on issues relating to the creation of geospatial databases for mapping, resource inventory, and relatively simple (from our present-day perspective) analytical operations such as buffering and overlay techniques. Over successive meetings, this focus has gradually shifted to more advanced and computationally-intensive analyses, including integration of GIS with an ever-greater diversity of Earth Observation and positioning technologies (GPS, sonar, LIDAR, orbiting and airborne remote sensing instruments, etc.); connection of GIS with numerical modeling techniques (hydrodynamics, climatic, sediment transport, etc.); greater use of geostatistical and related methods of quantitative analysis; increased use of dynamic and animated visualisations, including fly-throughs; and, inevitably perhaps, a greater use of internet technologies for integrating databases, publishing data and information, connecting up stakeholders and user-groups from various provenances, etc. Finally, in Wollongong especially, we see an increasing attention being given to the technical and organisational / human-related contributions that emergent spatial data infrastructures might make in assisting integrated and sustainable coastal zone management.

Those full papers that were received by the conference organisers in time were compiled and distributed to delegates on CD-ROM, and it is also intended that they will be posted on the CoastGIS website (www.coastgis.org) in due course. In addition, it is planned that an edited and fully peer-reviewed selection of papers will also appear in a special issue of the *Journal of Spatial Science* shortly.

You can capture something of the flavour of the meeting from a series of photos on this web site:

http://www.uow.edu.au/science/eesc/conferences/docs/coastgis06_photos.pdf

Darius Bartlett.

Department of Geography
Cork University

OTHER MEETINGS

JULY 24-26, 2006, GUELPH, CANADA

The 6th International Conference on Aeolian Research (ICAR VI)

The International Conferences on Aeolian Research bring together researchers interested in the many diverse areas of inquiry focusing on the entrainment, transport and deposition of sediment by wind including the wide ranging applied aspects of eolian research. Tentative sessions for the meeting include:

1. Mechanics of Eolian Processes
2. Dust Entrainment, Transport and Deposition
3. Dunes and Dune Systems
4. Coastal Eolian Processes
5. Paleo Aeolian Systems
6. Anthropogenic Interactions With Eolian Systems
7. Modeling Dust Transport Systems
8. Modeling Sand Transport Systems

The ICAR VI Organizing Committee hopes to attract individuals and papers from the many different disciplines and research areas focusing on eolian processes. In particular we would like to attract individuals working on coastal eolian processes, global dust transport and modeling and anthropogenic effects on eolian entrainment and transport. It is also our intent to highlight recent research, particularly by younger investigators and graduate students.

The conference will consist of three 3½ days of technical sessions with both oral and poster presentations. Posters will be an important and integral part of the conference and should be viewed as being of equal value to oral presentations. The conference proceedings will be published in special issues of at least two international journals. To date, **Bernie Bauer** (University of British Columbia, Okanagan) has negotiated the publication of a special, double volume issue of *Geomorphology*. Negotiations with another leading Journal are also in progress.

In addition to the technical sessions a full day field trip will take place on the Wednesday looking at the coastal dunes of the Lake Ontario, one of Canada's Great Lakes. The field trip will be followed by a barbeque. There will also be a banquet held on the Thursday night. Cost of registration for the conference will be \$350 US Dollars with a reduced Graduate Student registration of \$175 USD. The registration fee covers the conference materials, field trip, barbeque and the banquet. Accommodation will be in addition to the registration (University residence and local hotels will be arranged).

To be placed on the mailing list and to receive further information would you please complete the Request for Registration Information Form on the ICAR VI Web Site through the following link:

<http://www.uoguelph.ca/icarvi/index.cfm>

Formal registration for the conference will begin in October 2005.

For further information please contact:

W.G. Nickling

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**AUGUST 12-18, 2006, TUKTOYAKTUK, NORTHWEST TERRITORIES, CANADA
Coastal Zone Canada 2006 and Youth Forum: Arctic Change and Coastal Communities**

This is the seventh conference in a biennial series, sponsored by the Canada Coastal Zone Association. This is the first of the series to be located on the Arctic coast. The Conference will raise awareness about the unique challenges faced by residents of the Arctic coastal zone in the face of rapid changes occurring in Arctic marine ecosystems. Contributions from coastal areas around the world are encouraged, recognizing that many of the drivers of coastal change, and the adaptation of people to them, are common to many parts of the world. For information, <http://www.czc06.ca/e/home.html>

**OCTOBER 12-14, 2006, FUNCHAL, MADEIRA ISLANDS
3rd APGeom Conference, Geomorphological Dynamics. Methodologies and Practice**

The main goal of the Portuguese Association of Geomorphologists (APGeom) is to promote the knowledge improvement and to debate the major geomorphological subjects. The 1st and 2nd Conferences had a great success namely among the young researchers and management agents. The proposed general subject maintains the dialectics between research and practice as well as the need to spread new methodologies and tools.

The official languages will be Portuguese, English, and Spanish (Castellan).

The APGeom invites the scientific community, the technicians, the students and everyone who is interested in geomorphological processes and its relations to the environment and anthropogenic activities. For further information, visit <http://www1.ci.uc.pt/ieg/apgeom/index.htm>

Ana Ramos Pereira

President of the Portuguese Association of Geomorphologists

E-mail: anarp@fl.ul.pt

**OCTOBER 25 – 27, 2006 - GOZO, MALTA
2nd International Conference on the Management of Coastal Recreational Resources
*Beaches, Yachting and Coastal Ecotourism (MCRR2)***

This is the second Conference in ICoD's biannual series on the *Management of Coastal Recreational Resources*. As with the first Conference held in Malta in 2004, this year's event will focus on aspects of coastal management related to the recreational amenities represented by beaches, yacht marinas, and ecotourism.

This year's conference will be held at the 5 star Hotel Ta' Cenc on Malta's sister Island of Gozo, and aims to bring together academic researchers as well as practitioners whose work involves aspects of both research into integrated coastal area management practices and the development and management of coast-related recreational amenities. Look for the **MCRR2 dedicated webpage** on <http://mcrr2.icod.org.mt>

Anton Micallef

Director, Euro-Mediterranean Centre on Insular Coastal Dynamics (ICoD)

Local Secretariat

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NOVEMBER 2-4, 2006, AVEIRO, PORTUGAL
5TH Symposium on the Atlantic Iberian Margin

This Symposium aims to be a multidisciplinary forum, clarifying the multiple relations of interdependency that exist between the several areas that compose the Margin itself, from the coastal areas to the abyssal plain. This Symposium also aims to give continuity to scientific exchange between the researchers in the marine sciences community, which as been developed in these meetings since the 1st Symposium in Lisbon in 1994. All scientists working in this Atlantic region are invited to participate in this symposium with well known reputation among the international scientific community. More details are available at: www.margem06.com

NOVEMBER 8, 2006, THE MARINE INSTITUTE, GALWAY, IRELAND
A Corepoint/CoastNET Conference on Potential implications and challenges of recent and emerging European policy and Directives such as the Maritime Policy and Maritime Strategy,

The green paper regarding Maritime Policy for the EU sets out many critical challenges for the Commission and the EU Member States. (http://ec.europa.eu/maritimeaffairs/policy_en.html) The Lisbon Agenda (growth and Jobs) is clearly reflected in the references to innovation, knowledge and technology, competitiveness, skills and employment, clustering and so on. However, the Gothenburg agenda (sustainable development) also permeates the document, with references to environment, quality of life, environmental risk and more.

The challenges are great in bringing all these aspects together in a policy framework which truly reflects the principles of sustainable development. To what extent can the environment be enhanced, but also exploited for tourism for example? Can we increase the attractiveness of coastal areas at the same time as developing maritime industries? To what extent is environmental risk a threat to competitiveness?

These questions and more will be explored in this conference, delivered by CoastNet as part of the Interreg-funded Corepoint project. Conference outputs will be submitted to the EU as part of the response to the consultation on the Green Paper. If you wish to submit an abstract please complete the form on the following page and return by August 9 to: Theresa.redding@coastnet.org.uk

DECEMBER 9-13, 2006, NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA, HILTON RIVERSIDE HOTEL
Restore America's Estuaries'
3rd National Conference and Expo on Coastal and Estuarine Habitat Restoration

"Forging the National Imperative"

Restore America's Estuaries is pleased to announce the Call for Presentations and Posters for "Forging the National Imperative," Presentation submissions are due **March 31, 2006** and Poster submissions are due **April 30, 2006**.

For more information or to download the application, visit
<http://www.estuaries.org/conference>.

Following the devastating hurricane season of 2005, Restore America's Estuaries is more committed than ever to holding the Conference in New Orleans as scheduled. The Conference will bring timely national attention to the challenges and opportunities to comprehensive coastal ecosystem restoration throughout the U.S. and especially in Coastal Louisiana and the northern Gulf Coast. Habitat restoration at all scales is essential to the very fabric of our lives - the social, economic and ecological well being of humans in the coastal landscape. Through field sessions, participants will see first-hand how the city, the parishes and coastal Louisiana are being rebuilt and restored. We will work to ensure that the Conference supports the rebuilding process.

The National Program Committee invites you to submit a proposal to present at the 3rd National Conference. There are two opportunities to present:

*Contributed Sessions - 15-20 minute presentations integrated into a 90 minute session with time for discussion. Please propose one presentation, and the National Program Committee will group presentations into cohesive sessions. If you would like to propose a full 90-minute session with multiple speakers, please see the Call for Dedicated Sessions (<http://www.estuaries.org/conference>).

*Poster Sessions - Posters will be displayed throughout the Conference, and one or two special 90-minute poster sessions will allow Poster Presenters to discuss their work with Conference participants. A Student Poster Contest will provide cash awards to the best student posters. For more contest information, please visit the Conference website.

APRIL 15-19, 2007, FLORIANOPOLIS, SANTA CATARINA, BRASIL
XII Conference, Latino-Americano de Ciencias do Mar

Full information regarding themes, contacts, and registration is available on the conference's website at
http://www.colacmar.com/espanhol/apresentacao_sp.html

April 16-20, 2007, GOLD COAST, QUEENSLAND, AUSTRALIA –
9th International Coastal Symposium (ICS2007)

The Gold Coast, with its famous beaches and attractions will continue the conference's history of world-class venue settings for bringing together coastal scientists, managers, planners and engineers from around the world to discuss issues and activities relating to the coastal region.

The ICS2007 Organising Committee invites you to submit an abstract using the details found on the ICS2007 WWW site: <http://www.griffith.edu.au/school/eng/ics2007>

The ICS2007 proceedings, for fully refereed papers that satisfy the required criteria, will be published in a special issue of the Journal of Coastal Research. This will be handed out at the conference.

Should you have questions visit the ICS2007 WWW site and/or contact ICS2007@griffith.edu.au
A/Prof **Charles Lemckert**
Chair, ICS2007
Griffith School of Engineering
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June, 2007, Waikato, New Zealand
Conser-Vision International Conference

To celebrate 20 years of integrated conservation management by the New Zealand Department of Conservation and to chart options for the future, the University of Waikato and the New Zealand Department of Conservation are organizing an international conference.. The goals of the conference are to bring together practitioners, scientists, policy-makers and conservation advocates from New Zealand and elsewhere to:

- consider future challenges for conservation agencies and how existing models might be strengthened or adapted to meet them;
- review and evaluate the achievements of the past 20 years of conservation management in New Zealand; and
- assess the ways in which conservation agencies might best achieve their goals for conservation outcomes in 2050 and beyond.

Fieldtrips of varying lengths are likely to include world heritage and Ramsar sites, wetlands, national parks, marine reserves, and volcanic, karst and cave landscapes and opportunities to see and discuss our experience with partnerships with the indigenous Maori. For more information please visit:

<http://www.waikato.ac.nz/wfass/Conserv-Vision/>

The Minister of Conservation is responsible for the preparation of the New Zealand Coastal Policy Statement and for approving the regional coastal plans operating under a sustainable management mandate of the Resource Management Act, but he is also responsible for advocacy on behalf of the native flora and fauna of NZ and for implementation of the Biodiversity Convention. The two roles have been seen as incompatible among several commentators and consequently that coastal role and the approach to marine protected areas and to protecting marine species will feature prominently in the conference and should be of interest to those involved in establishing coastal management regimes and plans internationally.

Please visit the website and hopefully we will see many of you here in 2007

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Coastal Commission Cooperative Project
Special Request of the CCS Members

SAND DUNE INVENTORY OF EUROPE

1st Edition

The EUCC, the Coastal Union, and the UK Joint Nature Conservation Committee originally published a sand dune inventory of Europe jointly in 1992. Staff of the EUCC secretariat in Leiden, the Netherlands provided help with the collection and collation of information.

The inventory was the product of a large number of individuals who wrote, helped to write, or contributed information to the country chapters. Finance for the publication was provided by the Dutch Ministry of Agriculture, Nature Management and Fisheries, Department of Nature Conservation, Environmental Protection and Wildlife Management.

2nd Edition

The meeting 'Dunes and Estuaries' an International Conference on Nature Restoration Practices in European Coastal Habitats, held at Koksijde, Belgium, on the 19-23 September 2005 proved the stimulus for the production of a revised inventory (Doody 2005). The editor has now produced a first draft of this with redrawn figures and additional information added, including chapters for several additional countries omitted from the 1st Edition.

This note is a special request for further help and information from the members of the Coastal Commission. If you have maps or descriptions of major sand dune sites, country accounts or would be prepared to help with individual chapters please get in touch. The final revised version will be made available as a PDF file on CD. Copies will be sent on CD or via the Internet for a small charge of €15 to help defray production costs. It is intended to complete publication in time for the Dune Conference in Spain, scheduled for October 2007.

Ref: Doody, J. P., 2005. Sand dune inventory of Europe. In: Herrier J.-L., J. Mees, A. Salman, J. Seys, H. Van Nieuwenhuysse and I. Dobbelaere (Eds). *Proceedings 'Dunes and Estuaries 2005' – International Conference on Nature Restoration Practices in European Coastal Habitats*, Koksijde, Belgium, 19-23 September 2005 VLIZ Special Publication **19**, 45-54.

Dr J. Patrick Doody, Email pat.doody@ntlworld.com

Or write to: 5 Green Lane, Brampton, Huntingdon, Cambs., PE28 4RE, UK. July 2006.-

In Memoriam: It is with great sadness that we report the passing of one of the most faithful members of the IGU Coastal Commission, **Roland Paskoff**. Roland died in September 2005, in the field. Roland will be remembered by many of the Coastal Commission members as an avid participant in our meetings, and especially in our field excursions. His concern for the science presented in both is legend. He was Chair of the Coastal Commission from 1984 to 1992, and was active in leading field excursions and organizing scientific sessions at the IGU for many years.

Roland was a prolific contributor to the literature in coastal geomorphology, authoring or co-authoring 15 books and he was the senior editor of the *Journal of Coastal Conservation* for its entirety. He published over 300 articles and scientific notes that covered coastal issues ranging from coastal dunes, to sea-level rise, to coastal conservation. His keen scientific acumen especially gave us increased understanding the coastal development in Chile, Tunisia, and France. A forthcoming issue of the journal *Geomorphology* is planned as a tribute to Roland.

Grist and Grains

The IGU Commission on Coastal Systems (CCS) has a new web site which can be found at: <http://www.igu-ccs.org/> Contact information for CCS Officers and Steering Committee members can be found on the web site along with past and present newsletters. If you are interested in becoming a member of the CCS, an on-line membership form is available.

The Coastal and Marine Geology Program of the U.S. Geological Survey is pleased to announce the completion of a shoreline change project for the U.S. Southeast Atlantic region. The National Assessment of Shoreline Change Project was initiated to address the need for accurate shoreline change data, including rates and trends that are consistent from one region to another. The completion of the Southeast Atlantic portion of the study marks the second in a series that will eventually address the Northeast Atlantic Coast, Pacific Coast, and parts of Hawaii and Alaska. The Gulf of Mexico portion was completed in 2004.

A 40-page full-color report discussing historical shoreline change and coastal land loss along the U.S. Southeast Atlantic region is available for viewing and printing at:

<http://pubs.usgs.gov/of/2005/1401/>

Data generated by the project, including vector shorelines and transects, associated short- and long-term rates of change, statistical uncertainties, and areas of beach nourishment, have been compiled in an Internet Map Server (IMS). The IMS brings the usefulness of GIS to a web browser, allowing the user to interactively view and manipulate data layers. The USGS U.S. Southeast Atlantic Shoreline Change Internet Map Server can be found at:

http://coastalmap.marine.usgs.gov/ArcIMS/Website/usa/eastcoast/shoreline_change/atlse/

A data catalog complements the report and the IMS by offering downloadable data layers complete with FGDC compliant metadata. These data can be found at: <http://pubs.usgs.gov/of/2005/1326/>

Robert A. Morton
U.S. Geological Survey

The University of Ferrara has recently created a scheme to support Ph.D. students from foreign countries, accepted in the Ph.D. program of the University. The details can be found at

http://www.unife.it/news/bacheca_item-12891.htm

Potential applicants can apply for admission to the Ph.D. program in Earth Sciences, Geomorphology Curriculum. In the past several students have started Ph.D. thesis in coastal geomorphology with the Coastal Processes Research Unit (COPRU). Further details on this research group can be obtained at

<http://web.unife.it/ricerca/copru/copru.htm>

At present these are the projects of COPRU that may provide data and financial support for Ph.D. research, assuming that the applicant is offered an International Scholarship by the University:

1) Video monitoring of coastal processes using ARGUS video technology

<http://141.163.79.209/web/index.html>

- 2) Monitoring of beach stabilization using Beach Management Systems
http://www.shoregro.com/P10_Footprints%20newsletter.html
- 3) Behavior of small river inlets following engineering works
- 4) Sediment transport and morphodynamics of mixed sand/gravel beaches
- 5) Evaluation of maximum storm run-up values on coastal dune systems
- 6) Morphodynamics and sediment transport on pocket beaches between coastal protection structures

The theses involve integration of existing datasets with fieldwork, the applicants must enjoy working in the field during extreme weather conditions (summer and winter). The applicant must also have strong analytical skills as the use of Matlab, Arcview and Surfer software is compulsory. Ability to handle small vessels and diving qualifications will be an advantage.

The research work is better suited to MSc graduates in Earth Sciences, Marine Sciences or Oceanography. The applicants must be fluent in spoken and written English, previous knowledge of Italian will be an advantage.

The official announcement of the six special Ph.D. fellowships for international students will be given at mid August on <http://www.unife.it/dottorati/dottorati.htm>

The successful applicants will start their activity on January 1st, 2007. They will receive a fellowship of about 820 Euro net per month and will be entitled to have a free room at the Residential College of IUSS-Ferrara 1391.

For international students, admission to doctoral programs and special fellowships is based on qualifications and letters of recommendation.

The application has to be addressed to " Rettore dell'Università degli Studi di Ferrara, Ufficio Postlaurea, Via Scienze 41b, 44100 - Ferrara" on the form which will be available on the web site.

The following material has to be sent together with the application:

- 1.. A photocopy of an identity document
- 2.. Certification of the University degree, including titles of the courses and marks obtained in the examinations
- 3.. At least two recommendation letters
- 4.. Curriculum vitae
- 5.. Any other document which can be useful for evaluating the attitude of the candidate to the research activity

All documents, unless written in English or Italian, are to be translated into one of the above languages.

The application and the attached documents must reach the University of Ferrara on or before September 15, 2006.

Please refer to the official site <http://www.unife.it/dottorati/dottorati.htm> for more detailed information and consult <http://web.unife.it/cdl/iuss/saf/dottorato-en.html> for the doctoral programs which are available at the University of Ferrara.

Further informal questions on research activities of Coastal Geomorphology can be directed to:

Prof. Paolo Ciavola (Ph.D.)
Associate Professor of Coastal Dynamics
Facoltà di Ingegneria
Dipartimento di Scienze della Terra

Universita' di Ferrara
Via Saragat, 1
44100 FERRARA, Italy
Tel ++39 0532 974622
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Oceans 21 - GIS for Coastal Management and Coastal Education is a co-operative programme of the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC) and the International Geographical Union (IGU). It currently comprises a partnership of the following international organizations:

- * International Geographical Union (IGU) - Commission on Coastal Systems (CCS)
- * UNESCO's Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC)
- * The CoastGIS International Executive Committee
- * ICCOPS (Landscape, Natural and Cultural Heritage Observatory)
- * Geographical Information Systems International Group (GISIG)
- * The Gerard J. Mangone Center for Marine Policy
- * EUCC - The Coastal Union
- * The International Cartographic Association (ICA) - Commission on Marine Cartography
- * US National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) - Coastal Services Center

The objective of this new initiative is to develop useful concepts, methods, and techniques in integrated coastal management (ICM) for coastal managers and planners. Special consideration is being given to the developing coastal environment and education and training with a major focus on the potential role of Geographic Information (GI) and Geographic Information System (GIS) technology in this capacity.

A number of subject areas are considered:

- Trans-disciplinary scientific research - to develop a better understanding and implementation of coastal management practices
- Development and presentation of significant interdisciplinary case studies
- Awareness and dissemination activities
- Education and training with special consideration for the needs of developing nations

The following Themes have also been identified:

- Theme I - Accumulating coastal knowledge for sustainable development: concepts and methods
- Theme II - GIS Implementation of Coastal Information Systems for ICM
- Theme III - Coastal Urbanisation and Coastal Landscape
- Theme IV - Science and Technology of Coastal Information Systems for ICM
- Theme V - Training, Education and Awareness on GIS-assisted ICM
- Theme VI - Extending National, Regional and Global SDIs from Onshore to Offshore

And a number of alliances have been created:

- ICCOPS, in collaboration with GISIG, hosts the technical Secretariat for *Oceans 21*
- Coastal Oceans Observation Panel (COOP) of partner organisation IOC's GOOS - Global Ocean Observing System
- LOICZ - Land-Ocean Interaction in the Coastal Zone programme of the IGBP - International Geosphere Biosphere Programme, which has just completed its first decade of work and launched a new science plan (IGBP 2004)

- The coastal zone management projects in the EU Programmes, as well as the major initiatives conducted by the European Joint Research Centre (JRC), will be monitored

Ultimately, outputs and products from the initiative will include:

- Oceans 21 programme website (see below)
- A portal to coastal/marine research and management oriented websites and information services having a spatial information or GIS component
- Open Source demonstration software and examples concerned with coastal GIS to solve coastal management problems
- Open Source GIS-based educational and training course material
- Scientific events to discuss the subject areas and issues covered by the programme
- Special issues of international journals and/or special issues in on-line web-based magazines
- Newsletter published on the Oceans 21 website

Oceans 21 was officially launched at a workshop as part of the CoastGIS 2005 Symposium and Exhibition in Aberdeen at the AECC in July 2005. **David Green** (University of Aberdeen) briefly introduced the initiative to the audience. **Emanuele Roccatagliata** (GISIG) provided some background on the initiative in relation to the role of ICCOPS and GISIG with emphasis being placed on some of the current related GISIG activities such as ECO-IMAGINE (www.gisig.it/eco-imagine/). **Roger Longhorn** proceeded to examine Oceans 21 in relation to other international initiatives in order to provide a better feel for how this new initiative would complement and enhance other similar and related activities in the area of coastal management. Delegates to this international symposium were provided with the Oceans 21 Science Plan for 2005-2008 outlining the Oceans 21 initiative (a copy of this Science Plan can be found on the Oceans 21 website): www.iccops.it/oceans21

In order to progress the work proposed in the Science Plan it was also decided to focus on a specific geographical study area. To this end, Oceans 21 will concentrate its attention on the Mediterranean region, an area with diverse natural and cultural heritage issues often in conflict with economic development which also presents a mix of differently developed countries and comprises a wide variety of cultures, landscapes, religions, and governance practices. The final speaker in the Oceans 21 initiative workshop, Professor **Alastair Dawson** (University of Aberdeen), was therefore invited to present an historical overview of tsunami events in the Mediterranean. A copy of this presentation can be found on the Oceans 21 website.

Join us in Oceans 21

With the launch of the Oceans 21, work on this exciting new initiative is now well underway. A number of the GISIG ECO-IMAGINE conference and training events, for example, have already provided the means to cover some of the proposed themes outlined above and to raise awareness, the profile, and interest in Oceans 21.

However, it is clear that in order to carry out much of the proposed work plan of Oceans 21 - which is quite ambitious - will be highly dependent upon the availability of funding. To this end **David R. Green** is currently working with **Alastair Dawson** in Aberdeen to develop a proposal to secure EU funding for some of the proposed Oceans 21 work. With current interest in Tsunami becoming worldwide a proposal is now being drafted to secure funding for Oceans 21 in 2006 to allow us to move forward and to begin to achieve some of the objectives we have set ourselves for Oceans 21. Other partners and alliances are naturally very welcome and you are cordially invited and actively encouraged to join the Oceans 21 initiative.

In the meantime, further information on the Oceans 21 initiative can be obtained from David R. Green (UK Co-coordinator) by contacting him at:

Centre for Marine and Coastal Zone Management (CMCZM)
Department of Geography and Environment
University of Aberdeen, Aberdeen, AB24 3UF, Scotland, UK

Tel. +44 01224 272324; Fax. +44 01224 272331; Email. d.r.green@abdn.ac.uk; Web. www.abdn.ac.uk/cmczm

Or from the Oceans 21 website: www.iccops.it/oceans21

Subject: CCS Rocky Coasts Study Group

Wayne Stephenson and **Larissa Naylor** are heading up a combined effort of the CCS and the International Association of Geomorphologists on the topic of Rocky Coasts. The International Association of Geomorphologists has approved the establishment of a working group on rock coast geomorphology. This decision was taken by the Executive at the Sixth International Conference on Geomorphology in Zaragoza in September 2005. As the proponents we would now like to invite you to register your interest in participating in this combined IAG/CCS working group.

Our initial thoughts on what the group should seek to achieve in the next four years are as follows:
Establish an e-mail discussion list.

Establish a web site linked from the IAG/AIG web site.

Organize a special session at the IGU Regional Meeting in Brisbane on rocky coasts.

Organise a special session at an appropriate conference in 2007 with a view to publishing a thematic journal issue.

At the 7th IAG/AIG (Melbourne 2009) have a working group session from which an edited volume is published.

Prior or after the 7th IAG/AIG (Melbourne 2009) have a rock coast field excursion.

In addition to these outcomes we would also hope the group could:

Develop international collaborative research programs and/or highlight the importance of rocky coasts in newly funded research networks (e.g. www.encora.org)

Improve our understanding of the evolution of rock coasts through international collaboration.

Improve understanding of the process/form relationships of rock coasts through international collaboration.

Increase awareness of the significance of rock coasts both geomorphically and as a coastal type that faces significant coastal management issues through publication of collaborative research.

While these are initial thoughts we are open to further suggestions and ideas as to what a group such as this should aim to achieve. If you would like to participate please respond to **Wayne Stephenson** (wjs@unimelb.edu.au) indicating your interest and what sorts of activities you would be particularly interested in getting involved in and/or helping facilitate. Wayne will add you to an e-mail distribution list. Please pass on this message to others who you think may be interested in the working group.

MICHAEL BUTLER (CANADA) shares a wide variety of coastal information with us. His Newsletter is the source of the following information, it is available at: <http://www.dal.ca/aczisc/new>

- ROLE OF SOUTHERN OCEAN IN CARBON SEQUESTRATION

The complex relationships between atmospheric carbon dioxide, biological productivity and the role of the Southern Ocean in carbon sequestration have been demonstrated by scientists at the NOAA Geophysical

Fluid Dynamics Laboratory and Princeton University in Princeton. The research confirmed that the key region for understanding atmospheric carbon dioxide is not the relatively large area to the north of the polar front, but the much smaller, poorly sampled region around the Antarctic margin. For information, access <http://www.noaanews.noaa.gov/stories2006/s2653.htm> and <http://web.mit.edu/newsoffice/2006/oceans.html>.

- SPECIAL REPORT FROM THE GERMAN ADVISORY COUNCIL ON GLOBAL CHANGE

The report entitled "The Future Oceans - Warming Up, Rising High, Turning Sour" shows that climate change is having severe impacts on the state of the oceans. It states that three processes are critical: ocean warming, ocean acidification and sea-level rise. All three are a direct outcome of atmospheric pollution by greenhouse gases, especially carbon dioxide. To minimize the risk to the oceans and marine life it will thus be crucial to stem the increase in atmospheric carbon dioxide in time. The report is available at http://www.wbgu.de/wbgu_sn2006_en.html.

- ENVIRONMENTAL CONDITIONS IN THE NORTHUMBERLAND STRAIT AND THEIR EFFECTS UPON THE FISHERIES

This discussion document was prepared to initiate discussion about issues relevant to the environment and resources of the Northumberland Strait and the catchment areas draining into it. It is accompanied by summary 'Fact Sheets' on aspects of the status of some of the resources and the possible environmental stressors. The document is available at

<http://www.glf.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/sci-sci/northumberland/index-e.jsp>.

- ACAP DATA SHARING SURVEY

The 14 Atlantic Coastal Action Program (ACAP) groups were surveyed to: determine the use of electronic data sharing; determine the need for tools to assist electronic data sharing; and to examine the knowledge and use of web-based data sources such as the GeoConnections Discovery Portal. Web-based mapping was identified as the most desirable data access/sharing format. The ACAP Data Sharing Survey results are available at <http://www.seapei.ca/modules/ACAPDataSharingSurvey/>.

- EELGRASS RESTORATION SITE SELECTION MODEL

A spatial model to assist in determining optimal locations for restoration of eelgrass (*Zostera marina*) habitat has been developed at the University of New Hampshire. The model prioritizes locations for transplant or seeding through an estuary-wide scientific assessment. The end products are maps showing ranked areas with the most potential for eelgrass restoration. The model will run on PCs equipped with PERL as well as Macintosh computers using Virtual PC. To obtain a copy of the CD at no cost, email Steve Bliven at, Steve.Bliven@comcast.net.

- LIVING WITH CLIMATE CHANGE: SHARING ADAPTATION EXPERIENCES

The meeting was held on 2 December 2005 in Montréal in conjunction with the UN Climate Change Conference. It was organized by Natural Resources Canada and C-CIARN, the Canadian Climate Impacts and Adaptation Research Network. The event consisted of four panels: Food Security; Water Resources; Coastal Zones; and Communities/Infrastructure. The presentations are available at

http://www.c-ciarn.ca/index_e.asp?CaID=40&PgID=133.

- WETLANDS AND WATERSHEDS WEBSITE

The Wetlands website launched by the US-based Center for Watershed Protection features a Wetlands & Watersheds Article Series that will be released over the course of 2006 and 2007. The article currently available is entitled "Article 3: Adapting Watershed Tools to Protect Wetlands". The website is available at <http://www.cwp.org/wetlands/index.htm>.

- MARINE ENVIRONMENTAL HIGH RISK AREAS IN THE UK

Thirty-two locations around the UK coast have been identified as Marine Environmental High Risk Areas (MEHRAs). The primary purpose of the MEHRAs will be to inform mariners of areas of high environmental sensitivity where there is a realistic risk of pollution from merchant shipping. The locations of MEHRAs have been identified after taking into account shipping risk, environmental sensitivity and other environmental protection measures already in place at each location. For information, access http://www.dft.gov.uk/stellent/groups/dft_shipping/documents/page/dft_shipping_611167.hcsp.

- MOVING THE GLOBAL OCEANS AGENDA FORWARD

The 3rd Global Conference on Oceans, Coasts and Islands was held at UNESCO in Paris on 23-28 January 2006 - see <http://www.globaloceans.org/paris3/>. The theme was 'Moving the Global Oceans Agenda Forward'. The Conference was convened to assess progress in achieving the objectives adopted by the international community at the 2002 World Summit on Sustainable Development in Johannesburg and the Millennium Development Goals. A summary of the Conference, prepared by the International Institute for Sustainable Development, is available at <http://www.iisd.ca/ymb/globaloceans3/>.

- The **Pew Center on Global Climate Change** has released the first comprehensive plan to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in the US. The "Agenda for Climate Action" identifies both broad and specific policies, combining recommendations on economy-wide mandatory emissions cuts, technology development, scientific research, energy supply, and adaptation with critical steps that can be taken in key sectors. For information, access http://www.pewclimate.org/press_room/sub_press_room/2006_releases/agenda_release.cfm.

- The website for the "**Poole Bay and Swanage Beach Replenishment Project**" -

<http://www.poolebay.net> - includes links to the EIA, other studies and coastal process monitoring data for the project at the beaches on the UK's south coast. It also includes details of harbour dredging with a diary and photographs that describe daily progress.

- US OCEAN RESEARCH PRIORITIES PLAN

Called for in the US Ocean Action Plan, the Ocean Research Priorities Plan (ORPP), in conjunction with a follow-on Implementation Strategy, will describe a vision for US ocean science and technology, describe the challenges to be addressed, identify key themes, specify goals for each theme and a timeframe for their achievement, and address implications for the use or prioritization of resources. 15 May is the deadline for public comment on the development of the ORPP. For information, access http://ocean.ceq.gov/about/sup_jsost_public_comment.html.

- '**Coastal Connections**' is a publication of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Coastal Services Center. The April/May issue, which focuses on coastal ecosystem restoration, is available at <http://www.csc.noaa.gov/newsletter/>.

- "**Understanding and Responding to Climate Change**", a new booklet from the US National Academies, highlights themes from its reports that advise agencies working on understanding changing climate, documenting its impacts, and developing response strategies. The booklet is available at http://dels.nas.edu/basc/climate-change_final.pdf.

- A Summary of a Workshop on Using Information Technology to Enhance Disaster Management, organized by a Committee of the US National Research Council in June 2005 in Washington, DC, is available at <http://www.nap.edu/catalog/11458.html>.

- BRITISH COLUMBIA'S COASTAL ENVIRONMENT

Six reports on the coastal environment of British Columbia have been released by the BC Ministry of Environment. The studies, products of interagency collaboration, provide decision-makers with baseline scientific information about the state of the Province's environment, from the Coast Mountains to Canada's 200-mile offshore limit. The topics of the six in-depth technical reports are: Population and Economic Activity, Industrial Contaminants, Climate Change, Fisheries, Biodiversity and Ecosystem Protection. The reports are available at <http://www.env.gov.bc.ca/soe/bcce/>.

- 2006 ATLANTIC HURRICANE SEASON

The hurricane season in the Atlantic region runs from 1 June through 30 November. Warmer ocean water combined with lower wind shear, weaker easterly trade winds, and a more favorable wind pattern in the mid-levels of the atmosphere are the factors that collectively favour the development of storms in greater numbers and to greater intensity. Both the Canadian Hurricane Centre (http://www.ec.gc.ca/press/2006/060605-2_n_e.htm) and NOAA (<http://www.noaanews.noaa.gov/stories2006/s2634.htm>) are forecasting a very active hurricane season in the north Atlantic in 2006.

- COOPERATIVE APPROACH TO ICZM IN AUSTRALIA

The Government of Australia has launched a national plan to protect the country's coastal environment and to safeguard its coastal industries and communities. The Plan provides complementary arrangements on national coastal issues, such as land and marine based sources of pollution, managing the impacts of climate change, introduced pest plants and animals, and planning for population change. The "Framework and Implementation Plan for a National Cooperative Approach to Integrated Coastal Zone Management" is available at <http://www.deh.gov.au/coasts/publications/framework/index.html>.

- A workshop on **Innovative Shore Protection Technologies** was held in Tallahassee, Florida on 22-23 February 2006. The proceedings, including presentations and handouts, are available at <http://www.dep.state.fl.us/beaches/workshop.htm>.

- CARBON DIOXIDE: A THREAT TO MARINE LIFE

A report entitled "Impacts of Ocean Acidification on Coral Reefs and Other Marine Calcifiers" states that worldwide emissions of carbon dioxide from fossil fuel burning are dramatically altering ocean chemistry and threatening marine organisms, including corals, that secrete skeletal structures and support oceanic biodiversity. The report summarizes the known effects of increased atmospheric carbon dioxide on these organisms and recommends future research for determining the extent of the impacts-
<http://www.ucar.edu/news/releases/2006/acidification.shtml>.

- SHORELINE MANAGEMENT TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

A new website, the Shoreline Management Technical Assistance Toolbox, has been launched by the Coastal Programs of NOAA's Office of Ocean and Coastal Resource Management. The website provides coastal resource managers with centralized access to information, resources, and tools to address shoreline erosion and management, focusing on alternatives to traditional shoreline hardening -
<http://coastalmanagement.noaa.gov/shoreline.html>.

The following publications have recently been released by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers:

ERDC/CHL TR-06-1

Evaluation of Downdrift Shore Erosion, Mattituck Inlet, New York: Section 111 Study by Brian Batten and Nicholas C. Kraus

If you wish to access/download the document (125 pages, 7.8 MB) in pdf format, the address is:

<http://libweb.wes.army.mil/uhtbin/hyperion/CHL-TR-06-1.pdf>

ERDC/CHL CHETN-II-48

Influence of Grain Size on Sediment Transport Rates with Emphasis on the Total Longshore Rate, by David B. King, Jr. If you wish to access/download the document (24 pages, 486 KB) in pdf format, the address is: <http://libweb.wes.army.mil/uhtbin/hyperion/CHL-CHETN-II-48.pdf>

ERDC/CHL TR-05-12

Life-Cycle Analysis of Mid Bay and Poplar Island Projects, Chesapeake Bay, Maryland by Jeffrey A. Melby, Edward F. Thompson, Mary A. Cialone, Jane M. Smith, Leon E. Borgman, Zeki Demirbilek, Jeffrey L. Hanson, and Lihwa Lin. If you wish to access/download the document (334 pages, 4.3 MB) in pdf format, the address is: <http://libweb.wes.army.mil/uhtbin/hyperion/CHL-TR-05-12.pdf>

ERDC/CHL CR-05-1

Waves, Currents, and Sediment Transport in the Surf Zone along Long, Straight Beaches by Yoshimitsu Tajima and Ole S. Madsen If you wish to access/download the document (308 pages, 9.8 MB) in pdf format, the address is: <http://libweb.wes.army.mil/uhtbin/hyperion/CHL-CR-05-1.pdf>

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Thank you for your cooperation. NORB PSUTY

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The International Geographical Union produces a Newsletter that is circulated to the general membership of the IGU. If you are interested in receiving this Newsletter, please send your full name and email address to Dawn Bissell: d.bissell@homeofgeography.org

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