

COASTAL ZONE CANADA ASSOCIATION

NEWSLETTER #34, OCTOBER 2010

This newsletter, which is issued quarterly, is distributed by e-mail to members of the Coastal Zone Canada Association (CZCA). It provides news about the Association, its activities and its members, as well as information of potential interest to members. Please feel free to circulate it among your own networks. Also visit the Association's Web site at: <http://www.czca-azcc.org>.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT (Grant Gardner)

Coastal Zone Canada 2010 is now a fait accompli, and Kelly Cantelo and her colleagues deserve our congratulations for the marvelous job they did in hosting some 300 participants in Charlottetown. The conference got off to a roaring start with a Youth Forum that brought together a great group of engaged, committed youth delegates. Some of their output, including great videos, can be found on their Facebook page (search Facebook for 'Youth on the Coast 2010').

The main conference started with a report from the Youth Forum and superb keynote addresses from Alanna Mitchell (author of the best seller 'Seasick: the Global Ocean in Crisis', and winner of the 2010 Grantham Prize for excellence in environmental journalism) and David MacDonald (former MP and organizer of the first Parliamentary Forum on the health and future of the oceans, to be held in Ottawa this fall). That was a great kickoff to the strong program that was put together by Larry Hildebrand and his team and kept all of us engaged through the week. In addition to individual papers, highlights included panel discussions, hands-on workshops, discussion cafés, and our first-ever charrette, a problem-oriented forum that promotes collaborative efforts to resolve specific issues in planning and design. There were also, of course, a number of well-attended field trips to key coastal activities on PEI.

Through the week, we sought input on an appropriate conference statement. That process was facilitated by social networking techniques, but also included face-to-face discussions and old fashioned communications on paper. Conference statements are important to the Coastal Zone Canada Association, as they represent a state-of-the-art view of critical issues in Canadian coastal stewardship, and our recommendations for addressing them. At CZC2010, while we saw ample evidence of individual initiatives that deserve support, we also saw an increasing need for a shift in the governance structure for coastal stewardship in Canada. We have recently seen President Obama accept the recommendations of his Joint Ocean Policy Task force, which will lead, among other things, to a National Ocean Council. In Canada, provincial governments are beginning to develop their own coastal management strategies, as we see daily evidence of the risks faced by our coastal environments.

With that in mind, the drafting team for the CZC2010 statement has drafted “The Charlottetown Declaration: Calling All Canadians to Heal our Coasts and Oceans.” In that declaration, we call for a 2011 Canadian Summit on Oceans, Coasts and the Great Lakes, which would be led by the First Ministers, but include Aboriginal and First Nations leaders, NGO’s, coastal communities and others, all tasked with developing a plan of action to ensure healthy, resilient, safe and productive coastal and ocean ecosystems for the benefit of present and future Canadians. Further, we call for the creation of the Canadian Council on Oceans as an outcome of the Summit. Over the coming months we will continue to promote those recommendations, which we feel are critical if Canada is to reassume its leadership role in the effective stewardship of the Arctic, Pacific and Atlantic Oceans and Coasts, and the Great Lakes. Lofty goals, perhaps, but it is time for our coasts to be a priority. Complete text of the conference statement has been posted on the Association web site (www.czca-azcc.org).

ANNOUNCEMENT OF AN INTEGRATED OCEANS MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR THE BEAUFORT SEA

The Honourable Gail Shea, Minister of Fisheries and Oceans, announced in late August her support for the Integrated Oceans Management Plan for the Beaufort Sea. Designed to be an effective guide to planning for development in the region, and one that reflects the values and goals of all those who use and live in the area, the Plan covers a wide area of 1.1 million square kilometres of the Beaufort Sea, and includes ocean, island, and coastal areas.

“The Beaufort Sea ecosystem is currently healthy, and through this management plan we aim to preserve its health, while continuing to create economic opportunities and sustainable communities,” said Minister Shea. “This plan is needed to ensure all development proceeds in a sustainable manner that takes into consideration the values, interests and rights of all those who live in the region.”

The Regional Coordination Committee (RCC) is the governance body for the Beaufort Sea Integrated Oceans Management Plan. It is co-chaired by the Inuvialuit Regional Corporation, Inuvialuit Game Council, and Fisheries and Oceans Canada. The RCC is also comprised of federal departments (Fisheries and Oceans Canada, Indian and Northern Affairs Canada, Natural Resources Canada, Parks Canada, Transport Canada, and Environment Canada), territorial governments of the Northwest Territories and Yukon, and the Fisheries Joint Management Committee, a co-management organization established under the Inuvialuit Final Agreement. The RCC provides coordinated decision-making, oversight and direction for the ongoing evolution and development of the Plan.

To view the full news release, visit: <http://www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/media/npress-communique/2010/hq-ac43-eng.htm>

PACIFIC FISHERIES RESOURCE CONSERVATION COUNCIL - SUMMIT ON FRASER RIVER SOCKEYE SALMON (CZCA Director - Patricia Gallagher)

The Centre for Coastal Studies at Simon Fraser University in Cooperation with the Pacific Fisheries Resource Conservation Council hosted a Summit on Fraser River Sockeye Salmon on March 30-31, 2010 to follow up on a think tank of scientists, held in December. The think tank considered the causes for the unexpectedly low returns for Fraser River sockeye salmon in 2009. They examined these questions:

- Is marine/ocean survival the problem?
- What other factors must be considered to develop a better understanding of marine and freshwater survival?
- Do forecasts provide useful information to fisheries managers?
- How can we improve monitoring and management in a changing world?
- Where should research be focused?

The Summit on Fraser River Sockeye reviewed the findings of the think tank in relation to the questions that were posed and sought solutions to ensure survival of Fraser River sockeye for future generations. Taking a life cycle stage approach, participants followed sockeye from their emergence from the gravel to the time they return as adults, to gain a detailed understanding of the challenges they face, and what can and should be done to ensure their survival for generations to come.

120 participants representing academics, First Nations, government (Federal, Provincial), community groups, environmental and conservation groups, commercial and recreational fishing sectors and students attended.

The edited proceedings are a synthesis of the presentations and dialogue. Summit Proceedings on Fraser River Sockeye Salmon: Understanding Stock Declines and Prospects for the Future are now available at: <http://www.sfu.ca/cstudies/science>.

SHORT NEWS ITEMS

- **1st World Seabird Conference**

The abstracts and other details associated with the 1st World Seabird Conference, held on 7-11 September 2010 in Victoria, British Columbia, are available at: <https://www.confmanager.com/main.cfm?cid=1813&nid=12723>

- **Restoring the Gulf of Mexico**

The Nature Conservancy recently released a report entitled Gulf 20/20 outlining key actions needed to restore the health and productivity of the Gulf of Mexico. Action discussed in the report include: beginning, expanding and accelerating restoration in key bays, estuaries and rivers considered critical to the Gulf's survival; ensuring any future oil and gas development is carried out in a safe and sustainable manner;

investing in science and research to inform decision-making and restoration plans; and establishing a coalition to seek a sustainable future for the Gulf. For more information visit: <http://www.nature.org/pressroom/press/press4579.html>

- **Oceanography - Celebrating 50 Years**

The September Special Issue of Oceanography: "Celebrating 50 Years of the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission" is available, free of charge, online at: <http://tos.org/oceanography/issues/current.html>

- **Coastal Stewardship Agreement Signed in Burgeo, NL**

The Town of Burgeo has committed to protecting the habitat of the common eider and a small thrush-sized shorebird known as the endangered piping plover. This commitment was officially recognized in July 2010 through the signing of a coastal stewardship agreement between the town and the Provincial Government of Newfoundland and Labrador. The Town of Burgeo is a significant site provincially for the endangered piping plover. The area includes a total of 11 beaches that have been deemed suitable piping plover habitat. This agreement seeks to engage council and local residents in wise use practices during their everyday activities as well as enhancement activities surrounding this valuable wildlife habitat. For further details, visit:

<http://www.releases.gov.nl.ca/releases/2010/env/0728n05.htm>

- **President Obama and Stewardship of the Ocean, Our Coasts, and the Great Lakes**

In July 2010, President Obama issued an Executive Order that gives effect to the Recommendations for Stewardship of the Ocean, Our Coasts and the Great Lakes. The Executive Order is available online at:

<http://www.whitehouse.gov/files/documents/2010stewardship-eo.pdf>

UPCOMING CONFERENCES, KEY MEETINGS AND DEADLINES

October 1, 2010: Deadline for submitting abstracts to Coastal Geotools 2011, 21-24 March 2011, Myrtle Beach, South Carolina. For more information visit:

<http://geotools.csc.noaa.gov>

October 7, 2010: ACZISC Meeting #61, Charlottetown, PEI

October 8, 2010: Deadline for submitting abstracts to Coastal Zone 11, 17-21 July 2011, Chicago, Illinois. For more information visit:

<http://www.doi.gov/initiatives/CZ11/index.htm>

October 13-15, 2010: National Coastal Conference of the American Shore & Beach Preservation Association, Charleston, South Carolina. For more information visit:

http://www.asbpa.org/conferences/conf_fall_10.htm.

October 17-22, 2010: Coastal Zone Asia-Pacific 2010 Conference, Bangkok, Thailand.
For more information visit: <http://cdc.fish.ku.ac.th/czap2010/index.html>

October 28-29, 2010: Geomatics Atlantic 2010, Fredericton, New Brunswick -
<http://www.geomaticsatlantic.com>

November 15, 2010: Deadline for submitting abstracts to Coastal Management 2011,
15-16 November 2011, Belfast, UK. For more information visit: <http://www.ice-coastalmanagement.com>

Translation services provided by Ms. Chantal Jordaan, Memorial University of Newfoundland. Thanks are also expressed to Maxine Westhead, Kelly Cantelo, Grant Gardner, and Larry Hildebrand for final review of the newsletter. Questions and comments pertaining to this newsletter should be addressed to the editor, Kaylen Hill, at KaylenHill@hotmail.com.

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