

ACZISC



ATLANTIC COASTAL ZONE
INFORMATION STEERING COMMITTEE

COASTAL ACTIVITIES IN ATLANTIC CANADA MEETING #64

Presentations and Roundtable

Date: Wednesday and Thursday, 5-6 October 2011

Location: 8 North Training Room, 8th floor, Maritime Centre
1505 Barrington St., Halifax, Nova Scotia

PARTICIPANTS (¹ ACZISC member; ² Advisory Committee member; ³ Director, ACZISC Association)

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PARTICIPANTS (continued)

Name	Affiliation	Telephone #
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Chantal Gagnon	Southern Gulf of St. Lawrence Coalition on Sustainability	902-242-3032
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Additional contact information for ACZISC Members is available [online](#).

**PLEASE NOTE: “Coastal Activities in Atlantic Canada”
is a subset of the Minutes of ACZISC Meeting #64,
held on 5-6 October 2011 in Halifax, NS**

**To download the Minutes and Coastal Activity reports
of previous ACZISC meetings, access the ACZISC [website](#).**

PRESENTATION and DISCUSSION

- **Nova Scotia Draft Coastal Strategy**, Justin Huston, NS Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture
- **Regional Adaptation Collaborative – Atlantic**, Glenn Davis, Regional Coordinator, Council of Atlantic Premiers
- **Recent Marine LIDAR Surveys**, Gerard Costello, Canadian Hydrographic Service
- **ACZISC Coastal Update e-Newsletter survey results**, Alexi Westcott, ACZISC Secretariat.

The presentations are posted [online](#).

ROUNDTABLE REVIEW OF COASTAL ACTIVITIES and UPDATES ON ACZISC RELATED PROGRAMS

SOUTHERN GULF OF ST LAWRENCE COALITION ON SUSTAINABILITY: Chantal Gagnon, reported the following:

- The Community Aquatic Monitoring Program (CAMP) was successful this past year. CAMP is a collaboration between DFO and 27 community groups in 34 estuaries of the Southern Gulf of St. Lawrence.
- The coalition is working with “The Great Lakes-St. Lawrence Symphony” project - <http://www.sie-isw.org/en/the-first-great-lakes-a-st-lawrence-symphony>.
- The Coastal Communities Challenges - Community-University Research Alliance (CCC-CURA) research project is a collaboration between 22 researchers, eight universities and nine non-government organisations - <http://www.defidescommunautescotieres.org>.

FUNDY ENERGY RESEARCH NETWORK: Lisa Isaacman, reported the following:

- The Fundy Energy Research Network (FERN) is an independent non-profit organization initiated by academic and government researchers as a forum to: Coordinate and foster research collaborations, capacity and information exchange to understand the environmental, engineering & socio-economic factors associated with tidal energy development in the Bay of Fundy.
- Tidal Energy Research Areas include: Biological & Ecological Effects, Hydrodynamics & Geophysics, Socioeconomics, and Engineering Challenges.
- FERN through Lisa Isaacman is interested in the ACZISC’s COINAtlantic projects.

FISHERIES AND OCEANS CANADA:

Michel Goguen, Canadian Hydrographic Service, reported the following:

- Canadian Hydrographic Service (CHS) Atlantic now has two new Kanter launches (Tern and Teal) that have Multibeam capability and can be deployed via trailer. This increases the capacity of the CHS program to perform inshore revisory surveys in support of our navigation products.
- CHS will focus on the data management function in the short term. The focus will be on creating and loading spatial databases to support CHS products and services. Part of this initiative will digitize all the historical data sets and harmonise them on common horizontal and vertical datums.
- CHS also has a database populated by bathymetry datasets from various sources. The contents of this database are not validated. The database is named “NWATL” for North West Atlantic. Contact person is: Glenn King in our Hydrographic Data Center (902-426-3463 or glen.king@dfo-mpo.gc.ca).
- CHS now accepts all data submitted to the Hydrographic Data Center for consideration to add to the navigational products. While this practice has developed strong partnerships over the years, CHS will increase its outreach to organizations who collect hydrographic data.
- CHS remains committed to exploring and optimizing the use of new technologies such as LIDAR and AUVs. CHS just completed a pilot project in the Arctic that involved many of the new technologies. It has proven to be a success! In Atlantic, CHS completed a LIDAR survey at the end of March 2011 and is in the midst of processing, validating and integrating the data into its products.
- The LIDAR survey was performed in partnership with NALCOR and the UNCLOS project.
- Collaborators that can assist us in delivering our mandate are always welcome.

Jennifer Hackett, DFO Maritimes Region, Ecosystem Management Branch, reported the following:

- State of the Scotian Shelf in Context and three theme papers went online at <http://coinatlantic.ca/index.php/state-of-the-scotian-shelf> for the 3 June 2011 Oceans Day event in Halifax. The theme papers included: Ocean Noise; Species at Risk; and Tropic Structure. Future papers include: Climate Change; Marine Habitats and Communities; and Waste and Debris.
- The report for the “Marine Spatial Planning Tools and Techniques” workshop on June 1-2 2011 co-hosted by the World Wildlife Fund and DFO Maritimes is available online at http://assets.wwf.ca/downloads/dfo_wwf_regional_msp_workshop_summary_june2011.pdf
- The annual planning of World Oceans Day events in the Maritimes Region around June 8 was very successful. Also in the Halifax NS area, many Oceans-related events spanned the month of June, coined “Oceans Month” and social media methods were employed to advertise these events. For more info about the Oceans month social media - <http://museum.gov.ns.ca/mmanew/en/home/whattoseedo/oceansmonth2011.aspx>. For the list of Atlantic Oceans Day events visit: <http://coinatlantic.ca/index.php/oceans-day>
- DFO Maritimes Region participated in these public events:

- **Halifax, NS Waterfront Oceans Day event** on Friday June 3, 2011. This venue has hosted the most consecutive Oceans Day events since the first community-led Halifax Waterfront event was held on June 8, 1993. This year highlighted approximately 30 exhibits and saw approximately 1000 visitors. This free event was held both inside and outside at the Maritime Museum of the Atlantic and the Halifax Harbourfront. DFO exhibits included “Mysteries of The Gully Marine Protected Area”, live underwater demonstrations of HARV (Habitat Assessment Remote Vehicle), Marine Species at Risk, and real frozen specimens of several locally occurring sharks.
- **St. Andrew’s, NB Oceans Day event** that is now held in conjunction with the St. Andrew’s Seafood Festival in early June. This year hundreds of visitors enjoyed these fun exhibits: watching DFO’s lobster sniffing dog, Sonic, and his handler demonstrate Sonic’s ability to sniff out hidden lobster eggs; St Andrews Biological Station’s touch tanks and displays of swordfish and deep sea fishes; and the Musquash Marine Protected Area display.

Events:

- The 20th Anniversary since the first Oceans Day was held during the Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro in 1992 <http://www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/oceans/events-evenements/oceansday-journeesdesoceans/index-eng.htm>. Note that existing annual events may plan additional exciting activities and it is encouraged to celebrate World Oceans Day events in local communities during the month of June.
- DFO Maritimes Region presented several papers at the **9th Bay of Fundy Science Workshop** of the **Bay of Fundy Ecosystem Partnership (BoFEP)** September 27- 30, 2011 in Saint John, NB. The focus was “Protecting the Watersheds and Estuaries of the Bay of Fundy: Issues, Science and Management”. DFO’s Oceans and Coastal Management Division co-chaired the session on Marine Protected Areas and presented papers in the **Marine Protected Areas; Managing Coastal and Marine Information;** and **Aquatic Health and Monitoring** Sessions. For more details and watch for updates on <http://www.bofep.org>.

Publications:

- Gulf of Maine Council on the Marine Environment (GOMC) will be launching its five-year **GOMC Action Plan 2012-2017** in December 2011. Watch www.gulfofmaine.org for upcoming details. DFO Maritimes Region participates on this international environmental Council.
- Gulf of Maine Council’s **State the Gulf of Maine Report** will be adding the most recent completed paper – **Microbial Pathogens and Toxins**. Watch for it on <http://www.gulfofmaine.org/state-of-the-gulf/contaminants.html>.

Geoff Coughlan, DFO Newfoundland and Labrador Region, Ecosystem Management Branch, reported the following:

Placentia Bay/Grand Banks (PB/GB) Large Ocean Management Area (LOMA) (Updates)

- DRAFT PB/GB IM Plan is complete and in review in Ottawa – working group and LOMA Cttee to follow.

- Efforts to solicit stakeholder and governmental content for the PB/GB LOMA website continue.

Placentia Bay and Coast of Bays Coastal Management Areas (CMA) (Updates)

Placentia Bay CMA:

- A survey on green crab was completed by 63 fish harvesters and aquaculturists in Placentia Bay. Results have been distributed to interested individuals at DFO, DFA, Fish, Food and Allied Workers Union (FFAW) and industry.

Coast of Bays CMA:

- A Coastal Communities Resource Inventory funding proposal is still being drafted for the CMA.

All LOMA and CMA projects involve collaborations with different organizations/institutions/government departments as per their roles/advisory capacity on LOMA/CMA Committees and related working groups.

Report on New Projects / Publications / Events:

Placentia Bay CMA

- Newsletters are published to ~200 stakeholders in Placentia Bay 3-4 times/year.
- Last meeting May 26 – topics: oil spill response, local economic development alliance, and marine debris
- AGM scheduled for October 27-28 to focus on action planning as per IM Plan.
- Oceans Conference in Placentia Bay in the spring of 2012 – proposal is currently being drafted.

Coast of Bays CMA

- No new information since the ACZISC in May – upcoming meeting in October 2012.

Are you looking for collaborators for any of these projects or events?

- The Oceans conference would be interested in involving presenters and sponsors from various sectors.

Laurentian Channel Area of Interest (AOI) for Marine Protected Area Establishment

Details on collaborations with other organizations:

- The Laurentian Channel Advisory Committee is chaired by DFO with participation from all DFO sectors, other federal departments, the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador, the Canada-Newfoundland and Labrador Offshore Petroleum Board, Miawpukek First Nation, industry sectors, conservation-based organizations, and academia.

Report on New Projects / Publications / Events:

- The Laurentian Channel Advisory Committee met for the second time on July 8th 2011. The objectives were 1) to review feedback and solicit advice on the potential conservation priorities for the proposed MPA, and 2) to start the discussion on boundary delineation, including a mapping presentation of spatial profiles for the species of interest. The next meeting will take place in late October 2011.
- DFO continues to develop nationally required documents including a Social, Economic, and Cultural Overview Report and an Assessment of the AOI. A review of this information will allow a recommendation on the AOI – preferably a confirmation that an *Oceans Act* MPA is the appropriate management tool to achieve the conservation objectives and address threats associated with the area. If confirmed that an *Oceans Act* MPA is the most appropriate tool for protection, DFO will then move forward with consultations on regulatory intent and the development of an MPA management plan.

Possible Collaborators for these projects or events:

- The Laurentian Channel AOI website is available at <http://www.nfl.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/LC-CL>.
- All comments, concerns, questions, or ideas are welcome to LaurentianChannelMPA@DFO-MPO.GC.CA

Gulf of St. Lawrence Integrated Management

GOSLIM Coastal Management Areas (Updates):

Bay St. George/Port au Port Peninsula

- The Long Range Regional Economic Development Board (LRREDB) has launched its new website profiling major industries and coastal management in the area (<http://www.longrange.ca>)
- An atlas of Significant Coastal and Marine Areas (collection of local knowledge) has been completed – available on the Coastal Management page of the LRREDB website <http://www.longrange.ca/pages/coastal.html>
- Last meeting September 12, 2011 to discuss future initiatives: coastal infrastructure initiative; marine and coastal management newsletter.

Northern Peninsula

- Recently completed a project to profile major industries on the Northern Peninsula. Industry Profiles will be made available on the committee's website <http://www.coastalplanninggnp.ca>
- Last meeting June 22, 2011 to discuss the potential for a Fisheries Forum on the Northern Peninsula – this will allow the fishing community to be updated on fisheries research conducted under the CURRA Project.

Bay of Islands

- Smart Basin - The initial consultation phase of the project determined that there is support for the initiative. Bay of Islands users identified several coastal and ocean observation parameters that could be collected. A working group has been formed to gather information on similar ocean technology initiatives operating in other parts of

the world (ex. Ireland, US). Specific requirements and cost estimates for the project will be identified in the coming year.

Details on collaborations with other organizations:

- The Bay of Islands Smart Basin initiative involves a number of government, industry, and academic partners.

Report on New Projects / Publications / Events:

Bay St. George/Port au Port Peninsula

- The LRREDB is moving ahead with Phase I of its coastal infrastructure initiative: developing a database of existing coastal infrastructure.
- BSG/PAP is currently developing a newsletter titled “Marine and Coastal Management”. Available soon on the LRREDB website <http://www.longrange.ca/pages/coastal.html>

Northern Peninsula

- An atlas of Significant Coastal and Marine Areas (collection of local knowledge) has been completed and is available for viewing on the ICZM website <http://www.coastalplanninggnp.ca>

Bay of Islands

- September 13th – ACAP Humber Arm resumed the 10th season of its Trading Books for Boats Program –integrated into local science curriculum, this allows students to participate in interactive classroom sessions and conduct water quality testing in the marine environment.
- October 13th – DFO Research Biologist, Vonda Wareham will present on Corals at the ACAP Coastal Matters Speakers Series in Corner Brook, NL.
- ACAP Humber Arm currently working on a Shoreline Erosion Project in the Humber Arm area.

Possible Collaborators for these projects or events: Yes, for all of the above, please contact if interested.

Marine Protected Areas

Gilbert Bay MPA and Eastport MPA

Report on New Projects / Publications / Events

DFO Oceans is working with Science and Fisheries Management Branches and MUN to develop appropriate management measures to prevent the continued decline of the Gilbert Bay cod population. Harvester surveys and the genetic samples from cod are being collected in the area surrounding the MPA to assist in documenting fishing

mortality. Local stakeholders will be consulted on reducing fishing mortality by restricting cod fishing to the fall season when Northern cod are inshore but most of the Gilbert Bay cod have returned to the MPA. Currently fishing seasons are set annually between July and October.

Updates on Projects Reported at Past Meetings (please refer to your organization's report in the minutes of past meetings):

Monitoring protocols for the Eastport MPAs are being revised based on the recommendations from the Science led Regional Advisory Process (RAP). Changes implemented in 2011 include collaboration with FFAW to collect detailed data on berried females in the Eastport area as part of the **Lobster Node** of the NSERC Canadian Capture Fisheries Research Network Berried Females Project. Modified traps targeting undersized and oversized lobsters were also added to the fall tagging program.

MPA Network

The [National Framework for Canada's Network of Marine Protected Areas](#) has received approval in principle by the Canadian Council of Fisheries and Aquaculture Ministers, paving the way for development of a step by step approach for network planning for the NL shelves bioregion. Oceans is also collaborating with DFA to compile an inventory of potential Network MPAs and Contributory Sites, and participating in the development of Technical Guidelines for implementation of the *National Framework* in collaboration with PC and EC.

The Coldwater Coral and Sponge Reefs Center of Expertise

Update on Coral/Sponge Conservation Strategy for NL/Eastern Arctic

- The strategy was submitted for internal review in June and is still awaiting approval for consultations.
- It is anticipated that stakeholder consultations will commence in the fall of 2011.

CoE Communications Approach

- The CoE website has been developed and should be launched in October 2011.
- DVD titled *Diving into the Deep: Coral and Sponge Conservation in Canada* completed shooting and will be submitted for review in October. The DVD promotes awareness of coral and sponge conservation to fish harvesters in Canada will be available on the DFO website in the winter of 2012.
- CoE is working with Maritimes Region to re-issue a *Corals of Atlantic Canada* poster, which will include updates on coral science, research, and conservation. To be available in the fall of 2011.

Details on collaborations with other organizations:

- The Coral and Sponge Conservation Strategy has been collaborating with DFO staff in NL, Central and Arctic Region, as well as National Headquarters. The consultation and implementation of the strategy will be a collaboration with numerous organizations including government, Aboriginal, industry, academic and ENGOs.

- The Coral and Sponge DVD has been a collaboration with Memorial University, Pacific, Maritimes, and NL Region Staff as well as the Dalhousie University, Natural Sciences and Engineering Council of Canada, and the Canadian Scientific Submersible Facility

PUBLIC WORKS AND GOVERNMENT SERVICES CANADA: Paul Davison, Public Works and Government Services Canada, reported the following:

- The evaluation of approximately 30 Small Craft Harbour sites along the Gulf of St. Lawrence coast following last winter severe storm damages reported at the last ACZISC meeting is now complete.
- The aerial photo project of 130 DFO Small Craft Harbour sites in Newfoundland and Labrador reported at the last ACZISC meeting is now complete. Details on the project: Sites ranged approximately from Burgeo on the south coast of NL up to Nain in Labrador. A square area of 2 km x 2 km was captured at each location, centred on the infrastructure of interest. Resolution was 10 cm, natural colour. Mooring lines can easily be seen at this resolution, and with the clear water shoals are easily identified. The deliverable is an orthophoto, rectified to better than + 2 m horizontal accuracy. Comparisons of the data to known large scale infrastructure site plans show an agreement of usually better than 0.5 m. Of significant technical interest, local ground control was not required and not used to achieve this accuracy. This was achieved using high accuracy on-board GPS with Inertial Navigation Systems and digital imagery. The client is DFO SCH NL and they would have to be contacted regarding any distribution.

OCEAN TRACKING NETWORK: Bob Branton, reported the following:

- The Ocean Tracking Network (OTN) is a biologically based research and technology development project headquartered at Dalhousie University that is deploying Canadian state of the art acoustic receivers and oceanographic monitoring equipment in key global locations. OTN is now in its second year of operation. A brief overview for OTN activities in the Northwest Atlantic.
- Discovery metadata available at: <http://members.oceantrack.org/data/discovery/NWATLANTIC.htm>.
- Citation for the project: Smith, P.C., Kocik, J., O'Dor, R., Alverson, K., Whoriskey, F., Branton, R. 2008. Ocean Tracking Network Northwest Atlantic Metadata and Data Series. In: O'Dor, R., Alverson, K., Whoriskey, F., Branton, R. 2008. Ocean Tracking Network Global Metadata and Data Atlas. Retrieved: November 23, 2011 from www.oceantrackingnetwork.org.
- Taxonomic Coverage: *Acipenser oxyrinchus oxyrinchus* / Atlantic sturgeon, *Alosa sapidissima* / American shad, *Anguilla rostrata* / American eel, *Gadus morhua* / Atlantic cod, *Gadus morhua* / Atlantic cod - *Morue de l'Atlantique*, *Halichoerus grypus* / grey seal, *Morone saxatilis* / striped bass, *Salmo salar* / Atlantic salmon, *Salvelinus fontinalis* / anadromous brook charr (trout), *Salvelinus fontinalis* / brook trout, *Somniosus microcephalus* / Greenland shark, *Squalus acanthias* / spiny dogfish, *Thunnus thynnus* / Atlantic bluefin tuna.
- Collaborating Institutions: Atlantic Salmon Federation; Cape Breton University; Dalhousie University; Bedford Institute of Oceanography; Delaware State University; Gulf Fisheries Centre; Northwest Atlantic Fisheries Centre; St. Andrews Biological Station; Maine: Department of Marine Resources, Bureau of Sea Run Fisheries and

Habitat; Margaree Salmon Association; National Marine Fisheries Service, Northeast Fisheries Science Center; Nova Scotia Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture; Fundy National Park; Standford University; University of Laval; University of Prince Edward Island; U.S. Geological Survey.

- Emerging Collaborations: Great Lakes Fisheries Commission, Gulf of Saint Lawrence Observing System.

COINATLANTIC: Paul Boudreau, ACZISC Secretariat reported the following:

- The Paul Boudreau announced that this will be his last meeting of the ACZISC as an employee of the Department of Fisheries and Oceans (DFO). Mr. Boudreau will be retiring in January 2012 and will be stepping down from the position of Project Manager for the ACZISC COINAtlantic Project. Mr. Boudreau was an attendee of the 2nd meeting of the ACZISC and has enjoyed his participation and connection with the Committee over the past 20 years.
- Mr. Boudreau took on the role of COINAtlantic Project Manager, with support from the DFO, Maritimes Region, Oceans & Habitat Management Branch, in 2008. With funding and resources from GeoConnections and the ACZISC members and partners, COINAtlantic was able to make significant progress over the past 4 years on establishing a network of people, information and technology to support ICOM. The work continues today.
- Personally Mr. Boudreau was able to benefit from the learning and experience provided by working with the ACZISC/COINAtlantic participants. DFO has benefited through Mr. Boudreau's knowledge transfer from COINAtlantic to address their challenges of finding and accessing information for use in coastal and oceans management. Most recently there have been a number of introductory workshops for DFO staff on the use of GoogleEarth in meeting their information needs.
- The ACZISC Secretariat is looking for persons who are ready, willing and able to work on COINAtlantic. There are benefits to be realized by any individual who is interested in developing their facilitation skills in working with network of participants in Atlantic Canada. Agencies can benefit from gaining improved access to information as well as developing expertise for improved information management.

CLEAN NOVA SCOTIA: Ashley David, Ship to Shore Coordinator, reported the following:

- The official program launch for 'Ship to Shore' took place the 18th June 2001. The goal of the program is to work with Nova Scotia fishers and harbours to improve how waste is managed at sea and on land. The Ship to Shore program is working on an educational film that will debut in March 2012 - <http://clean.ns.ca/programs/waste/ship-to-shore>.
- Ship to Shore is looking for opportunities to collaborate with other organizations that work with fishers to find ways to get the word out about this initiative. Ship to Shore is looking at ways to debut the film this coming March and collaborations are welcome.

ATLANTIC POLICY CONGRESS OF FIRST NATIONS CHIEFS SECRETARIAT:

Stanley Oliver, reported the following:

- The APC currently works for and with approximately 38 First Nation Communities in the Atlantic regarding many issues and one being fishery related. We work with many not-for profits (AAROMS), government, agencies, first nations, communities and

associations on primarily policy related initiatives. The APC is also directly involved in the delivery of several programs such as the Mentor Training Program and the Fisheries Management System that First Nations avail of. The APC provides much technical advice to First Nations on such topics as policy development, business analysis, policy interpretation, funding opportunities and research collaboration. We produce an annual report which identifies work completed during the fiscal year in every department of APC. More information is available on the APC website at: <http://www.apcfn.ca/en>.