

ACZISC



ATLANTIC COASTAL ZONE
INFORMATION STEERING COMMITTEE

DRAFT MINUTES OF ACZISC MEETING #68

Date: Wednesday and Thursday, 16-17 January 2013

Location: William Ford Auditorium, 1 Challenger Drive, Bedford Institute of Oceanography, Dartmouth, Nova Scotia.

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

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Additional contact information for ACZISC Members is available on the ACZISC's [website](#).

1. *WELCOME and INTRODUCTIONS*

Andy Sherin, Director, ACZISC Secretariat, called ACZISC Meeting #68 to order at 0900 hrs on Wednesday, 16 January 2013. He welcomed members and guests. A roundtable introduction of all of the participants followed.

2. *AGENDA and MINUTES*

The provisional agenda for ACZISC Meeting #68 was approved. The draft minutes of ACZISC Meeting #67 (19-20 September 2012, Fredericton, New Brunswick) were reviewed and approved. The final [minutes](#) are posted online.

3. *STATUS OF ACTION ITEMS*

The action items from Meeting #67 were reviewed by Andy Sherin. All of the action items have been completed or are in progress.

4. *UPCOMING ACZISC MEETINGS*

The upcoming ACZISC meetings are scheduled for:

- **29-30 May 2013:** ACZISC Meeting #69, Charlottetown, PEI
- **11-12 September 2013:** Meeting #70, St. John's, NL
- **15-16 January 2014:** Meeting #71, Fredericton, NB
- **7-8 May 2014:** ACZISC Meeting #72, Halifax, NS

5. *PRESENTATION and DISCUSSION*

- **Results of the ACAS (Atlantic Climate Adaptation Solutions) project in Nova Scotia**, by Will Green, NS Environment.

The meeting presentations are posted [online](#).

6. **ACZISC ADMINISTRATION**

ACZISC MEMBERSHIP: Jackie Oslen has retired from Environment Canada, therefore she is no longer a member.

PROGRESS REPORT:

- The progress report follows the priorities, actions and strategies of the strategic plan, the ACZISC Secretariat encourages comments on what is included, targets, indicators used etc. The progress report was discussed with questions from members and participants around the analysis of Google Analytics statistics and where the ACZISC Secretariat saw highlights and / or disappointments in the results of the report.

ACZISC BUDGET, FINANCIAL REPORT: The ACZISC budget April 2012 – March 2013 was distributed and reviewed. Andy Sherin noted and thanked members who had already made contributions. Further contributions were expected in the last quarter.

-Newsletter sponsorship: Andy reintroduced the idea of soliciting sponsorship for each of the ACZISC's monthly newsletters, as he had at the last two ACZISC Meetings. Participants were not opposed to the idea and were asked to forward suggestions of sponsors to approach to the ACZISC Secretariat.

ACZISC Association AGM: The AGM will be held today at 1700. Thank-you to Brent Rowley, Chair of the Board of Directors, and Randy Gillespie, Director, for their work as ACZISC Association Board Members. There are both stepping down from the board. The [2011-2012 Annual Report](#) will be available online after the meeting.

ACTION 68.1 *ACZISC Members to send comments or suggestions for indicators used in the progress report.*

ACTION 68.2 *ACZISC Members to send suggestions of appropriate organizations to approach for Newsletter sponsorship.*

ACTION 68.3 *ACZISC Secretariat to request the Chair to call a meeting of the ACZISC Association Board of Directors.*

ACTION 68.4 *Members to expedite payment of their 2012-2013 contributions to the ACZISC.*

ACTION 68.5 *In conjunction with the progress Report, Have a more detailed report from Google Analytics for the COINAtlantic website for the next meeting.*

7. **PRESENTATION and DISCUSSION**

- **Water Quality Forecasting and Infrastructure Optimisation System**, by Greg Rose and Kevin MacKenzie, Golder Associates.
- **Coastal Mapping for Geospatial Decision Support: Progress, Future Directions, and Data Access**, by Scott Coffen-Smout, Oceans and Coastal Management Division, DFO Maritimes.

The meeting presentations are posted [online](#).

8. **COINATLANTIC SEARCH UTILITY UPDATE**

- Andy Sherin gave a short demonstration of the new second version of the COINAtlantic Search Utility (CSU). The first version was developed to search just the Geoconnections Discovery Portal. The new version is based on searching the whole internet using the Google API. Once found in the search the CSU allows users to add KML and WMS layers to the map window. Try the new CSU at: <http://www.coinatlantic.ca/csu>.

9. **ROUNDTABLE REVIEW OF COASTAL ACTIVITIES and UPDATES ON ACZISC RELATED PROGRAMS**

Andy Sherin invited participants to provide an overview of programs and activities within their jurisdiction related to ICOM, geomatics and coastal mapping. He requested that notes be provided to the Secretariat to assist with the preparation of accurate minutes. Minutes will be posted in the [Meetings](#) section of the website.

ACTION 68.6 *Participants to email notes re their roundtable presentation to Alexi Westcott at ACZISC@dal.ca.*

FISHERIES AND OCEANS CANADA:

Michel Goguen, Canadian Hydrographic Service, reported the following:

- CHS will be contracting more marine LIDAR this spring in the Halifax area. There were good results from last summer with 20-25 meters depth achieved.
- Bathymetry and shoreline database loading is ongoing.
- CHS Atlantic will complete the 1st iteration of the continuous vertical datum (CVD) allowing for utilization of stand-alone GPS as tidal reference. The CVD is being developed in collaboration with the Geodetic Survey of NRCan.
- CHS national planning tool has been completed (ESRI based).

Tim Hall, DFO Maritimes, reported the following:

- Eastern Scotian Shelf Integrated Management (ESSIM) Initiative is now officially completed. Rigorous evaluations by a third party, the Stakeholder Advisory Committee, and internally based on the United Nations Integrated Coastal and Ocean Management guidelines has been worked on and will be released by the end of January 2013.

- Scotian Shelf Bioregion Marine Plan: public engagement sessions will be held in various locations in April and May 2013. Topics to include GIS decision support/ mapping, intergovernmental collaboration, and bioregional risk assessment.
- MPA Network Planning: in conjunction with above sessions; initial engagement to discuss network objectives, timelines and process.
- Work on the St Ann's Bank Area of Interest (AOI) is continuing - <http://www.mar.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/e0010385>. Currently DFO is in the process of preparing the final regulatory package. Final meetings include: Fisheries Working Group, Province of Nova Scotia, and Advisory Committee over the next two months.
- Currently looking for collaborators for the organization of the Coastal Zone Canada 2014 Conference (see announcement below).
- Reminder of the State of the Scotian Shelf (<http://coinalantic.ca/index.php/state-of-the-scotian-shelf>) and the State of the Gulf of Maine (<http://www.gulfofmaine.org/2/resources/state-of-the-gulf-of-maine-report>) Reports. Handouts were distributed.
- A Gulf of Maine Council Working Group Meeting will be held in Halifax 5-6 March. Nova Scotia Environment will host the council this year starting in June 2013.

Scott Coffen-Smout, DFO Maritimes, reported the following:

- Scott's presentation 'Coastal Mapping for Geospatial Decision Support: Progress, Future Directions, and Data Access' is available on the ACZISC [Meeting #68 page](#).

GOVERNMENT OF NOVA SCOTIA:

Sean Weseloh McKeane, Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture, reported the following:

- The Nova Scotia Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture is in transition to Annapolis/ Digby and Shelburne, currently with a smaller staff and hiring is in progress.
- The work of the Coastal Secretariat will focus on a few key areas over the next year. One priority is to develop a dykes and flooding Statement of Provincial Interest, under the *Municipal Government Act*. There are currently six Statements of Provincial Interest, including one on the coast. The purpose of this is to help guide municipal planning strategies and Land Use Bylaws.

Garth Demont, Department of Natural Resources, reported the following:

- Garth has been working with communities on Climate Change Adaptation, and coastal sensitivity mapping. More LIDAR data/ information that include the coastal land / water interface would be beneficial. There has been a focus on developing products that planners can work with.

NATURAL RESOURCES CANADA: **Gavin Manson**, reported the following:

- CanCoast is a geospatial database combining consistent national-scale maps of the coastal features of Canada on a common 1:50,000 scale shoreline in a Geographic Information System (GIS). It contains various attributes that are important in assessing

sensitivity to climate change. To date, the database includes variables of topographic relief, bedrock geology, surficial geology, landforms, sea level change, tidal range, wave height, and erosion; these have been scored and combined into an index of sensitivity to sea-level rise. Additional physical variables such as elevation, sea ice and wave energy climates are in the process of being added to the database. Plans are being developed to include socioeconomic factors such as population, indicators of wealth, and community infrastructure data as measures of adaptive capacity in order to make CanCoast a more useful tool for assessing climate change vulnerability and adaptation options.

- The Atlantic Canada Coastal and Estuarine Science Society (ACCESS) 2013 Conference is scheduled for 9-11 May in Lawrencetown, NS. Details are available online: <http://meeting1.mathstat.dal.ca/?q=about-2012>.

COASTAL RESEARCH NETWORK: Mike Reid, reported the following:

- Currently the main CRN project is improvements to Coastbase (<http://www.coastbase.ca>) Improvements include adding a map to display results.
- CoastBase is a database of information on priority coastal issues in Atlantic Canada. It is intended to help facilitate greater networking and collaboration on coastal research initiatives, to promote informed decision-making, and to make information about coastal issues more accessible to policy-makers, coastal managers, stakeholders, and the public. CoastBase was developed by the Coastal Research Network Secretariat at Dalhousie University with support from the Nova Scotia Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture and Environment Canada.

FISHERMEN AND SCIENTISTS RESEARCH SOCIETY: Tricia Pearo, reported the following:

- The Fishermen and Scientists Research Society (FSRS), a non-profit organization, is an active partnership between fishermen and scientists. The objective of this partnership is to establish and maintain a network of fishermen and scientific personnel that are concerned with the long-term sustainability of the marine fishing industry in the Atlantic Region.
- The 20th Annual RSRS Conference 2013 is scheduled for 20-21 February 2013 in Truro, NS. The conference includes a Collaborative Lobster Science Workshop on 19 February 2013. More details are on the FSRS website: www.fsrs.ns.ca.

OCEAN BIOGEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION SYSTEM - CANADA: Mary Kennedy, reported the following:

- The presentation slides are available on the ACZISC [Meeting #68 page](#).
- OBIS Canada (<http://obiscanada.marinebiodiversity.ca>) is the Canadian regional node of the International Ocean Biogeographic Information System ([OBIS](#)). OBIS is an international federation of organizations and people sharing a vision to make marine biogeographic data, from all over the world, freely available over the internet. It functions as a web-based provider of global geo-referenced information on marine species. It provides a single entry point to query expert databases on species and habitats and provides a variety of tools for visualizing relationships between marine species and their

environment. OBIS is also the information component of the [Census of Marine Life Program](#).

- OBIS Canada is responsible for dissemination of data and information about the biodiversity of Canadian waters. Its main functions are to foster the on-line provision of marine species data from the Canadian region into the OBIS portal, and to provide an access for Canadian users to the international OBIS data network. OBIS Canada is also the information component of the [Canadian Center for Marine Biodiversity](#).

- The OBIS Canada database archive is hosted by Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO) at the [Bedford Institute of Oceanography](#) in Dartmouth, Nova Scotia and the website is hosted by the [Centre for Marine Biodiversity](#) and Dalhousie University, Halifax, Nova Scotia. OBIS Canada carries out its work with the guidance of a [Steering Committee](#), an [Implementation Team](#), and a number of associated individuals and organizations. If you would like to [add content to OBIS](#) please contact us at OBISCanada@dfo-mpo.gc.ca.

GOVERNMENT OF NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR: **Nicole Hynes**, Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture, reported the following:

- Currently working on implementing initiatives in the coastal strategy (http://www.fishaq.gov.nl.ca/fisheries/sustainable_fisheries_oceans/coastal_oceans.html). The focus is on three over-arching strategic approaches: coordination across government; decisions based on information and research; and public education and awareness.
- Ocean education for schools: not online yet, floating classroom, research vessel, ROV, plankton hauls, and online dissection. The DFA is working on modules that focus on real researchers, and their research.

OCEAN TRACKING NETWORK: **Bob Branton**, reported the following:

- The presentation slides are available on the ACZISC [Meeting #68 page](#).
- The Ocean Tracking Network (<http://oceantrackingnetwork.org>) data warehouse at Dalhousie University in Halifax Canada now holds 29 million records on 28 thousand tagged animals from 70 plus institutions in 13 countries, including 8 million records recently acquired from the former Pacific Ocean Shelf Tracking (POST).
- Oceanographer friendly acoustic telemetry data exchange standard for the North West Association of Networked Ocean Observing and United States Integrated Ocean Observing Systems (NANOOS and IOOS)
- Stand-alone NE Pacific and South Africa (SE Atlantic and E Indian oceans) regional OTN nodes.
- Long-term ocean tracking data archive at Canada's National Oceanographic Data Centre (NODC).

COASTAL ZONE CANADA 2014 CONFERENCE: **Paul Boudreau**, Organizing Committee, reported the following:

- **Coastal Zone Canada 2014 Announcement:** the conference is scheduled for 15-19 June 2014, Halifax, NS. The presentation slides are available on the ACZISC [Meeting #68 page](#).

- **Coastal Zone Canada Conference Series is:**

- Canada's premier international conference on coastal and ocean issues
 - First conference held in Halifax in 1994 with 800 participants
 - CZC 2014 will be the 11th biennial Conference
 - Lead organization is the Coastal Zone Canada Association (CZCA)
 - Organizing Committee is responsible for conference planning
- **Partners/Supporters (to date)**
- Coastal Zone Canada Association
 - International Ocean Institute - Canada
 - Atlantic Coastal Zone Information Steering Committee
 - Gulf of Maine Council on the Marine Environment
 - Bay of Fundy Ecosystem Partnership
 - "Too Big Too Ignore" Research Program
- **Modes of Operation include:**
- Keynote Speakers
 - Plenary Sessions
 - Working Groups
 - Youth Engagement
 - Panel Sessions
 - Informal Gatherings
 - Field Trips
 - Social Media
- **Online / Social Media:**
- Website: <http://www.czca-azcc.org/czc-zcc2014/home.htm>
 - Twitter: CZCAssociation
 - Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Coastal-Zone-Canada-CZC/128735067147841?fref=ts>
 - LinkedIn: http://www.linkedin.com/groups/Coastal-Zone-Canada-Association-CZCA-4758133?trk=myg_ugrp_ovr
 - Lanyrd: <http://lanyrd.com/2014/czc2014>

GATEWAY GEOMATICS: Jeff McKenna, reported the following:

- In the past few years Gateway Geomatics has worked on the COINAtlantic tools; as well Jeff McKenna is an Open Source and Open Standards advocate.
- Gateway Geomatics (<http://www.gatewaygeomatics.com>) is a consulting company offering services around FOSS4G (Free and Open Source Software for Geospatial); specializing in publishing spatial data to the Internet.
- In December Jeff McKenna was named as the President of the Open Source Geospatial Foundation (OSGeo, www.osgeo.org). This international non-profit foundation was formed in 2006, with the goal to promote and develop open tools. This is very relevant to the Coastal Mapping community, as so many organizations are faced with tight budgets. OSGeo tools allow organizations to publish, share, and analyze their coastal data without expensive license fees. Please consider dedicating some time to introducing your team on the various open solutions as promoted through the OSGeo foundation.

ACZISC SECRETARIAT: Andy Sherin, reported the following:

- Andy noted that the CoastGIS2013 Conference website is available at <http://www.coastgis2013.ca>. The conference is scheduled for 18-21 June 2013. 25 January 2013 is the extended deadline for submitting abstracts.

- The judge of the roundtable was Sean Weseloh McKeane and the winner was Mike Reid.

10. COINATLANTIC WORKSHOP

- Workshop title: *Exploring Information Accessibility Policy Best Practices for Coastal Adaptation: Current Realities & Future Vision*.

- The workshop was held Thursday, 17 January 2013 and the workshop report will be posted in the COINAtlantic website.

11. CZC 2014 ANNOUNCEMENT

- The official **Coastal Zone Canada 2014 Announcement** took place during the lunch break, 17 January 2013. The presentation slides are available on the ACZISC [Meeting #68 page](#).

12. ADJOURNMENT

- ACZISC Meeting #68 adjourned at 1500 hrs on Thursday, 17 January 2013.