

MINUTES OF ACZISC MEETING #21

Atlantic Coastal Zone Information Steering Committee

Date: Thursday, 5 June 1997 - 0830 hrs.

Location: Conference Room
Animal and Plant Research Station
Charlottetown, PEI

NAME	AFFILIATION	TEL. NO.
Present: * indicates ACZISC member		
Don Amos*	Public Works and Government Services Canada	(902) 496-5009
Tim Anderson	Fisheries and Oceans Canada	(709) 772-2852
Joe Arbour	Environment Canada	(902) 426-1701
David Boyce	Southeast Environmental Association	(902) 838-0635
John Burka	Atlantic Veterinary College	(902) 566-0810
Michael Butler*, Chair	Oceans Institute of Canada	(902) 494-1977
Réjean Castonguay*	Province of New Brunswick	(506) 453-3917
Brad Fay*	Province of Nova Scotia	(902) 424-4966
Randy Gillespie*	Canadian Centre for Marine Communications (also representing NATI and the Province of Newfoundland)	(709) 579-4872
Larry Hildebrand*	Environment Canada	(902) 426-9632
Irwin Judson	NS Department of Fisheries and Fisheries (representing Art Longard*)	(902) 424-4560
Claudette LeBlanc	Oceans Institute of Canada	(902) 494-1977
John MacLeod	Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada	(902) 566-6848
Brenda Penak	Bedeque Bay Environmental Management Association	(902) 436-7090
Dick Pickrill	Geological Survey of Canada - Atlantic	(902) 426-5387
Jim Ramsay*	Province of Prince Edward Island	(902) 368-4075
Brent Rowley	GANS, Champlain Institute and GIAC Atlantic (representing Paul Currie*)	(902) 420-1435
Bob Rutherford	Fisheries and Oceans Canada (representing Brian Nicholls*)	(920) 426-8398
Andy Sherin*	Natural Resources Canada	(902) 426-7582
Eric Theriault*	Environment Canada	(902) 426-9558

1. **WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION OF PARTICIPANTS**

Mike Butler, ACZISC Chair, called Meeting #21 to order at 08:30 hrs. He welcomed guests and thanked Jim Ramsay for making arrangements for the meeting room, including the computer and Internet connection, and the Province of Prince Edward Island for providing lunch. A roundtable introduction of all participants followed.

2. **ADOPTION OF AGENDA, AND REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR MEETING #20**

The provisional Agenda for Meeting #21 was reviewed. It was suggested that Item 4: ACZISC Review and Item 5: ACZISC Workplan be combined. The revised agenda was approved (copy attached).

The minutes of ACZISC Meeting #20 were reviewed and the following revisions were made:

Page 10: **NATURAL RESOURCES CANADA/GEOLOGICAL SURVEY OF CANADA - ATLANTIC**: 1st paragraph ... "The project was carried out as a partnership between the CHS, Clearwater International, NS Department of Fisheries and the GSC Atlantic. *should read* "The project was carried out as a partnership between the CHS, Clearwater International, **Fisheries and Oceans Canada** and the GSC Atlantic."

Page 10: **NEW BRUNSWICK**: 1st paragraph ... "Réjean Castonguay reported on the status of the NB topographical database; he explained that there had been delays in structuring the data due to a lack of standards." *should read* "Réjean Castonguay reported on the status of the NB topographical database; he explained that there had been delays in structuring the data due to **quality control and stringent standards**."

Page 11: **ENVIRONMENT CANADA**: 3rd paragraph ... "A contract has been issued to Cormorant Ltd. (Jack Dempsey) re the shoreline characterization of the Northeastern portion of Newfoundland..." *should read* "A contract has been issued to Cormorant Ltd. (**Jim Dempsey**) re the ..."

4th paragraph ... "A partnership to undertake coastal geomorphological studies in Labrador has been established with Voisey Bay Inc." *should read* "A partnership to undertake coastal geomorphological studies in Labrador **has been completed** with Voisey Bay Inc."

Page 14: **NOVA SCOTIA**: 5th paragraph ... "The initial focus will be on cooperation with municipalities, the federal government and the private sector." *should read* "The **initial focus will be on provincial departments and then** on cooperation with municipalities, the federal government and the private sector."

The minutes were approved with the above revisions. The revised minutes will be available on the ACZISC website at <http://is.dal.ca/aczisc/aczisc> in WP5.1 format.

3. **STATUS OF ACTION ITEMS**

The status of the Action Items from Meeting #20 were reviewed. All Action Items were carried out.

4. **ACZISC REVIEW AND WORKPLAN**

ACZISC REVIEW: Mike Butler reported that a Review of the ACZISC mandate and its future role had been undertaken as a result of an Action initiated by ACZISC Meeting #20 (February 1997). He stated that four Review meetings had been held from 27 February to 2 June to discuss: Terms of Reference; Structure; Membership; Workplan; Budget and Sources of Revenue; and Future Opportunities.

Minutes of the Review meetings, including participants, have been emailed to members. Mike distributed copies of the Summary and Recommendations of the Review meetings. ACZISC members reviewed the document and made comments. *The document, subsequently revised based on the comments, is attached as Appendix 1.*

ACZISC TERMS OF REFERENCE: ACZISC members adopted the Terms of Reference proposed by the Review. It was agreed that the focus of the ACZISC would remain information management but that the ACZISC may also be involved in facilitating ICZM activities and projects. Refer to Appendix 1 for the revised ACZISC Terms of Reference.

STRUCTURE: ACZISC members recommended that the ACZISC Secretariat continue to be based at the Oceans Institute of Canada as per the conclusions of the Review process. This was considered to be important to maintain the impartiality of the Secretariat.

It was also agreed that the ACZISC should consider the possibility of registering as a not-for-profit society. Brad Fay reported on issues to be considered in this matter:

- The ACZISC could be registered provincially or federally. Jim Ramsay commented that if it were registered provincially, it would have to be registered with each of the four Atlantic Provinces.
- Registration would provide some status and a framework under which the ACZISC could operate. Larry Hildebrand added that registration could make it easier to transfer federal funds to the ACZISC.
- Registration would provide protection against liability for ACZISC officers.
- A Board of Directors would be required. Brenda Penak added that liability insurance could be obtained for Board members.

It was suggested that the ACZISC should be renamed if it registers as a not-for-profit association. However, Réjean Castonguay stated that the acronym ACZISC could be registered as the official name of the association without defining the acronym. He added that this would be desirable as the acronym is now well known in the region.

Don Amos commented that the original focus of the ACZISC was to reduce duplication. He stated that the ACZISC structure should create a forum for creating a "funnel" for true coordination. A means of achieving this would be for RDGs and senior provincial personnel to direct their departments to communicate their CZM initiatives to the ACZISC. Larry Hildebrand supported this concept and added that a regional body will be required with respect to the Oceans Act and National Oceans Management Strategy.

Members further discussed the pros and cons of registering the ACZISC as a not-for-profit society. It was suggested that members gauge reaction within their jurisdiction for such a move.

ACTION 21.1: ACZISC members to gauge response within their jurisdiction ASAP to the possibility of the ACZISC becoming a registered non-profit association or society and provide comments to the Secretariat.

MEMBERSHIP: Members agreed with the recommendations of the Review.

Members suggested that the following could also be considered for membership on the ACZISC:

- National Defence: Lieutenant Commander Bradford, stationed at BIO, was suggested as a contact by Dick Pickrill.
- Health Canada

- Statistics Canada
- ACOA
- National Energy Board
- Transport Canada
- National Transportation Safety Board: Andy Sherin stated that they were concerned with shipwrecks.

ACTION 21.2: ACZISC Secretariat to contact appropriate federal departments and agencies currently not represented on the ACZISC re membership on the ACZISC.

Mike Butler reported on the status of ACZISC membership:

Province of Québec: The ACZISC Secretariat has not been in contact with the Province of Québec recently.

DFO Laurentian Region: The new representative from the Laurentian Region is Gordon Walsh, Acting Manager of Fish Habitat.

Canadian Coast Guard: The new representative from the CCG is Larry Wilson, Director, Marine Programs.

Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada: Mike reported that the Secretariat would contact Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada again re membership on the ACZISC.

John MacLeod stated that the Charlottetown Research Centre was now affiliated with the Research Centre in Truro. He added that one of the following would be a suitable representative on the ACZISC if Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada decided to become a member: Gary Patterson from the Truro Centre who has significant responsibilities for data management, Linnell Edwards who is involved in soil erosion management, and himself who is researching nutrient management.

Aboriginal Representation: The Secretariat has been in contact with the Atlantic Policy Congress of First Nation Chiefs located in Amherst, NS.

Community Groups: Mike Butler stated that there were currently no regional community associations of which he was aware that could provide an Atlantic-wide representation of community groups on the ACZISC. The practice to date has been to invite community groups in the province where a meeting is being held to attend that particular meeting.

To facilitate communication with community groups, it was actioned that members provide the ACZISC Secretariat with the URLs of community groups for posting in the ACZISC Homepage.

ACTION 21.3: ACZISC members to email the URLs of the ACAP sites and other community-based groups to the ACZISC Secretariat for posting in the ACZISC Homepage ASAP.

Mike informed participants that the ACZISC would soon be losing two of its DFO representatives on the ACZISC. Paul Bellemare will be leaving his position as Director of CHS Atlantic at BIO to take up the position of Director of Development and Marketing for CHS in Ottawa. He added that Brian Nicholls, Head of the Environmental Assessment Section, Maritimes Region Science, would be retiring at the end of June. He expressed his personal appreciation and that of the

ACZISC for the commitment, guidance and support of these two individuals to ACZISC efforts.

An up-to-date list of ACZISC members with mailing and email addresses and telephone and fax nos. is attached.

WORKPLAN/BUDGET/FUNDING: Members agreed with the recommendations of the Review as per Appendix 1. However, it was emphasized that the level of effort in the Workplan would be directly related to the funding.

Andy Sherin suggested that there be further discussion on the ACZISC committee structure and products. Mike commented that there had been a suggestion during the Review that some of the Working Groups be merged, e.g., C-CODE and Standards. It was actioned that the co-chairs of these two committees discuss this option and report to the ACZISC.

ACTION 21.4: The co-chairs of the C-CODE and Standards Working Groups (Andy Sherin and Réjean Castonguay) to discuss the pros and cons of merging the two Working Groups and advise the ACZISC accordingly.

Mike noted that CMP financial support for the ACZISC has been consistent since the formation of the Committee in 1992. In 1996/97 the CMP stipulated that in the future its yearly contribution of \$50K would be dependent on the ACZISC Secretariat obtaining matching federal funds. This has been a time consuming exercise resulting in less than favourable results. Mike distributed copies of a memorandum sent to Keith Wornell, Secretary to the CMP, in regards to efforts being made by the ACZISC to acquire funds to match the CMP contribution from the federal government.

As per Appendix 1, the Review participants have recommended that the ACZISC submit a proposal to DFO for matching funds in view of the Department's responsibilities for the Canada Oceans Act and the National Oceans Management Strategy. However, concerns were expressed that matching federal funding from DFO alone could jeopardize the objectivity of the ACZISC. It was noted, however, that funding from DFO would not preclude support from other jurisdictions. Randy Gillespie added that, for example, there was a little known instrument within ACOA for funding support of non-profit organizations. It was actioned that Randy look into this matter ASAP.

ACTION 21.5: Randy Gillespie to obtain information re an ACOA program which provides funding to non-profit groups and inform the ACZISC Secretariat ASAP.

Mike circulated copies of a draft proposal for submission to DFO. Participants reviewed the proposal and made suggestions for revisions. It was actioned that the proposal be submitted to DFO as soon as possible as time was of the essence. It was also actioned that the Secretariat confer with ACZISC DFO representatives to identify the DFO personnel to whom the proposal should be sent.

Dick Pickrill suggested that the ACZISC Executive Committee develop a fall-back position by the fall in the event that DFO funding may not be forthcoming.

ACTION 21.6: ACZISC Secretariat to confer ASAP with DFO representatives on the ACZISC to identify the most appropriate individuals within DFO to whom the ACZISC funding proposal should be submitted.

ACTION 21.7: ACZISC Secretariat to revise and submit the proposal to DFO by 12 June 1997.

ACTION 21.8: ACZISC Executive Committee to develop a fall-back position by the fall of 1997 for the ongoing operation of the ACZISC if federal or other sources of funding are not identified.

Mike noted that there were vacant positions on the ACZISC Executive Committee due to the resignation of Andy Power as the private sector representative, Paul Bellemare's departure to Ottawa as Director of Development and Marketing for CHS and a temporary vacancy due to Art Longard's leave of absence from his position with NS Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture.

Members discussed the matter and the make-up of the ACZISC Executive Committee, in addition to Mike Butler, was approved as follows:

- Federal rep: Bob Rutherford to sit in until Paul Bellemare's replacement on the ACZISC is named.
- Private Sector rep: Brent Rowley
- Provincial rep: Brad Fay to sit in for Art Longard until his return, with the approval of Art.

Mike distributed copies of the draft 1997/98 ACZISC Workplan and Budget (copies attached). Members were asked to review the documents and contact the Secretariat with comments.

ACTION 21.9: ACZISC members to review the proposed 1997/98 Workplan and Budget and provide comments to the ACZISC Secretariat ASAP.

COMMUNICATIONS: The ACZISC Communications Working Group is chaired by Mike Butler. He circulated a one-page document outlining the current modes of communication and publicity and suggested improvements. He also distributed copies of the Project Update and stated that it was an important communication vehicle. Members proposed that the expertise required to enhance ACZISC electronic communication could be obtained via student employment. NSCAD and COGS were given as examples of facilities which participated in such programs. Mike stated that funds were currently not available to pursue this option; however, if the financial situation improves, this will be considered.

Andy Sherin suggested that the product "Meeting Highlights" recommended by the Review process would be an effective communication tool if posted on the ACZISC Homepage in HTML format.

ACTION 21.10: Claudette LeBlanc to post "Meeting Highlights" in HTML format in the ACZISC Homepage.

Dick Pickrill suggested that a "visitor count" to track the number of users be added to the ACZISC Homepage and "volunteered" Andy Sherin to assist the Secretariat.

ACTION 21.11: Claudette LeBlanc and Andy Sherin to consider a "counter" for the ACZISC Homepage ASAP.

DATABASE DIRECTORY: Claudette LeBlanc, chair of the Database Directory Working Group, reported that Mike Butler and she had a meeting with Doug O'Brien and Andrea Buffam, staff of the Canada Centre for Remote Sensing (CCRS)/NRCan, in Ottawa at the end of May. CCRS is responsible for the implementation of CEONet.

Doug confirmed that the CEONet metadata directory would be based on the FGDC Standard developed by the Americans. This standard was chosen because of its potential international applicability. However, he stated that CEONet would be adopting the ISO (International Standards Organization) standard for CEONet when it becomes official; the ISO standard will be comparable to the FGDC standard. The ACZISC database directory is currently based on the less-detailed Canadian CGSB Standard adopted in 1995.

Possible collaboration between the ACZISC and CEONet re their mutual database directories was discussed. Options suggested by Doug include:

- CEONet could assist in converting the ACZISC Database Directory to the FGDC Standard
- CEONet could develop a gateway between the FGDC and the CGSB standards
- CEONet could take over the production and maintenance of the ACZISC Database Directory.

Dick Pickrill enquired if recent user statistics were available for the Database Directory. Claudette replied that she had not generated these recently but that she would do so and forward them to members.

ACTION 21.12: ACZISC Secretariat to generate user statistics for the Database Directory and distribute to ACZISC members ASAP.

A contract was awarded to NDI Ltd. by CCRS to produce a database directory for Newfoundland and Labrador, including provincial, federal, private sector, academic and other databases. NDI has completed the contract, using the ACZISC Database Directory as its main source of information. The few revisions collected by NDI were primarily related to contact information. NDI has made the information available to the ACZISC for updating its Directory.

Claudette suggested that the timing was right to carry out an update of the ACZISC Database Directory; the last update was carried out in 1995. As experienced by NDI in the Newfoundland contract, it is expected that the majority of revisions would be related to contact information and, in particular, the widespread availability of email addresses. Also efforts should be made to identify additional databases. It has been suggested that the next update be carried out electronically. However, that would require programming assistance, an expertise made available to the ACZISC in the past by the NSGC via Alan Lane. Alan, who recently passed away, had been instrumental in developing and maintaining the Directory and posting it on the WWW. His friendship and collaboration will be missed.

C-CODE: Andy Sherin, co-chair of the C-CODE (Consortium for Coastal and Ocean Data Exchange) Working Group, reported that he had not had the time to organize a C-CODE conference as actioned at the last meeting. Andy reported the following:

- An International Geomatics Conference will take place in Ottawa in June 1998. The theme of the Conference will be Spatial Data Infrastructures. ***Additional info is available at <http://www.ccrs.nrcan.gc.ca/sdi98/>***
- National Defence will hold a conference dealing with the developing CGDI (Canadian Geospatial Data Infrastructure). A discussion facility will be set up on the WWW. Andy will join the discussions and will determine if this conference meets ACZISC requirements in terms of providing an overview of the major data integration programs currently under way in Canada and internationally. If so, it may then not be necessary for the ACZISC to hold a C-CODE Internet conference.
- A C-CODE related session may be organized for Geomatics Atlantic scheduled for Halifax on 28-29 October 1997.

ACTION 21.13: Andy Sherin to review a forum on the WWW to discuss the CGDI and to evaluate this forum by 30 June 1997 in terms of meeting ACZISC requirements.

Andy provided two briefing documents for distribution with the minutes: Canadian Geospatial Data Infrastructure and the American National Spatial Data Infrastructure (copies attached).

STANDARDS: The Coastal Mapping Standards Working Group is co-chaired by Paul Bellemare and Réjean Castonguay. However, due to Paul's departure to take up a new position in Ottawa at the beginning of August, a new co-chair will be required. Dick Pickrill suggested that this be done after a replacement for Paul is identified and added that this was currently being carried out.

Réjean stated that it had been actioned at the last meeting that the Working Group organize an "awareness meeting" to identify the standards-related programs and activities being carried out by various groups and committees in Canada and the role, if any, of the ACZISC in implementing standards. He commented that he would require assistance in this matter from the ACZISC Secretariat.

ACTION 21.14: Réjean Castonguay to organize an "awareness meeting" prior to next meeting.

ACTION 21.15: ACZISC Secretariat to assist the Standards Working Group in organizing the "awareness meeting".

Réjean added that he would be discussing with Andy Sherin the pros and cons of merging the C-CODE and Standards Working Groups.

COASTAL MAPPING: The Coastal Mapping Working Group is co-chaired by Curt Speight, NSGC and Eric Theriault, EC. Eric circulated copies of a proposal to hold a Coastal Mapping Workshop and asked for feedback and ideas. The purpose of the Workshop would be to facilitate data exchange and make recommendations for improving coastal mapping products and their distribution. Dick Pickrill, Brad Fay and Bob Rutherford supported holding the Workshop, stating that this was long overdue.

Eric added that a series of workshops could be held, each being "small and manageable". The first one could deal with regional coastal mapping projects.

ACTION 21.16: ACZISC Secretariat, Eric Theriault and Curt Speight to organize a Workshop prior to next meeting to review selected coastal mapping projects to facilitate data distribution and compatibility with other users.

As actioned at the last meeting, Eric distributed a document on a proposal to update FMG Environmental Database (copy attached).

Claudette LeBlanc demonstrated the Inventory of Coastal Mapping Projects posted on the WWW. She requested the cooperation of ACZISC members in updating the Inventory and also in providing descriptions for projects currently not described in the Inventory, e.g., the Atlantic Region Sensitivity Mapping Project.

ACTION 21.17: Eric Theriault to provide Claudette LeBlanc with a write-up of the Atlantic Region Sensitivity Mapping Program ASAP for inclusion in the Inventory of Coastal Mapping Projects on the WWW.

5. **ROUNDTABLE REVIEW OF COASTAL ZONE ACTIVITIES**

ENVIRONMENT CANADA: Joe Arbour briefed participants on the Southern Gulf of St. Lawrence Environmental Workshop scheduled for 5-8 November 1997 in Miramichi, NB; he distributed a brief Workshop description (attached). Several paper sessions and a significant poster session are being planned; approximately 150 individuals are expected to attend. The purpose of the Workshop is to identify priority environmental issues and gaps in knowledge re the estuarine and coastal environment of the Southern Gulf. The Workshop will be a first step in developing a coalition of community groups and scientists interested in the Gulf of St. Lawrence ecosystem. Groups represented on the organizing committee include EC, DFO, the Province of NB, ACAP sites and other community-based groups. Mike Butler represents the ACZISC on the organizing committee.

Joe reported on the Global Programme of Action (GPA) for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-based Activities. The GPA is under the jurisdiction of UNEP, the United Nations Environment Programme. An agreement was signed by 110 countries in 1995 for the development and implementation of the GPA. Canada has established an inter-departmental committee to develop its National Plan of Action (NPA); a draft NPA will be available this fall.

In addition, Canada is participating in the Commission on Environmental Cooperation (CEC) established under NAFTA. The CEC is looking at implementing the GPA via international regional programs. Two projects have been identified: the California Bight and the Gulf of Maine. A Gulf of Maine planning workshop was held in New Hampshire in November 1996. ACZISC members invited to attend the workshop were Mike Butler and Larry Hildebrand. A small task group has been formed co-chaired by Peg Brady, Director, CZM, Massachusetts and Joe Arbour, EC. Joe suggested that the ACZISC could play a role in implementing the GPA regionally by hosting and organizing CZM information management workshops every other year.

Eric Theriault reported that a 36-hour oil spill response exercise was held off the Southwest coast of NS in May. Scientific and technical experts were present to provide advice to the REET on-scene commander. The exercise provided EC with an opportunity to test mapping software and the integration of data. The East Coast Response Corporation has applied to be certified by the Canadian Coast Guard as a certified contractor for oil spill clean-up.

Larry Hildebrand reported that a series of NS Roundtable workshops will be held to focus on how governments and communities should work together to achieve ICZM, i.e. implement NS' Coastal 2000 program.

Larry stated that a good linkage was developing between the Coastal Zone Canada (CZC) Association and the Canadian Coastal Science Engineering Association (CCSEA). The two groups are supporting each others conferences and are sharing information re policy, science and engineering.

GIAC ATLANTIC/GANS/CHAMPLAIN INSTITUTE: Brent Rowley, President of the Geomatics Association of Nova Scotia (GANS), reported the following:

- The travel cost for a representative to attend ACZISC meetings will be shared by GANS and the Champlain Institute.

- The Geomatics Industry Association of Canada (GIAC) Atlantic has not been very active recently. The high membership fees have been a deterrent to increasing the membership.
- GANS has been very active. Overlap between GANS and the Champlain Institute is being identified; this will be addressed.
- The geomatics industry is concerned with the Nova Scotia Oceans Initiative (NSOI) because of perceived competition with the regional activities of the Champlain Institute and difficulties in obtaining information on NSOI activities.

Brent Rowley reported that Paul Currie of ADI (Fredericton) had been appointed as the representative of GIAC Atlantic, GANS and the Champlain Institute on the ACZISC.

APICS: John Burka, Chair of the APICS Aquaculture Committee, reported that APICS was established for educational purposes. A symposium is organized each year in March by the Aquaculture Committee. Students are given the opportunity to present the results of their research and to develop contacts. Co-supervision of students is organized.

John stated that ACZISC information was not being distributed to the APICS membership. He requested that the ACZISC Secretariat contact APICS to request that ACZISC information be made available to the chairs of APICS committees for distribution to their membership.

ACTION 21.18: ACZISC Secretariat to contact Joan Atkinson, APICS Executive Director, to request that copies of ACZISC information and email messages be forwarded to the chairs of the APICS committees for distribution to the APICS committee members.

NATURAL RESOURCES CANADA/GEOLOGICAL SURVEY OF CANADA - ATLANTIC:

Andy Sherin reported the following:

- NRCan is making considerable efforts towards the development and implementation of the Canadian Geospatial Data Infrastructure (CGDI) and CEONet. Further information can be obtained from the NRCan Homepage located at <http://www.nrcan.gc.ca>.
- Allen Miller and Darius Bartlett are producing Version 4 of *A Categorized Bibliography of Coastal Applications of GIS*. Contact Allen at ahmiller@seagrant.wisc.edu for further information. A copy of Version 3 of the Bibliography was circulated for review.
- Surveys will be carried out in Atlantic Canada in response to initial studies carried out by the GSC which indicate that some regions will be significantly affected by sea-level rise. The initial focus area will be the north shore of PEI; most of the Island is categorized as being very sensitive. Surveys will be carried out with the Creed in July on Milne Bank and near Rustico. The Creed will be surveying to a minimum depth of 10 metres; other techniques will be used in shallower water.
- Associated work will be carried out in the future to look at sea level history, erosion rates and circulation patterns. Studies will also be carried out in estuaries. Preliminary discussions re collaboration are taking place with the Province of PEI.
- Bob Taylor will be studying the impacts of sand mining on the eastern shore of PEI.

Andy displayed several publications:

- A map of the Val-Comeau area of NB showing lobster habitat. The interpretation was carried out by Gordon Fader.
- A poster depicting the impact of Hurricane Hortense on Nova Scotia
- A poster showing topography and multi-beam bathymetry for Argentina
- An overhead of a multi-beam bathymetric image indicating old drainage patterns at the bridge crossing area of the Northumberland Strait.

PUBLIC WORKS AND GOVERNMENT SERVICES CANADA: Don Amos reminded participants that in February 1992 he had reported on a proposed fixed link between PEI and NB. Five and a half years later the Confederation Bridge opened on 1 June. PWGSC will be studying the effects of the Bridge; an ongoing exercise will be the building of a database on impacts.

COMMUNITY GROUPS: Brenda Penak reported on the Bedeque Bay Environmental Management Association (BBEMA). She stated that BBEMA worked closely with the other ACAP site on PEI, the Southeast Environmental Association, Cardigan Bay and gave as an example Erosion Alert.

BBEMA is also working cooperatively with:

- PEI Department of Fisheries and the Environment: Funding has been provided to produce a report on water quality.
- EMAN, Environment Canada's Environmental Monitoring and Assessment Network: BBEMA has produced a database on research and monitoring. However, the database requires updating. A synthesis of the database was prepared by a PhD student from McGill University in March 1996. The student will be examining eutrophication in 15 PEI estuaries in relation to land use.
- Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada: A workshop, possibly on buffer zones, is being organized. Other partners will be sought to co-host the event.
- EC and the Province of PEI: A large accumulation of seaweed on the east shore of Bedeque Bay is being studied because of the bad odours it generates. It was reported that Mark MacNeill of Coastal Oceans Consultants had carried out nutrient modelling of Bedeque Bay.

David Boyce, Southeast Environmental Association (SEA), reported the following:

- A joint SEA/BBEMA presentation will be made at the upcoming Southern Gulf of St. Lawrence Environmental Workshop.
- SEA is planning to initiate a volunteer water quality monitoring program.
- The Great Atlantic Shellfish Exchange, an annual conference, will be taking place in PEI. The conference is a major industry meeting.
- Each of the thirteen ACAP sites in Atlantic Canada will be producing an Environmental Management Plan. Eleven have been completed to date. Larry Hildebrand added that substantial information bases were being developed by each of the thirteen ACAP sites.

SEA is associated with:

- Bob Taylor, Geological Survey of Canada - Atlantic, re a study on sand mining and erosion on the eastern shore of PEI.
- A study on the benthic impacts of bottom and suspended aquaculture operations.
- Erosion Alert: An economic study of the on- and off-farm effects will be carried out. A spread sheet model will be produced which will enable farmers to assess the effects of farming practices.

CANADIAN CENTRE FOR MARINE COMMUNICATION/NATI/PROVINCE OF NEWFOUNDLAND: Randy Gillespie reported the following:

- Geomatics Atlantic 98 will be held in St. John's. NATI will be hosting the event in conjunction with the Province of Newfoundland. Conference themes will include spatial data infrastructure and marine geomatics. Randy will be coordinating the event.
- The Newfoundland Geomatics Strategy has been submitted to Cabinet for approval. The Geomatics Steering Committee, which includes representatives from government and the

industry, will be revitalized to implement the Strategy. The Committee's mandate would be to prepare an implementation plan that would rationalize the management of government data and industrial opportunities.

- The CCMC Marine Geomatics Initiative, funded with \$2.5 million from the Canada/Newfoundland Offshore Development Fund, is to be invested in international commercial opportunities for the marine geomatics industry. Proposals are welcome from Canadian industry alliances/cooperatives in partnership with government and academia. Thirty-three proposals are currently under evaluation; several of the proposals deal with infrastructure and data management.
- The Marine Information Distribution Centre is being developed by Compusult Ltd. with funding from the CCRS and the Offshore Development Fund. The Centre is intended to be a marine node of CEONet.
- Barbara Wakeham, Deputy Minister of Works, Services and Transportation, represents Newfoundland on the Maritimes Geomatics Committee.
- Several groups, including the Canada-ASEAN Centre in Singapore, NSOI, the Oceans Research Network Pacific, are pursuing a Canadian Ocean Initiative in Southeast Asia. Project funding will be sought from the World Bank and CIDA.

FISHERIES AND OCEANS CANADA: Tim Anderson, DFO Newfoundland Region, reported on Coastal Resource Mapping in the Region. The areas being mapped include Labrador, Green Bay/Fogo, Baie Verte/Port-aux-Basques, and Bay of Islands/Ramea/Exploits Valley. Mapping is proposed for Bay d'Espoir/Connaigre Peninsula, Bonavista/Notre Dame Bay, Bay St. George, and Burin Peninsula. The mapping is carried out in partnership with others, including the Regional Economic Development Boards and Heritage Canada. MapInfo is the software being used for the mapping.

An operational coastal mapping manual is being produced which will incorporate defined user requirements and standards for data collection, compilation and data presentation.

Pilot ICZM projects have been initiated at Fogo Island and Bay of Islands which build on previous coastal activities. Deliverables will include community-based ICZM plans scheduled for completion by March 1998.

A coastal zone aquaculture planning project funded by a federal/provincial cooperation agreement is under way. Partners include DFO, CCMC and the Regional Economic Development Boards. The goal of the project is to promote aquaculture development by improving geographic knowledge as a basis for planning and conflict resolution. A preliminary analysis is complete and indicates strong support for a user-friendly system. An implementation plan is under way addressing existing technology, data, site selection and charting issues.

Tim briefed participants on the status of Marine Protected Areas (MPA). Nationally, policy and operating principles are being developed. Regionally, information sessions re an MPA discussion paper have taken place with the public and with the provincial government. A survey of the existing 150 areas of special protection in Newfoundland and Labrador has been completed. The survey, which identifies conservation measures, water quality, gear conflict, etc., will be published in the DFO report series.

Tim circulated two publications for review: *Fogo Island Marine Resources Inventory* and *Coastal Matters - A Comprehensive Look at Coastal Management in the Humber Arm*. The reports will be used as background documents for ICZM plans.

Bob Rutherford, DFO Maritimes Region, reported on the status of the Coastal Resource Mapping Program. The Bay of Fundy to Cape Breton has been completed on the Atlantic/Bay of Fundy side; funding was in part provided by the Green Plan. The mapping is used for fisheries management, emergency response and aquaculture.

Plans are under way to map Georges Bank. DFO Science also plans to carry out a pilot mapping project with the Canadian Coastal Guard in the mouth of the Bay of Fundy.

In the Gulf of St. Lawrence region, John Legault has completed habitat mapping for the Magdalene Shallows. Different approaches were used for the Bay of Fundy and Gulf regions. The pros and cons of each approach will be identified and funding will be sought to bring the two datasets together.

Studies will be carried out on the ecosystem of the Sable Gully which is adjacent to a proposed gas production area. A management plan and conservation strategy will be developed. The work will initially be done by a federal committee, but will then include all stakeholders.

AGRICULTURE AND AGRI-FOOD CANADA: John MacLeod reported on the activities at the Agricultural Research Centre. He stated that the Centre was involved in soil conservation research and, in particular, research relating to the reduction of soil erosion.

The Centre is involved in the following:

- the Roundtable on Land in identifying soil quality parameters;
- investigating the use of GPS in relation to harvesting equipment to monitor yield and to identify the impact of erosion on productivity;
- investigating the effects of aquacultural wastes on wetlands, in collaboration with P.E.I. Dept. of Environment.

The Centre has selected MapInfo as the GIS it will be using for mapping.

A meeting of the Agricultural Institute of Canada and the Canadian Society of Soil Scientists will be held on 16 August in Truro, NS.

NEW BRUNSWICK: Réjean Castonguay reported on the status of the NB Coastal Data bases; a copy of his overheads are attached. The series consists of 325 windows which will be available in three formats: digital colour orthophotos, a coastal topographic database and coastal land database.

An RFP will be issued in the fall for a PID (Property Identification) databank. The databank will contain the PID, status, legal description and date and time. It will be made available on-line. The Province is moving towards paperless guaranteed land titles and boundaries. Lawyers and surveyors will have to comply with established standards.

The NBGIC is planning to make data accessible via the WWW in September 1997.

The conversion from NAD77 to NAD83 is scheduled for completion in the fall of 1997.

Réjean provided members with a set of diskettes containing a copy of the Acrobat Reader software and an example of an application in PDF (Portable Data Format).

NOVA SCOTIA: Brad Fay reported that the NS Land Use Committee had been disbanded. Its land information function has been moved to a GeoNova Advisory Committee. GeoNova promotes a corporate approach to the management and use of data and information in the Province. It also encourages the vertical integration of data. Initiatives under GeoNova currently include:

- The NSTDB (Nova Scotia Topographical Database) and the property records database will be completed this year.
- The Coastal Mapping database at 1:50 000 is in progress.
- The LRMI (Land Information Management Infrastructure) project will produce software tools to manage and provide access to land information.
- An RFP is being issued to scope a civic addressing project.
- Access via the Internet to the property ownership database will be launched in the near future. Access will be restricted to account holders.
- Personal property registration is being automated and centralized.

Proposed GeoNova corporate database initiatives include civic addresses, a road network, buildings inventory, service centres and geographically-linked StatsCan data.

The NS State of the Environment Report will be available in December. The first draft will be updated electronically by participating departments. It was suggested that a link to the Report be provided in the ACZISC Homepage.

ACTION 21.19: Claudette LeBlanc to add a link to Nova Scotia's State of the Environment report in the ACZISC Homepage.

Irwin Judson reported that workshops are being organized in five regions of NS under the umbrella of the Round Table on the Environment and the Economy. The workshops will be held from early June to the end of September. The first one will take place in Shelburne. The purpose of the workshops is to determine how best to achieve stakeholder and community-based input in coastal zone management. Another N.S. initiative under the auspices of the Round Table is the proposed establishment of a Coastal Zone Centre of Excellence, initially to be housed at the OIC.

A Petitcodiac 2000 meeting was held in Moncton on 4 June to discuss issues re the causeway. Fishermen from the upper Bay of Fundy are concerned about silt affecting their lobster grounds. The need for more information was identified.

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND: Jim Ramsay reported that most coastal mapping in PEI concentrated on the land side because of agricultural activity. Digital coverage for base mapping and property lines is available for the entire Province. Soils, forest cover and contours are also available. The final connection between the layers is currently being made.

Jim reported the following:

- PEI has good working agreements with DFO in respect to shellfish leases. This data will be incorporated in the provincial database in 1998.
- PEI has a cooperative agreement with NS and NB re GPS. The Province will have a GPS network in place this fall and is considering the use of GPS for correcting the coastline and other applications. The PEI GPS network will consist of 32 points tied into the federal grid. The values for the points have been published.
- PEI is checking into the possibility of using the provincial ortho imagery to create a combined base map in 3-5 years consisting of the ortho imagery and the line mapping.

6. **UPDATES**

COASTAL ZONE CANADA CONFERENCE SERIES: Larry Hildebrand reported that CZC'98 will take place in Victoria, BC from 30 August to 3 September 1998. CZC'98 will have a community focus.

The CZC Conferences are organized under the guidance of the CZC Association. The AGM of the CZC Association will be held on 18 June at Environment Canada in Dartmouth. Membership in the Association is being encouraged; Larry distributed membership forms.

ECONOMIC STUDY: Mike Butler distributed a summary of the proposed study on the Impact of Atlantic Canada's Coastal Zone Activities on the Economy of the Region and its Provinces. The initial study will focus on Nova Scotia and will be carried out by Maurice Mandale, former senior economist with APICS.

Funding for the study is being finalized. \$30K has been raised: \$10K from DFO Ottawa and \$5K from each of EC Atlantic, the NS Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture, the NS Department of the Environment, and the NS Economic Renewal Agency. The contract is being administered by the OIC and a Steering Committee will be established to monitor progress and deliverables.

GULF OF MAINE COUNCIL ON THE MARINE ENVIRONMENT: A meeting of the GoM Council and Working Group is scheduled for 10-12 June.

ICOIN: ICOIN is being merged with the developing SeaLane program. A document describing recent developments (copy attached) was distributed.

ECNASAP: Mike Butler reported briefly on the Canada/U.S. East Coast of North America Strategic Assessment Project (ECNASAP). The Project had two focus areas: an Inshore Case Study and an Offshore Case Study. Mike reported that the Project had been successfully completed and that the ECNASAP approach and philosophy was now being incorporated into other projects, e.g. DFO's Cod Mortality Project.

7. **ANNOUNCEMENTS AND PUBLICATIONS**

Andy Sherin reported that CoastGIS 97 will be held in Aberdeen from 29-31 August; CoastGIS 99 will be held in South Africa and 2001 may be held in Canada.

Larry Hildebrand reported that CZ 97 will be held in Boston from 20-26 July.

Mike Butler reported on various documents and publications, located on the side tables, available for review or for distribution.

8. **OTHER BUSINESS**

No new business was discussed.

9. **NEXT MEETING AND ADJOURNMENT**

ACZISC Meeting #22 is scheduled for 15 October 1997 in Fredericton, NB.

ACZISC Meeting #21 adjourned at 17:00 hrs.