

# MINUTES OF ACZISC MEETING #36 and 10-YEAR ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS

## *Atlantic Coastal Zone Information Steering Committee*

Date: Thursday, 9 May 2002, 0830 - 1700 hrs.

Location: Sobey Centre, Saint Mary's University  
Robie Street, Halifax, Nova Scotia

---

### **PARTICIPANTS** (<sup>1</sup> indicates ACZISC member; <sup>2</sup> indicates Executive Committee member)

| <b>Name</b>                           | <b>Affiliation</b>  | <b>Tel. No.</b> |
|---------------------------------------|---|-----------------|
| Tim Anderson <sup>1</sup>             | Fisheries and Oceans Canada, Oceans and Environment Branch, NF Region   | 709-772-2852    |
| Joe Arbour                            | Fisheries and Oceans Canada, Oceans and Environment Branch, Maritimes Region (for Faith Scattolon <sup>1,2</sup> )    | 902-426-2065    |
| Cdr George Borgal <sup>1</sup>        | National Defence, TRINITY, JOSIC  | 902-427-0550    |
| Michael Butler <sup>1,2</sup> , Chair | International Oceans Institute of Canada  | 902-494-1977    |
| Norval Collins <sup>1</sup>           | Private sector - Champlain Inc  | 902-425-4802    |
| Chris Corkett                         | APICS <sup>1</sup> and Biology, Dalhousie University  | 902-494-7016    |
| Dave Finley <sup>1</sup>              | Government of New Brunswick, Service New Brunswick  | 506-444-4644    |
| Gary Frail                            | RCMP  | 902-458-2237    |
| Carol Lee Giffin <sup>1</sup>         | National Defence, Formation Environment Office  | 902-427-0550    |
| Michel Goguen                         | Public Works and Government Services Canada (for Bill Blight <sup>1</sup> )   | 506-851-6784    |
| Leslie Grattan <sup>1</sup>           | Government of Newfoundland and Labrador, Environmental Planning and Management Projects                               | 709-729-3782    |
| Larry Hildebrand <sup>1</sup>         | Environment Canada, Sustainable Communities and Ecosystems Division   | 902-426-2131    |
| Bill Horne <sup>1</sup>               | Environmental Emergencies Section, Environment Canada   | 902-426-6196    |
| Justin Huston <sup>1</sup>            | Government of Nova Scotia, Agriculture and Fisheries  | 902-424-2996    |
| Kimberley Jenner                      | Geological Survey of Canada – Atlantic  | 902-426-2582    |
| Claudette LeBlanc                     | ACZISC Secretariat  | 902-494-1977    |
| Dick MacDougall <sup>1</sup>          | Fisheries and Oceans Canada, Canadian Hydrographic Service  | 902-426-3497    |
| Jaime Orser                           | Government of New Brunswick, Department of the Environment and Local Government (for Marianne Janowicz <sup>1</sup> ) | 506-444-4391    |
| Monique Plamondon                     | Ministère de l'Environnement, Gouvernement du Québec  | 418-521-3813    |
| Brent Rowley <sup>2</sup>             | Private sector - Champlain Inc  | 902-420-1435    |

## ***PARTICIPANTS (cont'd)***

|                             |   |              |
|-----------------------------|---|--------------|
| Andy Sherin <sup>1</sup>    | Natural Resources Canada, Geological Survey of Canada – Atlantic            | 902-426-7582 |
| Kohila Thana                | Fisheries and Oceans Canada, Informatics Branch (representing John O'Neill) | 902-426-6014 |
| Eric Theriault <sup>1</sup> | Canada – NS Offshore Petroleum Board  | 902-496-0742 |
| Danika van Proosdij         | Saint Mary's University   | 902-420-5737 |
| Cameron Wilson <sup>1</sup> | Natural Resources Canada, GeoConnections Secretariat                        | 613-996-6377 |

### 1. ***WELCOME and INTRODUCTION OF PARTICIPANTS***

Mike Butler, ACZISC Chair, called Meeting #36 to order at 08:30 hrs. He welcomed members and observers. A roundtable introduction of all participants followed.

### 2. ***ADOPTION OF AGENDA, and REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR MEETING #35***

The provisional Agenda for Meeting #36 was reviewed. Mike Butler stated the business portion of the meeting would be shorter than usual to accommodate the ACZISC 10-Year Anniversary Celebrations, scheduled for 15:00-17:00 hrs. The agenda was approved (attached).

The draft minutes of ACZISC Meeting #35 were reviewed. The following revision was made:

**Page 7 PRESENTATION:** "Dave Finley stated that Spatial Fusion was being tested for property registration." ***should read*** ... "Dave Finley stated that CARIS has developed an application prototype which emulates the NB property browser."

The minutes were approved with the above correction. The revised minutes will be posted on the ACZISC website at <http://dal.ca/aczisc/docs>

### 3. ***STATUS OF ACTION ITEMS***

The Action Items from Meeting #35 were reviewed. All Action Items were carried out or are in progress. They will be reported on under the relevant agenda item.

### 4. ***SCHEDULE OF UPCOMING ACZISC MEETINGS***

The schedule of upcoming ACZISC meetings was discussed. The following dates were provisionally selected:

#### **CHARLOTTETOWN, PEI:**

- ***Strategic Planning Review: 1300-1500 hrs, Wednesday, 11 September 2002***
- ***ICM Working Group Meeting: 1500-1700 hrs, Wednesday, 11 September 2002***
- ***ACZISC Meeting #37: 0830-1630 hrs, Thursday, 12 September 2002***

#### **ST. JOHN'S, NF:**

- ***ACZISC Meeting #38: 0830-1630 hrs, Thursday, 30 January 2003***

George Borgal reported that he would not be attending the September ACZISC meetings due to prior commitments. Mike Butler stated that it is often not possible to select dates which are suitable to all the members. The dates are provisional and will be changed if a significant number of members are not able to attend.

## 5. **ACZISC WORKPLAN**

**ACZISC EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:** Mike Butler reminded members that the ACZISC Executive Committee consists of Ken Paul (First Nations representative); Brent Rowley (Private Sector representative); Faith Scattolon (Federal representative); and Mike Butler (ACZISC Secretariat representative). Efforts are being made to identify a provincial representative; provincial members will be contacted by the Secretariat to identify a 'volunteer'. The Executive Committee provides advice to the Secretariat

### ***ACTION 36.1: Secretariat and provincial representatives to identify ASAP a provincial member for the ACZISC Executive Committee***

A meeting of the ACZISC Executive Committee was held on 2 May at BIO. Ken Paul, Brent Rowley, Faith Scattolon and Mike Butler were in attendance.

Mike reported that the agenda items for the Executive Committee meeting were: Federal and Provincial representation on the Executive Committee; Finances; Incorporation; Strategic Planning; Membership; 10-Year celebration; CCMD Study on "Horizontal"; and the PEI Coastal Economic Study.

The report entitled *Using Horizontal Tools to Work Across Boundaries* was produced by the Canadian Centre for Management Development (CCMD); it focuses on the challenges associated with horizontal initiatives and provides guidance for success. The ACZISC was used as one of the case studies for the report. The others were the Strength in Diversity Program (SIDP); the Business Council of Manitoba Aboriginal Education Awards Program; and the Canadian Maritime Network (CANMARNET). The report is available online at <http://www.ccmd-ccg.gc.ca/pdfs/htmlversion/horz%5Fe.html>. Mike added that the report could be used to assist in acquiring funds for the ACZISC.

The details re the other discussions will be reported under the appropriate agenda items of today's ACZISC meeting.

**ACZISC SECRETARIAT:** Mike Butler reported that the Secretariat is located at the International Oceans Institute of Canada (IOIC), 1226 LeMarchant Street in Halifax where it is provided with rent-free offices, access to the Dalhousie University computer network, etc. The ACZISC Secretariat is staffed on a full-time basis by two personnel: the ACZISC Chair (himself) and Claudette LeBlanc, the Project Officer/WebMs, with the support of a part-time financial officer and secretary. A draft ACZISC/IOIC 'Letter of Agreement' has been prepared, with input from members, and submitted to the IOIC for its consideration. The LOA outlines the collaborative, but independent, relationship between the two organizations.

**ACZISC MEMBERSHIP:** ACZISC members appointed since the last ACZISC meeting were welcomed:

- Justin Huston, NS Department of Agriculture and Fisheries, joins Ed Light in representing the Government of Nova Scotia. Justin is the replacement for Andy Cameron.
- Carol Lee Giffin, Formation Environment Office, joins Cdr George Borgal in representing National Defence.

Mike Butler stated that members represent jurisdictions with a mandate and/or interest in the coastal zone. The jurisdictions currently represented on the ACZISC are:

- Atlantic Provinces: New Brunswick, Newfoundland and Labrador, Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island
- Federal departments/agencies: Environment Canada, Fisheries and Oceans Canada, Industry Canada, National Defence, Natural Resources Canada, Parks Canada, Public Works and Government Services Canada
- First Nations

- Private sector: Champlain Inc and NATI
- Academia: Atlantic Provinces Council on the Sciences
- Other: Canadian Centre for Marine Communications, Canada-Nova Scotia Offshore Petroleum Board, International Oceans Institute of Canada

Jurisdictions may appoint two or more representatives in order to fully appreciate and benefit from the geomatic and policy strategic thrusts of the ACZISC.

Potential additional membership for the ACZISC was discussed. The following were identified as potential members: ACOA, CNOBP, OCIPEP, Agriculture and Agri-food Canada, Health Canada, RCMP, and the Canadian Food Inspection Agency.

***ACTION 36.2: Secretariat to continue contacting agencies identified as potential members of the ACZISC***

An up-to-date list of ACZISC members and Executive Committee members is attached.

**BUDGET / FUNDING:** Mike Butler distributed copies of the updated ACZISC Budget/Financial Statement for 2001-2002; the Summary of ACZISC Membership Dues/Revenues (2000-2002); and the proposed budget/revenue documents for 2002-2003. Copies are attached. The statements were reviewed.

Mike reported the following:

- The proposed 2002-2003 ACZISC Secretariat budget is approximately \$153K. \$130K is to be provided by the federal and provincial member agencies on a 50:50 shared basis.
- The remainder of the revenue is to be "secured" by the Secretariat, mainly as fees earned for managing and coordinating projects of relevance to the ACZISC mandate but separate from the ACZISC Workplan.
- 2001-2002 was the last fiscal year that funds were contributed to the ACZISC by the CMP on behalf of the Maritime Provinces. The termination of funding support was in part due to the new focus of the CMP on e-commerce but also due to the lack of support for the ACZISC by the provincial intergovernmental affairs departments.
- Efforts are being made to identify an alternate provincial funding mechanism for 2002-03 as an interim measure. Discussions are taking place with the individual Maritime Provinces. Nova Scotia and Newfoundland and Labrador have contributed \$25K and \$10K respectively.
- Discussions are also taking place with ACOA re 'bridging' funding for 2002-2003. Private sector support will be important if the ACZISC is to be successful in this endeavour.
- A proposal will be submitted to the Council of Atlantic Premiers (CAP) for long-term funding beginning in 2003-04. The identification of a 'champion' Premier may help the cause. George Borgal suggested that the proposal be prepared and submitted ASAP.
- As per an action item from the last meeting, the format of the financial statements has been revised by the ACZISC Financial Officer to more clearly identify the portion of Secretariat salaries derived from contract revenues. The new format was discussed and considered to be useful and effective.

***ACTION 36.3: Secretariat and Executive Committee to continue developing a 'bridging' funding approach/formula for the ACZISC for fiscal year 2002-2003***

***ACTION 36.4: Secretariat and Executive Committee to develop ASAP a strategy for submitting a proposal to the Council of Atlantic Premiers for ACZISC funding support beginning in fiscal year 2003-2004***

***ACTION 36.5: ACZISC members to review and provide comments to the Secretariat by 30 June 2002 on the proposed 2002/2003 Budget and Sources of Revenue***

**ACZISC WORKPLAN:** Mike Butler stated that the ACZISC 2002-03 Workplan would be prepared and incorporated into the 10-Year Strategic Plan prior to the next ACZISC Meeting. The Workplan will be based on discussions and direction provided during the Strategic Planning Sessions.

Mike added that the number and structure of working groups required to deliver the ACZISC Workplan and the Strategic Plan would be reviewed. Overlap between the activities and responsibilities of the groups will be minimized.

Dave Finley enquired if WG membership was restricted to ACZISC members. Mike replied that it was not.

***ACTION 36.6: Secretariat to prepare a draft ACZISC 2002-2003 Workplan by 31 July 2002 based on the Strategic Plan and distribute the draft Workplan to members for feedback***

***ACTION 36.7: Secretariat and Working Group co-chairs to review the requirement for and structure of the ACZISC Working Groups***

**COMMUNICATIONS WORKING GROUP:** The ACZISC Communications Working Group is chaired by Mike Butler. He stated that, based on the Strategic Planning sessions held to date, ACZISC communication would be focusing more on networking and outreach, especially with community groups and First Nations. The ACZISC communication tools would continue to include:

- ACZISC monthly Updates distributed by email mid-month
- ACZISC website, updated on a regular and frequent basis
- Coastal Zone Info, a 2-page information bulletin on ACZISC activities distributed at appropriate workshops and conferences
- Minutes of ACZISC meetings distributed to the participants of ACZISC meetings and made available in the 'Documents' section of the ACZISC website.

Mike added that most members had been provided with a list of personnel from their jurisdiction on the distribution list for the ACZISC monthly Update. Members were asked to review the list and provide additions, deletions, etc.

***ACTION 36.8: Members to review the list of personnel from their jurisdiction on the distribution list for the Update and provide the Secretariat with feedback***

Mike reported that the Secretariat would be preparing a presentation for the SGSLCS Steering Committee Meeting (11 May, Moncton); one for the BoFEP Workshop / Coastal Forum (13-16 May, Wolfville); and two entitled "The Ocean Sector as a Contribution to the Economies of the Atlantic Provinces" and "The Atlantic Coastal Zone Information Steering Committee and Horizontality" for the upcoming CZC 2002 Conference (24-28 June in Hamilton). He added that 'ACZISC communication' was the responsibility of all members, in addition to the Secretariat. It was suggested that a standard overhead presentation in Powerpoint format be prepared by the Secretariat and distributed to members for use at appropriate events.

***ACTION 36.9: Secretariat to prepare a 'standard' ACZISC presentation for use by members and the Secretariat***

Larry Hildebrand suggested that issues of Coastal Zone Info be prepared for both the BoFEP Workshop and the CZC 2002 Conference.

***ACTION 36.10: Secretariat to prepare a CZ Info sheet for both the upcoming BoFEP Workshop / Coastal Forum and CZC 2002***

**DATABASE DIRECTORY WORKING GROUP:** The ACZISC Database Directory Working Group (DDWG) is chaired by Claudette LeBlanc. She and Cameron Wilson reported the following:

- The Atlantic Coastal Database Directory of metadata was initiated by the ACZISC when it was formed in 1992. It has been updated on a regular basis by the Secretariat with the assistance of the members.
- The Directory is accessible through a web interface on the ACZISC website which resides on a server at Dalhousie University.
- Last year, the DDWG recommended that the ACZISC join forces with GeoConnections to deliver and maintain metadata for Atlantic Canada. Over the next two years, the Atlantic Coastal Database Directory will be integrated within the Atlantic Canada Information Portal (ACIP), the Atlantic Canadian window on the GeoConnections Discovery Portal (GDP). GDP is the prime discovery and access component of the Canadian Geospatial Data Infrastructure (CGDI). This approach was recommended to:
  - eliminate duplication of effort between the ACZISC and GeoConnections
  - capitalize on resources, both expertise and funding, available from/through GeoConnections
  - reduce the workload of the database managers responsible for producing and maintaining metadata.
- Krista Fraser, who had been on secondment from the NSGC to GeoConnections, worked with Claudette last year to build metadata content and database connections. Krista recently accepted a position with the Government of PEI. An agreement is being developed between GeoConnections and Service NB for a resource person to replace Krista. Discussions will be held to review the support that may be provided through the agreement for metadata and connectivity issues of interest to the ACZISC.
- ACZISC members participate in the Marine Advisory Committee which has been established to advise GeoConnections with regard to the specific requirements of the marine community.
- Future efforts will also focus on collaboration between the ACZISC and the GeoConnections Secretariat to improve the functionality of ACIP, with emphasis on access and maintenance over the long term and its usability for coastal and marine applications. In addition efforts will be made to encourage database managers to register their databases with ACIP and to make them available online.

***ACTION 36.11 Cameron Wilson and Dave Finley to inform the Secretariat when the secondment agreement between GeoConnections and Service New Brunswick is finalized.***

***ACTION 36.12 Cameron Wilson, Dave Finley and the Secretariat to review the support that may be provided through the agreement for metadata and connectivity issues of interest to the ACZISC***

***ACTION 36.13 Claudette LeBlanc to organize ASAP a meeting of the ACZISC Database Directory Working Group and interested members to consider the future evolution and growth of the ACZISC Database Directory and the connectivity of databases in Atlantic Canada***

**COASTAL MAPPING WORKING GROUP:** Mike Butler reported that, during the last two years, efforts of the Coastal Mapping Working Group had been focused on the coastal high-resolution data collection projects undertaken for the Annapolis Valley, Bras d'Or Lakes and PEI and the subsequent analysis of the data. CoGS, the Champlain Institute and the ACZISC played a coordinating role, including initial negotiations and costing re the sensors, the aircraft mobilization and some of the subsequent groundtruthing. A number of papers have been prepared and presentations made on individual components of the high-resolution data collection project by the project partners. Andy Sherin added that the GSCA would like to see the high resolution data collection and analysis duplicated for the Bouctouche region in NB.

Bob Maher and Tim Webster (Centre of Geographic Sciences) and Brent Rowley (Champlain Institute/EIT) are considering the preparation of an overview document on the project. The paper would include the economic benefits resulting from the collaboration and the successes and lessons learned.

*Discussion:*

Andy Sherin stated that Terra Surveys will be re-flying some areas in the Annapolis Valley in November because of problems with the data collected during the initial flight.

Dick MacDougall reported that Paul Bellemare was conducting a review re the possible acquisition of a SHOALS (Scanning Hydrographic Operational Airborne Lidar Survey System) marine lidar system for Canada at a cost of \$4 million. He added that marine lidars were more 'powerful' than their land counterparts.

**DATA EXCHANGE AND STANDARDS WORKING GROUP:** The Data Exchange and Standards Working Group is co-chaired by Andy Sherin, Geological Survey of Canada - Atlantic. Andy reported on items of interest:

- A project for shoreline definitions is underway in the DFO Laurentian Region; the team leader is Patrick Dupont. The GeoConnections Framework Node provided funding for the project.
- A co-chair is being sought for the Working Group to replace Réjean Castonguay who retired on 31 March.

**INTEGRATED COASTAL MANAGEMENT WORKING GROUP:** The ACZISC ICM Working Group is co-chaired by Leslie Grattan, Government of NF and Labrador, and Faith Scattolon, DFO. AN ICM Working Group meeting was not held in conjunction with today's ACZISC meeting due to the Strategic Planning Session. An ICM WG meeting will be held from 1500-1700 hrs on 11 September in Charlottetown in conjunction with ACZISC Meeting #37.

Leslie stated that the ICM Working Group is composed of ACZISC members with a particular interest in, or responsibility for, ICM policy. The Working Group reviews ICM policy developments and implementation

## 6. **ACZISC 2002-2012 STRATEGIC PLAN**

Mike Butler reported that efforts were made to 'focus' the discussions and proposed activities for the ACZISC at the Strategic Planning Session held yesterday (8 May 2002) in Halifax. He reviewed key points, including revisions/additions to be made to the DRAFT 10-Year Strategic Plan: add a 'distilled' definition for ICM, a vision for the ACZISC and the ACZISC strategic thrusts; explain the uniqueness of the ACZISC's horizontality and the efficiency and linkages established as a result of the ACZISC.

The issue of incorporating the ACZISC was discussed. Currently the ACZISC is not a legal entity which makes it more difficult to access funds and causes concern to some member agencies with regard to payment of dues and accountability. The incorporation of the ACZISC as a not-for-profit agency within the Incorporation Act of Nova Scotia will be reviewed as a possible solution. This would entail additional expenses such as an audit; this is currently covered under the IOIC audit.

*Discussion:*

Larry Hildebrand commented that accountability must be addressed in the next draft of the Strategic Plan. He added that the Gulf of Maine Council could be used as a model for incorporation. The Council is a committee similar to the ACZISC. Legal bodies which act as fiscal agents have been established for both the Canada and U.S. components.

Andy Sherin added that incorporation would require a constitution, by-laws, etc. Models are available.

The Action Items resulting from the Strategic Planning Session are as follows:

***ACTION 36.14 Secretariat to prepare the 3<sup>rd</sup> draft of the ACZISC Strategic Plan by 30 June 2002 in consultation with Jessie Davies and email the 3<sup>rd</sup> draft to members for their review and comments***

***ACTION 36.15 Members and other individuals to provide the Secretariat with feedback on the 3<sup>rd</sup> draft of the ACZISC Strategic Plan by 31 July 2002***

***ACTION 36.16 Secretariat to prepare the 4<sup>th</sup> draft of the ACZISC Strategic Plan based on members' comments by 31 August 2002 and email the 4<sup>th</sup> draft to members***

***ACTION 36.17 Secretariat to organize a Strategic Planning Review on 11 September in Charlottetown in association with ACZISC Meeting #37 (12 May 2002, also in Charlottetown)***

***ACTION 36.18 Secretariat to review the pros and cons of incorporating the ACZISC and to report to members at the next meeting***

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

**NATIONAL DEFENCE:** George Borgal, TRINITY JOSIC, reported the following:

- The Open House at the Bedford Institute of Oceanography (BIO) on 27-28 April 2002 was a very successful event and a good example of a 'horizontal' exercise. The event marked the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Institute.
- National Defence has an agreement with Provincial Airlines of Newfoundland for the provision of real-time vessel information to MARLANT.
- An Automatic Identification System (AIS), an IMO initiative, developed by ICAN (St. John's) is being implemented in the St. Lawrence Seaway and Gulf of St. Lawrence to track large ships. Real-time information re location and headings of the vessels will be monitored via transponders. A global tracking system will be implemented in due course under the aegis of IMO. This is being precipitated by the 09/11 events. The AIS information will be accessible via CANMARNET.
- The Canadian Maritime Network (CANMARNET) is a system designed for communication and sharing information between federal departments working on maritime affairs. However, the system does not feature direct access and write privileges. CANMARNET is coordinated by MARLANT. Improvements to be made to the system include the addition of pollution updates and commercial imagery from multiple sources.
- The Interoperability Working Group, which operates at the ADM level, is implementing CanNet to address North American security via information exchange on the web. Access is controlled and limited to government use.

- Following extensive consultations, shipping lanes in the Bay of Fundy/Gulf of Maine will be moved to protect the endangered North Atlantic Right Whale.

Carol Lee Giffin, Formation Environment Office, reported the following:

- The Formation Environment Office (FEnv) initiated a project, including a GIS system, for its management of the Maritime Operation Areas. The project combines information on the activities conducted by Navy ships with the known natural resource information compiled from DFO, EC, NRCan, Parks Canada, Transport Canada and other sources. The study integrates the information, looks at the potential interactions between the resources and the military activities, and provides mitigation measures. The project will aid MARLANT in managing its activities such that they occur in areas or during times of the year which will minimize potential impacts to the ecosystem. It is intended that the information will be accessible by DND and other Government departments. The GIS format will allow for the information to be updated as new data is obtained.
- Another initiative by MARLANT was a study completed in 2001 for the identification of shipwrecks and dumpsites with the potential risk of having UXO's (Unexploded Ordnance). This study reviewed historical data from sources such as diver manuals, tour books, archaeological databases and war records from Canada, U.S., U.K. and Germany. The sites identified were put through a basic risk matrix and then prioritized based on score into priority 1 - high risk, priority 2 - medium risk, and priority 3 – low risk. The matrix considered issues such as depth, proximity to population, recreational use in the area, and economic use (fishing) in the area. Due to the fact that this study was preliminary and based on historical data, the next step is to complete detailed site investigations for the priority 1 sites to validate whether the sites exist, their actual location and level of risk. The data is available in a GIS format. Kyle Kenney is the contact person re dumpsites.
- A study was conducted on water and sediment quality of DND water lots (13 sites) in Halifax Harbour. Sediment samples were analyzed for metals, polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs), polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) and pesticides (DDD,DDE and DDT). Selected sediment samples were analyzed for enterococci counts in regards to diver safety. Water samples were analyzed for general chemistry and for enterococci counts. This study had a GIS component; data points can be added as a layer onto a base map in a GIS system.

*Discussion:*

Danika van Proosdij enquired if consideration could be given to accessing CanNet and CANMARNET by academia. George responded that this could be considered. However, resources would be a major factor in the decision.

Cameron Wilson stated that 'disaster management' was identified as a focus area at the last meeting of the GeoConnections Management Board.

Dick MacDougall enquired re the format of the GIS data. Carol Lee responded that the data is currently in Arc format but that efforts would be made to provide it in a non-proprietary format in the future.

Participants further discussed interoperability and connectivity in terms of facilitating access to and use of data and information. It was suggested that the ACZISC organize a meeting or workshop to address these issues prior to the end of the year.

***ACTION 36.19 Secretariat and Data Exchange and Distribution Working Group to organize a meeting or workshop on interoperability / connectivity***

**FISHERIES AND OCEANS CANADA:** Dick MacDougall, Canadian Hydrographic Service, reported the following:

- The focus of CHS is to convert old charts to a horizontal datum that can be used with GPS. Currently CHS has 160 charts at contract for bilingualism and conversion to the new datum. However, the data is not being updated; data on most charts is 25-30 old.

- Tentative survey plans include the area of northeast Newfoundland between Notre Dame Bay and St. Anthony, Labrador north of Nain, and the Bras d'Or Lakes in support of SIMBOL. The plans are tentative because they may be impacted by the outcome of budget reviews to address \$50M in budget cuts.
- The SeaMap initiative remains unfunded. SeaMap proposes to create a base map of Canada's undersea lands consisting of seabed shape, sediment, plant life and animal life to support integrated management of those lands. SeaMap is a parallel to land base maps which include topography, soils, vegetation and habitation. This year CHS, along with NRCan and DFO Science and Oceans, will collaborate on a project on the Eastern Scotian Shelf to develop a methodology, data access and data requirements, and the science required to implement and support SeaMap when it is funded.
- With respect to the United Nations Convention on the Law Of the Sea (UNCLOS), Canada has an opportunity to extend its jurisdiction over the seabed to the Nose and Tail of the Grand Banks and Flemish Cap. Seabed mapping data, e.g., SeaMap, would be needed to strengthen Canada's claim. Russia has submitted a claim and there should be a decision by June. A new Commission for the Limits of the Continental Shelf has been elected - Canada is not represented because Canada has not yet ratified UNCLOS. The new Minister, Robert Thibault, has been briefed. Action to prepare for an UNCLOS claim does not appear to be a priority at this time.

Joe Arbour, Oceans and Environment Branch, DFO Maritimes Region, reported the following:

- Discussions will be held over the summer and early fall re Canada's Oceans Strategy (COS). Several groups will be approached for feedback.
- DFO is adopting an ecosystem management framework both for Oceans and Science. Bob O'Boyle is leading this initiative to develop an ecosystem approach to fish management. A pilot project is being considered for the Eastern Scotian Shelf.
- 160 individuals participated in the 1st ESSIM Forum Workshop held in Bedford on 20-21 February 2002 at Mount St. Vincent University. The event was very successful and positive feedback was provided. The federal/provincial working group will be meeting at the end of May. The notion of 'utility corridors' is being considered for the region.

*Discussion:*

Mike Butler enquired if ECNASAP (East Coast of North America Strategic Assessment Project) had been an influence of the proposed ecosystem management framework. Joe replied that ECNASAP was often referenced for that purpose. He explained that ECNASAP was a program which codified and documented a process for strategic environmental assessment in coastal and ocean management. The 2-year pilot phase of ECNASAP (1994-1996) consisted of an Inshore Case Study which focused on shellfish resource rehabilitation and an Offshore Case Study which focused on Atlantic groundfish stocks.

Tim Anderson, Oceans and Environment Branch, DFO NF, reported the following:

- Two Canadian Manuscript Reports of Fisheries and Aquatic Sciences published in March:
  - No. 2595 entitled Biophysical overview of Gilbert Bay: A proposed marine protected area in Labrador by C.J. Morris, J.M. Simms and T.C. Anderson. The report summarizes information on the biological communities, physical environment and human activities in Gilbert Bay.
  - No. 2596 entitled Overview of commercial fishing activity in Gilbert Bay, Labrador: Fish harvesters local knowledge and biological observations by C.J. Morris, J.M. Simms and T.C. Anderson. The report summarizes the results of interviews with local fish harvesters and will be used in the development of future management plans.
- Dr. Jon Lien has been appointed chair of the Minister's Advisory Council on Oceans (MACO). The Council was established in 2000 to provide the Minister with independent expert advice on sustainable development, managing the increasing complexity of oceans use, and the engagement of communities and stakeholders in decision-making.
- The Newfoundland and Labrador Legacy Nature trust, an NGO dedicated to the conservation of the natural environment, is sponsoring 'Conservation and Stewardship 2002' on 21-22 May in St. John's. Issues to be considered include Terrestrial Conservation

- and Coastal Zone/Marine Conservation. The National Round Table on the Environment and the Economy will be in attendance and lead a session on 'Emerging Approaches to Conservation in Canada'.
- *Estimating the value of the marine, coastal and ocean resources of Newfoundland and Labrador* was published in March. Both the federal and provincial governments were involved in the preparation of the report.
  - A Katsheshuk fishing vessel caught fire off southern Labrador on 17 March. It carried 430,000 litres of diesel fuel and other oils aboard. The crew abandoned ship and seven days later a tug, the Irving Maple, secured a tow line to the vessel and proceeded to tow it to St. John's. On 29 March the vessel listed and sank 6 nautical miles north of Cape St. Francis. Owners contacted East Coast Response Corporation. The site is being monitored and sampled. REET has been activated.
  - Husky, the developers of the White Rose Offshore Oil Field has publicly announced the decision to proceed with development immediately.
  - Peter Harrison has been named Deputy Minister of DFO.

Kohila Thana, Informatics Branch, reported that she was working on an inventory of data for DFO Oceans and Science.

**APICS:** Chris Corkett, Department of Biology, Dalhousie University and representative of APICS reported that the Atlantic Provinces Council on the Sciences is a 40 year-old organization of Atlantic universities and research organizations. It hosts an annual conference for Biology and Aquaculture students. APICS has a range of committees, including: Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Education, and Aquaculture.

Chris stated that the collapse of the Atlantic cod stock was seen by the rest of the world as one of the ultimate paradigms for a scientific management failure, and one that should be felt more deeply since Canada has a long history of fisheries research. Although he claimed no background in the fisheries, he is attempting to look anew at this problem by asking the question "How can we base our management decisions on sound and valid arguments".

Joe Arbour enquired how Chris would characterize his approach. Chris responded that a discipline of fisheries economics exists in which models, e.g., Gordon-Schaefer model, are not built from data, unlike the data-driven mathematical modelling currently being used in fisheries stock assessment.

**GOVERNMENT OF QUÉBEC:** Monique Plamondon, Québec Department of the Environment, reported the following:

- A Committee consisting of representatives of various Departments and organizations and university researchers are carrying out a coastal area erosion and vulnerability assessment of the North Shore of the St. Lawrence River. Results are expected in 2003. The erosion problem that has been going on for several years could worsen due to climate change. A similar committee is being implemented to examine coastal erosion in the Gaspé.
- OURANOS (Consortium for research on regional climatology and climate change adaptation) will be officially inaugurated on 16 May. This consortium will give Québec the tools necessary to increase its knowledge of climate change and its impact in the Province, and help define the appropriate adaptation actions. OURANOS is distinctive in that multidisciplinary teams of researchers from various backgrounds (Government departments and organizations, universities, private sector) will be working together. Several Québec Departments, Hydro-Québec, four universities and the Canadian Meteorological Centre support OURANOS.
- Québec will participate in the "Impacts and Adaptation" task force created by the National Air Issues Coordinating Committee (NAICC) to determine a framework for an adaptation to climate change. This framework would serve as a guideline to design adaptation measures for the various stakeholders across the country.
- Québec is participating in the task force on adaptation to climate change sponsored by the Conference of New England Governors and the Premiers of Eastern Canada. Québec and

Prince-Edward Island represent Canada in this Group. The task force is presently establishing a list of experts and publications in various fields pertaining to climate change. The task force's mandate will also include a joint project. The Gulf of Maine was mentioned as a possible location to carry out such a project.

Larry Hildebrand stated that the GoM had compiled a list of experts on climate change. He will make the list available to Monique.

**GOVERNMENT OF NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR:** Leslie Grattan, Environmental Planning and Management Projects, reported the following:

- A waste management strategy has been developed for the Province. PEI and NS were used as models.
- Efforts will now be focused on ICM initiatives, beginning with Placentia Bay. This will be based partly on the recommendations of a Working Group established for Placentia Bay.
- Oil spill response is becoming an issue in the Province.
- Kevin Aylward, the new Minister of the Environment, has a strong interest in sustainable development.
- Premier Grimes has announced a provincial commission to review Newfoundland's role in Confederation. The fisheries will probably be an issue.

**GOVERNMENT OF NEW BRUNSWICK:** Jaime Orser, Environment and Local Government, reported the following:

- On 13 February Minister Jardine announced the proposed "Coastal Areas Protection Policy for New Brunswick". The Policy is aimed at protecting the character of coastal areas while sustainably managing coastal development. It outlines a coastal management approach based on sensitivity to impact of development and susceptibility to storm surge. In order to accomplish this, the coastal area is divided into three sensitivity zones: Zone A (the areas closest to the water known as the coastal lands core area that includes beaches, dunes, rock platforms, dyked lands, and salt marshes); Zone B (the buffer area beginning at the edge of Zone A (edge of coastal features/HHWLT) and extending landward 30m); and Zone C (the areas beyond Zone B that form a transition from coastal to inland areas, the extent of which has not been determined). Activities that would be limited or acceptable in these areas are included in the policy document and include acceptable erosion control structures, habitat enhancement and management projects, and construction of new family homes. IT staff have completed the GIS mapping that identifies the coastal features (beaches, dunes, salt marshes, rock platforms, and dyked lands).
- Public consultation on the Coastal Policy occurred in February, March, and April 2002. The public and stakeholders were consulted by two means: 1) a series of open houses in nine coastal communities; and 2) a series of meetings with various sectors, groups, organizations and businesses. Key stakeholders (District Planning Commissions and watershed groups) were enlisted to assist with information sharing and public discussion. A Draft public consultation document, website, and display, as well as a list of stakeholders, were prepared prior to the consultation process.
- During the nine open houses, Environment and Local Government (DELG) IT staff illustrated the potential impact of the coastal policy on individual parcels of land. Coastal landowners were invited to pull up their PID numbers and properties on the GIS. IT staff superimposed the coastal features and 30 m buffer information onto the screen; this allowed the landowners to view their property in proximity to the features. This interactive tool proved meaningful for public participants.
- At this point, the results of the Coastal Policy are being compiled and analyzed. This summer, DELG staff will return to Government with the results of the consultation and strategies for the short and long-term implementation of the Coastal Areas Protection Policy.
- Two major storm surges in 2000 resulted in \$4.5 million damage.
- The DNRE Wetlands Policy also completed its consultation process earlier this spring. Standards for development in the proximity of coastal marshes as outlined in the Wetlands Policy are reiterated in the Coastal Policy.

Dave Finley, Service New Brunswick, reported the following:

- The areas of focus for the coming year are:
  - Exploring mutually beneficial federal/provincial partnering and cost-sharing opportunities, including a SNB/NRCan GeoConnections secondment position to carry on with the work begun by Krista Fraser
  - Creation and maintenance of a national road network based on provincial and municipal datasets
- A user requirements survey has been done for a Structural Administrative Boundaries Data Base. It identifies the boundaries that are important and prioritizes them. Technical specifications will now be developed.
- The Provincial Digital Orthophotos project is continuing. Plans are being made for this year's fieldwork.
- An initial version of the Georeferenced Civic Address Data Base has been created. The focus will now be on gaining commitment, agreeing on maintenance strategy and developing that strategy, and improvement of the initial version of the database.
- Other areas of interest include data integration and the development of a contour layer.

**RCMP:** Gary Frail, Coastal Watch Program, reported that the mandate of the RCMP was expanding and that they were working more closely with DND's TRINITY JOSIC, NORAD and US agencies. The RCMP welcomes any opportunity to speak to groups.

**GOVERNMENT OF NOVA SCOTIA:** Justin Huston, Agriculture and Fisheries, reported that he had been named as the replacement for Andy Cameron on the ACZISC. He and Ed Light will be meeting soon to discuss ways to effectively represent the Government of Nova Scotia on the Committee.

**ENVIRONMENT CANADA:** Larry Hildebrand, Sustainable Communities and Ecosystems Division, reported the following:

- EC Atlantic is spending \$1.3 million per year to support horizontal initiatives, including the ACAP sites, the Gulf of Maine Council, the ACZISC, the Southern Gulf of St. Lawrence Coalition on Sustainability (SGSLCS) and the Bay of Fundy Ecosystem Partnership (BoFEP). He and other EC executives have been meeting in Montréal for the last two days to discuss enabling horizontal initiatives.
- An ACAP Advisory Council has been formed which includes the presidents of the ACAP sites and senior management representatives. The Council will meet quarterly.

Claudette LeBlanc enquired re the status of the economic study currently underway of the total economic impacts (direct, indirect and induced) of the Atlantic Coastal Action Program (ACAP) to the economy of Atlantic Canada. Larry responded that the scope of the study had been expanded and that the report would be available in a couple of weeks.

Bill Horne, Environmental Emergencies Section, reported the following:

- The Environmental Assessment of EnCana's Deep Panuke (previous PanCanadian Petroleum) production project is a comprehensive study being carried out under the CEAA. (Contact: Friederike Kirstein, tel 902-426-8066).
- A number of seismic studies are being done, including one for EnCana's pipeline route to Goldboro, NS. (Contact: Friederike Kirstein, tel 902-426-8066).
- The Offshore Waste Treatment Guidelines sponsored by the two Offshore Boards and the National Energy Board are being revised. A final draft is expected by the end of May; completion is anticipated this summer. (Contact: André Gauthier, tel 902-426-1855).
- The Environmental Studies Research Funds Project (ESRF) 'Oiled Birds Study on the Grand Banks and the Scotian Shelf' is nearing completion (\$60 K). The report is expected soon. (Contact: Francis Weise, tel 709-772-7456).
- NOX and SOX H2S monitors have been ordered for the Air Monitoring Station for Sable Island (\$100 K). Delivery is expected in June. (Contact: Bill Horne, tel 902-426-6196).
- Environment Canada's (EC) sensitivity mapping for the Regional Environmental

Emergencies Team (REET) and the Canadian Shellfish Sanitation Program, Atlantic Region are available (password protected) on EC the website at <http://www.asmp.gc.ca>. (Contact: André LaFlamme, tel 902-426-5324).

- EC, through an initiative of the Gulf of Maine Council, is preparing a Strategic Plan for the Bay of Fundy which includes an inventory of what is going on in the Bay, and a subsequent workshop to discuss these issues. A draft inventory has been prepared. (Contact: Dr. Peter Eaton, tel 902-426-4491).
- A Gulf of Maine Regional Science Committee subcommittee is presently preparing an inventory of marine science projects in the region, including listings, projects objectives, partners, and resources. The inventory is expected to be completed in a couple of weeks. (Contact: Dr. Peter Eaton, tel 902-426-4491).

**PUBLIC WORKS AND GOVERNMENT SERVICES CANADA:** Michel Goguen, Spatial Technology Resources, reported following:

- PWGSC is presently re-tooling its three sweep vessels with new sounders and collection software.
- PWGSC Atlantic is participating in the selection of a software package to collect and process hydrographic information that will serve all of the Department's hydrographic requirements.
- PWGSC is working closely with CHS to coordinate survey efforts and provide CHS with the data collected for inclusion in charting.
- Staff are presently inputting data into PWGSC data management system. This should help in finding and retrieving historical data.
- Another busy survey season is approaching, including: Confederation Bridge; CCG/MNS program; and the Small Craft Harbours (SCH) program.

**CANADA-NOVA SCOTIA OFFSHORE PETROLEUM BOARD:** Eric Theriault, Environmental Affairs, CNSOPB, reported the following:

- The CNSOPB has received a Development Plan from EnCana (PanCanadian) for their proposed Deep Panuke Project.
- Exxon Mobil are working on Tier II of the Sable Offshore Gas Project. They are in the engineering/construction phase of developing the Alma gas field. It is anticipated that Alma will be online producing gas by the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter of 2003.
- Marathon Oil are drilling the Annapolis well on the Scotian Slope using the drill ship West Navion. The water depth is 1700m.
- Shell are drilling the Onondaga Well using the jack up drilling unit, Santa Fe Galaxy 2.
- Chevron Oil have contracted the drill ship Deep Water Millennium to drill an exploratory well on the Scotian Slope. The vessel is expected to arrive on 15 May.
- Canadian Superior may also drill a well in the summer/fall of 2002.
- The CNSOPB has received several applications to carry out seismic programs on the Scotian Shelf this season. None have been approved to date.
- The CNSOPB has received an application from El Paso to conduct a pipeline route survey starting this summer for their Blue Atlantic Transmission System. A gathering pipeline system is planned to be initiated at a location near Sable Island on the Scotian Shelf, continuing SW along the Shelf edge, then to a landfall location in SW Nova Scotia. The main transmission line will initiate at this landfall location and continue through offshore waters to a location on the coast of New Jersey or New York.
- The revision of the *Offshore Waste Treatment Guidelines* is being finalized after a review period of approximately 2 years. These guidelines specify discharge limits for wastes from oil and gas production and exploration facilities. They are applicable for the offshore area on the east and west coasts of Canada, and North of 60 degrees. The guidelines are being co-published by the NEB, CNSOPB and CNOPB. It is anticipated that the Guidelines will be provided to the three Boards for their final approval by the end of June.
- The Environmental Studies Research Fund (ESRF) has recently published an Update of their activities. The update may be found on their website at <http://www.esrfunds.org>
- At the end of March, Dr. Teresa MacNeil submitted her report on the public review of petroleum exploration off the west coast of Cape Breton and in the Sydney Bight area. The

report was submitted to the federal and provincial governments and the CNSOPB. Her conclusions and recommendations are presently under consideration and it is anticipated that a position will be published in the near future. The report may be found on the CNSOPB at <http://www.cnsopb.ns.ca> under 'What's New', and "News".

**SAINT MARY'S UNIVERSITY:** Danika van Proosdij reported the following:

- Overall, there is a need for better information exchange and partnerships between academia (both teaching and research), public and private industries and organizations. In addition, currently academia is not included or encouraged to be involved with intergovernmental data sharing initiatives. Since the students being trained at universities are essentially the future foundation of many government agencies, it would be beneficial for them to be taught using the most up to date information.
- This past winter semester, 16 senior students successfully completed the Applications in GIS course (1 semester) taught by Dr. van Proosdij. Ten of these students were partnered with a 'sponsor' to tackle a real-world issue using ArcView 3.2 and relevant extensions. Sponsors ranged from DFO, DND and Transport Canada to WWF and Meals on Wheels. The responsibility of the sponsoring agency was simply to agree to 1-2 meetings early in the term with the student and the instructor to define a workable student project and provide access to the required data. Based on the needs of their 'sponsor', students formulated their project rationale, purpose and objectives, developed their methodology, accessed/manipulated their base data, and analyzed and discussed their results. The course culminated with a formal poster presentation and reception which was well attended by outside individuals. A complete final report and CD with data documentation were then presented to each sponsor at the end of the course after grading. The next course will be offered in W2004. Anyone interested in sponsoring a student project should contact Danika at tel 902-420-5738 or [dvanproo@stmarys.ca](mailto:dvanproo@stmarys.ca).
- The CFI project to establish MP\_SpARC (Maritime Provinces Spatial Analysis Research Centre) was approved almost 2 years ago; however, there have been major delays in receiving matching funds from ACOA. Danika was informed one week prior to last year's fall term that the University must apply to the Atlantic Innovation Fund (AIF) program; this was done and a response is awaited. An alternative funding source has been identified and it is now anticipated that the unit will be operational by mid-late fall.

**NATURAL RESOURCES CANADA:** Andy Sherin, Geological Survey of Canada - Atlantic, reported the following:

- The Earth Science Sector (ESS) of NRCan has approved a new program structure for Geomatics Canada and the Geological Survey of Canada based upon results based management (outcomes) and the government's priority issues. The Programs will be further developed through internal workshops and consultation with partners and stakeholders between now and the fall. See the attached list of programs and descriptions.
- The Sustainable Communities Initiative of ESS has several projects in communities in Atlantic Canada. Access their website for more information - <http://www.sci.gc.ca>
- Coastal Impacts of Climate Change and Sea-Level Rise on PEI (GSC Open File 4261) is available on CD-ROM for \$40. Contact Susan Merchant at tel 902-426-3410 or email [merchant@agc.bio.ns.ca](mailto:merchant@agc.bio.ns.ca).
- The Open House at the Bedford Institute of Oceanography (18-21 April) attracted over 12,000 cars and their occupants. GSC Atlantic distributed business cards to promote their coastal website <http://www.nrcan.gc.ca/COASTWEB>
- GSC Atlantic's coastal project funded by the Canadian Space Agency (CSA) was recently reviewed by CSA staff. The project is investigating attribution of the coast using spaceborne sensors. The work is focused on two areas where the GSC Atlantic has collected extensive ground truth information, the Beaufort Sea coast and the north shore of PEI. IKONOS, ENVISAT and Radarsat imagery is being analyzed as well as CASI and airborne polarimetric SAR as tests for the applicability of hyperspectral and Radarsat II satellites. One focus of the work is on the identification of sea ice and shore fast ice. Contact Steve Solomon, the project leader, for more information.
- Two field programs of interest: GSC Atlantic will finally conduct a multibeam bathymetry

- survey in the Bouctouche area of New Brunswick. Contact: Don Forbes. Ground truth surveys will also be conducted on Georges Bank.
- Through the GSC's national initiative of the Geoscience Data Repository, GSC Atlantic will acquire enterprise GIS infrastructure. The GSCA intends to use it in conjunction with the CHS Source Data Base to deliver information for the eastern Scotian Shelf.
  - Two reports are in preparation: 1) Review of anthropogenic change in the coastline of Pictou County from 1988 to 2001; and 2) Coastal geomorphology of Lake Melville from Rigolet to Paradise River.

Cameron Wilson, GeoConnections, reported the following:

- A new person seconded from SNB is expected to join the Access Advisory Node shortly to continue support for east coast stakeholders.
- Excerpts from the GeoConnections Management Board Meeting held on 25 April 2002:
  - Access: Stakeholder focus is moving from the "provider" to the "consumer" side of the supply chain. The next major release of the Discovery Portal is scheduled for June, and the underlying software will be made available free of charge to any GeoConnections partner. There are currently 11,000+ products registered with Discovery Portal, an increase of 21% from March 2001 to March 2002.
  - Framework Data: Plans include the completion of a reciprocity agreement that will be used for all approved projects in order to ensure the right for CGDI and its partners to make the resulting data sets available.
  - Policy: The Policy Node is working to facilitate the development of a partnership model for the production, maintenance and distribution of GeoBase road network data; is proposing to develop a harmonized set of licenses; and studying the development of policies and procedures addressing the long-term preservation of and access to digital geospatial data.
  - National Atlas of Canada: A new website will be released on 13 May. A complete re-design of its front-end and interfaces will provide simplified access to its content and services. The Web mapping tool has been replaced to allow new CGDI services to be offered.
  - Marine: GeoConnections is working closely with DFO and other agencies to establish regional and thematic marine projects to implement and populate the DFO GeoPortal and the MGDI Marine Geospatial Data Infrastructure (MGDI).
- George Anderson, currently Deputy Minister (Intergovernmental Affairs), Privy Council Office, becomes Deputy Minister of Natural Resources. Peter Harrison, currently Deputy Minister of Natural Resources, becomes Deputy Minister of Fisheries and Oceans.
- Prime Minister Chrétien today announced the appointment of Mr. Alexander Himelfarb as Clerk of the Privy Council and Secretary to the Cabinet, effective 13 May 2002. Mr. Himelfarb will serve as the 19<sup>th</sup> Clerk of the Privy Council.

**PRIVATE SECTOR/CHAMPLAIN INSTITUTE**: Norval Collins reported the following:

- Champlain Institute Inc. has changed its marketing name from Champlain Institute to Champlain Inc. to better convey the idea of a private sector consortium that bids on export-related projects. The organization has not changed, and still involves government, educational facilities and business.
- Champlain Inc. has been working on two projects in the northeastern US. A user needs analysis has been completed for the Maine Atlantic Salmon Commission, and a pilot GIS management application is being constructed, along with a terms of reference for creation of an overall GIS system for the Salmon Commission. A trends analysis of wetlands in New York Adirondacks State Park is also progressing and about half the photo interpretation of 1985 and 1995 leaf-off false colour images has been completed. A field trip to the park for groundtruthing is expected to occur in June.
- Champlain Inc. is also beginning to prepare a project team on disaster planning to undertake a pilot project in San Jose, Costa Rica, as part of the Sustainable Cities Initiative in that country. Development of the pilot project, with expected funding by CIDA Inc. and/or ACOA, will provide proven experience to market climate change-related environmental planning, including flood risk mapping, in the northeastern US.

## **UPDATES ON ACZISC RELATED PROGRAMS**

**BAY OF FUNDY ECOSYSTEM PARTNERSHIP:** Larry Hildebrand reported that the 5<sup>th</sup> Bay of Fundy Science Workshop and Coastal Forum would be held on 13-16 May 2002 in Wolfville, NS. BoFEP has a strong science foundation and is making efforts to engage communities and share knowledge. Further Information on BoFEP is available at <http://www.auracom.com/~bofep/>

**COASTAL ECONOMIC STUDIES:** It was reported that coastal economic studies had been completed for the four Atlantic Provinces:

- *Estimating the Economic Value of Coastal and Ocean Resources: The Case of Nova Scotia* (1998);
- *The Economic Value of Marine-Related Resources in New Brunswick* (2000);
- the recently published *Estimating the Value of the Marine, Coastal and Ocean Resources of Newfoundland and Labrador* (2002); and
- *The Value of the Ocean Sector to the Economy of Prince Edward Island* (in press). The PEI study contains a chapter on environmental economics.

The reports are available via the documents section of the ACZISC website at <http://www.dal.ca/aczisc/docs>.

Mike Butler added that a DFO-sponsored workshop had been held in Halifax earlier this week (6-7 May) to develop a common methodology and approach for future ocean and coastal economic studies.

**COASTAL ZONE CANADA ASSOCIATION AND CONFERENCES:** Larry Hildebrand reported that the 5<sup>th</sup> biennial Coastal Zone Canada Conference would be held in Hamilton, ON from 23-28 June 2002. "Managing Shared Waters" will bring together the freshwater and coastal/marine communities to discuss and debate lessons learned and how to advance the management of shared ecosystems. The AGM of the CZC Association will be held during the Conference.

Tim Anderson and Leslie Grattan reported that CZC 2004 would be held in St. John's, NF. An organizing committee has been established which includes representatives from several sectors. A brochure will be prepared for distribution at CZC 2002 and several members of the organizing committee will be in attendance at the Hamilton Conference.

Larry added that CZC 2006 is provisionally scheduled to take place in the Arctic, possibly in Iqaluit, 2008 on the West coast, and 2010 in PEI.

**GLOBAL PROGRAMME OF ACTION COALITION FOR THE GULF OF MAINE:** Joe Arbour reported that the Coalition's plan to organize a Gulf of Maine Summit is being supported by the Commission for Environmental Cooperation (CEC) and the Gulf of Maine Council. 18 separate watershed assessment workshops led by community groups will be held prior to the Summit, leading to a report on the state of watersheds in the Gulf of Maine. This initiative is tied to Canada's National Plan of Action.

**GULF OF MAINE COUNCIL ON THE MARINE ENVIRONMENT:** Larry Hildebrand reported that the GoM Council on the Marine Environment had finalized its 3<sup>rd</sup> five-year Action Plan (2001-2006). It will be released at the GoM meetings on 5-6 June in Sackville, NB. Over the period, the GoM will focus its attention on habitat protection/restoration, ecosystem health and contaminants. Long-term issues include nature based tourism and climate change.

There is strong support by the GoM Council for NGOs in the region. A directory of NGOs has been built; 650 have been identified. The next step will be to facilitate networking of the NGOs.

**OCEAN MANAGEMENT RESEARCH NETWORK:** Mike Butler reported that the OMRN aims to link all those across Canada with an interest in research relating to the management of ocean uses. An OMRN workshop entitled "Science, Local Knowledge and MPAs" is scheduled for 19-22 June at the Université de Moncton, Moncton, NB. A national OMRN Conference entitled "Canada's Oceans: Research, Management and the Human Dimension" is scheduled for 25-27 October 2002 in Ottawa.

The OMRN Secretariat is based at Saint Mary's University. Tony Charles is the Director, Mike Butler the Associate Director and Alison Evans the Program Director (omrn@stmarys.ca).

**SOUTHERN GULF OF ST. LAWRENCE COALITION ON SUSTAINABILITY:** Larry Hildebrand reported that the Coalition had held its 2nd AGM in Miramichi, NB on 12-13 April. The Coalition has completed its strategic plan. Larry stated that as of the AGM, he was no longer co-chair; the new co-chairs are Liette Vasseur, Université de Moncton and Stéphanie Hopper, DFO Gulf Region.

## 8. **ANNOUNCEMENTS AND PUBLICATIONS**

Mike Butler announced that there were a number of publications on the side table for review.

Andy Sherin announced that CoastGIS 2003 would be held in Genoa, Italy in September 2003. A call for papers will be issued this fall.

Dick MacDougall reported that CARIS 2002 was scheduled for 3-6 September 2002 in Norfolk, Virginia. The theme of the Conference is Revolutionizing Geomatics. Papers on the use of CARIS geomatics software across several applications are encouraged. Of particular interest are papers that address experiences with concrete applications in Law of the Sea and Coastal Zone Management, Bathymetric Data Processing, S-57 ENC and DIGEST DNC (Electronic Charting, Hydrographic Database and Port and Harbour Management).

## 9. **OTHER BUSINESS**

No new business was discussed.

## 10. **ADJOURNMENT**

The business portion of ACZISC Meeting #36 adjourned at 15:00. This was followed by the ACZISC 10-Year Anniversary Celebrations.

## 11. **10-YEAR ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS**

- Welcoming remarks and ACZISC presentation: Michael Butler, Chair, ACZISC
- Special Guest Speaker: Maureen Yeadon, Member of the Minister's Advisory Council on the Oceans
- Presentation of certificates to member agencies
- Reception.