

MINUTES OF ACZISC MEETING #40

Atlantic Coastal Zone Information Steering Committee

Date: Wednesday and Thursday, 10-11 September 2003

Location: Sobey Building - 4th Floor, Saint Mary's University
Robie Street, Halifax, Nova Scotia

PARTICIPANTS (¹ indicates ACZISC member; ² indicates Advisory Committee member)

Name	Affiliation	Tel. No.
Diane Amirault	Environment Canada, Endangered Species and Protected Areas Section	506-364-5060
Tim Anderson ¹	Fisheries and Oceans Canada, NL Region, Oceans and Environment	709-772-2852
Joe Arbour	Fisheries and Oceans Canada, Maritimes Region, Oceans and Environment (for Faith Scattolon ^{1,2})	902-426-3894
Stephen Barbour	Public Works and Government Services Canada, Environmental Services	902-496-5146
Tony Blouin	Halifax Regional Municipality	902-490-4610
George Borgal	Observer	902-455-2947
David Boyce	Southeast Environmental Association	902-838-3351
Monique Breau	Environment Canada, Environmental Assessment	902-426-7148
Michael Butler ^{1,2} , Chair	International Oceans Institute of Canada	902-494-1977
John Clarke	Environment Canada, Municipal Wastewater Effluent Section	902-426-6135
Norval Collins ¹	Private sector - Champlain Inc	902-425-4802
Réal Daigle ¹	Environment Canada, Meteorological Service of Canada	506-851-6743
Jaime Dawson	C-CIARN Coastal Node	902-426-8988
David Finley ¹	Government of New Brunswick, Service New Brunswick	506-444-4644
Cst Gary Frail ¹	RCMP, Coastal Watch Program	902-458-2237
Michel Goguen	Public Works and Government Services Canada, Spatial Technology Resources (for Bill Blight ¹)	506-851-6784
Leslie Grattan ¹	Government of Newfoundland and Labrador, Department of Environment	709-729-3782
Larry Hildebrand ¹	Environment Canada, Sustainable Communities and Ecosystems Division	902-426-2131
Justin Huston ^{1,2}	Government of Nova Scotia, Department of Agriculture and Fisheries	902-424-2996
Steve Kempton ¹	Fisheries and Oceans Canada, Canadian Coast Guard	902-426-6987
Claudette LeBlanc	ACZISC Secretariat	902-494-1977
John Legault ¹	Fisheries and Oceans Canada, Gulf Region, Oceans	506-851-6221

PARTICIPANTS (cont'd)

Geoff Lewis ¹	Industry Canada, Energy and Marine Branch	902-426-9475
Arran McPherson	Fisheries and Oceans Canada, Maritimes Aquatic Species at Risk Office	902-426-8503
Gary Rockwell	Fisheries and Oceans Canada, Canadian Hydrographic Service (for Dick MacDougall ¹)	902-426-2432
Jayne Roma	Environment Canada, Environmental Assessment	902-426-1703
Carol Ann Rose ¹	Fisheries and Oceans Canada, Maritimes Region, Policy and Economics Branch	902-426-3694
Neil Ross	APICS ¹ and National Research Council	902-426-8402
Brent Rowley ²	Private Sector - Champlain Inc.	902-420-1435
Bob Rutherford	Thaumas Environmental Consulting Inc	902-466-2095
Bob Taylor	Natural Resources Canada, Geological Survey of Canada Atlantic (for Andy Sherin ¹)	902-426-7736
Rob Thompson ¹	Parks Canada, Atlantic Service Centre	902-426-3445
LCdr Bob Thwaites	National Defence, Trinity JOSIC (for Cdr Paul Earnshaw ¹)	902-427-0550
Maureen Yeadon	Minister's Advisory Council on Oceans (MACO)	902-852-3005

1. *WELCOME and INTRODUCTION OF PARTICIPANTS*

Mike Butler, ACZISC Chair, called ACZISC Meeting #40 to order at 1000 hrs. He welcomed members, alumni and observers and thanked the sponsors of the two-day meeting:

- Environment Canada, the NS Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture, and Service Nova Scotia and Municipal Affairs for paying for the food
- the Ocean Management Research Network (OMRN) through which the meeting facilities in the Sobeys Building were obtained at no charge. Mike is the Associate Director of the OMRN National Secretariat.

A roundtable introduction of all participants followed.

2. *ADOPTION OF AGENDA, and REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR MEETING #39*

The provisional Agenda for ACZISC Meeting #40 was reviewed and approved (attached).

The draft minutes of ACZISC Meeting #39 were reviewed. Claudette LeBlanc stated that the DND report in the Roundtable portion of the draft minutes would be replaced with a detailed report recently provided by George Borgal. George also advised that the minutes contained an incorrect statement in the DND report on page 19: "All federal departments are obliged to participate in CANMARNET." This statement will be removed.

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

3. *STATUS OF ACTION ITEMS*

The Action Items from Meeting #39 were reviewed. The Action Items were either carried out or are in progress; they will be reported under the relevant agenda item.

4. **UPCOMING ACZISC MEETINGS**

ACZISC meetings are provisionally scheduled for:

28-29 January 2004: ACZISC Meeting #41, Charlottetown, PEI

19-20 May 2004: ACZISC Meeting #42, St. John's, NL

15-16 September 2004: ACZISC Meeting #43, Fredericton, NB

19-20 January 2005: ACZISC Meeting #44, Halifax, NS

The possibility of holding ACZISC Meeting #42 in conjunction with Coastal Zone Canada 2004 (27-30 June 2004 in St. John's), partly to reduce travel costs, was discussed. Members concluded that this would not be feasible for various reasons, including the 'hectic' schedule during that period of many of the NL-based ACZISC members involved in organizing the Conference, and scheduling conflicts between an ACZISC meeting and the main Conference, the Youth Forum (26-27 June) and Canada Day (1 July). It was recommended that the previously identified dates for ACZISC Meeting #42 (19-20 May) be kept.

Mike Butler stated that the cost of airfares to Newfoundland had been significantly reduced lately, primarily due to increased airline competition. He added that chartering a plane might further reduce travel costs for members attending the next ACZISC Meeting in St. John's. The Secretariat will obtain cost estimates and information on this option and report at the next meeting.

ACTION 40.1: Secretariat to get a cost estimate prior to the next meeting for chartering a plane from Halifax to St. John's and return for members attending ACZISC Meeting #42

Mike reported that the format of the current meeting had been expanded from previous meetings to allow more meaningful discussions and two detailed presentations. The two presentation topics – Sewage in the Coastal Zone and the Species at Risk Act – were selected by the Secretariat in discussion with the meeting sponsors from the Priority Issue document, prepared by ACZISC Members this summer and previously distributed. Following discussions, it was agreed that this format/procedure should be followed for future meetings. Mike added that the Secretariat would consult with Jim Ramsay and David Younker re the presentation topics at the upcoming ACZISC meeting in Charlottetown in January 2004.

ACTION 40.2: Secretariat to consult with PEI representatives re presentation/discussion topics for Meeting #41 in Charlottetown

Dave Finley explained that the first priority issue that he had identified had been incorrectly summarized in the Priority Issues document and that it should read: "the role and relevance of geomatics in ICM". Claudette LeBlanc stated that the document would be revised and redistributed (copy attached).

Bob Thwaites offered to have DND host ACZISC Meeting #44 (19-20 January 2005, Halifax). Mike thanked DND for its offer and accepted the invitation on behalf of members.

5. **ACZISC ADMINISTRATION / OPERATION**

ACZISC ADVISORY COMMITTEE: Mike Butler stated that the ACZISC Executive Committee had been renamed the ACZISC Advisory Committee to better reflect its role of providing advice to the Secretariat and to avoid confusion re titles and terminology required legally for the incorporated ACZISC Association. The Advisory Committee consists of a representative

from each sector represented on the ACZISC: academia (Lois Whitehead); federal departments (Faith Scattolon); private sector (Brent Rowley); provincial governments (Justin Huston); and the Secretariat (Mike Butler).

The ACZISC Advisory Committee met on 8 September 2003 at Marine House in Dartmouth. Brent Rowley, Faith Scattolon, Lois Whitehead, and Mike Butler were in attendance. The Advisory Committee reviewed ACZISC finances, the Workplan, projects and contracts, and the incorporation of the ACZISC Association. There were no recommendations resulting from the meeting.

ACZISC MEMBERSHIP: Mike Butler announced changes in membership:

- Environment Canada: Réal Daigle has replaced John Parker in representing the Meteorological Service of Canada. Réal reported that he is the manager of the project entitled "Impacts of Sea Level Rise on the Coastal Zone of Southeastern New Brunswick" and that his responsibilities are directly related to the ACZISC mandate. (Réal made a presentation on the project at the last ACZISC Meeting on 22 May in Fredericton.)
- Fisheries and Oceans Canada, Maritimes Region: Faith Scattolon has returned as Regional Director, Oceans and Environment Branch and as a DFO representative on the ACZISC following her successful completion of French training. Joe Arbour is representing Faith at today's meeting.
- National Defence: Cdr Paul Earnshaw has replaced Cdr George Borgal following George's retirement from National Defence in July. LCdr Bob Thwaites is representing Cdr Earnshaw at today's meeting.
- Prince Edward Island: The Government of PEI is considering appointing David Younker, PEI Department of Fisheries, Aquaculture and Environment as a second member to the ACZISC, in addition to Jim Ramsay.
- First Nations: A First Nations representative on the ACZISC has not been identified to date. Because of its regional mandate, the Atlantic Policy Congress of First Nations Chiefs would be an appropriate organization to represent First Nations. However, the cost associated with participating in ACZISC meetings has previously been identified as a deterrent to participation. Geoff Lewis reported that, as per an Action Item, he had enquired if funding could be made available through the IC Aboriginal Business Canada program to support FN participation in ACZISC meetings. He was advised that this could not be funded because this type of activity did not fall under the program guidelines. It was suggested that the Secretariat have further discussions with Ken Paul, the former FN representative on the ACZISC, in regards to identifying a FN representative.

ACTION 40.3: Secretariat to have further discussions with Ken Paul regarding identifying a First Nation representative for the ACZISC

The Secretariat will continue to extend an invitation to other potential members identified, including: ACOA, the Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency, the Canadian Food Inspection Agency, the Canada Newfoundland Offshore Petroleum Board, Health Canada, and the Office of Critical Infrastructure Protection and Emergency Preparedness (OC�PEP).

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

ACZISC FINANCES / CONTINGENCY PLANNING: Mike Butler introduced Jennifer Barr, the Financial Officer for the ACZISC and the OMRN and stated that members could contact Jennifer directly at tel 902-494-1980 if they wished to discuss ACZISC financial matters directly with her.

Mike stated that in previous years the ACZISC audit had been carried out as a component of the Oceans Institute of Canada audit by Rakesh Jain, of the firm Green Haley Jain. Following the incorporation of the ACZISC Association, a separate ACZISC audit will be required. Mr

Jain has agreed to carry out this function at a 'reasonable' cost.

Copies of the ACZISC 2003-2004 Budget, revenue summaries and receivables were distributed and reviewed. Some inaccuracies were identified. These will be corrected and revised statements will be distributed with the Action Items (copies attached).

ACTION 40.4: Secretariat to revise the 2003-04 financial documents distributed at ACZISC Meeting #40 and distribute to members with the Action Items by 30 September 2003

Mike briefed members on the ACZISC financial situation including:

- The termination of funding for the ACZISC by the Council of Maritime Premiers (CMP) at the end of fiscal year 2001-2002.
- The funding proposal submitted by the ACZISC to the Council of Atlantic Premiers (CAP), which represents the four Atlantic Provinces, in January 2003. CAP's response was that the ACZISC should approach the individual provincial departments to obtain funding. CAP did agree to act as 'banker' to facilitate the transfer of funds from provincial departments to the ACZISC.
- A request by the ACZISC to ACOA for a \$50K operating grant for this fiscal year. This would provide sufficient funds to 'survive' the year and prepare another submission to CAP, with the backing of provincial members of the ACZISC. Letters of support for the ACOA request were provided by several deputy ministers, the private sector, the Minister's Advisory Council on the Oceans, etc. A response from ACOA is expected by the end of the month.
- Outstanding dues from members (see Budget) and other receivables for contracts: \$1.5K for the GeoConnections Metadata Project, and \$10.5K for the Workshop on Large Marine Ecozone Boundaries and Briefing Document.

Discussion:

Justin Huston enquired re the feasibility of resubmitting a funding proposal to CAP considering the amount of effort and energy required to do so and whether other potential sources could be considered.

Mike Butler: CAP has agreed to entertain a new submission. However, it would require a lot of work and strong support from provincial members and key deputy ministers and there would be no guarantees of success. He will discuss this further with Ed Cramm, Secretary to CAP.

Leslie Grattan: Sources of funding other than Cap must be considered, including the private sector, universities and foundations.

Larry Hildebrand reported that "The Green Source - A Quick Reference of Available Programs in the Atlantic Region", available online at http://www.ec.gc.ca/ecoaction/grnsrc/index_e.cfm, includes information on programs that will fund environmental projects in Atlantic Canada.

George Borgal and Bob Rutherford volunteered to identify foundations that the ACZISC could approach for funding.

Leslie stated that it was important to start looking for funds immediately and suggested that a Task Group be formed for this purpose. Leslie, George Borgal, Bob Thwaites and the Secretariat volunteered to be part of the Task Group.

Justin and Leslie enquired how ACZISC operations would be affected if the ACOA funding was not forthcoming.

Mike and Claudette replied that there would be enough funds for the Secretariat to operate until the end of December, if outstanding dues and receivables are paid soon. Another option is for the Secretariat staff to stop working earlier and the remaining funds could be used by the ACZISC to contract out for priority services until the end of the fiscal year.

Gary Rockwell commented that a 'critical mass' was needed for effective operations.

At the suggestion of the Secretariat, the ACZISC members held discussions re contingency planning without the Secretariat staff being present. Following the return of the Secretariat staff, Justin Huston, chair of the ACZISC Advisory Committee, summarized these discussions

and recommendations:

- If ACOA funds are not forthcoming, the Secretariat staff should continue to operate on a full-time basis until the end of December, with a focus on priority items and funding.
- If ACOA funds are forthcoming, the Secretariat staff should continue to operate until the end of March 2004, with a focus on priority issues. The situation would be considered further at the January 2004 meeting.
- A survival plan is needed. A meeting of the Advisory Committee should be convened for this purpose following the ACOA decision.

ACTION 40.5: Mike Butler to discuss ASAP with Ed Cramm, the Secretary to the Council of Atlantic Premiers, re the advisability of the ACZISC resubmitting a funding proposal to CAP

ACTION 40.6: Task Group (George Borgal, Leslie Grattan, Bob Thwaites and Secretariat) to review ASAP possible alternate funding sources for the ACZISC

ACTION 40.7: George Borgal and Bob Rutherford to identify ASAP foundations which may be approached for ACZISC funding

ACTION 40.8: ACZISC Advisory Committee to convene a meeting to review priorities following the decision by ACOA re the ACZISC request for funding

ACZISC WORKPLAN: The 2003-2004 ACZISC Workplan was distributed and reviewed. Mike Butler explained that a Task Group had been formed following the last meeting to work with the Secretariat to revise the Workplan to make it more relevant to members. The Task Group members were Dolores Durant, Larry Hildebrand, Marianne Janowicz, Steve Kempton, John Legault, Ed Light, Jim Ramsay, Andy Sherin and Cameron. He thanked the Task Group members for their assistance and, in particular, Larry and Marianne.

Discussion:

Larry Hildebrand stated that the format of the Workplan was excellent and that, content wise, he could easily identify deliverables and outcomes relevant to EC.

Justin Huston commented that Item #1 on page 3, *i.e.* Provide value-added services with regard to key regional issues, was of particular importance to the Provinces.

Tim Anderson: Federal funding is becoming more difficult to obtain for programs such as the ACZISC. The Workplan is key to securing these funds.

George Borgal: The document would be a more effective selling tool if it contained a value-added section, including both soft (*e.g.*, leverages) and hard benefits. There is also a need to include a 'beefed-up' corporate view of outcomes.

Bob Taylor provided an example of a value-added benefit: A Workshop and meeting held in Fredericton in September 1999, spearheaded and organized by the ACZISC, led to the High-Resolution Coastal Mapping projects in NS and PEI.

Larry Hildebrand: It is the responsibility of each member to identify specific outcomes within their department/jurisdiction. These can be added to the Workplan.

ACTION 40.9: Members to identify by 15 October 2003 specific examples of ACZISC outcomes with regard to their jurisdiction for use in a 'new' value-added section of the Workplan

ACTION 40.10: Secretariat to revise the Workplan ASAP to include a section of value-added outcomes which can be used as a selling tool by member jurisdictions

ACTION 40.11: Secretariat to distribute the revised Workplan to members ASAP

INCORPORATION OF ACZISC ASSOCIATION: Copies of the proposed “Societies Act Memorandum of Association of ACZISC Association” and “By-law No. 1 of ACZISC Association” were distributed. The documents were prepared by David Copp, Barrister, in consultation with the Secretariat. A one-page schematic of the proposed operating structure for the ACZISC, the ACZISC Association and the Secretariat was also distributed (copy attached). The documents were reviewed. Minor formatting errors were identified.

Mike Butler stated that the following:

- The ACZISC Association is being established to act as a fiscal agent for the ACZISC under the NS Societies Act.
- All ACZISC members are eligible to become members of the Association; however, government personnel are not eligible to serve as Directors. The following individuals have indicated interest in serving as Directors: François Bilet (Director of the Elizabeth Mann Borgese Centre for Oceans Governance, based at 1226 LeMarchant Street), George Borgal, Norval Collins, Randy Gillespie, Brent Rowley and Lois Whitehead. The Association Board of Directors would elect a chair and vice-chair.
- A contract between the ACZISC Association and the Secretariat will be required. The current ACZISC Secretariat Guidelines were distributed. These would be incorporated in the contract.
- The Association registration must be renewed yearly after the initial registration. If it is not renewed, the Association ceases to exist as a legal entity.
- A cost estimate for Directors insurance has been obtained: \$1K for \$1 million and \$1.3K for \$2 million. However, this expenditure cannot be considered at this time due to the state of ACZISC finances.

Members directed the Secretariat to complete the incorporation of the ACZISC Association ASAP.

ACTION 40.12: Secretariat to complete the incorporation of the ACZISC Association by 30 September 2003

6. PRESENTATION: SEWAGE IN THE COASTAL ZONE

Mike Butler introduced John Clarke, Manager of the Municipal Wastewater Effluent Section, EC and Tony Blouin, Manager of Environmental Policy, Halifax Harbour Solutions Project, Halifax Regional Municipality.

John Clarke described the following:

- The UN-led Global Programme of Action (GPA) for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-based Activities
- The National Programme of Action (NPA), the response of individual countries to the GPA. Canada was the 1st country to produce an NPA (available at <http://www.npa-pan.ca>).
- The two pieces of federal legislation relevant to sewage:
 - the Canadian Environmental Protection Act (CEPA)
 - the Fisheries Act
- A proposed approach to address sewage:
 - Pollution Prevention Planning under CEPA 1999 for ammonia dissolved in water, inorganic chloramines and chlorinated wastewater effluents.
 - The development of a long-term strategy for wastewater effluents, which considers CEPA 1999 and the Fisheries Act.
- Partnerships with other jurisdictions are envisioned and timelines have been proposed to establish a multi-jurisdictional process.

- Copies of his overheads are attached. Pollution Prevention Planning documents, the Risk Management Strategy and other documents are available at http://www.ec.gc.ca/etad/we/en/main_e.htm.

Tony Blouin reported the following:

- Several scientific studies have been carried out on sewage in the Halifax Harbour over the least 30 years at least. He distributed copies of a summary of two workshops on Preserving the Environment of Halifax Harbour, organized by DFO and HRM in March 2000 and March 2001.
- In NS, sewage treatment is regulated by the NS Department of the Environment.
- A \$120 million contract has been signed between HRM and Dexter Construction to design and build the sewage collection system for HRM. Construction is expected to start in early fall. The system will be owned by HRM.
- The contract covers design and construction of the new sewage collection systems, including the construction of roads, outfalls and diffusers at the three sewage treatment plant sites in Halifax, Dartmouth and Herring Cove.
- The system will perform ~50% primary processing and ~75% advanced primary processing of the sewage and produce ~15,000 tons of treated material per year. Heavy metals in the treated material are an issue to be considered and will require a risk assessment. Waste management will be delivered by the private sector.
- The system is designed to handle 4 times dry weather flow and to accommodate population growth and secondary treatment.
- Community Liaison Committees have been established in each of the areas surrounding a treatment plant location.
- The Dalhousie University Marine Affairs Programme has received an EC grant to develop a geomatics-based decision support tool for the Harbour. HRM intends to use the tool to develop a harbour management plan and structure, with the involvement of federal departments and other stakeholders.
- Copies of his overheads are attached. Further information, including documents, are available from the Halifax Harbour Solutions Project website at <http://www.region.halifax.ns.ca/harboursol/>.

Bob Thwaites reported that the clean up of Halifax Harbour would result in significant cost savings for DND. For health and safety concerns, DND cannot have divers work in Halifax waters. Ships have to be moved at great expense to Shearwater for this purpose.

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

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

- The Atlantic Coastal Action Program (ACAP) intends to expand into Labrador. ACAP is currently comprised of 14 community-based organizations throughout NS, NB, PEI and insular Newfoundland. A collective decision was made by the ACAP groups to explore the opportunities for the Program in Labrador. An EC community engagement specialist is currently conducting interviews with key representatives of federal, provincial, NGO, academic, private sector, Innu, Inuit and Métis organizations, with a stake in Labrador, to determine the potential 'what', 'where' and 'how' of ACAP expansion there. The results of these interviews will be compiled and analyzed and a workshop among some of the key stakeholders will be held this winter in Labrador to further refine the approach. (For further information on ACAP, access <http://atlantic-web1.ns.ec.gc.ca/community/acap/>.)
- An open invitation was extended to the meeting participants to attend the annual ACAP Conference entitled "Watershed Approaches to Environmental Education Conference", scheduled for 25-28 September 2003 in Summerside, PEI. The Conference is sponsored

by the Canadian Network of Environmental Educators and Communicators (EECOM) and ACAP.

- A symposium for government and First Nation personnel on collaborative planning is scheduled for 8-10 October in Wagmatcook. The purpose of the symposium is to develop a collective sense for planning and management in the Bras d'Or Lakes region. The leadership for this initiative is coming from the First Nations.
- The Standing Senate Committee on Fisheries and Oceans will be visiting NB on 1-3 October to meet with EC officials to learn more about ACAP. The Committee will also visit the three ACAP organizations in SW NB (ACAP-Saint John, Eastern Charlotte Waterways, and the St. Croix Estuary Project) to gain the community view and to see on-the-ground project activities.
- Larry will co-chair a special Coastal Zone Canada Association session on "Integrating Science into Regional and Local Planning and Management in Canada" at the upcoming Canadian Coastal Conference in Kingston, Ontario on 16 October. The session will feature ten presentations, including one by Larry on "Government-Community Partnerships in Science: The Atlantic Coastal Action Program's Science-Linkages Initiative". (Information on the Conference is available at <http://www.civil.queensu.ca/CCC03/>.)

Discussion:

Tim Anderson cautioned that that the additional costs associated with working in remote areas should be considered when planning the Labrador ACAP site.

Gary Rockwell: A recent land claims agreement in Labrador requires consultation on all activities in the coast. This has added significantly to the CHS level of effort in the region and also could impact on the proposed ACAP site in Labrador.

Bob Rutherford enquired if the Wagmatcook effort was related to the Bras d'Or Lakes Sustainable Communities Initiative (SCI). Larry replied that hopefully the discussions would lead to defining a future role for the SCI.

Réal Daigle, Meteorological Service of Canada, reported the following:

- The New Brunswick Sea Level Rise Project is in full swing, with activities taking place within the ten sub-project segments.
- Lidar flights were completed by Terra Remote Sensing Inc (under contract with the College of Geographic Sciences) in June 2003 for all portions of the project area except for Kouchibouguac National Park and Shemogue. These portions will be completed in late October 2003 once the leaves have fallen from the trees. Terra Remote Sensing Inc expects to have an improved vertical resolution capability to within +/- 20 cm for the acquired imagery (previously 30 cm). The next step will be the building of the Digital Elevation Models (DEM) by CoGS over the coming winter, using the lidar data and the SNB-provided orthophoto series.
- The Socio-Economic sub-project has been quite active with consultation sessions with the Beaubassin and Kent-South Planning Commissions, and with the Elsipogtog (Big Cove) First Nation.
- Over the summer, two wave rider buoys were installed in the Northumberland Strait, and a temporary tide gauge was installed at Pointe-du-Chêne. These instruments will be used to monitor future storm surge events during the 3-year research project period. Charlie O'Reilly, CHS, coordinated the installation of the tide gauge.

Bob Taylor enquired where the lidar data being collected for the project would be archived. Réal replied that it would be stored at the Université de Moncton and that it would become public domain.

Monique Breau, Environmental Assessment Section, reported that the Section was involved in the EA of aquaculture projects in the Atlantic Region (NB, PEI, NL, and NS) as an expert department and a Federal Authority under the Canadian Environmental Assessment Act (CEAA). EC receives project referrals from DFO, often the Responsible Authority (RA) under the CEAA for the EA of aquaculture projects. DFO becomes the RA due to their regulatory

trigger, e.g., permits under the Navigable Water Protection Act (NWPAA). EC offers specialist advice in the EA on valued ecosystem components related to its mandate, such as migratory birds, wildlife at risk, habitat, water quality, etc. As well it provides advice on pollution prevention and the effects of the environment on the project.

Monique provided a brief overview on EAs associated with aquaculture project proposals:

- There are numerous shellfish aquaculture proposals for the North and East coasts of NB. EC has been supporting the evaluation of environmental effects in a broader context by looking at activities in the whole bay rather than on a project-by-project basis. EC is promoting the development of industry codes of practice.
- EC has received only a few salmon aquaculture project proposals for the Bay of Fundy this year. There has been some discussion on the reasons for this.
- In Newfoundland, EC has received proposals for Atlantic salmon, cod, and steelhead trout cage aquaculture projects, as well as some mussel aquaculture projects.
- There are no new projects in PEI under CEAA this year where there are concerns over water quality and seabird interactions. An industry code of practice has been developed and is currently being implemented by the Industry Association, in collaboration with the Province and the federal government.
- In NS, the Department of Fisheries and Agriculture has been working on an Environment Management Plan (EMP) for aquaculture. DFO and the Province are currently developing a baseline pilot study for the EMP. A working group has been formed to implement the EMP; Eric Hundert is the EC representative on the working group.

Jayne Roma, also with the Environmental Assessment Section, added the following:

- Her EA responsibilities relate to both offshore and onshore projects.
- A CEAA-led workshop involving all federal departments was held on Tuesday, 9 September. The Workshop reviewed the implications of the Act, amendments and exclusions, and 'form screening of projects'. Other workshops will follow.

FISHERIES AND OCEANS CANADA: Tim Anderson, Oceans and Environment Branch, DFO NL, reported the following:

- Tim circulated a copy of a recent DFO Technical Report entitled "Spatial Analysis of 18 Demersal Species in Relation to Petroleum Licence Areas on the Grand Banks". Catch rates (weight/tow) collected by DFO scientific surveys conducted from 1980 to 2000 throughout the Grand Bank area off Newfoundland and Labrador were used for the basis of this study. Maps were generated to depict species distribution and abundance in relation to petroleum licence areas. The results of this study can be used for planning and management of the Grand Bank marine ecosystem. The document is available in PDF format on CD by request to Tim and online at <http://www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/Library/273513.pdf>
- A copy of the poster entitled "Substrate Mapping Methods at Three Potential Marine Protected Areas in Newfoundland and Labrador, Canada" was circulated. The poster discusses the applicability of three different mapping techniques under various conditions. It was presented at the SAMPAA Conference in May 2003.

ACTION 40.13: Participants wanting a copy on CD of the report entitled "Spatial Analysis of 18 Demersal Species in Relation to Petroleum Licence Areas on the Grand Banks" to email Tim Anderson at andersont@dfo-mpo.gc.ca

Joe Arbour, DFO Maritimes Region, reported the following:

- Marine Protected Areas: DFO is in the final round of a series of consultations for the Gully area of interest; the next phase is the regulatory process. DFO is continuing to work with the NB Government and local stakeholders on the Musquash area of interest; a regulatory package is being developed.
- DFO is working towards IM in the Bras d'Or region with other federal departments and the

- Unama'ki Institute of Natural Resources in Eskasoni.
- IM efforts in the Minas Basin are progressing well. Several local workshops have been held to identify issues to be addressed. A synthesis of the ecology of the region is being compiled; it will be completed this fall.
- A report on the ecology of sensitive habitats in the Bay of Fundy is in the final edit stage. This will be similar to the work done for the Atlantic region and Gulf of St. Lawrence.
- DFO HQ has started to discuss Large Ocean Management Areas (LOMAs). A national DFO Working Group is tasked to identify criteria for LOMAs and to link these with ecosystem objectives; this work will be completed this fall. A workshop is taking place at BIO on Friday (12 September) to consider the scientific criteria needed to define these areas in Atlantic Canada.
- The federal and provincial members of the Oceans Task Group are looking at improving collaboration between the federal government and the Provinces. To date a draft paper has been prepared with the NB members.

Gary Rockwell, Canadian Hydrographic Service - Atlantic, reported the following:

- CHS continues to participate in the Departmental Assessment and Alignment Project (DAAP). Various change options are being reviewed with the aim of reducing CHS costs in light of the continuing financial pressures faced by DFO. Service levels will be established for the "A" level charts. The remaining charts will still be corrected through Notices to Mariners but, otherwise, they will receive little attention. CHS Atlantic has identified 48 "A" level charts from its portfolio of approx. 290.
- CHS Atlantic recently completed multibeam surveys of scallop Area 29 off the southwest coast of NS using the CCGS vessels FG Creed and Matthew. This project was done in collaboration with DFO Fisheries Management and NRCan's Geological Survey of Canada.
- The new Simrad EM1002 multibeam system on the Matthew is performing well and, in addition to the work done in Area 29, it has been used to good advantage in Notre Dame Bay and along the Labrador Coast.
- CHS has been awarded funding under the National Search and Rescue Secretariat's New Initiative's Fund (NIF) to improve shoreline mapping along the Northern Labrador Coast. The Surveys and Mapping Division of the NL Department of Government Services and Lands is collaborating on this project.
- UNCLOS is receiving priority attention from DFAIT. There will be a need for data if Canada chooses to ratify UNCLOS; this would be helpful in getting SeaMap underway.

Discussion:

Geoff Lewis: IC and CHS are working to develop a business case for SeaMap. Peter Harrison, currently Senior Research Fellow with the NRC and formerly DFO DM, has been tasked to 'enable' Canada's ratification of UNCLOS.

Mike Butler enquired if there was collaboration with other departments in identifying areas to be charted. Gary responded that the 1st priority was on charts needed for navigation and the 2nd was for science activities. He added that there was 'informal' collaboration.

John Legault, Oceans, DFO Gulf Region, reported the following:

- John Hughes Clarke of UNB has completed a benthic multibeam survey of the Caraquet, Shippagan and Lamèque Harbours. DFO expects to have the imagery and data early in the fall.
- DFO has delivered a workshop on integrated management in Antigonish to gauge the interest level of local communities to enter into an IM Process. This will be followed with meetings that will work towards establishing an IM planning forum. Similar workshops are planned in Tracadie in mid-October and in Charlottetown in November.
- DFO has set up a shared data drive within the Gulf Fisheries Centre in Moncton to provide base maps and various resource data to all GIS practitioners and planners who need to exchange and use data from within. DFO is providing the visualization tools and tutorials to enable the data to be used freely in the building and by the area offices.

- DFO is continuing to work with the NB DAFA (Agriculture, Fisheries and Aquaculture) in pursuing its bay-by-bay assessments. DFO will be providing data and expertise to assist in the assessments.
- GoSLIM staff are preparing an ecosystem overview of the entire Gulf of St. Lawrence to provide a one-source document presenting the present status of the Gulf's environment.
- The Fish Plant Effluent Workshop proceedings will be made available to the ACZISC as soon as the translations are completed.
- The fisheries historic trends documents that demonstrate the increasing use of mapping technology to illustrate fisheries distributions will also be provided to the ACZISC if it is available in electronic format.

Steve Kempton, Canadian Coast Guard, reported the following:

- Steve is a member of the Interdepartmental Marine Operations Committee. The Committee will be meeting in Saint John next week and in Halifax next January.
- An engine room fire has caused serious damage onboard the CCGS Alfred Needler. At this time, it is not possible to confirm if the Needler will be available next year.
- Treasury Board has given approval for the new Government of Canada office building. The 10,000 square metre building will be located near BIO and house DFO, EC and NRCan. The Maritime Joint Operation Centre may also be housed there.
- A law banning the dumping of waste from recreational boats in the Bras d'Or Lakes is expected to be in place by 2005.

Discussion:

Tim Anderson: The CCGS Alfred Needler is one of three large vessels available for scientific programs. Its 'unavailability' will have a significant impact on science programs.

Gary Frail: The Bras d'Or no-dumping law is a result of a proposal from the mayors/ wardens and Chiefs in the region.

Joe Arbour: The Bras d'Or no-dumping zone proposal had been spearheaded largely by the impact on economic development of pollution from boats, municipal wastewater and non-point sources of pollution.

Larry Hildebrand: Cocagne Bay and Mahone Bay are early in the process of implementing a similar ban.

GOVERNMENT OF NOVA SCOTIA: Justin Huston, Agriculture and Fisheries, reported the following:

- The Province of NS has taken on the task of 're-jigging' the provincial economic development policy to include social, cultural and environmental sustainability, in addition to economic development.
- The revised policy will be released this winter or spring 2004.
- Most communities in NS are located in the coastal zone. As such the policy will have significant impact on ICM in the Province.
- This initiative is tied to the federal/provincial Sustainable Communities Initiative and the Community of Communities Network.

NATIONAL DEFENCE: LCdr Bob Thwaites, Trinity JOSIC, reported the following:

- Recognized Maritime Picture (RMP): Trinity JOSIC is assembling an excellent near-real-time picture, as well as a historical maritime picture, as a result of having access to a variety of data, including:
 - A historical database of shipping
 - 30+ years of data collected by METOC on temperature profiles, salinity, etc.
 - Weather data collected by coastal defence vessels
 - Data collected from sidescan surveys
 - PAL flights (DFO)
 - HFSWR (High-Frequency Surface Wave Radar)
 - OGD (other government department) inputs
 - NATO inputs

- US inputs
- Trend analysis is becoming an important requirement for DND. Two GIS technicians have been hired and new GIS equipment has been purchased for this purpose.
- Automatic Identification System (AIS): Under UN Chapter 5, ships of 500+ tons are required to be equipped with transponders, mainly for search and rescue, before 2008. 50% of the ships in the St. Lawrence Seaway are now equipped with AIS. The AIS transponders provide positive identification and an accurate location. As benefits become apparent, more ships will become equipped with AIS.

Discussion:

Gary Frail: AIS is also useful from an industry perspective because of its capability for continuous positioning.

Réal Daigle suggested that he and Bob discuss the availability of DND data relevant to the "Impacts of Sea Level Rise on the Coastal Zone of Southeastern New Brunswick" project.

ACTION 40.14: Réal Daigle and Bob Thwaites to discuss the availability of DND data relevant to the "Impacts of Sea Level Rise on the Coastal Zone of Southeastern New Brunswick" project

ATLANTIC PROVINCES COUNCIL ON THE SCIENCES: Neil Ross, National Research Council, reported the following:

- APICS is a non-profit, volunteer organization composed of scientists, universities and other institutions in Atlantic Canada. Its goal is the advancement of science and technology through education and public awareness and the promotion of scientific literacy, education and research throughout the region. It fosters and encourages student-to-student and student-to-scientist communications. (Information on APICS is available at <http://www.apics.dal.ca>.)
- APICS hosts a number of events, conferences and lecture tours throughout the year.
- APICS carries out much of its work through its 11 subcommittees. Of particular relevance to the ACZISC are: Aquaculture (chaired by Neil); Earth Science; and Environmental Studies (chaired by Tony Charles, Saint Mary's University).
- Neil added that his major area of interest was aquaculture research: the interactions between salmon and parasites, including sea lice; the reduction of impacts on wildlife, and nutrition.

SOUTHEAST ENVIRONMENTAL ASSOCIATION: David Boyce reported the following:

- The Southeast Environmental Association (SEA) is an ACAP site based in Southeastern PEI. The community stakeholder group focuses on the marine environment, the bays and estuaries, and the watersheds. David is the Executive Director. (For information on SEA, access <http://www.seapei.ca>.)
- SEA is acquiring wireless PDA software from CubeWerx to allow users, who are out in the field, to view and update geographical features in the SEA online database, connected to the CGDI. (For information on CubeWerx, access <http://www.cubewerx.com>.)
- SEA has made an application to Industry Canada's Information Management/Information Technology (IM/IT) Program, established to strengthen the voluntary sector through technology. IM/IT is part of the Government of Canada's Voluntary Sector Initiative (VSI). Two other groups in Atlantic Canada are in the running for IM/IT funding: the NB Easter Seal/March of Dimes) and the NL Community Services Council.
- SEA will be submitting a proposal to GeoConnections to implement a system to enable NGOs to link their data to the CGDI.
- A proposal has been submitted to the Agriculture Policy Framework program to study land use and its impact on the watercourses in eight watersheds on PEI.

ROYAL CANADIAN MOUNTED POLICE: Gary Frail reported on developments in the Coastal and Airport Watch Program:

- The Coastal and Airport Watch Program has historically focused on the fight against illegal drug importation into Canada by boat and aircraft. (For information on the Program, access http://www.rcmp.ca/html/cwatch_e.htm.)
- Coastal and Airport Watch relies a great deal on tips from the public and local knowledge.
- Since the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks, the Program has been expanded to include the fight against illegal entry by people into the country.
- The Program has been reorganized to facilitate the sharing of information to ensure border security and to enable the detection, prevention/disruption and investigation of terrorist activity. The RCMP has implemented the Integrated Border Enforcement Team with several partners, including Citizenship and Immigration Canada, and National Defence.

INDUSTRY CANADA: Geoff Lewis, Energy and Marine Branch, reported that the Ocean Sector was gaining profile in Industry Canada:

- Geoff has been asked by Tom Piekutowski of the Canadian Space Agency (CSA) to be the Scientific Authority for a project to develop a "Thematic RFP for Marine and Coastal Applications of Earth Observation". The ACZISC was instrumental in arranging a meeting for the CSA with local stakeholders when Tom visited Halifax this summer. Geoff is hopeful that a worthwhile program initiative will result.
- The Oceans Industries Week will take place in St. John's from 19-24 October. The "Maritime Security Forum" is scheduled for 22 October at the Fisheries and Marine Institute of Memorial University. The Forum will highlight Canadian capabilities/ technologies, encourage networking within the sector, and address key and current security issues facing the marine sector. (Details on the Forum are available at <http://www.ccmc.nf.ca/MaritimeSecurityForum/>.) "Ocean Innovation 2003" is scheduled for 20-21 October. The event, sponsored by the Canadian Centre for Marine Communications, will focus on innovation in the ocean environment, including coverage of issues relating to technology, research, governance and market demand, with an emphasis on the need for partnerships. (Information is available at <http://www.oceaninnovation.ca/>.)
- Industry Canada and the Canadian Consulate in Los Angeles will be working with Canadian participants at Oceans 2003 in San Diego (22-26 September) to conduct a group intelligence gathering project. Individuals planning to attend Oceans 2003 and wanting to become involved should contact Geoff.
- The "Virtual Technology Roadmap (VTRM)" initiative is an ongoing consultative process designed to assist Canada's marine and ocean industries, its associations, government and academia to jointly define both the market segments and the technological innovations required to produce goods and services for domestic and global markets. The 1st edition of the VTRM was published after more than a year of consultations with industry stakeholders. It is available at http://route.nrc-cnrc.gc.ca/ocean/trm/home_e.cfm.

George Borgal stated that the CSA RFP would probably be for determining a business case for Radarsat 2 and the requirements for Radarsat 2. Radarsat is very useful for ICM applications. The topic should be considered for a presentation at an upcoming ACZISC meeting.

NATURAL RESOURCES CANADA: Bob Taylor, Geological Survey of Canada Atlantic, reported the following:

- Richard Haworth, a champion of marine and coastal issues in Ottawa, has retired as ADM of the Mines and Minerals Sector and NRCan's Office of Principal Interest for Oceans.
- NRCan has rejuvenated its Oceans Working Group with shared leadership from NRCan's Energy Sector and Earth Science Sector. The new chair is Sanjeev Sivarulrasa, Special Advisor, Director-General, Energy Resources Branch, Energy Sector.
- Jean Gagnon, Head of Regulation for the Legal Survey Division of Earth Science Sector, has been tasked to develop an approach for marine cadastre. He intends to work closely with the appropriate divisions of DFO. There are two events related to marine cadastre in the near future that were discussed at the last ACZISC in Fredericton:

- 15-16 September 2003: UNB/International Federation of Surveyors Meeting on Marine Cadastre Issues at UNB in Fredericton.
- 16-18 October 2003: Association of Canadian Land Surveyors consultation on offshore issues in conjunction with the Canadian Institute for Geomatics Conference in Calgary.
- NRCan's Earth Science Sector has reorganized its Programs. Those most relevant to ACZISC include:
 - Geoscience for Ocean Management - Program Manager: Dick Pickrill (At BIO Dartmouth)
 - National Marine Mapping and Informatics Strategy - Project Leader: Robert Courtney
 - Geoscience for Eastern Scotian Shelf Integrated Ocean management - Project Leader: Vladimir Kostylev
 - East Coast Offshore Geohazards - Project Leader: David Piper
 - Assessing Marine Environmental Quality in Coastal Waters of Eastern Canada - Project Leader: John Shaw
 - Benthic Habitat Mapping - Project Leader: Brian Todd
 - Reducing Canada's Vulnerability to Climate Change - Program Manager: Josef Cihlar (Ottawa-based)
 - Earth Science for National Action on Climate Change - Project Leader: Alex Trichtchenko (includes coastal monitoring and survey)
 - Regional Climate Change Impacts: Geoscience Information for Other Government Departments (OGD) – Project Leader: Don Forbes (includes research in coastal stability and coastal impacts of extreme events)
 - Municipal Case Studies: the planning process and climate change – Project Leader: Phil Hill (includes ESS contribution to the Coastal Impacts of Climate Change and Sea-level Rise in Eastern NB project presented at last ACZISC meeting)
 - Legislated Environmental and Resource Assessment - Program Leader: Margo Burgess (Ottawa-based)
 - Mineral and energy resource assessments in areas under consideration for specialized land use designations - Project Leader: Danny Wright (includes ESS resource assessment work for MPAs and MCAs.)
 - Geomatics for Connecting Canadians - Program Manager: Doug O'Brien
- Climate Change Program:
 - Coastal Impacts of Climate Change and Sea-level Rise in Eastern NB: The GSCA is a partner in the project. Airborne lidar surveys began in May 2003 but bad weather postponed the remainder until October 2003. (The north shore PEI will be reflown at that time.) In March, airborne PSAR (Polarimetric Synthetic Aperture Radar) and spaceborne ENVISAT ASAR (Alternating SAR) and RADARSAT-1 SAR imagery were collected along a 50 km stretch of the Northumberland coast of NB, centred on Bouctouche. The purpose is to develop techniques for high resolution mapping of nearshore ice from space to identify features such as ice ridges and processes such as growth and decay of the nearshore ice complex, ice pressure and scour and the role of nearshore ice in protecting shorelines from storm impacts. It is intended to collect QuickBird imagery in the same area of NB for purposes of coastal mapping and change detection.
 - An investigation by the GSCA and CWS into piping plover habitat changes in NB has begun, with funding from the Interdepartmental Resource Recovery Fund.
 - A monitoring program of shoreline change is ongoing in NS and a national database for all shoreline change data collected in the Atlantic and Arctic regions is being developed under the climate change program.
- Under the Geoscience for Ocean Management Program, a marine geology, coastal sensitivity and sea-level rise project is underway for the Bras d'Or Lakes. An investigation into the sensitivity of shorelines to change and their recent evolution and the acquisition of multi-beam bathymetry of the Lakes, in conjunction with CHS, will be used to reconstruct former shorelines over the past 10,000 years.

Joe Arbour added that the GSCA and DFO are collaborating to develop a benthic classification scheme for the Eastern Scotian Shelf. Vladimir Kostylev has developed a model.

CANADIAN CLIMATE IMPACTS AND ADAPTATION RESEARCH NETWORK: Jaime Dawson reported the following:

- C-CIARN is a national network that facilitates the generation of new climate change knowledge by bringing researchers together with decision-makers from industry, governments, and non-government organizations to address key issues.
- C-CIARN Coastal Zone is a national sector of C-CIARN. The mandate of C-CIARN Coastal Zone is to develop an active network of researchers, stakeholders and decision-makers from the field of coastal zone studies.
- In February 2003, C-CIARN Coastal Zone held a national workshop in Vancouver, BC. The workshop examined the vulnerability of coastal communities to water level change. Participants were asked to identify a comprehensive list of information and research needs that they felt were necessary to help communities better understand the impacts of changing water levels and determine how they may best adapt. From this discussion five priority information needs were identified, including more information on water level changes; mapping and surveying; vulnerability and risk assessments; adaptation and decision-making; and education and communication.
- Since this workshop, the Coastal Zone office has been working to address these issues. Activities have included developing a poster for the Coastal Zone office and regional posters for Canada's coastal zone. A poster for the coastal zone of Newfoundland and Labrador was completed and presented at the "Vulnerability in Coastal Communities: Adaptation to Change and Planning for the Future" workshop held in Change Islands, NL, sponsored by the Ocean Management Research Network (OMRN).
- This fall, C-CIARN Coastal Zone and Fisheries are sponsoring an interactive workshop at the OMRN Conference (13-15 November in Ottawa) that will examine the issue of adaptation to climate change in coastal communities.
- Information on the C-CIARN Coastal Node is available at <http://c-ciarn.bio.ns.ca/>.

PARKS CANADA: Rob Thompson reported the following:

- Neil Munro, a former member of the ACZISC, representing Parks Canada, retired from the federal public service at the end of June.
- Update on Status of Minister's Announcement for the Establishment of five new National Marine Conservation Areas in Canada:
 - Three of the five NMCAs have been identified on the west coast and Great Lakes. Of the two remaining, one may be identified on the east coast in the coming years.
 - Representations have come in from a number of areas in Atlantic Canada, including NL, NB, NS, and QC, in response to the Minister's request for local expressions of interest for NMCAs.
 - In NS, the Canadian Parks and Wilderness Society (CPAWS) is actively promoting the St. Margarets Bay and Mahone Bay area as a possible NMCA. This area falls within the Scotian Shelf Marine Region, one of ten marine regions identified by Parks Canada on the east coast. CPAWS is trying to assess local and community support for the idea of an NMCA in this area - this is entirely a CPAWS initiative and not associated with Parks Canada. CPAWS efforts have received some media attention over the summer month. Parks Canada has already identified three representative marine areas (areas of interest) on the Scotian Shelf, two of which are still considered to have potential: the Canso Offshore Islands area, and the Roseway Basin area.
 - Parks Canada's marine regions and the status of the identification of representative marine areas within the regions can be found in the document "Sea to Sea to Sea", Canada's National Marine Conservation Areas System Plan, available on Parks Canada's website at <http://www.parksCanada.gc.ca>.
- National Parks:
 - There are seven existing national parks in Atlantic Canada, all with a protected coastal component.

- There are two remaining to be established, both in Labrador, based on Parks Canada's representation of large terrestrial ecoregions.
- Negotiations have taken place with the Labrador Inuit Association and the Province of Newfoundland and Labrador for some time for the potential establishment of a new national park in the Torngat Mountain area in northern Labrador. The park would include a large and spectacular coastal area that would be protected under the Canada National Parks Act.

GOVERNMENT OF NEW BRUNSWICK: Dave Finley, Service New Brunswick, reported the following:

- A number of recent events may potentially influence NB's topographic mapping program:
 - Following the recent NB provincial election, the Progressive Conservatives have a one-seat majority.
 - SNB has a new Minister – the Hon. Percy Mockler.
 - The SNB President is retiring and a new one is expected to be announced in the near future
 - The mapping budget has been reduced.
- Topographic mapping has focused on collaborative partnerships on both the provincial and national fronts.
- Provincially SNB is no longer as heavily involved in data collection as in the past. Many of the base mapping layers are built and in maintenance mode; maintenance largely involves key line departments. In these instances, SNB's role is one of facilitator - to encourage Departments to work together to meet provincial needs, based on the "build once and share" philosophy. SNB ensures that the provincial base mapping is built to an agreed-upon standard and is available to end-users. The database focus this year is on:
 - Updating the transportation theme
 - Continuing production of the provincial digital orthophoto project
 - Continuing the civic addressing initiative with a focus on maintenance
 - Production of the Administrative Areas DataBase
- At the national level, NB is working hard to identify opportunities for federal / provincial partnerships. Potential areas for collaboration include: Road network, Civic addressing and Administrative areas.

George Borgal enquired if there had been discussion re making the civic addressing data public. Dave replied that the data had been collected specifically for 911 and that there were limitations on its use.

PUBLIC WORKS AND GOVERNMENT SERVICES: Michel Goguen reported the following:

- PWGSC has a new ADM, Christiane Ouimet, as of April 2003; the Department's reorganization is now on hold.
- PWGSC is doing surveys throughout Atlantic Canada: environmental, hydrographic, topographic and dredging. The Department owns its equipment and has four field crews.
- Data collected by PWGSC is client-owned; access to the data must be through the client.

MINISTER'S ADVISORY COUNCIL ON OCEANS: Maureen Yeadon reported the following:

- MACO is a national committee with 9 members from across Canada. Maureen is a member.
- It is mandated to assist the Minister in fulfilling the Oceans Act by providing independent solicited and unsolicited expert advice.
- The Council meets at least quarterly with the Minister and/or senior DFO officials.
- Further information on MACO is available from its website at <http://www.maco-ccom.ca>.

Larry Hildebrand enquired if MACO had met with the DFO Minister recently. Maureen replied that the Council had met Mr. Thibault in Moncton this spring. The next meeting will take place in Québec in October.

PRIVATE SECTOR / CHAMPLAIN INC: Norval Collins reported on the proposed Atlantic Canada Geomatics Partnership (ACGP) – see attached:

- The ACGP is the combined effort of Champlain Inc and the NATI (Newfoundland and Labrador Association of Technology Industries) Geomatics Working Group.
- The ACGP is a pan-Atlantic vehicle for accessing government support to assist private companies that would like to develop international export opportunities.
- During Geomatics Atlantic last June in Wolfville, NS, a broad range of representatives from the geomatics sector met to discuss the future role of the ACGP.
- Information sessions will be held in Fredericton on 12 September at UNB and on 15 September in Dartmouth. The input and feedback from the sessions will be used to develop the ACGP strategic plan. ACZISC members are welcomed to participate. For information, contact Dan McGuire at tel 902-463-3990.
- An all-day strategy session will be held later this fall to define the role and organization of ACGP and develop a business plan.

Bob Rutherford reported that he had recently retired from DFO and added that part of his work at DFO had involved working with the First Nation bands in Cape Breton since the 1980s. Since his retirement, he has formed Thaumias Environmental Consulting Inc and has continued working with First Nations and NGOs in identifying issues.

UPDATES ON ACZISC RELATED PROGRAMS

COASTAL ZONE CANADA 2004 CONFERENCE: Tim Anderson reported that planning was well underway for CZC 2004, scheduled for 27-30 June 2004 in St. John's. The overall theme of the Conference is "All Within One Ocean: Co-operation in Sustainable Coastal and Ocean Management". The broad sub-themes are: Challenges, Strategies, Tools, and Managing Shared Waters. A call for papers has been issued for oral presentations, posters and special symposia to be held in conjunction with CZC 2004. **16 January 2004 is the deadline for submitting abstracts.** (For information, access the CZC Association website at <http://www.czca-azcc.org/index2.htm>.)

Members discussed the possibility of organizing an ACZISC paper session at CZC 2004. This was recommended.

ACTION 40.15: Participants interested in presenting papers at an ACZISC-sponsored paper session at CZC to contact Mike Butler (mbutler@dal.ca) by 30 November 2003

EASTERN SCOTIAN SHELF INTEGRATED MANAGEMENT: Joe Arbour reported that the 2nd ESSIM Forum Workshop was held in February 2003 in Halifax. The key thrusts now are:

- the development of an integrated management plan for the offshore area
- the identification of a pilot planning area by a multi-stakeholder ESSIM working group. The objectives for the pilot are being defined, including social, economic and environmental.

(For information on ESSIM, access <http://www.mar.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/oceans/e/essim/essim-intro-e.html>.)

GULF OF MAINE COUNCIL ON THE ENVIRONMENT / GLOBAL PROGRAMME OF ACTION IN THE GULF OF MAINE: Justin Huston reported on upcoming GoM events:

- The NS Department of Environment and Labour (NSDEL) is the current host of the GoM Secretariat.
- The GoM Working Group, chaired by Patricia Hinch, NSDEL, will be meeting on 2-3 December in Halifax at the NSDEL, 5151 Terminal Road.
- A "Coastal Governance Forum" will take place on 4 December at Dalhousie University.

- The event will focus on management, trends, etc. It will be co-hosted by the Marine Affairs Programme.
- The GoM Council will be meeting on 4-5 December, also in Halifax, at the Lord Nelson Hotel.

Joe Arbour reported that the Gulf of Maine Summit is scheduled for 26-29 October 2004 in St. Andrews, NB. The goal of the Summit is to produce a State of the Gulf Report. This will involve assessing the health of the Gulf of Maine ecosystem and resources from the bottom up, including synthesizing the proceedings of a series of 221 watershed-based, community-led workshops and a workshop on indicators. The Summit is a joint GoM and GPAC initiative. (For information on the Summit, access <http://www.gulfofmainesummit.org/>.)

OCEAN MANAGEMENT RESEARCH NETWORK: Tim Anderson reported that an OMRN workshop entitled “Vulnerability in Coastal Communities: Adaptations to Change and Planning for the Future” had taken place at Change Islands, Note Dame Bay in August 2003. A similar workshop was held at Alert Bay, BC in April 2003. There were a total of 21 presentations from a wide range of provincial, national and international speakers. Topics discussed included past fisheries, the need for co-management, the lack of raw material, Canada’s Oceans Strategy, tourism, aquaculture, etc. It was noted that the population of the community had dropped from 934 in 1984 to 280 in 2003. A Workshop report will be produced by the OMRN.

Mike Butler added that the Change Islands Workshop was organized by the OMRN Node “Linking Science and Local Knowledge: Building Capacity for Integrated and Sustainable Management of Coastal Resources”, based at Simon Fraser University. Alison Gill is the node leader.

Mike reported that the 2nd OMRN National Conference was scheduled for 13-15 November 2003 in Ottawa. The theme is “Canada’s Oceans: Research, Management and the Human Dimension”. The deadline for submitting abstracts is 30 September. The ACZISC Secretariat staff will be participating in the Conference; all their expenses will be covered by the OMRN. (For information on the OMRN and the Conference, access <http://www.omrn.ca/>.)

8. **ACZISC WORKING GROUP REVIEW**

Mike Butler reported the following:

- As per the ACZISC Strategic Plan, the Working Groups and their roles are:
 - **Communications**: to plan the Communications Strategy of the ACZISC and provides advice to the Secretariat and the ACZISC on matters relating to communications. It is co-chaired by Mike Butler and Marianne Janowicz.
 - **Geospatial Data and Information**: to assist with the planning and implementation of ACZISC activities related to the access, exchange and dissemination of geospatial and other data and information. It also assists with the identification, securement and delivery of collaborative data and information projects related to ICM. It is co-chaired by Claudette LeBlanc and Andy Sherin.
 - **Integrated Coastal Management**: to advocate the implementation of integrated coastal management in Atlantic Canada and maximize collaborative opportunities, in particular with reference to policy issues. It is co-chaired by Leslie Grattan and Faith Scattolon.
- The Secretariat will be communicating with members to identify and/or confirm chairs for the Working Groups. He suggested that it would be more appropriate if the Secretariat staff did not chair any of the WGs because of perceived conflict; they, however, could be involved as members and provide support to the WGs.
- The members of the WGs do not have to be members of the ACZISC.
- Draft Operating Guidelines and Terms of Reference for the Working Groups have been produced. These will be revised as required with the assistance of the WG co-chairs and reviewed by members at the January meeting.

- The outstanding WG Action Items will be addressed by the 'new' or reconfirmed WG co-chairs, with the assistance of the Secretariat.

Discussion:

Bob Thwaites 'volunteered' the GIS technician at Trinity as a member of the Geospatial Data and Information WG.

David Boyce volunteered to be a member of the Communications WG. Geoff Lewis added that one of his colleagues at IC would be appropriate to either co-chair or be a member of the Communications WG.

Larry Hildebrand: WGs should be thinking of what they should be doing within the context of the current Workplan and the 2004-2005 Workplan.

Justin Huston: Bringing in personnel other than ACZISC members to participate in the WGs would bring in new energy and would serve to make the ACZISC better known.

Gary Rockwell asked if Mike Butler would be available to make a presentation to the CHS staff on the ACZISC. This would help to make the work of Committee well known within the agency. Mike agreed to his request.

Larry Hildebrand commented that several EC personnel, in addition to members, had participated in this ACZISC meeting as observers and presenters. This is another excellent way of 'spreading the word' about the ACZISC.

ACTION 40.16: Secretariat to identify or re-confirm by 31 October 2003 the co-chairs for the Working Groups: Communications, Geospatial Data and Information, and ICM

ACTION 40.17: Secretariat and Working Group co-chairs to review and revise the draft Working Group Guidelines prior to next meeting

ACTION 40.18: Secretariat and Working Group co-chairs to formulate plans to 'activate' the Working Groups and feed into the 2004-2005 ACZISC Workplan prior to next meeting

ACTION 40.19: Gary Rockwell to invite Mike Butler to make a presentation on the ACZISC at an upcoming CHS staff meeting

ACTION 40.20: Communications Working Group and Secretariat to develop an ACZISC Communications Plan

ACTION 40.21: Geospatial Data and Information Working Group to develop specifications for the proposed Atlantic Coastal Information Portal (ACIP) prior to next meeting

ACTION 40.22: Geospatial Data and Information Working Group to approach GeoConnections prior to next meeting re possible support for the development and implementation of the proposed ACIP

ACTION 40.23: ICM Working Group to document the requirements for an ICM Community of Practice in Atlantic Canada prior to next meeting

9. **PRESENTATION: SPECIES AT RISK ACT**

Mike Butler introduced Diane Amirault, Wildlife Biologist, Endangered Species at Risk Section, EC; Stephen Barbour, Senior Biologist, Parks Canada Agency; and Arran McPherson, Species at Risk Scientist, Maritimes Aquatic Species at Risk Office, DFO.

Diane Amirault, Environment Canada, reported the following:

- The Species at Risk Act (SARA) was proclaimed into law in June 2003. It was designed to meet one of Canada's key commitments under the international Convention on Biological Diversity.
- The goal of the Act is to prevent endangered or threatened wildlife from becoming extinct or lost from the wild, and to help in the recovery of these species. It is also intended to manage species of special concern and to prevent them from becoming endangered or threatened.
- The Act is one component of a three-part Strategy for the Protection of Species at Risk that also includes the Habitat Stewardship Program and the Accord for the Protection of Species at Risk, a Canada-wide agreement on federal-provincial-territorial cooperation.
- The core Departments responsible for the Act are Environment Canada (primary), Fisheries and Oceans Canada and Parks Canada.
- The majority of the provisions within the Act came into effect in June. Some will be phased-in and take effect in June 2004. This includes the prohibitions against killing listed species and destroying their critical habitat.
- Species may be put on the list by the federal government following their assessment by the Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada (COSEWIC). Criteria used by COSEWIC include population level, habitat loss and degradation, and recovery potential.
- The Act encourages public involvement. Citizens have the right to apply to have species assessed.
- After a species is added to the list, a number of binding provisions take effect, such as automatic prohibitions against killing or harming aquatic species, migratory bird species and all species on federal lands and against the destruction of their residences.
- Stewardship is an essential part of the Act. It brings together landowners, conservationists, governments and other partners to protect species and habitat. Under the Act, stewardship is the first response to protecting the habitats of species at risk.
- Mandatory recovery strategies and management plans are required within specific time periods for all species listed as extirpated (no longer present in Canada but existing elsewhere), endangered, threatened or of special concern.
- The Public Registry (<http://www.sararegistry.gc.ca>) provides access to information and documents relating to the Act. It is also a convenient forum to submit comments.
- SARA will result in amendments to the Canada Wildlife Act (CWA), the Migratory Birds Convention Act, the Canadian Environmental Assessment Act (CEAA) and the Wild Animal and Plant Protection and Regulation of International and Interprovincial Trade Act (WAPPRIITA).
- Both COSEWIC and the Minister of Environment must publish an annual report on their activities and administration of the Act.
- SARA efforts by EC in Atlantic Canada include the implementation of the Atlantic SAR Coordination Council and programs for biology, recovery, stewardship, communications, data management and information needs.
- Copies of her overheads are attached. Further information on SARA is available at <http://www.speciesatrisk.gc.ca/>.

Stephen Barbour, Parks Canada Agency (PCA), made a presentation on the application of SARA to the National Parks and National Historic Sites in the Atlantic Region. Copies of his overheads are attached. Stephen reported the following:

- The activities of Parks Canada Resource Conservation in Atlantic Canada are focused on ecosystem management principles and Species at Risk (SAR) management. Both elements require habitat management.

- A general objective of PCA management is the reduction of developed park areas and the restoration of ecological integrity in parks.
- The initial focus by the PCA has been primarily on administration – setting up the SAR program.
- A working definition of “critical habitat”, including nesting, juvenile rearing, adult feeding, basking, migration and hibernation, is being addressed by a PCA committee.
- The Agency advocates protection or management agreements for critical habitat conservation for the Greater Park Ecosystem (GPE), which includes lands adjacent to Parks Canada lands.
- Steve reviewed the process for critical habitat conservation and habitat restoration techniques.

Arran McPherson, Fisheries and Oceans Canada, reported on the implications of SARA for fisheries. Copies of her overheads are attached. She stated:

- SARA applies directly to aquatic species, migratory birds and species on federal lands. Aquatic species include fish, shellfish, crustaceans, marine animals and marine plants.
- SARA may result in potential restrictions on fisheries (target or by catch species) and aquatic activities and on land-based activities impacting fish and fish habitat (particularly inland waters).
- Incidental harm permits cannot be issued for fisheries.
- Marine issues include assessment, legal listing, automatic prohibitions, permits and agreements, recovery (strategies and action plans), habitat protection and implementation.
- Inland issues include assessment, legal listing, automatic prohibitions, permits and agreements, recovery and habitat protection.
- The recovery strategies in place or underway are: North Atlantic Right Whale, Inner Bay of Fundy Salmon, Atlantic Whitefish, Leatherback Turtle, and the Lake Utopia Dwarf Smelt. Consultations on the proposal to add the Northern Bottlenose Whale and Cusk to the legal list will take place.
- Public consultation will be sought at several stages including: prior to legal listing, recovery strategy development and action plan development.

Discussion:

Stephen Barbour: There is a need for a network of protected areas to house endangered species.

Maureen Yeadon: The system must be rigid enough to protect species but be flexible enough to allow fisheries.

Bob Thwaites: Industry may seek compensation if its activities are restricted by SARA. Diane Amirault stated that there were provisions for compensation.

Tim Anderson enquired who would bear the cost of monitoring recovery plans. Diane replied that this had not been identified. The real measure of success will be re-evaluation by COSEWIC and removal from the list.

Bob Thwaites: SARA will assist DND by identifying blocks where naval exercises can occur.

Neil Ross: SARA will have implications for aquaculture, e.g., the Atlantic Salmon recovery.

Bob Thwaites: SARA is a ‘reactive’ system. Hopefully it will move to being ‘proactive’.

Gary Rockwell enquired what happens if a species is not recoverable. Diane replied that SARA has a provision for this purpose.

Maureen Yeadon: How are COSEWIC members chosen and appointed? Diane replied that they are appointed by the Minister of Environment. Their names are put forward and they are evaluated based on their education and background. Arran added that openings are advertised. David Boyce stated that the Provinces appoint their members.

10. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Maureen Yeadon briefed participants on the upcoming workshop entitled “Making Ocean Zoning Work” scheduled for 10-12 May 2004 at Saint Mary’s University in Halifax. She

distributed a 1-page summary (attached). The workshop will explore the concept and effectiveness of ocean zoning as a tool for integrated ocean management. For information, email ocean@ecologyaction.ca

Justin Huston stated that a background paper entitled "Ocean Zoning for the Gulf of Maine", prepared for the Gulf of Maine Council in January 2003, might be useful. (The document is available at <http://gulfofmaine.org/council/publications/oceanzoningreport.pdf>.)

11. OTHER BUSINESS

No new business was discussed.

12. ADJOURNMENT

ACZISC Meeting #40 adjourned at 1600 hrs on Thursday, 11 September 2003.