

# MINUTES OF ACZISC MEETING #42

## Atlantic Coastal Zone Information Steering Committee

Date: Friday, 25 June 2004

Location: Delta Hotel, St. John's,  
Newfoundland and Labrador

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

<b>Name</b>	<b>Affiliation</b>	<b>Tel. No.</b>
Tim Anderson <sup>1</sup>	Fisheries and Oceans Canada, NL Region, Oceans and Habitat Branch	709-772-2852
David Boyce	Southeast Environmental Association	902-838-3351
Duane Barker	APICS <sup>1</sup> and Marine Institute of Memorial University	709-778-0307
Brad Barr	NOAA (US National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration), Office of National Marine Sanctuaries	508-457-2234
Michael Butler <sup>2</sup> , Chair	ACZISC Secretariat	902-494-1977
Norval Collins <sup>1</sup>	Private sector	902-425-4802
Réal Daigle <sup>1</sup>	Environment Canada, Meteorological Service of Canada	506-851-6743
Ken Dominie <sup>1</sup>	Government of Newfoundland and Labrador, Department of Environment and Conservation	709-729-2559
Linnell Edwards	Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, Crops and Livestock Research Centre	902-566-6871
Grant Gardner	Coastal Zone Canada 2004, APICS <sup>1</sup> and Memorial University	709-737-8155
Randy Gillespie <sup>1</sup>	Canadian Centre for Marine Communications	709-579-4872
Michel Goguen	Public Works and Government Services Canada (for Bill Blight <sup>1</sup> )	506-851-6784
Leslie Grattan <sup>1</sup>	Newfoundland and Labrador Environmental Industry Association	709-739-8176
Tim Hall	Fisheries and Oceans Canada, Maritimes Region, Oceans and Habitat Branch (for Faith Scattolon <sup>1,2</sup> )	902-426-4116
Darren Hicks <sup>1</sup>	Government of Newfoundland and Labrador, Department of Natural Resources	709-729-6584
Larry Hildebrand <sup>1</sup>	Environment Canada, Sustainable Communities and Ecosystems Division	902-426-2131
Justin Huston <sup>1,2</sup>	Government of Nova Scotia, Department of Agriculture and Fisheries	902-424-2996
Claudette LeBlanc	ACZISC Secretariat	902-494-1977
Chris Morry	Fisheries and Oceans Canada, Gulf Region, Oceans (for John Legault <sup>1</sup> )	506-851-3338
Geoff Lewis <sup>1</sup>	Industry Canada, Energy and Marine Branch	902-426-9475

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

Kathryn Parlee	Canadian Climate Impacts and Adaptation Research Network (C-CIARN), Coastal Zone Sector (also for Bob Taylor <sup>1</sup> , Natural Resources Canada, Geological Survey of Canada)	902-426-8988
Patrick Shea	Government of Newfoundland and Labrador, Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture (for Mike Warren <sup>1</sup> )	709-729-3725
Mike Sheen	Industry Canada, Sustainable Technologies and Service Industries Branch	709-772-5351
Charles Stirling	Fisheries and Oceans Canada, Canadian Hydrographic Service (for Dick MacDougall <sup>1</sup> )	709-772-0449
LCdr Bob Thwaites	National Defence, Trinity JOSIC (for Cdr Paul Earnshaw <sup>1</sup> )	902-427-0550
Wayne Turpin	Environment Canada, Canadian Wildlife Service	709-772-2198

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

Mike Butler, ACZISC Secretariat, called ACZISC Meeting #42 to order at 0830 hrs on Friday, 25 June 2004. He welcomed members and observers and thanked the members from NL for sponsoring the meeting. A roundtable introduction of all of the participants followed.

### **2. *ADOPTION OF AGENDA, AND REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR MEETING #41***

The provisional Agenda for ACZISC Meeting #42 was reviewed. Mike Butler stated that item 8 should be revised as "ACZISC Working Group **and Task Group Reports**". The agenda was approved as revised (attached).

The draft minutes of ACZISC Meeting #41 were reviewed and approved as distributed. The 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 #41 were reviewed and will be reported under the relevant agenda item. The Action Items were either carried out or are in progress.

### **4. *UPCOMING ACZISC MEETINGS***

The upcoming ACZISC meetings are scheduled for:

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

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

**ACZISC Meeting #45: 18-19 May 2005, Charlottetown, PEI**

**ACZISC Meeting #46: 14-15 September 2005, St. John's, NL**

## 5. **ACZISC ADMINISTRATION AND OPERATION**

**ACZISC ADVISORY COMMITTEE:** The ACZISC Advisory Committee consists of a representative from each sector represented on the Committee: academia (Lois Whitehead); federal departments (Faith Scattolon); private sector (Brent Rowley); provincial governments (Justin Huston, chair); and the Secretariat (Mike Butler).

Mike Butler reported that a meeting of the Advisory Committee had not taken place recently due to conflicting schedules. However, he has spoken to members individually.

**ACZISC MEMBERSHIP:** Mike Butler reported the following:

- Government of Newfoundland and Labrador:
  - Ken Dominie, ADM Environment has replaced Leslie Grattan in representing the NL Department of Environment and Conservation.
  - The NL Department of Natural Resources is a new member. It will be represented by Darren Hicks, Policy, Planning and Research Analyst, Energy Branch.
- The Newfoundland and Labrador Environmental Industry Association (NEIA) has become a member of the ACZISC and will be represented by Leslie Grattan. The associations in NS and NB will also be contacted re membership. (There is currently no Environmental Industry Association in PEI.)
- Bob Taylor, Coastal Geomorphologist, Geological Survey of Canada - Atlantic, has replaced Andy Sherin as one of the two representatives of Natural Resources Canada on the ACZISC.
- Jim Ramsay, Department of the Provincial Treasury, has resigned as a representative of the Government of Prince Edward Island. A replacement will be identified, possibly within the Department of Development. The PEI Government is currently represented by David Younker, Director, Fisheries and Aquaculture, PEI Department of Fisheries, Aquaculture and Environment.
- The Saltwater Network will be sponsoring a member (most likely from the Bay of Fundy Marine Resource Centre) to attend ACZISC meetings. The Saltwater Network was formed to enable groups in coastal communities around the Gulf of Maine to work collaboratively on community-based conservation and resource management.
- Ken Paul, the former First Nations representative on the ACZISC, has provided a list of personnel to contact re FN membership on the ACZISC. These individuals are invited to attend the ACZISC meetings when these are held in their region. However, the Secretariat does not have contacts in NL for this purpose. Tim Anderson volunteered to provide the Secretariat with names and their contact information. Chris Morry stated that Indian and Northern Affairs Canada may be able to fund FN participation in ACZISC meetings.

***ACTION 42.1: Tim Anderson to provide the Secretariat with the names of First Nation representatives from NL who should be invited to attend future meetings of the ACZISC in St. John's***

Geoff Lewis enquired if ACOA had been approached re membership. Mike reported that the agency had been invited to join the ACZISC. However, their membership could be perceived as a potential conflict of interest, given their \$50K contribution to the ACZISC this year.

The Secretariat will continue to extend an invitation to ACZISC meetings to other potential members identified, including: Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada; the Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency (CEAA), the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA), the Canada Newfoundland Offshore Petroleum Board (CNOBP), Health Canada, Public Safety and Emergency Preparedness Canada, and Transport Canada.

***ACTION 42.2: Secretariat to follow up with regard to suggested new members prior to next meeting***

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

**ACZISC BUDGET, FINANCIAL REPORT AND FUNDING:** The ACZISC 2003-2004 Financial Statement was distributed and reviewed (copy attached).

The ACZISC 2004-2005 budget was distributed and reviewed (copy attached). Mike reported that sources of revenue in the proposed budget include:

- Federal and provincial membership dues
- Contracts (~20% of the total proposed revenue):
  - \$15K for participation by the Secretariat in the National Secretariat for the Ocean Management Research Network (OMRN): \$10K for 2003-2004 and an additional \$5K (retroactive) for organizing the workshops at the 2003 OMRN Conference in Ottawa
  - \$14K secured for participation by the Secretariat with Aerde Environmental Research (Dirk Werle) in the Capacity Study of the Earth and Environment Sector in Atlantic Canada for the Canadian Space Agency (CSA).
  - \$1.5K to complete the GeoConnections metadata contract.
- Grants from ACOA (balance of the \$50K committed in 2003-2004) and foundations.

*Discussion:*

- Larry Hildebrand: How much time can the Secretariat spend working on contracts?
- Norval Collins stated that the amount of time would vary from year to year depending on 'shortfalls' from membership dues. Mike Butler added that the Secretariat working on contracts is not ideal as this takes time away from ACZISC activities.
- Mike Butler reported that the grant application to the NB Environmental Trust Fund was not successful, primarily because the Secretariat is not based in NB. He added that charitable status is being pursued for the ACZISC Association because this is an eligibility requirement of most foundations. David Boyce suggested that, in the interim, SEA apply to foundations on the ACZISC's behalf.
- Justin Huston suggested that the term "Salaries and Benefits" be replaced with 'Staffing'.
- Randy Gillespie commented that the document should be renamed 'ACZISC Association Budget / Financial Statement'.
- Geoff Lewis enquired if the ACZISC Association could incur debt. Mike Butler responded that it did not have borrowing authority or a line of credit.
- Mike Butler reminded members of the importance that their dues are paid in a timely manner to provide sufficient cash flow.
- Justin Huston reported on the approach in NS to obtain financial support for the ACZISC. Roz Penfound, the new DM of the NS Department of Agriculture and Fisheries, will be soliciting contributions from the other provincial departments with coastal responsibilities, in addition to Fisheries. Ms Penfound is familiar with the work of the ACZISC.

***ACTION 42.3 Members to review the ACZISC Association budget/financial statement 2004-2005 and provide comments to the Secretariat***

***ACTION 42.4 Secretariat to follow up on outstanding federal dues ASAP***

***ACTION 42.5 Secretariat to contact provincial ACZISC members ASAP with regard to setting up a meeting with senior departmental personnel in each province to organize provincial funding for the ACZISC***

**ACZISC COMMUNICATIONS:** Mike Butler reported that an ACZISC display had been produced for the Coastal Zone Canada Conference. He thanked Norval Collins and the Champlain Institute for loaning the display board.

As actioned at the previous ACZISC meeting in January, Claudette LeBlanc reported that she had compiled basic trends and user statistics for the ACZISC website (copy attached). The more 'popular' components of the website are: the Atlantic Coastal Database Directory; Links to Maps and Imagery Online, Conferences, Documents, including minutes of ACZISC meetings; What's New; and the Inventory of Coastal Mapping Projects

Claudette indicated that that the level of readership for the minutes of ACZISC meetings continues to increase:

- As of 16 October 2003, there were 5,307 hits on the minutes of meetings 34 to 39 – an average of 885 per meeting
- As of 26 January 2004, there were 7,030 hits on the minutes of meetings 35 to 40 – an average of 1,172 per meeting
- As of 21 June 2004, there were 8,202 hits on the minutes of meetings 36 to 41 – an average of 1,367 per meeting.

Larry Hildebrand commented that the user statistics were very impressive.

Justin Huston commented that he distributed the minutes of ACZISC meetings within his department, NS Fisheries. He added that the roundtable reports were of particular interest. Claudette stated that subsets of the minutes, entitled 'Coastal Activities in Atlantic Canada' and including both the roundtable reports and a summary of the presentations, were available in the documents section of the ACZISC website at <http://www.dal.ca/aczisc/docs>.

The content and the format of the ACZISC Coastal Update e-newsletter were discussed. Participants stated that the newsletter was very useful and informative and that they liked the simple and brief format of the individual information items that include links to URLs for further information. The issue of whether or not to charge a subscription fee was discussed. The overall consensus was that this was not practical or feasible at this time.

**ACZISC WORKPLAN:** Mike Butler reported that the Secretariat had prepared and distributed a draft 2004-2005 ACZISC Workplan to members in April for comment. The Workplan was subsequently revised based on the comments received.

Mike distributed copies of the Workplan. It was reviewed by members and the updated information was highlighted.

**ACZISC ASSOCIATION:** Mike Butler reported the following:

- The ACZISC Association was established to act as the fiscal agent for the ACZISC Committee. It was registered under the NS Societies Act on 24 November 2003.
- The AGM of the ACZISC Association, originally scheduled to follow this ACZISC meeting, will be held in Halifax in January 2005 in conjunction with ACZISC meeting #44. The Act governing NS Societies stipulates that AGMs must be held in NS. Bylaw 5.1 of the ACZISC Association currently states that the AGMs of the ACZISC Association may be held anywhere in Canada; the Bylaw is in conflict with the NS Societies Act (which has precedence) and will be revised at the next AGM.
- The Directors of the ACZISC Association are: Norval Collins, Brad Fay, Randy Gillespie, Brent Rowley (chair of the Board) and Lois Whitehead (Vice-chair). Government personnel are not eligible to serve as Directors.
- Liability insurance is being purchased for the Directors. This has been included in the ACZISC 2004-2005 budget (~\$1K).

- The 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting of the ACZISC Association Board of Directors was held on 10 June in Halifax; the draft minutes are attached. Agenda items included:
  - review of the draft Agreements between the Association and the Association Executive Officers (President, Vice-president and Secretary/Treasurer). The Agreements will be revised based on discussions at the BoD meeting and reviewed with David Copp, Legal Counsel, and Brent Rowley, Chair of the Board.
  - review of the draft MoU between the Association and the ACZISC Committee. The MoU was approved by the BoD.
- Mike Butler circulated copies of the draft MoU between the Association and the ACZISC Committee for review by the Committee members, who also approved the MoU.
- A list of ACZISC Association members and a membership form were distributed.

Mike also distributed a schematic outlining the relationship between the ACZISC Committee, the ACZISC Advisory Committee, the ACZISC Association and the Secretariat.

***ACTION 42.6: Secretariat to organize the 1<sup>st</sup> AGM of the ACZISC Association in conjunction with ACZISC Meeting #44 scheduled for 19-20 January 2005 in Halifax***

## **6. ACZISC WORKING GROUP AND TASK GROUP REPORTS**

Mike Butler distributed copies of the ACZISC Working Group Guidelines and Terms of Reference. He added that these would be reviewed and revised on an as-required basis.

**COMMUNICATIONS WORKING GROUP:** Mike Butler reported that the Communications Working Group is co-chaired by Marianne Janowicz and Geoff Lewis.

Geoff reported that the Working Group has developed an ACZISC Communications Plan (distributed). The Plan will be reviewed and revised on an as-required basis. He added that he had discussed ACZISC communications activities with communications personnel at Industry Canada who indicated that, given the limitations of budgets, etc, the ACZISC communications activities are 'great' and appear to be very effective.

Mike added that the Secretariat would be reviewing the design of the ACZISC website with the Communications Working Group with the view of making it more user-friendly and effective.

***ACTION 42.7: Communication Working Group and Secretariat to review the design of the ACZISC website***

**GEOMATICS WORKING GROUP:** Mike Butler reported that the Working Group was co-chaired by a federal and by a provincial government member. Ed Light is the provincial co-chair. A replacement will be identified for Andy Sherin, the former federal co-chair.

Mike Butler reported that preliminary discussions had taken place between Andy and Dolores Cameron, GeoConnections Secretariat, re the proposed Atlantic Coastal Information Network (ACIP) to replace the Atlantic Coastal Database Directory. The importance of the Directory/ACIP in terms of 'ACZISC branding' was emphasized.

***ACTION 42.8: Geomatics Working Group and Secretariat to develop specifications for the proposed Atlantic Coastal Information Portal (ACIP) and to communicate the requirements to GeoConnections***

**INTEGRATED COASTAL MANAGEMENT WORKING GROUP:** Mike Butler reported that the Working Group was co-chaired by a federal and by a provincial government member. Faith Scattolon is the federal co-chair. A replacement will be identified for Leslie Grattan, the former provincial co-chair.

***ACTION 42.9: Secretariat to identify a provincial co-chair for the ICM Working Group prior to next meeting***

Mike reported that the ICM Working Group meets on a regular basis to discuss ICM policy developments at a “sub-official” level. The Working Group:

- provides a forum to share best practices and standards
- raises awareness of initiatives and research related to ICM
- identifies information needs, and
- identifies potential collaborative policy and operational projects.

The ICM Working Group has been tasked to determine interest in implementing an ICM Community of Practice in Atlantic Canada. Mike read a definition of ‘Communities of Practice’ from the GeoConnections e-Newsletter (4 June issue). “Communities of practice are groups who share concerns or problems and have common requirements....” Leslie Grattan, Larry Hildebrand and John Legault, with the assistance of the Secretariat, have agreed to take on this task.

***ACTION 42.10: Secretariat to organize a conference call with Larry Hildebrand, Leslie Grattan, John Legault and other interested ACZISC members to determine interest in implementing an ‘ICM Community of Practice’ in Atlantic Canada***

If there is sufficient interest, the ICM Working Group will explore the tools required tools to enable it to communicate, e.g., an inventory of groups and activities. The inventory could build on the existing inventory, created initially for Coastal Zone Canada 2000 and updated in 2002.

Larry Hildebrand added that the ‘ICM Community of Practice’ could be a comprehensive network of groups, e.g., LOMAs, ACAP sites, ZIP sites, etc. Individuals would identify synergies, collaborative opportunities, etc.

***ACTION 42.11: Secretariat to organize a conference call to consider the requirements to implement an ‘ICM Community of Practice’ in Atlantic Canada***

**COASTAL AND OCEAN INFORMATION NETWORK – ATLANTIC TASK GROUP:** Andy Sherin is the chair of the COINAtlantic Task Group. In his absence, Mike Butler briefed participants on the initiative. He reported the following:

- COINAtlantic would be a cooperative effort by all of the players interested in the acquisition and use of data and information about Atlantic Canada’s coastal and ocean resources. COINAtlantic would invite all players in Atlantic Canada to:
  - Share the data and information they already have;
  - Coordinate planning for future data acquisition and processing activities;
  - Participate in a cooperative effort to establish the technology and policy framework necessary to enable simple third party access to data and information, involving innovative teaming of public and private sector services and use of all available technology and assets; and
  - Participate in a program to provide operational and financial sustainability.
- As actioned at the last meeting, a conference call meeting of the members of COINAtlantic

Task Group was held on 11 June to review the COINAtlantic Summary document (attached) and make recommendations to ACZISC at this meeting. The Task Group meeting report was reviewed (attached). The Task Group recommendations are as follows:

- The ACZISC should approve in principle the COINAtlantic initiative.
- The ACZISC should allow the COINAtlantic Task Group to continue its work.
- The Task Group should organize a public Forum to address the COINAtlantic issues and develop an Action Plan for COINAtlantic implementation to be brought back to the ACZISC for approval.
- The COINAtlantic summary document should be revised to remove attribution to organizations other than the ACZISC for wide distribution.
- The ACZISC should announce its intention to organize a COINAtlantic Forum during the ACZISC Panel Session at the CZC '04 Conference and solicit expressions of interest in contributing to it.
- The ACZISC thanked CCMC and CGCP for their work in developing and bringing this initiative to the ACZISC.
- The COINAtlantic proposal was recently initiated by Randy Gillespie, Canadian Centre for Marine Communications (CCMC) and the Canadian GeoProject Centre (CGPC).
- Efforts to implement COIN date back to the late 1980s when the Maritime Resource Management Service (MRMS), a former agency of the Council of Maritime Premiers, was contracted by the Canadian Hydrographic Service to carry out a study on implementing a Coastal and Ocean Information Network. The 'challenges' identified at that time were technology, standards and, primarily, people's attitudes. The former two challenges have been largely overcome but the latter remains.

*Discussion:*

Norval Collins: The value-added aspect of COINAtlantic is that it actively engages the private sector in a partnership between government and industry to solicit funds for its implementation.

Randy Gillespie: COINAtlantic has a strong connection to the Oceans Action Plan and the requirement for information noted in the Plan. There are similar initiatives in BC and in Québec. However, these are further behind because they have not benefited from an ACZISC-like organization.

Justin Huston commented that the COINAtlantic initiative summary document was confusing and that it was important to differentiate between the ACZISC and its products.

Ken Dominie: Will COINAtlantic result in increased requirements for the Secretariat? Mike Butler responded that this would have to be addressed by the Task Group. However, there are no financial implications at this time.

Justin Huston suggested that it was premature to make an announcement at CZC 2004. The ACZISC should 'get its house in order' first.

Norval Collins reinforced the need for a COINAtlantic forum to discuss the initiative in greater detail and to determine if and how to move forward.

Members agreed that COINAtlantic should be discussed further to determine if and how to move forward.

- ACTION 42.12: COINAtlantic Task Group and Secretariat to organize a conference call ASAP for Task Group members and other interested ACZISC members to:***
- ***consider organizing a COINAtlantic Forum in association with the upcoming ACZISC Meeting in Fredericton***
  - ***to further review the COINAtlantic summary document to more clearly identify the relationship between COINAtlantic and the ACZISC and its relationship to other similar initiatives in Canada and to GeoConnections***

## **7. PRESENTATION: ISTOP - INTEGRATED SATELLITE TRACKING OF OIL POLLUTERS**

Wayne Turpin, Head, Wildlife Enforcement, CWS Atlantic Region, EC, briefed participants on the ISTOP (Integrated Satellite Tracking of Oil Polluters) project. He described the procedure, the advantages and limitations of the approach, the results and performances achieved and the indirect results of the program. He reported the following:

- ISTOP is an operational multi-agency initiative, designed as an aid in marine oil spill detection off the east coast of Canada. It is a collaborative effort between the monitoring and enforcement agencies responsible for the control of illegal pollution activities (Environment Canada, Canadian Coast Guard, Transport Canada and National Defence) and space technologies organizations (Canadian Space Agency and Radarsat International).
- ISTOP was initiated in April 2002. Its initial phase consisted in the development of a project charter (agreement between the project collaborators) and the design and implementation of an integrated operational procedure. The monitoring of Canadian waters using Radarsat 1 satellite is ongoing since then, with a 5-month interruption in the winter/spring 2003.
- ISTOP is supported by a continuous acquisition plan that generates large volume of data.
- The source of the oil is not primarily from medium or large events. It is mostly from daily discharges of oily waste. In 1996 R. Kiash and C. McCarter estimated that 20 tonnes of oily discharge are released per month per ocean going vessel, such as container ships.
- The ISTOP partners work within a variety of legislation: Canada Shipping Act, Canadian Environmental Protection Act, Fisheries Act, Migratory Birds Convention Act, and the Oceans Act.
- ISTOP meets all project objectives except defining a problem in terms of area extent and frequency of dumping. It can also be used to increase surveillance and to make aircraft patrol more effective. It assists in getting media interest and 'spreading the word', resulting in the 'deterrence factor'.

### *Discussion:*

Larry Hildebrand enquired on developments re the prosecution of offenders. Wayne responded that current prosecution problems have brought international law under scrutiny. Canada also has to revisit its legislation. The reliance is now on the Canada Shipping Act. Bill C-34 - an act to amend the Migratory Birds Convention Act (1994) and the Canadian Environmental Protection Act (1999) - will provide a platform for prosecution. A PSSA designation for the area off Newfoundland's south coast would also be helpful.

Brad Barr stated that the US was facing similar problems. Wayne stated that Canada works closely with the US on this problem. The US is the recipient of the bulk of the ship traffic passing off Newfoundland's south coast.

Bob Thwaites commented that oil pollution was a security issue. When DND is notified of illegal pollution activities, it can provide resources and move from a reactive role to a proactive one. Canada and the US are passing the 'Maritime Picture' back and forth. Under UN Chapter 5, ships of 500+ tons are required to be equipped with AIS (Automatic Identification System) transponders, mainly for search and rescue, before 2008. AIS can assist in identifying offenders.

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

**FISHERIES AND OCEANS CANADA:** Charles Stirling, Canadian Hydrographic Service - Atlantic, reported the following:

- The 2004 hydrographic survey program for the CHS Atlantic Region is now underway and

will continue until October. The CCGS Matthew will be conducting hydrographic surveys of high priority areas at: Mortier Bay, Corner Brook, Argentia, Cape Freels, Northern Labrador, Cartwright, Cow Head, Charlottetown, Summerside, Confederation Bridge, Belledune, Val Comeau, Caraqueet and Bathurst.

- The CCGS Creed will be working in Placentia Bay, collecting multibeam data in support of DFO's science objectives for ocean management, the NRCan GeoScience for Ocean Management program, and the Placentia Bay Mapping Pilot Project, which is part of the Technology Road Map initiative. NRCan is also conducting multibeam and geological surveys with the CCGS Matthew and will be integrating the resulting bathymetry. It is a further demonstration of the role of SeaMap-type data for integrated management. SeaMap has been approved in principle but it remains unfunded.
- The CHS Atlantic Region and the Surveys and Mapping Division of the NL Government joint project to obtain aerial photography to improve shoreline mapping along the northern Labrador Coast will be continued this summer. This project is funded by the National Search and Rescue Secretariat's New Initiative's Fund. The CHS in-kind contribution this year includes the installation of 4 tide gauges in Labrador using the CCGS Matthew. In parallel, CHS will survey an inshore corridor between Cape Mugford and Cape Chidley.
- The 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the establishment of the CHS in 1904 was celebrated at the Canadian Hydrographic Conference held in Ottawa on 24-27 May. A book titled *Charting Northern Waters*, which was sponsored by CARIS and the Canadian Society for Nautical Research, was released to commemorate the anniversary.
- In mid-June CHS delivered digital and hard-copy seabed imagery for Scallop Fishing Area 29. The Area was surveyed for DFO Fisheries Management and partially funded by a Joint Project Agreement between the inshore scallop industry and DFO Fisheries Management. The mapping has become part of the management plan for scallop in that Area. Scallop Fishing Area 29 includes the area from east of Baccaro Point, Shelburne County to Cape North in Cape Breton.
- UNCLOS was ratified by Canada on 6 November 2003. \$70 M in funding for determining the outer boundary of the continental shelf was announced in the last federal budget. DFO and NRCan are preparing a Treasury Board submission to profile the funding over the 10 years to access the funding. The governance of the project office and when the funding will be available are to be determined. It is intended to contract as much of the work as possible and to have a small coordinating office of 3 to 5 personnel - depending on the expertise required at a given time.
  - About 2/3 of the UNCLOS budget is for geological multibeam mapping. The level of effort in Atlantic Canada is approximately 80 days to map a 40 km wide corridor 'catching' the 2500 metre depth contour and the foot of the slope.
  - It is probable that the survey work will go to a company with a vessel equipped with a deep-sea multibeam system. There may be an opportunity for SeaMap-type work to be done in conjunction with the UNCLOS mapping if funding can be identified to cover the operational costs for the extra days in the area.
  - The majority of the UNCLOS budget will be for mapping the Arctic, first to determine whether Losomov Ridge is connected to the North American continent or not and can be used in determining the outer limit, then to map the 2500 metre contour and foot of the slope. CHS hopes to partner with other countries in mapping the Arctic.
- As a part of DFO's quest for financial stability, certain expenditures will be reduced and reallocated to higher priority activities. As a result, the CHS operating budget has been reduced by 50%. CHS is hoping that it will be reallocated at least enough of this reduction to start the year with an operating budget of zero. It would then rely on CHS Headquarters and partnering funding to operate for the remainder of this year.
- To match its program to budgets, CHS is conducting a level of service review to determine what level of service can be provided to Maritime Transportation with existing resources. CHS has classified chart areas based on risk and now is defining the base level of service

for category A, B and C areas. CHS has engaged an advisory board made up of personnel from commercial shipping, the military and the Coast Guard (CCG) and recreational boaters. CHS will continue to consult with clients as it develops levels of service.

- The CHS is working with the CCG and Small Craft Harbours on developing a business case to determine if CHS meets the Treasury Board Secretariat criteria for Special Operating Agencies (SOA). While it has already been decided that the CCG will be a SOA, CHS must get approval before proceeding with the development of the framework documents for a SOA. If CHS meets the criteria then there is the issue of whether CHS will be a stand alone SOA or be part of the CCG SOA. The goal is to have the business case prepared for the fall and, if CHS is to become a SOA, to implement this in April 2005 (at the same time as the CCG). The CHS objective in seeking SOA status is to get agreement on a clear mandate and to acquire increased administrative delegation and financial flexibility to become more efficient in delivering its program to Canadians.

Tim Anderson, Oceans and Habitat Branch, DFO NL, reported the following:

- There has been some reorganization in the DFO NL Region:
  - The Oceans Program is now part of a new Branch entitled 'Oceans and Habitat'. The Branch has a new Director: John Mercer.
  - Previously the Oceans Program was part of the Science, Oceans and Environment Branch.
  - It is anticipated that the reorganization will raise the profile of the Oceans Agenda in the NL Region.
- The Oceans Action Plan was announced in the 2004 Speech from the Throne.
  - It is viewed as a renewed commitment by the federal government to provide coordinated leadership and to develop partnerships.
  - The Plan has four key objectives, including: to strengthen Canada's international leadership as a responsible steward of marine resources; manage Canada's coastal and offshore areas in an integrated manner; and to improve the health of the oceans; and develop new oceans science and technologies.
  - Tim distributed a Fact Sheet with further details on the Oceans Action Plan (copy attached).
- Tim circulated recent publications:
  - "Mapping Spawning Times and Locations for 10 Commercially Important Fish Species Found on the Grand Banks of Newfoundland" (Ollerhead *et al*, 2004), funded by the Environmental Studies Research Fund (ESRF)
  - "Microbial Pollution: A Key Factor to Consider in the Management of Municipal Wastewater Effluents for the Smallest of Sewage Outfalls (Payne *et al*, 2004).
  - Pamphlets on Integrated Management, Marine Protected Areas and Marine Environmental Quality.
- As a result of a joint DFO/GeoConnections project, the NL Community-based Coastal Inventory data is now available via the DFO GeoPortal at [http://gp2.chs-shc.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/index\\_en.html](http://gp2.chs-shc.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/index_en.html)
  - GeoPortal includes data (fisheries/marine mammals/marine plants) from projects for all of insular Newfoundland and a portion of Labrador. A demo will be available at CZC 2004.
  - Descriptions of the Inventories are available from the "Inventory of Atlantic Coastal Mapping Projects" in the ACZISC website at <http://www.dal.ca/aczisc/czmproj>

Chris Morry, Oceans, DFO Gulf Region, reported the following on behalf of John Legault:

- Last year the Gulf Region funded a multibeam mapping project in Caraquet Bay by Dr. John Hughes-Clarke of UNB. The recent focus for the project has been on bottom classification and general interpretation of the data collected and on comparing it with groundtruthed data and imagery. The project report should be completed soon.

- This year the Gulf Region has not been able to fund a multibeam mapping project of the Richibucto estuary and the Tabusintac lagoon as a follow-up to the multibeam mapping done last year off Caraquet. However, these surveys would have been less than satisfactory because of the lack of water depth needed for the safe navigation of the vessel that John Hughes-Clarke is employing. Instead, a DFO staff member, Marc Ouellette, will be carrying out a simpler single source sonar survey of these estuaries using a smaller vessel. Marc will then work with John Hughes-Clarke to attempt to calibrate the results of this type of survey with the multibeam method so that some comparisons can be made.
- Using the aquaculture industry as the catalyst, the Gulf Region is collaborating with the NB Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Aquaculture on a project to conduct whole bay integrated management planning. This is an exercise to site potential new aquaculture zones, taking into consideration the needs of other federal and provincial departments, recreational and commercial fishermen, the resource needs for species at risk, land use and transportation, and other user conflicts. Two bays have been selected as pilots - Richibucto and Tabusintac. The pre-approval of aquaculture sites would facilitate the application and review process - resulting in a significantly reduced waiting period.
- The Traditional Fisheries Knowledge website and the Variation Order website have been moved to DFO's server in Moncton. This will allow DFO to independently develop its own Internet Mapping Services for the regional staff and external clients.

Chris added the following:

- Five reports collectively produced in the past year by the New Brunswick Seafood Plant Effluent Working Group and the equivalent NPA Working group on Seafood Plant Effluents are now available:
  - Fish Plant Effluents: A Workshop on Sustainability, DFO 2003
  - Effluents des usines de transformation des produits marins : un atelier sur le développement durable, P&O 2003
  - Best Management Practices: Marine Products Processing, Coastal Zones Research Institute, Inc. and DFO, 2004 / Bonnes pratiques de gestion : transformation des produits marins, Institut de recherche sur les zones côtières Inc. et P&O, 2004
  - Management of Wastes from Atlantic Seafood Processing Operations, AMEC and NPA Atlantic Regional Team, 2004
  - Gestion des déchets des usines de transformation des produits de la mer de l'Atlantique, AMEC et P&O, 2004
- The reports are available upon request. Some can be downloaded the DFO website and others through the ACZISC website and similar non-governmental media.
- The two working groups are planning to carry out pilot projects in seafood plants across Atlantic Canada to characterize the existing nature of effluents across the region and to promote the use of the best management practices described in the manual above.

Tim Hall, DFO Maritimes Region, reported the following:

- DFO has completed its Departmental Assessment and Alignment Project (DAAP) and, while many of the results are internally focussed, there are some key adjustments that will be of interest to others. Canadian Coast Guard is moving toward a Special Operating Agency, and policy issues have been transferred to Transport Canada. In the Maritimes Region the harvest fisheries divisions of the Science sector are being combined to form a new Population Ecology Division. The Aquaculture Coordination Office has been transferred to Fisheries Management.
- The Gully was recently designated as a Marine Protected Area under Canada's Oceans Act. This is the first MPA on Canada's east coast, and the largest to date. For more information, access <http://www.mar.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/oceans/e/essim/essim-gully-e.html>. DFO will be working closely with the Gully Advisory Committee to develop a Management Plan this fiscal year.

- DFO will be partnering with NOAA and other Canadian and US partners to update NOAA's Marine Managed Inventory.
- DFO recently announced a 2<sup>nd</sup> Deep Sea Coral Conservation Area in the area of the Stone Fence in the Laurentian Channel. This area was designated a Conservation Area to protect the Lophelia reef discovered there in 2003.

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

- Several reviews are being carried out in the Department. Reports and recommendations are expected this fall, followed by actions next year.
- The Department is involved in several marine projects throughout Atlantic Canada related to breakwaters, dredging, wharves, etc. A program to monitor navigational channels (notice actions) throughout the Maritimes is well underway.
- The PWGSC Information Management system is now in place. All current data has been input in the database. Input of historical hydrographic data is ongoing.
- The Department has purchased a sidescan sonar.
- Surveys of the Confederation Bridge are carried out each year to monitor for erosion and sedimentation.

*Discussion:*

Chris Morry commented that the fishermen claim the results of the surveys of Confederation Bridge do not reflect what they observe in their traps. He suggested that the fishermen's information could be integrated into the Department's survey results.

Réal Daigle enquired if PWGSC took sea-level rise (forecasted to be 100 cm in the next 100 years) into consideration when planning its activities and programs. It was suggested that both Réal and Kathryn Parlee (C-CIARN) make a presentation to the Department on this topic.

***ACTION 42.13: Réal Daigle and Kathryn Parlee to organize a presentation for PWGSC personnel on the impacts of sea-level rise on the Department's activities and programs***

**GOVERNMENT OF NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR:** Ken Dominie reported the following on behalf of Mike Warren, Fisheries and Aquaculture:

- The Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture (DFA) is participating with DFO and other Provinces (BC, NB, NS, PEI, NU and NWT) on the Oceans Task Group of the Canadian Council of Fisheries and Aquaculture Ministers (CCFAM). The Task Group workplan is being submitted to CCFAM for approval at their meeting in September. The workplan calls for active participation in the preparation and implementation of the Oceans Action Plan.
- DFA will be working with DFO on a project related to identifying indicators for state-of-the-ocean-reporting. This involves selecting, developing and implementing coastal indicators for tracking the progress on the management and use of Canada's oceans in support of Integrated Management.
- The Department also participates on the CCFAM Aquaculture Task Group, the Aquatic Invasive Species Task Group; and (if its approved) the new Aquatic Species at Risk Task Group.
- There are plans to form a Government of NL Oceans Network for coordination of coasts and oceans related activities, possibly along the lines of the NS Provincial Ocean Network.
- DFA will be working with DFO, EC and the Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada (COSEWIC) on ways to improve the implementation of COSEWIC/SARA within the marine fish sector.
- In September 2003 DFA (Mike Warren) and the Department of Environment (Leslie Grattan) presented at the North Atlantic Conference in Lerwick, Shetland. The next conference is scheduled for 2005 in Norway. Mike is proposing that the 2007 conference

be held in Canada. This would have to be announced at the 2005 conference. Plans are very preliminary at this point.

Ken Dominie, Environment and Conservation, reported the following:

- The Department is working with DFO on an Integrated Management Plan for Placentia Bay.
- Environment and Conservation is cooperating with the federal government (Transport Canada, CCG and EC) on general issues surrounding oil spill preparedness and response.
- The Department is also working with EC on waste management issues in relation to large oil spills. A lot of lessons have been learned from the Prestige incident and oil spill in November 2002 off the coast of Spain.
- Through the Canadian Council of Ministers of the Environment (CCME), Environment and Conservation is participating in a major initiative on municipal wastewater discharges.
- The Department is developing a Climate Change Action Plan for the Province, which is expected to be released this fall. The ocean and coastal zone are included.

*Discussion:*

Darren Hicks stated that the issues reviewed by Ken, including Climate Change, were also of concern to the NL Department of Natural Resources.

Kathryn Parlee enquired if the NL Climate Change Action Plan would focus on adaptation or mitigation. Ken responded that it would focus on both.

David Boyce asked if the wastewater project would deal with both municipal and onsite waste.

Ken replied that it would address municipal waste only. Chris Morry stated that the NPA Atlantic Regional Team was looking at issues related to on-site sewage.

Patrick Shea, Fisheries and Aquaculture, reported that the following:

- The Department is involved in multi-year IM planning for Leading Tickles and other areas in the Province.
- Patrick has been assigned to work with Andrée Chevrier, DFO Ottawa, on federal, provincial and territorial collaboration on environmental, socio-economic and governance indicators in support of IM planning in Canada's oceans. A presentation on this topic will be made in a session at CZC 04 on Monday morning.

**INDUSTRY CANADA:** Geoff Lewis, Energy and Marine Branch, reported the following:

- The Working Group on Science, Technology and Commercialization (WGSTC) of Canada's Ocean Action Plan is co-chaired by three people: Bruce Bowie, DG of Industry Canada's Energy and Marine Branch; Mary Williams, DG of NRC's Institute for Ocean Technology in St. John's; and Joan Kean-Howie, DG Oceanography and Aquaculture Science, DFO. The Working Group has broad representation from about 30 federal departments and agencies. It has had several meetings but has not yet released any reports other than the agreed Terms of Reference. A report on the WGSTC's progress will be provided at the ACZISC meeting in September.
- Plans are under way for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Ocean Innovation Conference to be held in Victoria, BC on 24-27 October 2004. Refer to <http://www.oceaninnovation.ca/> for details. Ocean Innovation 2003 was held in St. John's last October and Ocean Innovation 2005 will be held in Québec. Dr. Peter Harrison will chair the Victoria conference. Oceans Innovation is an initiative of the CCMC; Clayton Burry is the Chair of the Organizing Committee.
- An Atlantic Canada trade, technology and investment mission to France is being organized by ACOA, NRC and Oceans Advance. It will include participation in Sea Tech Week in Brest on 18-22 October, and other meetings and events. This is the 4<sup>th</sup> International Marine Science and Technology Week in Brest and events include workshops, technical tours and a trade show. Refer to <http://www.cub-brest.fr/seatechweek/2004/gb/index.html> for details and contact Geoff for information on how to take part in the mission.

- The Government of Canada (International Trade Canada and Industry Canada) will be participating in Oceans / Techno-Oceans 2004 in Kobe, Japan on 9-12 November. Refer to <http://www.oceans-technoocean2004.com/> for details and contact Geoff if personnel from your organization will be attending and wish to be included in the activities.
- IC maintains a list of events at [http://strategis.ic.gc.ca/epic/internet/inemb-dgem.nsf/en/h\\_mb00007e.html](http://strategis.ic.gc.ca/epic/internet/inemb-dgem.nsf/en/h_mb00007e.html). Anyone wanting to be on a mailing list for the events should contact Geoff
- Maritime Security has been identified as a topic of interest to local ocean tech firms and Theresa Ferguson of ACOA (Halifax) has suggested that the ACZISC might be an appropriate organization to organize an event to bring together the departments and agencies involved with the private sector firms that are interested in possibly doing business in this field.
- Gardiner Pinfold was selected as the consulting firm for a study of the Economic Impact of Ocean Industries in Nova Scotia. This federal-provincial project is now in the data gathering stage and the draft report is expected next fall. Justin Huston and Geoff are on the Steering Committee for the study.

***ACTION 42.14: Participants wanting to be on Industry Canada's mailing list of events related to the energy and marine sector to contact Geoff Lewis at [lewis.geoff@ic.gc.ca](mailto:lewis.geoff@ic.gc.ca)***

Mike Sheen reported the following:

- Mike is with the recently amalgamated Sustainable Technologies and Services Industries Branch. The Branch is responsible for geomatics.
- Canada has more oceanographers than any other country in the world. It is a huge purchaser of geomatics services.
- A mission to the NOAA and USN organizations at the Stennis Space Centre (SSC) in South Mississippi is scheduled for 24-25 February 2005. Refer to <http://www.ssc.nasa.gov> for details on the SSC and its resident agencies. The mission is being organized by Steve Flamm of the Canadian Consulate in Atlanta, Georgia and Industry Canada's Sector Branches. It will focus on the Geomatics and Ocean Tech Sectors. For further details contact Mike Sheen ([sheen.mike@ic.gc.ca](mailto:sheen.mike@ic.gc.ca)) and/or Geoff Lewis ([lewis.geoff@ic.gc.ca](mailto:lewis.geoff@ic.gc.ca)).

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

- The Information Technology Alliance of Nova Scotia (ITANS) is a non-profit organization committed to promoting the growth and development of the information technology industry in the Province. The ITANS proposal to ACOA to establish a geomatics export corporation has been completed and is being reviewed by ITANS. (For information on ITANS, access <http://www.itans.ns.ca/>.)
- The Atlantic Canada Geomatics Partnership (ACGP) is planned as an Atlantic Canada-wide organization. The ACGP would act as a vehicle for accessing government support to assist private companies in developing international export opportunities. The ACGP would be formed by NATI (Newfoundland and Labrador Alliance of Technical Industries), Terradigm in NB, and the ITANS geomatics export corporation.
- Climadapt is a private sector driven environmental network based in NS. It was established to provide innovative climate change adaptation expertise in Canada and internationally. Climadapt will be meeting with the World Bank in Washington, CD to market climate change adaptation expertise. (For information on Climadapt, access <http://www.climadapt.com/>).

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

- EC has a new Deputy Minister: Samy Watson, who was previously DM Agriculture and

- Agri-Foods Canada. Mr. Watson has engaged EC in a 'North Star' process to develop a new environmental policy framework for Canada, including securing ecosystem functions. International information management would be a component of the framework.
- The Atlantic Coastal Action Program (ACAP) is expanding into Labrador. ACAP is currently comprised of 14 community-based organizations throughout NS, NB, PEI and insular Newfoundland. Earlier this year an EC community engagement specialist conducted interviews with representatives of over 48 organizations to determine how to proceed and to identify the 'where' and 'with whom' an ACAP site could be established. Two workshops were held in Labrador in early April to discuss progress and future developments using videoconferencing of the SmartLabrador Network, a Wide Area Network spanning all of Labrador (see <http://www.smartlabrador.ca/> for details). Meetings will be held with federal and provincial agencies this fall to further the process of identifying an ACAP site in Labrador.
  - Larry spoke with municipal leaders in Ireland in April during a conference on environmental management. The ACZISC was discussed and considerable interest was shown.
  - A proposal to create a unifying umbrella association for the Gulf of Maine, called the Gulf of Maine Regional Association, is being considered. It would be composed of the Gulf of Maine Council on the Marine Environment, the Regional Association for Research on the Gulf of Maine (RARGOM), the Gulf of Maine Data Partnership and the Gulf of Maine Ocean Observing System (GoMOOS). The main purposes of the umbrella association would be to: facilitate the exchange of information, support and services and to carry out the duties of a Regional Association under the soon-to-be-established US Integrated Ocean Observing System (IOOS). Larry will provide additional information for distribution to members as it becomes available.
  - A report on the possible designation of a Particularly Sensitive Sea Area (PSSA) off Newfoundland's South Coast is being prepared. This initiative has been motivated in part by the increasing problem of illegal discharges from ships in transit that are oiling birds in the region. Larry will provide additional information to the Secretariat when it is available for distribution.

*Discussion:*

Norval Collins reported that there are approximately 30 million seabirds distributed widely (and somewhat evenly) over the entire continental shelf. The problem of oiled birds is widespread, especially in the wintertime. A small fraction of ships navigating in the area is creating the problem. Approximately 30% of the oil comes from bilge water and the remainder from tank washing. Creating a PSSA could be a solution to the problem.

Chris Morry indicated that the term PSSA is sometimes used incorrectly and not in accordance with the official designation of the International Maritime Organization.

Larry added that Aldo Chircop, currently with the World Maritime University, would be making a presentation on PSSAs at CZC 2004.

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

NB Sea Level Rise Project:

- The last phase of Lidar data collection was completed in late April 2004, including the Kouchibouguac National Park, Shemogue and Cape Jourimain.
- Digital Elevation Models (DEMs) developed from the May 2003 data collection series have been processed by the College of Geographic Sciences (CoGS) with excellent results. Vertical accuracies are generally within 10 cm.
- The Socio-Economic component of the project has been very active during the past 6 months through targeted surveys throughout the project area, thereby obtaining important traditional knowledge about sea level rise and storm surge impacts in the communities.
- Winter storm "White Juan" generated a 1.5 metre storm surge in the southern Gulf of St Lawrence resulting in some flooding in the project area and significant media attention.

- The Société Radio Canada weekly TV Series "La Semaine Verte" aired a segment on the NB Sea Level Rise Project on 30 May.
- Workshops are planned for communities this fall to share data and information, demonstrate the tools being developed and get feedback.
- A project web site has been recently completed on Environment Canada's Green Lane at <http://atlantic-web1.ns.ec.gc.ca/slr/>

#### **NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR ENVIRONMENTAL INDUSTRY ASSOCIATION:**

Leslie Grattan reported the following:

- NEIA is eight years old. Its mission statement is "to promote the growth and development of the environmental industry of Newfoundland and Labrador."
- From a network of sources and contacts NEIA provides local, national and international market information and opportunities. NEIA was part of the NL delegation to Spain in January 2003 following the Prestige oil spill.
- NEIA's Oil Spill Conference, held last November, reviewed tactics used in cleaning up past oil spills and presented ideas for dealing with future spills. Over 100 national and international participants were in attendance. The proceedings will be ready this summer. As a result of the Conference, EC has issued a contract to identify the next steps in dealing with oil spills.
- NEIA is considering focusing more on oceans as a result of Canada's Oceans Strategy, the Ocean Innovation Conference in St. John's, etc.

Bob Thwaites gave the example a need that could be met by the environmental industries: providing a fast turnaround when pumping ships.

#### **AGRICULTURE AND AGRI-FOOD CANADA:** Linnell Edwards reported the following:

- AAFC should be represented on the ACZISC, given that agricultural practices are responsible for some of the problems in the coastal zone.
- The Department is primarily a research organization. One of its functions is to monitor watersheds and sediment movement from land to oceans. It works closely with EC to monitor pesticide use.
- AAFC monitors the surface movement of nitrates. Other groups are responsible for monitoring sub-surface movement.
- The Government of PEI has instituted the Crop Rotation Act, which includes compulsory buffer zones. AAFC would like to model buffer zones; however, a request for funding has not been approved.
- The Agricultural Policy Framework is composed of five elements: Business risk management; Food safety and food quality; Science and innovation; Environment; and Renewal. All Provinces have now signed on to the APF and several have signed Implementation Agreements with the Government of Canada.
- It is difficult to change farming practices to make them more 'environment friendly'. Farmers have a great deal of influence and they have a strong lobby.

#### **NOAA, NATIONAL MARINE SANCTUARY PROGRAM:** Brad Barr reported the following:

- The Marine Managed Areas Inventory is being expanded with funding from the National Marine Sanctuary Program and the National MPA Center (\$40K). NOAA is collaborating with DFO, Parks Canada and the Canadian Wildlife Service/EC to expand the Inventory to the Scotian Shelf, Bay of Fundy, and Canadian waters of the Gulf of Maine. The Inventory, which will use the protocols developed for the US National Marine Managed Areas Inventory currently underway in the US, will identify and describe all marine areas in these waters that have 'some' special management regulations that afford 'some' conservation of marine resources, either directly (e.g., MPAs, fishery management zones), or indirectly (e.g., military exclusion zones, shipping lanes). It is anticipated that the inventory will be

- completed and available for online inquiries (at <http://mpa.gov>) in about a year.
- The National Ocean Policy Commission is recommending the establishment of regional ocean information boards to coordinate the management of and access to information necessary for effective ocean management. There could be a valuable collaborative link to ACZISC in the Northeast US region (once that region is defined). Brad suggested that this be monitored to identify opportunities as they present themselves.

***ACTION 42.15: Secretariat to follow up with regard to possible networking with the soon-to-be-established Board in the Northeast US.***

**NATURAL RESOURCES CANADA:** Kathryn Parlee reported the following:

On behalf of Bob Taylor, Geological Survey of Canada – Atlantic:

- Bob has replaced Andy Sherin as a representative of NRCan on the ACZISC.
- Multibeam surveys continue in the Bras d'Or Lakes to infill coverage area and examine the sensitivity of shores to changing water levels.
- A report and aerial video for Iles-de-la-Madeleine are in final review and should be released shortly.
- Six-month follow up surveys to monitor the impacts of Hurricane Juan have been completed along the Eastern Shore. Information is available on CoastWeb at [http://www.gsca.nrcan.gc.ca/coastweb/storm\\_impact/juan/index.php](http://www.gsca.nrcan.gc.ca/coastweb/storm_impact/juan/index.php).
- The GSC is participating with the Institut national de recherche scientifique (INRS), Rimouski in ongoing Lidar groundtruthing and shoreline monitoring sites in the Gaspé Peninsula.
- A multibeam survey has been completed between Bouctouche, Shediac and Shemogue in support of the 'Impacts of Sea-Level Rise and Climate Change on the Coastal Zone of Southeastern NB' project.

On behalf of Andy Sherin, Geological Survey of Canada:

- A recently established NRCan Department Ocean Workshop group is being very effective in improving communication between Sectors within NRCan and exploring options related to oceans for the Department. The plan is to provide a forum for building a more proactive approach for oceans issues within NRCan. The chair is a rotating chair between Sectors; the present chair is Jacob Verhoef of the Earth Sciences Sector.
- Four federal interdepartmental working groups have been established to move the Ocean Action Plan announced in the last Speech from the Throne. They are based upon the four components of the plan: international leadership, sovereignty and security; integrated ocean management; health of the oceans; and oceans science, technology and innovation. These working groups report to the ADM's Committee on oceans and have been meeting regularly to put flesh on the Ocean Action Plan.

The following was reported by Mike Butler on behalf of Cameron Wilson and Dolores Durant, GeoConnections Secretariat:

- GeoConnections is now into its last year with numerous activities wrapping up such as the upcoming release of "The dissemination of government geographic data in Canada - a guide to Best Practices". This Best Practices guide was developed to help in the harmonization of licensing terms and conditions across the country. It provides an overview of rationale and structure of policies and supporting data licensing agreements in common use today and an integrated framework to help select from various dissemination models and their associated license agreements. It also identifies standard licenses components with draft clauses.
- Discussions are now taking place regarding opportunities for the future of geomatics in Canada in light of the GeoConnections initiative sunseting. Most notably, a Regional

- Policy Seminar was held in Halifax on 16 June as part of a series of sessions being held across the country. A Newfoundland and Labrador session is expected to occur in the fall.
- The final round of proposals for the 'Communities of Practice' and 'Public Agency Connectivity' Announcements of Opportunities have resulted in the funding of several high quality proposals. Partnerships have been made with a variety of federal, provincial, municipal/regional entities as well as with private and NGO agencies. GeoConnections looks forward to seeing a number of new online applications and web services that will be of benefit to Canadians as well as enhancements to some older sites. Some of these include GeoNOVA (thematic atlas, topographic database, property maps, etc.), DFO GeoBrowser, BC's Natural Resources Information Network, the Atlas of Aquatic Habitats of the St. Lawrence (Holonics and DFO), Land Information Ontario, Saskatchewan Environment (Designated Land Information), Pollution Probe (Managing the Shared Ottawa River Watershed), York Region, National Forestry Information System, jJBarnicke and Linnet (real estate application for Winnipeg), etc.
  - The redesign of the GeoConnections Discovery Portal is underway in response to last years' online usability survey. The Portal will be reorganized/refocused to make it easier to find the data that most people are looking for, *i.e.* topography and imagery.

**CANADIAN CLIMATE IMPACTS AND ADAPTATION RESEARCH NETWORK:** Kathryn Parlee reported the following:

- The Canadian Climate Impacts and Adaptation Research Network (C-CIARN) is a national network that aids in the generation of new climate change knowledge by bringing together researchers, practitioners, decision-makers and other stakeholder to increase awareness, identify knowledge gaps and research needs, and facilitate research. The Network is made up of 6 regional offices and 7 sectoral offices. C-CIARN Coastal Zone deals with climate change impacts and adaptation issues for Canada's coastal zone - Atlantic, Pacific, Arctic and the Great Lakes.
- Recent C-CIARN Coastal Zone Activities include:
  - hosting a special session at the Ocean Management Research Network (OMRN) National Conference held in Ottawa in November 2003. The session was entitled "Identifying Vulnerability to Climate Change and the Challenges of Adaptation for Canada's Coastal Communities". A summary report from the session will be available on the C-CIARN Coastal Zone website in July.
  - releasing the report from the C-CIARN Coastal Zone 2003 workshop held in Vancouver in February 2003. The document is entitled "The Highs and Lows of Water Level: Reducing the Vulnerability of Coastal Communities to Water Level Change" and is available on the C-CIARN Coastal Zone website at <http://c-ciarn.bio.ns.ca>.
  - hosting the workshop entitled "Reducing the Vulnerability of Coastal Trails and Boardwalks to Storm Surge, Flooding, Erosion and Sea Ice", held in Halifax in May 2004. The workshop provided real-life examples of current trail and boardwalk problems, a summary of coastal science and climate change, and approaches for reducing vulnerability from engineering and planning perspectives. Working groups also provided participants with an opportunity to work through hypothetical trail and boardwalk case studies in an attempt to develop both effective and feasible management strategies. A workshop report is in progress and will be released on the C-CIARN Coastal Zone website later this summer.
  - hosting a session at the upcoming Coastal Zone Canada 2004 in St. John's in June. This session will provide 5 presentations on current research into climate change impacts and adaptation within the coastal zone across Canada.

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

- Lighthouse Inter-departmental Advisory Group:

- This initiative is being led by the NS Department of Tourism, Culture, and Heritage. The Federal Government, through DFO/Coast Guard, is in the process of divesting itself of lighthouse properties. There are approximately 165 lighthouses in NS, and DFO/Coast Guard has identified approximately 120 sites for divestiture. DFO is seeking a provincial response regarding the Province's role in lighthouse divestiture to provincial, municipal, and community interests.
- There are a number of interests (tourism and heritage, land conservation, coastal access, etc) and concerns (environmental remediation, operational requirements, costs, etc) associated with lighthouse divestiture. The Advisory Group is developing options for Cabinet related to the appropriate role for the Province in the Government of Canada's divestiture program.
- Nova Scotia Harbours Database:
  - The Coastal Communities Network has recently released a report titled "Between the Land and the Sea: The Social and Economic Importance of Wharves and Harbours in Nova Scotia" which offers intensive data on coastal Nova Scotia, with comparative data for non-coastal rural and urban Nova Scotia. The report explains overarching trends, and points out the significant contribution coastal Nova Scotia makes to the provincial economy. The study also raises some serious questions and policy issues that must be dealt with if the Province is to have vibrant coastal and rural communities.
  - Of particular relevance to the ACZISC is a companion map-based GIS database that allows the user to view and manipulate socio-economic data in rural and coastal Nova Scotia on a "harbour level" scale. Some of the data that can be mapped includes: Population trends over the last five and ten years; Employment figures; Income levels; Charts of various occupations; Fish landings; Value of wharves; Locations of tourism operations; Aquaculture sites; and Export figures per resources sector.
  - Both the report and the GIS database and viewing program are available on a 2-part CD for \$50 for non-profit groups and \$150 for governments and institutions. Access the Coastal Communities Network website at: <http://www.coastalcommunities.ns.ca> and click on the "Wharf Info" heading for details.

Patrick Shea enquired if the NS Provincial Ocean Network (PON) was operational. Justin replied that it was a challenge to get the other NS provincial departments to participate. It is easier to get their involvement if 'relevant' coastal and ocean issues are on the table. In time it is anticipated that PON will become a more cohesive group.

**SOUTHEAST ENVIRONMENTAL ASSOCIATION:** David Boyce reported the following:

- The PEI government has hired a climate change coordinator, Erin Swansburg. Later this year a legislative committee will be seeking public input on a climate change plan for PEI.
- The ACAP groups are looking at multi-site projects of which one topic is climate change. The difficulty has been coordination. This topic and others will be addressed at the annual ACAP conference in September in Newfoundland.
- The Southeast Environmental Association (SEA) is hosting a workshop on community-based social marketing with Doug McKenzie-Mohr on 22 July. SEA is also conducting estuary sampling using the CAMP (community aquatic monitoring program) protocols from DFO. Work is continuing in the Cardigan estuary looking at non-point sources of fecal coliform contamination.
- SEA is working toward a study of nutrients in watersheds. This will coincide with the efforts of the agriculture conservation clubs to engage more farmers in nutrient management planning. The PEI government has also contacted SEA to be involved in a survey of pesticide runoff.
- SEA is conducting a survey of NGOs to look at IT needs.
- SEA will be creating metadata to help in the sharing of its data.
- The Canadian Heritage Rivers System (CHRS) is Canada's national river conservation

program. A proposal has been submitted to CHRS to have the Three Rivers (Cardigan, Brudenell and Montague) designated as a Canadian Heritage River. The management plan has been submitted. Once the management plan is accepted by the Board, the next step in the process is the formal designation of the river into the CHRS. Final approval for a designation rests with the Minister of Canadian Heritage.

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

- The installation of the Canadian Coast Guard INNAV command and control system at Trinity is complete. This installation has provided a great deal of value-added information to the Recognized Maritime Picture. A system has also been installed in Victoria.
- A new Maritime Security policy was announced by the Federal Government in May 2004. Trinity is the lead for the implementation of the new Maritime Security Operations Centre in Halifax.
- The installation on the new geomatics equipment at Trinity was completed in Apr 2004. Trinity now has full Geomatics capability. Sgt Richard Mayne is the senior Geomatics Tech; he a member of the ACZISC Geomatics Working Group.
- Trinity continues to collaborate closely with OGDs to develop good working relationships.
- Carol Lee Giffin, the MARLANT/DND Formation Environmental Officer, could not attend the meeting and sends her regrets.
- **Atlantic Littoral Intelligence Surveillance Reconnaissance Experiment:**
  - ALIX is designed to integrate tactical, operational and strategic decision making within DND as well as other interested government departments.
  - The three flights of the Uninhabited Aerial Vehicle (UAV) will support Canadian Forces exercise activities in the following scenarios:
    - a domestic emergency in southern Baffin Island
    - a peace-support operation in the Gulf of St. Lawrence and New Brunswick
    - a domestic security and defence of Canada operation in the Grand Banks fishing area east of Newfoundland.
  - The flights will take place during late August 2004.
  - The UAV will provide information from sensors such as electro-optical, infrared and multi-mode maritime radar.
  - ALIX will feature the participation of other federal organizations, including the RCMP, Transport Canada, Fisheries and Oceans Canada and Environment Canada, and others such as the NS Geomatics Centre.

**ATLANTIC PROVINCES COUNCIL ON THE SCIENCES:** Duane Barker, APICS and Memorial University, 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>.)
- His primary appointment is with the Centre for Aquaculture and Seafood Development.
- His current research included studies into parasites and diseases as monitors of ecosystem health.

**GOVERNMENT OF NEW BRUNSWICK:** The following was reported on behalf of Dave Finley, Service New Brunswick:

- Geomatics work for the coming year is focused in 4 areas:
  - update of the NB road network (NBRN). It is anticipated that the NBRN will be compliant with the national initiative - the NRN.
  - continuation of the digital orthophoto project. 67% of Province should be completed by

- year end.
- completion of the Administrative Areas DataBase
- review of mapping activities within NB and a Strategic Plan for the future.
- Efforts are being made to refocus on geomatics and in particular on the need to evolve the provincial land infrastructure to meet current and future needs. This will continue in 2004/2005.
- SNB, in partnership with the Canadian Institute of Geomatics (CIG), hosted the 2<sup>nd</sup> annual NB Government Geomatics Update Workshop on 11 February 2004. Over 100 attendees participated. It provided an excellent opportunity review government plans for geomatics. NRCan and GIAC also participated.
- Geomatics Atlantic 2004 took place on 7-9 June in Fredericton. The conference was very successful with an estimated 200 attendees. Under the leadership of the NB branch of CIG, the overall geomatics community pitched in to make it a success.
- Recent budget cutbacks and retirement package offerings have impacted geomatics in NB. In particular, Mary Ogilvie, Roger Gaudet and Dave Henderson from SNB have accepted retirement packages. Additional cuts have been made to other areas of the organization.

The following was reported on behalf of Marianne Janowicz, Environment and Local Government:

- Regulatory changes to fully implement the Coastal Areas Protection Policy have not yet been written due to the heavy workload associated with legislative changes in the Province. However, there are a number of existing regulations that apply in coastal areas such as the Watercourse and Wetland Alteration Regulation. Also, projects and activities are still being addressed within the framework of the policy as was advised by a directive from government. The directive states that government departments are to ensure that any decision or action taken under existing government programs and regulations in Zone A or Zone B be consistent with the Coastal Area Protection Policy.
- Three government departments - Agriculture, Fisheries and Aquaculture (DAFA), Environment and Local Government (DELG) and Natural Resources (DNR) - are actively working on developing a proposal to senior management for interim activities related to development of a marine policy and management framework. The Departments view this as an important step toward implementation of ICZM in NB.
- The NB Government is working collaboratively with its federal counterparts in DFO and Environment Canada on approaches to implementing the Oceans Strategy in NB.
- DAFA is planning to embark on a 2-stage process to develop a stakeholder-based planning mechanism for the use of marine resources in the Bay of Fundy. The overall intent would be to ensure greater dialogue and cooperation between competing interests for these resources. This would be a proactive approach to resolving ongoing conflicts among various groups when an application for a Marine Aquaculture site is reviewed. The first stage will bring the parties together to identify an approach to take for the planning development component (Stage 2).
- DNR's reorganization has resulted in the Coastal Areas Section merging with the Land Planning Section to create the Uplands and Coastal Planning Section. The coastal portion of this section provides technical advise to other branches in the Department and participates in planning processes related to the coastal area.

## **UPDATES ON ACZISC RELATED PROGRAMS**

**EASTERN SCOTIAN SHELF INTEGRATED MANAGEMENT:** Tim Hall reported that there were several ESSIM activities planned for this fiscal year.

- A draft IM Plan will be prepared for consultation this fall and winter.
- An ocean-use atlas will be prepared for the Scotian Shelf, which will form part of the early

- stages of a GIS-based risk assessment tool.
- A Deep Sea Coral Conservation Strategy is in development.
  - The 3rd ESSIM Forum will be held this winter.
  - 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 COALITION FOR THE GULF OF MAINE:**

Justin Huston reported that the Gulf of Maine Summit was scheduled for 26-29 October 2004 in St. Andrews, NB. A State of the Gulf Report is being produced based on information from both local watershed forums and scientific literature. The report will document environmental, economic, and social trends and conditions for three primary issues – contaminants, fisheries, and patterns of development. The report will be used as a basis for discussion by Summit participants. (For information on the Summit, access <http://www.gulfofmainesummit.org>.)

Norval Collins reported on the Gulf of Maine Mapping Initiative (GOMMI), a US-Canadian partnership of government and non-government organizations to conduct comprehensive seafloor imaging, mapping, and biological and geological surveys for the Gulf of Maine, from the intertidal zone to the upper continental slope. (For information on GOMMI, access <http://www.gulfofmaine.org/gommi/>). GOMMI is a subcommittee of the Gulf of Maine Council for the Marine Environment. The GOMMI steering committee is seeking input via a survey on where and how GOMMI should focus its efforts. CEF Consultants were successful in securing the contract to carry out the survey.

***ACTION 42.16: Participants wanting to provide input to fill in a short web-based survey prior to 15 July 2004. The survey is available at <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.asp?u=66692528236>.***

**OCEAN MANAGEMENT RESEARCH NETWORK:** Mike Butler reported that the OMRN and the Coastal Zone Canada Association would be signing a Letter of Agreement (LOA) at the CZC 2004 Conference. The LOA states that, in general and when appropriate, the two organizations will work together to support each other's conferences and profile each organization. (For information on the OMRN, access <http://www.omrn.ca>.)

**SOUTHERN GULF OF ST. LAWRENCE COALITION ON SUSTAINABILITY:** David Boyce reported that the Coalition had formed a coastal erosion committee at the 2004 AGM held at Carleton, QC in April. The group is quite active. The 2005 AGM will be in PEI; the theme will be nutrients, as set out by NPA Atlantic team.

On behalf of John Legault, Chris Morry reported that the Coalition has been sponsoring a GIS mentor (Pascal Levesque) for the SCI (Sustainable Community Initiative) of NRCAN. Under the direction of DFO staff, Pascal has been offering technical geomatic support to the SCI groups, which received funding this year. This includes advice on data collection, geomatic standards, equipment, and data presentations. In addition to his monthly updates to NRCAN, the GIS mentor will be preparing a final report on his experience and the lessons learned from the program. He will also be identifying possible improvements to the program for future years.

## **9. COASTAL ZONE CANADA 2004**

Grant Gardner, chair of the CZC 2004 Organizing Committee, reported the following:

- The CZC 2004 Conference is scheduled for 27-30 June 2004 in St. John's.
- Several ACZISC members have been involved in organizing the Conference and/or participating in the event. Their contribution is appreciated.

- Approximately 300 participants are anticipated.
- The Conference program includes several plenary sessions, concurrent paper sessions, posters and special sessions. The program is available on the Conference website at <http://www.czc04.ca>.
- A Public Forum on Coastal Issues is scheduled for Tuesday evening, 29 June.

Mike Butler reported that the ACZISC is hosting a panel session on Data, Information and Knowledge for ICM on Sunday afternoon (27 June). The 100-minute session will feature presentations by ACZISC members followed by interactive discussions between the panellists and audience. The panellists will address the challenges associated with identifying, accessing and sharing data and information to address their diverse but complementary responsibilities within the context of ICM and also the outcomes of these collaborative initiatives. The panellists and their topics are as follows:

Michael Butler, ACZISC Secretariat	Introduction
Bob Thwaites, National Defence	The Maritime Picture
Norval Collins, CEF Consultants	Oiled Birds off Southern Newfoundland
Réal Daigle, Environment Canada	Impacts of Sea Level Rise and Climate Change in the Southern Gulf of St. Lawrence
Justin Huston, Nova Scotia Department of Agriculture and Fisheries	Aquaculture in Guysborough County
Tim Anderson, Fisheries and Oceans Canada	ICM in Placentia Bay
David Boyce, Southeast Environmental Association (SEA)	Local / Watershed Management

## 10. **ADJOURNMENT**

ACZISC Meeting #42 adjourned at 1700 hrs on Friday, 25 June 2004.