

EUCC Coastal News

**No 06
July 2006**

EUCC Coastal News is a monthly newsletter published by EUCC - The Coastal Union for its members and for the press. Readers and Network members (only entitled to newsletters) are encouraged to join the EUCC as a Private or Professional member. Members are entitled to a variety of services and discounts: check in www.eucc.net/en/members. For free subscriptions, comments or contributions, please contact: news at coastalguide.org (apologies for anti-spam code).

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All EUCC Network members are kindly encouraged to PAY their annual fee for 2006 (€5) or to make their payment for 5 years (€20). Please transfer the requested amount to bank account 916 , EUCC (Name of bank: Postbank, IBAN-code: NL10 PSTB 0000 0009 16, Swift code: PSTBNL21).

Network Members and readers who now pay their fees for 5 years (total of € 20) will be provided membership discounts to EUCC conferences and events - including Littoral 2006.

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– EUCC News –

1. Honorary Membership awarded to Dr. Heinrich Kuhbier

The Board of EUCC - The Coastal Union has awarded an Honorary Membership to Dr. Heinrich Kuhbier in Bremen (Germany). In this way the board wishes to express their gratitude to Dr. Kuhbier for his efforts for dune conservation and coastal management. Dr. Kuhbier worked at the Uebersee Museum in Bremen for a long time and he was very active for dune management on the German wadden islands. He also has organised excellent EUCC field excursions to Norderney and Spiekeroog.

www.uebersee-museum.de

2. CoPraNet final event

This event hosted by "Rivages de France" in partnership with EUCC – The Coastal Union, is intended for all persons concerned with natural coastal areas. The main focus will be on: sustainable tourism, coastal erosion and beach management. It combines the 2006 National Forum of Shores with the final workshop of the Coastal Practice Network project. One of the shared objectives is to facilitate an exchange of experience and information, and to serve as a conduit for reflection and proposals for its members. This workshop constitutes a unique opportunity to share ideas with French local actors, who are already in charge of integrated coastal zone projects or aware of this approach. It will allow them to discuss experiences, questions and problems encountered by their European counterparts. A simultaneous translation will be provided. The programme and registration forms in English and French are available online at the CoPraNet website: <http://www.coastalpractice.net/en/index.htm>

3. MOTIIVE: Inspiring coastal & marine stakeholders

"Motiive is creating the technical specifications for coastal managers and engineers to deliver more cost-effective integration of data in the framework of INSPIRE"

The MOTIIVE (Marine Overlays on Topography) project, funded under the 6th Framework programme, is one of the pilot projects of INSPIRE, the Infrastructure for Spatial Information in Europe, which is the latest initiative from the European Commission to create a pan-European Spatial Data Infrastructure (ESDI). MOTIIVE is preparing a documented and tested methodology for implementing data harmonisation activities between elevation and marine/coastal datasets. The engagement of the marine & coastal community is a key feature for this project and to learn more about the project and its latest developments, a workshop will be held in the forthcoming LITTORAL 2006 Conference in Gdansk, Poland: see <http://www.littoral2006.gda.pl/motiive.pdf>

The project website can be found at: <http://www.iode.org/marinexml>

4. Sand Dune Inventory: second edition, call for contributions

The meeting 'Dunes and Estuaries', an International Conference on Nature Restoration Practices in European Coastal Habitats, held at Koksijde, Belgium, was held on the 19-23 September 2005. It proved the stimulus for the revision of the sand dune inventory, originally published by EUCC and the UK Joint Nature Conservation Committee. It will include redrawn figures and additional information, including chapters for several countries omitted originally.

We would like to request you to further help. If you have maps or descriptions of major sand dune sites, country accounts or would be prepared to help with individual chapters please contact the editor. The final revised version will be made available as a PDF file on CD. It is intended to complete publication in time for the Dune Conference in Spain, scheduled for October 2007.

For contributions and further information please contact: Dr J. Patrick Doody, Email pat.doody@ntlworld.com, or write to: 5 Green Lane, Brampton, Huntingdon, Cambs., PE28 4RE, United Kingdom.

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5. EUCC taking larger role in regional seas conventions

EUCC has recently been elected as an observer to OSPAR, the current instrument guiding international cooperation on the protection of the marine environment of the North-East Atlantic. It combined and updated the 1972 Oslo Convention on dumping waste at sea and the 1974 Paris Convention on land-based sources of marine pollution. EUCC's particular interest is with the Working Group on Marine Protected Areas, Species and Habitats. This follows closely on the heels of being invited to participate in the EU's ICZM Group of Experts meeting and to serve on the Executive Committee of the North Sea Regional Advisory Committee. Its chief objective is to principal objective of the NSRAC is to prepare and provide advice on the management of the fisheries of the North Sea on behalf of stakeholders in order to promote the objectives of the Common Fisheries Policy. The EUCC has, for many years, been an observer in the Helsinki Convention (HELCOM) supporting the work of the Working Group on Nature Protection and Biodiversity which includes ICZM.

6. Coastline Reports free for members

Private and professional EUCC members can order the Coastline Reports free of cost from the International Secretariat. The series consists of the following titles:

- Coastline Reports 1 (2004): *Geographie der Meere und Küsten (Geography of Seas and Coasts)*, G. Schernewski und T. Dolch (Hrsg./eds.), German and English.
- Coastline Reports 2 (2004): *Managing the Baltic Sea*, G. Schernewski and N. Löser (eds.).
- Coastline Reports 3 (2004): *Retrospektive Analyse größerer Planverfahren in der Küstenzone unter der Perspektive "IKZM-Tauglichkeit" (Retrospective analysis of large scale planning procedures under the perspective of their ICZM-compatibility)*, B. Schuchardt et al., German with English abstract.
- Coastline Reports 4 (2004): *Baltic Sea Typology*, G. Schernewski and M. Wielgat (eds.).
- Coastline Reports 5 (2005): *The INTERREG IIIB BaltCoast Project, A pilot initiative on Integrated Coastal Zone Management in the Baltic Sea (2002-2005)*, B. Heinrichs, A. Schultz-Zehden and S. Toben (eds.).
- Coastline Reports 6 (2005): *Integrated Coastal Zone Management at the Szczecin Lagoon: Exchange of experiences in the region*, Bernhard Glaeser, Agnieszka Sekścińska & Nardine Löser (eds.), English, German, Polish.

To order one or more of the reports please send a message with your details and the title(s) of the report(s) you would like to receive to admin@eucc.net. The reports are also available for download at: http://www.eucc-d.de/plugins/coastline_reports/coastline_reports.php

7. Coastal News on eucc.net

All issues of EUCC Coastal News have been moved to EUCC's homepage www.eucc.net. The newsletter can now be found at: www.eucc.net/en/news.

The website www.coastalguide.org has been updated and received a major facelift. The address for the meetings agenda has remained the same: <http://www.coastalguide.org/meetings>.

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– EU News and Initiatives –

8. Green Paper "Towards a future Maritime Policy for the Union" published

The European Commission has published a Green Paper "Towards a future Maritime Policy for the Union: A European vision for the oceans and seas" on June 7, and launched one of the largest consultation exercises in the EU's history. It is hoped that the results of this exercise will help the Commission define a new vision for an Integrated Maritime Policy. The main question being asked by the Green Paper is: can Europe afford to manage its seas and oceans sectorally or has the time come to establish a truly integrated Maritime Policy which will release untapped potential in terms of growth and jobs while strengthening the protection of the marine environment? And if so, how? The issues raised in the Green Paper will be debated in a number of events organised in various Member States. To find out more about the public events where these issues will be discussed, and about how to contribute to the debate, please go to: <http://ec.europa.eu/maritimeaffairs> and <http://europa.eu/rapid/pressReleasesAction.do?reference=IP/06/739&format=HTML&aged=0&language=EN&guiLanguage=en>

9. Coastal zone management and INSPIRE

"Coastal zone management is reliant on being able to integrate data from different sources. The proposed INSPIRE directive is therefore of great importance to all coastal professionals"

Europe's unique coastal environment is under increasing threat from its own popularity, according to a new report from the European Environment Agency (EEA), released in Copenhagen on the 3rd of July. 'The changing face of Europe's coastal areas', warns that a rapid acceleration in the use of coastal space, mostly driven by the recreation and tourism industries, threatens to destroy the delicate balance of

coastal ecosystems. The report states that action should be taken to ensure a good data model for the coast. The model should link land and sea, and integrate all regional and national databases into a European coastal platform. This would serve the implementation of INSPIRE principles (e.g. The establishment of Spatial Data Interest Community for coasts). Advancing data concepts for coastal assessment is a corner stone for building a data model for coastal zones, and contributes to establishing the infrastructure for spatial information in the Community (INSPIRE) and its implementing guidelines. The report is available at: http://reports.eea.europa.eu/eea_report_2006_6/en

10. Bathing Water: Large majority of beaches continues to meet EU standards

A large majority of bathing sites across the EU continued to meet cleanliness standards in 2005, according to the annual bathing water report presented by the European Commission on June 9. However, the proportion of compliant sites decreased slightly in coastal areas and more significantly at inland bathing sites like lakes and rivers. Coming just before the bathing season begins, the report provides useful water quality information for the millions of people who visit Europe's beaches each summer. While 96% of coastal bathing sites met the mandatory standards of the EU bathing water directive last year, the proportion of inland waters in compliance continued to fall, decreasing to 86%. These falls were mainly due to insufficient sampling of water quality which counts as non compliance.

www.helcom.fi/press_office/news_baltic/en_GB/BalticAndEUnews119133/

The report is available at: www.ec.europa.eu/water/water-bathing/report_2006.html

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11. EU Ministers agree rules to prevent flooding

European Union ministers gathered in Luxembourg on June 27 have agreed on new rules to fight floods, saying climate change threatened to increase their frequency. Environment ministers from the 25 EU member states endorsed a proposal requiring them to assess flood risks in their river basins and coastal areas, develop hazard maps for high-risk areas, and set out flood-management plans. Under the agreement states must complete flood-risk assessments by December 2012. The management plans must be done by the end of 2015. The rules must still be approved by the European Parliament.

www.planetark.com/dailynewsstory.cfm/newsid/37025/newsDate/28-Jun-2006/story.htm

12. EU agrees on €3.8bn seven-year fisheries budget

EU fisheries ministers put aside a bitter divide to agree how to spend a multimillion-euro programme on the embattled fisheries sector. This was the third attempt to strike a deal in a year. The plan for the next seven years' spending, set at €3.8 billion, had been on the table since July 2004. The most controversial areas concerned EU aid for replacing engines for small-scale vessels as well as cash for modernising boats. These measures angered northern states worried about chronically low stocks depleted after years of overfishing. This is where EU countries often clashed in a rough north-south divide, with France, Spain, Italy, Greece and Portugal - backed by Poland and Estonia - demanding the right for a straight swap of engine if required. This view ran against those held by mostly 'northern' countries that said generous engine replacement rules might cause more overfishing when EU policy aimed to protect threatened species. www.busrep.co.za/index.php?fSectionId=565&fArticleId=3299810

13. EU tries new ideas to end overfishing and boost stocks

The European Commission announced plans to change tack in the way it tries to curb overfishing and boost numbers of species such as cod, depleted after years of quota-busting by EU fleets. In a policy change that could be called "short-term pain for long-term gain", the Commission will focus on long-term plans for each species and set the maximum amount of fish that can be taken from the sea without weakening their potential to reproduce. At first, this will almost certainly mean less fishing, which means more economic hardship for an industry already struggling with high fuel prices and dwindling stocks of fish in European waters. But later on, it says, there would be higher numbers of large mature fish in the sea and more stable catch volumes. While the EU will continue to set the usual annual quotas and limits on days that vessels may spend at sea, there will be more scope for closing certain waters and banning certain types of fishing tackle, the Commission said.

www.planetark.com/dailynewsstory.cfm/newsid/37132/newsDate/5-Jul-2006/story.htm

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– International News –

14. Japan gains key whaling victory, anti-whalers rally after key vote

Pro-whaling nations are again in the majority at the International Whaling Commission (IWC). Their recent meeting backed a resolution calling for the eventual return of commercial whaling by a majority of just one vote. Japan said the outcome was "historic", but it does not mean a lifting of the 1986 ban - that would need support from three-quarters of the commission. European and South American governments plan to intensify efforts to prevent a return to commercial whaling, and delegates told BBC News they now hope to recruit more anti-whaling countries to the organisation. Japan is planning a meeting early next year to drive its campaign forward. The country will host a three-day summit, probably in January, open to nations which support its aim of "normalising" the IWC - by which it means returning the 60-year-old organisation to its original purpose of regulating commercial whaling.

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/science/nature/5093350.stm>

and <http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/science/nature/5097070.stm>

15. European zebra mussels eradicated in U.S. quarry

An infestation of zebra mussels in a Virginia quarry has been eradicated, marking what biologists and environmental experts believe is the first successful extermination of the notoriously invasive species in open waters. The small black-and-white striped mussels, native to eastern Europe, were first discovered in Virginia in a quarry in August 2002, surprising and concerning state wildlife officials. Zebra mussels are voracious eaters, gobbling up large amounts of plankton -- the same food many native freshwater fish need to survive. They also pose a threat to utility companies by clogging industrial pipes. The animals were killed by potassium chloride added over a three-week period. It is not supposed to be harmful to other animals or humans. It cost about \$365,000 (€287,040).

<http://enn.com/today.html?id=10444>

16. Turkey adds a coastal wetland to the Ramsar List

The Turkish Ministry of Environment and Forestry has designated in total three new Wetlands of International Importance, one of which is coastal. On the southern coast, the Yumurtalik Lagoons (19,853 hectares) have been designated. This area, which is also protected as a Nature Conservation Site, comprises the whole of the alluvial delta formed by several rivers in the eastern Mediterranean Sea, with a broad array of freshwater and coastal habitat types which support sand dune vegetation, salt marsh vegetation, stream bank vegetation, and ruderal vegetation of roadsides and field margins. Threatened local sea turtles *Caretta caretta* and *Chelonia mydas* are supported, and the site is one of the key points where migratory birds, on the Palaearctic-Africa route, both rest and over-winter. It is also a key area for fish reproduction. The main uses of the area are irrigation for agriculture, commercial and artisanal fishing, and recreation, as it is close to the city of Adana along a beautiful and uncrowded coast.

www.ramsar.org/wn/w.n.turkey_three.htm

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17. Wind farm kills nine eagles in Norway

Windmills have killed nine eagles in less than a year at a key breeding site in Norway, showing that governments should be more cautious in picking where to set up turbines, Britain's conservation group Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB) said on Friday June 23. Only one pair of white-tailed eagles - Europe's biggest eagle species - had young this year on the windmill site at Smoela, a set of islands off mid-Norway. Smoela used to be a stronghold of the species with up to 19 pairs before the wind park opened in 2002. The RSPB said turbine blades have killed nine of the birds in the last 10 months including all three chicks that fledged last year. The RSPB urges governments to show more caution in deciding where to place wind farms.

www.planetark.com/dailynewsstory.cfm/newsid/37003/newsDate/26-Jun-2006/story.htm

18. Netherlands: number of porpoises washed ashore heads towards a new record

Naturalis (the Natural History museum in Leiden, The Netherlands) reports that a new annual record is in store for porpoises found washed ashore on Dutch beaches if the present trend continues. In the first six months of 2006, 240 porpoises have already been found and the number is likely to exceed 400 by the end of the year. Last year already set a record, with 304 porpoises found on the beaches. The number of porpoises washed ashore on the beaches has risen sharply over the last five years, from 40-50 annually to current levels. This remarkable increase is largely confined to porpoises with the figures for other sea mammals remaining stable; about a dozen, different dolphin species are annually found stranded on the Dutch beaches. Naturalis and the Royal Dutch Institute for Sea Research (NIOZ) have opened a website to collect data on sea mammals found on the beaches and call upon local authorities and individuals to report every porpoise found washed ashore to the site: www.walvisstrandingen.nl. (in Dutch)

http://vroegevogels.vara.nl/portal?scr=news_newsitem1&id=191036 (in Dutch)

19. Power industry urges Britain to develop wave power

Britain could produce enough electricity to supply nearly two million homes using marine power technology which harnesses energy from waves and tidal streams, the power industry said on June 29. A report by the British Wind Energy Association and npower, one of the country's biggest energy suppliers, said marine power could provide 2.1 percent of the UK's current power demand by 2020. But the report also highlighted significant barriers to developing marine power, including financing, access to power grids and receiving planning permission.

www.planetark.com/dailynewsstory.cfm/newsid/37053/story.htm

20. Spain rapidly destroying its coastlines – Greenpeace

Holiday homes, hotels and golf courses mushrooming on Spain's coasts are rapidly destroying ecosystems the country relies on for tourism and fishing, according to a report published on July 5 by Greenpeace. It states poor planning and local corruption are turning Spain's Mediterranean coastline into a deep swathe of urban development that is polluting beaches and poisoning the sea. Pollution of Spanish coasts over the last 13 years has led the country to close 14 percent of swimming areas. It is estimated that some 20% of the coastline is now urban and that a further 40% has lost its natural state. The report also cites 102 cases of official corruption, notably in Marbella and Alicante, which have revealed embezzlement, kickbacks and influence peddling in the coastal property boom. Many of the new developments sites are illegal with up to 4500 homes facing demolition.

www.planetark.com/dailynewsstory.cfm/newsid/37114/newsDate/5-Jul-2006/story.htm

www.greenpeace.org/espana/news/greenpeace-presenta-su-nuevo (in Spanish)

21. UN Study: Ukraine canal threatens Danube Delta

The huge Ukrainian Bystroe Ship Canal project slicing through the Danube Delta, threatens serious damage to wildlife in one of Europe's most prized wetlands, according to a scientific report for the United Nations presented on July 10. The canal would destroy nesting and feeding sites for unique bird colonies and spawning and nursery areas for fish important to economies in both Ukraine and Romania, it said. The report leaves no doubt that the project as currently envisaged will have a very negative effect on the ecology on both sides of the frontier," said one UN official.

www.planetark.org/dailynewsstory.cfm/newsid/37181/story.htm

www.unece.org/press/pr2006/06env_p05e.htm

22. Belgium: first sea reserve established

The first Belgian sea reserve is a fact. It has an area of 6,76 km² and is located to the northeast of Zeebrugge. The area covers the special zone for protected birds. It also touches the Bird Directive Area of the pre-harbour and forms an extension of the beach reserve "De Baai van Heist". Barring a few exceptions all human activity is prohibited in this zone.

www9.minlnv.nl/pls/portal30/docs/FOLDER/MINLNV/LNV/BELEID/BELEID_IZ/LBA/2006/LBA200622.PDF

(p.27, in Dutch)

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– Aquaculture and Fisheries –

23. Illegal fishing threatens survival of Europe's tuna

Illegal fishing has devastated Europe's stocks of the highly prized bluefin tuna and threatens the species' survival in the eastern Atlantic and Mediterranean, according to the WWF. International quotas that aim to keep fish stocks viable were exceeded in both 2004 and 2005 for bluefin tuna. Fleets from the EU, mainly France, Libya and Turkey are named by the WWF as the main offenders. Demand for bluefin tuna, one of the fastest fish in the sea, is always high since it is particularly popular in sushi and sashimi dishes. Unlike most tunas, bluefin grow slowly and mature late, making them more vulnerable to intensive trawling. The WWF now calls for a total ban on bluefin tuna fishing, and is lobbying EU Commissioner Joe Borg to implement this. Greenpeace also warned in a recent report that bluefin tuna was nearing commercial and ecological extinction in the Mediterranean.

www.planetark.com/dailynewsstory.cfm/newsid/37112/newsDate/5-Jul-2006/story.htm

www.greenpeace.org/international/press/releases/greenpeace-demands-immediate-c

24. EU herring threatened in North Sea, scientists say

Europe's trawlers should cut back drastically next year on trawling for herring in the North Sea as juvenile herring are not maturing properly, a respected group of international scientists warned on June 7. Serious reductions were needed in next year's catch due to worrying falls in the area's herring stock, the International Council for the Exploration of the Sea (ICES) said, adding that the EU's quota should be slashed by nearly 50 percent for 2007.

www.planetark.com/dailynewsstory.cfm/newsid/36662/newsDate/7-Jun-2006/story.htm

25. Greenpeace wants to make 40 percent of Mediterranean fishing-free

Greenpeace launched a campaign on June 16 aiming to persuade governments to declare 40 percent of the Mediterranean Sea marine reserves where fishing would be banned. Ecologists are concerned that the Mediterranean, which represents only 1 percent of the world's seas but has 9 percent of its sealife and 30 percent of the world's shipping, is already showing signs of irreversible decline.

The Mediterranean does have some legal environmental protection, such as the European Union's Natura 2000 and the "Ligurian Sea Sanctuary" to protect whales and dolphins, but Greenpeace said they covered only a tiny fraction of the sea. Greenpeace wants large parts of the Mediterranean to be named "marine protected areas" where there would be almost no human exploitation of resources allowed. It points to Australia, which has declared 34% of the Great Barrier Reef a marine reserve as an example to be followed. The report is available for download at:

www.greenpeace.org/international/press/reports/marine-reserves-for-the-medite
www.planetark.com/dailynewsstory.cfm/newsid/36839/story.htm

26. Anchovy fishing in Bay of Biscay banned for 2006

The European Commission announced on July 3 that anchovy fishing will be banned in the Bay of Biscay until the end of the year to preserve stocks. The Bay of Biscay is the key trawling ground for anchovy, an essential ingredient in Spanish cooking. Overfishing has pushed stocks to very low levels. The ban is a continuation of the one installed last year. But following intense pressure from Spain and France, the Commission had agreed to a small annual quota of 5,000 tonnes starting in March - nearly all for Spain - with the provision of a review in June, and the understanding that the ban would be brought back if stocks had not recovered sufficiently. This is precisely what happened, the Commission said.

www.planetark.com/dailynewsstory.cfm/newsid/37106/story.htm

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– Coastal & Climate Change –

27. US won't rule out joining Kyoto successor

Washington cannot rule out joining any successor to the UN's Kyoto Protocol for curbing global warming beyond 2012 but such a move would face big legal hurdles, the US chief climate negotiator said on June 26. He pointed out however that there is no chance that even a future pro-Kyoto US president would seek to join the treaty before 2012. Former President Bill Clinton never submitted Kyoto for ratification in the Senate, knowing it would be defeated. Committing to legally binding emissions targets, as likely under Kyoto, would require changes to laws in the United States.

www.planetark.com/dailynewsstory.cfm/newsid/37014/story.htm

28. CO2 storage grows; but no "Silver Bullet" for climate

Energy firms are stepping up projects to bury greenhouse gases but storage will not be a silver bullet to stop global warming, an International Energy Agency (IEA) expert Kelly Thambimuthu said on June 19. Capturing and pumping heat-trapping carbon dioxide underground costs too much to make sense for most industries at about US\$35-\$55 a tonne. Thambimuthu said that burying carbon dioxide would typically raise electricity generation costs from a coal-fired power plants by 50 percent. "At the same time the public demands cheap electricity," he said.

www.planetark.com/dailynewsstory.cfm/newsid/36901/story.htm

There could also be very considerable risks involved in CO2 storage, as experiences with volcanic carbon dioxide emissions show, see: **Volcanic Leaks Point to Climate Gas Storage Risks**

www.planetark.org/dailynewsstory.cfm/newsid/37158/newsDate/10-Jul-2006/story.htm

29. Northeast US floods stir global warming debate

Paul Epstein, associate director of Harvard Medical School's Center for Health and the Global Environment, said the Atlantic is warming faster than scientists projected even a decade ago, and he expects such storms as the one seen in the last week of June from Virginia to New York to become common. Meteorologists cautioned that no one should read too much into one storm but the Atlantic Ocean is unusually warm for this time of year creating excess moisture in the atmosphere that can swiftly build a powerful rainstorm. Most scientists say greenhouse gases could cause huge climate changes like floods, heat waves, droughts and a rise in sea levels that could swamp low-lying Pacific islands by 2100. But not everyone blames human pollution. "The climate is warming," said Bernie Rayno, senior meteorologist at Accuweather.com. "The real question is: 'Are humans causing it or is it occurring because of natural cycles?' We believe that we are in a natural cycle."

www.planetark.com/dailynewsstory.cfm/newsid/37054/story.htm

– **EECONET / NatureNet News –**
News for Friends of the Coast

30. Albatross numbers take steep dive

Albatrosses on islands in the South Atlantic are being pushed to the brink of extinction, according to research. Populations of three species breeding on South Georgia and outlying islands have declined by about a third in the past 30 years. Conservation groups say the major threat to the birds' future is deep-sea fishing using a line with a number of baited hooks attached to it. Up to 100,000 albatrosses a year drown on such longline fishing hooks.

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/science/nature/5041800.stm>

31. Mont Saint-Michel island again

France has launched a huge project to remove silt linking the mainland to Mont Saint-Michel - a national landmark - and make it an island again. The build-up of silt has spoiled the insular character of the Benedictine abbey perched on a rock off the north-western Normandy coast. Engineers will replace an old dyke with a bridge and build a hi-tech dam to get the water flowing again. The work should be completed in about 2012, the French news agency AFP says. The unusual abbey and steeped church of Mont Saint-Michel were built between the 11th and 16th centuries. It is a Unesco world heritage site.

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/europe/5087602.stm>

www.projetmontsaintmichel.fr/ the official project site (in French)

32. Scientists seek to 'spy' on world's fish

Thousands of marine animals could be tracked under a US\$150 million project to understand threats to life in the oceans with technology perfected for supermarket checkouts, scientists said on June 26 at a meeting in Oslo. Under the scheme, scientists would implant electronic tags into creatures such as salmon, tuna, sharks, sturgeon, penguins or polar bears to register their movements via acoustic receivers on the floors of the oceans or via satellite. The system not only records the pathways of the animals but also measures the temperature, so a record can be build up of climate change.

www.planetark.com/dailynewsstory.cfm/newsid/37008/newsDate/27-Jun-2006/story.htm

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– **Publications and Websites –**

Küsten Newsletter 4/2006

The fourth newsletter for 2006 of EUCC Germany has been issued in German. If you wish to subscribe to this newsletter please send an email to: newsletter@eucc-d.de. The newsletter can be found at: http://www.eucc-d.de/plugins/kuستنnewsletter/pdf/Kuesten_Newsletter_4_2006.pdf

CoPraNet 5th International newsletter online

The 5th newsletter of the network is available online for download, also translated in 4 languages – French, German, Swedish and Dutch.

<http://www.coastalpractice.net/en/newsletters/copranet/index.htm>

New newsletter: INFOWETLAND

The Ramsar Regional Center for Training and Research on Wetlands in the Western Hemisphere (CREHO) launched its newsletter, INFOWETLAND, on 26 July 2006 in English and Spanish. For more information and to subscribe to INFOWETLAND send a message to info@creho.org. The PDF version of the 9-page InfoWetland #1 is available here:

http://www.ramsar.org/creho/creho_info1_e.pdf

Coastweb

In the framework of the COREPOINT project (INTERREG IIIB NW Europe) a new website has been launched: Coastweb. For the academic community in NW Europe the site is an interesting repository of documents related to coastal management and research, reflecting the strength of the region in ICZM.

www.coastweb.info

EEA Report No 6/2006: The Changing faces of Europe's Coastal areas

This report provides information on the state of the environment in the coastal areas of Europe, and provides evidence of the need for a more integrated, long-term approach. Since 1995, concern about the state of Europe's coastline has led to a number of EU initiatives, which build on the concept of integrated coastal zone management (ICZM). ICZM attempts to balance the needs of development with protection of the very resources that sustain coastal economies. It also takes into account the public's concern about the deteriorating environmental, socio-economic and cultural state of the European coastline.

http://reports.eea.europa.eu/eea_report_2006_6/en

European sustainability indicators for coastal zones in The Netherlands: a first inventory (Europese duurzaamheidsindicatoren voor kustgebieden in Nederland: een eerste inventarisatie)

By Lescrauwaet, A.-K., Vandepitte, L., Vanden Berghe E. & Mees J. (ed.) (2006, 128 p.), VLIZ Special Publication 31. Vlaams Instituut voor de Zee (VLIZ): Wandelaarkaai 7 8400 Oostende, België, ISBN 90-81008-14-5, bilingual in Dutch and English.

This publication depicts the findings for the 27 EU sustainability indicators supported by a brief trend analysis where feasible. It provides a first assessment of sustainability in the Dutch coastal zone from a common European point of view. Commissioned by The Directorate-General water of the Dutch Ministry of Public Works and Water Management to the National Institute for Coastal and Marine Management (RIKZ) in cooperation with the Flanders Marine Institute (VLIZ).

Top Predators in Marine Ecosystems. Their Role in Monitoring and Management

By Ian Boyd et al. (2006, 178 pp.). Cambridge University Press, The Edinburgh Building, Shaftesbury Road, Cambridge CB2 2RU, UK. Fax: +1223 315052. Web: www.cambridge.org. ISBN 0 521 61256 X. Price UK £38 (US\$ 70) paperback. ISBN 0 521 84773 5. Price UK £75 (US\$ 130) hardback.

Marine ecosystems are highly dynamic and this property could conflict with the objective of sustainable exploitation. This book investigates the theory that the population and behavioural dynamics of predators at the upper end of marine food chains can be used to assist with management. Since these species integrate the dynamics of marine ecosystems across a wide range of spatial and temporal scales, they offer new sources of information that can be formally used in setting management objectives. This book examines the current advances in the understanding of the ecology of marine predators and will investigate how information from these species could be used in management.

Cartes des formations superficielles du domaine marin côtier de l'anse de Paimpol à Saint-Malo (Côtes d'Armor - Ille-et-Villaine)

By Claude Augris et al. (2006). Éditions Ifremer, BP 70, 29280 Plouzané, France. Fax + 02 98 22 45 86. E-mail: editions@ifremer.fr. Web: www.quae.com.

ISBN 2 84433 156 4. Price 15 euro.

This map (scale 1/50 000) shows the large number of rocky outcrops in reefs or flats, the predominance of coarse sediment and the strength of hydrodynamic agents in the area between Paimpol cove and Saint-Malo with its tidal range of 14 m at spring tide periods.

The Status and Distribution of Freshwater Fish Endemic to the Mediterranean Basin

By Kevin G. Smith and William R.T. Darwall (2006, v + 36 pp + cd). IUCN, 219c Huntingdon Road, Cambridge CB3 0DL, UK. Fax +44 1223 277175. E-mail: books@iucn.org. Web: www.iucn.org/bookstore. ISBN 2 8317 0908 3 (book). ISBN 2 8317 0916 43 (cd).

In this study a number of sites in the Mediterranean have been identified as regionally important for endemism and centres of threatened species. The main threats have been identified as water pollution and extraction, introduced species, drought and dam construction. The outputs from this work can be applied at the regional scale to prioritize sites for inclusion in regional programmes and for identification of internationally important sites of biodiversity. All the species assessed in this project will be submitted for inclusion in the IUCN global Red List.

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– **Events and training, 1st Announcements** –

This list only includes the 1st Announcements of conferences and training courses.
For a complete overview of conferences please visit: <http://www.coastalguide.org/meetings>
EUCC related conferences are added in boxes.

August 7-8, 2006 – Trondheim, Norway

Nor-Fishing Technology Conference 2006 "Modernization of Fisheries Technology to cope with Challenges and Profitability"

<http://www.nftc.no/>

August 8-11 – Trondheim, Norway

Nor-Fishing 2006

<http://www.nor-fishing.no/messe.php?messe=11>

August 28-31, 2006 – Khao Lak, Thailand

Regional Technical Workshop: "Coastal protection in the aftermath of the Indian Ocean tsunami: what role for forests and trees?"

<http://www.fao.org/forestry/foris/webview/tsunami/index.jsp?siteId=6752&sitetreeId=35607&langId=1&geoId=0>

September 18-20, 2006 – Gdansk, Poland

Littoral 2006 Conference "Coastal Innovation and Initiatives"

<http://www.littoral2006.gda.pl/>

Please note: *The EUCC Members Assembly and Council Meeting (1st session) will take place during the Conference (time slot to be announced in next issue of Coastal News)*

October 23-24, 2006 – Baie de Somme, France

Coastal Practice Network (CoPraNet) Final Event

<http://www.coastalpractice.net>

February 7-9, 2007 – Amsterdam, The Netherlands

Aquaterra World Forum on Delta & Coastal Development

www.aquaterraforum.com

February 12-14, 2007 – Berlin, Germany

Time to Adapt - Climate Change and the European Water Dimension

<http://www.climate-water-adaptation-berlin2007.org/index.htm>

March 12- June 29, 2007

UNESCO-IHE online short course ICZM

An online postgraduate training course in ICZM developed by UNESCO-IHE designed for professionals actively involved in or planning to be involved in the different aspects of ICZM, especially the midlevel or senior managers who may not have time to take a course abroad. The online course fee is 550 Euro, which includes access to the I-Learning Environment, its training materials and full training support. Group discounts are possible. For information contact Dr Randa M. Hassan e-mail r.hassan@unesco-ihe.org or see www.unesco-ihe.org/education/ilearning.htm

May 24-26, 2006 – Amsterdam, The Netherlands

Earth System Governance: Theories and Strategies for Sustainability

<http://www.2007amsterdamconference.org>

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– Colophon –

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EUCC Coastal News Editorial Team: Albert Salman, Alan Pickaver, Marleen Smallegange, Ben Spaans.
Special Editor: Magdalena Ariadne Kim Muir (EUCC Advisory Board Member: Climate Change).

Deadline for submitting contributions to EUCC Coastal News No 2006/07 : 21 August 2006.

Established in 1989, EUCC - The Coastal Union is an association involving the largest coastal network in Europe with 2750 members and member organisations in 40 countries. For more information please contact EUCC International Secretariat, POBox 11232, NL-2301 EE Leiden, the Netherlands
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