



## Eucc Coastal News

No. 5

September 2008



This publication is supported by the European Union

Eucc Coastal News is the international newsletter of the Coastal Union (Eucc) for its members and for the press. We have ca. 4000 readers.

**We gratefully acknowledge the EU annual grants that we are receiving for our work programme every year. However, the financial support of all members is still vital for this newsletter.** Eucc-members are entitled to a variety of services and discounts: please check in [www.eucc.net/en/members](http://www.eucc.net/en/members). Please transfer the appropriate amount to bank account 916 of Eucc, mentioning membership type. Name of bank: Postbank, IBAN-code: NL10 PSTB 0000 0009 16, Swift code: PSTBNL21.

**Contributions to the next issue due to: 15 November 2008** Eucc-members are invited to send their contributions to [news@eucc.net](mailto:news@eucc.net)

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## - EUCC NEWS -

### 1. QualityCoast Programme Awards 2009: call for nomination of potential candidates

The EUCC- The Coastal Union is launching a call to its members to support and provide the nomination of potential coastal communities that may fulfil the basic requirements of the programme award. In brief, the **QualityCoast** Programme aims to establish a world wide network of coastal communities (towns, municipalities and/or regions) that share the same values and practices on sustainable development holistically integrating their natural, cultural and social values and that at the same time maintain a high standards of their tourism.



This programme provides a new way of cooperation between coastal communities, in two ways. First, communities are encouraged to share their experience and exchange best practices in order to improve in the field of nature and landscape, environment and sustainable development. Second, their performance in these fields will be connected to an international tourism marketing programme through a unique scheme which incorporates objective quality information - the **QualityCoast Award**. The sustainability performance of the whole territory of the community is measured through 20 criteria organized by three categories: Nature, Sustainability and Identity, that have been developed under the leadership of EUCC-The Coastal Union in cooperation with 20 CoPraNet European partners. More detailed information about the **QualityCoast** Programme set-up and application procedure will soon be made available, however a preliminary website about the **QualityCoast** Pilot Destinations (2006/2007) is under development at [www.qualitycoast.info](http://www.qualitycoast.info). In the meantime, we are glad to receive your suggestions for coastal communities candidates from your country and/or region, please mail to [admin@eucc.net](mailto:admin@eucc.net).

### 2. Dolphin Fund in Germany goes online

Dolphin Fund is an initiative of EUCC – The Coastal Union. It is extending the successful economy-environment partnership model of the UNEP campaign "Year of the Dolphin" beyond 2007 and 2008. Worldwide, dolphins and small cetaceans are still in grave danger from human activities e.g. they drown as by-catch in fishermen's nets, suffer from noise pollution and eutrophication in the oceans. In general, marine mammals are ambassadors for the sustainable use of their habitat. In Germany, the only really native cetacean, the harbour porpoise, represents a liveable North and Baltic Sea. The German Dolphin Fund campaign is run by EUCC – *Die Küsten Union Deutschland e.V.* It encourages an environmentally sound use of sea and coast, fosters information distribution, supports conservation and science efforts, and pursues fundraising. Besides this, the international Dolphin Fund targets projects in agreement with the Whale and Dolphin Conservation Society (WDCCS) and ASCOBANS - Agreement on the Conservation of Small Cetaceans of the Baltic and North Seas. Furthermore reasonable national measures are discussed with marine mammal experts Klaus Harder of the German Oceanographic Museum Stralsund (DMM) and Dr. Ursula Siebert of the Research and Technology Centre (FTZ) Büsum of Christian-Albrechts University Kiel. Please visit the German website at [www.dolphinfund.de/startseite.html](http://www.dolphinfund.de/startseite.html). The web presentation will be extended further. Critique and content proposals are welcome. For more information please mail to: [dolphinfund@eucc-d.de](mailto:dolphinfund@eucc-d.de) and visit EUCC Germany at [www.eucc-d.de/](http://www.eucc-d.de/)

### 3. SPICOSA NEWS: SETNet Online & ICZM-SPICOSA Forum

A new network for students and professionals interested in coastal management has been launched. The SPICOSA project's Coastal Education and Training Network website (SETNet) can be found at: [www.spicosa.eu/setnet/index.htm](http://www.spicosa.eu/setnet/index.htm)

SPICOSA is an Integrated project under the EU's 6<sup>th</sup> Framework Programme for Research (FP6) that aims to bring the science and policy of coastal systems assessment closer together. Particular emphasis is given to applying a systems approach and developing decision support tools.

The web site supports this aim by cascading information developed through the project to a wider audience. The site also provides information about coastal management education and training courses throughout Europe, links to a discussion forum and relevant education and training material.

As a member of SETNet, you will receive regular e-newsletters detailing the latest developments in European coastal education and training, keeping you at the forefront of coastal capacity building.

For further information about SETNet, please contact: Dr Jeanette Reis, SETNet Co-ordinator, [reisj@cardiff.ac.uk](mailto:reisj@cardiff.ac.uk)

To learn more about SPICOSA join the:

**SPECIAL EVENT- October 16<sup>th</sup>: ICZM - SPICOSA Forum 2008, Brest, FRANCE**

More information at project website: <http://www.spicosa.eu/enews/index.htm>

### 4. Environmental GIS towards sustainable development in Romania

Cooperation to support and assist the development of environmental related GIS maps for Romania, and in particular the Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development in Romania (MESD) in being

developed. The main objective is to improve the decisions-making process at both national and local level, using environmental related GIS maps. This objective will be reached by developing environmental related GIS maps and perform training of the staff at national, regional and local level accordingly. The GIS maps under development address issues such as: nature conservation sector, industrial pollution, air quality, waste management sector and water quality. The project is being lead locally by the Romanian Space Agency (ROSA) and internationally by the French national Geographic Institute, IGN-FI International joining a large group of international experts. EUCC, in close cooperation with Danube Delta National Institute for Research and Development (DDNI) is supporting the fulfilments of tasks dealing with coastal and marine issues of the Romanian Black Sea Coast, with a particular eye on the Danube Delta Biosphere Reserve. One of the world's largest wetlands hosts more than 5000 flora and fauna species and a range of habitats, over 580 000 hectares (2,5% of Romania's surface). The Romanian Environmental GIS will be made available publicly towards the end of 2008. For further information, please contact the international project leader Hervé Pichon (IGN-FI) at [h.pichon\(@\)ignfi.fr](mailto:h.pichon(@)ignfi.fr) and/or Maria Ferreira (EUCC- The Coastal Union) [m.ferreira@eucc.net](mailto:m.ferreira@eucc.net)

## - EU COASTAL AND MARINE NEWS & INITIATIVES -

### 5. EU looks at 2009 quota cuts for Baltic cod, salmon

Fishermen in the Baltic Sea will have to cut their catches next year if over trawled species like cod, herring and salmon are to stand a chance of survival in those waters, the European Commission said on September 8. For nearly all species that are subject to annual quotas, the Commission recommends cutting 2009 catches by 15 percent from this year. But for one, cod in the eastern Baltic, it says fish numbers have recovered enough for a 15 percent quota rise. For nearly all species that are subject to annual quotas, the Commission recommends cutting 2009 catches by 15 percent from this year. But for one, cod in the eastern Baltic, it says fish numbers have recovered enough for a 15 percent quota rise. EU regulators on September 17 called for a full-scale review of the EU fisheries policy as a whole, saying current rules were doing little to curb overfishing, quota busting and other illegal fishing practices.

[www.planetark.com/dailynewsstory.cfm/newsid/50143/story.htm](http://www.planetark.com/dailynewsstory.cfm/newsid/50143/story.htm)

[www.planetark.com/dailynewsstory.cfm/newsid/50268/newsDate/18-Sep-2008/story.htm](http://www.planetark.com/dailynewsstory.cfm/newsid/50268/newsDate/18-Sep-2008/story.htm)

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/europe/7621618.stm>

### 6. EIB Renews its Water Sector Lending Policy

The European Investment Bank (EIB) has renewed its policy on lending to water projects to adjust it to the developments and challenges of this important sector. The renewed water lending policy will help the EIB to further strengthen its role as a major global financier of the sector, and as the "EU Water Bank". The document has been presented at major conferences, among them at the recent Stockholm Water Week and at the International Water Association's World Water Congress held in Vienna early September. From Spain and Portugal to Greece and Cyprus as well as in the wider Mediterranean region coastal cities in several countries continue to experience drinking water supply emergencies due to severe droughts. On the other hand, catastrophic floods have devastated parts of Central and Northern Europe in recent years, causing loss of lives and significant economic damage. On a global level, more than 1.1 billion people lack access to safe drinking water, and in Africa seven out of ten people are in need of basic sanitation. The increasing importance of water issues and the problems highlighted above are clearly reflected in the EU's environment and development policies, with water being one of the most comprehensively regulated areas of EU environmental legislation.

The EIB's involvement adds significant value to water projects through project preparation, as well as advisory and technical assistance activities. The Bank's intervention will be predicated on maximizing value added, and priorities will be determined on this basis. The EIB disposes of key strengths that make it unique among financing institutions, in particular the transfer of sector and project experience from the EU to other parts of the world. It is against this background that the Bank has developed a renewed water sector lending policy. It takes into account the EU policy drivers to define a set of principles and actions that respond to major challenges, and that will consolidate the role of the Bank as a key contributor to investments in the water sector. Since its inception in 1958, the EIB has been playing a key role in the development of the EU water sector. The Bank has emerged as the largest source of loan financing to the global water sector. The complete text of the EIB's Water Sector Lending Policy can be found on the EIB web site: [www.eib.org/publications](http://www.eib.org/publications)

## - COASTAL & CLIMATE CHANGE: TRENDS & IMPACTS -

### 7. Coastal 'Dead Zones' spread globally, study finds

Dead zones" in coastal waters - regions of ocean floor so deprived of oxygen that most marine life cannot survive - are spreading worldwide at an alarming pace. Driving the trend are nitrogen and phosphorous from chemical agricultural fertilizers that reach coastal waters after flowing off farm fields and into streams and rivers, according to the study published in the journal Science. Nitrogen compounds from burning fossil fuels, particularly from power plants and cars, also are settling back to the ground and eventually wash into coastal waters. This decade alone, the number of coastal dead zones has risen by about a third to 405 worldwide, with clusters on the coasts of the United States and Europe. Combined, they take up an area of at least 95,000 square miles (250,000 square km). The biggest one measures about 30,000 square miles (80,000 square km) in the Baltic Sea, the researchers said. This is followed in size by one in the Gulf of Mexico starting at the mouth of the Mississippi River in the United States and one at the mouth of China's Yangtze River in the East China Sea. The number of dead zones started to approximately double every 10 years starting in the 1960s, the researchers said. There were 301 such dead zones at the end of the 1990s, 132 at the end of the 1980s, 63 at the end of the 1970s and 39 at the end of the 1960s. The researchers said dead zones must be considered an important source of stress on marine ecosystems, ranking alongside over-fishing, habitat loss from human development and harmful algal blooms as global environmental problems. Dead zones are formed when excess nutrients, mostly nitrogen and phosphorus, enter coastal waters and help fertilize blooms of algae. When these tiny plants die and sink to the sea bottom, they provide a food source for bacteria, which consume dissolved oxygen from surrounding waters. As a result, there are large areas of sea floor with insufficient oxygen to support most marine life.

[www.planetark.com/dailynewsstory.cfm/newsid/49825/newsDate/18-Aug-2008/story.htm](http://www.planetark.com/dailynewsstory.cfm/newsid/49825/newsDate/18-Aug-2008/story.htm)

[www.sciencemag.org/cgi/content/abstract/321/5891/926](http://www.sciencemag.org/cgi/content/abstract/321/5891/926)

### 8. Sea level rise by 2100 'below 2m'

Sea levels globally are very unlikely to rise by more than 2m (7ft) this century, scientists conclude. Major increases would have to be fuelled by a faster flow of glaciers on the Greenland or Antarctic ice sheets. But writing in the journal Science, a US team concludes that a rise of 2m would need glaciers to reach speeds that are "physically untenable". However, even increases substantially less than 2m would cause major issues for many societies, they say. "Even a sea level rise of 20cm (8in) in a century will have quite dramatic implications," said Shad O'Neel from the US Geological Survey (USGS). Woe betide any government that thinks a 2m rise in sea level isn't something to take notice of. "This work is in no way meant to undermine the seriousness of climate change, and sea level rise is something we're going to have to deal with," he told BBC News. Al Gore's documentary An Inconvenient Truth received some criticism for implying that a rise of 20ft (6m) was possible in the near future, although it did not give a definite timeframe. By contrast, this latest research tallies broadly with the conclusions of other groups that have examined the question using different approaches. In its landmark assessment of climate change published last year, the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) concluded that sea level rise would probably fit in the range between 28 and 43cm over the century, although 59cm was a possibility. The current rate is about 3mm per year.

But the IPCC specifically excluded the mechanism able to produce the biggest amounts of water quickly - acceleration in the flow of ice from the Greenland and Antarctic ice sheets, the world's two major ice masses that would between them raise sea levels by about 70m if they completely melted. Most of the ice comes off in glaciers. Scientists know that many of the glaciers have accelerated in recent years - some quite spectacularly. The Jakobshavn glacier in Greenland, for example, doubled its speed in six years to about 12km per year. But the processes involved are poorly understood, and the IPCC concluded that on that basis it would be unreasonable to draw any conclusions about how far the acceleration might go. Individual scientists, however, do not have to be so coy. The team behind the current research looked at what we do know about Greenlandic and Antarctic glaciers, about the rates of flow and the factors that might prevent acceleration. "We don't really know a speed limit for glaciers," said Dr O'Neel, "but we can look at what we have today and ask 'what would happen if they all behaved like Jakobshavn?' "It's been going fast for several years now and hasn't gone another marked increase in speed. Helheim had a brief period at 14km per year, Columbia at nine or 10; so that kind of figure, in the region of 10km/year, seems to be about as fast as it gets." To achieve a 2m sea level rise by 2100, by contrast, every Greenland glacier would have to increase its flow rate to at least 27km per year and remain at that velocity for the rest of the century. Antarctica is rather different. The West Antarctic Ice Sheet rests on rock that is mainly below sea level, meaning that warming seas could increase the rate of ice loss, though again the new analysis suggests this is also very unlikely to result in a catastrophic melt during this century.

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/science/nature/7598861.stm>

[www.planetark.com/dailynewsstory.cfm/newsid/50133/newsDate/8-Sep-2008/story.htm](http://www.planetark.com/dailynewsstory.cfm/newsid/50133/newsDate/8-Sep-2008/story.htm)

<http://sciencenow.sciencemag.org/cgi/content/full/2008/904/1>

### 9. British coasts may be 'abandoned to sea'

Some parts of the British coastline are so badly eroded they are not worth protecting from the sea, the new head of the Environment Agency has said. Lord Smith of Finsbury said work was already under way

to identify areas of the east and south coast most at risk. He told the Independent that the UK faced hard choices over which coasts to defend and which to leave to the sea. Lord Smith said parts of north-east Norfolk and Suffolk were in the most immediate danger of collapse. The former culture secretary said it would not be possible to save all coastal homes from sea erosion, but that the agency would do its "level best" to protect places where there were significant numbers of properties. "This is the most difficult issue we are going to face as an agency," he said. "We know the sea is eating away at the coast in quite a number of places, primarily - but not totally exclusively - on the east and south coasts. "It's a particularly huge issue in East Anglia, but in quite a number of other areas as well." Lord Smith called on the government to assist families whose home will be lost, as ministers would not always be able to rely on insurance companies to cover them.

Scottish coasts are also considered threatened. Sea levels in parts of Scotland will have risen by about 30cm by the 2080s, a Dundee University report published late September suggests.

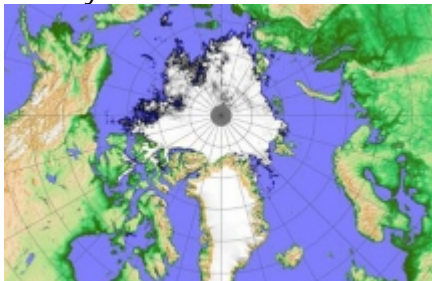
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[http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/uk\\_news/scotland/tayside\\_and\\_central/7632210.stm](http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/uk_news/scotland/tayside_and_central/7632210.stm)

<http://www.dundee.ac.uk/pressreleases/week.htm>

### 10. For the first time in human history, the North Pole can be circumnavigated

Melting ice has opened up the North-west and North-east passages simultaneously. Scientists warn the Arctic icecap is entering a 'death spiral'. Open water now stretches all the way round the Arctic, making it possible for the first time in human history to circumnavigate the North Pole. Recent satellite images, taken late August, show that melting ice last week opened up both the fabled North-west and North-east passages, in the most important geographical landmark to date to signal the unexpectedly rapid progress of global warming. The opening of the passages – eagerly awaited by shipping companies who hope to cut thousands of miles off their routes by sailing round the north of Canada and Russia – is only the greatest of a host of ominous signs this month of a gathering crisis in the Arctic. The NSDIC warned recently that, the total extent of sea ice in the Arctic may shrink to below the record low reached last year – itself a massive 200,000 square miles less than the previous worst year, 2005. But it is the simultaneous opening – for the first time in at least 125,000 years – of the North-west passage around Canada and the North-east passage around Russia that promises to deliver much the greatest shock. Until recently both had been blocked by ice since the beginning of the last Ice Age. In 2005, the North-east passage opened, while the western one remained closed, and last year their positions were reversed. But the images, gathered by Nasa using microwave sensors that penetrate clouds, show that the North-west passage opened up in the third weekend of August and that the last blockage on the north-eastern one – a tongue of ice stretching down to Russia across Siberia's Laptev Sea – dissolved a few days later.



[www.independent.co.uk/environment/climate-change/for-the-first-time-in-human-history-the-north-pole-can-be-circumnavigated-913924.html](http://www.independent.co.uk/environment/climate-change/for-the-first-time-in-human-history-the-north-pole-can-be-circumnavigated-913924.html)

[www.iup.uni-bremen.de:8084/amsr/amsre.html](http://www.iup.uni-bremen.de:8084/amsr/amsre.html) The 'obscure website'

[www.zgeek.com/forum/printthread.php?t=77880](http://www.zgeek.com/forum/printthread.php?t=77880)

**Editorial note:** It must be realized that this kind of 'supra' images are not a really accurate navigation guide. There is still so much ice at large in the Arctic, that weather conditions can still fill up the now 'open' sea lanes in the Arctic. There are no serious plans to develop real shipping routes there.

### 11. Warming oceans make strongest storms stronger - study

As the world's oceans get warmer, the strongest tropical storms get stronger, climate scientists reported as the remnants of Hurricane Gustav spun out over the central United States. "If the seas continue to warm, we can expect to see stronger storms in the future," James Elsner of Florida State University said. "As far as this year goes, as a season, we did see the oceans warm and I think there's some reason to believe that that's the reason we're seeing the amount of activity we are." The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration predicts 12 to 16 tropical storms between June 1 and Nov. 30 this year, with six to nine hurricanes and two to five major hurricanes. Many climate scientists have linked stronger storms to rising sea surface temperatures in the North Atlantic and elsewhere, under the so-called heat engine theory: because warm tropical cyclones feed on warm water, the warmer the water, the more intense the storm. US researchers looked at 26 years of satellite data, from 1981 to 2006, and determined that the strongest storms got stronger as a result of increasing ocean warmth. "It's almost like a survival-of-the-fittest argument," said Elsner, whose study is published in the journal Nature.

Overall, tropical waters that breed cyclones have warmed by about 0.6 degrees F (0.33 degree C) since 1981. The heat engine theory suggests all storms should strengthen as the ocean's surface gets hotter, but in reality, few tropical cyclones achieve their full maximum potential intensity. A cyclone's intensity can be cut by other factors, such as where they form, how close they are to land, El Nino patterns and solar activity, the researchers said. Strong storms seem able to overcome these factors and gather more fuel from warming waters, Elsner said. Elsner's study made no reference to any human cause for rising temperatures in the world's oceans.

[www.planetark.com/dailynewsstory.cfm/newsid/50078/newsDate/4-Sep-2008/story.htm](http://www.planetark.com/dailynewsstory.cfm/newsid/50078/newsDate/4-Sep-2008/story.htm)

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/science/nature/7596643.stm>

[www.nature.com/news/2008/080903/full/news.2008.1079.html](http://www.nature.com/news/2008/080903/full/news.2008.1079.html)

## 12. World heading towards cooler 2008

This year appears set to be the coolest globally this century. Data from the UK Met Office shows that temperatures in the first half of the year have been more than 0.1 Celsius cooler than any year since 2000. The principal reason is La Nina, part of the natural cycle that also includes El Nino, which cools the globe. Even so, 2008 is set to be about the 10th warmest year since 1850, and Met Office scientists say temperatures will rise again as La Nina conditions ease.

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/science/nature/7574603.stm>

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## - COASTAL & CLIMATE CHANGE: RESPONSES -

### 13. Making energy from waves: Scotland and Portugal examples

A turbine designed to be the forerunner of the UK's first commercial wave power station has been officially switched on in Argyll and Bute. The device on Islay was set in motion by Scottish Energy Minister and local MSP Jim Mather. Inverness-based Wavegen plans to install 40 of the turbines off Siader on Lewis in the Western Isles. It would produce enough power for 1,500 homes and create a much-needed breakwater for boats.

[http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/uk\\_news/scotland/highlands\\_and\\_islands/7532510.stm](http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/uk_news/scotland/highlands_and_islands/7532510.stm)

Portugal has become the centre of wave power industry due to first operational Pelamis wave machine off the beach at Aguçadoura, just north of Porto. Here electricity of the world's first wave farm is being cabled ashore. Five kilometres out to sea a Pelamis wave machine is gently riding the Atlantic swell, generating power for the Portuguese grid.

For an analysis of what this might mean for wave power generally, see

[http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/programmes/working\\_lunch/7633597.stm](http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/programmes/working_lunch/7633597.stm)

### 14. Greenpeace proposes giant North Sea wind farm grid

North Sea nations could link their offshore wind farms via a giant electricity grid on the sea bed and bring huge benefits for Europe, according to a Greenpeace report gaining interest from the European Commission. The grid would build on existing infrastructure to link tens of thousands of turbines located offshore, helping to smooth out power fluctuations caused by turbulent weather around the stormy North Sea. The grid of huge power cables on the sea bed would cost up to 20 billion euros (US\$29 billion) but they could be used to trade power between North Sea nations, earning a swift payback. The European Commission's head of renewable energy Hans Van Steen called the project "ambitious but realistic." The report assumes around 118 offshore wind farms will be built in the North Sea by 2030 in Britain, France, Germany, Belgium, The Netherlands, Denmark and Norway, pumping out around 68 gigawatts of power. "Variable wind power in the North Sea could be supplemented by despatch-able power, such as hydro power in Norway, which can be switched on and off," said Greenpeace campaigner Jan Vande Putte. To illustrate the ease with which it could pay for itself through power trading, the report gave the example of a 600 million-euro link between Norway and the Netherlands that now carries 800,000 euros a day of cross-border power trading. Greenpeace said a wind power network would help render nuclear power and coal-fired plants obsolete. But the Commission's Van Steen disagreed, pointing to rising EU power demand, especially as transport systems move away from petrol and diesel towards electricity in a bid to cut CO<sub>2</sub> emissions. Asked whether such a huge scheme of windpower could replace nuclear, he said: "No, not in the short term."

[www.planetark.com/dailynewsstory.cfm/newsid/50085/newsDate/4-Sep-2008/story.htm](http://www.planetark.com/dailynewsstory.cfm/newsid/50085/newsDate/4-Sep-2008/story.htm)

### 15. UK approves building of major offshore wind farm

The British government has approved construction of a 500-megawatt offshore wind farm in Cumbria, northwest England, the government said on September 4. It said the Duddon Sands farm, planned near Walney Island off the coast of Barrow-in-Furness, was one of the country's three largest offshore wind farms approved so far. It would comprise up to 139 turbines. Morecambe Wind Ltd, a consortium of

Scottish Power, Eurus Energy from Japan and Denmark's state-controlled DONG Energy, is to build and operate the farm. An industry official said it would take several years to build a wind farm of this scale and that it would require investment of well over 1 billion pounds (US\$1.8 billion). The government said it had also given the green light to an updated application to Ormonde Energy Ltd to build a 150 megawatt offshore wind farm, near Walney Island.

[www.planetark.com/dailynewsstory.cfm/newsid/50113/story.htm](http://www.planetark.com/dailynewsstory.cfm/newsid/50113/story.htm)

#### **16. CO<sub>2</sub> store option for UK seas**

Parts of the sea-bed between Northern Ireland and Scotland could become a storage facility for carbon dioxide, according to a new study. A cross-border survey has been investigating the potential for underground carbon capture and storage. Geologists from Northern Ireland, the Republic of Ireland and Great Britain have worked with economists and engineers to assess locations where CO<sub>2</sub> could be stored safely underground. By capturing carbon from power stations and storing it underground the amount of CO<sub>2</sub> being pumped into the atmosphere could be reduced. The captured emissions could be transported by pipeline and injected into rocks deep below the surface and stored there for thousands of years.

[http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/uk\\_news/northern\\_ireland/7621193.stm](http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/uk_news/northern_ireland/7621193.stm)

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## **- NATURE AND CONSERVATION -**

#### **17. Fish, coral "hotspots" linked to geology - study**

Geological shifts over millions of years may explain the huge wealth of fish, corals and other life in seas between Asia and Australia and hold clues to modern conservation. A study of marine fossils also showed that what is now the Mediterranean region and an area off the Middle East were previous "hotspots" - seas with the highest numbers of marine species - in the past 50 million years. The formation of each marine hotspot, previously little understood, coincided with shifts of vast plates in the earth's crust, they said. Shallow seas suitable for thousands of species can emerge when continents start to collide. The scientists, in the Netherlands, Australia, Spain, Britain, Malaysia, the United States and Panama, said they hope that better knowledge of the long-term formation and decline of "hotspots" could give clues to conservation needs. The Mediterranean, linked to what is now the Indian Ocean region 40 million years ago when Africa was further south, died off as the main marine hotspot as Africa ploughed north. Some areas previously under water ended high in the Alps. The Mediterranean was succeeded by a region between the Middle East and India as the main hotspot.

Lead author Willem Renema, of the Dutch National Museum of Natural History, said conditions for the current Indo-Australian Archipelago hotspot may be past their peak in a looming slow-motion collision as Australia moves north towards Asia.

[www.planetark.com/dailynewsstory.cfm/newsid/49621/story.htm](http://www.planetark.com/dailynewsstory.cfm/newsid/49621/story.htm)

#### **18. Live fish caught at record depth**

A live deep-sea fish has been caught at a record depth of 2,300m on the hot vents of the Mid-Atlantic Ridge. Three shrimp species were also pulled to the surface, researchers report in the journal Deep-Sea Research. Scientists have engineered a new device that allows recovery of live animals under their natural pressure at greater depths than previously achieved. The shrimp species were caught at 1,700m (5,600ft; *Mirocaris fortunata* and *Chorocaris chacei*) and 2,300m (7,500ft; *Rimicaris exoculata*) at two vent fields, Lucky Strike and Rainbow, on the Mid-Atlantic Ridge.

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/science/nature/7525552.stm>

#### **19. Some big whales recovering since hunt ban - survey**

Some large whale species such as the humpback, minke and southern right whale are recovering from a threat of extinction, helped by curbs on hunts since the 1980s. A review of cetaceans - grouping about 80 types of whales, dolphins and porpoises - showed many small species were still at risk. Entanglement in fishing gear was the main threat, the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) said. "For the large whales the picture looks guardedly optimistic," Randall Reeves, chair of the cetacean specialist group of the IUCN, told Reuters of the assessment of marine mammals for the IUCN's "Red List" of endangered species. "The large whales, the commercially important ones, have for the most part responded well under protection," he said. The IUCN groups governments, scientists and conservationists. The world imposed a moratorium on hunts of whales in 1986 after many were driven towards extinction by decades of commercial exploitation for meat, oil and whalebone. Minke whales are still harpooned by Japan, Norway and Iceland. The humpback whale, which grows up to 50 feet (15 metres) and is found in all the world's oceans, was moved to "least concern" from "vulnerable" in the

new Red List. The southern right whale, found in the southern hemisphere, and the common minke whale, living in the North Pacific and North Atlantic, were shifted down to the "least concern" category from the "lower risk" grouping.

[www.planetark.com/dailynewsstory.cfm/newsid/49759/newsDate/13-Aug-2008/story.htm](http://www.planetark.com/dailynewsstory.cfm/newsid/49759/newsDate/13-Aug-2008/story.htm)

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/science/nature/7553805.stm>

<http://cms.iucn.org/index.cfm?uNewsID=1413>

[http://cmsdata.iucn.org/downloads/cetacean\\_table\\_for\\_website.pdf](http://cmsdata.iucn.org/downloads/cetacean_table_for_website.pdf)

## 20. Oceans are 'too noisy' for whales

Levels of noise in the world's oceans are causing serious problems for whales, dolphins and other marine mammals, a report warns. Whales and dolphins use sound in ways that are clearly important to their survival, though not completely understood. Baleen whales, such as blue and humpback whales, produce low frequency calls that can travel thousands of kilometres through water. Dolphins and toothed whales generate higher frequency clicks used to locate prey. Noise generated by ships' engines and propellers, and by seismic airguns used in oil and gas exploration, produce a range of frequencies that can interfere with both these groups of species, the International Fund for Animal Welfare (IFAW) concludes. Its report – "Ocean Noise: Turn it down" - cites research showing that the effective range of blue whales' calls is only about one-tenth of what it was before the era of engine-driven commercial shipping. It also notes that high-energy military sonar systems have driven the mass stranding and deaths of beaked whales. The sonar is thought to disrupt the animals' diving behaviour so much that they suffer a condition rather like "the bends" which human divers can contract if they surface too quickly. Pressure from conservation groups has led to restrictions on the use of sonar by the US Navy. In some places, companies involved in oil and gas exploration limit their use of seismic airguns. But IFAW argues these restrictions are not enough since undersea noise blocks animals' communication and disrupts feeding. Naval sonar has been implicated in the mass deaths of some cetaceans. In some regions, the level of ocean noise is doubling each decade, and IFAW says protective measures are failing.

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/science/nature/7616283.stm>

## 21. Romania says Ukraine has scrapped Delta Canal plan

Ukraine has scrapped a plan to extend a shipping canal which would have threatened wildlife in the ecologically sensitive Danube Delta, according to the Romanian Foreign Ministry. While a spokesman for the Ukrainian government contacted by Reuters said he was unaware of any such decision having been taken, Romania said it welcomed Kiev's move to halt the deep-water canal plan. The 1991 ESPOO Convention of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) commits signatories to consult their neighbours on development projects that could have cross-border environmental impact. A UNECE scientific panel said in July 2006 that the canal posed a real threat to wildlife in the Danube Delta, a UNESCO world heritage site which spans Ukraine and Romania and is home to thousands of species of wetland plants, birds and fish. Ukraine began work on the Bystre canal in 2004 without formally notifying Romania, and said the waterway would help boost the impoverished economy on its side of the border. Romania, which has been trying for years to stop the project, said Kiev informed it on August 15 that it had reversed its decision to authorise the second-phase works on the canal.

[www.planetark.com/dailynewsstory.cfm/newsid/49842/story.htm](http://www.planetark.com/dailynewsstory.cfm/newsid/49842/story.htm)

## 22. Rising ocean acidity slows marine fertilisation

Rising acidification of the ocean could reduce fertilisation of marine invertebrates and might eventually wipe out colonies of sea urchins, lobsters, mussels and oysters, according to a study. Scientists knew that ocean acidification was eating away at the shells of marine animals, but the new study has found that rising acidity hindered marine sperm from swimming to, and fertilising, eggs in the ocean. Climate change and the subsequent acidification of the world's oceans will significantly reduce the successful fertilisation of certain marine species by the year 2100, said the report by Australian and Swedish scientists. The surface of the ocean absorbs up to 30 percent of the world's yearly emissions of carbon dioxide. Absorbed carbon dioxide forms a weak acid that is gradually increasing the acidity of the oceans. The study of sea urchins around southeast Australia found a link between increased ocean acidity and a reduction in swimming speed and motility of sea urchin sperm. The researchers measured sperm swimming speed, sperm motility, fertilisation success and larval developmental success in sea urchins in normal seawater with a pH 8.1 and also in water with a pH 7.7, which is projected to be the level of acidification by 2100. The experiment found that in water with acidity at 7.7, the sperm swam much more slowly and began failing to meet the eggs. Fertilisation fell by 25 percent and in almost 26 percent of cases where eggs were fertilised they did not survive to develop into larvae, said the study published in "Current Biology".

[www.planetark.com/dailynewsstory.cfm/newsid/49822/newsDate/18-Aug-2008/story.htm](http://www.planetark.com/dailynewsstory.cfm/newsid/49822/newsDate/18-Aug-2008/story.htm)

[www.sciencedirect.com/science?\\_ob=ArticleURL&\\_udi=B6VRT-4T4PT87-](http://www.sciencedirect.com/science?_ob=ArticleURL&_udi=B6VRT-4T4PT87-)

[3&\\_user=10&\\_rdoc=1&\\_fmt=&\\_orig=search&\\_sort=d&\\_view=c&\\_version=1&\\_urlVersion=0&\\_userid=10&\\_md5=35e3f54396773a243a816f023704357f](http://www.sciencedirect.com/science?_ob=ArticleURL&_udi=B6VRT-4T4PT87-3&_user=10&_rdoc=1&_fmt=&_orig=search&_sort=d&_view=c&_version=1&_urlVersion=0&_userid=10&_md5=35e3f54396773a243a816f023704357f) (article not free)

### 23. Protection zones not helping reefs, study finds

Conservation zones in the Indian Ocean set up to protect fish stocks are not preventing coral reefs from collapsing due to warmer temperatures or helping to speed their recovery, researchers reported on August 25. Existing no-take marine protected areas still support high biomass of fish, however they had no positive affect on the ecosystem response to large-scale disturbance. This suggests a need for future conservation and management efforts to identify and protect regional refugia, which should be integrated into existing management frameworks and combined with policies to improve system-wide resilience to climate variation and change. Coral reefs are important nurseries and shelters for fish and other sea life. They are also considered valuable protection for coastlines from high seas, a critical source of food, important for tourism and a potential storehouse of medicines for cancer and other diseases. But overfishing, climate change and human development are threatening reefs worldwide, including in the Indian Ocean where warmer water temperatures due to the El Nino weather system in 1998 devastated the coral population. The researchers, who reported their findings in the journal *Public Library of Science One*, looked at the coral population over a 10-year period beginning in 1994 to compare the before and after effects of the 1998 destruction. They found that nine protected areas varying in size from 1 square kilometre to 14 square kilometres in the Seychelles and off the coasts of Kenya and Northern Tanzania were boosting fish stocks but not doing much for the coral. Instead, coral was rebounding much faster in areas with cooler waters in Southern Tanzania, Reunion Island and Mauritius - all areas with very few of the protected zones set up in the 1960s and 1970s. The findings do not suggest existing protected areas should be scrapped but rather point to a need to focus conservation efforts on faster-recovering areas and manage the system as a whole

[www.planetark.com/dailynewsstory.cfm/newsid/49962/newsDate/27-Aug-2008/story.htm](http://www.planetark.com/dailynewsstory.cfm/newsid/49962/newsDate/27-Aug-2008/story.htm)  
[www.plosone.org/article/info%3Adoi%2F10.1371%2Fjournal.pone.0003039](http://www.plosone.org/article/info%3Adoi%2F10.1371%2Fjournal.pone.0003039) Complete article!

### 24. Pacific dives recover novel fish

Marine biologists being filmed for a BBC TV series have confirmed an astonishing 13 new fish species on a single expedition in the Pacific Ocean. The researchers have a further 15 animals they think may also be new to science but require additional study. The haul comes from deep dives made across reefs in Micronesia. The quest to find the novel fish is detailed in the series *Pacific Abyss* and includes the capture of a long-sought and spectacular damselfish. The team concentrated its efforts on waters referred to as the "twilight zone". Sited some 60m (200ft) to 150m (500ft) down, this is a transition region between depths that still receive some sunlight during the daytime and waters that are in perpetual darkness. The twilight zone is rarely explored, being below the activity of normal scuba activity but above the operations of most submersibles. The newly described species include several new colourful *Chromis* damselfishes; at least one new species of *Plectranthias* basslet; an unusual hawkfish and a new species of butterflyfish. The most spectacular recovery was of the bright blue damselfish found 120m down off Palau. This was described recently in the scientific literature by team-member Dr Richard Pyle, from the Bishop Museum, Honolulu, Hawaii. The fish has been named *Chromis abyssus* in honour of the TV series. The story is a more complicated one, however, because Dr Pyle first saw this fish more than a decade ago. Other researchers, too, had sightings, including one from a small submersible and another from a Remotely Operated Vehicle (ROV). It was during the BBC filming, though, that nine specimens were finally captured, allowing for an official scientific submission this year. In September, Australian scientists announced the discovery of hundreds of new coral and marine species on the Great Barrier Reef and Ningaloo Reef which they say will improve monitoring reef biodiversity and the impact of climate change.

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/science/nature/7564126.stm>  
[www.planetark.com/dailynewsstory.cfm/newsid/50284/story.htm](http://www.planetark.com/dailynewsstory.cfm/newsid/50284/story.htm)  
[http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/shared/spl/hi/pop\\_ups/08/sci\\_nat\\_marine\\_life\\_census/html/1.stm](http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/shared/spl/hi/pop_ups/08/sci_nat_marine_life_census/html/1.stm) (pictures)

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## - AQUACULTURE AND FISHERIES -

### 25. Indian Ocean tuna catch drops, experts differ on why

Tuna catches across the Indian Ocean have fallen sharply in the last two years but experts are split over what is threatening the region's US\$6 billion industry. Conservationists blame years of unchecked exploitation while processors say climatic conditions may be driving the fish deeper away from their nets. Tuna catches in the Indian Ocean, which accounts for roughly a quarter of the global haul, dropped by about a third last year to their lowest level for more than a decade. Early indicators for this year show catches to be markedly below recent averages, Alejandro Anganuzzi, head of the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission, stated. "We cannot rule out the possibility that overfishing has occurred," he said. Other forces such as changes in wind patterns, currents or the impact of predators might also play a part, he said. Similar falls in catches are seen in the Pacific, where environmental groups say decades of overfishing has slashed some stocks by as much as 85%. European fishing firms now chase tuna in the Pacific after numbers fell in the Atlantic. Last month, EU fisheries regulators banned trawling for bluefin

tuna in the eastern Atlantic and Mediterranean to stop overfishing of a species that was approaching complete collapse.

[www.planetark.com/dailynewsstory.cfm/newsid/49652/story.htm](http://www.planetark.com/dailynewsstory.cfm/newsid/49652/story.htm)

## 26. New system could help avert collapse of fisheries

Guaranteeing individual fishermen a share of the catch could help avert a global collapse of fisheries, according to US researchers. Such programs, known as catch-shares, eliminate the frantic race to get the biggest share of the catch as in traditional open-access fishing, a system that promotes overfishing and habitat destruction, putting a key global food supply at risk. Catch shares, which are common in New Zealand, Australia, Iceland, and increasingly the United States and Canada, grant each shareholder a fixed portion of a fishery's total allowable catch, a figure set by scientists each year. These shares may be bought and sold, much like shares in a company. They increase in value as the overall fish population increases in size, giving each shareholder a stake in improving the overall health of the fishery.

[www.planetark.com/dailynewsstory.cfm/newsid/50286/story.htm](http://www.planetark.com/dailynewsstory.cfm/newsid/50286/story.htm)

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/science/nature/7623341.stm>

[www.sciencemag.org/cgi/content/short/321/5896/1678](http://www.sciencemag.org/cgi/content/short/321/5896/1678) (Abstract, article not free)

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## - PUBLICATIONS AND WEBSITES -

### 27. State of the Wild 2008-2009

#### A Global Portrait of Wildlife, Wildlands, and Oceans

The World Conservation Society have published their second State of the Wild book which aims to give a global portrait of wildlife, wildlands and oceans. If, as a result, you are expecting a book crammed with facts, figures and statistics akin to the EEA's reports on the State of the European Coast, you will be disappointed. This publication is a series of short, readable essays covering a variety of topics, most of them single species related.

In a way, it is a curious book. It's sub-title is "Emerging diseases and conservation: one World, one Health" yet the main, first chapter which surely sets the scene for what is to follow is a strong essay on the effects of climate change written by a climatologist on all aspects other than health. The actual "state of the wild" covers only 30 of the 300 pages. This part, organised by continents, is largely biased towards wildlife rather than wildlands, single species rather than habitats. Of course, with so many animal species (still) on our planet there is a tendency to concentrate on the biggest and rarest. Nonetheless, the articles – written in National Geographic rather than Ocean and Coastal Management style – are genuinely interesting and the essays on future trends are thought-provoking. It is also well illustrated, largely with pictures of mammals and birds, all in black and white. The book is published by Island Press ([www.islandpress.org](http://www.islandpress.org)) which has an impressive array of conservation-oriented titles. It is printed on (high-quality) recycled, acid-free paper and at €21.25 is good value for money. The sort of book you can pick up at any time when you have a spare ten or twenty minutes or when you are travelling.

*State of the Wild Vol. 2, Publisher: Island Press, Paperback: \$29.95 Hardback: 60.00*

### 28. PEMSEA releases Tropical Coasts Issue on Disaster Risk Reduction Initiatives of Local Governments

The latest issue of the Tropical Coasts features the programs and activities of local governments in addressing disaster risk reduction (DRR), as well as mainstreaming DRR into integrated coastal management (ICM). Entitled "Addressing Coastal Security Through Natural and Man-made Hazards Prevention and Management", the issue also highlights the 2007 Forum of the PEMSEA Network of Local Governments for Sustainable Coastal Development (PNLG) held in Danang, Vietnam, on 5-7 September 2007. The forum provided a venue for facilitating the exchange of information and experiences in DRR among local governments, national agencies, partner organizations, civil society groups and the private sector. It also provided a platform for the ICM sites to discuss how institutional strengthening in the context of DRR can be achieved and to identify innovative solutions and opportunities to implement DRR options based on specific risk context and circumstances of the respective sites. Local governments featured in the issue include Danang City (Vietnam) and Xiamen (PR China).

The report can be downloaded on the site.

<http://pemsea.org/about-pemsea/pemsea-news/pemsea-releases-tropical-coasts-issue-on-disaster-risk-reduction-initiatives-of-local-governments>

### 29. Fish and Dolphin Swimming

This is a monographic, fully original treatment devoted to fish and dolphin swimming mechanics, with an up-to-date review of the modern concepts of and approaches to bio hydrodynamics. The opinion is

supported and advanced that at least the dolphins show certain mechanics to control boundary layer and to decrease the hydrodynamic friction resistance (Gray's paradox).

By E.V. Romanenko (2002, 429 pp.). Pensoft Publishers, Geo Milev Street 13a, 1111 Sofia, Bulgaria. Fax+3592 8704282. Web: [www.pensoft.net](http://www.pensoft.net) E-mail: [info@pensoft.net](mailto:info@pensoft.net) ISBN 954 642 150 2. Price € 68

### 30. Non-invasive study of mammalian populations

This is the first book on non-invasive approach to the study of animal populations in nature. The frequencies of detectable individual variations (structural, behavioural, acoustic, etc.) make it possible to study the population structure and dynamics, the interrelationships between populations, to understand phylogeographic (micro-evolutionary) pathways. Historical and analytical reviews of the studies of colour patterns, of acoustic, behavioural and structural features (including many qualitative variations like nose, ear, tooth, eyes, tail traits, dermatoglyphics etc.) in whales, dolphins, seals and some other mammalian groups are provided.

By W. Evans and A. Yablokov (2004, 142 pp). Pensoft Publishers, Geo Milev Street 13a, 1111 Sofia, Bulgaria. Fax+3592 8704282. Web: [www.pensoft.net](http://www.pensoft.net) E-mail: [info@pensoft.net](mailto:info@pensoft.net) ISBN 954 642 204 5. Price € 37.80

### 31. Mare Nostrum. Neocene and Anthropoid Natural History of the Mediterranean Basin With Emphasis on the Levant

The Mediterranean world is a self-centred microcosm subjected to a very agitated geological history during the Neocene. At the same time, this region absorbed the profound influence of the earliest human cultures. The present book presents the wide panorama of this interaction. Regional earth science, oceanography, marine and inland flora and fauna, together with regional anthropology and ancient history are for the first time presented on equal footing in this well-illustrated book. In the corner of the Levant, the interdependence between the water bodies of the Rift Valley, the earliest waves of human settlement and the emergent agro-pastoral culture are especially in evidence and a source for management efforts even today. The most updated knowledge about the environmental history of the region together with the exciting new oceanographic discoveries and processes are presented alongside with the human impact- prehistorical, classical and contemporary. The resulting symbiosis between sea, land and society created a homogenous circum-Mediterranean nature and culture. This book is a primer for integrative Mediterranean environmental studies. It provides a guardedly optimistic academic message, instead of the many doomsday previsions

By Francis Dov Por and Chanan Dimentman (2006, 349 pp). Pensoft Publishers, Geo Milev Street 13a, 1111 Sofia, Bulgaria. Fax+3592 8704282. Web: [www.pensoft.net](http://www.pensoft.net) E-mail: [info@pensoft.net](mailto:info@pensoft.net) ISBN 954 642 272 X. Price € 65

### 32. Management Planning for Nature Conservation

This book brings a new dimension to the modern literature on conservation management. Combining key theories with real practice it fills a critical gap which has often hindered in-depth understanding of the planning process. The book provides historical and rational background which helps to explain what makes a really effective management plan, and it presents a detailed practical guide to developing such a plan. It concludes with a series of case studies which clearly illustrate the underlying principles drawn out in the text, while highlighting the different approaches demanded by very different sites.

By Mike Alexander (2008, 444 pp.). Springer-Verlag, P.O. Box 105280, 69042, Heidelberg, Germany. Fax: +49 62 21/487-8366. Web: [www.springer.com](http://www.springer.com) ISBN 987 1 4020 6580 4. Net price: € 59,95

### 33. Saving the Earth as a Career

This book explores the major skills needed to become an effective conservation professional by offering useful advice on a range of topics. Chapters examine how to select the right educational program and develop an effective research project. Tips on writing papers, attending conferences, and finding employment are included.

By Malcolm L. Hunter et al. (200 pp. 2007). John Wiley & Sons Ltd, The Atrium, Southern Gate, Chichester, West Sussex PO19 8SQ, UK. Fax: +44 1243 775878. E-mail: [cs-books@wiley.co.uk](mailto:cs-books@wiley.co.uk) Web: [www.wiley.com](http://www.wiley.com) ISBN 978 1 4051 6761 1. Price £12.99

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## – EVENTS & TRAINING: 1<sup>ST</sup> ANNOUNCEMENTS –

This list includes the 1<sup>st</sup> Announcements of conferences and training courses, and highlights Eucc Conferences and Workshops. For a complete overview of conferences please visit:  
<http://www.coastalguide.org/meetings>

### October 20<sup>th</sup> –24<sup>th</sup>, 2008: Toulon – Marseille, France

#### **BIOMARINE: Towards an international Sea Policy: Inspiration from the European Model. Conference in the framework of the French EU Presidency.**

The Biomarine 2008 Forum is the official marine event of the French Presidency of the European Union. Eucc – The Coastal Union is a official partner of BIOMARINE.

Free registration for Eucc Members!

[www.biomarine.org](http://www.biomarine.org)

### November 3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup>, 2008, Stralsund, Germany

#### **BfN Conference on Marine Natura 2000 sites and fisheries management: The results of the EMPAS project**

The Federal Agency for Nature Conservation (BfN [www.bfn.de](http://www.bfn.de)) has the pleasure to announce and invite to the above mentioned conference, which will take place in the new premises of the German Oceanographic Museum (DMM) in Stralsund. At the conference the process and final results of the BfN/ICES research project "Environmentally Sound Fisheries Management in Marine Protected Areas, EMPAS" will be presented and the consequences discussed in the European context.

Contact Christian Pusch ([christian.pusch@bfn-vilm.de](mailto:christian.pusch@bfn-vilm.de)) for more information

### November 25<sup>th</sup> –28<sup>th</sup>, 2008: Venice, Italy

#### **LITTORAL 2008 - A CHANGING COAST: CHALLENGE THE ENVIRONMENTAL POLICIES**

CORILA, Eucc - The Coastal Union and EUROCOAST have the pleasure to invite you to participate in this LITTORAL 2008, 9<sup>th</sup> International Conference.

#### **Updated PROGRAMME ONLINE**

For more information visit the official website at: [www.littoral2008.corila.it/](http://www.littoral2008.corila.it/)

and/or contact: [littoral2008@corila.it](mailto:littoral2008@corila.it)

### April 13<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup>, 2009, Lisbon, Portugal

#### **10<sup>th</sup> International Coastal Symposium, ICS 2009**

The ICS 2009 will be held in Lisbon (Portugal) from 13<sup>th</sup> to 18<sup>th</sup> April 2009, a joint organization of the e-Geo - Geography and Regional Planning Research Centre of the Universidade Nova de Lisboa and the Coastal Education & Research Foundation. All papers accepted, after being peer-reviewed, will be published in a Special Issue of the Journal of Coastal Research, one of the leading journals in the field of coastal research. The conference themes are: Acoustic Remote Sensing, Barrier Islands, Beach Processes, Climate Change, Coastal Dunes, Coastal Ecosystems, Coastal Engineering, Coastal Evolution, Coastal Geomorphology, Coastal Hazards and Pollution, Coastal Modelling, Coastal Restoration & Mitigation, Coastal Tourism, Coastal Zone Management, Delta Plain Management, Estuarine & Wetland Restoration, GIS and Remote Sensing Applications, Impact of Extreme Storms, Integrated Catchment and Coastal Zone Management

**Important date:** Early Registration until 21st of November 2008

For more information please visit <http://e-geo.fcsh.unl.pt/ICS2009/index.html>

### August 10<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup>, 2009, OZEANEUM /DMM, Stralsund, Germany

#### **2nd International Conference on Progress in Marine Conservation in Europe 2009**

The conference covers current marine nature conservation issues in Europe aimed at a wide range of participants such as policy makers, conservation managers, scientists and inter- and non-governmental organizations. This 2nd conference is the continuation of the successful initial conference in 2006 and offers a regular international forum for in-depth discussion of new and emerging issues in this field. Attendance is limited to 250 participants.

Invited presentations of scientists, conservation managers, policy makers, IGOs and NGOs will focus on:

- Reviewing the current status of the implementation of European marine protected area networks with regard to the 2010 marine conservation aims;
- Assessing progress, success and problems encountered in the management of anthropogenic impacts and climate change;
- Discussing the necessary first steps towards meeting the biodiversity aims of the new European Marine Strategy Directive.

More information on the conference will be posted in due course on our website: [www.habitatmare.de](http://www.habitatmare.de)

## – COLOPHON –

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