

EUCC COASTAL GUIDE NEWS  
No 3, 26 February, 2003

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\* INTERNATIONAL NEWS IN BRIEF\*

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- 1) Row about cockle fishery in the Dutch Wadden Sea

Last week the Dutch nature organisation "Wilde Kokkels" (Wild Cockles) reported illegal cockle fishery near the isle of Vlieland to the Inspection of the Ministry of Agriculture, Nature management and Fisheries (AID-LNV). The cockle fishery branch insinuated that Wilde Kokkels published manipulated pictures of a cockle vessel that was fishing near Vlieland on their website. The nature organisation says that because of this insinuation it started thinking that something must be wrong with the pictured activities of the vessel. They checked the agreement with the fishers and it appeared that the vessel was fishing up a cockle bench that was reserved for birds. The pictures were taken by the well known and independent Dutch nature photographer Martijn de Jonge. Wilde Kokkels has lodged a complaint against the cockle branch for libel. All Dutch Nature Organisations involved with the Wadden Sea claim that the cockle industry is destroying the ecosystem because it over fishes the cockles that should be reserved for birds and it destroys the bottom texture of the Wadden Sea. More information: <http://www.wildekokkels.nl/>, <http://www.martijndejonge.nl/>, <http://www.kokkels.nl/> (all in Dutch)

## 2) Spanish protest over Prestige slick

On 23 February hundred of thousands of people have taken to the streets of Madrid in protest at the Spanish government's handling of the Prestige oil tanker disaster. Last week Greenpeace asked the European Commission to prosecute Spain over its handling of the Prestige tanker disaster, saying it breached EU waste laws by letting the ship sink and release its toxic cargo. Also a Spanish judge has placed three senior government officials under official investigation for their roles in the oil spill from a sunken tanker last November. The Spanish government announced on 15 February that the disaster will cost the Spanish state at least 1 billion Euros. The government has asked the European Commission and the International Oil Pollution Compensation (IOPC) Funds to help foot the bill.

More information:

<http://www.cnn.com/2003/WORLD/europe/02/23/spain.prestige/index.html>

<http://www.cnn.com/2003/TECH/science/02/20/spain.tanker.reut/index.html>

<http://www.cnn.com/2003/WORLD/europe/02/18/spain.ship/index.html>

<http://www.environmentdaily.com/articles/index.cfm?action=article&ref=13653&searchtext=prestige&searchtype=All>

<http://www.foe.co.uk/pubsinfo/briefings/html/20021126160752.html>

<http://www.iopcfund.org/prestige.htm>

## 3) Japan, Norway and Iceland condemn anti-whaling nations

Two weeks ago three of the world's pro-whaling nations – Japan, Iceland and Norway – lashed out at anti-whaling forces, saying they had made a travesty of the International Whaling Commission. The IWC's annual meeting in Japan last year left the organization divided between whaling nations and those who don't want to end the ban on commercial whaling. Norway commercially whales despite a 1986 IWC moratorium, and Iceland, readmitted to the IWC last year, also intends to resume commercial whaling in 2006 or later. Japan carries out what it calls "scientific research whaling" although much of the meat ends up in stores and restaurants. Iceland was readmitted to the IWC at a special meeting last October in a narrow vote of 19 in favour and 18 against. During the visit of Iceland's prime minister Oddson to his colleague Koizumi in Japan, both prime ministers agreed that 'scientific whaling' is necessary as step towards the restart of commercial whaling. Japanese officials conclude from the remarks of Oddson that Iceland wants to start scientific whaling. Australia, one of the anti-whaling nations, has filed a formal protest against Iceland's readmission to the group, saying Iceland intends to resume commercial whaling.

Sources: <http://www.minlnv.nl/infomart/lba/2003/03/lba66.htm> (in Dutch)

<http://www.nunatsiaq.com/news/arctic/briefs.html>

## 4) German nature organisations criticise windfarm planning

Mid December 2002 the German Nature Organisation Naturschutzbund Deutschland (NABU) criticised the approval, by the Federal Ministry of Sea Shipping and Hydrography, of a permit for the construction of a windpark 34 km offshore from Sylt. The windfarm "Butendiek" is planned within an area that the NABU proposed as a EU-Birdreserve. According to NABU the windfarm should be located more to the west. The WWF also criticised the policy for the protection of sea and birds in relation with windfarms (see Coastal Guide News 2003-1). In November 2002 NABU proposed a nature reserve concept for the German part of the North and Baltic Sea to the German federal government. NABU asks for 7 Reserves and claims that the realisation of the Natura 2000 Network is very urgent because of the threats of overfishing, pollution, plans for about 30 windparks and winning of sand and grid. The Schleswig-Holstein National park announced the first results of a study of the distribution of marine mammals and birds in the North and Baltic Sea (project MINOS). The results of this project will make it possible to choose ecologically acceptable locations for windfarms. The final results of MINOS will be published in the end of 2003.

More information: <http://www.wwf.de/presse/pressearchiv/artikel/00977/index.html>  
(in German)

#### 5) Assay of Dutch flood defence system

On 13 February 2003 the Dutch government reported the results of the first 5 yearly assay of the defence structures against flooding, which is obliged according to the Wet op de Waterkeringen (Law on Flood Defence), to the parliament. Of the total length of defence structures (3558 km) 50 % meets the requirements, 15 % does not meet the requirements and for the other 35 % further assessment is needed. The government already knew about the largest part of the structures that don't meet the requirements and already started to work on them. Recently it was discovered that the forces of waves on the sea defence structures are higher than assumed previously. 716 million euro has been reserved for strengthening of the weaker spots of the sea defence structures.

More information:

[www.minvenw.nl/cend/dco/nieuws/cgi-bin/vwn\\_p.pl?arch\\_srcID=1602&id=1](http://www.minvenw.nl/cend/dco/nieuws/cgi-bin/vwn_p.pl?arch_srcID=1602&id=1) (in Dutch)

#### 6) Only consumers can save cod

The Marine Conservation (MSC) Society Good Fish Guide revised second edition was published on 28 January 2003. The Guide contains the latest scientific information on the state of our fish stocks, as well as information about how fish are caught and the environmental and social impacts of fishing. For the conscientious consumer concerned about the impacts of eating fish on the marine environment and its wildlife, the MCS Good Fish Guide provides specific advice on which fish to avoid and which to eat. Extra motivation for this publication is the fact that cod stocks are at their lowest ever recorded levels and urgent action is needed to prevent their collapse in the very near future. MSC says that scientific advice has consistently been ignored in favour of weaker measures to protect stocks. According to MSC Politicians - and the industry itself - have blown it and only consumers can save cod now.

The Good Fish Guide is available at: <http://www.mcsuk.org>

Source: <http://www.seas-at-risk.org/bulletin/SAR%20Bulletin%20No.%2039.msg>

#### 7) International news survey

##### Europe - EU agrees TBT anti-fouling paint ban

The EU has finalised a law banning the application of organotin anti-fouling agents to ships by July this year, and outlawing any presence of organotins on hulls entirely by 2008. The new regulation is the EU's response to a worldwide ban on organotins such as TBT agreed by the international maritime organisation (IMO) but yet to enter force. TBT damages marine and coastal ecosystems.

Source:

<http://www.environmentdaily.com/articles/index.cfm?action=article&ref=13891>

Regulation text: <http://register.consilium.eu.int/pdf/en/02/st03/st03674en02.pdf>

##### Europe - Flame retardant controls confirmed

The EU's official journal has published the final text of a new directive phasing out the brominated flame retardants penta and octabromodiphenyl ether by 15 August next year. These compounds damage marine and coastal ecosystems.

Source:

<http://www.environmentdaily.com/articles/index.cfm?action=article&ref=13887>

Directive text:

[http://europa.eu.int/eur-lex/en/dat/2003/l\\_042/l\\_04220030215en00450046](http://europa.eu.int/eur-lex/en/dat/2003/l_042/l_04220030215en00450046).

##### Europe - Species and habitats to be protected under OSPAR

During their meeting in Dublin on 20-24 January 2003 the Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment of the North-East Atlantic (OSPAR) Biodiversity Committee discussed the selection of species and habitats that

should be protected under the OSPAR convention Annex V. The initial list will be put forward to OSPAR 2003 (23-27 June) for adoption.  
More information: <http://www.ngo.grida.no/wwfneap/Publication/subm.htm#Ospar2003>  
Source: <http://www.seas-at-risk.org/bulletin/SAR%20Bulletin%20No.%2039.msg>

#### Europe - Århus right-to-information law takes effect

An EU directive increasing the public's rights of access to environmental information came into force on Friday when the law was published in the bloc's official journal.

Source:

<http://www.environmentdaily.com/articles/index.cfm?action=article&ref=13863>

Directive:

[http://europa.eu.int/eur-lex/en/dat/2003/l\\_041/l\\_04120030214en00260032](http://europa.eu.int/eur-lex/en/dat/2003/l_041/l_04120030214en00260032).

#### Baltic area - Nordics intensify campaign for safety in Baltic

The Swedish and Finnish environment ministers have called for the Baltic sea to be designated a "particularly sensitive sea area" (PSSA) by the International maritime organisation (IMO).

Source:

<http://www.environmentdaily.com/articles/index.cfm?action=article&ref=13875>

#### Norway - Historic claim against PCB producers

The City of Oslo, Department of Environment, has directed a claim of 7 million euros to three multinational chemical companies responsible for severely contaminating the Oslo fjord with Polychlorinated Biphenyls (PCBs).

Source: <http://www.seas-at-risk.org/bulletin/SAR%20Bulletin%20No.%2039.msg>

#### Denmark - Cod overboard

Danish fishers are suspected to sort out the largest cods and to throw the rest of their catches overboard, to earn as much as possible within the boundaries of their quota. Most of the fishes that are thrown overboard won't survive. This side effect of the quota will decrease the cod stock even further. Additional problem is that there is no instrument to pursue this practice.

Source: <http://www.minlnv.nl/infomart/lba/2003/04/lba10.htm> (in Dutch)

#### Scotland - Floodline service praised

At the launch of Flood Awareness Week in October 2002 Deputy Environment Minister Allan Wilson praised the Scottish Environmental Protection Agency (SEPA) for its work on the Floodline service, which was introduced in 2001.

More information: <http://www.sepa.org.uk/flooding/>

<http://www.sepa.org.uk/publications/sepaview/html/14/floodline.htm>

#### Scotland - New vessel for SEPA

In September 2002 the Scottish Executive awarded the funding for a new scientific survey vessel to the Scottish Environmental Protection Agency (SEPA). The vessel will extend the range of SEPA's Tidal Water teams to all parts of Scotland.

<http://www.sepa.org.uk/publications/sepaview/html/14/vessel.htm>,

<http://www.sepa.org.uk/publications/sepaview/html/14/tidal.htm>

#### England - Restoration of salt marshes in northern Essex

The UK department for environment food and rural affairs (Defra) announced a plan to restore salt marshes near Weymarks in northern Essex, thus creating an attractive nature area for (migratory) birds. In addition the plan will prevent local flooding.

<http://www.defra.gov.uk/wildlife-countryside/ewd/weymarks/index.htm>

#### The Netherlands - Government claims costs from owner Tricolor

The removal and storage of oil that leaked from the sunken car transport vessel Tricolor cost the Dutch government more than a million Euros. The Ministry of

Transport and Water management announced on 14 February 2003 that it will try to recover the costs from the owner of the vessel or his insurance.  
<http://www.petrochem.nl/nws/nws.php?t=0#1933> (in Dutch)

#### The Netherlands - Dutch beaches loose Blue Flags

This year the Dutch beaches won't receive the Blue Flag, the international symbol for clean and safe beaches and marinas, because the pollution of the North Sea near the Dutch coast exceeds the standards of the European Swimming Water Directive. According to the ANWB, the organisation that awards the Blue Flags in the Netherlands, the pollution is caused by sewage overflow brought about by heavy rainfall.  
Source: de Volkskrant 18/2/03

#### Mediterranean - New: Euromediterranean Environmental Network (EEN)

This new network deals with environment as well as human rights and solidarity among Mediterranean people.  
Source: Festambiente News December 2002

#### Italy - Italy bans old oil tankers from ports

The Italian government has issued a draft decree banning single-hulled tankers over 15 years old and 5,000 tonnes dead weight from ports if they are carrying highly polluting oil products. Italy follows in the footsteps of France and Spain, which introduced similar controls last year in the wake of the Prestige oil spill.  
Source:  
<http://www.environmentdaily.com/articles/index.cfm?action=article&ref=13916>

#### Greece - Recent storms damaged Aqua Culture sector

The survival of the Aqua Culture sector in Greece is threatened by the damage of recent storms, large short term financial obligations, increasing prices of fish food, high production costs and low prices for the products. In response Seafarm Ionian Fishfarms plans a cooperation with the investment company EuroShareholder and the formation of the 'Seafarm Group of Companies'.  
Source: <http://www.minlnv.nl/infomart/lba/2003/05/lba30.htm> (in Dutch)

#### Greece - No progress after proposal for fish reserve

By request of local fishers in the area near Kastellorizo (Dodecanesus), WWF Hellas has done research with its own budget to the possibility of a fish reserve with a surface of 1,5 sq. km. This resulted in a proposal that was presented to the Greek government one and a half year ago. Though minister Drys promised support for the realisation of fish reserves publicly, nothing happened to put the proposal into practice. When asked, a representative of the ministry said he didn't know whether the proposal has reached the minister. He also indicated that not all fishers approve with the proposal and that a long time will pas before the ministry will answer to the proposal, if it's answered at all, because the ministry is very busy.  
Source: <http://www.minlnv.nl/infomart/lba/2003/05/lba43.htm> (in Dutch)

#### Japan - Toxines in whales

Researchers from the Japanese Ministry of Health, studied several varieties of whale meat and found many samples contain unacceptable levels of toxic chemicals, such as polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) and methyl mercury. The poisonous substances were mostly detected in fat and muscle samples from five Baird's beaked whales captured off the northern Sanriku region and in the Sea of Okhotsk.  
Source: <http://www.deerharborcharters.com/news.html>

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\* NEW IN THE EUCC COASTAL GUIDE WEBSITE \*  
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8) New hyperlinks

Coastal and Marine Management Website - The World Bank  
<http://www.worldbank.org/icm>

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\* COASTAL PUBLICATIONS \*  
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9) Farmers sow and Baltic reaps algae

Article about constant organic pollution of the Baltic Sea, mainly from agricultural sources. The Bulletin, REC, December 2002. Available on line:  
[http://bulletin.rec.org/bull1113/cover\\_sea.html](http://bulletin.rec.org/bull1113/cover_sea.html)

10) Connaissance et gestion durable des dunes de la côte atlantique

By Jean Favennec et al (2002, 394 pp.). Mission Office National des Forêts, B.P. 903, 33061 Bordeaux Cedex, France. Fax 05 56 98 41 07. Email: [Jean.favennec@onf.fr](mailto:Jean.favennec@onf.fr). ISBN 2 84207 257 X.

This book (with abstract and layman's report in English) reproduces the implementation of an european Life Environment project on the rehabilitation and the sustainable management of four French dunes.

11) Managing a Sea. The Ecological Economics of the Baltic

By Ing-Marie Gren, Kerry Turner and Fredrik Wulff (2000,138 pp.). Earthscan Publications Ltd, 120 Pentonville Road, London N1 9BR, U.K. Fax +171 278 1142. E-mail: [earthinfo@earthscan.co.uk](mailto:earthinfo@earthscan.co.uk). Web: [www.earthscan.co.uk](http://www.earthscan.co.uk). ISBN 1 85383 608 7. Price \$16.95.

Marine resources and fish stocks are now high on the international and economic research agendas, and the management of highly complex marine ecosystems is increasingly important. This interdisciplinary volume presents a comprehensive blueprint for managing a sea. Focused on the Baltic Sea, it employes a range of methods and techniques. From the analysis of data it presents significant and highly practical empirical and policy results. It diagnoses the causes of marine degradation and sets out the policies to be pursued collectively by the countries around the Baltic Sea.

12) Küstendünen als Lebensraum für Nematoden

By Katrin Goralsczyk (2002, 161 pp.). GCA-Verlag der GCA mbH, Bahnhofstr.31, D 58313 Herdecke, Germany. Fax +2330 2207. E-mail: [info@gca-verlag.de](mailto:info@gca-verlag.de). Web: [www.gca-verlag.de](http://www.gca-verlag.de). ISBN 3 89863 095 1.

This thesis (University of Bremen. In German with summary in English) deals on the nematodes of 27 dune sites along a successional sere. The focus of this study was on nematode distribution in the dune area, soil food web composition and the habitat character of different dune types for nematodes.

13) Veldgids - Flora en Fauna van de Zee (Field guide - Flora and Fauna of the Sea)

By Rob Leewis (2002, 320 pp), KNNV Uitgeverij, Utrecht, the Netherlands. : [www.knnvuitgeverij.nl/www/index.htm](http://www.knnvuitgeverij.nl/www/index.htm) ISBN: 90 5011 153, EURO 27,95 In Dutch In this field guide almost 250 species (fungi, lichens, algae, plants and animals) of the Dutch salt water are described, esp. the most common and good visible ones, but also some rare and less visible. Of every species is given in a scheme its occurrence ( supra, inter or super littoral) and ecotype (open water, substrate). The guide is illustrated with, often very beautiful, pictures. Published in the same serie: Een complete veldgids van Nederlandse Zeevissen (A complete field guide of Sea fish in the Netherlands), by Han

Nijssen (2002, 182 pp), KNNV Uitgeverij, Utrecht, the Netherlands, ISBN: 90 5011 1394. In Dutch. [www.knnvuitgeverij.nl/www/index.htm](http://www.knnvuitgeverij.nl/www/index.htm)).

#### 14) Coastal & Marine Management. Solutions for Integrations

By Dr.R. Earl, Candle Cottage, Kempsey, Glos GL18 2BU, U.K. Fax +1531 890415. Website [www.coastms.co.uk](http://www.coastms.co.uk).

This proceedings (CoastNET conference, October 2001) aim at those realistic steps - solutions to integration - which will help deliver pragmatic improvements in the effectiveness of the management of the coastal and marine development. Integrated coastal management has been debated exhaustively, but "integration" will be implemented in a series of smaller, pragmatic steps.

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\* ANNOUNCEMENTS \*  
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#### 15) Events recently announced

March 6, 2003

Marine Aggregates and Biodiversity: Developing a Common Understanding, CoastNET & The WildlifeTrusts conference, SOAS University of London, UK. Info: <http://www.coastms.co.uk>

May 15, 2003

Beaches and Bathing Waters: Implications for the Revision of the Bathing Water Directive, CIWEM conference, SOAS University of London, UK. Info: <http://www.coastms.co.uk>

June 9-15, 2003

The Sixth International Training Workshop on Beach Management in the Mediterranean and the Black Sea, Kusadasi, Turkey. Info: MEDCOAST, tel: +90 312 210 54 29 / +90 312 210 24 97, fax: 90 312 210 14 12, e-mail: [medcoast@metu.edu.tr](mailto:medcoast@metu.edu.tr), website: [http://www.metu.edu.tr/home/wwwmdcst/bm2003/bm\\_main.htm](http://www.metu.edu.tr/home/wwwmdcst/bm2003/bm_main.htm)

June 26, 2003

Biodiversity Conservation in the Marine Environment, CoastNET Conference, SOAS University of London, UK. Info: <http://www.coastms.co.uk>

June 26-28, 2003

Coastal Erosion: Problems and Solutions, Balkan Environmental Association and others, Mangalia, Romania. Info: Luminita Serbanescu, RO-B.EN.A. National Bureau, e-mail : [mi.cu@xnet.ro](mailto:mi.cu@xnet.ro), tel: +40-21-412 01 04, fax: +40-21-410 05 75

July 3, 2003

Seminar on Doppler Current Profilers and Aquadopp single point current meter. Info: Prof. Francisco Taveira Pinto, Hydraulics and Water Resources Institute, tel:+351 22 508 1966, fax: :+351 22 508 1952, e-mail: [fpinto@fe.up.pt](mailto:fpinto@fe.up.pt)

July 4, 2003

Seminar on Acoustic Doppler Velocimeters. Info: Prof. Francisco Taveira Pinto, Hydraulics and Water Resources Institute, tel:+351 22 508 1966, fax: :+351 22 508 1952, e-mail: [fpinto@fe.up.pt](mailto:fpinto@fe.up.pt)

September 1-6, 2003

International Summer Course on Coastal Zone Management on the Atlantic Coast, Advanced Study Institute, Porto, Portugal. Info: Prof. Francisco Taveira Pinto, Hydraulics and Water Resources Institute, tel:+351 22 508 1966, fax: :+351 22 508 1952, e-mail: [fpinto@fe.up.pt](mailto:fpinto@fe.up.pt), website <http://www.fe.up.pt/~fpinto/Scourse>.

September 10-14, 2003

6TH International Cormorant Research Group Conference, Odessa, Ukraine. Info:  
Dr. Ivan Rusev, e-mail: wildlife@paco.net, fax: +38 0482 23-12-20.

October 16 to 18, 2003

CoastGIS '03, 5th international symposium on computer mapping and geographic  
information systems (GIS) for coastal zone management, Genoa, Italy. Info:  
<http://www.gisig.it/coastgis/>

16) Ocean Yearbook - call for papers and student paper competition

The International Ocean Institute publishes the Ocean Yearbook, with original  
peer-reviewed articles, reviews, and reference materials from experts in diverse  
fields. Submission of papers by 31 May 2003. The Ocean Yearbook has an annual  
competition for student research papers on marine affairs subjects. The deadline  
for submission for this years competition is 15 May 2003. Info: website:  
<http://www.dal.ca/~wwlaw/melp/oyb.html>

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Deadline for submitting contributions to Coastal Guide News No 4, 2003:  
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<http://www.coastalguide.org/news>

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