

## ***~ FUNDY TIDINGS ~***

The Quarterly Newsletter of the  
Bay of Fundy Ecosystem Partnership (BoFEP)

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Winter, 2006

For up-to-date information about BoFEP and its activities visit: [www.bofep.org](http://www.bofep.org)

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#### **A. BoFEP AND ITS ACTIVITIES:**

##### **1. Call for Papers – 7<sup>th</sup> Bay of Fundy Science Workshop**

The 7<sup>th</sup> Bay of Fundy Science Workshop, hosted by the Huntsman Marine Science Centre, will be held October 25<sup>th</sup> - 27<sup>th</sup>, 2006 at the Fairmont Algonquin in St. Andrews-by-the-Sea, New Brunswick. The workshop theme "Challenges in Environmental Management in the Bay of Fundy-Gulf of Maine" encourages us to reflect on changes to the environment, causes for the changes and how to raise awareness in order to maintain sustainability.

March 31, 2006 is the deadline for submitting abstracts for papers and posters to:  
Mail: Huntsman Marine Science Centre, 1 Lower Campus Road, St. Andrews, NB E5N 2L6

Fax: (506)529-1212 e-mail: [workshop@bofep.org](mailto:workshop@bofep.org)

A workshop information package will be mailed to BoFEP members and other interested individuals early in the New Year. Additional details, including workshop registration and accommodation forms, are now posted on the BoFEP Website at:

<http://www.bofep.org/workshop2006.htm>

The deadline for submitting registration and accommodation forms is August 4, 2006.

Queries can be sent to: [workshop@bofep.org](mailto:workshop@bofep.org)

## **2. BoFEP Steering and Management Committees Elected at AGM**

Welcome to the following new members of the BoFEP Steering Committee elected at the BoFEP AGM on October 26, 2005: Lucia Fanning (*EC*), Romney McPhie (*Dalhousie/BIO*), Ashley Sprague (*UNB*) and Mick Burt (*UNB*). The complete list of all 23 Steering Committee members and their alternates can be found at: [www.bofep.org/steering.htm/](http://www.bofep.org/steering.htm/).

The new Steering Committee elected the following BoFEP officers for 2005-2006:

Chair – Barry Jones

Past Chair - Graham Daborn (*ex officio*) (*alternate: Anna Redden*)

Vice Chair - Peter Wells

Secretary - Nancy Roscoe Huntley (*pro tem*)

Treasurer – Patricia Hinch

At large - Hugh Akagi, Marianne Janowicz, Mark TeKamp

## **3. Constitutional Changes Passed at AGM**

Several changes to the BoFEP Constitution and Bylaws were adopted at the 2005 AGM. These mainly involved adding the past chair as an ex officio member of the Steering and Management Committees, allowing Steering Committee members to designate an alternate to attend meetings in their stead, reducing the quorums for AGMs (to 25 or 10% of members) and Steering Committee meetings (to one third of members) and specifying notice required (2 days) for a Management Committee Meeting. The Chair has also reorganized the constitution and bylaws to make them more user-friendly and to remove several redundancies and discrepancies. The revised document has recently been reprinted and will be circulated to all registered BoFEP members. The revised constitution <http://www.bofep.org/constitu.htm/> and bylaws <http://www.bofep.org/bylaws.htm/> have also been posted on the BoFEP website.

## **4. Victoria Sheppard Interns with UNEP's Regional Seas Program**

BoFEP student member Victoria Sheppard presented an excellent paper based on her thesis "*Developing a Strategic Framework for the Establishment of National Marine Conservation Areas in the Bay of Fundy*" at the 6<sup>th</sup> BoFEP Workshop. Since then she has been selected for the International Institute for Sustainable Development (IISD) Young Canadian Leaders for a Sustainable Future Internship Program

(<http://www.iisd.org/interns/>) and is presently working with UNEP's Regional Seas Programme (<http://www.unep.org/regionalseas/>) at its headquarters in Nairobi, Kenya.

This is an international programme that seeks to sustainably manage regional bodies of water through multinational cooperation, and the establishment of legally-binding conventions, to address shared marine environmental issues. It aims "to address the accelerating degradation of the world's oceans and coastal areas through the sustainable management and use of the marine and coastal environment, by engaging neighbouring countries in comprehensive and specific actions to protect their shared marine environment." Victoria is coordinating an international research project that is looking at the status of Marine and Coastal Protected Areas (MCPAs) in the Regional Seas. The resulting UNEP technical report will make recommendations about the future establishment of a network of MCPAs in the Regional Seas. BoFEP wishes Victoria every success in this challenging new venture.

#### **5. New Publications Posted on BoFEP Website:**

The following publications have recently been added to the BoFEP Website in PDF format:

a) Proceedings of 6<sup>th</sup> Bay of Fundy Workshop:

<http://www.bofep.org/PDF%20files/BoFEP6thProceedings.pdf/>

b) Proceedings of Bay of Fundy Coastal Forum:

<http://www.bofep.org/PDF%20files/COASTAL%20FORUM%20WORKSHOP%20RPT.pdf/>

c) BoF Tidal Barriers GIS Database Development - report:

[http://www.bofep.org/Publications/barrierGIS/BOFwebsite/vanProosdij\\_Dobek2005finalreport.pdf/](http://www.bofep.org/Publications/barrierGIS/BOFwebsite/vanProosdij_Dobek2005finalreport.pdf/)

d) Fisheries Management Issue in the Upper Bay of Fundy - final report:

<http://www.bofep.org/PDF%20files/Final%20ReportUBFFMPPJuly05.pdf/>

#### **6. Hugh Akagi Retires from DFO**

We extend warmest good wishes to Hugh Akagi, long time BoFEP supporter and Steering Committee member, as he begins his well deserved retirement from DFO in St. Andrews on December 9<sup>th</sup>, 2005. We are delighted to report that Hugh has agreed to devote some of his newly freed-up time to serving on the BoFEP Management Committee. Congratulations Hugh!

#### **7. Funding Support under BoFEP-GOMCME Cooperation Agreement**

As described in the last newsletter BoFEP and the Gulf of Maine Council has entered into a three year agreement - details at [www.bofep.org/gomcme\\_bofep\\_agreement.htm](http://www.bofep.org/gomcme_bofep_agreement.htm) ) - that allows BoFEP to implement aspects of its workplan directly relevant to the goals and objectives of the Gulf of Maine Council Action Plan. As part of this agreement GOMCME provides \$10, 000US per year so that BoFEP can undertake project initiatives of mutual interest. BOFEP members and Working Groups are advised that there will be an opportunity to submit proposals under the third year of the Cooperation Agreement in 2006. Further details will follow in the next newsletter when we have more information on the goals, objectives and of the revised GOMCME Action Plan and its project focus/emphasis. Information about this agreement and other potential funding sources will be posted as it becomes available at: <http://www.bofep.org/funding.htm> .

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## **B. PARTNERS AND OTHER ORGANIZATIONS:**

### **8. Workshop on Sustainable Energy**

**"Finding the Power to Prosper: Sustainable and Renewable Energy in Atlantic Canada"..... a workshop that will explore the available technology along with opportunities and challenges of providing sustainable energy to communities, businesses and residents. May 11-13, 2006, Rodd Miramichi River Hotel, Miramichi, New Brunswick. Hosted by ACAP, SGS LCS and APEGNB - Northeastern Branch. For information please contact the Miramichi River Environmental Assessment Committee at (506)778-8591 or [mreac@nbnet.nb.ca](mailto:mreac@nbnet.nb.ca)**

#### **9. EMAN Nearshore Marine Monitoring Workshop**

The Environmental Monitoring and Assessment Network (EMAN) is coordinating a workshop on nearshore marine monitoring to be held at Bedford Institute of Oceanography, Dartmouth, NS, Feb 7-9, 2006. It is intended to facilitate collaboration and coordination among groups conducting monitoring in nearshore marine environments across Canada and to attempt to merge scientific information with management needs. Monitoring groups working in Canada's coastal zones are encouraged to submit posters and displays for the workshop. You will have 1-2 minutes to describe your poster in the plenary session as a "teaser". Please indicate the title of the poster, contributor, organization, and a brief summary description (250 words or less). A "handouts" table will also be available. A limited number of subsidies will be available to offset travel costs for qualified recipients

To register for the workshop, send an email to [eman@ec.gc.ca](mailto:eman@ec.gc.ca) noting in the subject line "Registration: Nearshore Marine Workshop". Please include,

- Your full name
- Organizational affiliation (if any)
- Dietary needs
- Date(s) of attendance

For more information visit: <http://www.eman-rese.ca/eman/reports/meetings/marine2006/intro.html> or contact [Marlene.Doyle@ec.gc.ca](mailto:Marlene.Doyle@ec.gc.ca) or call 905.336.4418.  
[Submitted by Maxine Westhead]

#### **10. GOMCME Action Plan Grants Program Request for Proposals**

Through its Action Plan Grants Program, the Gulf of Maine Council on the Marine Environment (GOMC) awards grants to non-governmental organizations, municipalities, and schools throughout the Gulf of Maine watershed. The purpose of the grants is to further the goals of the Council while assisting worthy applicants with their own programs to the benefit of the inhabitants of the Gulf of Maine region. The Council invites eligible organizations to apply for funding. The Council requests proposals for projects that will address the content, technical, and educational aspects of the Gulf of Maine Council on the Marine Environment Action Plan 2001-2006. The goals, objectives, and actions may be found in the Action Plan at [www.gulfofmaine.org/council/action\\_plan](http://www.gulfofmaine.org/council/action_plan). Grant applications should cite specific actions from this Plan that the proposed project will address. The Council priority this year is on proposals that substantively address ecosystem-based

management and accelerate citizen stewardship activities. The Request for Proposals (RFP) and application forms can be downloaded at:

<http://www.gulfofmaine.org/council/opportunities>

Applications must be submitted by email no later than JANUARY 13, 2006.

For information contact Cynthia Krum at tel. 207.799.7474. or e-mail:

[ckrum@maine.rr.com](mailto:ckrum@maine.rr.com)

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## **C. FUNDY AND OTHER NEWS:**

### **11. A Guide to Land Use Planning in Maritimes Available**

"A Guide to Land Use Planning in Coastal Areas of the Maritime Provinces" has been prepared by P.L. Stewart, R.J. Rutherford, H.A. Levy, and J.M. Jackson, Oceans and Environment Branch Maritimes Region, Department of Fisheries and Oceans. The Guide is divided into a series of overviews and fact sheets that cover key land-use planning and related topics, including coastal environments and maritime ecosystems, legislative frameworks for planning, and engineering aspects of coastal structures. It also presents desirable approaches and best management practices. The Guide is available online at <http://www.mar.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/oceans/e/ocmd/final%20version%20-%20a%20guide%20to%20land%20use%20planning.pdf>.

### **12. Eelgrass Restoration Site Selection Model Available on CD-ROM**

Fred Short and Dave Burdick of the Jackson Estuarine Laboratory, University of New Hampshire have developed a spatial model to assist in determining optimal locations for restoration of eelgrass (*Zostera marina*). The scientific basis of the model can be found in: Short, F.T., R.C. Davis, B.S. Kopp, C.A. Short and D.M. Burdick. 2002. Site selection model for optimal restoration of eelgrass, *Zostera marina* L. Marine Ecology Progress Series 227: 253–267. This model is now available at no cost on CD-ROM to anyone interested in eelgrass restoration efforts. Efforts are underway in many places to restore eelgrass habitat. Site selection for eelgrass transplanting and seeding is the single most determinant of success. The Site Selection Model prioritizes locations for eelgrass transplant or seeding restoration through an estuary-wide scientific assessment. The model creates maps showing ranked areas of potential eelgrass restoration by synthesizing available GIS data on bathymetry, sediment type, water quality, and wave exposure, as well as past and present eelgrass distribution. The model runs on any PC equipped with PERL and on Macintosh computers using Virtual PC. Distribution of the CD-ROMs is made possible by a grant from The Cooperative Institute for Coastal and Estuarine Environmental Technology (CICEET).

For copies of the CD contact: Steve Bliven, Bliven & Sternack, 49 Plains Field Drive, South Dartmouth, MA 02748

(508) 997-3826, [Steve.Bliven@comcast.net](mailto:Steve.Bliven@comcast.net)

### **13. Tidal Barriers in the Bay of Fundy - EAC Reports Available**

The Coastal Issues Committee of the Nova Scotia Ecology Action Centre has been conducting tidal barrier audits around the Bay of Fundy since 2001. As part of this project,

obstructions to tidal waters and the effects on salt marshes and fish habitat were assessed and recommendations for restoration were made. The results of these audits are now available on CD as a series of reports, along with other relevant EAC publications. For information or to order a CD of these reports, email [tidalbarriers@ecologyaction.ca](mailto:tidalbarriers@ecologyaction.ca).

#### **14. Rising Interest in Tidal Energy in the Bay of Fundy**

After decades of seeming dormancy, engineers and others interested in exploiting the powerful tides of Fundy are coming forward again with new proposals for harnessing the flowing waters in a purportedly more environmentally benign manner. The Minas Basin seems to be of particular interest. According to a story in the Chronicle Herald on 21/11/2005 Nova Scotia (in conjunction with NB, Maine, Massachusetts, California, Washington and Alaska) is funding a study "to examine the viability of tidal current power in the waters bordering these provinces and states". The author concludes, "when this study is completed in the spring of 2006, the Bay of Fundy will be singled out as one of the sites with great potential. Pilot projects would be the logical follow-up."

The complete article can be viewed at: <http://www.herald.ns.ca/Search/466072.html>

Thanks to Maxine Westhead for the following additional recent media items on this topic:

<http://www.theglobeandmail.com/servlet/story/RTGAM.20051020.gtfundy1020/>

[http://www.cbc.ca/nb/story/nb\\_tidepower20051018.html](http://www.cbc.ca/nb/story/nb_tidepower20051018.html)

<http://www.cbc.ca/story/canada/national/2005/10/19/tidal-power051019.html>

<http://canadaeast.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20051021/TPMONEY04/51021002>

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#### **D. ADMINISTTRIVIA**

Fundy Tidings is circulated Quarterly to all registered members of BoFEP and other individuals who have expressed an interest in BoFEP and its activities. If you know of anyone who might like to receive Fundy Tidings or if you would like to be removed from the Fundy Tidings mailing list, simply e-mail a request to [communications@bofep.org](mailto:communications@bofep.org). For more news items about BoFEP, its partners and the Bay of Fundy periodically check the BoFEP What's New page at: <http://www.bofep.org/fundynews.htm>. You can also find the back issues of Fundy Tidings that are archived there.

If you would like to post an item in Fundy Tidings pertaining to BoFEP, its partners or the Bay of Fundy send it along to [communications@bofep.org](mailto:communications@bofep.org).

The submission deadlines are: March 1st, June 1st, September 1st, December 1st.