



**FINAL ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE
ACCESS/NEERS SPRING 2010 JOINT MEETING**
Atlantic Canada Coastal and Estuarine Science Society (www.cerf-access.ca)
New England Estuarine Research Society (www.neers.org)

13-16 MAY 2010
ST. ANDREWS BY-THE-SEA, NEW BRUNSWICK, CANADA
W.C. O'NEILL ARENA COMPLEX

HOSTED BY
Atlantic Canada Coastal Estuarine Science Society

IMPORTANT DATES (Additional details will be posted on the ACCESS and NEERS websites as they become available so be sure to check for late-breaking information):

April 28 – Online pre-registration due

May 1 – Last day for conference rate at Saint Andrews Motor Inn

May 5 – Pre-registration check due to Treasurer

May 13 – Social/mixer

May 14 – Trans-boundary Symposium, followed by contributed oral presentations and posters

May 15 – more contributed oral presentations and posters

May 16 – optional field trip, travel day

SPONSORS



The Woods Hole Sea Grant program supports research, education, and extension projects that encourage environmental stewardship, long-term economic development, and responsible use of the nation's coastal and ocean resources. www.whoi.edu/seagrant/



Hoskin Scientific Limited has been supplying environmental testing and monitoring instruments since 1946. www.hoskin.ca/



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Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO) and its Special Operating Agency delivers programs and services that support sustainable use and development of Canada's waterways and aquatic resources. www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/



Project UFO (Unidentified Foreign Organisms), by Cape Breton University (CBU) and Atlantic Coastal Action Program (ACAP) Cape Breton, increases public awareness about the invasive alien species that threaten our regional ecosystems. www.projectufo.ca/

MEETING SITE: The Atlantic Canada Coastal Estuarine Science Society (ACCESS) and the New England Estuarine Research Society (NEERS) will hold a joint Spring 2010 meeting Thursday to Sunday, 13-16 May, in St. Andrews by-the-Sea, New Brunswick, Canada. A welcoming reception will be held the evening of Thursday the 13th, papers will be presented all day Friday and all day Saturday the 14th and 15th, and field trip(s) will be Sunday morning, the 16th. This will be a great opportunity to meet and swap ideas with our over-the-border colleagues. For NEERS, this will be a return to the site of the very first NEERS out-of-country meeting in Spring 1979. This time, **passports are required**. Atlantic Standard Time (New Brunswick) happens one hour before Eastern Standard Time (New England). We have a unique opportunity to stay in inexpensive lodging at a marine lab. St. Andrews by-the-Sea is Canada's original seaside resort located on the shores of Passamaquoddy Bay with its huge tidal range, just 'over the line' from Calais, Maine. Major elements in the St. Andrews economy are ocean research and tourism. St. Andrews is home to the Department of Fisheries and Oceans Biological Station, the Huntsman Marine Science Centre, and the Atlantic Salmon Federation. The quaint village feel and many attractions from the Bay to a lively social scene make St. Andrews a popular destination. Conference attendees are sure to be enchanted by this lovely city. We look forward to your joining us!

SPECIAL NOT-THURSDAY SYMPOSIUM: NEERS traditionally holds a Thursday Symposium to kick-off our meetings but befitting this special joint meeting, we will instead have a special symposium on Friday morning entitled "*Trans-Boundary Issues: Effecting Policy and Management Change through Estuarine and Coastal Research - Learning from our Neighbours*". There will be keynote speakers and oral presentations related to Trans-Boundary Issues. Stay tuned for additional details, or contact Symposium organizers Simon Courtenay (Simon.Courtenay@dfo-mpo.gc.ca) or Martha Jones (martha_jones@cbu.ca).

CONTRIBUTED PRESENTATIONS : Contributed oral and poster presentations will be scheduled for Friday and Saturday, 14-15 May. Oral presentations will be limited to [15 minutes [with an additional 5 minutes for discussion. Poster presentations will be displayed throughout the meeting, and highlighted during a poster session. Students can compete for prizes for oral and poster presentations (see below). All NEERS presenters must be or become a NEERS member. Information on becoming a NEERS member is included on the pre-registration form, the website, or contact Ed Dettmann (Dettmann.Edward@epa.gov or 401-782-3039).

POWERPOINT PRESENTATIONS: Routine presentations (e.g. no animations, embedded video clips, etc.) can be loaded on the projection computer at the meeting. However, for talks with complicated graphics demands, it is better for both the projectionist and the presenter if the presentations are submitted before meeting travel has begun. PowerPoint presentations should be saved in PowerPoint 97-2003 formats (not .pptx formats) for PC (preferably not Mac). Please bring your PowerPoint presentations on USB flash drives when you check in at the conference registration desk. Please make sure your file can be read by another computer before you hand it in. Speakers should not plan to use their own computers for their presentations. For presentations that include graphics or media other than standard PowerPoint slides (e.g., complicated animations or embedded video clips; photographic slides or overheads), authors should contact Simon Courtenay (Simon.Courtenay@dfo-mpo.gc.ca) before the meeting.

POSTER GUIDELINES: Individual posters should not exceed 60 x 40 inches. Other than this size limit, there are no specific instructions for poster design. Posters should be prepared following standard good practice guidelines with text and figures being readable from a distance of 1-2 m. Posters can be designed in either landscape or portrait formats. Posters will be displayed by suspension from wire guidelines or on easels, room partitions or directly on walls. Push pins, tape and metal clips will be available to presenters to set up their posters at registration time. Presenters will be expected to be present during dedicated poster viewing sessions. Stay tuned for further details. If additional information is required on poster design, presentations and viewing please contact David Methven (DMethven@unbsj.ca).

STUDENT PRIZES: Special for this joint meeting: Double or Nothing! On one hand, all prize funds will be doubled from normal NEERS meetings; on the other hand, students from both societies will compete. There will be one panel of judges to select best graduate student oral presentation, best undergraduate oral, best graduate poster, and best undergraduate poster. NEERS provides \$100 for each of these prizes (Buck Ketchum Prize, Stubby Rankin Prize, David Dean Prize, Scott Warren Prize, respectively); these amounts will be supplemented with another \$100 in ACCESS prize funds. Additionally, there will be a Project UFO prize of \$150 will be awarded by ACCESS for the best undergraduate or graduate student presentation (oral or

poster) focused on Invasive Alien Species. All eligible students from both societies will be automatically entered into the appropriate presentation prize competition. Papers and posters are judged by a committee in terms of overall effectiveness, scientific content, and quality of the presentation. **Students are encouraged to review the scoring criteria posted on the NEERS web site.** Students who have won an award are not eligible for that award again, but can compete for a different award. Contributions towards the endowment fund for these prizes are appreciated, so give generously when you pre-register. **One free Banquet ticket is provided for the lead author of each student oral or poster presentation.**

STUDENT TRAVEL AWARDS: NEERS will award three \$200 travel awards to NEERS students. Additionally, awards have been donated by our sponsors: Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution Sea Grant is providing two travel awards to cover expenses up to \$500 for NEERS students. ACCESS will handle travel awards for their students separately. Graduate and undergraduate students who are NEERS members may apply (priority given to students giving presentations at the meeting). Selection will be made by lottery and will not affect eligibility for student presentation prizes. To apply for a travel award, send an email with your abstract attached to NEERS treasurer Ed Dettmann (Dettmann.Edward@epa.gov) by **9 APRIL 2010**. Provide your name, address, college or university, email, and telephone number. In addition, please have your faculty advisor send Ed an email certifying that you are a student in good standing. As always, NEERS greatly appreciates donations to the Bill Niering Student Travel Endowment fund (student endowment contributions can be made when you pre-register).

REGISTRATION: The pre-registration fee for this meeting is \$50.00 for ACCESS/NEERS members, \$80.00 for non-members, and \$25.00 for students. The fee includes the Thursday evening social (2 free drink tickets), lunch on Friday and Saturday, and morning and afternoon coffee breaks. The pre-registration deadline is **28 APRIL 2010**. After this date, higher walk-in rates will be assessed (\$70.00 for members, \$100.00 for non-members, and \$35.00 for students). Pre-register on the meeting web site (www.neers.org) and follow that with a check made out to "NEERS" and mailed to NEERS Treasurer Ed Dettmann at the given address. To get the pre-registration rate, **your check must be received by the Treasurer by 5 MAY 2010**, one week after the pre-registration deadline. And to qualify for the member rate, your 2010 dues must be paid as of **5 MAY 2010**. Note that all NEERS presenters must be NEERS members. It is a huge help to the organizing committee to know about how many people will attend the meeting, plus pre-registration saves you money: so PLEASE PRE-REGISTER! Special accommodations must be requested by the pre-registration deadline. Also note that dues for all NEERS members are due in the spring each year. If you haven't already paid, please make our hardworking treasurer and secretary's life easier and pay your annual dues with your registration. Lastly, contributions to the student prize funds are gratefully accepted.

WELCOMING SOCIAL: The Welcoming Social (2 free drink tickets) will be held Thursday evening, 6-8 pm, at the Arena. Remember, Atlantic Standard Time (New Brunswick) happens **one hour before** Eastern Standard Time (New England).

BANQUET: The Banquet will be held Friday evening in the Arena, preceded by a cash bar. Pre-registration for the banquet is required; cost is \$25 for attendees except there is no charge for lead student presenters. The meal will include a choice of chicken, seafood, or vegetarian option

for the main course. Guests with dietary restrictions (e.g. vegan, diabetic, wheat-free, etc.) should contact Heather Hunt (hhunt@unb.ca). Dancing at the Red Herring will follow the banquet. To allow student presentations on Saturday morning to be judged, Student Awards for best oral and poster presentations will be announced after the last session on Saturday.

OTHER MEALS: To help stay on schedule and provide opportunities for members from both ACCESS and NEERS to pursue interesting discussions and make new friends, lunch on Friday and Saturday will be provided (included in registration fee) along with light refreshments at morning and afternoon breaks Friday and Saturday. A list of local restaurant options will be available at the registration desk for all other meals. People staying at the Huntsman can arrange for meals there.

BUSINESS MEETING: ACCESS and NEERS will each hold a Business Meeting after the last presentation on Friday afternoon. All meeting participants are encouraged to attend and participate in discussion. Contact ACCESS President Martha Jones (Martha_Jones@cbu.ca) or NEERS President Pam Morgan (pmorgan@une.edu) if you have agenda items.

FIELD TRIP: Sunday morning, 16 May 2010. **Dipper Harbour marsh and Saints Rest marsh. Leader: Gail Chmura**

Dipper Harbour marsh on Point Lepreau, about 45 min drive from St. Andrews, and to Saints Rest marsh in Saint John, another 30 min further. The drive is picturesque and the coastal route along Point Lepreau passes by many salt marshes. Both Dipper Harbour and Saints Rest marshes have been the subject of intensive research by Gail Chmura's lab. Saints Rest marsh was subject to diking, drainage, ditching, management and as a shooting range for the Canadian forces. It is now part of Irving's Nature Park and downstream of one of Saint John's two sewage treatment plants. Elements of the old aboiteaux system (the dike and ditches) are still visible at Saints Rest. The Dipper Harbour site includes plant communities characteristic of the northernmost Gulf of Maine and St. Lawrence salt marshes. Dipper Harbour is not only a reference site for examination of marsh recovery in the lower Bay of Fundy, but the site of studies of paleoenvironmental change, and greenhouse gas flux, as well as impacts of nutrient enrichment on plant production, plant competition and marsh soil accretion. We hope you can join Gail on this adventure! There will be a sign-up sheet at the registration desk, and further information will be provided at the meeting.

ACCOMMODATIONS: As of 7 April 2010, the Canadian dollar was exactly equivalent to the US dollar.

Huntsman Marine Science Centre – Low cost option

There are a limited number of rooms available for a discounted rate to conference participants. These accommodations are particularly suitable for students; we would especially like to encourage students to stay there to meet students from other universities, and talk about their research and academic experiences in an informal setting. It is within walking distance to the arena, but you might prefer a car or carpooling. Price: \$37/person double; \$60/person single (see accommodation reservation form) Details: includes linens, wireless internet, and meals can be purchased at the centre (must be booked for in advance through the reservation form) Contact information: <http://huntsmanmarine.ca>; Phone: (506) 529-1200

Saint Andrews Motor Inn – Rooms at reasonable rates

There is a special room rate for conference participants; a block of rooms is reserved for the meeting (mention ACCESS or NEERS) until May 1, 2010. Within walking distance of the Arena. Price: \$89.95 standard room (2 queen beds), \$109.95 for suite with 2 queen beds, \$129.95 suite with king bed. Contact information: <http://www.standrewsmotorinn.com>; Phone: (506) 529-4571

Saint Andrews also has a variety of other accommodation options such as inns, bed and breakfasts, and motels including:

The Fairmont Algonquin – <http://www.fairmont.com/algonquin/>; Phone: 1-866-540-4403

The Kennedy Inn – <http://www.kennedyinn.ca/>; Phone: (506) 529-8844

Inn on Frederick – <http://www.innonfrederick.ca/>; Phone: 1-877-895-4400

Picket Fence Motel – <http://www.picketfencenb.com/> Phone: (506) 467-6967

GETTING THERE: The W.C. O'Neill Arena is at 24 Reed Avenue in downtown St. Andrews. A passport is now required for travel between Canada and the US. St. Andrews is about a 7 hour drive from Boston, Massachusetts travelling on I-95 through Maine, then taking Route 9 from Bangor to the Calais/St. Stephen border crossing. St. Andrews itself is sign-posted directly from the Trans-Canada Highway (Route #1). Once on Route #1, take exit 25 towards St. Andrews. You will end up on Route #127 (Bayview Drive) which brings you into St. Andrews (about 10 miles). Take a slight right onto Reed Avenue and the W.C. O'Neill Arena Complex is on the left. The Saint John Airport is about a 1.5 hour drive from St. Andrews. See the ACCESS website (www.cerf-access.ca) for more info.

LOCAL ATTRACTIONS: Founded in 1783 by the United Empire Loyalists from Maine, St. Andrews is one of Canada's oldest towns. In the late 1800's, hotels were built and amenities added to make St. Andrews-by-the-Sea the first choice in Canadian resorts. Today, St. Andrews offers all the features of a thriving modern resort, yet its streets remain steeped in turn of the century charm. Although St. Andrews is a small town, it is quite cosmopolitan as a result of its well-educated workforce and concentration of well-to-do retirees. St. Andrews, in keeping with its resort status, offers some of the best cuisine found in New Brunswick, unique gift shops, art galleries, and a range of cultural activities. There are also numerous hiking trails and beaches a short drive away or within walking distance. Visit <http://standrewsbythesea.ca/visit/> for information on the many attractions in the area including the famous Algonquin Hotel, Kingsbrae Horticultural Garden, Ross Memorial Museum, the St. Andrews Biological Station, Huntsman Marine Aquarium, shops, crafts, fine food, and Passamaquoddy Bay.

Kingsbrae Gardens <http://www.kingsbraegarden.com/>

Minister's Island <http://www.ministersisland.org/>

Quoddy Link - <http://www.quoddylinkmarine.com>

Fundy Tide Runners - <http://www.fundytiderunners.com>

Island Quest Marine- <http://www.islandquestmarine.com>

Tall Ship Whale Adventures - <http://www.jollybreeze.com>

Atlantic Salmon Federation Interpretive Center <http://www.asf.ca/interpretive.php> Huntsman Marine Science Center <http://www.huntsmanmarine.ca/>

QUESTIONS?

General information: Simon Courtenay (Simon.Courtenay@dfo-mpo.gc.ca), Steve Hale (hale.stephen@epa.gov), Peter Larsen (PLarsen@bigelow.org), Cindy Delpapa (Cindy.Delpapa@state.ma.us)

Abstracts or other program concerns – ACCESS Program Chairs Melissa Wong (Melisa.Wong@dfo-mpo.gc.ca) and Tim Rawlings (Timothy_Rawlings@cbu.ca). NEERS Program Chair Hilary Neckles (hneckles@usgs.gov or 207-622-8205 ext. 119)

Local Arrangements: Heather Hunt (hhunt@unbsj.ca), David Methven (dmethven@unb.ca) and Marie-Josée Abgrall (marie-josée.abgrall@unb.ca)

ACCESS Registration & Student Travel Awards – Simon Courtenay (Simon.Courtenay@dfo-mpo.gc.ca),

NEERS Registration & Student Travel Awards – Ed Dettmann, NEERS Treasurer (Dettmann.Edward@epa.gov or 401-782-3039).

NEERS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

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