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## EDITORIAL

In this 18<sup>th</sup> installment of the CMS Newsletter I'm pleased to have the editorial inputs of Karl Aiken and Marlon Hibbert who have not only reviewed the final outputs but have also contributed articles. Karl, as Project Manger of ECOST, has provided us with a comprehensive overview of this new collaborative endeavour. Marlon provided inputs on the numerous research and outreach activities coordinated out of the Port Royal Marine Lab.

As the CMS Newsletter grows and develops we strive to provide interesting and informative material and as always we welcome your suggestions and comments.

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Editor

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Marcia Creary  
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## ECOST Fisheries Project

Spearheaded by the University of Portsmouth with the European Commission, the Life Sciences Department/Centre for Marine Sciences/University of the West Indies, Mona campus, along with 15 other contractual partner institutions around the world, since October, 2005, has embarked on an international collaborative fisheries project which aims to reconcile multiple demands on coastal areas. It has a local budget of J\$11.4 million and will last for four years. The main objective is to develop a new approach for the evaluation of fishing activities and fishing policies in order to contribute to better management of aquatic resources across the globe. This new approach is based on the concept of *societal costs*. These societal costs are those linked to fisheries and include,

- a. ecological (alteration of the capacity of a system),
- b. economic (costs linked to production, management, subsidies and external factors) and
- c. social (costs of poverty, social injustice, gender discrimination, food security and food safety).

Data on these three main areas are thus the focus.

Working with research organizations from Asia, Africa, and Europe, Jamaica's role is the Ecological Modeling of the trophic relationships of fishes in selected marine and estuarine systems in West Africa, Asia and the Caribbean. **Dr. Karl Aiken**, project manager, coordinates work in collaboration with the North Sea Centre, Denmark and its representative Dr. Villy Christensen (based at the University of Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada). A small project office now exists and graduate student **Mr. Stephen Smikle**, joined the ECOST project in April to work towards a PhD.

**Ms. Anita Pal** is administrative assistant with the Project.

## Where are they now?

### Tatum Fisher

Now residing in the Turks and Caicos Islands (TCI) Tatum is employed to the Government's Department of Environment and Coastal Resources as one of two Scientific Monitoring Officers.



*"Captain" Tatum Fisher pilots her craft in the near shore waters of the Turks and Caicos Islands.*

Her job is quite diverse and involves more than just monitoring of the coastal resources of this multi-island State. Although one of her major roles is the evaluation of coastal habitats, that is, from reefs to the beaches, she is also involved in public awareness and education programmes. Tatum provides scientific advice to the Government on numerous development projects. This usually involves the review of development proposals and environmental impact assessments, as well as assisting in the design and execution of the environmental monitoring programmes for these developments. Tatum believes that this

is one of the most rewarding aspects of her job, as she is able to use her educational experience in marine ecology to influence the outcome of the development of the Islands, thereby promoting the sustainable utilization of its resources.

On a more personal note, Tatum is now the proud mother of a beautiful baby boy of ten months. His name is Amaré Clerveaux and he is already a marine aficionado. Wedding bells are also in the air, as Tatum and her fiancé Wesley, will be tying the knot in summer of this year. We wish Tatum and her family all the best.

## CCDC News

### Caribbean Coastal Data Centre

#### Jamaica Coral Reef Monitoring Network (JCRMN).

At the quarterly meeting of the JCRMN held on April 21 members reported on the monitoring and training that was conducted in Portland. Five persons including Portland Environmental Protection Agency (PEPA) staff and volunteers were trained in the Reef Check methodology as part of the JCRMN programme of reef assessment.



Members of the JCRMN Portland Monitoring team relax with trainees.

## DBML News

### Discovery Bay Marine Laboratory

#### Visitors to DBML (stopovers)

- **April Hayward & Shubba Pandit**, McMaster University, Feb 1-8,

- **Dayne Buddo**, Institute of Jamaica, 22 students & 4 staff, Feb 3-5,
- **Dr. John Gilbert** + 3 TA& 14 students, Dartmouth College, Feb 13 – Mar 10,
- **Kristopher Lue** + 1, Department of Life Sciences, Feb 25- Mar 4,
- **Jules Craynock** + 3 team members, National Oceanic & Atmospheric Admin., Feb 27 – Mar 3,
- **NEPA & CASE**, Team of 19 persons, Mar 16-21,
- **UWI Sub-Aqua Club**, 19 Members, Mar 17-19,
- **Ryan Ellingston** + 1, California State University, Mar 19-25,
- **Jamaica Cricket Association**, 3 Staff + 14 players, Mar 24-26,
- **Dr. Greg Cowie** + 3 staff & 22 students, Edinburgh University, Mar 27-April 7,
- **Dr. Ian Sandeman**, Private research, Mar 29 – Apr 13,
- **St. Catherine Cricket Association**, 3 staff & 13 players, April 1-2,
- **Dr. James Crabbe** + 2 persons, Earthwatch Apr 8-21,
- **Gretchen Goodbody** + 1, Harvard University, Apr 25- May 2, 2006,

#### Local school visits:

- Hillel Academy
- Covenant Christian Academy
- Church Teachers College
- Edwin Allen High School
- York Castle High
- St. Catherine High
- Aabutnott Gallimore High
- Willowdene High School
- Wolmer’s Boys School
- Linstead Primary and Junior High
- Brown’s Town Community College

## PRML News

### Port Royal Marine Laboratory Teaching/Research Activities

The new Life Sciences Coral Reef Biology course was taught for the first time this academic year (January 16 – February 23) at the PRML. The students used the Port Royal Cays reefs for laboratory exercises. Also for the first time, two MSc courses (Coastal

Plant Systems and Aquatic Biogeography and Biodiversity) in the Department of Life Sciences’ Masters in Marine Estuarine and Riverine Systems conducted laboratory exercises out of the PRML. The MSc is a part time programme and so the laboratory exercises were carried out on Saturdays.

### World Wetlands Day

On February 2, 2006 the laboratory for the third year was one of the hosting centres for NEPA’s World Wetlands Day (WWD) activities. The PRML is located within the Palisadoes-Port Royal Protected Area, which was, designated a Ramsar Site in 2005. Schools from the Kingston and St. Andrew area were accommodated and informed about the use and value of wetlands. Students viewed the display aquarium and posters at the PRML as well as toured the Port Royal mangroves. The laboratory saw over 200 students from 10 schools visiting at different times during the day. An outdoor broadcast of ‘Laing and Company’ was included as part of the day’s activities.



Students viewing interesting marine specimens at the PRML.

### JET Teachers’ Workshop

The Jamaica Environmental Trust (JET) conducted a workshop with approximately 50 teachers on February 21, 2006. The theme was “wetland wonders” and included a tour of the mangroves as well as the use of display material in the main laboratory building.

### Research Projects

Work on the following research project was conducted at the PRML.

- Jamaica Iguana Recovery Program (Dr. Byron Wilson and Rick Van Nusteen)
- Coral Disease in the Kingston Harbour environs (Ivanna Kenny)
- Fish population studies in Kingston Harbour (Monique Curtis)
- The effectiveness of invasive predator control (Marlon Osbourne)
- Sea Turtle Conservation Project (Tamia Harker)
- Intestinal parasites of wild pigs (Chinedu Okuru)
- Dynamics of Beach Profiles (Dave Miller)
- Toxic Marine Phytoplankton (Emma Ranston)
- Bioactive chemicals in Sponges (Dr. W. Gallimore)
- Change in reef community structure on the Lime Cay fore-reef (Rachel DaSilva)
- Encrusting coralline sponges (Matthew Lee)
- Mangrove regeneration by replanting (Camilo Trench)

### Schools visits to PRML

Godfrey Stewart High School,  
Portmore Community College  
Northern Caribbean University,  
New Providence Primary  
St. Jago Cathedral Prep  
Queens High School  
Hillel Academy  
Camperdown High  
Wolmers Girls School



### Conferences, Workshops and Meetings

**Dr. Quinn** participated in the NaGISA Caribbean – South America Protocol Workshop at Universidad Simón Bolívar, Caracas, Venezuela January 16 – 19, 2006 coordinated by Patricia Miloslavich and Juan José Cruz. The workshop is part of the INTECMAR Census of Marine Life program.

**Quinn, NJ & BL Kojis** 2006. Assessing the potential for natural recovery and restoration of Scleractina coral after the 2005 coral bleaching event on Jamaica's reefs. 17th Global Warming Conference, Miami, Florida, 20-21 April

**Marcia Creary** participated in the second TNC hosted *Jamaica Marine Eco-regional Planning (JERP) Analysis* workshop, held on February 15, 2006. The programme is a countrywide conservation planning and mapping effort to support Jamaica's national objective for protection of marine biodiversity.

As a Member of the Diving Sub-Group of the Working Group on Fisheries Management and Related Matters of the *National Council on Oceans and Coastal Zone Management*, **Peter Gayle** has contributed to the draft document "*Drafting Instructions for the Preparation of Legislation to Regulate Occupational Diving Activities in Jamaica*". This document has been circulated to government agencies for review.

### Publications

- **Kojis, BL & NJ Quinn** 2006. A census of the US Virgin Islands commercial fisheries at the start of the 21st century. Proc. 10th International Coral Reef Symposium. pp 1333- 1341
- **Quinn, NJ** 2006. Working to stem the tide of cultural erosion through the documentation of local aquatic knowledge and fishing practices by Melanesian youth. Proc. 10th International Coral Reef Symp. pp 1936-1941
- **Quinn, NJ & BL Kojis** 2006. Invertebrate recruitment patterns inside and outside Discovery Bay, Jamaica. Proc. 10th International Coral Reef Symp. pp 83-90
- **Quinn, NJ & BL Kojis** 2006. Subsurface variation on an offshore reef during a period of heavy rainfall at St. Thomas, U.S.

Virgin Islands. Proc. 10th International Coral Reef Symposium. pp 406-409

- **Quinn, NJ & BL Kojis** 2006. Natural resilience in coral reef ecosystems. pp 79-92 In: Precht, WF (ed) *Coral Restoration Handbook*. CRC Publications. Boca Raton, Florida
- **Quinn, NJ, BL Kojis & R Samuel**. 2006. Empowering Papua New Guineans with environmental monitoring skills through participation in a Reef Check survey. Proc. 10th International Coral Reef Symp. pp 953-960
- **Quinn, NJ, D Gochfeld, M Hamann, M Slattery, L Walker & BL Kojis** 2006. Documenting and conserving biodiversity on Jamaican coral reefs while exploring for pharmacologically interesting natural products. Proc. 10th International Coral Reef Symposium pp 807-816

### Up Coming Events

- Summer Dive Course (BL20L), Department of Life Sciences, June 5-23
- World Environment Day, June 5
- World Oceans Day, June 6

### New Documents at CMS

**Goodbody, Ivan**. 2004. Port Royal as a Focal Point for Marine Diversity in Jamaica. Jamaica Journal of Science and Technology. Scientific Research Council. JJST, 2004, Vol. 15: 37-53. (Accompanied by CD with supplementary Information)

**Tompkins, Emma et al.** 2005. Surviving Climate change in Small Islands – A Guidebook. Tyndall Centre for Climate Change Research. ([www.tyndall.ac.uk/publications/survivin g.pdf](http://www.tyndall.ac.uk/publications/survivin g.pdf))

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