

IN THIS ISSUE

- ??CCDC Report
- ??Overseas Workshops and Conferences
- ??CMS Seminar series
- ??DBML refurbishing exercise
- ??Sea Bird Research Group

EDITORIAL

Hello, the Centre for Marine Sciences would like to wish you prosperous 2003! This is the sixth issue of our quarterly e-newsletters. The last quarter (October – December) was a fairly quiet one, however there were a number of interesting “happenings” we would like to share with you. Take some time out of your busy schedules to read the information provided below. Comments and feedback of course are always welcome.

Peter Edwards
Editor

Contact Information

Contact us at :
cms@uwimona.edu.jm,
Or visit our website at :
<http://www.uwimona.edu.jm/centres/cms>

Report by the CCDC on the state of coral reefs of the Northern Caribbean

CMS (through the Caribbean Coastal Data Centre -CCDC) is required to submit regular reports as the Node for the Northern Caribbean and Atlantic region of the Global Coral Reef Monitoring Network (GCRMN). The report for this year has been published as part of the Status of Coral Reefs of the World 2002. The CCDC received inputs from the Bahamas, Bermuda, Cuba, the Cayman Islands, Jamaica, Haiti, the Dominican Republic and the Turks and Caicos Islands. These were edited by Data Manager Dulcie Linton and incorporated into our final report.

Publications

The following were published or accepted for publication during the quarter:

- ?? Crabbe, M.J.C., Mendes, J.M. & Warner, G.F. (2002) Lack of recruitment of non-branching corals in Discovery Bay is linked to severe storms. *Bull. Mar. Sci.* 70: 939-945.
- ?? Haley, M. & Clayton, A. (2002). Fishing is destroying Jamaica's coral reefs. *E3, The Gleaner*, December 18.
- ?? Linton, D., Smith, R., Alcolado, P., Hanson, C., Edwards, P., Estrada, R., Fisher, T., Gomez Fernandez, R., Geraldles, F., McCoy, C., Vaughan, D., Voegeli, V., Warner, G. & Wiener, J. (2002) Status of Coral

reefs in the Northern Atlantic and Caribbean Node of the GCRMN. pp 277-302 in C. Wilkinson (ed) Status of Coral Reefs of the World: 2002. Australian Institute of Marine Science.

- ?? Quinn, N.J. & Downer, E. (2002) The 2002 Jamaican Game Fishing Tournament Results. DBML Technical Report 02/01, pp. 22.

Overseas Workshops and Conferences



CARICOMP Site Directors Meeting, Cayman.

Dulcie Linton, Data Manager of the CCDC attended the Reefs at Risk in the Caribbean: Threat Assessment Workshop, Oct 22-24, in Miami Florida. Participants from across the region were brought up to date with the work of the World Resources Institute (WRI) and the UNEP-WCMC in preparing maps of the reefs of the Caribbean and the various threats to these reefs. The programme involved the evaluation of the maps generated from various models and suggestions were made on the types and sources of data needed to

strengthen the models e.g. over-fishing, coastal development and tourism, to make them more realistic of the Caribbean situation.

Dr Warner attended the Netherlands Antilles Coral Reef Initiative meeting in Curacao, Oct 23-29. He was sponsored by the NGO Reef Care Curacao who organized the meeting. He gave a presentation entitled "CARICOMP, the Caribbean Coastal Marine Productivity program". Reef scientists and marine park managers from Jamaica, St Lucia, the Netherlands Antilles, the French West Indies, USA and Venezuela attended the meeting. It is hoped that the initiative and contacts will lead to the Dutch Islands of Curacao, Bonaire and Saba resuming their CARICOMP data collection, and perhaps some other sites joining the network.

UNEP/IMA's Regional Training workshop on "Nutrient removal technologies and wastewater management", Trinidad, 9-13 December was attended by Dr Anthony Greenaway. He served as facilitator for the workshop. He also presented a paper entitled "Nutrient dynamics and the impact of nutrients on the marine environment"

Dr. Quinn presented a paper entitled "Biological evidence for diminished nursery capacity in Discovery Bay, Jamaica". He was participating in the 55th Annual Meeting of the Gulf & Caribbean Fisheries Institute, Xel-Ha, in Mexico, (11th -15th of November).

The CARICOMP Site Directors Meeting was held in Grand Cayman, Nov 30-Dec 6. Mr Gayle, Mrs Linton, Miss Fisher, Dr Warner and Dr Woodley attended this meeting. Presentations were given by Peter Gayle and Dulcie Linton, on CARICOMP monitoring at Discovery Bay and on progress at the Caribbean Coastal Data Centre respectively. Mrs Linton was invited to become an ex-officio member of the Steering Committee.

Local Meetings and Conferences

Dr Warner attended a conference entitled "Fishing for Prosperity and Sustainability", on the 7th November. He gave a presentation at this conference organized by the Jamaica Fishermen Cooperative Union Ltd and funded by CIDA. His presentation was entitled "Protection of the marine environment with special reference to fisheries".

Peter Edwards presented a paper entitled "Coral reefs, are they really that important?" The paper was presented at the Scientific Research Council's 16th Annual Conference (November 28-30th). The theme of the conference was; "Science and Technology for Economic Development: Towards health, Wealth and Knowledge". The paper briefly examined the decline in coral cover, the possible impact on the economy, and suggested management strategies for sustainable development.

CMS Seminar Series

The Seminar Series began in October and Dr Warner gave the first seminar, "A brief study of the coral reef fisheries at Ocho Rios." Others for the period were as follows; November; Mrs Dulcie Linton - "2002 report on the state of the coral reefs in the Northern Caribbean"; Debbie-Ann Rowe and Shakira Khan (Department of Geography & Geology) - "Geological features of the Cayman trench" and "Beach sand analysis of Jamaican beaches" respectively, and Sean Green (NEPA) - "The recent dredging of Kingston Harbour". No seminars were held in December.

Staff Matters

Dr M Haley commenced a year of Sabbatical Leave in October. During this period he will further his research work on coral reef rehabilitation and behavioural ecology.

Discovery Bay Marine Laboratory Refurbishing Exercise

Changes to the Western (administrative) end of the lab have been largely completed with the old Library being converted into a lecture room, while the Library itself has been moved into one of two rooms constructed in the broad corridor. This room now doubles as a financial office, providing better security for the Library. The second room is available for small group meetings. The new lecture room has been receiving favorable comments from visitors.

Teaching Duties

CMS personnel contributed their time and knowledge to teaching courses during the quarter. Dr Warner and Marcia Creary each contributed a day's teaching to students on methods of coastal monitoring. This was for the new Life Sciences MSc., "Biological Approaches in Ecosystem Management". Dr Warner contributed two weeks teaching coral reef biology in Dr. Mona Webber's course, BL31F-"Benthic Marine Communities" including coordinating a long weekend field trip to DBML.

Sea Bird Research Group

On December 8th the Sea Bird Research group conducted a bird counting exercise in the Kingston Harbour. Starting at the Port Royal Marine Laboratory the group visited nine (9) sites within the harbour ending at the Skeet Club in Portmore. The entire exercise took two hours to complete and useful data on endemic and migratory species was collected. The Sea Bird Research Group conducts bird counts every first Sunday of the month. For further information contact Bird Life Jamaica.

Meetings

CMS personnel were involved in a number of meetings over this past quarter. The Centre was represented at the following meetings:

- ?? Blue Flag Steering Committee, NEPA (Warner)
- ?? Scientific Authority for CITES (Warner)
- ?? Jamaican Red Cross / Norway Fredskorpset Seminar (Quinn)
- ?? Institute of Jamaica, Natural

- History Board (Warner)
- ?? Mangrove Replanting Steering Committee, NEPA. (Edwards)
- ?? JHTA meeting in Ocho Rios (Quinn)
- ?? National Council on Ocean and Coastal Zone Management (Warner)

Upcoming Events

The 2003 seminar series are scheduled to begin on February 6. The seminar topics to be discussed are outlined below. We hope that

the topics will continue to educational and informative.

CMS Web Link

Our featured Web Link for this issue is the National Environment and Planning Agency. Click on <http://www.nrca.org/> and be sure to look at the EIA for the dredging of Kingston Harbour.

<i>DATE</i>	<i>PRESENTER</i>	<i>TOPIC/TITLE</i>
<i>February 6</i>	Prof. Ivan Goodbody	Port Royal as a focal point for Marine Biodiversity
<i>February 20</i>	Dr. Anthony Greenaway	Nutrient Concentrations in Discovery Bay
<i>March 6</i>	Marlon Hibbert and Jerome Smith	Report on a ICZM Workshop, Florida
<i>March 20</i>	FACULTY CONFERENCE	FACULTY CONFERENCE
<i>April 3</i>	Prof and Mrs Goodbody	Deep water fauna collected from the Pedro Channel and the Morant Ridge.
<i>April 17</i>	Miss Josette La Hée, NEPA	The Status of Crocodiles in Jamaica
<i>May 1</i>	Miss Stacey Moses	Artificial Reefs

Grants and Equipment

The Caribbean Coastal Data Centre (CCDC) has received US\$10,000 from AIMS to facilitate our

management of coral reef monitoring data from the Northern Caribbean.

The funds will be used to purchase a server so that data can be made available online, and to assist in compiling reports to the Global Coral Reef Monitoring Network