

New England Estuarine Research Society



ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE SPRING 2002 MEETING

9-11 MAY 2002
BAR HARBOR, MAINE

Jointly Hosted By
US GEOLOGICAL SURVEY
ACADIA NATIONAL PARK
COLLEGE OF THE ATLANTIC

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CALL FOR PAPERS & PRE-REGISTRATION

MEETING SITE: The Spring 2002 NEERS meeting will be held in Bar Harbor, Maine, located on Mount Desert Island and home of Acadia National Park. Mount Desert Island is known for its breathtaking beauty and interesting geologic and natural history. Sculpted by glacial abrasion during the Wisconsin glaciation, the island's landscape is a series of U-shaped valleys and round-topped ridges running in a north-south direction. The juxtaposition of shoreline and mountains and the convergence of boreal and temperate life zones result in a rich diversity of flora and fauna. Acadia National Park occupies over half of the island. Hiking trails, carriage roads, and paved roads provide access to the park's spectacular vistas and variety of ecosystems, including rocky shore, tide pools, estuaries, spruce-fir and hardwood forests, freshwater wetlands, streams, and alpine summits. Bike, canoe, and sea-kayak rentals are available from local outfitters. The meeting site, Atlantic Oakes By-The-Sea, is a mile from Bar Harbor village. Cultural points of interest include the Abbe Museum in Bar Harbor, dedicated to Maine's Native American history, arts, and archaeology, and the Bass Harbor Head Light House. Find out much more about the area from the web sites for Bar Harbor (www.barharborinfo.com) and Acadia National Park (www.nps.gov/acad/home.htm).

THURSDAY SYMPOSIUM: Marine Invertebrate Diversity Initiative—An Interactive, Web-based Tool for Marine Conservation, Planning and Education in the 21st Century

The Marine Invertebrate Diversity Initiative (MIDI) is a collaborative tool for assembling information on marine invertebrate taxonomy, habitats, geographic location, scientific reference, and contact persons into an interactive on-line database system. The intent of MIDI is to engage people from all sectors (students, scientists, traditional resource users, industry, etc.) in understanding and protecting ocean biodiversity. MIDI is designed to document and map knowledge of marine invertebrates of the Gulf of Maine, Scotian Shelf, and Bay of Fundy. As an internet resource with the most complete and comprehensive assemblage of marine invertebrate information for the region, MIDI is an essential tool for marine conservation, planning, and education. MIDI progress to date can be viewed at www.fundyforum.com/MIDI.

In cooperation with Peter Larsen of Bigelow Laboratory for Ocean Sciences, MIDI will host the NEERS symposium on May 9th, 1:00-5:00 p.m., at the Atlantic Oakes Conference Center in Bar Harbor. Invited presentations will focus on applications of MIDI within the region. Topics will include using MIDI for monitoring (**Michele Dionne**, Wells National Estuarine Research Reserve), documenting and responding to the migration of invasive species (**Judith Pederson**, MIT Sea Grant), focusing public education and conservation efforts on marine issues (**Derek Davis**, former curator at the NS Museum of Natural History), and facilitating consideration of marine invertebrates in habitat characterization, habitat assessment, and marine resource management (**Paul Boudreau**, Fisheries & Oceans Canada). The workshop will include an on-line system demonstration and ample time for discussion. Symposium registration is included in the NEERS meeting registration. For more information contact Peter Larsen (plarsen@bigelow.org, 207-633-9600).

SATURDAY MINI-SYMPOSIUM: The Role of Protected Areas in Maintaining the Integrity of Coastal and Estuarine Ecosystems.

The National Park Service has a 125-year history of preserving and protecting natural and cultural resources for public enjoyment. In recent years, the use of protected areas as a conservation and management tool for marine resources has gained steady momentum. The NOAA Marine Protected Area (MPA) initiative has identified no fewer than 73 MPAs in New England's coastal and estuarine waters or adjacent uplands. The Gulf of Maine Council envisions a series of coordinated sites to accelerate conservation and promote an ecosystem approach to management of the region's marine resources. On Saturday, from 10:00-12:00, a mini-symposium is being organized to consider Protected Areas within a near-coastal and estuarine framework. Speakers have been invited to address the topic from several perspectives. **Peter Shelley** (Conservation Law Foundation) will introduce concepts, definitions, and applications of MPAs. Other invited speakers will address environmental and conservation perspectives on protected areas, MPAs as a tool for marine resource management, and the value of MPAs in coastal and estuarine science. Contributed talks and posters on this topic are encouraged. For more information contact Blaine Kopp (bkopp@usgs.gov, 207-622-8201 ext. 114).

SCIENTIFIC PRESENTATIONS: Contributed oral and poster presentations will be scheduled for Friday morning and afternoon, and Saturday morning, May 10th and 11th. Each presentation will be limited to 15 minutes with an additional 5 minutes for discussion. Poster presentations will be displayed for the duration of the meeting, and highlighted during a special poster session. Reports of work in progress as well as work in advanced stages and reviews of relevant topics are encouraged. Any subject on estuaries or coastal environments is welcome. Students can compete for the Ketchum and Rankin Prizes for oral presentations, or the Dean Prize for posters (see below). Every presenter must be (or become) a NEERS member (unless invited by the President). Contact NEERS Treasurer David Burdick (david.burdick@unh.edu, 603-862-2175) if you're not sure if your membership dues are current.

CALL FOR PAPERS: Abstracts must be RECEIVED BY NOON WEDNESDAY, MARCH 27, 2002. To ensure timely distribution of the Meeting Program, ABSTRACTS MUST BE SUBMITTED ON TIME. Abstracts should be submitted via the NEERS web page (www.neers.org and select "meetings", then "spring 2002 meeting"). A less preferred method of submission is via email (pkremer@uconn.edu). All electronic submissions will be confirmed via email (this process is not immediate, however, so please be patient). If you must (and you really want to be scheduled first thing Saturday morning), you may mail a paper copy to Dr. Patricia Kremer, NEERS Program Chair, Department of Marine Sciences, UCONN Avery Point, 1080 Shennecossett Road, Groton, CT 06340-6097. tel: 860- 405-9140. Faxes will not be accepted.

POWERPOINT PRESENTATIONS: We will pre-load all presentations with computer-driven graphics onto one of our PC or Macintosh platforms. MS PowerPoint presentations will be supported. If you make use of unusual fonts, characters, or symbols, we highly recommend that you "embed TrueType fonts" when saving your presentation (see your help menu for instructions). Presentations must be received by **MAY 1** (May Day! May Day!). You may either email your presentation or send it on a zip disk or CD. You should, however, plan to bring a back-up CD to the meeting (and your own laptop – or overheads? – if you know Blaine well). Send your presentations to Blaine Kopp, USGS Patuxent Wildlife Research Center, 26 Ganneston Drive, Augusta, ME 04330 (bkopp@usgs.gov 207- 622-8201 x114). We will attempt to accommodate late submissions, but please contact Blaine to make arrangements.

STUDENT PRIZES: Prizes will be awarded to the best presentations in the following categories: graduate student oral presentation (Buck Ketchum Prize, \$100), undergraduate student oral presentation (Stubby Rankin Prize, \$100), graduate or undergraduate student poster presentation (David Dean Prize, \$100). Papers and posters are judged by a committee in terms of overall effectiveness, scientific content, and quality of presentation. *Students are encouraged to review the scoring criteria posted on the NEERS website* (www.neers.org and select "student center" then "presentation judging criteria"). Previous winners are not eligible. NEERS will greatly appreciate contributions towards the endowment funds for these prizes.

STUDENT TRAVEL AWARDS: NEERS will give up to four awards, each for \$100, to help cover travel and lodging costs for this NEERS meeting. All graduate and undergraduate students are eligible and do not need to submit an abstract to qualify. Selection will be made by lottery and will not affect eligibility for student presentation prizes. To be considered for this award, please have your faculty advisor send an email to David Burdick (dburdick@unh.edu) by Wednesday, **MARCH 27** to certify that you are a student in good standing. NEERS will greatly appreciate contributions towards the Bill Niering Student Travel Endowment fund.

ACCOMMODATIONS: All accommodations, meals, and meeting events except the Friday evening Awards Banquet and Festivities will be at Atlantic Oakes By-The-Sea, on Rt. 3 in Bar Harbor, ME. Formerly a private estate, the Atlantic Oakes is now a family-owned and operated resort and conference center. Amenities include an indoor pool, an outdoor pool, and a pebble beach (in order of increasing bravery of participants), tennis courts, spacious meeting rooms, and ocean views from all rooms. The Atlantic Oakes is a short drive or a 20-minute walk to downtown Bar Harbor, and is within minutes of Acadia National Park's Visitor's Center, scenic drives, and wilderness trails. A block of rooms for NEERS participants will be held until Friday, **APRIL 12**. Each room contains either 1 king or 2 double beds. Room rates are \$69.00 per night (plus 7% tax) single or double occupancy. Additional occupants (beyond two) are \$10.00 each per night (plus tax), up to a maximum of 4 people per room. Children under 5 are free. Please make your reservations directly with the Atlantic Oakes at 1-800-33-MAINE (1-800-336-2463) or 207-288-5801 and identify yourself as attending the NEERS meeting. Find out more about the Atlantic Oakes from the enclosed brochure and the web site www.barharbor.com.

NEERS WELCOMING SOCIAL AND DINNER: The traditional NEERS social will be held from 5:00-7:00 on Thursday, May 9, at the Atlantic Oakes, immediately following the MIDI Symposium. Enjoy beer, wine, non-alcoholic beverages, and hors d'oeuvres with your estuarine and coastal friends and colleagues. At 7:00 a buffet dinner for NEERS participants will be served at the Atlantic Oakes. The dinner will include a choice of pasta primavera (with or without sliced chicken breast) or baked fish entrée, salad, bread, dessert, and coffee/tea/milk, for a cost of \$20.00. **This will be a catered event, so you must order Thursday's dinner on the registration form to eat at the Atlantic Oakes that evening.** Note that other options for dinner are limited – see OTHER MEALS below for more information.

AWARDS BANQUET AND FESTIVITIES: All Friday evening festivities will take place at the College of the Atlantic, which is next door to the Atlantic Oakes.

MICROBREW TASTING: We will kick off the evening with a beer-tasting social hour from 6:00-7:00 p.m. Mount Desert Island is home to several award-winning microbreweries. Standard and specialty ales will be provided by the Atlantic Brewing Company and the Bar Harbor Brewing Company. Non-alcoholic beverages will also be provided (including microbrewed root beer). The cost of the tasting is included in the banquet ticket. Learn about some of the brews in advance at www.atlanticbrewing.com and www.acadiainfo.com/bhbrew.htm.

BANQUET: The banquet will be held from 7:00-9:00 p.m. immediately following the social. It will include a choice of chicken, seafood, or veggie entrees prepared barbecue style on the College patio. You must pre-register for the banquet to attend; please note your entrée selection on the registration form. The cost of the banquet will be \$25.00. The Ketchum, Rankin, and Dean Prizes will be awarded at this time and all candidates for these awards will receive a free banquet ticket. Our donors have provided some fabulous door prizes. Names of door prize winners will be drawn at the banquet from all meeting registrants (winners do not have to be present).

CONTRA DANCE: We will continue the evening with a Downeast Contra Dance in the College of the Atlantic's Gates Center from 9:00-11:00 p.m. Music will be provided by Green Mountain Railway. The band derives their name from the cog railway that used to run up Cadillac Mountain, which was formerly called Green Mountain. They've secured an enthusiastic and energetic caller to guide us through the night. This promises to be a fantastic time – if you do not attend the banquet you can still attend the dance. Eyes will be on the lookout for the next winner of the NEERS Stickleback Award.

OTHER MEALS: Friday lunch will be served to NEERS participants at the Atlantic Oakes conference site. The meal will consist of assorted wraps (ham & swiss, turkey & cheese, vegetable & hummus), pasta & potato salad, soup, beverage, and cookies for a price of \$10.00. **You must order Friday's lunch on the pre-registration form to eat at the Atlantic Oakes. You may also order box lunches (meat or veggie sandwich plus accompaniments) for arrival Thursday and for taking on the field trip or for eating on the way home on Saturday for \$8.00 each.** We strongly recommend that you plan to eat all meals at the Atlantic Oakes. Most restaurants in Bar Harbor don't open until the end of May, so alternative eateries will be few and far between (a couple of restaurants are open year-round in Bar Harbor; the closest town with standard fare is Ellsworth, which is a 20-minute drive away). Box lunches ordered for Thursday will be available at noon at the Atlantic Oakes. The Atlantic Oakes restaurant will be open for breakfast from 6:30-10:00 a.m. every day. Breakfast is the only meal at the Atlantic Oakes for which you do not need to pre-register.

BUSINESS MEETING: The NEERS Business Meeting will take place after the last paper on Friday, May 10, at the Atlantic Oakes Conference Center. All meeting participants are invited to attend and participate in discussion, but you must be a NEERS member to vote on anything.

SOMES SOUND FIELD TRIP: A boat tour of Somes Sound will be offered Saturday, May 11, 1:30-4:00 p.m., led by a National Park Service naturalist. Touted as the only fjord-type estuary on the east coast, Somes Sound is a drowned, glacially-carved valley that nearly divides Mt. Desert Island in two. It is about 8-km long and a maximum of 1-km wide, bordered by steep mountains on each side, with a shallow sill at the mouth. In the 19th century, ships sailed right up to the sound's western shore to collect fresh water from a brook that cascades into the estuary. Deep basins from 40-50 m occur throughout the sound, whereas the depth of the sill is 10-12 m. We should be able to see ospreys along with an assortment of waterbirds, and perhaps a bald eagle. We'll car-pool/convoy from the Atlantic Oakes to meet the boat in Northeast Harbor on the south side of Mt. Desert Island, which is about a 20-minute drive. This field trip is a bargain at a cost of \$10.00, or \$5.00 for students. Pre-registration for the field trip is required, and a minimum of 15 participants is needed to run the trip.

REGISTRATION: Pre-registration for this meeting (including the Thursday MIDI Symposium) is \$25.00 for members, \$15.00 for students, and \$35.00 for non-members. The Pre-registration deadline is **WEDNESDAY, APRIL 24**. You can pre-register on the web at www.neers.org (select "meetings", then "spring 2002 meeting") and follow that with a check made out to "NEERS" and mailed to NEERS Treasurer David Burdick, Jackson Estuarine Laboratory, 85 Adams Point Road, University of New Hampshire, Durham, NH 03824; alternatively, you can mail your registration to Dave to be received by the deadline. On-site registration is \$35.00 for members, \$20.00 for students, and \$45.00 for non-members. The NEERS registration desk will be open on Thursday from 12:00 noon to 3:00 p.m., that evening from 5:00-7:00 p.m., and on Friday morning from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon at the Atlantic Oakes. You can also pay your NEERS dues for 2002 (\$15 for regular, \$5 for student membership). It is a huge help to the organizing committee to know how many people will attend, so please pre-register!

GETTING THERE:

From the South: I-95 North to Bangor, Exit 45A. Take I-395 East about 4.5 miles to US-1A East. Follow US-1A about 22 miles to Ellsworth, where it becomes US-1/ME-3. Keep going straight through Ellsworth to get onto ME-3. Follow ME-3 about 8 miles to Mt. Desert Island. Continue on ME-3 over the causeway onto Mt. Desert Island. Within half a mile, veer left at a "Y" intersection to stay on ME-3 toward Bar Harbor. Follow ME-3 about 8.5 miles to the Atlantic Oakes on the left, just past the Ferry Terminal. Enter the driveway and follow the sign to the Conference Center.

A more scenic, coastal route from the south is a bit shorter in distance, but often longer in travel time: Get off I-95 North at Augusta, Exit 30A. Follow US-202 East a couple of miles through Augusta and over the Kennebec River—Rt. 202 goes through a rotary on each side of the Kennebec, so be careful to follow the signs for Belfast. Half a mile past the east side rotary, turn right onto ME-3. Follow ME-3 about 45 miles to Belfast. Pick up US-1 in Belfast, and follow about 38 miles to Ellsworth. Turn right onto ME-3 in Ellsworth, then proceed as directed above.

From the Canadian Maritime provinces: Unfortunately, ferry service to Bar Harbor does not begin until May 23rd. Enter the US at Calais, ME. Follow US-1 about 7 miles. Just past Moosehorn National Wildlife Refuge turn left onto ME-9. Follow ME-9 about 77 miles to East Eddington. Turn left onto ME-46 and follow for about 4.5 miles to East Holden. Turn left onto US-1A and follow to Ellsworth, where it becomes US-1/ME-3, then proceed as directed above.

QUESTIONS? For general questions, contact Hilary Neckles, USGS Patuxent Wildlife Research Center, 26 Ganneston Drive, Augusta, ME 04330 (hilary_neckles@usgs.gov [note that the space in the email address is underlined], 207-622-8205 ext. 119). For questions regarding the Thursday Symposium on the Marine Invertebrate Diversity Initiative, contact Peter Larsen, Bigelow Laboratory for Ocean Sciences, West Boothbay Harbor, ME 04575 (plarsen@bigelow.org, 207-633-9600). For questions regarding the Saturday Mini-Symposium on Protected Areas, contact Blaine Kopp, USGS PWRC, 26 Ganneston Drive, Augusta, ME 04330 (bkopp@usgs.gov, 207-622-8201 ext. 114). Questions concerning abstracts or other program concerns should be addressed to NEERS Program Chairperson Pat Kremer, Department of Marine Sciences, UCONN Avery Point, 1080 Shennecossett Road, Groton, CT 06340 (pkremer@uconn.edu, 860-405-9140).

ATTENTION: The fall meeting of NEERS will be held jointly with the Long Island Sound Research Conference, October 24-26, 2002 at the Avery Point Campus of the University of Connecticut. Save the date!

NEERS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:

Linda Deegan, President & ERF Representative
David Burdick, Treasurer
Pamela Morgan, Secretary & ERF Correspondent
Marshall Pregnall, President Elect
R. Scott Warren, Past President
Robert Buchsbaum, Member-at-Large
Nancy O'Connor, Member-at-Large
Alan Young, Historian
Patricia Kremer, Program Chairperson

INSTRUCTIONS FOR PREPARING ABSTRACTS

1. Abstracts may be submitted by web page (preferred), email, or by mailing a paper copy (least preferred). Addresses are below.
2. All abstracts have a 1750-character limit (about 250 words). The character limit includes spaces, and applies to the body of the abstract only; the authors and title are excluded from the character limit. Web page submissions are constrained automatically to the allotted amount of text. Email and mail submissions that exceed the character limit will be edited or truncated as necessary.
3. Author(s), addresses(es), and presentation title must be typed at the top of the form.
4. The presentation title must be in capital letters.
5. A double space must follow the presentation title.
6. Please "X" all the options below corresponding to your abstract or presentation:

Oral Presentation Poster Presentation Oral OR Poster

Marine Invertebrate Diversity Initiative Symposium (Invited Speakers Only)

Protected Areas Mini-Symposium (Invited Speakers)

Protected Areas (Contributed presentations)

Ketchum Prize Rankin Prize Dean Prize

Powerpoint Projector Slide Projector Overhead Projector

*** SAMPLE ABSTRACT FORMAT***

Cadillac, M. T., and I. M. A. Hiker, Department of Environmental Sociology and Outdoor Recreation, Coastal College, State-of-Mind, ME 04000.

A SYSTEMATIC SAMPLING OF THE ALLURE OF ACADIA NATIONAL PARK

Acadia National Park boasts many dazzling spectacles, including the pounding surf of Thunder Hole, stunning views of Somes Sound and Frenchman Bay, and the first glimpse of sunrise in the US. Evidence suggests, however, that the park's true charm lies in its quiet beauty. We hiked ten trails from sea level to mountain summit, paddled eight 5-km stretches of island shoreline, and biked along 100 km of carriage roads, recording observations at regular intervals. Results confirm the importance of cumulative, small pleasures to the park's allure, such as sights of cliffs tumbling into the sea, islands emerging from the fog, pristine marshes, 300+ species of birds including breeding peregrine falcons, dense *Ruppia* and eelgrass beds, and diverse woodlands. We conclude that excursions off the loop road will enhance visitor experiences.

DEADLINE: Abstracts must be received by **NOON WEDNESDAY, MARCH 27, 2002.**

Abstracts may be submitted via web page (www.neers.org, select "meetings", then "spring 2002 meeting") or by email (pkremer@uconn.edu) or by US mail to Dr. Patricia Kremer, NEERS Program Chair, Department of Marine Sciences, UCONN Avery Point, 1080 Shennecossett Road, Groton, CT 06340-6097