



**FIRST ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE
ACCESS/NEERS SPRING 2010 JOINT MEETING**
Atlantic Canada Coastal Estuarine Science Society (www.unb.ca/cri/access.html)
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

CALL FOR PAPERS & PRE-REGISTRATION

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

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**. The US dollar is worth about 1.05 Canadian dollars. 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 focus on "Transboundary Topics" with special keynote speakers first thing Friday morning. Look for additional details in the final announcement, NEERS or ACCESS web pages (www.neers.org and www.unb.ca/cri/access.html), or contact Symposium organizer Simon Courtenay (Simon.Courtenay@dfo-mpo.gc.ca).

CONTRIBUTED PRESENTATIONS – CALL FOR PAPERS: Abstract submissions for contributed oral and poster presentations are invited on any subject related to estuaries or coastal environments, with papers on "Transboundary Topics" welcome but not required. Reports of work in progress as well as work in advanced stages and reviews of relevant topics are encouraged. 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). Abstracts must be submitted **online by FRIDAY, 19 MARCH 2009**. All NEERS presenters must be or become a NEERS member. Information on becoming a NEERS member is included on the pre-registration form, or contact Ed Dettmann (Dettmann.Edward@epa.gov or 401-782-3039).

INSTRUCTIONS FOR SUBMITTING ABSTRACTS: All abstracts have a 1750-character limit (about 250 words) including spaces. The character limit applies to the body of the abstract only, the authors and titles are excluded from the limit. All words in the title should be CAPITALIZED. Author(s), address(es), and presentation title must appear in the proper format. Use footnotes to minimize the space for addresses when multiple authors are from more than one institution. Include full name, e-mail address, and telephone number of presenting author. Even if you would prefer an oral presentation, please consider checking the "oral preferred but poster okay" option if you are willing to present a poster instead. This greatly facilitates final scheduling. All submissions will be confirmed (although this is not automatic) and the lead author will be notified of his/her scheduled time. Abstracts from NEERS members must be submitted using the abstract submission form on the NEERS web site (www.neers.org).

Contact ACCESS Program Chairs Melissa Wong and Tim Rawlings (Melisa.Wong@dfo-mpo.gc.ca, Timothy_Rawlings@cbu.ca) or NEERS Program Chair Hilary Neckles (hneckles@usgs.gov, 207-622-8205 ext. 119) with any questions.

POWERPOINT PRESENTATIONS: We will load all PowerPoint presentations onto an IBM-compatible laptop well before each session. Please bring your PowerPoint presentation on an IBM-compatible USB flash drive/memory stick to the projection desk. We will load your presentations Thursday evening or the morning of your presentation. 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) by 28 April.

POSTER GUIDELINES: Poster guidelines will be available on the website later.

STUDENT PRIZES: Prizes will be awarded to students from both societies chosen by the judging panel. There will be prizes in the normal four NEERS categories: graduate student oral presentation (Buck Ketchum Prize), undergraduate student oral presentations (Stubby Rankin Prize), graduate student poster presentation (David Dean Prize) and undergraduate student poster presentation (Scott Warren Prize). NEERS provides \$100 for each of these prizes; these amounts will be supplemented with ACCESS prize funds! All eligible students 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. More travel awards may be announced later. 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 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 Friday evening in the Arena, preceded by a cash bar. Dancing 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: Field trips will be offered 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 aboteaux 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.

ACCOMMODATIONS: The Huntsman Marine Science Centre and the St. Andrews Motor Inn are offering special prices. Mention ACCESS or NEERS when you register. As of 20 Feb 2010, the Canadian dollar was about \$0.95 US dollars.

Huntsman Marine Science Centre. Low cost option. Can walk to Arena, but might prefer car. Limited number of rooms available in residence at discounted conference rate. \$37/person double \$60/person single (see accommodation reservation form). Includes linens. Wireless internet. Meals can be purchased (must be booked in advance). www.huntsmanmarine.ca, Phone:(506) 529-1200.

Saint Andrews Motor Inn, 111 Water St., St Andrews NB. Easy walking distance to the Arena. Special room rate for meeting \$89.95 standard room (2 queen beds), 109.95 suite with 2 queen beds, 129.95 suite with king bed. A block of rooms is reserved for the meeting (mention ACCESS or NEERS) until May 1, 2010. Seven day cancellation policy on any rooms that are booked. www.standrewsmotorinn.com, Phone: (506) 529-4571-4571.

St. Andrews has a variety of other accommodation options such as inns, bed and breakfasts, motels, and the Fairmont Algonquin Hotel.

The Kennedy Inn. (506) 529-8844, www.kennedyinn.ca/

Inn on Fredrick. 1-877-895-4400, www.innnonfrederick.ca

The Fairmont Algonquin Hotel. 1(866) 540-4403, www.fairmont.com/algonquin/

Picket Fence Motel. (506) 467-6967, www.picketfencenb.com/

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. The Saint John Airport is about a 1.5 hour drive from St. Andrews.

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/>

IMPORTANT DEADLINES:

Abstract – 19 March 2010

Student Travel Award application. NEERS – 9 April 2010

Hotel registration

Huntsman – Limited, first come, first serve

St. Andrews Motor Inn – 1 May 2010

Online meeting registration: NEERS – 28 April 2010

Payment due: NEERS – 5 May 2010

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).