



### Hello Beaufort Sea Partnership!

In this issue of the Beaufort Sea Partnership Newsletter, in addition to the regular Partner updates and Community Spot, we find out the big news from the RCC. We are introduced to one of our partners, the FJMC, represented by Louie Porta, as well as a researcher with NRCan, Steve Solomon.

### Vision for the Beaufort Sea

The Beaufort Sea ecosystem is healthy and supports sustainable communities and economies for the benefit of current and future generations.

### Beaufort Sea Integrated Ocean Management - what's been happening?

A Regional Coordination Committee meeting was held March 31<sup>st</sup> - April 2<sup>nd</sup> in Inuvik. The RCC reviewed the substantive comments received on the draft IOM Plan through the January-March review period, and provided direction on the next steps - Implementation and Evaluation.

As mentioned in the recent e-mail sent to the Partnership, a table which includes all the comments received during the draft IOM Plan review has been posted on the BSP Forum for Partner organizations to access. This table shows how comments were addressed in the revised Plan, and a rationale for any suggested changes that weren't accepted.

Partners can find the directions that the RCC provided in the minutes of the meeting, as well as the table of comments, both of which are posted on the BSP Forum. The IOM Plan was revised using the comments from the BSP and the direction of the RCC and the revised version (May 19th) has also been posted on the forum.

On June 4th the RCC had a teleconference to approve the Plan in principle. There was consensus from RCC members that the IOM Plan be approved. Some minor editorial comments were identified, so the Secretariat

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Bulletin Board



**Inuvialuit Day**

June 5, 2009

[Check it out!](#)

**Inuvik Petroleum Show**

June 17 & 18, 2009

[Check it out on the web!](#)

**Aboriginal Day**

June 21, 2009

will make those changes and post the final IOM Plan on the forum for Partners to read prior to the upcoming Beaufort Sea Partnership meeting.

We have an IOM Plan for the Beaufort Sea! This is an exciting time as we move from the planning phase into the implementation phase.

### Partner Profile

Fisheries Joint Management Committee (FJMC)

Mandate: *FJMC co-manages fish, fish habitat and marine mammals within the ISR with Fisheries and Oceans Canada.*

One of our BSP members from the FJMC is Louie Porta. He is a Resource Biologist and member of the BSP's Biophysical Working Group. With the next BSP meeting just around the corner, where the focus will be on workplanning for Implementation, we asked Louie a few questions about some of the ways that FJMC could be involved in implementing the IOM Plan.



**Which objectives of the IOM Plan is FJMC excited about accomplishing?** The FJMC prioritizes the incorporation of Traditional and Local Knowledge in resource management, monitoring and identification of sensitive species and areas. This TK objective helps fulfill the FJMC's mandate. In addition, it is already a key component of FJMC scientific projects and planning initiatives inside the ISR. The inclusion of this objective in the IOMP for the Beaufort Sea LOMA highlights the effectiveness of using TK in resource management, and provides an opportunity for FJMC to increase collaboration with other partners in the Beaufort Sea.

**Are there objectives of the Plan that FJMC is already working on?** The identification of rare and unique habitats is an objective that the FJMC has already done considerable work towards accomplishing. The three high profile examples are: developing and executing the beluga monitoring program, the Tarium Nirjutait Marine Protected Area (TN MPA), and our participation in the Health of the Oceans Site Selection Advisory Committee process which recently proposed Darnley Bay as an area of interest for a second Western Arctic marine protected area.

The FJMC has worked closely and cooperatively with many members of the Beaufort Sea Partnership

[Check out photos of the 2008 Celebration](#)

**BSP Meeting**  
June 23 - 25, 2009  
in Inuvik

**Oceans Day**  
July 25, 2009  
Shingle Point

### BSP Forum



[ONLINE FORUM](#)

### World Oceans Day

Although 2009 will be the first official World Oceans Day to be recognized by the United Nations, the concept was first proposed in 1992 by the Government of Canada at the Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro. Since then, Oceans Day has been celebrated by millions of people across the planet on June 8th.

Here in the Beaufort festivities are usually held later in the summer due to climate. This year's event will be held at Shingle Point on July 25th, and the theme is "One Ocean, One Climate, One Future". If you're out at Shingle Point that day you're invited to join us in celebrating the importance of our oceans. For those who can't join us we encourage you to visit [the Ocean Project Website](#) for wonderful ideas on how to create your own Oceans Day celebrations.

throughout the aforementioned IOM processes. This history of successful collaboration provides good momentum for similar processes to achieve their objectives in the future.

***Does the FJMC have or use any tools that may be useful to other organizations when it comes to workplanning for Plan Implementation?***

We have been working on improving data gathering for community based monitoring programs. Harvesters will be able to use a simple handheld computer system to fill out monitoring forms at the touch of a button and then upload them immediately to a queryable database. This will standardize the data collected, and reduce the risk of losing data. This improved data gathering method will also make the various monitoring efforts required for all programs more effective, more up to date, more user-friendly, increase transparency, increase the scope of potential analysis, and make it easier to share data with other partners who would like to use the data for other projects.

***In your opinion, which objective of the Plan will require the most coordination to achieve? How could your organization contribute?***

The objectives regarding spill response provide a unique challenge and will require high level coordination from BSP. The FJMC has legislated co-management responsibilities to manage fish, marine mammals and habitats, and these habitats and species could be compromised in the event of a spill. The FJMC could help facilitate community relationships, be a liaison with local HTC's, help figure out good areas for storage of equipment, and provide information such as seasonal environmental conditions that should be considered when developing an oil spill response plan.

***What interests you most about the Beaufort Sea?***

I am fascinated and impressed by the effectiveness of the legislatively supported community based co-management resource management framework outlined in the IFA. This resource management decision making model makes the Western Arctic world leaders in adaptive co-management.

An interesting example is the Tarium Niryutait Marine Protected Area. These areas are culturally and biologically significant for subsistence harvesting and beluga whale aggregation areas. Normally, when one thinks of a marine protected area only conservation objectives and values come to mind. The Tarium Niryutait Marine Protected Area is a hybrid of both conservation objectives and subsistence objectives. The Tarium Niryutait Marine Protected Area recognizes the importance and value of subsistence harvesting working in concert with conservation of beluga whale habitat. It is a powerful example of the effectiveness of the land claim and it's legislatively supported adaptive co-management resource management decision making model.

For more information regarding the FJMC check out their website at [www.fjmc.ca](http://www.fjmc.ca).

## Partner Program Updates

What are you working on in and around the Beaufort Sea?

## Coming up!

### Inuvialuit Day

June 5th marks the 25th anniversary of the signing of the Inuvialuit Land Claim agreement.

It took 10 years of negotiations by the Committee for the Original People's Entitlement (COPE) with the federal government, was the first comprehensive land claim agreement signed north of the 60th parallel, and only the second in Canada at that time. Celebrations will be held in the Inuvialuit Settlement Region communities on June 5th. Download a copy of the [IFA](#) or check out the [Inuvialuit Regional Corporation's website](#)

### Beaufort Sea Partnership Meeting

A Partnership meeting will be held in Inuvik June 23rd - 25th. At this meeting, we will unveil the completed IOM Plan (and celebrate!).

Partners will develop an understanding of the Plan including how the review process worked, learn how Implementation and Evaluation will work, and then roll up their sleeves for Implementation as workplanning is the focus of the meeting. We will then be on our way to achieving the objectives we have laid out in the Plan! The Secretariat is looking forward to seeing everyone in Inuvik for the meeting!

## DFO

Fisheries and Oceans Canada

Working in collaboration with Inuvialuit and co-management organizations, the process of establishing a second Marine Protected Area (MPA) in the Beaufort Sea is a step closer to reality (the first being the proposed Tarium Niriyutait MPA). A committee has been established to develop an Area of Interest (AOI). A recommendation will be coming soon. This is a great opportunity to combine scientific and traditional knowledge to protect this area for future generations. If you would like any additional information please call John Ritchie at (867) 777-7504.

## OMRN

Oceans Management Research Network

The *Oceans Management Research Network* is hosting another National Conference this year in Ottawa, October 21st-24th, 2009. The objective of OMRN conferences is to learn about research and policy affecting our oceans. This year, there are four areas of emphasis for the conference - Integrated Management and Coastal Management Areas; Arctic Ocean, TEK and Northern Development; Ocean's Valuation; and State of the Ocean's Reporting. [Check out the conference website](#) for details on submitting paper and poster abstracts. The BSP Secretariat intends to present an aspect of the IOM Planning process at the conference, and there is interest by our TK Working Group in presenting as well!

## Next ...

Please contact us if your organization would like an opportunity to submit news or an article for an upcoming issue of our BSP E-News [Email Us!](#)

## Research Profile

Natural Resources Canada (NRCan)

Natural Resources Canada is working on a project to understand the distribution and movement of sediment on the seabed in the shallow water areas of ocean offshore from the Mackenzie River delta. NRCan also maps the shape (or morphology) of the seabed to look for geological hazards like ice and current erosion of the bed.

Steve Solomon is a researcher with NRCan from the Bedford Institute of Oceanography in Nova Scotia. We asked Steve a few questions about his work on this project -



**When are you planning to come to the Beaufort area, and what will you do here?** We come up to the delta three times per year; March, May-June and August. Each time of year involves different activities. In the winter we use the ice as a platform for geophysical studies using ground penetrating radar and we take samples of the seabed. In spring, we use helicopters to take samples of river and ocean water and make measurements of currents and changes to the seabed. In summer we use boats to do geophysical surveys using acoustics (sidescan sonar) and we measure waves, currents and sediment in the water.

**Have people from the local communities been involved in your research?** Over the years we have worked with many people as wildlife monitors, field assistants and partners to investigate erosion of coastal sites and other coastal processes. We have hired northern students as assistants. We continue to look for ways to develop community-based monitoring of coastal change.

**Have you developed any tools that may be useful to the local communities, or the organizations that are part of the Partnership?** We have not developed tools, but we do have databases of historical and recent coastal erosion along with satellite images and maps of coastal features that may be of use. Some of that data has been used to inform town planning in the ISR. For the past few years we have been producing a newsletter that describes the progress of breakup in the Mackenzie Delta - that information is going to the Emergency Measures organizations who use it to help in their planning.

**What interests you most about the Beaufort Sea?** I enjoy the challenge of working in a remote area that very few coastal geoscientists have even thought about - the unique aspects of the

feedback I get from people in the communities during our annual consultations.

The research that Steve is involved in links to several objectives in the Integrated Ocean Management Plan for the Beaufort Sea. NRCan's research:

- Helps to assess and develop an adaptive management response to climate change (Governance Objective),
- Helps to increase local emergency response and management capabilities (a strategy in the Social Objectives)
- Uses TK and LK in resource management, research or monitoring (Traditional Knowledge objective)
- Develops community based monitoring (strategy in Traditional Knowledge objectives)
- Develops baseline information on coastal processes, and improves knowledge of the relationship between the physical environment and ice as well as the impacts of ice processes on the seabed and coastal environments (strategies in the Ecosystem objectives)

If you have questions about NRCan's research, Steve can be reached by phone at (902) 426-9811, or by e-mail at [Ssolomon@nrcan.gc.ca](mailto:Ssolomon@nrcan.gc.ca). You can also write to Natural Resources Canada, Bedford Institute of Oceanography, PO Box 1006, Dartmouth, NS B2Y 4A2. For more information regarding NRCan check out their website at [www.nrcan-nrcan.gc.ca](http://www.nrcan-nrcan.gc.ca).

## Community Spotlight Inuvik NT

Spring break up on the Mackenzie River  
Photo submitted by Eli Arkin, EIRB



Find out more about Inuvik...

[Town of Inuvik Website](#)

[The Weather?](#)

[Attractions](#)

[Visitor's Guide](#)

AINA ArcticCouncil ArcticNet ACUNS ARI CAPP CARC CCI CCG CEEA ConocoPhillips  
BDEC DFAIT DFO DND EC CPAWS EISC EIRB FJMC GNWT IC WMAC-NS GNWT-ITI

SHELL NEB WMAC-NWT WWF YG GRRB GTC NRCan Imperial IGC ILA INAC IRC JS RCMP  
Kavik-Axys NRCan NTCL TC NWT-FederalCouncil NWT-Tourism IPY OMRN OSTP PCA

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