



Hello Beaufort Sea Partnership!

Do you want to find out what happened at the Beaufort Sea Partnership meeting in June? Would you like to see photos from Oceans Day at Shingle Point and learn about the research Humfrey Melling is doing on hazardous ice and storm conditions in the Beaufort Sea?

We knew you would! Read on, and enjoy!

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

We took the first step towards Implementation of the IOM Plan at the **Beaufort Sea Partnership meeting held in Inuvik June 23rd - 25th!** Minutes of the meeting were posted on the BSP Forum.

After celebrating our success in creating an IOM Plan for the Beaufort Sea, Partners put markers to flipcharts and started work plans that detail how we will implement the objectives and strategies of the IOM Plan, who will do what, what resources we have and what resources we'll need.

If you, or your organization, weren't represented at the meeting, you will still be involved, and we need your involvement! Implementing the IOMP is a job for all Partners.

The Working Groups are in the process of drafting all of the work plans. Once they are ready (in the next couple of weeks), they will be posted on the BSP Forum for all of the Partnership to review and provide comments. Partners will need to identify where they have a role in implementing any of the Objectives and provide input into the work plans for these Objectives. Of course, why wait? If you have a role in any of the Objectives or Strategies and aren't represented on the appropriate working group, and haven't been contacted yet to review a work plan and would like to provide input before the plans are posted on the Forum, please contact the Secretariat who can put you in touch with the folks drafting the work plans.

After three years of planning, we've started on our way towards achieving our goals. Congratulations to all members of the BSP! Let's keep up the great work!

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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.

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Coming Up!

Research Profile



Every year a Canadian Coast Guard Ship, the Sir Wilfred Laurier, does an Arctic Patrol. On board are a variety of people, with a variety of projects and purposes. One of these people is Humfrey Melling, a research scientist from the Institute of Ocean Sciences. His research team is studying hazardous ice and storm conditions. They join the ship at Cambridge Bay and pass through the Beaufort Sea on their way west in late September.

Humfrey's project is motivated by industry's plans for energy development in the Beaufort Sea. New knowledge of hazardous ice and storm conditions is needed to plan development offshore and to find the best solutions to environmental and engineering challenges to operations and construction.

We asked Humfrey Melling a few more questions about the project:

Have people from the local communities been involved in your research?

DFO has projects on several ships - the Laurier, Nahidik, and Louis S. St-Laurent. Students and observers from the ISR have been accommodated within our joint efforts where practical and timely starting in the mid 1990s and more consistently since 2003.

What are the benefits of your research?

The project is funded by the Federal Programme of Energy Research and Development (PERD) in a context of regulating energy development. PERD works through such projects to provide the best relevant scientific guidance, thereby minimizing the adverse effects of development and maximizing cost effectiveness and viability. ISR communities are served in both respects. The work also promotes understanding of climate change and its impacts on sea ice and marine ecosystems.

Have you developed any tools that may be useful to the local communities, or the Partnership?

We have lots of data, and interpretations of data, but no tools configured to examine issues of interest to communities. I am interested in suggestions.

What interests you most about the Beaufort Sea?

The Canadian Beaufort Sea is a laboratory for studying sea ice. It is strategically located in that it has extensive land-fast ice, plus it contains the Bathurst Polynya which is a prolific source of new ice, the raw material for ridges and multi-year floes, plus it lies in the path of the multi-year pack drifting south along the Canadian Archipelago from the oldest and most rugged ice fields in the world. Observations in the Beaufort Sea permit study of both the genesis and the culmination of the evolution of Arctic ice.

ArcticNet

The 6th ArcticNet Annual Scientific Meeting (ASM2009) is to be held from December 8th to 11th, 2009 in Victoria, British-Columbia. As the largest annual Arctic research gathering held in Canada, the ArcticNet annual meeting is the ideal venue to present results from all fields of Arctic research and stimulate networking and partnership activities. For more information, visit the conference website.

OMRN

The Oceans Management Research Network National Conference will be in Ottawa October 21st-24th, 2009. 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.

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Please contact us to submit news or an article for an upcoming issue of our BSP E-News
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The research that Humfrey is involved in links to several objectives in the Integrated Ocean Management Plan for the Beaufort Sea. This research on hazardous ice and storm conditions:

- Will help promote an effective regulatory environment (Governance objective)
- Will contribute to effective planning and decision making (Governance objective)
- Helps asses and develop an adaptive management response to climate change (Governance objective)
- Helps us prepare to take advantage of large scale economic development in the LOMA (Economic objective)
- Increases awareness and provides opportunities for people to participate in research projects (Social strategy)
- Contributes to emergency response management (Social strategy)
- Helps develop baseline information on coastal processes, and the impacts of ice processes on the seabed and coastal environments (Ecosystem strategies)

Humfrey Melling is a research scientist from the Institute of Ocean Sciences in Sidney, BC, which is a research laboratory operated by Fisheries and Oceans Canada. He can be reached by phone at (250) 363-6552 or by e-mail at Humfrey.Melling@dfo-mpo.gc.ca if you have any questions about this research project.



Oceans Day Pictures

Keep Reading - a couple more pictures from Oceans Day are below!

Visit the BSP website photo gallery where more Oceans Day pictures will be posted soon!

Spotlight on Oceans Day Shingle Point, Yukon

Shingle Point, Yukon

Shingle Point has been a fishing, whaling and hunting destination for generations. Over the years, Shingle Point has seen a settlement, Hudson's Bay Trading Post, and the DEW Line. The Shingle Point of today is a summer destination for families who want to spend time out on the land or on the ocean.



Some links to information on Shingle Point:

[Heritage](#)

[Shingle Point School](#)

[DEW Line Sites](#)

[What's the weather like?](#)

[Climate Change](#)

Celebrating Oceans Day in the Western Arctic!



Since its inception, Oceans Day has been celebrated worldwide on June 8th but here, in the Inuvialuit Settlement Region we celebrate Oceans Day at later date due to arctic sea conditions. This year July 25th was the day chosen to commemorate the Arctic Ocean at Shingle Point, a whaling and hunting area on the Yukon coast used by the Inuvialuit for centuries. From the elders to the youngest generation, the people of Shingle Point were ready to honour the Ocean that has been so bountiful to them.

Residents of Aklavik, who make up the majority of Shingle Point summer dwellers, demonstrated immense support when it was suggested we hold Oceans Day in conjunction with their annual Shingle Point Summer Games. To allow other people to join the celebration, three air charters brought over thirty guests including elders, sponsors and researchers out to this remote location to enjoy a day filled with games, country foods and abundant opportunities to discover the importance of taking care of this precious resource we call the Beaufort Sea.

The festivities commenced at 10:00pm on Friday and lasted well into the wee hours of the morning and continued on till late Sunday evening. With traditional and not so traditional games lined up for the event such as, kipotuk ring toss, a scavenger hunt, dizzy stick, tea boiling and bannock making contest and even a relay race that re-enacts the life cycle of a Char fish, the merriment was bound to bring a smile to young and old. Saturday, Oceans Day, brought people from all over together for more fun, games and a special country foods feast topped off with blue Eskimo donuts decorated with colourful whales, seals and fish much to the delight of the kid in all of us. As importantly festivity goers got a chance to unwind and explore a unique setting on the Arctic coast that will surely stay in their hearts for many years to come.

Although the day was filled with exciting activities, guests left with a sense of connection to an ocean that few Canadians have the opportunity to experience. As for those who live here and travel to Shingle Point each summer it was a chance to celebrate their long connection to, and appreciation of, the Arctic Ocean.

Article submitted by Kym Brisebois, Fisheries and Oceans Canada - Oceans Day Organizing Committee

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