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SOUTH HOLLAND COAST, THE NETHERLANDS

An innovative soft engineering intervention, comprising an unprecedented 21.5 Mm^3 sand nourishment known as the Sand Engine, has recently been implemented on the South Holland coast just north of Ter Heyde, the Netherlands. This intervention complies with earlier ideas as advocated by Per Bruun, our sadly missed coastal scientist in favor of nourishment as a reply to sea level rise. The 21.5 Mm^3 Sand Engine nourishment is a pilot project to test the efficacy of local mega-nourishments as a counter measure for the anticipated enhanced coastal recession in the 21st century. The proposed concept*, a single mega-nourishment, is expected to be more efficient, economical and environmentally friendly in the long term than traditional beach and shoreface nourishments presently being used to negate coastal recession. The above picture shows the Sand Engine at low water in March 2013; note the intriguing up drift morphological variability. (Photograph courtesy of Rijkswaterstaat/Joop van Houdt and caption by Marcel Stive).

* Stive, M.J.F.; de Schipper, M.; Luijendijk, A.; Ranasinghe, R.; Aarninkhof, S., and van Gelder-Maas, C., 2013. A new alternative to saving our beaches from sea level rise: The Sand Engine. *Journal of Coastal Research,* 29(5), 1001–1008.

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An International Forum for the Littoral Sciences

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Because CERF is concerned with broad environmental issues, our efforts concentrate on significant problems such as maintenance of good quality (potable) water with adequate supply, and hazards associated with potential beach erosion, flooding, and susceptibility of developed shorelines to storm surge and wave attack. By focusing attention on these potential man-made and natural hazards, it is hoped that our research efforts will help others improve the quality of life in diverse coastal areas. CERF thus aims to stimulate awareness of coastal (marine and freshwater shorelines) land and water problems; initiate and foster research and innovation to promote long-term coastal productivity; establish an educational forum for the debate of contentious coastal issues; and develop new principles and approaches for enlightened coastal management, and encourage their adoption and use.

CERF is associated with the Department of Geosciences at Florida Atlantic University (FAU) in Boca Raton, Florida, and one of the main editorial offices for the *Journal of Coastal Research* (JCR) is located at the University. This partnership provides a basis for cooperative investigation, in private and public sectors, of biophysical resources found in open and naturally protected coastal regions, estuaries, large inland bodies of water bounded by shorelines, wetlands, and other coastal environments. Multidisciplinary studies at FAU's Department of Geosciences brings together experts from various fields in remote sensing, geographic information science, spatial ecology, environmental studies, marine biology, coastal geology, geography, and coastal engineering.

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Dr. Charles W. Finkl is President and Executive Director of the Coastal Education & Research Foundation *[CERF]*, publisher of the JCR. Charlie, a founding editor of the *Journal of Coastal Research*, has served as Editor-in-Chief for the past 27 years. He is a Research Professor in the Department of Geosciences at Florida Atlantic University in Boca Raton, Florida. He received his Bachelor and Master of Science degrees from Oregon State University and the Ph.D. from the University of Western Australia. He is a member of more than 20 professional societies and has published more than 200 professional papers, books, and reports. He is a Chartered Marine Scientist (CMarSci) [Institute of Marine Engineering, Science and Technology], Certified Professional Geological Scientist (CPGS) [American Institute of Professional Geologists (AIPG),], Certified Professional Soil Scientist (CPSSc) [American Registry of Certified Professionals in Agronomy, Crops, and Soils], and a Professional Wetland Scientist (PWS) [Society of Wetland Scientists]. Charlie has field experience in parts of the USA, Caribbean area, Brazil, Honduras, Russia, South Africa, Western Europe, Australasia, and South Pacific islands. He is also the Series Editor of the Encyclopedia of Earth Sciences Series that is published by Springer (Germany). There are more than twenty-eight volumes in the Series and about twenty-five are available online. Charlie also serves on the Editorial Board of the *International Journal of Environmental Studies* (Routledge) and is an occasional peer reviewer for many other professional journals.

Charlie has interests and expertise in the general areas of surficial geology, coastal and marine geomorphology (including coastal classification), coastal/marine biophysical environments, exploration geochemistry, soils and weathering (regolith geology), coastal zone management and engineering applications or impacts on natural systems (including erosion control and shore protection), coastal hydrology including submarine freshwater and mineralized seeps, subaerial and marine structural geology, natural hazard mitigation in coastal zones, marine environments and coastal wetland protection and restoration, and remote sensing (*e.g.* land cover classification in coastal wetlands, advection-diffusion turbidity plumes in coastal waters, delineation of bottom types and sand resources), effluent disposal and pollution of wetlands and estuaries, water resources mapping and conservation, time series studies of wetland hydroperiod and soil moisture.

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The International Coastal Symposium (ICS) was originally set up by Per Bruun (deceased) and Charlie Finkl as the official meeting of the Coastal Education & Research Foundation (CERF), with the first meeting being held in Hilton Head, South Carolina, in 1993. After the repeated success of these meetings, CERF moved the ICS to the international scene holding these conferences in conjunction with local sponsors in Australia, Brazil, Iceland, New Zealand, Northern Ireland, Poland and Portugal. The ICS brings together delegates from all over the world to collaborate and discuss the most current coastal research studies and projects. The ICS 2014, which is scheduled to be held from April 13–17 in Durban, South Africa, will be a grand celebration of CERF and the JCR, marking the 30th Anniversary for both. For more information, please visit www.cerf-jcr.org.

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Journal of Coastal Research, an International Forum for the Littoral Sciences, is dedicated to all aspects of coastal research. These include geology, biology, geomorphology (physical geography), climate, littoral oceanography, hydrography, coastal hydraulics, environmental (resource) management, engineering, and remote sensing. Although each field functions effectivelywithin itsownpurview, the cross-disciplinarynature of coastal studies requires familiarity with other fields aswell. Hence, the scope of topics is necessarily broad in order to address the complexity of coastal biophysical and socio-economic interactions. Because of the wide range of interrelated topics, the journal invites original contributions and manuscripts dealing with theory, methodology, techniques, and field or applied topic studies on interdisciplinary coastal issues.

The journal encourages the dissemination of knowledge and understanding of the coastal zone by promoting cooperation and communication between specialists in different disciplines. Natural scientists, for example, are encouraged to collaborate with professionals in other fields to prepare contributions relating to the coastal zone that foster increased appreciation of coastal environments and processes. By means of this journal, with its scholarly and professional papers, systematic review articles, book and symposia reviews, communications and news, and special topical issues, an international forum for the development of integrated coastal research is provided.

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