

## **COVER PHOTOGRAPH AND FRONT MATTER: GENERAL OVERVIEW OF SPANJAARDS DUIN, A NEW DUTCH DUNE AREA**

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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 effectively within its own purview, the cross-disciplinary nature of coastal studies requires familiarity with other fields as well. 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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**General overview of Spanjaards Duin, a New Dutch Dune Area.** This new area is situated at the Delfland coast near The Hague. It was constructed in front of the existing coast, between 2008–2009, by beach and fore shore nourishment. After initial nourishment, full opportunity was given to spontaneous processes of dune formation, wind and water. Wind activity can be clearly seen. Left is the, now former, fore dune ridge. An elongated dune valley extends in the middle. It will in time become moist when hydrological conditions have finally established. A new fore dune ridge is at right, facing the North Sea. Vegetation development is still in an initial phase, mainly with Marram (*Ammophila arenaria*) and Sand couch (*Agropyron junceiforme* / *Elymus farctus*). The new dune area is under the protection of Natura 2000, the EU network of priority habitats.

The area is meant as compensation for predicted losses of important nature values in existing dunes nearby. These will be affected by the airborne emission (notably NO<sub>x</sub>) of harbour traffic from the newest extension of the Port of Rotterdam, Maasvlakte 2, which will be in operation from 2015. Looking south, in the distance is Maasvlakte 1, a former harbour extension. Both these extensions have been constructed by reclaiming part of the shallow North Sea. (Photograph by Frank van der Meulen, Frank van der Meulen Consultancy, Frank.vandermeulen@hetnet.nl, www.frankvandermeulen-consultancy.nl, The Netherlands, September 2012.)

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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.

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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 one of the first meetings 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. During the ICS 2014, which was held in Durban, South Africa, a grand celebration took place to mark the 30th Anniversary of CERF and the JCR. Our next ICS meeting is scheduled for March of 2016 in Sydney, New South Wales, Australia. For more information, please visit [www.cerf-jcr.org](http://www.cerf-jcr.org).



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## CONTENTS

### IN MEMORIAM

Robert G. Dean .....	Charles W. Finkl	iii
----------------------	------------------	-----

### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Coastal Wetlands: Coupling between Ocean and Land Systems.....	Kunshan Bao	iv
--	-------------	----

### RESEARCH PAPERS

Future Sea Level Rise and Changes on Tides in the Patagonian Continental Shelf .....	Maira Luz Clara, Claudia G. Simionato, Enrique D'Onofrio, and Diego Moreira	519
Marine Notches and Sea-Cave Bioerosional Grooves in Microtidal Areas: Examples from the Tyrrhenian and Ligurian Coasts—Italy .....	Luigi Carobene	536
Evaluation of Extreme Waves Associated with Cyclonic Activity on San Andrés Island in the Caribbean Sea since 1900.....	Juan Carlos Ortiz Royero, José Manuel Plazas Moreno, and Omar Lizano	557
Accretion and Vegetation Community Change in the Wax Lake Delta Following the Historic 2011 Mississippi River Flood.....	Melissa Vernon Carle, Charles E. Sasser, and Harry H. Roberts	569
Soil-Plant Relationships in Mediterranean Salt Marshes across Dune-Cultivated Land Gradient.....	Marco Landi and Claudia Angiolini	588
Developing Hyperspectral Vegetation Indices for Identifying Seagrass Species and Cover Classes .....	Ruiliang Pu, Susan Bell, and David English	595
Study of the Gonu Tropical Cyclone in the Arabian Sea .....	Leila Mashhadi, Nasser Hadjizadeh Zaker, Mohsen Soltanpour, and Saeed Moghimi	616
Habitat Heterogeneity Determining the Macrobenthic Infaunal Community in a Mangrove Swamp in South China: Implication for Plantation and Plant Invasion .....	Jonathan Y.S. Leung	624
Poststorm Evolution of Beach-Dune Morphology: Padre Island National Seashore, Texas.....	Bradley A. Weymer, Chris Houser, and John R. Giardino	634
Reproductive Plasticity in the Speckled Crab <i>Arenaeus cribrarius</i> (Decapoda, Brachyura, Portunidae) Associated with a Population Decline.....	Luciana S. Andrade, Vivian Fransozo, Giovana Bertini, Maria L. Negreiros-Fransozo, and Laura S. López-Greco	645
Mangrove Forest Structure in the São João River Estuary, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil .....	Gabriela Calegario, Marcos Sarmet Moreira de Barros Salomão, Carlos Eduardo de Rezende, and Elaine Bernini	653
Assessing the Influence of Sea Level Rise on Salt Transport Processes and Estuarine Circulation in the Changjiang River Estuary .....	Cheng Qiu and Jianrong Zhu	661
Sediment Transport Induced by the Advection of a Moving Salt Wedge in the Changjiang Estuary .....	Lu Li, Hui Wu, James T. Liu, and Jianrong Zhu	671
Temporal and Spatial Variation of Mixing and Movement of Suspended Sediment in the Macrotidal Chikugo River Estuary .....	Gubash Azhikodan and Katsuhide Yokoyama	680
Analysis of Chlorophyll- <i>a</i> and Primary Production Dynamics in North Tyrrhenian and Ligurian Coastal–Neritic and Oceanic Waters.....	Christian Marchese, Luigi Lazzara, Maurizio Pieri, Luca Massi, Caterina Nuccio, Carolina Santini, and Fabio Maselli	690
Sensitivity of Combined Turbulent Wave Overtopping and Storm Surge Overflow Response to Variations in Levee Geometry .....	Saiyu Yuan, Lin Li, Farshad Amini, and Hongwu Tang	702
Understanding the Behaviour of Gravity Currents in Tideless Estuaries and Considering the Impact of Sea Level Rise within the Nile Estuary .....	Mohamed Mahgoub, Reinhard Hinkelmann, and Michele La Rocca	714
The Contributions to Storm Tides in Pacific Northwest Estuaries: Tillamook Bay, Oregon, and the December 2007 Storm .....	T.K. Cheng, D.F. Hill, and W. Read	723
Comparison of Analytical Solutions for Salt Intrusion Applied to the Modaomen Estuary .....	Yanwen Xu, Wei Zhang, Xiuhua Chen, Jinhai Zheng, Xiaowen Chen, and Hongxu Wu	735
Toward a Better Understanding of the Native–Nonnative Status of <i>Mytilus</i> Mussels in the Southwestern Atlantic: Comparing Pre-European Middens and Modern Populations .....	Verónica Savoya, Julieta Gómez Otero, and Evangelina Schwindt	742

### REVIEW ARTICLES

Biological Flora of Coastal Dunes and Wetlands: <i>Borrichia frutescens</i> (L.) DC. ....	Robert I. Lonard, Frank W. Judd, and Richard Stalter	749
---	--	-----

### TECHNICAL COMMUNICATIONS

Development of a Unique Synthetic Data Set to Improve Sea-Level Research and Understanding .....	Phil J. Watson	758
--	----------------	-----

### BOOK REVIEWS

<i>Managed Realignment: A Viable Long-Term Coastal Management Strategy?</i> ; Esteves, L.S.....	Charles W. Finkl	771
<i>The Mediterranean Sea: Its History and Present Challenges</i> ; Goffredo, S. and Dubinsky, Z. (eds.).....	Charles W. Finkl	772
<i>Off-Trail Adventures in Baja California: Exploring Landscapes and Geology on Gulf Shores and Islands</i> ; Johnson, M.E.....	Christopher Makowski	774

