

## **Beach near the fisherman's village of Katwijk, North Sea coast, The Netherlands.**

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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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**Beach near the fisherman's village of Katwijk, North Sea coast, The Netherlands.** Using sediment from the bottom of the North Sea about 10-15 km offshore, this segment of the coast was nourished from 2013-2014. The fore dunes, beach, and nearshore area were reinforced as part of a coastal defense strategy to meet the newest national safety standards. After the nourishment was completed, the village of Katwijk and its low-lying hinterland are now better protected against storm surge, sea-level rise, and other suspected impacts of climate change.

Average grain size of the nourished beach sand was measured to be about 300  $\mu$ . With a very low slope of approximately 10-15 degrees, this is a good example of a dissipative beach, where most of the wave energy is released through the process of wave breaking. Most prominent amongst the seashells in the foreground are the slim and long *Ensis ensis*, a common species in the North Sea waters. Also known as the sword razor or razor clam, *E. ensis* is a marine bivalve mollusc in the family Pharidae. It lives buried in the sand and can be found along the coasts of northwest Europe. (Photograph taken November 2017 by Frank van der Meulen, UNESCO IHE-Delft Institute for Water Education and Deltares, Delft, The Netherlands.)

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Dr. Charles W. Finkl is President and Executive Director of the Coastal Education and 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 34 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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