



***Measure for Measure:
How Do We Gauge Coastal Stewardship?***

Call for Papers & Posters

*How do we measure coastal resources and their functions?
How do we gauge human impacts relative to "natural" systems?
How should our assessments be used to anticipate, fashion, and govern our coastal futures?*

Please join us in Newport, Rhode Island in May 2004, to examine and discuss these challenging questions. The Coastal Society's 19th biennial conference (TCS19) will focus on how coastal managers, resource users, law and policy makers, educators and students, and other coastal community members measure and assess coastal resources, functions and human impacts.

The Coastal Society invites papers, posters and panel session proposals for TCS 19. To complement the overarching ***Measure for Measure*** conference theme, TCS members and other coastal constituents have identified four specific themes to organize the conference:

**Coastal Governance
Coastal Land Use**

**Water Quality
Habitat & Ecosystem-Based Management**

We invite papers, posters and panel session proposals on the social and biophysical dimensions of these themes. We encourage authors to focus on the selection, collection, analysis and use of relevant information to inform and support coastal resource management. We ask that each paper, poster or panel proposal highlight methods for measuring and assessing coastal communities and resources.

TCS19 will examine how current and emerging tools for assessing and understanding the coastal environment are uniquely perceived and utilized by scientists, educators, businesses, resource managers, politicians, policy-makers, and the media.

For each abstract, poster or panel proposal, we ask you to consider the following questions:

***What did you measure/assess?
Why?
How did you measure/define the variables or factors of interest?***

Preference will be given to contributions linked addressing these questions in the context of the four themes. However, proposals for special panels or programs will be considered and are encouraged.

Additional guidance for each theme is as follows:

Coastal Governance

What is “successful” governance? Who makes decisions about the manner in which coastal areas or resources are used? What cultural, social, economic and political factors influence governance and how? Can good governance models be transferred from one area (or resource) to another? TCS19 will examine international, national, regional and local governance issues. We welcome papers addressing governmental structures as well as participatory processes. Methods of identifying management goals and integrating those goals into suitable governance models are particularly welcome.

Coastal Land Use

How do we use the land in our coastal zones? What functions do coastal lands provide? Are we loving the coasts to death? Are current laws and policies adequate and/or effective? TCS19 will examine issues regarding the manner in which coastal lands may be managed and used. We invite contributions dealing with the socio-economic, biophysical, legal and political aspects of coastal land stewardship. Particularly welcome are contributions regarding information collection and assessment systems (including GIS) that inform myriad coastal land use debates. Also welcome are contributions dealing with water-dependent industries, private property use, public access and zoning.

Water Quality

How do we assess water quality? What factors influence differentiated water quality standards and how? TCS 19 will examine the manner in which biophysical information is collected, analyzed and used in water quality program design, implementation and evaluation. We encourage contributions dealing with nutrient control efforts, non-point source programs, contaminated sediments management, oil spill damage assessment and environmental restoration. Also welcome will be discussions on approaches to measuring political will, human values (exemplified through “acceptable” baselines), economic values, and other human dimensions of this theme. Finally, we seek examples of measurement innovations applied to management and regulatory issues that may drive future program development.

Habitat and Ecosystem-Based Management

What is an ecosystem? How do we define and manage ‘essential’ or ‘critical’ habitat? What approaches can be employed to monitor ecosystems and habitat areas? Can humans effectively manage large natural systems? What roles should marine protected areas (MPAs) play? TCS19 will examine the manner in which measurement and assessment methods influence habitat and ecosystem-based management. We are particularly interested in contributions dealing with ecosystem function evaluation. We are also interested in contributions regarding the identification of threatened systems (e.g. certain wetlands or coral reefs) and the methods and processes designed to protect them.

Abstract Submission

TCS prefers online submission of abstracts. For information on **submitting your abstract, poster outline, or panel session proposal go to:**

<http://www.thecoastalsociety.org/conference/tcs19/index.html>

For questions on abstract submission, contact the **Conference Program Chair:** Becky Ellis, School of Marine Affairs University of Washington, 3707 Brooklyn Ave., NE, Seattle, WA 98105, Ph: 206-355-3400, E-mail: rae2@u.washington.edu. Please contact the theme leaders listed below for more information on particular subjects.

Abstract/Outline/Proposal Deadline: Monday, December 1, 2003

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