

MCCIP Newsletter – May 2006

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1. Appointment of MCCIP Programme Officer

Paul Buckley was recently appointed at the start of May and will be supporting Stephen Dye on all secretariat activities for the MCCIP programme. Paul has been working in business research for a number of years but originally has a background in climate change and is very much looking forward to meeting the unique challenges presented by the MCCIP aim of delivering a fully integrated marine climate change programme for the UK.

2. Marine Climate Conferences and Events

The following events might be of interest to professionals, academics and other interested parties in Marine Science and related climate change issues:

- RAPID Climate Change International science conference, Birmingham, UK, 24-27 October. Main (but not exclusive) focus is on the role of the THC in Rapid Climate Change. Will also considers impacts of rapid climate change on society and takes a longer-term perspective of environmental change to set current changes against the context of natural rapid changes in the distant past. For more details see <http://www.noc.soton.ac.uk/rapid/rapid2006/>
- Challenger Society for Marine Sciences conference, Oban, Scotland, 11-15 September, which is the leading marine science conference in the UK. For further details see <http://www.sams.ac.uk/challenger/>

3. Marine Climate Change in the news

Related news items in the popular media during May.

Climate Chaos season, BBC: Series of documentaries exploring the impacts of climate change on all aspects of society. David Attenbrough's 2-part documentary included a significant feature of marine climate change and in particular the dangers presented by ocean acidification. Further details on the BBC climate chaos season may be found here:

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/sn/hottopics/climatechange/climatechaos.shtml>

Guardian report on impacts of climate change on UK coastal environments (Copy and paste link using the PDF 'select' option)

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/climatechange/story/0,,1766956,00.html>

Times report on threats to flora and fauna including marine species (Copy and paste link using the PDF 'select' option)

<http://www.timesonline.co.uk/article/0,,3-2159743.html>

New Scientist reports on:

Threats of Storm surges to the US:

<http://www.newscientist.com/channel/earth/mg19025544.300.html>

Marine Zooplankton survey:

<http://www.newscientist.com/channel/life/dn9108.html>

Effects of Sea surface temperature change on Mussel beds off California

<http://www.newscientist.com/article/mg19025535.500-mussel-beds-dont-like-it-hot.html>

4. Related publications and current research

The following are a selection of recent publications (last 6 months) and ongoing research that are of relevance to the work of MCCIP:

Marine Biodiversity and Climate Change: Assessing and Predicting the Influence of Climatic Change Using Intertidal Rocky Shore Biota;

Occasional Publications of the Marine Biological Association No. 20

http://www.mba.ac.uk/NMBL/publications/occpub/pdf/occ_pub_20.pdf

MarBEF* Newsletter (Spring 2006). This newsletter contains articles from the MarBEF "Biodiversity, Science and Governance" Conference in Paris 2005. Includes reports from Nick Dulvy on "Extinctions and threat in the sea" and Keith Brander "Is climate change moving the goalposts for fisheries management?" *MarBEF are an EU Network of Excellence on Marine Biodiversity and Ecosystem Functioning.

http://www.marbef.org/documents/newsletter/NwsNo4_May06.pdf

Scottish Association for Marine Science, Northern Seas Programme

<http://www.sams.ac.uk/research/research.htm>

Also see the following websites for further information on Marine Climate Change:

Marine Climate Change Impacts - SAHFOS Encyclopaedia (Sir Alistair Hardy Foundation for Marine Science)

<http://192.171.163.165/Climate%20Encyclopaedia/index2.html>

MarClim – Marine Biodiversity and Climate Change (includes links to publications)

<http://www.mba.ac.uk/marclim/>

5. Forthcoming MCCIP activities

Steering Group Committee Meeting; 21st - 22nd June
Scottish Executive, Edinburgh

Meeting with major partners to shape the future of MCCIP and determine the format of communication outputs (see website news for further information on the agenda for this meeting). A full report of the outcome of the meeting will be available on the website following this event.

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The MCCIP newsletter will be published every two months with the next issue due in early August.