

ELWANDLE NODE

Monthly Update APRIL 2010

Key Achievements in April

Algoa Bay LTMR

- On the 7th April 2010 Shaun Deyzel organised and convened a meeting with Algoa Bay PE-LTEMP (Long term Environmental Management Programme) PI's, Prof Eileen Campbell, Dr Angus Paterson, Dr Tommy Bornman, Ms Berny Snow and Mr Luzuko Dali at which fieldwork logistics and research objectives were discussed.
- 20th April Shaun had a follow-up meeting with Ms Berny Snow in Port Elizabeth.
- Shaun was involved in the retrieval and replacement of Bird Island Acoustic Doppler Current Profiler (ADCP) on the 14th April and the Sundays and Dunefields 30 m Underwater Temperature Recorder (UTR) arrays on the 13th April.
- Data was successfully retrieved and sent to Dr Wayne Goschen for population and analysis.
- Continuous temperature data series were analysed, with the assistance of Dr Goschen for the Bird Island inner UTR array (>400 data days) and the Sundays UTR array (>600 data days). Synthesis was provided to Dr Paul Cowley for presentation to OTN associates.
- Dr Matt Dickon completed the monthly Bird Island sample on the 12 - 13 April on the uKwabelana.

Data Management

- Shaun initiated a registration process with Prof Collin Atwood in an application to register a rare and valuable Historical data set.
- Shaun also established a link with SAEON Fynbos Node Data manager Ms Victoria Goodall liaising on registration protocols and data management practices with the aim of establishing a sustainable SAEON Data Managers community for improved Data Management.

Proposed activities for May

- Shaun will deploy a deepwater (60-70 m) UTR in the mid-shelf region of Algoa Bay, a shallow (30 m) off Boknes, east of Bird Island.
- On the 4th May Shaun completed the PE-LTEMP trial run.
- Once the aforementioned has been completed he will complete the UFH 24hr sample first weather window.
- Shaun has conducted a workshop with UFH students on the 5th May.
- He is currently working on the completion of the PE-LTEMP monthly sample for May.
- He will also set up SAEON's Parataxonomy for zooplankton analysis (PE-LTEMP).
- Shaun will start preparing project registration details for projects database in conjunction with Dr Goschen and Ms Goodall, and complete the data registration with Prof Collin Attwood.

ELWANDLE NODE

South African Estuaries Information System (SAEIS)

- Nulette Gordon, the estuaries database co-ordinator, has been working on the population of the South African Estuaries Information System (SAEIS) and the CSIR Aerial photography collections during April.
- She has scanned and digitised all the CSIR Aerial photographs dating from November 2009 - March 2010 and metadata for each of the photographs were added and loaded onto the SAEIS.
- At present 80% of the aerial photographs have been linked to individual estuaries within the SAEIS with the exception of a few Natal North Coast systems.
- Throughout the population process, literature surveys were continued to ensure that all new published papers and reports were added to the SAEIS database.
- Nulette is currently on a visit to the KZN Wildlife offices in St. Lucia to obtain documents on this system as well as to Kosi Bay and the surrounding areas.
- A CERM indaba, which Nulette will be attending, will also be held in St. Lucia where all stakeholders and researchers that have worked on these systems will discuss past, present and future research for these systems.

Proposed activities for May

- The 2nd – 6th May Nulette will be attending the CERM indaba;
- 10th – 14th May she will be collecting outstanding Cape Nature Reports in Stellenbosch and having a meeting with Wayne Goschen regarding the SAEIS website and interactive Portal in Cape Town. While there, she will also be meeting with Ayanda Matoti of MCM.
- The 17th – 21st May Nulette will be attending to the sorting and population of St. Lucia and Cape Nature reports for the SAEIS.

Marine Protected Areas:

- Anthony Bernard has successfully completed the Table Mountain National Park Easter fieldtrip which took place from the 1st – 25th April and is currently analyzing data collected on the trip.
- Sean Bailey has completed the iSimangaliso final report.
- Dr. Albrecht Götz has done an oral presentation on the Table Mountain National Park long-term monitoring programme for the Cape Research Centre seminar series at SAN Parks on the 14th April.
- 15th April he had a meeting at the Egagasini Node in Cape Town to discuss possible collaborations and planning.
- He is currently participating in the Agulhas Bank fieldtrip, which started on the 26th April and is set to continue until the 15th May 2010.

Proposed activities for May

- Sean Bailey and Anthony Bernard are currently participating, together with Ryan Palmer, Angus, Elodie Heyns, Guy Musson and Lara Atkinson, in the 2nd iSimangaliso artificial reef monitoring field trip, duration is from the 3rd - 16th May 2010.

ELWANDLE NODE

- Albrecht will be starting his code 10 driving lessons in May as soon as he has returned from the Algulhas Bank fieldtrip.

ACEP:

- The 7th April 2010 Dr. Thomas Bornman attended a meeting at NMMU to discuss the Algoa Bay Sentinel Site.
- 1st – 9th April he finalized the SAIAB – DEAT MoU (Memorandum of Undertaking). The MoU has been sent to MCM.
- On the 10 – 14 April Dr. Bornman attended and lectured at the ASCLME training course in Mauritius.
- The 16th April he sent a net, sampling jars and preservative to Mike Eddison (C2C4C).
- 19 – 23 April 2010 Dr. Bornman attended the Data Buoy Co-operation Panel Workshop in Cape Town.
- 22 April 2010 he met with Sharon du Plessis to discuss the ACEP cruises planned for the remainder of 2010.
- 30 April 2010 he finalized the ACEP II Month-end progress report for April.

Proposed activities for May

- 3rd May 2010 Dr. Bornman and Angus Paterson had a meeting with Johann Augustyn, Ian Calvert, Sharon du Plessis, Kevan Moodley, etc. to discuss the ACEP cruises, the MoU and ASCLME cruises.
- The 4th May Dr. Bornman participated in the Fort Hare sampling fieldtrip in Algoa Bay.
- The 7th May Dr. Bornman will have a meeting with Lynn Erasmus, Lubusa Monyooe, etc. at NRF in Pretoria to discuss ACEP II budgets and bursaries.
- The 21st – 30th May Dr. Bornman will attend the ASCLME Steering Committee meeting in Zanzibar.

Education:

- The Weather monitoring project has encountered some difficulties such as the signal being a huge problem resulting in learners only taking the readings at a specific time and not getting information from computers at regular intervals. Secretaries at schools are also unwilling to be disturbed in their workspace to allow learners access for downloads.
- Nozi has sent out requests to SAIAB and Rhodes to donate old computers to use for weather data downloads. If not successful, an alternative solution is to download information at a time convenient for the secretaries and have the downloading done by a staff member instead of the learners.
- Eastern Cape Environmental Education Forum - Nozi attended a meeting in April and was asked to look for accommodation for the youth summit, which will be held in September 2010. Nozi has made enquiries at Hogsback for the accommodation.
- National Science Week 2010 - Grahamstown has put up a joint proposal with Elwandle Node to organize and add to the budget funds for interns that will be at an exhibition stand the entire week show casing coastal science careers. Port Elizabeth has also requested young scientists to participate for one day.

ELWANDLE NODE

Proposed activities for May

- During May, Nozi will be conducting school visits and attending to servicing of equipment.
- Sibongile Mokoena has been on a visit to the Elwandle Node on the 4th and 5th May.
- The 2nd week in May Nozi will be attending a NSW ECOP (National Science Week Eastern Cape Outreach Programme) meeting in Grahamstown.
- The 18th May Nozi will be attending and assisting Berny at a workshop in Phalaborwa.

Staff and Student Matters

- For his PhD thesis, Shaun Deyzel has negotiated a completion work plan with Dr Paterson for 2010 and has updated his literature database and filing system.
- Well done to Luzuko Dali on submitting his MSc under the mentorship of Professor William Froneman of Rhodes University.