

ELWANDLE NODE

Monthly Update OCTOBER 2010

Key Achievements in October

Algoa Bay LTMR

- Shaun Deyzel serviced the 30m UTR at Bird Island, Woody Cape and Cape Recife. Also serviced ADCP at Cape Recife on the 10th & 21st October 2010.
- PE-LTEMP monthly field trip was successfully carried out on the 31st October 2010. A full complimentary set of parameters were sampled at 6 coastal monitoring sites.
- Dr. Matt Dickon carried out his monthly fieldtrip to Bird Island on the 27th October.
- Shaun had a meeting with Dr Wayne Goschen with regards to expanding CMP footprint to St Francis Bay. 3 UTR and 5 Gully Temperature Probes are expected to be deployed before the end of the year.

Data Management

Data population and dissemination continues.

Fort Hare University Honours Research Programme

The students are making good progress with writing their respective research documents. Ms Kwasa Ntongana spent 2 days at Elwandle on the 26 and 27th October to work on her data analysis and synthesis.

Proposed activities for November

- PE-LTEMP monthly sampling 15-30 November 2010.
- Service UTRs first quarter of November.
- Continue with research programme registration.
- Start uploading data to Metacat and Nairobi Convention portals.
- Disseminate sentinel site CMP data to registered participants: Mr. Rowan Vaneeden (UCT) and Ms Paula Patrick (NMMU).

South African Estuaries Information System (SAEIS)

- It is an ongoing process awaiting replies from the stakeholder organizations. Both Nuette Gordon and Dr. Paterson has sent out requests for the return hereof but key stakeholders have still not responded.
- Dr. Wayne Goschen has updated the website version of the SAEIS to test whether all components are functioning correctly. Nuette has also tested the site and suggested a few changes to Dr. Goschen, who is currently working on that.
- It was hoped to launch the 1st version of the SAEIS website by the 31st October 2010 but due to the delays of obtaining the software license from the supplier and the return of the release forms the launch has been postponed.

ELWANDLE NODE

Proposed activities for Nulette for November

- 1 – 7 November: tend to release agreements, metadata files, further testing of SAEIS website and testing of the SAEIS flashstick series.
- 8 - 12 November: distribute the flashsticks to key stakeholders with information sheets and comment questionnaires.
- 15 November: Last day of work for Nulette. Nulette will be on maternity leave for the rest of the year, enjoying her bouncing baby boy, who is due to make his arrival on the 24th November. She will commence work on the 3rd January 2011.

Marine Protected Areas:

- On the 4th October Dr. Albrecht Götz had a Meeting with WWF to coordinate the handover of FIN program to SANP.
- 5 – 6 October 2010, Dr. Albrecht Götz, Stephanie D'Agata and Anthony Bernard authored the "Development of monitoring techniques and protocols for warm-temperate subtidal reef ecosystem" presentation for the 2nd SAEON Summit 2010 in Cape Town.
- 7 October, Dr. Götz attended the "Development of a Business Case for a Systematic Offshore Mapping Programme of the South African Marine Environment Stakeholder Workshop in Bellville.
- The following day on the 8th October 2010, Dr. Götz had a meeting with SANP to coordinate handover of FIN program.
- The 14 and 15th October, Dr. Götz, Anthony, Colin Attwood and B. Mann authored the "Long-term monitoring in South African Marine Protected Areas (MPAs)" presentation for the Annual Research Forum held at Rhodes University at which Dr. Götz was a guest speaker.
- 21st October, Dr. Gotz gave a lecture at Rhodes University on the "long-term monitoring in marine protected areas."

Tsitsikamma National Park (TNP)

- For October, Anthony Bernard has been working on the analysis of data collected on the TNP fieldtrip.

Table Mountain National Park (TMNP)

- Anthony has started writing a paper on the development of the volunteer programme and has had successful meetings with both SANParks and WWF.

Isimangaliso

Sean is continuing on working up the data from this year's iSimangaliso field trip and will continue to do so for the rest of the year.

Proposed activities for November

- Anthony Bernard will be working on preparations for the next fieldtrip to TNP in February 2011.
- Additional mapping by the council for Geoscience will be taking place at the TNP.

ELWANDLE NODE

- TMNP: Anthony will be doing a summer survey of the Atlantic reefs and concentrating on the project handover in January / February next year.

ACEP:

- 1 - 31 October, Dr. Thomas Bornman participated on the ASCLME / ACEP / NOAA / NIOZ mooring cruise to the South Western Indian Ocean.
- 10 - 28 October, Dr. Bornman participated in the mooring cruise onboard the FRS Algoa.
- 10 and 21 October, Ryan Palmer participated on the SAEON Algoa Bay field trip in Port Elizabeth.
- 11 - 31 October, Ryan attended a part time < 25 ton skipper course in Port Elizabeth.
- 27 – 29 October: Ryan also attended a fire fighting course in Durban as part of the < 25 ton skipper's licence.
- 10 – 25 October, an ACEP SAMSS special session was organised and the abstract submitted to Alan Whitfield.

Proposed plans for November

- 4 - 5 November, attended the FRS *Algoa* wash-up meeting, had a meeting with DAFF to discuss 2011 cruises and had a meeting with Ian Calvert (SMIT) to discuss finances and payment.
- 8 - 18 November, Dr. Bornman and Ryan attended an ACEP / ASCLME Seamounts workshop at SAIAB.
- 1 - 30 November, Ryan and Dr. Bornman assist the SAEON dive team to service moorings in Algoa Bay.
- 15 - 30 November, Dr. Bornman will be partaking in the ACEP ROV cruise onboard the R/V *Ellen Khuzwayo*.

Education

- The Elwandle Node presented their very first Science Camp in Port Elizabeth at the White Willows resort on the 25 – 30 September. 24 learners attended and judging on feedback received from learners and educators it was a huge success. An invaluable experience for the learners.
- Donique from Murray & Roberts visited Elwandle in October. She had an opportunity to visit all the schools involved in the weather monitoring project. She was extremely impressed and inspired by the learners and was blown away by their knowledge gained from this programme.
- Educators attended a climate change Workshop on the 7th October at SAIAB.
- The learners who received first prize for their presentations, at the Science camp, were invited to present their findings to the educators at the workshop. Sibongile Mokoena at head office was thrilled by the standard of the learner's presentations. Shireen Badat, co-ordinator of the Grahamstown based learner newspaper, UPSTART, was also present at the workshop.
- During October, Nozi Hambaze also participated in the National Marine week programme that was held at SAMREC in P.E.
- It is examination time at schools, therefore interaction for the rest of the year with schools will be limited.

ELWANDLE NODE

Proposed activities for November

- We will have a final network meeting with the educators to wrap up 2010's interaction and instill plans for 2011.
- Disconnection of weather stations at all the participating schools will be taking place.
- The annual newsletter will be compiled in November.
- And the final report for Murray and Robert in December.

Staff and Student Matters

- Chapters 2 and 3 on Shaun Deyzel's PhD has been completed and he is making good progress on Chapters 4 and 5.
- Mr. Ntuthuko Masikane is finalizing the submission copy of his MSc.
- The stork has been busy at Elwandle! Dr. Albrecht Götz will be a Daddy soon, his baby is due to make her arrival within the next 2 weeks and Nuette Gordon as stated earlier is expecting a son on the 24th November. Congratulations!!