

What's New with CoML?
June 2002

- **Aberdeen SSC Meeting.** The SSC met 4-5 June 2002 in Aberdeen. A major focus of the meeting was public outreach and education. CoML will be rapidly enhancing activity in that area over the next year, and is meeting with groups of qualified individuals who may lead this effort. Russell Putt, Senior Environmental Scientist at BP, attended the meeting to discuss Oil & Gas industry participation and has expressed interest in the program and willingness to help move this cooperation forward. Following the meeting, the SSC visited Monty Priede at the Oceanlab of University of Aberdeen and Graham Shimmiel at Dunstaffnage Laboratory of the Scottish Association for Marine Sciences near Oban.
- **FMAP.** The CoML Future of Marine Animal Populations (FMAP) workshop took place 21-23 June. The workshop included representatives from HMAP, OBIS, all six field projects and the Chesapeake TIES project. The result was the organization of a group, led by RAM Myers of Dalhousie University, to develop a proposal to begin FMAP as a new modeling, prediction and synthesis component of the CoML.
- **HMAP.** The HMAP International Summer School is scheduled for 12-22 August in Durham, New Hampshire, USA. The increasing interest in the program is evident as they received many more applicants than spots are available, and they have tried to accommodate as many students as possible. The 3rd HMAP workshop will follow the summer school on 23-24 August.
- **MAR-ECO.** Mike Vecchione of the MAR-ECO project has received a grant from NOAA's Office of Ocean Exploration to fund work on "Biodiversity of Bear Seamount", including a cruise in July that is considered preliminary field work for development of methods and comparative material for MAR-ECO. Ship-time for this cruise will be shared with a mammal/turtle/seabird investigation to generate data on these groups for both the seamount and slope.
- **TOPP.** The TOPP project participants were busy in June with four working group workshops: Sea Birds (4-5 June), Education and Outreach (19-20 June), Data Management (20-22 June), and Sea Turtles (28-29 June).
- **Science Plan.** Dr. John S. Perry, formerly Executive Director of the US National Research Council Board on Global Change, is helping Ron and Jesse on the Science Plan for the CoML. Perry has much experience in the preparation of scientific plans for international cooperative programs.
- **Public Outreach.** Public Outreach and Education representatives from the CoML projects will meet in Washington DC on 23 July to discuss activities they are doing in each of their countries, as well as some strategies and activities that can be done for the program as a whole internationally. The projects will work with

an external group (yet to be identified) and, through a proposal specifically for support for public outreach and education activities, these ideas will be implemented over the next year or so.

- **UN Ocean Atlas.** CoML has agreed to be the Biology Editor of the UN's new Atlas of the Oceans, which received a lot of good press earlier this month. The atlas website is located at <http://www.oceanatlas.org/>
- **Articles.** An article on CoML is featured in the June 2002 ICES Newsletter. You can view it online at <http://www.ices.dk/products/newsletters/ices39.pdf> (pp.16-17).