



Spring 2010 Newsletter

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PacMARA (the Pacific Marine Analysis and Research Association) acts as a catalyst for collaborative research and analysis, informing marine policy-based on impartial evidence from the marine community. At PacMARA, we aim to create relationships within the marine planning community.

1. PACMARA OFFERS MARXAN TRAINING THIS SUMMER

PacMARA is gearing up to run courses in July on the widely recognized software, Marxan, a site-selection tool that has been used extensively in the design of marine and terrestrial reserves and management areas worldwide. With Marxan, planners can identify an efficient system of sites that include a suite of ecological and/or socio-economic targets at a minimal cost. For anyone working in integrated coastal or ocean management and planning, this free software (together with the spatial data you have access to) will greatly facilitate smart decision making that takes into account a broad range of considerations and tradeoffs.



We invite you to join us in one of the courses currently being offered:

➤ [Introduction to Marxan](#)

A. July 5-6, 2010 in Victoria BC (Venue TBA) – \$475

B. July 8-9, 2010 at the University of Alberta, Edmonton (in conjunction with the [International Congress for Conservation Biology](#)) – \$475 (1/2 off for students)

This hands-on course will provide participants with the basic knowledge and skills necessary to use Marxan in a marine conservation planning exercise. Registration is open at <http://pacmara.org/events-workshop>.

➤ [Train the Trainers](#)

July 7, 2010 in Victoria BC (Venue TBA) – \$375

This one-day course is designed for those who have extensive Marxan experience. Participants will act as Teacher’s Assistants for the [Introduction to Marxan](#) course offered on July 5 & 6. In this follow-up, the new teaching manual will be reviewed, with open discussion about teaching techniques, tips and pitfalls to be avoided. At the end of this course, instructors will be recognized by the University of Queensland Ecology Center and the Pacific Marine Analysis and Research Association (PacMARA.org) as trained to teach entry level Marxan courses. This is a new course. An advanced train-the-trainer course (Level 2) will cover Marxan with Zones, as well as good practices, and is planned to debut in late 2010. Level 1 training will be a prerequisite for this anticipated advanced course.

2. PACMARA CONVENES DIALOGUE ON MARINE EBM

On March 9-10, 2010, PacMARA held a Marine Ecosystem-based Management (EBM) Workshop for Canada’s Pacific coast and ocean. Participants from the provincial and federal government, First Nations, private sector, academia and ENGOs came together to contribute to the ongoing dialogue known as the Marine EBM Gaps Challenge Dialogue.



The workshop was successful in producing a set of guiding draft Marine EBM principles relevant to British Columbia, a Logic Model that summarizes rationale, drivers and desired outcomes, and suggested innovative approaches to joint planning, shared governance and enhanced collaboration.

The next steps will be to collaboratively create an Outcome Map and Strategic Plan to guide shared implementation. More perspectives and opinions are being solicited. You are invited to participate by contacting hcoleman@pacmara.org or visiting PacMARA's wiki site (<http://www.pacmara.org/tikiwiki>) to access workshop materials.

3. NEW PACMARA WIKI SITE SET UP

Visit <http://www.pacmara.org/tikiwiki> to discuss and improve the Marxan User Manual, Good Practices Handbook, or marine ecosystem-based management Dialogue and Workshop pages. Our wiki is always a work in progress, so we would love to have you join in the discussion.

4. ESTABLISHMENT OF A FORMAL RELATIONSHIP WITH THE BC GOVERNMENT

PacMARA has renewed its memorandum of understanding with the BC Integrated Land Management Bureau/GeoBC. It will continue to serve as a basis for the development of mutually beneficial activities based on principles of cooperation, communication, trust, commitment and shared risk and benefit.



5. PACMARA PRESENTS TO THE REGULATORY GOVERNANCE INITIATIVE

Executive Director Henry Kucera and Program Director Evert Kenk were invited to an international panel discussion on place-based decision-making entitled “Critical Conversation on Place-based Decision-Making: The Role of the Federal Government,” organized by the Regulatory Governance Initiative in Ottawa, Ontario on March 22, 2010. Evert presented “Place-based Decision Making: Regional Perspectives on Federal Roles.” The intent of the workshop was to evaluate the federal government’s capacity and role in the support and delivery of integrated landscape management and EBM.



More information: <http://www.carleton.ca/regulation/criticalconversations/PBDM/PBDM.html>

6. NEW FACES AT PACMARA

Heather Coleman and Jodi Stark have joined PacMARA as the new Science Advisor and Communications Manager, respectively.



Heather graduated from UC Santa Barbara's Bren School of Environmental Science and Management in December 2009 after completing her doctoral dissertation on the effects of natural oil seeps on marine populations and communities. During graduate school she also managed to participate on a voyage in the famous Alvin submarine to access deepwater oil and gas seeps, embark on a trip to the North Pacific Gyre (AKA Great Pacific Garbage Patch) to examine the extent and ecological effects of marine debris, and travel to Istanbul to study the history, politics, social dynamics, ecological effects, costs and benefits of restoring the Golden Horn estuary. Before that she led scuba volunteers in giant kelp restoration, educated elementary and middle school students in

hands-on marine science, and organized coastal cleanups for Los Angeles County. Heather's goals with PacMARA are to provide sound scientific advice on the use of ecosystem-based management and marine spatial planning in a BC context, lead development and delivery of training programs in marine spatial planning, research best practices for sound integrated marine planning, and add support to business planning and fundraising efforts.

With great reverence for the ocean, Jodi has worked in numerous aspects of ocean conservation and management along the whole length of BC's coast. She has worked in communication and outreach, project management and coordination, and policy and planning with the David Suzuki Foundation, Canadian Parks and Wilderness Society, and in partnership with many other organizations, government agencies and First Nations. She has a Master's degree from Simon Fraser's School of Resource and Environmental Management with a focus on marine policy implementation. Jodi's passion for the ocean has come from countless hours spent surfing both at home in BC, as well as in Central America and the South Pacific.



7. UPCOMING EVENTS IN VICTORIA AND VANCOUVER

- **Projecting Change** – April 22-25, Vancouver. Projecting Change focuses on promoting Green and Sustainable Living through the use of entertaining and educational Film Festivals. David Suzuki and Captain Paul Watson will speak, and there will be a screening of *Pirate of the Sea*. <http://www.projectingchange.ca/>
- **Super Suckers, The Giant Pacific Octopus** – April 29 at 6:30pm, Victoria. James A. Cosgrove, a world expert on the giant Pacific octopus and consultant to documentary film crews from around the globe, will give a free talk at the Ogden Point Dive Centre. Jim will also be answering audience questions and selling signed copies of his book, "Super Suckers, The Giant Pacific Octopus" for 10% off. <http://divevictoria.com>
- **The Voice of the Sea** – April 16 - May 12, Vancouver. The Voice of the Sea is an exhibition of paintings by Vancouver artist Robi Smith. The paintings depict beautiful and mysterious local marine fish swimming in an ocean threatened by pollution and climate change. Located at the gallery in the Waterfront Theatre at Granville Island.
- **World Ocean Day** – June 8, 2010. United Nations General Assembly passed a resolution in December 2008 declaring World Oceans Day on June 8th each year. There are many events all around the world, including Victoria. <http://www.theoceanproject.org/wod/>

8. NEPTUNE/VENUS NEWS

The NEPTUNE (North-East Pacific Time-Series Underwater Networked Experiments) Canada Workshop took place in Victoria on 12-14 April 2010. Scientists, students, technicians, computer programmers and one journalist converged to present early findings, check out new software tools, update experiment plans and explore exciting new future ventures. More information: <http://www.neptunecanada.ca/news/news-details.dot?id=23038>.



For VENUS (Victoria Experimental Network Under the Sea) updates, including cruise news, using ADCPs to detect fish, virtual observatory makeover, VENUS conference presentations, and VENUS data news, please see their newsletter: <http://www.venus.uvic.ca/category/newsroom/newsletters>.

- ❖ Sign up for PacMARA's newsletter at <http://pacmara.org/contact/newsletter> or our listserve at <http://tech.groups.yahoo.com/group/PacMARA/> (will include newsletters).