

# Channel Coast News

Issue 3 - June 2003

The newsletter for the Southeast Strategic Regional Coastal Monitoring Programme [www.channelcoast.org](http://www.channelcoast.org)

## Regional News

### South East Coastal Group

Topographic tenders have been returned for the remaining contracts. These are currently being evaluated and will be awarded officially towards the end of the month. Project partners should expect the successful contractor to get in touch with them after this period to arrange/confirm access arrangements and to develop a risk assessment for their stretch of coastline. A survey schedule will be forwarded to relevant partners upon receipt and will also be available on the project website. Under the conditions of contract, all baseline surveys should be completed within three months of award of the contract. Should any partner require data urgently, for a particular section of coastline, they should get in touch with Canterbury CC to discuss the possibility of amending the survey schedule.

Tender packages for bathymetric surveys have gone out with a return date of 04 July 2003. It is anticipated that these will be evaluated and subsequently awarded within two weeks of receipt, with work commencing shortly after this date.

At the recent South East Coastal Group meeting, the concept of a members workshop was enthusiastically received. The proposed venue is in the Brighton area and details will be forwarded to partners as soon as arrangements are finalised.

### SCOPAC

The topographic survey of Ryde Sands was speeded up greatly by the ATV (seen here with the bracket for the magnetic aerial base, kindly made by the ATV hire firm "Funation"), with just one surveyor covering 300,000 m<sup>2</sup> over a single low water.



Tenders for the contract for bathymetric surveys from Portland Bill to Durlston Head are due back on 19 June 2003.

### Environment Agency (Southern Region)

The EA is working on a contract for aerial photography and LiDAR surveying, based on the EA's National Survey Specification.

A saltmarsh monitoring project has been considered, and a request for a proposal submitted to the Shoreline Management Group at EA Anglian Region (who undertake Specialist Term Consultancy in Coastal and Estuarine Geomorphology). The baseline will be created for 2003 and the process repeated for 2006 data, with additional analysis and reporting of change.

### South Downs Coastal Group

The Hydrographic Survey package for Pagham Harbour to Birling Gap went out to tender during mid May. The returns date for this contract is 23 June 2003 and the contract is programmed to be let by mid-July.

A special meeting was held on 23 May for SDCG Project Partners to discuss the project and identify individual authorities' reporting and data requirements. The meeting was lively and much information was exchanged. Arun District Council raised several concerns regarding the timing of reporting and, based on their experience of monitoring, the resources available to deal with data analysis. It was agreed that that this problem could be overcome via Service Level Agreements and that not all Local Authorities would want information at the same time.

### Channel Coastal Observatory

A few instances have come to light where topographic profiles in different areas have the same name. Accordingly, at a recent Data Management meeting, it was decided to implement a naming system for topographic profiles which will provide a name unique throughout the region and, indeed, nationally. The new profile names will be based around coastal cells and a particular advantage of the new system is that while Management Units may change in future, the coastal cells will not. Provision will be made in SANDS to refer to a profile in any one of three ways:

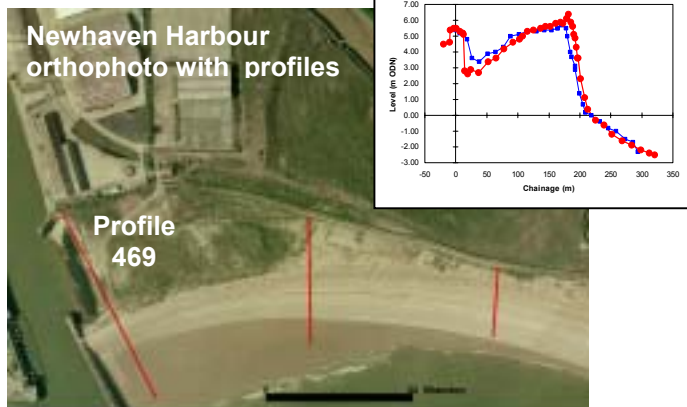
- Strategic profile name
- Local profile name
- Historical name

For further details or information on when and how the strategic naming system will be implemented, please contact your area representative.

## Annual Beach Monitoring Survey

The ABMS has been undertaken by the Environment Agency (and predecessors) since 1973 in parts of Sussex. During the 1970s, it was extended to cover the coastline between the Isle of Grain in Kent and Barton-on-Sea in Hampshire. Now incorporated into the SRCMP, it has been extended west to Portland Bill.

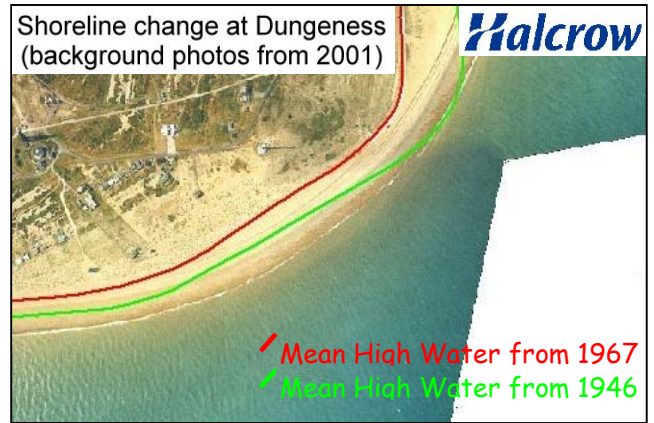
Photography is captured at a scale of 1:5000 along the coastal strip. Photogrammetric analysis of the images then generates profiles perpendicular to the coastline at approximately 200m intervals – see example from Newhaven.



Profiles are an important historic record of accretion and erosion and the data is regularly used in modelling. Each profile is available as xyz co-ordinates, or as chainage and reduced level. The point data has an accuracy of  $\pm 15\text{cm}$ . Volumes can be calculated by interpolating between profiles. Profile data is currently being re-formatted for use in SANDS; it will be available via coastal group representatives.

In 2002 a project overview of the ABMS was completed, which includes details of data quality throughout the history of the project. Accuracy for the last decade is significantly more reliable than in the earliest years. Coverage and density have also improved. Further improvements to the accuracy are expected with the introduction of a new ground control network (to be reviewed in next month's *News*). The Overview and other information regarding the project are available on request from the Environment Agency. In recent years, photography and photogrammetric analysis have been undertaken by BKS. A new contract will be let during summer 2003.

Furthermore, the photography is a valuable tool in itself, particularly when ortho-rectified (*see article on ortho-photos in Issue 2*). The image of Dungeness is a good example of ABMS data in action - combined with more historic records. The photography, integrated with a range of other data, will also be harnessed in the



creation of a baseline survey of saltmarsh plan shape. Change analysis will be carried out in 2006/7. This is the first time a detailed saltmarsh survey has been carried out across the region and the project will provide much-needed information for conservation and flood defence.

## What's New?

Near real-time wave data from Milford-on-Sea are now on the website.

## Contacts

If you have any queries about the Strategic Regional Coastal Monitoring Programme, or would like further information, please contact your area representative:

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