DESCRIPTION

*Estuarine, Coastal and Shelf Science* is an international multidisciplinary journal devoted to the analysis of saline water phenomena ranging from the outer edge of the continental shelf to the upper limits of the tidal zone. The journal provides a unique forum, unifying the multidisciplinary approaches to the study of the oceanography of estuaries, coastal zones, and continental shelf seas. It features original research papers, review papers and short communications treating such disciplines as zoology, botany, geology, sedimentology, physical oceanography. Data reports of mainly local interest are discouraged.

Research areas include:

- Numerical modelling of estuarine and coastal marine ecosystems
- Species distribution in relation to varying environments
- Effects of waste disposal
- Groundwater runoff and Chemical processes
- Estuarine and fjord circulation patterns
- Meteorological and oceanic forcing of semi-enclosed and continental shelf water masses
- Sea-surface and sea-bed processes
- Estuarine and coastal sedimentary processes and geochemistry
- Brackish water and lagoon phenomena
- Transitional waters

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AUDIENCE

Marine biologists and ecologists, physical, chemical and biological oceanographers, marine sedimentologists, geologists and geochemists.

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M.M. Baskaran, Wayne State University, Detroit, Michigan, United States
U-Th series radionuclides as tracer in aqueous system; scavenging of particle-reactive radionuclides and species in marine environment; dating of marine sediments using short-lived radionuclides (Pb-210, Cs-137, Pu); sediment focusing/erosion using radionuclides; Atmospheric studies using progeny of radon

A. Borges, University of Liege, Liege, Belgium
carbon and carbonate cycling across aquatic systems including freshwater ecosystems (lakes and rivers), coastal ecosystems (estuaries, seagrass beds, mangroves and continental margins), and open ocean with particular emphasis on the exchange of CO2 with the atmosphere and on the coupling between inorganic carbon dynamics and biological processes

J. Bowen, Northeastern University Marine Science Center, Nahant, Massachusetts, United States
Estuarine microbial ecology; estuarine nitrogen cycling; salt marsh ecology

D. Bowers, Bangor University School of Ocean Sciences, Menai Bridge, United Kingdom
Marine optics; Remote sensing of suspended sediments and CDOM; Physical oceanography of estuaries and shelf seas; Suspended sediments and marine turbulence

L. Chicharo, University of Algarve, Faro, Portugal
Estuarine fisheries; Food web; Salt marsh; Integrated river basin management; Ecohydrology

F. De Serio, Polytechnic University of Bari, Bari, Italy
Hydrodynamics of coastal areas; Breaking turbulence and sediment transport; Data analysis and numerical models in lagoons and estuaries; Turbulence transport and dispersion in vegetated channels

Q. Fang, Xiamen University, Xiamen, China
Strategic environmental assessment; Regional environmental planning; Marine environmental policy

R. Feagin, Texas A&M University College Station, College Station, Texas, United States
Spatial analysis of the erosion in wetlands; Dunes; Beaches (This includes the use of GIS)

A. Franco, University of Hull
Fish ecology; Community structure and functioning; Estuaries, lagoons and coastal waters; Numerical/quantitative ecology and statistics

J French, University College London, London, United Kingdom

T. G. Gerwing, University of Victoria Department of Biology, Victoria, British Columbia, Canada

C.K. Harris, William & Mary Virginia Institute of Marine Science, Gloucester Point, Virginia, United States
Sediment transport; Numerical models; Estuaries; Continental shelves

L. Harris, Chesapeake Biological Laboratory, Solomons, Maryland, United States
systems ecology; estuarine biogeochemistry, ecological modeling (ecosystem, biological-physical models, individual-based models); primary producers from phytoplankton to macrophytes; lagoon ecology; mass balance nutrient budgets; time series analysis

S. von der Heyden, Stellenbosch University, Stellenbosch, South Africa
Marine; Genetics; Genomics; Conservation; Estuaries; Fisheries; Environmental DNA; Biodiversity

W. Huang, Florida State University, Tallahassee, Florida, United States
Coastal hazards; Coastal hydrodynamics and ecosystems; Computational fluid dynamics and turbulence modeling

E. Jackson, Central Queensland University Science Environment and Agriculture, Gladstone, Australia
seagrass ecosystems, marine landscape and spatial ecology, marine plant sediment interactions, marine protected area networks, coastal ecology, estuaries

L. Karczmarski, University of Hong Kong, Pok Fu Lam
category: Cetacea, behavioural ecology and conservation

J. Lambrechts, Catholic University of Louvain, Louvain-la-Neuve, Belgium
Estuarine and shelf oceanographic modelling; Cohesive fine sediment modelling; Modeling the dispersion of waterborne particles with/without a special behavior (e.g. swimming for fish larvae and turtle hatchlings, additional wind drift for floating debris)

A. Manning, HR Wallingford Ltd, Wallingford, United Kingdom
Cohesive sediment transport; Flocculation process; Mixed sediment dynamics; Nearshore physical oceanography

R.N. Mead, University of North Carolina at Wilmington, Wilmington, North Carolina, United States
P. Meire, University of Antwerp, Antwerpen, Belgium
Estuarine dynamics; Nutrient cycling; Restoration techniques; Birds; Ecosystem services; Dredging; Ecology

C. Osburn, North Carolina State University, Raleigh, North Carolina, United States
Dissolved and particulate organic matter; Photochemistry; Absorbance; Fluorescence; Stable isotopes; Biomarkers

J.L. Pinckney, University of South Carolina, Columbia, South Carolina, United States
Marine Ecology; Phytoplankton; Microphytobenthos; Ecosystem processes

A. Quiggs, Texas A&M University at Galveston Department of Marine Sciences, Galveston, Texas, United States

V. Quintino, University of Aveiro, Aveiro, Portugal
Benthic ecology (mainly Atlantic, intertidal sandy and rocky shores and subtidal estuarine and coastal shelf areas); Bioassessement or biomonitoring (namely sediment ecotoxicology, including integrated approaches such as the sediment quality triad, biotic indicators and indices); Community level responses to natural and anthropogenic factors

**I. Santos**, Southern Cross University National Marine Science Centre, Coffs Harbour, New South Wales, Australia

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**W. Zhang**, East China Normal University, Shanghai, China

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Phytoplankton and zooplankton ecology; Marine eutrophication; Harmful algal blooms; Marine ecosystem structure and functioning

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Surface water quality; Microbial ecology; Mathematical modeling

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Estuarine and coastal ecology; Community ecology; Food webs; Coastal fisheries

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Definition of estuaries and transitional waters; Effects of salinity on estuarine invertebrates; Estuarine ecosystems, and the impact of pollution on them

**A.J. Mehta**, University of Florida, Gainesville, Florida, United States
Coastal Hydraulics; cohesive sediment transport

**G. Millward**, University of Plymouth, Plymouth, United Kingdom
Etuarine and marine biogeochemistry, specifically reaction kinetics in aquatic systems, involving particle-water interactions; Behaviour and transport of radionuclides in estuaries.

**G. M. E. Perillo**, Argentine Institute of Oceanography, Bahia Blanca, Argentina
Geomorphology and Dynamics of Estuaries and Coastal Wetlands - Dynamics of sediment transport - Physical-Biological interactions

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Observational, modelling and theoretical studies of: Tide and storm surge propagation; Tidal energy extraction; Circulation and mixing; Temperatures; Sedimentation and water quality in shelf seas and their coastal margins

**J. Romero Martinengo**, University of Barcelona, Barcelona, Spain
Seagrass biology and ecology; Benthic community ecology

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Delta, Coast, Sedimentation, Asia
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To find out more, please visit the Preparation section below.

Types of paper
Estuarine, Coastal and Shelf Science is an international multidisciplinary journal devoted to the analysis of saline water phenomena ranging from the outer edge of the continental shelf to the upper limits of the tidal zone. The journal provides a unique forum, unifying the multidisciplinary approaches to the study of the oceanography of estuaries, coastal zones, and continental shelf seas. It features original research papers, review papers and short communications treating such disciplines as zoology, botany, geology, sedimentology, physical oceanography. Data reports of mainly local interest are discouraged. An original research paper should not contain more than 8000 words, and no more than 8 figures and 3 tables. A research note/short communication should not contain more than 4,000 words and no more than 3 figures and 1 table. The Journal also welcomes suggestions from leading and internationally renowned scientists for in-depth Reviews and Invited Feature Articles on wide-ranging and contemporary topics. These Reviews can be approx. 12,000 words but the suggestions should be discussed with one of the Editors-in-Chief in the first instance.

Research areas include: Numerical modelling of estuarine and coastal marine ecosystems; Species distribution in relation to varying environments; Effects of waste disposal; Groundwater runoff and Chemical processes; Estuarine and fjord circulation patterns; Meteorological and oceanic forcing of semi-enclosed and continental shelf water masses; Sea-surface and sea-bed processes; Estuarine and coastal sedimentary processes and geochemistry; Brackish water and lagoon phenomena; Transitional waters.

Up-front rejections of papers submitted to Estuarine, Coastal and Shelf Science

ECSS handles about 1000 papers per year and over 3000 reviewers are involved in assisting the journal each year.

As editors we follow the declared guidelines for the journal and we also receive advice and comments from the publishers, and members of the editorial board as well as reviewers. The consistent advice that we have received from everyone is that the editors should reject papers which are likely to be rejected at the beginning of the process rather than sending them out for review, knowing what the answer is likely to be. Over 25% of papers are now rejected at the editorial submission phase.

The papers are subject to an initial technical pre-screening process by the publisher. This process checks on submission format and examines matters such as the provision of suitable keywords and legible figures. It also tries to check up on the standard of English, as it is totally inappropriate to expect a reviewer to undertake linguistic revision.

The pre-screening process however makes no judgement on the suitability of the paper for ECSS. This judgement is made by one of the editors who will up-front reject a paper judged unsuitable without going to review. These up-front rejections are due to three principal reasons:

Firstly, we receive several papers each year that have been submitted to the "wrong journal". We have received, for example, papers on inland freshwater lakes or palaeontology, and other topics which are clearly beyond the scope of the journal. As a simple guide, if there is no mention of any previous ECSS paper in the reference list, it strongly suggests that the paper has been submitted to the wrong journal.

Secondly, papers that are "data reports" or "reports of local interest" will be rejected up-front. Papers in this category may describe a particular estuary in great detail, but fail to advance estuarine, coastal and shelf science. The overwhelming feeling when reading such a paper is "so-what!"
Thirdly, other reasons for up-front rejection can be a lack of a valid Discussion which integrates the study with the peer-reviewed literature or else relies on excessive self-citation, or a lack of appropriate statistical analysis, or purely statistical analyses without considering processes.

We at ECSS seek that all papers are based on hypothesis testing and that the hypotheses should be of general and international interest. We are interested in contributions that add to general knowledge, and move the field forward.

By up-front rejection we hope to give the authors a chance to quickly submit to a more appropriate journal. We do accept that we will sometimes make mistakes in this process, but we do this to protect the reviewers by offering them only relevant papers that are potentially publishable in ECSS. Up-front rejected papers will not be reconsidered for publication and we have a similar policy for papers rejected after review.

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