



ESTUARINE, COASTAL AND SHELF SCIENCE

In association with the [Estuarine Coastal Sciences Association \(ECSA\)](#)

AUTHOR INFORMATION PACK

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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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Research Alert
SciSearch
Meteorological and Geostrophysical Abstracts
Oceanographic Literature Review
BIOSIS databases/Zoological Records

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Editors

D. Baird, University of Stellenbosch, Matieland, South Africa

Estuarine and coastal ecosystem theory, dynamics and modelling; Ecological Network Analysis; Nutrient dynamics and cycling in estuarine and marine ecosystems; Water quality assessments; Coastal fisheries

D.J. Burdige, Old Dominion University, Norfolk, Virginia, USA

Chemical oceanography; Biogeochemistry of marine and estuarine sediments, including sediment contaminants; Global change

M. Elliott, University of Hull, Hull, UK

Life Sciences (ecology, biology, ecosystems); Biota-Chemistry links; Human impacts; Ecosystem Management; Natural science - social science links

T. Jennerjahn, Leibniz Centre for Tropical Marine Research, Bremen, Germany

Biogeochemical cycling in rivers/estuaries; Mangroves; Seagrasses and coastal seas; Organic matter diagenesis; Tropical coastal ecosystems; Eutrophication; Paleoreconstruction; Nutrient cycling; Carbon cycling

S. Mitchell, University of Portsmouth, Portsmouth, UK

estuarine sediment transport; Dynamics of turbidity maxima in estuaries; Civil engineering hydraulics; Coastal morphodynamics

Honorary Editor

E. Wolanski

Associate Editors

R. Asmus, Alfred-Wegener Institut - Helmholtz-Zentrum für Polar- und Meeresforschung, Bremerhaven, Germany

Coastal ecology; Food web analysis; Primary production of seagrasses; Microphytobenthos and phytoplankton; Nutrient dynamics; Benthic - pelagic coupling

M.M. Baskaran, Wayne State University (WSU), Detroit, Michigan, USA
 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, Université de Liège, Liège, 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 (NU), Nahant, MA, USA
 Estuarine microbial ecology; estuarine nitrogen cycling; salt marsh ecology

D. Bowers, Bangor University, Menai Bridge, Wales, UK
 Marine optics; Remote sensing of suspended sediments and CDOM; Physical oceanography of estuaries and shelf seas; Suspended sediments and marine turbulence

L. Chicharo, Universidade do Algarve (UAlg), Faro, Portugal
 Estuarine fisheries; Food web; Salt marsh; Integrated river basin management; Ecohydrology

F. De Serio, Politecnico di 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, Texas, USA
 Spatial analysis of the erosion in wetlands; Dunes; Beaches (This includes the use of GIS)

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

J French, University College London (UCL), London, UK
C.K. Harris, Virginia Institute of Marine Science, Gloucester Point, Virginia, USA
 Sediment transport; Numerical models; Estuaries; Continental shelves

L. Harris, University of Maryland, Solomons, Maryland, USA
 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

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

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

L. Karczmarski, School of Biological Sciences, University of Hong Kong and Cetacea Research Institute, Hong Kong
 Marine megafauna - Behaviour and behavioural ecology; Marine mammals - Cetaceans, Socio-spatial ecology, Population processes and demography, Range use and habitat selection, Conservation ecology.

J. Lambrechts, Université Catholique de Louvain (UCL), 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, Oxfordshire, England, UK
 Cohesive sediment transport; Flocculation process; Mixed sediment dynamics; Nearshore physical oceanography

R.N. Mead, University of North Carolina Wilmington (UNCW), Wilmington, North Carolina, USA
P. Meire, Universiteit Antwerpen, Antwerpen, Belgium
 Estuarine dynamics; Nutrient cycling; Restoration techniques; Birds; Ecosystem services; Dredging; Ecology

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

J.L. Pinckney, University of South Carolina, Columbia, South Carolina, USA

Marine Ecology; Phytoplankton; Microphytobenthos; Ecosystem processes

V. Quintino, Universidade de Aveiro, Aveiro, Portugal

Benthic ecology (mainly Atlantic, intertidal sandy and rocky shores and subtidal estuarine and coastal shelf areas); Bioassessment 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, Coffs Harbour, New South Wales, Australia

Biogeochemistry; Coastal carbon cycle; Submarine groundwater discharge; Isotopic tracers; Land-ocean interactions.

A.M. Shiller, University of Southern Mississippi, Stennis Space Center, Mississippi, USA

Trace element chemistry; Biogeochemical cycling; Methane; Carbon cycling

S.A. Skrabal

Trace metal speciation and behavior; Sediment-water interactions; Effects of sunlight on inorganic and organic components in sediments

I. Telesh, Zoological Institute of the Russian Academy of Sciences, St. Petersburg, Russian Federation

Plankton ecology; Biodiversity; Biological invasions; Trophic interactions in plankton; Triggers and drivers of plankton dynamics; Environmental gradients; Response of aquatic biota to salinity stress

M.A. Teodósio, Universidade do Algarve (UALg), Faro, Portugal

Planktonic ecology; Jellyfish blooms ecology; Fish larvae and recruitment; Estuarine and coastal trophic ecology; Ocean acidification; Indicators and ecophysiological indices

S. Vizzini, Università degli Studi di Palermo, Palermo, Italy

C and N stable isotopes; Food webs; Seagrasses; Blue carbon; Contaminant trophic transfer; Aquaculture; Ocean acidification

S. von der Heyden, University of Stellenbosch, Matieland, South Africa

Marine; Genetics; Genomics; Conservation; Estuaries; Fisheries; Environmental DNA; Biodiversity

X.H. Wang, UNSW Australia, Canberra, New South Wales, Australia

Coastal oceanography; Numerical modelling; Sediment transport dynamics

A. Whitfield, South African Institute for Aquatic Biodiversity (SAIAB), Grahamstown, South Africa

Biology and ecology of fishes in estuaries

J.G. Wilson, Trinity College, Dublin, Ireland

Bioindicators and coastal management; Aquatic systems analysis; Estuarine pollution; heavy metals and nutrients; Biota/sediment/water interactions; Ecophysiology and energetics

M. Xia, University of Maryland Eastern Shore, Princess Anne, Maryland, USA

River plume and estuary dynamics; Ecological, biogeochemistry and larval transport process; TMDL modeling; Nearshore wave-current dynamics and sediment transport process; River watershed modeling

K. Xu, Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, Louisiana, USA

Geological oceanography; Coastal morphodynamics; Observation and numerical modeling of sediment transport; Sediment dynamics of bottom boundary layer; Sedimentary geology; Coastal processes

A. Zaiko, Cawthron Institute, Nelson, New Zealand

Marine ecology and biosecurity; Ecology and impacts of; Invasive species; Ecosystem functioning; Environmental health assessment; Environmental DNA barcoding and biomonitoring; High throughput sequencing; Ecology of benthic communities; Ballast water and shipping introduction pathways

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

Heavy metal pollution; Sediment tracing using magnetic and geochemical methods; Coastal environmental changes

Editorial Board

M. Alber, University of Georgia, Athens, Georgia, USA

Estuarine ecology; Salt marsh ecology; Coastal policy

W.R. Boynton, University of Maryland, Solomons, Maryland, USA

estuarine ecology, eutrophication/water quality; nutrient cycling; nutrient mass balances

O. Defeo, UNDECIMAR, Montevideo, Uruguay

small-scale fisheries: assessment, management

M. Devlin, James Cook University, Townsville, Queensland, Australia

eutrophication, water quality, phytoplankton, remote sensing, Great Barrier Reef, Water Framework Directive

Q. Dortch, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Silver Spring, Maryland, USA

phytoplankton ecology, Harmful Algal Blooms, and eutrophication

J. Gomes Ferreira, Universidade NOVA de Lisboa, Monte de Caparica, Portugal

Ecological modelling of estuarine and coastal systems, particularly in the fields of aquaculture and eutrophication

R. Gowen, Agri-Food and Biosciences Institute, Belfast, Northern Ireland, UK

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

F.L. Hellweger, Technische Universität Berlin (TUB), Berlin, Germany

Surface water quality; Microbial ecology; Mathematical modeling

O. Iribarne, Universidad Nacional de Mar del Plata, Mar del Plata, Argentina

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

E. Jaramillo, Universidad Austral de Chile, Valdivia, Chile

D.S. McLusky, University of Stirling, Stirling, UK

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, USA

coastal Hydraulics; cohesive sediment transport

G. Millward, Plymouth University, Plymouth, UK

Estuarine and marine biogeochemistry, specifically reaction kinetics in aquatic systems, involving particle-water interactions; Behaviour and transport of radionuclides in estuaries.

G. M. E. Perillo, Instituto Argentino de Oceanografía, Bahía Blanca, Argentina

Geomorphology and Dynamics of Estuaries and Coastal Wetlands - Dynamics of sediment transport - Physical-Biological interactions

D. Prandle

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, Universitat de Barcelona, Barcelona, Spain

Seagrass biology and ecology; Benthic community ecology

Y. Saito, Shimane University, Matsue, Japan

Delta, Coast, Sedimentation, Asia

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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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Contributors

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Green, A., 1991. Deformations in *Acanthaster planci* from the Coral Sea, observed during UEA Special Project 7, July 1978. *Journal of Pollution Research* 14 (7) suppl., CD-ROM, photographic images, 240 MB.

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