

15th International Conference on

Diffuse Pollution & Eutrophication



A 2nd update on what to expect at DIPCON2011 - Rotorua Energy Events Centre, New Zealand 18-23rd September 2011 - www.dipcon2011.org

Issue 2. February 2011

Wetlands workshop gets OECD funding
The OECD CRP programme have advised that they will sponsor a workshop on "Science and Policy to Protect Wetlands in Agricultural Landscapes".

Page 2

Social events
All work and no play makes Jack a dull boy! We have a number of social events planned

Page 2



Conference themes
International experts will chair the 10 themes making up the conference programme. They will be assisted by a NZ expert and a YWP.

Below

Rugby World Cup
The Rugby World Cup will be staged in NZ from 10th September to 22nd October. We outline RWC opportunities for DIPCON2011 delegates



Report Cards workshop
We outline what you will learn from the guru of report cards, Dr Eva Abal of the University of Queensland.

Page 2

Abstract submission
The date for submission of abstracts as been extended to April 30. We provide information on how to maximise the chance that your abstract will be accepted

Below

Conference Themes

DIPCON2011 covers a wide spectrum of diffuse pollution issues of concern to scientists, regulators and policy-makers internationally. A real strength of DIPCON is that it is truly interdisciplinary and provides a forum for everyone interested in managing the effects of diffuse pollution.

Many of the themes covered in DIPCON2011 are traditional themes of this specialist group. However at this year's conference there will be two themes of particular relevance to the Region. These are (i) Diffuse Microbial Pollution, and (ii) Indigenous knowledge, and managing diffuse pollution in small island states.

To some extent these two themes are interrelated. Faecal pollution and eutrophication of lagoon systems is a major pollution issue in many small Pacific Islands; whilst indigenous peoples have some unique perspectives on controlling pollution that is finding increasing favour in the 'developed' world. In New Zealand as in most other developed countries, point source discharges are well-controlled, but livestock farming is a concern because of the diffuse pollution of faecal microbes and nutrients.

We are fortunate that we will be able to debate diffuse microbial issues in the company of international experts in environmental microbiology. The IWA Specialist Group on Health Related Water Microbiology, who are holding their 16th International Symposium at the same time and venue will join with us for a day discussing Diffuse Microbial Issues. This is the first time the two IWA Specialist Groups have met together.

The themes and theme co-chairs

International experts in each of the themes will co-chair each session together with Local Expert Co-chairs and assisted by Young Water Professionals.

Provisional Co-chairs are as follows:

A. Diffuse Microbial Pollution
Alexandria Boehm - USA
Eric van Bochove - Canada
Graham McBride - NIWA, NZ

B. Agricultural Diffuse Pollution
Fiona Napier- Scotland
Rich McDowell - AgResearch. NZ

C. Nutrients and Eutrophication Issues
Eduardo von Sperling - Brazil
Clive Howard-Williams - NIWA, NZ

D. Urban Pollution and Transport Effects
Lee-Hyung Kim - Korea
Bruce Williamson - Diffuse Sources, NZ

E. Sediment Pollution (sources, controls, effects)
Wanpen Wirojanagud - Thailand
Sandy Elliott NIWA, NZ

F. Groundwater and surface Water Interactions
Peter Schipper - Netherlands
Chris Daughney - GNS, NZ

G. Economics, Policies, and Education to control diffuse pollution
Xiaoyan Wang - China

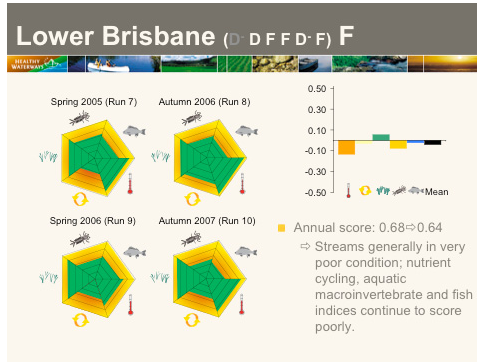
H. Integrated Catchment Management (ICM)
Ralf Kunkle - Germany
Andrew Fenemor - Landcare Research, NZ

I. Indigenous Knowledge and Diffuse Pollution management in small island states
David Haynes SPREP Samoa
Garth Harmsworth - Landcare Research, NZ

J. Mining Issues, Heavy metals, and Emerging contaminants
Ralph Heath - South Africa

Abstract submission

The portal for submitting abstracts is now open on our web-site at www.dipcon2011.org. Guidelines on preparing abstracts are on the site including a word template. The closing date for submitting an abstract has been extended to April 30th, however please try to submit before this date. We encourage speakers of English as a second language to use the services of our professional editor (<http://write-well.co.nz>) as noted in our last newsletter.



Wetlands workshop

A workshop on “*Bringing Together Science and Policy to Protect and Enhance Wetland Ecosystem Services in Agricultural Landscapes*” will be sponsored by OECD.

The OECD sponsorship will allow a number of internationally respected experts to contribute. A tentative list of speakers include:

- Prof Tim Burt - University of Durham, UK
- Dr Peter Groffman - Cary Institute New York, USA
- Dr Bruna Gumiero - Bologna University, Italy
- Dr Richard Lowrance - USDA Georgia, USA
- Dr George Lucacs - JCU Townsville, Australia
- Prof Bill Mitsch - Ohio State Uni, USA
- Prof Giles Pinnay - University of Birmingham, UK
- Dr Mark Tomer - USDA Iowa, USA
- Prof Jos Verhoeven - Utrecht Uni, Netherlands
- Dr Stefan Weisner - Halmsted University, Sweden
- Landon Yoder - Environmental Law Institute, USA

Dr Chris Tanner and Dr Clive-Howard Williams from NIWA, New Zealand are the workshop organisers. Co-convenors are Richard Lowrance and Mark Tomer.

Report Cards Workshop

Report cards or Score cards on environmental condition are increasingly being used to enable large and often complex amounts of information to be communicated to a broad audience, including the national and local political leaders. Report cards provide a framework for monitoring, evaluation, reporting and communication activities. Scorecards for Ecosystem Health have been comprehensively developed and successfully used in South East Queensland (SEQ) and other report cards in other parts of the world have been based on the SEQ example.

We are indeed fortunate to have Dr Eva Abal from the University of Queensland, to chair a workshop on developing reports cards that include Diffuse Source Pollution. Eva is one of the leading proponents of report cards in Australia and throughout South East Asia (see <http://www.adb.org/Water/Champions/2010/eva-abal.asp>). She will be assisted by Dr Bruce Williamson of Diffuse Sources, NZ who recently led the development of a report card that included concepts of health, wellbeing and cultural values.

The workshop will first provide an overview on developing traditional report cards for ecosystem

health through defining society values, objectives, indicators, reference states, monitoring programs, and reporting. It will then consider critical issues around:

- Extending report cards beyond ecosystem health
- Integrating over the catchment or basin level; the problem of spatial heterogeneity
- Using report cards to guide restoration of waterways affected by diffuse source pollution
- The importance of defining the key society values which underpin the choice of report card framework and indicators
- Dealing with the issue of long response times to management intervention (i.e., long term improvements to indicators)
- Incorporating community and cultural aspirations and wellbeing in report cards

Rugby World Cup

The Rugby World Cup will be held in New Zealand at the same time as DIPCON2011. A complete schedule of match locations and dates can be found at www.rugbyworldcup.com.

Should you wish to watch your favourite team either before or after DIPCON2011 please contact our PCO Lea Boodee (lea@on-cue.co.nz). Lea will be pleased to help you with all your pre and post-conference travel plans within New Zealand.

New Zealand is expecting some 85,000 international visitors for the RWC so be aware that flights may book up quickly. We advise that if you are coming to DIPCON2011 you should book as soon as possible. Only the Pool Phase of the RWC will be on during the conference week and we are not expecting any difficulties getting accommodation in Rotorua (see <http://on-cue.co.nz/dipcon/accommodation.html>).

Social Programme

After a hard day of conferencing there's nothing like relaxing with colleagues over a meal and enjoying the hospitality of your hosts. The opening reception (including a Maori welcome) and the gala dinner are included in the registration fee. Optional events are offered Monday-Wednesday nights

Sunday 18th Sept Welcome reception 6pm Blue Baths

Set in a 1930's bath-house. A fast-paced and polished, interactive art-deco experience with beautiful costuming and stage effects.

Monday 19th September 7.30pm

* Te Puia - Maori Arts and Crafts Centre - geothermal park and dinner (by a geyser if fine)

Tuesday 20th September 7.30pm

* Tamaki Maori Village New Zealand's Most Awarded Cultural Experience! Experience a powerful cultural performance, storytelling & hangi feasting!

Wednesday 20th September 7.30pm

Lakeland Queen Cruise - dinner and cruise aboard a stern-wheeled paddleboat

Thursday 22nd September. Gala dinner at the Gondola restaurant. Ride a gondola to the top of Mt Ngongotaha. Spectacular views over Rotorua, ride the luge before dinner!

Full details and costs of optional social activities are available on our website. In addition YWPs will be offered their own social programme.

Christchurch Earthquake

Many of you will have heard the news about the devastating earthquake which struck Christchurch on February 22nd. We assure international delegates that Christchurch and Rotorua are ~1000 km apart and the conference will not be affected.

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