



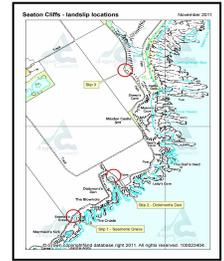
Tay Estuary Forum Annual Conference 2012

Friday 13th April 2012, West Park Conference Centre, Dundee

Dynamic Coasts

Thanks to the 14 Speakers, 7 Exhibitors, 3 Session Chairs and 50 Delegates who attended this year's TEF Annual Conference.

Session A: Dynamic Coasts (Chaired by Rob Duck, TEF Chair) Fraser Milne (University of Dundee) explored morphodynamic processes at Montrose Bay, assessing the extent of anthropogenic impacts on natural processes, before laying out coastal management options for the beach. Joanna Hambly previewed The SCAPE Trust's new website, aimed at encouraging individuals to edit and add to a database of coastal heritage sites, promoting a sense of ownership amongst the public. Finally Roy Madden (Angus Council) presented a visual trail along Angus Coastal Path, providing a continuous path for walkers, and cyclists, throughout the length of the Angus coast. Roy highlighted areas of recent slips at Dickmonts Den, Carlingheugh Bay and Seamen's Grave, and outlined plans to restore these path sections by Scottish Wildlife Trust.



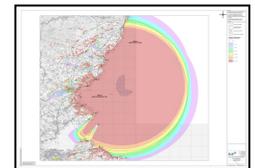
Session B: Sustainable Management of our Catchments, Coasts and Seas (Chaired by Tim Stojanovic, University of St Andrews)



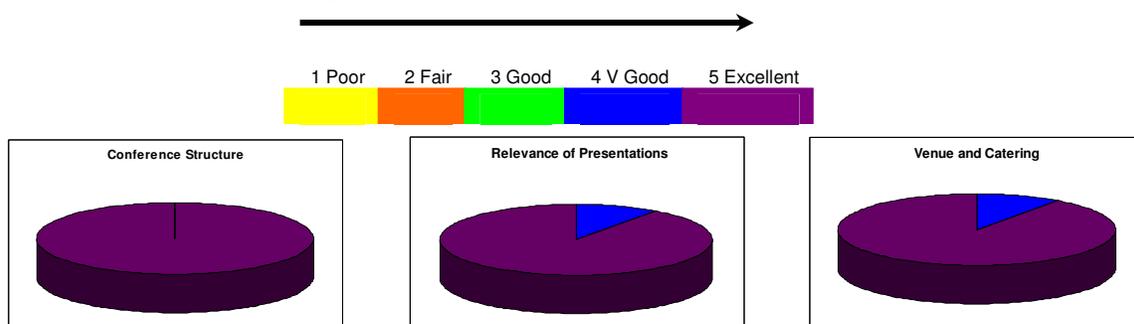
TEF Project Officer, Laura Booth explained results from a recent survey carried out by the Coastal Fora, on behalf of Marine Scotland, in assessing the nature, extent and intensity of interactions between users of the TEF coastal zone, in the form of a Sectoral Interactions Matrix. Tavis Potts (SAMS) outlined ways of linking coastal and catchment management in Scotland, and the importance of doing so. With recent legislative changes in marine and coastal management in Scotland, there are timely opportunities to mesh the two spheres, providing mutual benefit. Julian Inglis (Fulcrum Environmental Management) and John Isaacs (University of Abertay) gave an update on the SUSCOD project, with current deliverables such as dune stabilisation at West Sands. John displayed their interactive 3D visualisation tool FLEX (Fife Landscape Explorer), which is under development in partnership between Fife Coasts and Countryside Trust and University of Abertay, used in one instance to model storm damage at St Andrews. Johanna Babbs outlined plans for the Tay Landscape Partnership and its aims to improve interpretation of and access to the Inner Tay countryside, celebrating and conserving archaeological and cultural heritage sites.

Session C: Planning for the Future (Chaired by Derek McGlashan, Forth Ports Ltd)

Victoria Powell (University of Dundee) discussed initial results from her PhD, assessing sea level change in the Tay, based on a unique, local record of sea level change for the region, compiled from tide gauge data. John Stevenson, (The Crown Estate) gave an overview of the Scottish Territorial Waters Offshore Wind Programme before handing over to each of the three local developers in the Tay and Forth. Updates were provided by Martina Gassner (Repsol), for the Inch Cape site; Zoe Crutchfield (Mainstream Renewable Power Ltd) presented progress with the Neart na Gaoithe site, and Kate Berry (Seagreen) discussed the Firth of Forth development. Finally, Linda Rosborough (Marine Scotland) discussed the National Marine Plan, formation of Marine Planning Partnerships who are to have formal delegated planning responsibilities, and Scotland's Marine Atlas.



The event received press coverage from STV News, Radio Tay and the Dundee Courier. 2012 delegates represented a wide range of statutory and voluntary organisations and feedback has been positive with attendees rating the conference structure, relevance of presentations and venue as follows: ranging from (1 Poor- 5 Excellent)



Delegate comments: "Innovative presentations delivered with "oomph" by people who had a passion for their subject.....One of the best TEF Conferences I have attended- excellent presentations of a high calibre from very enthusiastic presenters... This was very helpful and informative for my course and dissertation topic".

Delegate suggestions for future conference topics: Regional marine planning, operation and delivery; Wind farms; Integration of land and marine planning; Land use planning interface with the coast; SEPA coastal flood risk warning system; Exploration of tidal energy, existing opportunities, existing limitations; Flooding issues and solutions; Future plans at Dundee Port; V&A; Proposed river 'cruises' on Tay from Perth and Broughty Ferry.