

## O-OPERATIVE GOVERNANCE MAKES A SPLASH

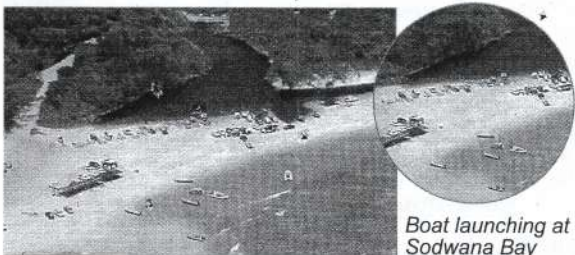
Coastal stakeholders pulling together? Hard to believe, but it can and actually has happened!

The KZN Coastal Management Unit has established a **Boat Launch Site Advisory Group (BLSAG)** to assist in making appropriate decisions in respect to the licensing of boat launch sites in KZN, in terms of the National Environmental Management Act's so-called "Off-Road Vehicle" Regulations. This advisory forum has been able to pull together by reaching consensus and making collective recommendations in respect to proposed conditions of approvals for licenses. It is made up of as many stakeholders as possible involved in the launching of vessels, and membership is currently as follows: Department of Agriculture and Environmental Affairs, SAMSA, Ezemvelo KZN Wildlife, Oceanographic Research Institute, Natal Sharks Board, CoastWatch, NDSAA, National Sea Rescue Institute, SAPS Border Police, SA NAVY, Small Marine Business Association, Natal Underwater Union and the PWCA.

The consistent and relevant decisions made (and still to be made) in respect to licensing of boat launch sites in KZN is proof of cooperative governance working, and working well!

**Tandi Moffett,**

**KZN Coastal Management Unit and Chair of the BLSAG**  
moffett@dae.kzntl.gov.za

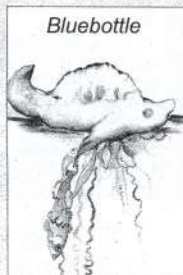


Boat launching at Sodwana Bay

## GOT THE BLUES?

### HANDY HINT

If you are stung by a bluebottle, jellyfish or feather hydroid, avoid washing the site with fresh water since this causes any remaining cells to swell and discharge. Remove any pieces of tentacle and wash carefully in salt water. Treatment with vinegar and ice, or soaking the wound in very hot water, usually brings relief.



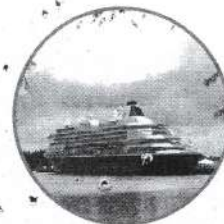
Bluebottle



## AHOY, CRUISE TOURISM IS HERE!

Cruise tourism is defined by the World Tourism Organization (WTO) as 'the use of ships for pleasure cruising, not mere transportation'. KwaZulu-Natal has two effective, functional and extremely busy ports, both of which play host to passenger liners during the cruise season from November to April every year. Globally, the cruise industry is one of the fastest growing sectors and is worth millions of dollars annually. The North American and British cruise passengers, for example, produced revenue of some \$14.4 billion in 2001.

There are three main types of cruises – **destination cruises** where a ship is located in a home port and follows a circuitous route out of that port and back again; **repositioning cruises** where a ship takes on passengers while moving from one home port to another, usually due to seasonal climatic change; and **world cruises** where the ship calls in at a number of destinations circumnavigating the globe over a period of 3 months or more.



The Marco Polo (left) in Durban and the Prinsendam (right) in Richards Bay, two of the cruise ships that visit KwaZulu-Natal

The cruise tourism sector, including passenger/ crew spending and re-provisioning, is worth in excess of R60 million per year to KZN. With 'African' themes becoming more popular and the lure of our warm Indian Ocean and exotic coastal attractions, KZN is poised to experience a highly satisfactory growth in its cruise tourism industry.

**Karen Kohler, KwaZulu-Natal Tourism Authority**  
kkohler@iafrica.com



"Uwandle", which means "sea" in Zulu, is produced by the KwaZulu-Natal Coastal Management Unit

Send all correspondence to:

Omar Parak, KwaZulu-Natal Coastal Coordinator,  
Department of Agriculture and Environmental Affairs,  
Private Bag X9059, Pietermaritzburg, 3200  
Tel: (033) 355 9438 | Fax: (033) 355 9614  
E-mail: parako@dae.kzntl.gov.za



ISSUE 12

SPRING - 2003

KWAZULU-NATAL'S COASTAL MANAGEMENT NEWSLETTER

## WHAT HAPPENED TO THE SARDINES?

This winter, the question that is foremost on the minds of residents and visitors to the KwaZulu-Natal south coast is "Where are the sardines?" Traditionally, at this time, large shoals of sardines arrive from the Cape. In 2003 this was largely a non-event, which begs the question "What happened to the sardines?"

The fall in water temperature in winter usually enables the small silvery fish to temporarily extend their range into KZN. The activities of predatory dolphins, sharks and gamefish often drive the sardines into the surf zone, where they are seized by commercial seine netters operating from small ski-boats. As their nets are hauled onto the beach there is a frenzy of activity while onlookers rush into the sea to scoop their own share of the bounty. Many of the sardines are frozen for bait but freshly cooked "sards" are regarded as a delicacy by many sections of the community. The predators certainly take their share and a 3m long dusky shark was once found with 461 freshly eaten sardines in its stomach.

In 2003, only a single netting of 70 baskets (300 fish per basket) took place at Bazley. In 2002 several thousand baskets were taken, most of them from the Durban beachfront. It would appear that water temperatures were not sufficiently cold enough to allow the fish to move out of the Transkei and the small percentage that did so were confined to deeper water, slightly further offshore.

The influx of large predators, particularly sharks, presents a major problem for the Natal Sharks Board, which closely monitors the movements of the sardine shoals and removes the shark nets to reduce potentially high mortalities. As a precaution in 2003, most of the shark nets south of Scottburgh were kept out the water for nearly 2 months.



**Jeremy Cliff,**  
**Natal Sharks Board**  
cliff@shark.co.za



## ADOPT-A-BEACH

**A**dopt-a-Beach is a new project initiated by the National Department of Environmental Affairs and Tourism (DEAT). The Adopt-a-Beach initiative will provide a platform for coastal communities, schools, NGOs and individuals to actively engage with their coastal environment while monitoring various biophysical and socio-economic aspects of the coast. The Department is currently in the process of devising a handbook to guide those who take part in the Adopt-a-Beach initiative. The handbook will be workshopped with pilot groups in September this year and pilot Adopt-a-Beach projects will be rolled out in December. Following an update to the handbook based on the results of the pilot, the full Programme will be rolled out in April 2004.

For more information contact the Project Manager:  
Pieter Badenhorst, Tel: (021) 851 3501 or  
[pbadenho@iafrica.com](mailto:pbadenho@iafrica.com)

## NATIONAL INTERPRETIVE SIGNAGE

**D**EAT has initiated a process to develop and erect interpretive signs along the South African coastline. The aim of this project is to enhance the visitors' experience to the coast by providing environmental and local cultural information at strategic sites. The project commenced in January 2003, with completion anticipated early in 2005. In the meantime, good progress is being made with the development of the first boards. A programme will be developed indicating where boards will be erected and when. It is anticipated that the first boards will be erected towards the end of the year along the Cape south coast.

For more information contact the Project Manager:  
Pieter Badenhorst, Tel: (021) 851 3501 or  
[pbadenho@iafrica.com](mailto:pbadenho@iafrica.com)



One of the signboards currently being designed

## SUSTAINING COASTAL LIVELIHOODS

**F**unding is being made available to Coastcare by Britain's Department for International Development (DFID) to support local and provincial scale projects that address key coastal livelihood opportunities and constraints which have been identified through consultation with stakeholders and specialist studies.

**Six projects, amounting to a total of R4.8 million, were recently awarded to KwaZulu-Natal:**

- The Hibiscus Coast - Promoting Sustainability Project
- The Port of Richards Bay - Supporting sustainable coastal livelihoods development
- Vetiver Grass - A system for coastal rehabilitation and small business development
- The Twin Estuaries Project - Creating livelihood opportunities from coastal protected areas
- Improving livelihood prospects for poor peri-urban coastal communities involved in informal coastal resource use in the Mnini area
- Coastcare Guards and Guides - Sodwana Bay

A second round of tenders is currently being evaluated and the Province is optimistic that it will be receiving further project funding.

### UNDER THE SPOTLIGHT IN THIS ISSUE:

**'The Hibiscus Coast - Promoting Sustainability Project'**  
This project is motivated by the growing concern that people have, for short-term gain, exploited natural resources. The project will examine where development takes place on the Hibiscus Coast and will make recommendations on how unsustainable practices can be rectified and prevented. A focus of the project will be on attempting to understand why development controls are being flouted at the expense of coastal resources. If this can be properly understood, appropriate measures can be put in place to prevent bad coastal development practice.

The project will be establishing a reference group and engaging in a public participation process to get feedback and input from coastal stakeholders.

The Coastal Management Unit of the Provincial Department of Agriculture and Environmental Affairs will be participating actively in the project and would ultimately like to apply the lessons learnt to the entire KwaZulu-Natal coast.



A typical case of encroachment into the Admiralty Reserve

Rod Bulman, the project manager, can be contacted at Phelamanga Projects, Tel: (033) 386 4465, Fax: (033) 346 1141 or  
E-mail: [rod@phelamanga.co.za](mailto:rod@phelamanga.co.za)

## COASTAL MANAGEMENT AND IDP'S

**T**he KZN Coastal Management Programme currently being implemented by the Department of Agriculture and Environmental Affairs (DAEA) has included, as one of its core tasks, an evaluation of the Integrated Development Plan's (IDP's) currently being prepared by the district and local municipalities located along the coast.

The evaluation provides an indication of the extent to which the themes and goals of the National White Paper for Sustainable Coastal Development have been incorporated into each IDP. It has been prepared in a manner so as to assist district and local municipalities in the review of their IDP's and as such, also recommends how the municipalities can refine their strategies, projects and budgets so as to give greater effect to sustainable coastal management in the province and within their areas of jurisdiction. The DAEA has visited each coastal municipality and provided them with an information pack which outlines the outcome of the evaluation for their own IDP.

The inputs by the DAEA have been welcomed by all municipalities and working relationships between the province and municipalities around coastal management issues have been strengthened. The methodology employed by the DAEA has also been adopted by the other coastal provinces.

For further information on the evaluations and on the KZN Coastal Management Programme contact  
Tandi Moffett on Tel: (033) 355 9434 or  
[moffettt@dae.kzntl.gov.za](mailto:moffettt@dae.kzntl.gov.za)

## WIN WIN WIN

Win one of three Coastcare calico shopping bags!

**Q:** What will be the result of this frenzied activity?



**CLUE...**

I spy with my little eye: something beginning with "U"...

**Closing Date:**  
31 October 2003.  
Winners will be notified by post.

Send your answer to:

Omar Parak, KwaZulu-Natal Coastal Coordinator,  
Department of Agriculture and Environmental Affairs,  
Private Bag X9059, Pietermaritzburg, 3200  
or E-mail: [parako@dae.kzntl.gov.za](mailto:parako@dae.kzntl.gov.za)