

*10\_18\_2006*

**NCCOS EMS**

**Enhanced EMS Competency Training**

The training component of the National Centers for Coastal Ocean Science's (NCCOS) Environmental Management System (EMS) requires that EMS awareness training and specific competency training be provided to appropriate employees. The recently enhanced competency training includes the job tasks for any activity depending upon the complexity of the operating procedures (SOP/ SOG) for that activity. Verification of training completion is required for personnel involved with activities, operations and processes that can cause significant environmental impacts. Applicability of the training is measured and documented by integration of the job tasks to the SOP/SOG and incorporates EMS media responsibilities for each NCCOS employee trained. For more information contact the EMS NCCOS Representative, Rick Meitzler at (843)-762-8842 or [rick.meitzler@noaa.gov](mailto:rick.meitzler@noaa.gov) or your NCCOS EMS Representative.

*01\_31\_2007*

**NCCOS EMS**

**NCCOS to Design and Implement Habitat Friendly Stormwater Management Plan**

The National Centers for Coastal Ocean Science (NCCOS) has met with a project engineer and begun development of a stormwater management plan to minimize environmental impacts in estuarine waters surrounding Pivers Island, North Carolina, home of NCCOS' Center for Coastal Fisheries and Habitat Research (CCFHR). The development phase of the plan will identify innovative techniques to minimize impacts of both stormwater runoff and seawater effluent from laboratory culture facilities. Once implemented, the system will serve as a model for education and research of new approaches to reduce environmental impacts. The plan is collaborative among CCFHR, the North Carolina National Estuarine Research Reserve, and Duke University Marine Laboratory, all of whom share the island. Upon completion of the development plan, targeted for October 2007, the three institutions will seek funding for its implementation. The plan is being prepared by a private contractor and is funded by the North Carolina Clean Water Management Trust Fund. For more information, please contact Carolyn Currin at (252) 728-8749 or [Carolyn.Currin@noaa.gov](mailto:Carolyn.Currin@noaa.gov). For more information on NCCOS' Center for Coastal Fisheries and Habitat Research (CCFHR) Beaufort Lab go to: <http://www.ccfhr.noaa.gov/>

*03\_21\_2007*

**NCCOS EMS**

**Improving NCCOS EMS through Networking with Other Government Agencies**

Five members of the National Centers for Coastal Ocean Science (NCCOS) Environmental Management Systems (EMS) team visited the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) facility at Research Triangle Park March 6, 2007. EPA's Office of Research and Development Environmental Compliance Officer, Cara B. Lucas and two Public Health Service officers provided an extensive and in-depth tour of their facility allowing the NCCOS EMS team to see the accomplishments in the areas of Environmental Management Systems (ISO 14001 certified), environmental compliance, safety and health. The team members returned to NCCOS duty stations with important

new ideas and approaches to consider in improving the relatively new NCCOS EMS. The NCCOS EMS team is involved in putting together a summary report with associated recommendations for improvements to our management regarding its visit. For more information, contact Rick Meitzler at (843) 762-8842 or [Rick.Meitzler@noaa.gov](mailto:Rick.Meitzler@noaa.gov), or Raluca Semeniuc at (843) 762-8870 or [Raluca.Semeniuc@noaa.gov](mailto:Raluca.Semeniuc@noaa.gov)

*04\_25\_2007*

#### NCCOS EMS

### **CCFHR Helps NCCOS to Maintain Leadership in Environmental Management System Implementation**

The National Centers for Coastal Ocean Science (NCCOS) Environmental Management System (EMS) Team conducted an annual review of the NCCOS EMS and planned an audit of the system for August of this year. Discussions held April 16-19, 2007 at the Center for Coastal Fisheries and Habitat Research (CCFHR) included the new Executive Order 13423 (EO) “Strengthening Federal Environmental, Energy, and Transportation Management” which consolidates and strengthens five previously issued Environmental EO’s. In an all hands meeting, the staff was introduced to the EMS Team and to the Office of Management and Budget Scorecard record keeping system now required to report annual improvements to energy efficiency and conservation, transportation management and environmental protection. Also discussed were plans aimed at improving environmental stewardship and energy conservation, including an updated CCFHR Recycling Plan, a new Energy Conservation Plan and an online Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDS) tracking system. For more information, contact Sabrina Pittillo at (252) 728-8718 or [Sabrina.pittillo@noaa.gov](mailto:Sabrina.pittillo@noaa.gov). For more information on NCCOS’ Center for Coastal Fisheries and Habitat Research (CCFHR) Beaufort Lab go to: <http://www.ccfhr.noaa.gov/>

*06\_20\_2007*

#### NCCOS EMS

### **NOAA Facility Receives Clean Marina Recognition**

The Center for Coastal Fisheries and Habitat Research (CCFHR) in Beaufort, NC has been recognized by the state of North Carolina for promoting clean activities in its use of boats and research vessels in support of NOAA’s mission. The Clean Marina Initiative has its origins in NOAA and the Environmental Protection Agency’s Coastal Non-point Source Program. CCFHR implemented a series of procedures to promote adoption of environmentally sound operating and maintenance practices. These procedures include fuel spill prevention, sewage and fish waste elimination, and reduction of the impacts of boat maintenance. Education and training of personnel in the application of these procedures has begun. Collectively, the efforts leading to Clean Marina recognition help further the efforts of NOAA’s Environmental Management System (EMS) to reduce our environmental footprint. For more information, please contact Roger Mays at (252) 728-8798 or [Roger.Mays@noaa.gov](mailto:Roger.Mays@noaa.gov). For more information on NCCOS’ Center for Coastal Fisheries and Habitat Research (CCFHR) Beaufort Lab go to: <http://www.ccfhr.noaa.gov/>

*08\_22\_2007*

## NCCOS EMS

### **Cooperative Oxford Laboratory Construction Plans to Meet Environmental Management System Standards with Geothermal Design**

As part of its current renovation and construction plans, the Cooperative Oxford Laboratory (COL) will install a geothermal heating and cooling system. This system will allow COL to reduce its use of petroleum products and increase its energy efficiency. Director Bob Wood met with engineers last week to discuss and finalize details at the 95% design meeting. Engineers expect to finalize the design plans by the end of September, and to begin construction next fiscal year. For more information, contact Bob Wood at (410) 226-5193 or [Bob.Wood@noaa.gov](mailto:Bob.Wood@noaa.gov). For more information on NCCOS' Center for Coastal Environmental Health and Biomolecular Research (CCEHBR)

Cooperative Oxford Lab go to:

<http://www.chbr.noaa.gov/default.aspx?category=oxford&pageName=Oxford%20home%20page>

09\_26\_2007

## NCCOS EMS

### **NCCOS Audit of its Environmental Management System Continues Office “Greening”**

An internal audit of the National Centers for Coastal Ocean Science (NCCOS) Environmental Management System (EMS) was conducted September 10-14, 2007, with attention to the Center for Coastal Fisheries and Habitat Research (CCFHR) at Beaufort, NC and its Kasitsna Bay, AK laboratory. Members of the NCCOS EMS Team in accordance with American National Standards conducted the audit and a report will be issued within 45 days. NCCOS self-declared its EMS in December 2005 and has conducted two subsequent internal audits. NCCOS is the first office within NOS to reach this level of certification to meet federal EMS requirements. External audits are scheduled toward full certification. For more information, contact Jay Lewis at (410) 226-5193 x119 or [Jay.Lewis@noaa.gov](mailto:Jay.Lewis@noaa.gov). For more information on NCCOS' Center for Coastal Environmental Health and Biomolecular Research (CCEHBR) Cooperative Oxford Lab go to:

<http://www.chbr.noaa.gov/default.aspx?category=oxford&pageName=Oxford%20home%20page>