# COVER PHOTOGRAPH AND FRONT MATTER: S. LOURENÇO BAY, SANTA MARIA, AZORES, PORTUGAL

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# COVER PHOTOGRAPH

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**S. LOURENÇO BAY, SANTA MARIA, AZORES, PORTUGAL**

The island of Santa Maria is one of nine volcanic islands that comprise the archipelago of the Azores, Portugal. Located in the middle of the Atlantic, approximately 1430 km from Europe and 3900 km from North America, Santa Maria was first discovered around 1427, due to its geographical position. The presence of a mild climate and fertile soil allowed the island to become colonized rapidly. Considered relatively small, Santa Maria is only 97 $km^2$, with a rather irregular coast, abrupt cliff structures, and protected bays. However, this island is the only one presenting formations with sedimentary origin.

S. Loureno Bay, at the north coast, interrupts a coastline of high cliffs and is part of an old crater partially eroded, which also serves as one of the most scenic landscapes of the island. Even with the presence of these steep cliffs, the human occupation is strong. In addition to houses, vineyards are present until mid-slope, taking advantage from the quality of the soils and the protection given by the cliffs, being vital to slope stabilization. Due to the lack of sediments and vulnerability, this stretch of coast is still susceptible to erosion, but is still used as a summer destination for holidays. (Photograph taken by Adriano Quintela/Rui Coutinho and caption provided by Carlos Pereira da Silva, Department of Geography and Regional Planning, New University of Lisbon, Portugal, September, 2011).

# JOURNAL OF COASTAL RESEARCH

## An International Forum for the Littoral Sciences





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The Coastal Education and Research Foundation *[CERF]* is a nonprofit society dedicated to the advancement of the coastal sciences. The Foundation is devoted to the multi-disciplinary study of the complex problems of the coastal zone. The purpose of CERF is to help translate and interpret coastal issues for the public and to assist professional research and public information programs. The Foundation specifically supports and encourages field and laboratory studies on a local, national, and international basis. Through the medium of scientific publications, television, and radio CERF brings accurate information to the public and coastal specialists on all aspects of coastal issues in an effort to maintain or improve the quality of shoreline resources.

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CERF is associated with the Department of Geosciences at Florida Atlantic University (FAU) in Boca Raton, Florida, and one of the main editorial offices for the *Journal of Coastal Research* (JCR) is located at the University. This partnership provides a basis for cooperative investigation, in private and public sectors, of biophysical resources found in open and naturally protected coastal regions, estuaries, large inland bodies of water bounded by shorelines, wetlands, and other coastal environments. Multidisciplinary studies at FAU's Department of Geosciences brings together experts from various fields in remote sensing, geographic information science, spatial ecology, environmental studies, marine biology, coastal geology, geography, and coastal engineering.

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### Editor-in-Chief

**Charles W. Finkl** Ph.D., CSci, CMarSci, FIMarEST, CPGS, CPSSc, PWS

Dr. Charles W. Finkl is President and Executive Director of the Coastal Education & Research Foundation *[CERF]*, publisher of the JCR. Charlie, a founding editor of the *Journal of Coastal Research*, has served as Editor-in-Chief for the past 27 years. He is a Research Professor in the Department of Geosciences at Florida Atlantic University in Boca Raton, Florida. He received his Bachelor and Master of Science degrees from Oregon State University and the Ph.D. from the University of Western Australia. He is a member of more than 20 professional societies and has published more than 200 professional papers, books, and reports. He is a Chartered Marine Scientist (CMarSci) [Institute of Marine Engineering, Science and Technology], Certified Professional Geological Scientist (CPGS) [American Institute of Professional Geologists (AIPG),], Certified Professional Soil Scientist (CPSSc) [American Registry of Certified Professionals in Agronomy, Crops, and Soils], and a Professional Wetland Scientist (PWS) [Society of Wetland Scientists]. Charlie has field experience in parts of the USA, Caribbean area, Brazil, Honduras, Russia, South Africa, Western Europe, Australasia, and South Pacific islands. He is also the Series Editor of the Encyclopedia of Earth Sciences Series that is published by Springer (Germany). There are more than twenty-eight volumes in the Series and about twenty-five are available online. Charlie also serves on the Editorial Board of the *International Journal of Environmental Studies* (Routledge) and is an occasional peer reviewer for many other professional journals.

Charlie has interests and expertise in the general areas of surficial geology, coastal and marine geomorphology (including coastal classification), coastal/marine biophysical environments, exploration geochemistry, soils and weathering (regolith geology), coastal zone management and engineering applications or impacts on natural systems (including erosion control and shore protection), coastal hydrology including submarine freshwater and mineralized seeps, subaerial and marine structural geology, natural hazard mitigation in coastal zones, marine environments and coastal wetland protection and restoration, and remote sensing (*e.g.* land cover classification in coastal wetlands, advection-diffusion turbidity plumes in coastal waters, delineation of bottom types and sand resources), effluent disposal and pollution of wetlands and estuaries, water resources mapping and conservation, time series studies of wetland hydroperiod and soil moisture.

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The International Coastal Symposium (ICS) was originally set up by Per Bruun (deceased) and Charlie Finkl as the official meeting of the Coastal Education & Research Foundation (CERF), with the first meeting being held in Hilton Head, South Carolina, in 1993. After the repeated success of these meetings, CERF moved the ICS to the international scene holding these conferences in conjunction with local sponsors in Australia, Brazil, Iceland, New Zealand, Northern Ireland, Poland and Portugal. The next ICS meeting will be held 8–12 April 2013 in Plymouth, United Kingdom (12th ICS hosted by Dr. Gerd Masselink at the University of Plymouth). The ICS deals with all aspects of the coastal zone and attracts more than 600 delegates during each meeting. For more information, please visit www.cerf-jcr.org.

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*Journal of Coastal Research,* an International Forum for the Littoral Sciences, is dedicated to all aspects of coastal research. These include geology, biology, geomorphology (physical geography), climate, littoral oceanography, hydrography, coastal hydraulics, environmental (resource) management, engineering, and remote sensing. Although each field functions effectively within its own purview, the cross-disciplinary nature of coastal studies requires familiarity with other fields as well. Hence, the scope of topics is necessarily broad in order to address the complexity of coastal biophysical and socio-economic interactions. Because of the wide range of interrelated topics, the journal invites original contributions and manuscripts dealing with theory, methodology, techniques, and field or applied topic studies on interdisciplinary coastal issues.

The journal encourages the dissemination of knowledge and understanding of the coastal zone by promoting cooperation and communication between specialists in different disciplines. Natural scientists, for example, are encouraged to collaborate with professionals in other fields to prepare contributions relating to the coastal zone that foster increased appreciation of coastal environments and processes. By means of this journal, with its scholarly and professional papers, systematic review articles, book and symposia reviews, communications and news, and special topical issues, an international forum for the development of integrated coastal research is provided.

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