COVER PHOTOGRAPH: WATERFRONT REDEVELOPMENT, VANCOUVER, BRITISH COLUMBIA, CANADA

Source: Journal of Coastal Research, 28(2)
Published By: Coastal Education and Research Foundation
URL: https://doi.org/10.2112/1551-5036-28.2.ii

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This coastal seaport city is the hub of Greater Vancouver. With over 2.3 million residents, it is the third most populous metropolitan area in Canada (after Toronto and Montreal), and the most populous in Western Canada. The city proper has more than 640,000 people, making it the eighth largest in Canada, and the most densely populated Canadian city of over 25,000 residents, with 5,039 people per km² in 2006. Port Metro Vancouver is the busiest and largest in Canada, as well as the fourth largest port (by tonnage) in North America. The steps in the foreground lead up to Canada Place and the Pan Pacific Hotel. The cruise terminal here is the main point of departure for Alaska with more than one million passengers passing through each year. Reclaimed in the 1970s and 1980s, the city and foreshore exploded upwards after Expo 86 with high-rise apartment buildings and other development. The redeveloped shore is a delightful coastal urban park that features walkways, bike paths, scenic overlooks to Coal Harbor, and many rest stops. The boardwalk along the seawall follows the shore to Stanley Park, one of the world’s great coastal urban parks. The seaplane harbor on the right hand side of the image is a busy place. Seaplane companies operate frequent scheduled service from the downtown Vancouver harbor direct to Victoria, the capital of British Columbia, on Vancouver Island and other coastal destinations. As seen in this image, the coastal urban landscape is a pleasing sight and with all of the waterside amenities it is easy to understand why Vancouver has ranked highly in worldwide “livable city” rankings for more than a decade. In fact, Vancouver is the first city to rank among the top-ten of the world’s most livable cities for five straight years. (Photograph by Charlie Finkl, Coastal Education & Research Foundation, August 2011).
Aims and Scope of the Journal

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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