

**COVER PHOTOGRAPH: KATMAI NATIONAL PARK,  
ALASKA, U.S.A. American Bald Eagle (*Haliaeetus  
leucocephalus*) landing atop a coastal nest within  
Alaska's Katmai National Park**

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## COVER PHOTOGRAPH



**COVER PHOTOGRAPH: KATMAI NATIONAL PARK, ALASKA, U.S.A.**

**American Bald Eagle (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*) landing atop a coastal nest within Alaska's Katmai National Park**

An American Bald Eagle (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*) prepares for a graceful landing atop its nest located off the coast of Katmai National Park in Alaska. The massive nests are tactically used and built upon, year after year, by these majestic birds of prey, with both the male and female adult eagles sharing in the parental duties of raising and feeding their young. This particular nest is approximately two meters in diameter and is set high atop a singular rock stack that is separated from the mainland; thereby, making it a true safe-haven for the eagle chicks. These coastal cliffs represent part of the Shelikof Strait seacoast, which is a rugged, diversified area of narrow-to-wide bays, long and narrow-to-wide beaches, and intricate coves. Steep cliffs rising from the bays are common along the coastline, with rivers cascading down steep canyons and waterfalls plunging onto ocean beaches. Deep blue water, pale bluff pumice, and the green of alder patches and grasslands are typical along this coastline. This coastal nest location not only protects the chicks from mainland predators, but provides a spectacular look-out point for fish in nearby Kukak Bay. The parents will also use the thermal convection currents and high winds of the Shelikof Strait to soar and patrol their nesting territory.

(Photograph by Jim Mahoney, Wildlife Photographer, Associated Press, West Palm Beach, Florida, USA).

# JOURNAL OF COASTAL RESEARCH

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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. Scientific investigative efforts by faculty, students, and staff span a wide and diversified range of interrelated topics that are relevant to solutions of today's dynamic problems. It is hoped that these combined attempts to better understand the nature of coastal processes will help forestall what may become contentious issues of tomorrow.

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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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# JOURNAL OF COASTAL RESEARCH

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