Dawning of the age of coronavirus

By KATE GOODERHAM, ASBPA Managing Director

At ASBPA, we love pioneering new research. We don’t love having to pioneer a Coastal Summit webinar. Yet, through incredible efforts by Margarita Kruyff, Brian Caufield, Ken Gooderham, Derek Brockbank, Annie Mercer, Nick Brown and others, we researched and learned a new platform, re-organized our program, talked to each of our sponsors and communicated with our participants.

The result — our sponsors stuck with us, our speakers were great and we even picked up some additional registrants who could now join us once the Coastal Summit was a webinar. So the show goes on. Even more important now: When the crisis abates, we are ready to move forward.

We have adjusted the deadline for the Best Restored Beach nominations until April 30 to make it easier to complete the nomination for those who can’t get to the office yet. We are looking forward to the National Coastal Conference in Long Beach, California, from Oct. 13-16. Abstracts are due May 1, and we will be watching the pandemic carefully to determine next steps.

In the association’s 94 years, ASBPA has faced not only the Great Depression and World War II, but also more current challenges of the Great Recession and 9/11. Each time, we have persevered and prospered. This time will be no different.

Dealing with coronavirus as a community

By DEREK BROCKBANK, ASBPA Executive Director

Coronavirus and its economic fallout threatens every aspect of society, but beach and coastal communities — with their reliance on visitation and tourism — will be hit as hard as anybody.

As I write this, the Outer Banks are shutting down to visitors, California counties are issuing lockdown orders, and spring break destinations are restricting beach access, from Texas limiting gatherings to Fort Lauderdale simply closing beaches.

Industry is similarly affected. Dredging operations — with their staffing model of a crew working in close quarters on a dredge before dispersing to their homes across the county — need to be re-thought in the context of a pandemic. Resources that had been planned for infrastructure maintenance or improvement will be re-directed to health response and emergency needs. Our industry suffers when communities, state and federal officials decide that waiting an extra year or two before nourishing a beach or restoring a coastal ecosystem is a way to save money needed for more essential operations.

— Continued on next page —
I’m proud to be part of ASBPA

By TONY PRATT, ASBPA president

W e have just concluded a very successful albeit very different Coastal Summit. It was just about three weeks out from the Summit when Derek, Kate, Ken and I started to ask, what if? What if the then, emerging coronavirus became bad enough that we could not meet in DC all together? The ASBPA Super Star management team went into action to begin first eliminating expenses we would not have to incur, while also ramping up to be able to have the quality conference and information exchange that the Summit is known for.

Between our Executive Director Derek Brockbank and our Managing Directors Kate and Ken Gooderham along with the Summit Chairs Brian Caulfield, Mike McGarry and Margarita Kruyff, they pulled off the near-impossible task of converting over in three weeks and AND maintaining a top-shelf conference. They are my heroes and, with all possible admiration and respect, I thank them for their superlative work.

While speaking about effective communication in challenging times, I reflect on the state of communication in 2020 and where we as a community of common interest go forward in this ever-evolving world. The ability to connect with others, to have earnest conversations, to enlighten and share and learn as we have done this past week leads me to wonder if remote access to our conferences may well become a mainstay.

We do not know how the current pandemic will play out in the coming months, but the need and ability to keep our community united and talking together is imperative. We prosper from each other and each other’s work and energy. My good friend Joan Pope observed after the Coastal Summit that there is “nothing like having your 100 best friends around you to keep you on target” when we are all in the same room. There will never be a complete substitute for being in the same room with all of you, but we achieved the next best thing last month.

My hat is off for all of you for sticking with us. It reflects how much we mean to each other and how much we get back from being in this organization. I am honored to be a member of ASBPA with you and if I can't have a coffee or beer alongside you at a meeting, I’ll drink that coffee as we talk to each other through our computer screens. You are a wonderful community, which I am proud to be part of.

Deadline extended for 2020 Best Restored Beaches nominations

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Dealing.........................

Continued from page 1

In the near term, our communities must, like everyone, practice social distancing for the good of society and to keep people healthy and safe. But we must be ready to leap forward once coronavirus has reached its peak.

Beaches and all nature and open spaces are some of the safest and healthiest ways to recreate during a pandemic. Staying six feet apart on a beach is not only doable, it's usually expected. Going to a beach can be — and will be perceived to be — much safer than theme parks, museums, movie theaters, and other types of entertainment that require people to be in close proximity to each other and in physical contact with things that someone else has touched.

A beach vacation can also be much more affordable than many other tourism options. And with 40% of the U.S. population living within 50 miles of a coast, the beach is an inexpensive, flight-free way to vacation for 150 million Americans. With a slowdown of the spread of coronavirus and the right marketing, beaches could still have a very successful summer season.

The challenges to our community are real and significant, but we must address the realities and move forward. I look forward to working with you as we navigate these uncharted waters together.

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Making the virtual Coastal Summit a reality

By BRIAN CAUFIELD, MARGARITA KRUYFF and MIKE McGARRY; Coastal Summit Co-chairs

We want to say a big THANK YOU to all who stayed with us through these trying times. When Margarita, Mike and Brian agreed to be co-chairs for the Coastal Summit, we never expected that we would be doing this in a virtual environment. Thank you specifically to Managing Directors Kate and Ken Gooderham, Executive Director Derek Brockbank, and Association President Tony Pratt as they showed tremendous leadership and courage in making the decision to take the Coastal Summit into the virtual realm.

That was easily the best ASBPA virtual coastal summit that I ever attended. It was also the first, but it exceeded many expectations. We feared attendees not being able to join, panelists deciding last minute they could not be there, and a multitude of AV issues as we suddenly drained all the bandwidth of our home internet providers. But we managed to pull off one of the best pivots ever seen.

Day 1 was led by Margarita Kruyff and her cats, as she managed the challenges of working from home. Speaking of challenges, make sure that you participate in the U.S. Coastal Research Program’s Coastal Management Challenges survey, it is available through their website at https://uscoastalresearch.org. ASBPA’s Science Director Nicole Elko is looking to hear from you!

Day 1 included a panel with two members of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers speaking on the complexities of the Benefit Cost Ratio. It was
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South Coast Engineers
interesting to hear from them on why the approach is taken and what matters most in the analysis and the fact that the policy in place goes back to the Reagan administration! We also had a great summary of the Local Funding for Coastal Projects as ASBPA’s Intern Annie Mercer had Ken Willson tell a story of success from the Atlantic coast followed by Marc Beyeler tell us a success from the Pacific coast, and Shannon Cunniff brought us home with thoughts of bonds!

Our final panel was chaired by the day’s host Margarita and looked at Natural Infrastructure. Dr. Stewart Farrell brought us through several examples of dune and beach performance during Sandy while Dr. Moushumi Chaudhury told us about insuring reefs in Mexico. Katie Carpenter gave us an interesting look into how people are currently looking at projects with respect to costs and needs and reminded us that the friction of change needs to be reduced to move projects. Although one of her best bullets was “The virus has taught us, that if you wait to act until you see the physical impact, it will be too late to stop it.” This sentiment is so true for those of us in the coastal space who know that we cannot wait to last minute to protect our shores.

Day 1 ended with our keynote speaker, Rear Adm. Gallaudet of NOAA. He spoke on NOAA’s strategic plan moving forward and how they want to push ocean science and technology leveraging the usage of Big Data as well as private partnerships. So much of America’s Blue Economy relies on the quality of this data. He quoted that if you summed up the GDP in the coastal and Great Lakes states, it is the third largest GDP in the world. We were all excited that the day ended without a hitch that Margarita’s cat Tula jumped for joy as the day ended.

Day 2 was led by Brian Caufield. We began by celebrating our four 2019 Best Restored Beach Winners: Caminada Headlands, LA; Duval County, FL; South Padre Island, TX; Waypoint Park Beach, WA. Each project is a great example of what can be done to develop healthy coastlines. Then Hillary Stockdon with USGS gave us a brief outline on the U.S. Coastal Research Program and told us about the field experiment During Nearshore Event Experiment (DUNEX). This study is important in growing our current state-of-the-science and some of the experiments are being designed based on the outcomes of the Coastal Management Challenges survey.

Lisa Larimer with EPA introduced the ASBPA membership to EPA’s Office of Water. The work this office performs is important to ASBPA’s mission of healthy shorelines as it focuses on the water quality standards and testing performed. Lisa also gave us the staggering fact that 80% of aquatic trash comes from land-based sources!

Brian Caufield then led a panel speaking on the use of offshore leases for coastal resilience comprised of Greg Grandy with the Louisiana CPRA and Jill Hamilton, a staffer with Senator Whitehouse’s office. Greg spoke on the importance of GOMESA on delivering coastal projects in Louisiana and how the state’s Coastal Master Plan ensures that the funds provided by the offshore lease are used to the best of their ability. Jill Hamilton spoke on new activities on the Hill related to coastal funding. Sen. Whitehouse is looking for ways to provide a dedicated funding stream to fund the Coastal and Ocean Security Trust.

Being scattered across the country didn’t stop the ASBPA board from taking care of governance prior to the start of the Coastal Summit.

Thanks to Zoom’s virtual background feature, Scott Douglass could attend the Coastal Summit from the "beach.”

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Congratulations to our 2020 Coastal Summit award winners

Our winner of the 2020 Coastal Advocate Award is Rep. Peter DeFazio from Oregon, nominated by William Doyle. The Chair of the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, Congressman DeFazio has stated numerous times how important estuaries are for the health of our economy and communities and that there is a national interest in their protection and enhancement. He has spoken many times about the jobs provided by these ecosystems and the wildlife and habitat they support. Congressman DeFazio has also spoken on behalf of our coastlines and the importance of resiliency. In his own words "By restoring and protecting our coasts, we can lessen the impacts of hurricanes and other storm events that cause physical and economic damage to our communities".

One of our 2020 Friend of the Coast Award is Sen. Bill Cassidy of Louisiana, nominated by Jack Koban. Sen. Cassidy's tremendous effort in working towards a coastal restoration and resilience through the COASTAL Bill, and his support of organizations such as the GOMESA Revenue Sharing Coalition were cited in his nomination as compelling factors in this award selection.

The other winner of our 2020 Friend of the Coast Award is Sen. Brian Schatz of Hawaii, nominated by Robert Walker. Sen. Schatz was nominated because of his long-time work helping to protect our coasts and oceans that include funding for Hawaiian Marine National Monuments, improving tsunami warnings, protecting coral reefs, protecting Hawaiian monk seals and sea turtles, and secure funds for the National Sea Grant program, to name only a few of his achievements. Along with the funding he has secured, he also is the Chair of the Senate Democrats Special Committee on the Climate Crisis and a co-sponsor of the Save our Seas Act 2.0.

We are pleased to present Tucker Mahoney with the 2020 ASBPA Agency Award. Tucker is FEMA's go-to coastal person, a trained coastal engineer who has been with FEMA since 2009. Tucker is a long-time friend and supporter of ASBPA. She has hosted agency visits in conjunction with the ASBPA Summit for the last decade and she presently serves on ASBPA's Technical Advisory Committee (affectionately known as “The TAC [pronounced ‘tack’].” Tucker is passionate about engaging coastal stakeholders, translating information, and using sound science to inform policy. She is a model agency employee and a tremendous asset to the coastal community. Thank you, Tucker, and congratulations for being selected for the 2020 ASBPA Agency Award.

Summit

\[\text{Continued from page 5}\]

Fund. His office is using GOMESA as a model to propose the use of lease fees for offshore renewable energy development to fund this resilience program for coastal states.

Tucker Mahoney with FEMA then spoke of the establishment of the Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities program that will be the new grant mechanism for mitigation. USFWS’s Samantha Brooke spoke about the USFWS Coastal Program, there are exciting grant opportunities there that ASBPA membership can take advantage of such as the National Coastal Wetlands Conservation Grant Program.

Day 2 ended with an activity that usually takes place on the Hill as we had a joint briefing with the Coastal States Organization from staffers on the Transportation & Infrastructure Committee, Environment & Public Works Committee, Commerce Committee, and Natural Resources Committee.

Each of these staffers showed that Washington, DC, can work in this new virtual environment.
Summit agency ‘visits’ go virtual

Normally agency visits tied to the ASBPA Coastal Summit would be held in person. This year they were held by webinars or conference calls:

NOAA

On Wednesday afternoon, a group of 12 ASBPA Coastal Summit attendees from academia, local government, federal agencies and private industry joined Mark Osler and Pamela Braff of NOAA NOS for an advocacy meeting over Zoom. The meeting was co-led by ASBPA Board Member Lynette Cardoch and 2020 Summit co-host Margarita Kruyff. The focus of the discussion was to enhance the relationship between ASBPA and NOAA.

Key take-aways from the conversation include: (1) NOAA knows ASBPA as an effective voice on the Hill for beach issues, and is less familiar with our expanded focus on “whole coasts” (2) ASBPA has an opportunity to advocate that NOAA deliver foundational observations and modeling to inform long-term planning for our coasts; and, (3) ASBPA members, perhaps through the Science and Technology group, can provide NOAA with useful end-user input for the development of uniform, applicable tools for the U.S. coasts. — Margarita Kruyff & Lynette Cardoch

BOEM

The 2020 ASBPA Coastal Summit advocacy visit to the Bureau of Ocean and Energy Management (BOEM) was held via conference call on Wednesday afternoon with seven ASBPA members participating along with several BOEM section chiefs and key programs staff. BOEM provide update briefings on three key programs; Marine Minerals, National Oil and Gas Leasing, and Renewable Energy. Jeffrey Reidenauer, Chief of the Marine Minerals Division (MMD), announced that last May the marine mineral program was re-organized and is now a stand-alone division within the bureau with $5.8 million in dedicated funding.

Updates on the Marine Mineral Information System (MMIS) were provided. Tershara Matthews, Chief of Emerging Programs (Gulf of Mexico), provided an overview of ongoing studies and resource needs in the Gulf. She stated that Texas has a need for over 200 million cubic yards of sand. A discussion on OCS sand studies off the California coast resulted in a commitment for follow on meetings with ASBPA members and BOEM to explore how lessons learned during the OCS west coast sand studies might be applied to other state and local nearshore sand studies. James Bennet, Program Manager for the Office of Renewable Energy Programs, indicated that the first BOEM wind energy development lease are will see windmills under construction off the coast of Virginia this summer. — Daniel Adams

FEMA

FEMA gave an excellent briefing on the various mitigation grant programs it currently administers including the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program, Flood Mitigation Assistance Program, Pre-Disaster Mitigation Program, and the 406 Mitigation Program. FEMA also touched on new authorities outlined in the Disaster Reform and Recovery Act — including those outlined in Section 1234.

The program authorized there is being called “Building Resilient Infrastructure & Communities” (BRIC) and is focused on building community capability and capacity to handle disruptions, enabling innovations, promoting partnerships and enabling large projects. The group discussed how ASBPA and FEMA might work together by sharing what is being learned from our Top 5 Coastal Challenges effort, linking with FEMA and the USACE on benefit cost analysis challenges, and educating beach communities about the various programs FEMA has to build resilience against rising seas and changing coasts. — Doug Bellomo

USACE

The 2020 ASBPA-Army Corps of Engineers Advocacy meeting was held via webinar with 15 ASBPA and 16 Corps attendees from various Corps offices including Headquarters, Districts, Divisions, Centers of Expertise, the Institute for Water Resources, and the Engineer Research & Development Center. We reviewed collaborative USACE-ASBPA successes in 2019 including funding for the U.S. Coastal Research Program, several Water Resource Development Act initiatives, and activities to address the Coastal Barrier Resource Act. The majority of the meeting was in discussion of three topics of joint interest:

1) How the Benefit-Cost Analysis for coastal project is developed and if there are ways it could change;

2) Corps Budgeting practices and how recent efforts to expand multi-year, multi-project contracting could improve efficiency (and thereby reduce project costs);

3) Why adding “resilience elements,” such as dunes, to federal projects after storms has not been consistent. — Derek Brockbank
2020 Best Restored Shores nominations are open!

By SHANNON CUNNIFF and PETER SEIDLE, Best Restored Shores co-chairs

ASBPA created the Best Restored Shores (BRS) award to recognize the growing diversity of projects that preserve, protect, and enhance our coastlines. Given last year’s successful launch of the BRS Award, we decided to make it a habit!

ASBPA understands that it takes time, effort, and money to restore inland and bay shorelines, so we want to acknowledge your accomplishments by recognizing shoreline restoration projects and the professionals that make them successful. With the BRS Award, our intent is to recognize the growing diversity of projects that preserve, protect and enhance our coastlines by addressing current and emerging issues that threaten habitats, communities, and their quality of life.

The BRS award is especially suitable for projects on low- and mid-energy shorelines addressing environmental degradation, storm impacts, climate change, and sea level rise — factors that increasingly threaten the nation’s coastal, estuarine and Great Lakes communities. Key nomination criteria include partnerships, innovative design, challenges overcome, and evidence of success. Nominations are due June 30, 2020, and the nomination process is simple, straight-forward and explained here: http://asbpa.org/about-us/awards-program/.

Our 2020 BRS selection committee — Shannon Cunniff, Peter Seidle, Jon Miller, Bret Webb, Paxton Ramsdell, and Maura Boswell — will select the winners based on the nomination submissions that reflect criteria: partnership, innovative design, challenges overcome, and evidence of successful outcomes.

Announcements of the winners will be in late summer and winners will receive recognition at the ASBPA National Conference in Long Beach, California.

So if you’ve been engaged with a project that involved restoring back bays, wetlands, mangroves, and/or reef habitats, you’ll have a shot at getting some well-deserved recognition — but only if you apply!

Also, if you know of a great project, please tell them about the Best Restored Shores award and encourage them to apply.

Call for poster abstracts for 2020 Coastal Conference

ASBPA, in cooperation with the Coastal Zone Foundation, announces the Call for Abstracts for its 2020 National Coastal Conference, Oct. 13-16, 2020, at the Westin Long Beach in Long Beach, CA.

ASBPA is the nation’s first organization to promote science-based policies for the preservation of coastal areas. The theme of the 2020 conference, “2020 Vision for Our Coasts: Shifting Shores, Surf & Sediment,” continues to broaden our focus across the coastal zone. The National Coastal Conference provides an opportunity for coastal stakeholders and managers to develop collaborative networks to promote best management practices, while learning the latest science, engineering and policy needed to maintain and improve the health of our beachfront and estuarine shorelines and ecosystems.

In addition to our usual content of coastal science and engineering, policy and management, restoration and resilience, this year ASBPA’s conference has a dedicated call for presentations on coastal and beach resource management. This track focuses on the challenges of beach management operations and coastal land use especially when considering the impacts of Sea Level Rise (SLR).

This session will explore the complexities of coastal resource management and restoration projects and the specific challenges associated with the competing demands and interests of diverse stakeholders. This session also intends to share experiences in dealing with issues such as communication and outreach for overarching physical drivers such as sea-level rise, sediment deficiencies, king tides and the impacts on the urban flooding environment.

This call is specific to posters invited focusing on a broad range of technical, science, engineering, economics, coastal management, hazard risk management and policy topics. Specific topics include, but are not limited to:
- Beach Restoration and Management
- Coastal Design Concepts and Projects
- Green/Grey Infrastructure and Living Shorelines
- Regional Comprehensive Coastal Studies
- Lessons Learned from Storms and Extreme Events
- Coastal Landscape Architecture
- Coastal & Estuarine Modeling
- Coastal Hazard Mapping & Analysis Tools
- Sea Level Rise Guidance, Planning
Call for abstracts on beach operations and maintenance due May 1

By CESAR ESPINOSA, National Coastal Conference co-chair

“What the public sees in the morning is not what our crew sees at the end of every day, when most people are done using our beaches.”

Operation and maintenance (O&M) is crucial to the safety, efficiency and proper function of any private and public amenity. Our nation’s beaches are no exception to that and require a wide spectrum of day to day activities necessary to keep them clean, operational, and accessible to millions of daily visitors.

This year, the American Shore and Beach Preservation Association’s (ASBPA) annual National Coastal Conference will again expand beyond the traditional science and policy topics and will include a dedicated track on operations and maintenance (O&M). The conference will take place at the Westin Long Beach in Long Beach, California, Oct. 13-16, 2020 and it is soliciting abstracts and presentation proposals related to O&M of beaches. Abstracts for presentations will be accepted online through May 1, 2020.

Posters

- Beach Operations and Maintenance
- Lagoon, Wetland, Marsh, and Estuary Restoration and Enhancement
- Regional Sediment Management
- Economics of Coastal Resources
- Federal, State, and Local Coastal Policy, Regulatory and Legal Issues
- Sand Source Availability and Rights
- Coastal Infrastructure Management
- Resiliency and Adaptation

Policy
- “Nuisance Flooding” and Urban Flooding Challenges

Presentations must be in poster format. Abstracts (up to 500 words) are due by May 1, 2020, for notification by June 19, 2020. Poster abstracts will continue to be accepted through Sept. 6, 2020, but presenters will not be notified until mid-September. Submit abstracts via the online form at www.asbpa.org.

Presenters are responsible for all of their expenses including travel, lodging, and registration fees. Additional information can be found at www.asbpa.org.

Some form of maintenance is required in nearly every type of coastal project, however it is often overlooked by coastal scientists and project managers. Cesar Espinosa, Planning Specialist with the County of Los Angeles Department of Beaches and Harbors and ASBPA National Coastal Conference co-chair, is very aware of the array of daily activities required to keep county beaches clean, safe, and operational, stating “every project that we undertake along the coast requires O&M. We work closely with our consultants to make sure that all plans and specifications meet our needs so that we are able to properly maintain our facilities and amenities.”

Furthermore, “beach management in Hawaii involves periodic sand pushing using heavy equipment often to restore eroded coastal dunes and stabilize public access ways. This special session allows us to explore this practice more deeply than ever before and share the coastal science, experience and lessons learned with this practice and related practical beach management issues” says Dolan Eversole, Coastal Management Specialist at the University of Hawaii Sea Grant and Waikiki Beach Management Coordinator, and ASBPA National Coastal Conference co-chair.

With this year’s theme, “Shifting Shores, Surf, and Sediment,” the national conference will include presentations on the usual science based topics such as coastal modeling, coastal erosion, coastal engineering, regional sediment management, climate change impacts and coastal resilience. However, as mentioned above, O&M plays a key role in any coastal project and requires planning, funding (and lots of it), and dedication. We invite you join the conversation on O&M of these pre-
Coastal Conference abstracts due May 1

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Presentations or posters are invited for a broad range of technical, science, engineering, economics, coastal management, hazard risk management and policy topics.

Specific topics include, but are not limited to:
- Beach Restoration and Management
- Coastal Design Concepts and Projects
- Beach access and challenges
- Health and safety (lifeguard operations, ADA accessibility)
- Beach permits (right of entry permits, and special events)
- Beach environmental education and activities
- Beach special events and crowd management
- Beach improvements (e.g. capital improvements and deferred maintenance)
- Beach operating hours/curfews
- Community outreach and partnerships
- Homelessness (e.g. encampments)
- Dogs on the beach - the environmental impact and the ecological threat
- Green/Grey Infrastructure and Living Shorelines
- Regional Comprehensive Coastal Studies
- Lessons Learned from Storms and Extreme Events
- Coastal Landscape Architecture
- Coastal & Estuarine Modeling
- Coastal Hazard Mapping & Analysis Tools
- Sea Level Rise Guidance, Planning and Policy
- Beach Operations and Maintenance
- Lagoon, Wetland, Marsh, and Estuary Restoration and Enhancement
- Regional Sediment Management
- Economics of Coastal Resources
- Federal, State, and Local Coastal Policy, Regulatory and Legal Issues
- Sand Source Availability and Rights
- Coastal Infrastructure Management
- Resiliency and Adaptation Policy
- “Nuisance Flooding” and Urban Flooding Challenges

Presentations may be PowerPoint or poster format. Abstracts (up to 500 words) are due by May 1; submit abstracts at www.asbpa.org. Presenters are responsible for all of their expenses including travel, lodging, and registration fees. Notification of presentation status will occur by June 19. Additional info can be found at asbpa.org.

O&M

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- Beach access and challenges
- Health and safety (lifeguard operations, ADA accessibility)
- Beach permits (right of entry permits, and special events)
- Beach environmental education and activities
- Beach special events and crowd management
- Beach improvements (e.g. capital improvements and deferred maintenance)
- Beach operating hours/curfews
- Community outreach and partnerships
- Homelessness (e.g. encampments)
- Dogs on the beach - the environmental impact and the ecological threat
- Recreational programs (i.e. surf camps, Jr. Lifeguards, etc.)
- Creating and managing revenue streams (e.g. parking, concessionaires, etc.)

Presentations may be PowerPoint or poster format. Abstracts (up to 500 words) are due by May 1, 2020. Submit abstracts via the online form at www.asbpa.org. Presenters are responsible for all of their expenses including travel, lodging, and registration fees. Notification of presentation status will occur by June 19, 2020. Additional information can be found at www.asbpa.org.
Meet the 2020 Coastal Conference co-chairs

Andy O’Neill, Cesar Espinosa, Doug George and Dolan Eversole are the four co-chairs of ASBPA’s National Coastal Conference, “2020 Vision for Our Coasts: Shifting Shores, Surf and Sediment.”

■ Andy O’Neill: An oceanographer and meteorologist with the USGS Pacific Coastal and Marine Science Center in Santa Cruz. She came to the USGS in 2012 after 11 years of oceanographic and meteorological support for the US Navy in Japan, where much of her work focused on tailored forecasts and climatological products for resource planning and disaster-response. Andy is part of the Coastal Storm Modeling System (CoSMoS) team looking at coastal hazards posed by sea-level rise and storms associated with climate change. She holds a BS in Oceanography from University of Washington in Seattle, and a MS in Meteorology and Physical Oceanography from Naval Postgraduate School in Monterey, California.

“I’m looking forward to hearing discussion between coastal stakeholders, scientists, and coastal management, as an opportunity to learn from each other and develop shared visions on the health of our beaches and estuaries.”

■ Cesar Espinosa: A coastal planner with the County of Los Angeles Department of Beaches and Harbors. He works on a number of capital projects in County operated, owned and controlled beaches, and Marina del Rey.

He is also responsible for overseeing the development and management of the department’s GIS section. Señor Espinosa holds a M.S. in Engineering Management.

“I am excited that ASBPA’s conference is being held in our backyard! There are so many coastal projects as well as coastal and operational issues unique to the West Coast that all attendees are going to find interesting!”

■ Douglas George, Ph.D: A geological oceanographer with 15 years of research and management of coastal and oceanography questions. His interests include coastal processes, sediment transport, and protection of ocean resources. He has extensive history conducting technical work and project management on many West Coast projects as a federal scientist, state policy manager, and environmental consultant. He was the first Coastal Program Manager for California State Parks, developing coastal resiliency for 129 coastal parks.

“I am excited to have our national conference come to California where we can share the West Coast’s creative approaches to vexing challenges of humans impacting precious coastal ecosystems...and of course enjoy our surf!”

■ Dolan Eversole currently serves as the Waikiki Beach Management Coordinator and coastal management specialist through the University of Hawai’i Sea Grant Program. Dolan served as a coordinator and coastal policy advisor to the NOAA Coastal Storms Program and the Hawaii Department of Land and Natural Resources. Dolan’s technical background in Coastal Geomorphology has complements his lifelong experience as an ocean lifeguard, and passionate water sports enthusiast. He is past president of the Hawai’i Chapter of ASBPA.

“As a coastal scientist and beach management practitioner, I plan to co-chair the ASBPA National Coastal Conference in order to learn more about new policies, programs and technologies that are being developed to improve the sustainable management of our coastal environment and the local economies associated with these coastal and beach systems.”

Well, a lot has changed since last month, at ASBPA and across the world. The online Coastal Summit has taken place, and we’ve all adjusted to working from home. One thing remains constant though — you are always able to access the latest information about ASBPA on our mobile friendly website.

We have extended the deadline for nominations of Best Restored Beaches to April 30. Click the link on the home page for more information. We are also still accepting abstracts for the 2020 National Coastal Conference, which will take place in Long Beach, California, Oct. 13-16. We are optimistic that we will be able to hold this conference in person, but will keep you informed as the situation evolves. Abstracts are due on May 1, 2020 — you may also submit a request for a dedicated session; see our guidelines linked from the submittal page.

As always, all the latest news and updates on legislative action items are linked to our home page. — Beth Sciaudone, Ph.D., ASBPA webmaster