

FIELD PHOTO



Stanhope Lane Beach, Prince Edward Island, Canada, October 1985. The Canadian Coastal Sediment Study (C^2S^2) was a large scale field study on flow dynamics, sediment transport and morphologic adjustment during storm conditions, with funding provided by the Canadian government. A large number of researchers were involved from the University of Toronto (B. Greenwood, D.J. Sherman, B.O. Bauer), Dalhousie University (A.J. Bowen, D. Huntley, D. Hazen), Memorial University (A. Hay), the University of Quebec at Rimouski (B. Long) and the USGS (J. Dingler, R. Anima). (a) John Dingler examining the High Resolution Remote Tracking Sonar (HRRTS), which DS and BB (the diving grunts) had to drag in and out of the water what seemed like a hundred times so that JD and BG could look (again) at the transducer or fix the chain. (b) A huge stainless steel cabinet, designed by a consulting company to serve as a sediment suction sampler. I can't recall whether it ever worked or even was deployed, but technological failures were common in those early days of surf zone instrumentation. (c) A huge tripod with a tire in it (for floatation to deploy and deflation to settle to the bottom). It was self-contained (no cables to shore) with instrument package and batteries in a stainless-steel housing. Once on the bottom, divers inserted cement cylinders into the tripod feet to keep it in place (in theory). A big storm moved the tripod onshore into a trough, flipped it over and buried almost all of it except for one small corner sticking out of the sand. The first removal attempt involved attaching a huge Norwegian buoy at low tide, thinking wave stress at high tide would pull it out. Didn't work. A large fishing trawler was called in to pull it out. Didn't work. Eventually a diver with a hacksaw cut the corner off, leaving expensive instrumentation for the amusement of Poseidon and Neptune! (d) The huge data acquisition system in the trailer. How times have changed! (Photos: B.O. Bauer, Dept. of Earth, Environmental and Geographic Sciences, University of British Columbia Okanagan, Canada.)

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