

The Observatory

New

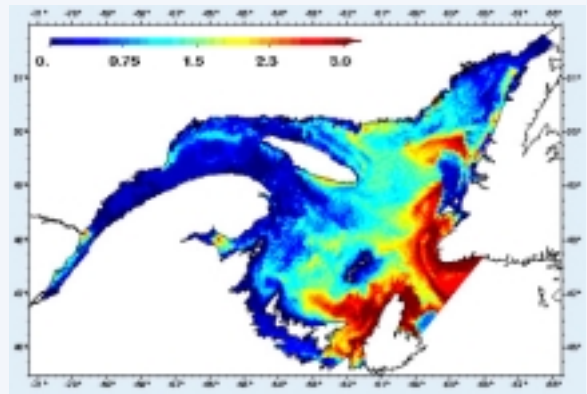
Ocean Forecast

Since February 12, 2002, a variety of products developed by the Numerical Modelling Section of the Ocean Sciences Branch, Maurice Lamontagne Institute (MLI) is available on the Internet. The new site can be accessed via the St. Lawrence Observatory portal at <http://www.osl.gc.ca>

These products are map representations of 0-48 hour forecast of surface currents, sea surface temperature, sea ice (concentration, thickness) and a long range ice forecast for the Estuary and Gulf of St. Lawrence.

Contact:

Denis Lefavre, Operational Oceanography Section
(LefavreD@dfo-mpo.gc.ca)



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The 36th Congress of the Canadian
Meteorological and Oceanography—
CMOS
The Open House at the Maurice
Lamontagne Institute (MLI)

Coming Soon

Tides and Water Levels

Tide tables on the Internet will soon have a new look. The Canadian Hydrographic Service (CHS), in collaboration with the OSL, is currently developing a new approach for the diffusion of tide and water level information to web users for more than 600 locations across Canada.

Users will not only be able to obtain tide predictions but will also have access to water level observations, as well as general, regional and local information about tides and currents.

The official site for the Canadian tide tables can be found at the following address: <http://www.charts.gc.ca>; it may also be accessed directly from the OSL by following the link to St. Lawrence Tides.

[The Canadian Tide Tables site is a product of the Canadian Hydrographic Service; the OSL participates in the design of the graphic interface and the Internet diffusion]

Contact:

Bernard Tessier
(TessierB@dfo-mpo.gc.ca)

Coming Soon

Sentinel Fisheries

The Sentinel Fisheries site will soon launch its mobile gear survey section featuring cod, redfish, and turbot in the Northern Gulf of St. Lawrence.

Biomass and catch information obtained from these surveys will be presented and updated regularly.

<http://www.osl.gc.ca/fr/peches-sentinelles/accueil.htm>

[This Web site is a collaboration between the Sentinel Fisheries Program team, Fish and Marine Mammals Branch at MLI and the OSL.]

Contacts :

Alain Fréchet and Louis Pageau

FrechetA@dfo-mpo.gc.ca – PageauL@dfo-mpo.gc.ca

Ecosystem Modelling—CDEENA

The OSL team, as part of the Comparative Dynamics of Exploited Ecosystems in the Northwest Atlantic (CDEENA) program, is currently developing an Internet site for the diffusion of the project's results.

CDEENA was initiated in 1999 and should be completed by 2003. Scientists from Eastern Canada (Quebec, the Maritimes and Newfoundland) cooperate in this program whose objective is to apply different modelling approaches in order to better understand fluctuations in ecosystem dynamics in relation to the fisheries.

Suggested reading (on the OSL under **Publications**):

- Modélisation écosystémique des régions nord et sud du golfe du Saint-Laurent : un des volets du Programme CDEENA
(format PDF, 589 Ko)
- Inverse analysis of the structure and dynamics of the whole Newfoundland-Labrador Shelf ecosystem
(format PDF, 401 Ko)

Contacts:

Claude Savenkoff and Simon Despatie

SavenkoffC@dfo-mpo.gc.ca –

DespatieS@dfo-mpo.gc.ca

Real-time buoy

In October 2001, an oceanographic buoy (photo) equipped for the real-time transmission of data on seawater temperature, salinity, density, and fluorescence as well as surface wind was moored in the middle of the maritime estuary, off shore of Rimouski.

Designed at MLI and built in cooperation with Multi-Électronique, a Rimouski company, this autonomous buoy operates using solar panels and transmits data to MLI every 15 minutes.

These data will be used to calibrate sea surface temperature and sea color maps obtained from satellites and will also be used to study various oceanographic phenomena.

The OSL team is currently putting the final touches on the presentation of the data collected last fall; the data should soon be available on the Internet. The team is also making sure the transmission of real-time data to the OSL will run efficiently when the buoy is moored again next season.

[The OSL distributes this product in collaboration with the scientists and technicians of MLI's Ocean Sciences Branch]

Contact:

Bernard Pettigrew

PettigrewB@dfo-mpo.gc.ca



Updates

Shipboard thermosalinographs

Since November 2001, a fourth vessel, the *C.T.M.A. Voyageur* (photo), has joined the shipboard thermosalinographs project which collects sea surface temperature and salinity data from commercial ships in the St. Lawrence.

Like the other vessels already equipped to make these types of continuous measurements, the *C.T.M.A. Voyageur*, sailing between Montreal and the Îles-de-la-Madeleine, will contribute to increase data coverage in the Gulf of St. Lawrence.

[Shipboard thermosalinographs is a collaboration between Oceanex, Relais Nordik Inc., Groupe C.T.M.A, the Canadian Ice Service of Environment Canada, the Ocean Sciences Branch at MLI, and the Canadian Coast Guard, Quebec Region (Fisheries and Oceans, Canada).]



Contact:

Peter Galbraith

(GalbraithP@dfo-mpo.gc.ca)



ODMS

The Oceanographic Data Management System (ODMS) continues to receive requests for access and there are now more than 80 registered users. Modifications to the ODMS are expected in the near future that will improve its functionality and performance. The new version of the system should be available toward the end of April.

The ODMS is accessible from the OSL portal.

[The OSL diffuses this product in collaboration with the Data Management Section of the Ocean Sciences Branch at MLI]

Contact:

Bernard Pelchat

(PelchatB@dfo-mpo.gc.ca)

OSL directory

New Internet links are always added to the OSL's virtual directory of specialized resources. They are included within thematic sections currently regrouping a wide variety of organizations (departments, university laboratories, research groups, etc.), integrated information systems (access to databases on the St. Lawrence), and thematic and educational sites.

This is important source of information for those interested in the St. Lawrence and in marine sciences!

To register an organization or suggest links of interest, please contact us at osl@osl.gc.ca

Contact:

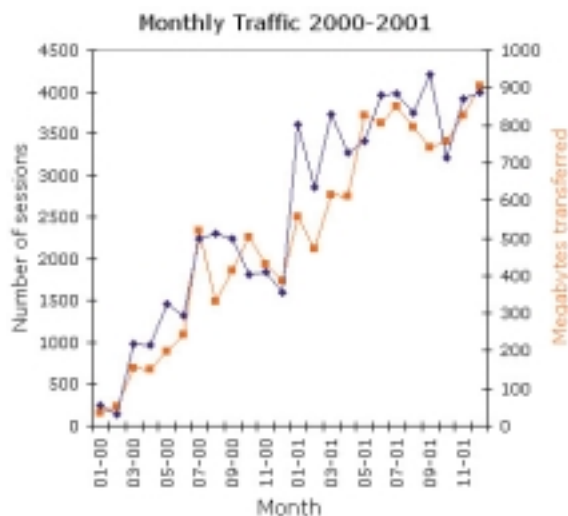
Joanne Hamel

(HamelJo@dfo-mpo.gc.ca)

Web Traffic Statistics

Since its opening on the Internet in January 2000, the OSL portal has become increasingly popular. Traffic indicators have almost tripled in 2001. The total number of successful accesses to the portal is close to a million, the total number of unique visitors is in the order of 18,000, and the average session duration is 20 minutes.

The graph to the right shows the monthly traffic for 2000-2001 in terms of number of periods (sessions) that users spent on the OSL and the amount of data that was transferred (no. of megabytes).



The Observatory is an electronic newsletter published by the St. Lawrence Observatory. It is sent in PDF format to all who show interest in the project. If you wish to receive this newsletter, please let us know at osl@osl.gc.ca. The newsletter is available in both official languages and may be accessed on-line from the OSL portal (via the **Information Kiosk**).

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St. Lawrence Observatory
Maurice Lamontagne Institute
850, route de la Mer-P.O. Box 1000
Mont-Joli, Quebec Canada G5H 3Z4

Telephone: (418) 775-0759
Fax: (418) 775-0546
Email: osl@osl.gc.ca
<http://www.osl.gc.ca>

Coordination and writing:
Joanne Hamel
(hameljo@dfo-mpo.gc.ca)

Graphic Design and Layout:
Johanne Noël
(noelj@dfo-mpo.gc.ca)

Editing (French version):
Karina Laberge
(labergek@dfo-mpo.gc.ca)

Editing (English version):
Laure Devine
(devinel@dfo-mpo.gc.ca)

Disponible en français

The OSL is involved in...

... the development of the web site for the **36th Congress of the Canadian Meteorological and Oceanographic Society**: "The Northern Environment".



22-25 May 2002, Rimouski, Quebec
<http://scmo-cmos-2002.osl.gc.ca>

... the **Maurice Lamontagne Institute Open House** event. The OSL will have a stand featuring its projects and services.

24-26 May 2002, Mont-Joli, Quebec
<http://www.qc.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/iml>

