

International Blue Carbon Scientific Working Group

May 15-17, 2013
Sydney, Australia

AGENDA



member organizations:



workshop partner organizations:



DAY 1 – WEDNESDAY, 15 MAY 2013

LOCATION – Jones Room, Aerial Function Centre, Level 7, Building 10 235 Jones Street, Ultimo, University of Technology, Sydney (UTS)

07:45 Meet at Mercure Hotel lobby

08:00 Registration – UTS Aerial Function Centre, Jones Room

08:20 Welcome

Ross Milbourne – Vice Chancellor and President, UTS

08:30 Welcome and Introduction

Emily Pidgeon – Conservation International (CI), and

Steve Crooks – ESA-PWA

SESSION 1 Coastal carbon distributions (seagrasses)

08:40 Introduction to carbon in Australian seagrasses

Peter Ralph –UTS

09:00 Remote sensing of seagrass using multiple data sources

Chris Roelfsema – University of Queensland (UQ)

09:20 Seagrass distribution across Brazilian coast

Margareth da Silva Copertino – Fundação Universidade Federal do Rio Grande (FURG)

09:40 Mapping carbon stocks in salt marshes of Maine, USA

Beverly Johnson – Bates College

10:00 Northern Australia seagrass – how to estimate mobile small species over massive areas

Michael Rasheed – James Cook University (JCU)

10:20 Morning tea & group photo – UTS Aerial Function Centre, Jones Room

SESSION 2 Coastal carbon distributions (seagrasses), cont'd

11:00 Distribution and dynamics of mangrove forests of the world using earth observation satellite data

Chandra Giri – United States Geological Survey (USGS)

11:20 Global-scale modelling of blue carbon in mangroves

Mark Spalding – The Nature Conservancy (TNC)

11:40 Seagrass distribution and carbon budget using a process-driven model

Mark Baird – Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organization (CSIRO)

12:00 Carbon accretion/movement within the river estuary system; where does all the carbon end up?

Barbara Robson – CSIRO

12:20 Modelling of seagrass distributions with sea level rise

Megan Saunders – University of Queensland (UQ)

12:40 Update on salt marsh accretion model

James Morris – University of South Carolina (USC)

13:00 Lunch – UTS Aerial Function Centre, Jones Room

14:00 Compiling global salt marsh distributions

Jan-Willem van Bochove – United Nations Environment Programme, World Conservation Monitoring Programme (UNEP-WCMC)

14:20 Discussion: Carbon distribution mapping and modelling challenges and priorities

- When will we see a global seagrass map? With carbon?
- What are the current limitations to modelling carbon distribution?
- What is available for non-expert field use?

15:00 Afternoon tea – UTS Aerial Function Centre, Jones Room

SESSION 3 Recent research and developments

15:30 Restoration of seagrass carbon sinks

Núria Marbà, Carlos M Duarte, Gary Kendrick, Tomàs Sintes, Marieke van Katwijk

15:50 Coring dating of seagrass sediments; strengths and weaknesses

Oscar Serrano – Edith Cowan University

16:10 Advances in paleo proxy of seagrass blue carbon

Peter Macreadie – UTS

16:30 Discussion: Challenges with using proxies

- Relative merit to just measuring bulk C
- Does a paleo proxy inform us about present and past efflux?
- What is the minimum core length and parameters to yield valuable paleo data?

17:30 Welcome reception – UTS Aerial Function Centre, Jones Room

19:30 Close

DAY 2 – THURSDAY, 16 MAY 2013

LOCATION – Field visit to Towra Point and Silvers Beach in morning, then return and lunch at UTS Science, Harris Street, Ultimo, UTS

08:15 Meet at Mercure Hotel lobby

08:30 Bus to field visit site

SESSION 1 Excursion

09:30 Four groups will visit Towra Point and Silvers Beach in Botony Bay

10:30 Morning tea – Silvers Beach

SESSION 2 Excursion, cont'd

12:00 Bus back to UTS

13:00 Lunch – Science Faculty – Level 5 common room at UTS

SESSION 3 UTS Tour

14:00 UTS Science laboratory tour

Peter Ralph, Director – Plant Functional Biology & Climate Change

- Overview of UTS blue carbon research activities
- Estimate of importance of bioturbation on gas flux (=C efflux)
- Impact of H₂S on seagrass rood condition
- Molecular signatures of stressed seagrasses

15:30 Close

DAY 3 – FRIDAY, 17 MAY 2013

MORNING LOCATION – The Office of Environment and Heritage (OEH), Level 15, 59
Goulburn Street, Sydney <http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/contact/locations.htm>

AFTERNOON LOCATION – Wattle Room, Aerial Function Centre, Level 7, Building 10, 235
Jones Street, Ultimo, UTS

08:30 Registration – OEH, 59-61 Goulburn Street, Sydney

SESSION 1 Overview of international and Australian blue carbon initiatives

09:00 Welcome and introductions

*Neil Saintilan – OEH, and
Peter Ralph – UTS*

09:10 Carbon in coastal ecosystems: Scientific overview

Steve Crooks – ESA-PWA

09:30 International Blue Carbon Initiative

Emily Pidgeon – CI

09:50 Blue carbon and the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC)

Hilary Kennedy – University of Bangor

10:10 The economics of blue carbon

Brian Murray – Duke University (remote presentation)

10:30 Morning tea – OEH

SESSION 2 Overview of international and Australian blue carbon initiatives, cont'd

**11:00 Overview of blue carbon in the United Nations Framework Convention
on Climate Change (UNFCCC)**

*Dorothee Herr – International Union for Conservation of Nature
(IUCN)*

**11:20 Opportunities for blue carbon in Australian coastal policy and
management**

Anissa Lawrence – Tierramar Consulting

11:40 Discussion and close

12:00 Walk back to UTS for lunch at Aerial Function Centre, Wattle Room

SESSION 3 Blue carbon in the Coral Triangle

- 13:00** **Mangrove research and conservation in Coral Triangle countries**
Jurgenne Primavera – Philippines
- 13:20** **Blue Carbon in Action: Its potential application as one tool to improve natural resource management at Tanjung Panjang (Gorontalo Province, Sulawesi, Indonesia)**
Clint Cameron – Charles Darwin University
- 13:40** **Gaps and challenges in seagrass knowledge and management in Coral Triangle countries**
Miguel Fortes – University of the Philippines
- 14:00** **Carbon loss from degraded seagrass sites (Indonesia)**
Pemika Apichanangkool – UTS
- 14:20** **Indonesian Blue Carbon Program**
Tonny Wagey – Arafura and Timor Seas Ecosystem Action (ATSEA)
- 14:40** **Mangrove ecosystem services and payments for blue carbon in Solomon Islands**
Joelle Albert – WorldFish
- 15:00** **Discussion: Priorities and opportunities for blue carbon in the Coral Triangle**
- 15:40** **Afternoon tea – UTS Aerial Function Centre, Wattle Room**

SESSION 4 Blue Carbon Field Manual

- 16:00** **Review of the Draft Blue Carbon Field Manual**
Maciej Telszewski – Independent consultant
- 17:00** **Planning for next meeting (November 2013)**
- 17:30** **Close**