

### Coastal zone mapping in New Brunswick

D. Bérubé and J.J. Thibault

*New Brunswick Department of Natural Resources and Energy, Mineral Development Branch, P.O. Box 6000,  
Fredericton, New Brunswick E3B 5H1, Canada*

In the early 1970's, the Mineral Resources Division of the New Brunswick Department of Natural Resources and Energy undertook a coastal zone management study of the eastern coast of the Province (Airphoto Analysis Consultants Limited, 1975). This study provided abundant geoscientific data some of which was used to change legislation and control extraction of material from marine beaches. A similar but more detailed survey of the Fundy coast was done for the Department (Hunter and Associates, 1982).

In 1990, a 1:10 000 coastal zone mapping program was initiated by the Division. The objective of the program is to map the geomorphological and sedimentological aspects of the terrain located between the normal low water and the higher high water. Through an emphasis on fieldwork, the program aims to update and refine the present information

base and lead to a better understanding of the physical processes responsible for the evolution of the coast.

The work plan also includes the analysis of recent and selected historical aerial photographs, the preparation and maintenance of an extensive annotated collection of slides and photographs describing coastal processes and features, and the preparation of technical reports designed to help interpret and enrich the map product.

Work has begun at the New Brunswick/Nova Scotia border on the Northumberland Strait shoreline and is proceeding northerly toward the Bay of Chaleur. The eventual goal is to integrate the coastal terrain information into a CARIS-based coastal zone geographic information system based on the LRIS 1:10 000 digital map series.