



## The Interreg IVB North Sea Region Programme

*Investing in the future by working together  
for a sustainable and competitive region*



**MEDIA RELEASE from Humber INCA 21<sup>st</sup> November 2011**

## **HUMBER ESTUARY CONFERENCE 2011**

**THURSDAY 24<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2011, HULL TRUCK THEATRE**

Over 150 delegates are attending the Humber Estuary Conference to discuss the practical management of its ecological and economic importance.

The Humber is one of the North Sea's principal estuaries. It has vital ports and industries for the UK's economy plus outstanding birds and other wildlife. It has the UK's largest ports' complex and a concentration of energy and chemical industries, with now the growth of renewable energy being a major opportunity. It is a European Marine Site on account of its importance for birds and other wildlife. Much of the urban area and the high grade agricultural land that surround the Humber are on the tidal floodplain – climate is changing and sea level is rising.

Tony Edwards, the organiser of the conference said, "Many organisations have interests in the well-being of the Humber Estuary and the annual conference provides an opportunity for all these interests – navigation and ports, industry, communities,

agriculture, wildlife, recreation and heritage - to discuss how their activities can take place in harmony and support the sustainable management of this magnificent estuary. A key issue is the practical steps needed to enable much needed economic development while safeguarding and enhancing the environment.”

The morning session of the conference is devoted to the Humber Management Scheme. The purpose of the Scheme, which is required by the UK’s Conservation of Habitats and Species laws, is to ensure that the nature conservation objectives set for the estuary are met. A comprehensive revision of the Scheme, first published in 2005, is in progress by a partnership of 35 organisations with responsibilities for the estuary.

The afternoon session is on the European TIDE – Tidal River Development project, which is examining the integrated management of North Sea Estuaries, which have major ports with associated cities and industries, along with fisheries, wildlife and flood risks. The estuaries being studied in detail are the Elbe and Weser in Germany, the Scheldt in Belgium and the Humber.

Humber INCA’s Award for Environmental Excellence 2011 will be presented during the conference. It recognises outstanding practical environmental work in the Humber area.

**Notes for Editors:**

1 The conference programme is appended. It starts at 10am with an address by The Lord Mayor of Kingston upon Hull and Admiral of the Humber.

2 The annual Award of the Humber INCA (Industry Nature Conservation Association) for Environmental Excellence will be presented by the Chair of Association - Sarah Smith from Tate Steel.

3 The previous recipients of the Award were:

2008	Dr Nev Jones, former Chair of the Humber Advisory Committee and founding Director of the Institute of Estuarine and Coastal Studies, University of Hull
2008 Special Award	Roger Arundel, ABP and past Chair of Humber INCA
2009	Eon at Killingholme for the Chase Hill Woodland management project
2010	Alkborough Managed realignment project (partnership of English Nature, Environment Agency, North Lincolnshire Council and ABP)

- 4 About 150 delegates are attending of which 18 are from Belgium and Germany.
- 5 The contributions by the TIDE Team are part of a week long meeting on the Tidal River Development project hosted by the Institute of Estuarine and Coastal Studies at the University of Hull.
- 6 There are opportunities for interviews and photographs.
- 7 The conference is sponsored by: Humber INCA, Humber Management Scheme, TIDE – European Union: The European Regional Development Fund.

**[www.humberinca.co.uk](http://www.humberinca.co.uk) [www.humberems.co.uk](http://www.humberems.co.uk) [www.tide-project.eu](http://www.tide-project.eu)**

- 8 The Humber Industry Nature Conservation Association is a 'not for profit' company, founded in 2002, that serves its members and the community by working to integrate nature conservation into business activities in a practical way so that both business and the environment benefit. It is a partnership bringing together industry, the four Humber local authorities, the Environment Agency, Natural England and voluntary nature conservation organisations. The Association has organised and been a sponsor of the last eight Humber Estuary Conferences.

***Industry and Nature in Harmony***

Programme on next page

# HUMBER ESTUARY CONFERENCE 2011

## PROGRAMME

<b>1000</b>	<b>WELCOME AND ADDRESS</b>	The Lord Mayor of Kingston upon Hull and Admiral of the Humber
<b>THE HUMBER MANAGEMENT SCHEME</b>		
<b>1020</b>	<b>Chair's Introduction</b>	Andrew Taylor, North Lincolnshire Council
<b>1040</b>	<b>Designations of the Humber European Marine Site</b>	Will Maclennan, Natural England
<b>1100</b>	<b>Revised Management of the Humber European Marine Site</b>	Tania Davey, HMS
<b>1130</b>	<b>Yorkshire Wildlife Trust connecting the outer Humber</b>	Andy Gibson, Yorkshire Wildlife Trust
<b>1145</b>	<b>Understanding the Recreational Disturbance of Birds</b>	Durwyn Liley, Footprint Ecology
<b>1200</b>	<b>Dredging in the Humber Estuary</b>	Tom Jeynes, ABP
<b>1215</b>	<b>Marine planning update for the East inshore and offshore plan areas</b>	Russell Gadbury, MMO
<b>1230</b>	<b>PRESENTATION OF HUMBER INCA'S AWARD FOR ENVIRONMENTAL EXCELLENCE</b>	Sarah Smith, Chair of Humber INCA
<b>TIDE ON TOUR - TIDAL RIVER DEVELOPMENT</b>		
<b>1400</b>	<b>Chair</b>	Mike Elliott, IECS
<b>1405</b>	<b>Environment Agency Interests</b>	David Rooke, Environment Agency
<b>1425</b>	<b>The TIDE Project and the Application of Ecosystem Services to Estuaries</b>	Patrick Meire, University of Antwerp
<b>1455</b>	<b>Estuary Recovery and Restoration Measures</b>	Manferd Meine, Hamburg Port Authority
<b>1525</b>	<b>Integrated Estuarine Management and a possible Toolkit</b>	Nick Cutts, IECS
<b>1605</b>	<b>Discussion and Summing Up</b>	Mike Elliott, IECS