



AQUATIC COMMONS

The Basics



PURPOSE

The Aquatic Commons repository was established by the International Association of Aquatic and Marine Science Libraries and Information Centers (IAMS LIC) in 2006. It is intended to facilitate the exchange of scientific research related to the marine/aquatic environments by providing a searchable, Web accessible repository for digital documents. Initially, it will seek to build content based on born digital and legacy documents in PDF format that have been produced under the auspices of IAMS LIC member organizations or partnered agencies. It is specifically mandated to offer repository services where local, stable IT support is lacking. Future development will explore the serving of additional formats and alphabets. The Aquatic Commons is intended to complement institutional repositories and to collaborate with related subject repositories particularly in developing countries, such as the OceanDocs program of the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission.

A long-term goal will be to assist in providing access to legacy collections that have never been easily accessible to researchers and to provide access to the grey literature produced as the technical series of smaller research units in universities, governmental, and non-governmental agencies.

The repository runs on the EPrints open access software created at the University of Southampton and is managed by contract with the Florida Center for Library Automation, Gainesville, Florida. The repository is managed for IAMS LIC by an Aquatic Commons Board appointed by the IAMS LIC Executive Board.

The Aquatic Commons repository is part of a larger Aquatic Commons initiative intended to serve as an IAMS LIC infrastructure for resource sharing.



REPOSITORY POLICIES

■ METADATA POLICY for records describing items in the repository:

1. Anyone may access the metadata free of charge.
2. The metadata may be re-used in any medium without prior permission for not-for-profit purposes provided the OAI Identifier or a link to the original metadata record are given.
3. The metadata must not be re-used in any medium for commercial purposes without formal permission.

■ ACCESS POLICY

1. Anyone may access items free of charge.
2. Copies of items generally can be: reproduced, displayed, and given to third parties in the original format for personal research or study, educational, or not-for-profit purposes without prior permission or charge, provided:
 - (a) the author(s), title and full bibliographic details are given
 - (b) a hyperlink and/or URL are given for the original metadata page
 - (c) the content is not changed in any way
3. Items must not be harvested by robots except transiently for full-text indexing or citation analysis
4. Items must not be sold commercially in any format or medium without formal permission of the copyright holders.
5. This repository is not the publisher; it is merely the online archive.
6. Mention of the repository is appreciated but not mandatory.

■ CONTENT POLICY

1. This is a multi-institution subject-based repository.
2. The following subjects as they relate to the aquatic and marine environments and resources will be used for basic categorizations.

English	Spanish	French	German
Atmospheric Sciences	Ciencias atmosféricas	Sciences de l'atmosphère	Atmosphäerologie
Agriculture	Agricultura	Agriculture	Landwirtschaft
Aquaculture	Aquaculture	Acuicultura	Aquakultur
Biology	Biología	Biologie	Biologie
Chemistry	Química	Chimie	Chemie
Conservation	Conservacion	Conservation	Naturschutz
Earth Sciences	Ciencias de la tierra	Sciences de la terre	Geowissenschaft
Ecology	Ecología	Écologie	Oekologie
Economics	Economía	Économie	Oekonomie
Education	Educacion	Éducation	Bildung
Engineering	Ingeniería	Ingénierie	Ingenieurwesen
Environment	Medio ambiente	Environnement	Umwelt

Fisheries	Pesca	Pêches	Fischerei
Health	Salud	Sante	Gesundheit
Law	Derecho	Droit	Recht
Limnology	Limnologia	Limnologie	Limnologie
Management	Gestión	Gestion	Management
Oceanography	Oceanografía	Océanographie	Ozeanographie
Planning	Planificación	Planification	Planung
Policies	Políticas	Politique	Politik
Pollution	Contaminación	Pollution	Verschmutzung
Sociology	Sociología	Sociologie	Soziologie

3. Submittals to the repository must include the metadata and the digital object referenced.

Preferred file formats for the following digital objects are:

Text - pdf
Powerpoint - pdf
Images - jpeg
Video - mpeg
Audio - wav

4. Text files are most likely to include:

- (a) Research papers (pre- and postprints)
- (b) Conference and workshop papers
- (c) Theses and dissertations
- (d) Unpublished reports, monographs, working papers, and technical reports
- (e) Books, chapters and sections

5. Papers may include:

- (a) Non peer reviewed (pre-prints)
- (b) Final peer-reviewed drafts (post-prints)
- (c) Published versions

6. Principal languages for submission: initially, all western European languages. Search interfaces will be English, French, Spanish, and German.

SUBMISSION POLICY concerning depositors, quality & copyright

1. For an initial period of three months, the repository will be open to the entire research community for self submittal. The digital items deposited during this time will be reviewed by editors and content appropriate items will be added; non-appropriate items will be rejected and where appropriate email notification sent to the submitter. The impact of this open policy will be reviewed after three months and will be continued or revised by the AC Board as necessary.

2. Authors may submit their own work only for archiving and retain full copyright of their submissions.

4. The administrator only vets submissions for relevance to the scope of the repository, and the exclusion of spam.

5. The validity and authenticity of the content of submissions is the sole responsibility of the depositor.
6. Items may not be deposited until any publishers' or funders' embargo period has expired.
7. Any copyright violations are entirely the responsibility of the authors/depositors.
8. If the repository receives a substantiated notice of copyright violation, the relevant item will be removed immediately.
9. By the act of submission, the author(s) implicitly grant to the Aquatic Commons Repository the non-exclusive right to take any actions necessary to help preserve the content of the item over time, including but not limited to making copies and/or derivative versions.

■ PRESERVATION POLICY

1. Items will be retained indefinitely.
2. The repository will try to ensure continued readability and accessibility.
3. The repository regularly backs up its files according to current best practice.
4. Items may not normally be withdrawn from the repository.
5. Acceptable reasons for withdrawal include:
 - (a) Proven copyright violation or plagiarism
 - (b) Legal requirements and proven violations
 - (c) National Security
 - (d) Falsified research
6. Withdrawn items are not deleted per se, but are removed from public view.
7. Withdrawn items' identifiers/URLs, and metadata are retained indefinitely.
8. URLs will continue to point to 'tombstone' citations, to avoid broken links and to retain item histories.
9. Changes to deposited items are not permitted.
10. If necessary, an updated version may be deposited as a separate item.
11. In the event the Aquatic Commons Repository ceases operation, the database may be transferred to another appropriate archive.

■ CONTACTS

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