

# IADC YOUNG AUTHORS AWARD AT WEDA XXXI/TAMU 42, NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE, JUNE 2011

An IADC Best Paper Award for a Young Author under the age of 35 was presented to Brianne Cohen at the WEDA XXXI / TAMU 42 Conference held at the Gaylord Opryland in Nashville, Tennessee, June 5-8 2011.

## THE PAPER

Over the past decade, the State of Louisiana's Office of Coastal Protection and Restoration (OCPR) has perceived an increase in dredging costs for projects involving the placement of dredged sediment for inland marsh restoration purposes. The State of Louisiana is anticipating

developing a new statewide programme with the objective of providing a balance between completing marsh restoration projects while controlling overall project costs.

An international research team was assembled and concluded that revisions could be made to optimise the dredging component of the current restoration programme. The report included the team's findings and included a dredging market analysis, a summary of available innovative technologies, bidding and contracting alternatives, an evaluation of state ownership of dredgers, and recommendations for a Regional Inland Marsh Restoration Plan.

The paper was published in the Proceedings of the Western Dredging Association (WEDA XXXI) Technical Conference and Texas A&M University (TAMU 42) Dredging Seminar, Nashville, Tennessee, June 5-8, 2011, cited as: Cohen, B., Collins, G., Escude, D., Garbaciak, S., Hassan, K., Lawton, D., Perk, L., Simoneaux, R., Spadaro, P., Newman, M. "Evaluating alternatives to improve dredging efficiency and

cost-effectiveness for inland marsh restoration projects."

Ms. Cohen is a wetland scientist with 6 years' experience focusing on sediment remediation and environmental restoration and provides unique biological expertise to the restoration of contaminated waterfront properties. Her experience includes the preparation and implementation of excavation and restoration designs, permitting and regulatory support, evaluation of environmental liability under CERCLA and MTCA, wetland delineation and monitoring, and biological evaluations. She received a BS in Botany and a BA in Anthropology from the University of Washington, Washington State, USA in 2002 with a minor in Japanese. She is a member of the Society of Wetland Scientists and received a Wetland Science and Management Certification from the University of Washington in June 2008.

## THE IADC AWARD

Each year at selected conferences, the International Association of Dredging Companies grants awards for the best papers written by younger authors. In each case the Conference Paper Committee is asked to recommend a prizewinner whose paper makes a significant contribution to the literature on dredging and related fields.



Brianne Cohen (left) receiving the IADC Award for the Best Paper by a Young Author from IADC PR & Project Manager Jurgen Dholander at the WEDA 31/TAMU 42 Conference, June 2011. (Photo courtesy of IDR).

Above: Harvesting sediment from the banks of the Mississippi River. Sediment removed as part of construction was used for wetland creation (Courtesy of U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New Orleans District, West Bay Sediment Diversion Project).