

Guilcher, contains 57 short contributions covering a range of topics from process dynamics to Pleistocene sea-level history. The book is divided into 5 'chapters' and shows the very extensive research currently being undertaken not only in France, but throughout the world from Arctic Canada to tropical Africa and South America. Each contribution is little more than an extended summary, but often refers to longer papers published elsewhere. There is a short English abstract with each paper. This is a useful volume inasmuch as it does encompass almost the whole range of French coastal work.

Bill Carter
University of Ulster
Coleraine, Northern Ireland

L'Amenagement du Littoral, Jean-Marie Becet, 1987. Press Universitaires de France, Paris, 125p, FF30.—ISBN 2-13-0400442.

This is an inexpensive (about US\$4.50) volume in the "Que Sais-je?" series which runs to

well over 2,500 titles covering all subjects. The book is written by a lawyer with an interest in coastal law and planning ("l'amenagement" equals "planning" not "management"). The book provides a potted history of French coastal planning covering the 277 coastal "contons," particularly since the fundamental changes brought about by the creation of the Conservatoire l'Espace Littoral in 1975 and the enactment of coastal protection legislation in 1979. Recently France has defined "Communes Littorales," which oversee many coastal activities and services. The book deals with many well-known problems, including accessibility and erosion, but also more esoteric ones like concession stands, driving on the beach and valuing the coast.

An interesting book, of most interest to students of comparative coastal planning strategies.

Bill Carter
University of Ulster
Coleraine, Northern Ireland