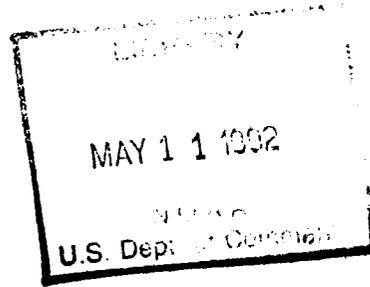


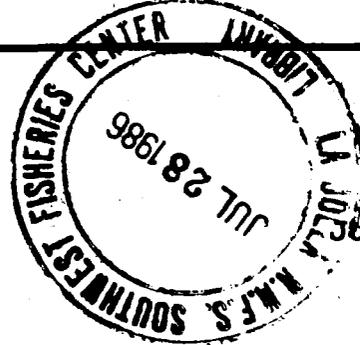


# NOAA REPORT



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July 9, 1986

## COMING UP

National Climate and Water Management Conference in Asheville, N.C., Aug. 4-8.

NOAA Regional Users Conference in New Orleans Sept. 10-11.

Oceans '86 in Washington, D.C., September 23-25.

**Panel Recommends Major Fishery Management Changes:**--A blue-ribbon panel of experts representing a broad cross-section of America's fishing industry has recommended fundamental changes in the way U.S. fish resources are managed.

The recommendations were contained in a study commissioned by NOAA as part of an overall assessment of the fishery management system created by the 10-year-old Magnuson Fishery Conservation and Management Act. Public and industry comment on the report are being sought.

"We want this to be an open process," said NOAA Administrator Anthony J. Calio. "This study will be part of our discussions with Congress on improving the system. Public and industry comments are vital if we are to manage these resources effectively."

The panel recommends separating conservation and allocation decisions, with resource-protecting catch limits set before decisions are made on who the users will be.

When the two processes are combined in one decision, "the pressures are always to...serve the interests of more users," the study stated.

The study recommends that fish conservation quotas be set at the national level. The quotas would become the ceiling from which regional Fishery Management Councils would make their allocations.

Council allocations would form the basis of its regional fishery management plans. The allocations would be subject to review by the Secretary of Commerce.

The panel recommended that the current method of naming council members -- nomination by governors -- be replaced by a system of open nomination by any interested group or individual within a council's geographic area. A nine-member review board would determine nominees' qualifications and certify to the Secretary of Commerce the three best-qualified for each vacancy.

The study recommends eliminating the Western Pacific and Caribbean Fishery Management Councils, and urges the government to define clearly relative federal, state, tribal and local responsibilities for managing fisheries with overlapping jurisdictions.

Other recommendations included:

--Eliminating barriers to full domestic use of the nation's fish resources and supporting full development of the domestic industry's capacity to catch, process and market fish taken from the 200-mile conservation zone.

--Removing legal barriers to limited entry, which is designed to balance fishing and the availability of the fish.

--Establishing a fishing license and fees for all users and the funds used to improve fishery management.

Copies of the report, "NOAA Fishery Management Study," are available, free, from the National Marine Fisheries Service, Washington, D.C. 20235. Comments can be mailed to the same address.

Oceo Completes Equatorial Pacific Program:--The NOAA Ship Oceanographer has returned to Honolulu after a series of successful cruises supporting the Equatorial Pacific Ocean Climate Study program. It's measurements in the eastern Pacific continue a series of observations designed to unravel the causes of the El Nino phenomenon and the reasons behind its variability. When this is achieved, science will be able to predict the first step in the chain of events leading to the frequently catastrophic El Nino.

NWS Honors Volunteer Observers:--Thirty-six of the Nation's 12,000 cooperative weather observers have been recognized by NOAA for their efforts in documenting the climate of the United

States. Five of the observers will receive the top honor for outstanding achievement -- the coveted Jefferson Award, named for President Thomas Jefferson, an avid student of weather. Twenty-five of the volunteers will receive Holm Awards for sustained service, named for John Campanius Holm, a Lutheran minister who made the first systematic observations of weather in this country during 1644-1645. Six observers will receive the prestigious Landsberg Award for dedication and long years (at least 60) of service. This award is named for Dr. Helmut E. Landsberg, a leading Weather Service climatologist for many years who played a vital role in expanding the cooperative weather network.

Once a day, each member of the volunteer observer network records the weather at a given locale, according to Thomas M. Blackburn, National Cooperative Program Manager. Monthly, the observations are mailed to NOAA's National Climatic Data Center, to be published in NOAA's "Climatological Data" and become part of the permanent record of the world's weather.

Cutting SARSAT False Alarms in California:--More than 20 federal and state agencies gathered in Sacramento, Calif., July 2 to map plans for a statewide campaign educating pilots and mariners to avoid false alarms on the COSPAS-SARSAT search-and-rescue satellite system. Another meeting is slated for August 13 in Sacramento to move the California program forward. On the national scale, a COSPAS-SARSAT interagency public affairs working group will meet July 29 at Goddard Space Flight Center in Maryland to plan timelier news reporting of the satellite-aided rescues.

Digital Geodetic Data Products Booklet Out:--NOS has released a booklet describing the availability of digital geodetic data. The booklet describes the existing content, format, and accessibility of the National Geodetic Survey Division data base -- all types of geodetic data as well as station descriptions for all the geodetic monuments located throughout the United States. This digital and descriptive information can be reformatted to user specific formats and recorded on various computer readable mediums including 5-1/4 inch floppy disks. The significance of this achievement is that users now can access the data directly by specifying geographic limits and display all available information on their computer screen, or they can purchase floppy disks covering specific geographic regions. This modern method of distributing geodetic data will replace present-day costly and tedious transfers of printed material, avoiding expensive printing costs. As a new subset of this digital information, orbital parameters and satellite velocities for the Global Positioning System now are available.

Canadians Believe Haddock Fishery Collapsing:--The Georges Bank haddock fishery is reportedly near collapse, according to the Canadian Atlantic Fisheries Scientific Advisory Committee. Haddock catches by Canadian vessels on Georges Bank have

decreased by over 85 percent since 1978 when 10,200 tons of haddock were caught. By contrast, Canadian fishermen landed only 1,463 tons in 1984. The Canadians note that haddock migrates between U.S. and Canadian waters and that a common basis for regulating haddock stocks eventually must be reached by the two countries. The U.S. commercial catch of haddock also is on a downward trend. In 1980, U.S. fishermen caught 25,033 tons of haddock valued at \$21 million. By 1985, the U.S. catch had decreased to 6,539 tons, but was valued at \$14 million.

**Northeast NURP Season Given A Sendoff:**--A public ceremony, submersible demonstrations, and press briefing were held July 6 at the Coast Guard Academy in New London, Conn., in connection with the start of the NOAA Northeast Region National Undersea Research Program's summer season, with dives planned in the Great Lakes and off the northeast Atlantic coast.

**Atmospheric Radiation/Climate Course Set:**--A course on atmospheric radiation as it relates to climate, cosponsored by the American Meteorological Society in cooperation with NOAA's Environmental Research Laboratories, NASA, and Lawrence Livermore Laboratories, will be held at the University of Colorado at Boulder July 14-19. Approximately 100 participants are expected from the United States, Europe, India, and Canada. Instructors will include eminent scientists from several universities and research organizations. The NOAA organizing committee includes Vernon Derr, director of ERL, and John DeLuisi, of the Geophysical Monitoring for Climatic Change Section.

**Marine Sanctuary Photo Contest:**--To promote reef awareness and visitor understanding of the reef system, Lt. Cdr. William J. Harrigan, NOAA's manager of the Key Largo National Marine Sanctuary, has organized an underwater photo contest being held July 1 - August 28. Prizes donated by local sponsors include cameras, dive watches, dive lights, and a \$500 savings bond grand prize. Entrants also are offered discounts on dive trips, accommodations, and film processing. All entrants are briefed on reef regulations and the importance of conservation practices.

**Summer Safety Information From Health Unit:**--During the month of July, the Health Unit at the Herbert C. Hoover Building (Main Commerce) will be offering free literature and updated tips on summer safety. This information will include medications affected by the sun, skin cancer, and first aid for insect bites and allergies. The Health Unit, in room 6046, is open from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

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# **National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration**

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