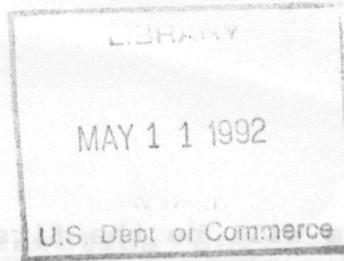


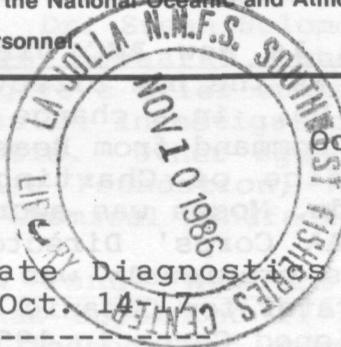


NOAA REPORT



16

NOAA Report is an administrative document, issued by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's Office of the Administrator for the information and use of agency personnel



October 16, 1986

COMING UP

11th Annual Climate Diagnostics Workshop at the University of Illinois, Oct. 14-17

Working Group for Operational Processing Centers at Offutt AFB., Nebr., Oct. 15-16.

Working Group for Lightning Detection Systems at the Office of the Federal Coordinator for Meteorology, Rockville, Md., Oct. 15-16.

Winter weather media workshop in Chicago, Ill., Oct. 24-25.

NOAA Halts Tuna Fishing on Porpoise:--NOAA will ban U.S. tuna fishermen from setting nets on porpoises in the eastern tropical Pacific from Oct. 21 to the end of the year. The action was taken because the annual quota of 20,500 porpoises permitted by law to be killed accidentally in tuna fishing operations is expected to be reached by about Oct. 21.

Fishermen who allow on board NMFS observers to verify that the fish were not caught by setting nets on porpoises may continue to catch bigeye and yellowfin tuna. Imported tuna taken by foreign vessels in the areas must meet standards guaranteeing they were not caught by setting nets on porpoises.

Porpoises die in the tuna fishery because some yellowfin tuna swim beneath porpoise herds. Fishermen seek the porpoises, round them up with speedboats, and encircle porpoises and tuna with huge purse seine nets. Most of the porpoises escape or are released over the net; some become entangled and drown.

Yellowfin associated with porpoises tend to be larger, and bring higher prices, than those caught in tuna schools alone. With yellowfin prices low this year, more than 85 percent of the tuna caught was taken by setting nets on porpoises, as opposed to the usual 50 percent.

This will be the first year the quota, set in 1980 under the Marine Mammal Protection Act, will be reached. Despite the ban, U.S. tuna catches are expected to set a record in 1986.

Admiral Moses Is New AMC Director:--Rear Admiral Ray E. Moses was sworn in as the new Director of NOAA's Atlantic Marine Center in Norfolk, Va., in a change of command ceremony Oct. 16. Adm. Moses assumed command from Rear Admiral Wesley V. Hull, who will head the Office of Charting and Geodetic Services in Rockville, Md. (Adm. Moses was sworn in as rear admiral Oct. 15 at AMC by the NOAA Corps' Director, Rear Admiral Francis D. Moran.) Adm. Moses previously was Executive Director to NOAA's Assistant Administrator for Oceanic and Atmospheric Research. He joined the Commissioned Corps in 1958. His sea service includes tours of duty as commanding officer of the NOAA Ships Davidson and Researcher, plus assignments aboard the Explorer, Surveyor, Pioneer, and Peirce. Adm. Moses is a 1956 graduate of the University of Kentucky in Lexington, with a B.S. in civil engineering, and has done graduate work in structures at the University of Kentucky and in physical oceanography at the University of Washington in Seattle.

Tornado Death's Hit Record Low:--Jim Campbell, head of the NWS Severe Weather Branch, says the tornado death toll currently is the lowest it has been since record keeping began in 1916. As of September 9, there were 11 fatalities - the fewest ever recorded for the period - from a preliminary count of 842 unconfirmed tornadoes. Campbell says one reason for the dramatic decrease in deaths this year is the small number of violent tornadoes. A year ago this month, there were 956 tornadoes (preliminary figures) with 91 deaths. Since 1959, the average number of twisters has been 705 a year. The death toll from tornadoes has decreased steadily despite population growth in tornado-prone areas. From 1916 to 1925, tornadoes killed about 300 people each year. Since 1950, deaths have averaged 105. The record low death toll was set in 1981, when 24 people died in the United States from tornadoes. The Weather Service's National Severe Storms Forecast Center in Kansas City, Mo., points out that the main reasons for the declining death toll average are better warnings and better preparedness education.

NOAA-10 Set For Operational Use:--NESDIS expects the Nation's newest weather satellite, NOAA-10, to become fully operational Nov. 17, when it is scheduled to begin delivering atmospheric soundings to the National Weather Service. Control of the spacecraft was handed over to NOAA's Satellite Operations Center in Suitland, Md., Oct. 10 by NASA's Goddard Spaceflight Center. Since its launch Sept. 17 from Vandenberg Air Force Base, Calif., NOAA-10 has been under the control of Goddard engineers who have been activating its instruments, evaluating its subsystems, and checking its general performance.

Ozone News Conference From Antarctica Set:--An ozone research telephone news conference, using a satellite link from the McMurdo Station in Antarctica, is scheduled in Washington, D.C., at 1:30 p.m., Oct. 20. Dr. Susan Solomon of NOAA's Office of Oceanic and Atmospheric Research, who will chair the conference in McMurdo, will give a brief summary of the findings of her project which involves an investigation of the so-called "ozone hole" over the Antarctic. Other agencies to participate include the National Science Foundation, NASA, the National Academy of Sciences, and the Chemical Manufacturers Association.

New Sea Grant Review Panel Members Named:--Commerce Secretary Malcolm Baldrige has appointed 11 new members to the Sea Grant Review Panel, the independent committee that advises the Secretary, NOAA's Administrator, and the Director of the National Sea Grant College Program on scientific and administrative policy. The new members include Richard B. Allen, Wakefield, R.I.; Dr. Fay Biles, Kent, Ohio; Maumus Francois Claverie, Jr., New Orleans, La.; William F. Cochrane, Beaufort, S.C.; Earl Conrad, Rockland, Me.; Peter M. Dunbar, Dunedin, Fla.; Dr. Stanley R. Murphy, Seattle, Wash.; Dr. Michael J. Pelczar, Chester, Md.; Benjamin F. Rathbun, Jr., Noank, Conn.; Dr. Saul B. Saila, Narragansett, R.I.; and Roger Thomas, Burlingame, Calif. For further information on the of the new panel members, contact the Office of Public Affairs.

Solar Angles for Australia:--NOAA emblems will be displayed on America's entry in the BP Solar Challenge, an international invitational race of solar-powered vehicles across the Australian continent in November 1987, thanks to Dave Smith and Brian Peters of the Weather Service's Southern Regional Headquarters. The U.S. entry, built and raced by the Florida Solar Powered Vehicle Association (FSPVA), will have an adjustable solar array mounted on it enabling it to track the sun for maximum energy efficiency. FSPVA asked the Weather Service for information on solar angles over the Darwin to Adelaide course during the early days of November to assist them with the design of the tracking device. Smith and Peters assembled the needed data from Smithsonian Meteorological Tables, noting the chore was doubly difficult as the calculations had to be done for the Southern Hemisphere. The FSPVA was so pleased with the help from NWS, it promised to display the familiar NOAA gull on their vehicle during the internationally televised race.

NOAA Okays Virginia Coastal Management Program:--NOAA has approved the Virginia Coastal Resources Management Program, making Virginia the 29th state or commonwealth with such a plan under provisions of the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972. Virginia also was awarded a \$1 million grant to implement the program. The grant will be used by the commonwealth to strengthen and improve the eight existing state programs that form the core of the new federally-approved coastal management

program. They include subaqueous lands management, dunes management, wetlands management, shoreline sanitation, and air pollution control. Under the new coastal management program, Virginia will encourage the participation of municipal officials and the public in the administration of the program. During the first year of the Virginia program, grants will be made to local governments to address a variety of coastal problems, such as shoreline erosion, loss of natural habitats, public access to the shore, and currently conflicting uses of coastal resources.

Fire Weather Group Formed:--The newly-formed National Fire Weather Advisory Group (NFWAG) met at NWS headquarters recently to discuss a plan to airlift meteorologists and their equipment directly to major fires. The NFWAG is made up of members from the U.S. Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management, Fish and Wildlife Service, National Park Service, National Association of State Foresters, and NOAA. The group discussed a variety of issues concerning fire weather programs, but focused on the National Fire Weather Caching and Mobilization Plan. This plan calls for the development of Air Transportable Mobile Units that will be stored and dispatched by the fire control agencies. National Weather Service fire weather meteorologists and their transportable mobile units would be transported directly to wildfires or major prescribed burns by the controllers.

Saudis Use Satellite Data To Study Fish Kill:--The Saudi Arabian Environmental Protection Agency is using NOAA polar-orbiting satellite data supplied by NESDIS' Satellite Data Services Division to determine the cause of a major fish kill in the Persian Gulf which occurred in July and August. The most likely cause: an oil spill or a significant temperature change.

NOAA Briefs President's Task Force:--Dr. Michael D. Hudlow, Director of the National Weather Service's Office of Hydrology, recently briefed the President's Task Force on Drought regarding the severity of the drought in the Southeast U.S. and the magnitude and severity of recent record flooding in the Midwest. (Oklahoma recently experienced the worst flooding in its history.) The Task Force on Drought originally was established to advise the President on the impact of growing drought on the nation. Since then, the occurrence of flooding over 11 states has necessitated briefings on expected flood conditions.

PLEASE SHARE THIS COPY OF NOAA REPORT WITH OTHERS IN YOUR OFFICE.

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

ERRATA NOTICE

One or more conditions of the original document may affect the quality of the image, such as:

Discolored pages
Faded or light ink
Binding intrudes into the text

This has been a co-operative project between the NOAA Central Library and the Climate Database Modernization Program, National Climate Data Center (NCDC). To view the original document, please contact the NOAA Central Library in Silver Spring, MD at (301) 713-2607 x124 or Library.Reference@noaa.gov

HOV Services
Imaging Contractor
12200 Kiln Court
Beltsville, MD 20704-1387
July 23, 2010