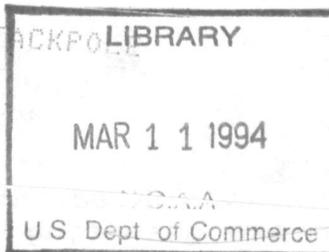




NOAA REPORT

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COMING UP

International Union of Geodesy and Geophysics
annual convention in Vancouver, BC, Aug. 10-15.

NOAA/Geological Survey water resources
meeting in Reston, Va., Aug. 12.

Open House on the NOAA ship Discoverer in
Newport, Oreg., Aug. 16.

Advisory Working Group for the WMO Commission/
Climatology in Geneva, Switzerland, Aug. 17- 21.

Canada/U.S. Mapping and Charting Subcommittee
meeting in Quebec, Aug. 18-20.

Geosynchronous Platform Planning Meeting in
Vancouver, BC, Aug. 18-20.

NOAA Continues Antarctic Ozone Study:--Dr. Susan Solomon of the Environmental Research Laboratories once again will head a scientific expedition to the Antarctic to resume studies of the depletion of stratospheric ozone over the South Pole. Last year, a similar group of researchers spent several months at McMurdo Station in the Antarctic collecting data in an effort to determine the cause of the "hole" in the ozone layer which was first reported in 1985.

Various scientists have speculated the decline in ozone is caused by chemical reactions in the atmosphere, by atmospheric circulation, or by both, according to Dr. Solomon. During the 1986 study, it was demonstrated that the atmospheric chemistry over Antarctica is deviating from normal. Data collected this year will help scientists understand why this is happening and what role circulation plays.

While the scientists from NOAA and other research organizations are gathering information in Antarctica with ground-based and balloon-borne instruments, another group of researchers will be flying through the ozone hole aboard research aircraft. (See **NOAA Report**, Aug. 5.) The project scientist for that effort is Dr. Adrian Tuck, a colleague of Dr. Solomon's at NOAA's Aeronomy Laboratory in Boulder, Colo.

Leaving for the Antarctic this month with Dr. Solomon are Drs. Ryan Sanders and Mary Anne Carroll, also of the Aeronomy Laboratory. Other scientists in the expedition come from the State University of New York at Stony Brook, the University of Denver, SRI International, NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center, and the University of Wyoming.

This second National Ozone Expedition is funded by the National Science Foundation, NOAA, NASA, and the Chemical Manufacturers Association.

Enforcement of Texas Shrimp Closure:--Federal agents from the Fisheries Service and Coast Guard seized 36,515 pounds of illegally caught shrimp valued at more than \$100,000 during the of the shrimping area off the Texas coast June 1 - July 15. Patrols were increased to detect shrimp vessels violating the closure, an important conservation measure under the Gulf of Mexico Shrimp Fishery Management Plan.

Ice Studies:--The NOAA ship Surveyor, commanded by Capt. Walter Forster, left Seattle August 6 enroute to Dutch Harbor, Alaska, to begin Project ICE for the Pacific Marine Environmental Laboratory. ICE stands for Ice in the Coastal Environment, a series of experiments along the western and northern Alaska coast related to understanding and predicting ice conditions. This cruise will consist of recovering and deploying environmental data-gathering instruments moored in the Bering Sea. The ship will also be working on FREEZE, an experiment designed to understand those oceanic and sea ice processes which accompany seasonal new-ice formation in the Arctic peripheral seas and the southward growth of this ice in autumn and early winter.

ERL Authors Honored:--Twelve NOAA scientists have been presented Outstanding Scientific Paper Awards made annually by the Environmental Research Laboratories for publications of significant merit. One of the awards was presented posthumously.

The recipients were: George A. Maul of the Atlantic Oceanographic and Meteorological Laboratory in Miami, Fla.; Dursan Zrnich and Donald Burgess of the National Severe Storms Laboratory in Norman, Okla.; Syukuro Manabe and Anthony J.

Broccoli of the Geophysical Fluid Dynamics Laboratory in Princeton, N.J.; John A. Robbins of the Great Lakes Environmental Research Laboratory in Ann Arbor, Mich.; Patrick McIntosh of the Space Environment Laboratory in Boulder, Colo.; Susan Solomon of the Aeronomy Laboratory in Boulder; Melvyn Shapiro and Tamara Hampel of the Wave Propagation Laboratory in Boulder; and Rudolph W. Preisendorfer and Curtis D. Mobley of the Pacific Marine Environmental Laboratory in Seattle, Wash.

Shapiro was cited for two papers he co-authored, while the award to Preisendorfer was presented posthumously.

Chinook Salmon Enhancement:--If initial estimates hold up, the over-8,000 adult chinook salmon returning to the Little Port Walter (LPW), Alaska, research station will be twice the number of any previous run, according to the National Marine Fisheries Service. The primary purpose of research conducted by NMFS and the State of Alaska at LPW is to produce new knowledge on chinook enhancement, but an important spin-off is the significant production of eggs for use at other facilities, and the contributions of LPW fish to commercial and recreational fisheries throughout southeast Alaska. In June, a special 10-day commercial troll fishery in Chatham Strait near LPW produced over 3,000 chinook. One-third of these fish originated in Alaskan hatcheries (mostly from LPW) and are particularly significant because they do not count against the treaty quota for this species.

NOAA Assists Acid Rain Study:--The National Weather Service Sterling (Va.) Research and Development Center recently played host to scientists from New York's Brookhaven National Laboratory during an acid rain study which began last September. The center's chief, Robert C. Strickler, says the Brookhaven researchers, with the Sterling facility as their local base of operations, used both surface and airborne samplers to collect data from storms which propagated across the Washington, D.C., metropolitan area.

Fishery Management Plan Amendment Approved:-- Amendment 7 to the Surf Clam and Ocean Quahog Fishery Management Plan was approved and implemented by final rule recently. According to the National Marine Fisheries Service, the amendment makes several changes in the annual distribution of available resources for the Georges Bank and Nantucket Shoals fisheries, requires annual renewal of fishing permits, and strengthens enforcement and prosecution aspects of the management program.

Radiosonde Contract:--The Weather Service has awarded a contract to VIZ Manufacturing Company of Philadelphia for a nine-month supply of radiosondes, the weather recording instruments

which radio to earth measurements of temperature, moisture, and pressure as they are carried thousands of feet into the stratosphere by balloons. According to J. Michael St. Clair, chief of the NWS Engineering Division, this supply of radiosondes will permit NWS to continue testing and preparing for implementation of a new model of the instrument with modernized circuitry, slated for use next year.

NOAA/EPA Air Quality Researchers Work Together:--NOAA air quality researchers are operating with Environmental Protection Agency investigators to provide data for testing sophisticated airborne contamination forecast models. One example of this effort occurred early in June when a large tire storage facility fire broke out near Ft. Lupton, Colo. ERL Air Resources Laboratory's Dr. Joe Boatman, responding to an EPA request to investigate the fire's smoking plume, arranged a three-hour airborne sampling flight over the area. The flight documented the dark plume up to 100 miles northeast of Ft. Lupton, filling the North Platte river valley far to the east and, because of an early morning radiation inversion, staying very close to the ground (less than 1,000 feet).

MASC To Assist Superconductivity Center:--NOAA's Mountain Administrative Support Center reports that it will be providing support services soon to a superconductivity research center at the National Bureau of Standards' Boulder Laboratories. President Reagan recently announced plans to establish three such centers. Robert Kamper, director of the NBS Boulder Laboratories, says that he expects a small start-up program in FY 87 and about \$9 million and 25 personnel in FY 88.

NOAA Press Release Wins Award:--The National Association of Government Communicators has awarded second prize in the news release category of its annual Blue Pencil Awards competition to a news story entitled "NOAA Seizes \$796,000 Worth of 'Laundered' Salmon," written by Fisheries Service public affairs officer Brian Gorman. The news release tells of fishery agents' seizure of 595,000 pounds of salmon bound from Taiwan to Japan by way of the United States. Japan prohibits the importation of Taiwanese-caught salmon, and salmon cannot be exported legally from Taiwan.

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National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

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