

NOAA Report



April 30, 1990

COMING UP

National Fisheries Institute Annual Convention in Asheville, N.C., Apr. 30.

Atlantic Climate Change Science Plan and Meeting in Princeton, N.J., May 1-3.

International Conference on Global Warming and Climate Change in Nairobi, Kenya, Africa, May 2-4.

Joint National Weather Service/Atmospheric Environment Service meeting in Toronto, Canada, May 3-4.

Boise Interagency Fire Center 25th anniversary celebration in Boise, Idaho, May 18-19.

NOAA Predicts Coastal Population Explosion:--Coastal populations will grow explosively--from 19 to 23 percent--in the Southeast, Gulf of Mexico and Pacific regions over the next 20 years, a recently released NOAA report says.

Florida's population is expected to grow most rapidly, increasing by more than one-fourth, according to the report.

The predictions are contained in a county study, "Fifty Years Of Population Change Along the Nation's Coasts, 1960-2010." Produced as part of NOAA's coastal trends series, it describes recent and predicted patterns in the size, distribution, and density of the nation's coastal population.

The study says the country's large and growing coastal population already has indirectly resulted in significant losses of habitat and living resources, increased demands for water, energy and waste treatment and disposal, and diminished environmental quality in many areas.

The report also reveals:

The U.S. coastal population is projected to be about 127 million by 2010, an increase of 60 percent compared to 1960.

Although coastal counties (excluding Alaska) contain only 11 percent of the country's land area, they currently account for almost one-half the nation's total population, and have a density four times the national average.

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About 20 percent of the nation's 451 coastal counties have a population density of at least 700 persons per square mile, ten times the national average.

Between 1960 and 2010, the coastal populations of California, Texas and Florida will see the largest growth: 14 million, 12 million and 11 million persons, respectively.

Among the "hot spots," coastal counties projected to have the most dramatic increase in percent population change from 1988-2010, are Osceola County, Fla., (72 percent) and Martin County, Fla., (61 percent) in the Southeast; Citrus County, Fla., (81 percent) and Hernando County, Fla., (73 percent) in the Gulf; and Alaska's Kenai Peninsula (65 percent) in the Pacific region.

NOAA projects New York County will have a population density of 71,000 persons per square mile by 2010, making it by far the most densely populated coastal county in the country.

Alaskan Port Lands Most Fish in 1989:--The port of Dutch Harbor-Unalaska landed more fish than any other major U.S. port in 1989-504.3 million pounds, worth \$107 million, NOAA's Marine Fisheries reports. However, New Bedford, Mass., led in total value, with \$141 million worth of fish and shellfish. Other leading ports in volume were: Cameron, La., Pascagoula, Miss., Empire-Venice, La., Kodiak, Alaska, Dulac Chauvin, La., Intercoastal City, La., Los Angeles, Calif., Petersburg, Ark., and Gloucester, Mass.

NOAA Corps Officers Get Special Achievement Awards:--NOAA Special Achievement Award Medals have been granted to Capt. John W. Carpenter (Ret.), Capt. John K. Callahan, Jr., Capt. William L. Stubblefield, Capt. Clarence W. Tignor, Capt. David J. Goehler, Capt. David W. Yeager, and Capt. Michael A. McCallister.

Also receiving the award were Cdr. Thomas W. Ruzsala, Cdr. Richard P. Floyd, Cdr. William J. Harrigan, Lt. Cdr. Patrick D. Harman, Lt. Cdr. Evelyn J. Fields, Lt. Cdr. Kenneth W. Perrin, Lt. Cdr. George E. Leigh, Lt. Cdr. Herbert M. Kirch, and Lt. Cdr. Brian P. Hayden.

Others awarded the medal were Lt. Cdr. Derek C. Sutton, Lt. Cdr. John D. Wilder, Lt. Cdr. Marlene Mozgala, Lt. Richard R. Behn, Lt. George E. White, Lt. Mary T. Foran, Lt (jg) David K. Zimmerman, Lt. (jg) Keith W. Smith, and Lt. (jg) Guy T. Noll.

Secretary Receives Satellite Model:--Students from Unionville (Pa.) High School presented Secretary of Commerce Mosbacher and Under Secretary Knauss a model of NOAA's TIROS (polar orbiting) satellite during a ceremony in Washington, D.C., Apr. 23. NOAA personnel provided guidance to the school which built and operates a receiver capable of picking up earth images beamed down from NOAA weather satellites.

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National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

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