

February 11, 1991

## Three-Year Probe Yields Large Fine

# Fishing Violator Agrees to \$1.2M Penalty

A Seattle corporation has agreed to pay one of the largest penalties ever imposed for fishing violations in the United States, culminating a three-year NOAA investigation.

### Cooperative Investigation

As part of a cooperative investigation with the U.S. Attorney's Office and the U.S. Coast Guard, NOAA announced the \$1.2 million settlement with the AKC Cor-

poration of Seattle, Washington, for committing fishing violations in Pacific waters.

NOAA and the Coast Guard seized AKC's factory trawler, the FV/Alaskan Hero, in January 1988 for conducting an unauthorized transfer of fish between vessels. It was seized again in October 1989 for fishing in closed areas.

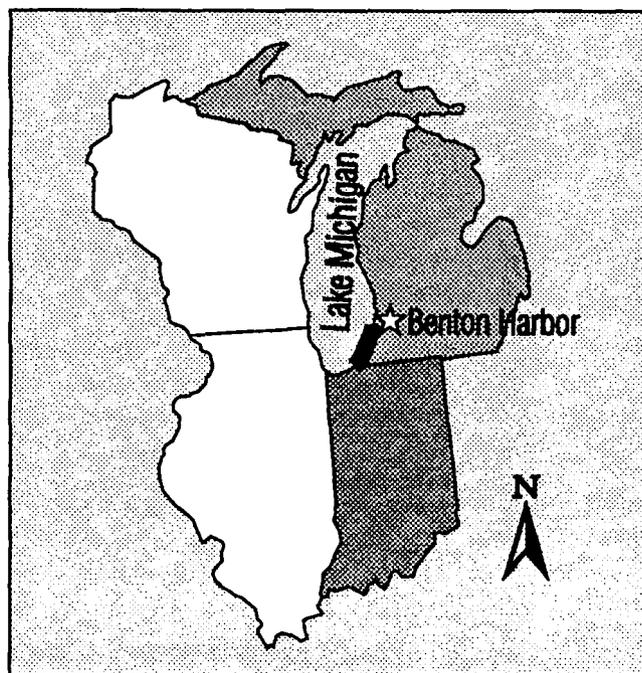
### Repeated Violations

In August 1990, both the Alaskan Hero and another AKC vessel, the FV/Northern Hero, were seized for having fraudulent documentation and repeatedly placing the vessels under command of foreign nationals. Under U.S. law, ultimate command and authority on a U.S. flagged vessel must be exercised by a U.S. licensed master. ☘

## Project to Study Great Lakes Erosion

As the first step in a 10-year joint effort, NOAA and the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) will conduct a pilot study later this year to assess erosion, sedimentation, and flooding in the Great Lakes Basin.

The pilot study will focus on the Lake Michigan shoreline northward from the Michigan-Indiana border to Benton Harbor, Michigan. This region was chosen because it is undergoing severe erosion, is subject to flooding, and lacks modern surveys of the nearshore area.



**NOAA Joins With USGS:** The joint project will study erosion of the Lake Michigan shoreline from the Indiana border to Benton Harbor, Mich.

NOAA will collect low-altitude aerial photography of the area to determine shoreline location and other technical details. USGS will collect single-channel seismic data, sidescan sonar data, core and bottom samples from nearshore waters and surface and subsurface samples on land. ☘

## Coming Events

- **National Weather Service/Soil Conservation Service Policy Committee Annual Meeting**, to discuss hydrologic policy issues and review technical items of common interest to both agencies, in Washington, Feb. 20.
- **Marine Fisheries Advisory Committee Meeting**, to advise on key marine fisheries issues, including budgetary issues, in Tysons Corner, Va., Mar. 12-13.

# Knauss Sea Grant Fellows Start Gov't Posts

The 22 undergraduates selected as National Sea Grant Federal Fellows have begun assignments this month at NOAA and other various federal agencies in Washington.

The program, part of the Dean John Knauss Marine Policy Fellowship Program, provides students in a Marine-related field at a graduate level or in a professional degree program the opportunity to learn

how Federal policy is formulated and carried out, and gives them the ability to apply their academic backgrounds to national policy issues involving marine, ocean, atmospheric and Great Lakes resources.

## **Executive & Legislative Jobs**

The fellows are serving within both the Executive and Legislative branches of the government including NOAA, the Environmental Protection Agency, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, as well as on the staffs of Congressional committees such as Merchant Marine and Fisheries, Science, Space and Technology, Commerce, and Science and Transportation. ●

## Fishery Related?

### **Injured Seals Found in Hawaii**

Seven seals in the Hawaiian islands have been found with injuries that may be related to fishery activities.

The seals were found with hooks with monofilament line in their mouths and chest, bloody mouths and jaws, and torn lips—all possible indications of fishery-related injuries. No evidence of injury was found in 119 other seals observed on the islands.

Public concern about how fisheries coexist with sealife in Hawaii continues, and NMFS officials say that there will likely be calls for some kind of action on the issue. ●

### **NMFS to Train Foreign TEDs Enforcers**

In response to requests from foreign governments, NOAA's National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) will train other countries' fisheries officers and commercial fishermen in the use of Turtle Excluder Devices (TEDs).

The first training seminar will be held in Panama later this month.

Many Caribbean countries are considering mandating the use of TEDs to comply with the Sea Turtle Conservation/Shrimp Embargo Bill. This law requires countries wishing to export shrimp to the U.S. to commit to sea turtle conservation measures in their commercial shrimp fisheries and to reduce the number of sea turtles caught along with shrimp to comparable U.S. levels. Shrimp imports to the U.S. from countries not complying with the law may be banned.

Funding for the project will come from the U.S. Agency for International Development. ●

#### **Duane Named ORP Deputy:**

Dr. David Duane, has been named deputy director of NOAA's Office of Oceanic Research Programs, which includes the National College Sea Grant Program, the National Undersea Research Program (NURP), and the National Coastal Resources and Development Institute. Prior to his new post, he was the director of NURP, and will continue in that post until a successor is found.

**A Colorful System:** The

new color proofing system installed last year at the Aeronautical Charting Division's Reproduction Branch has proven to be

faster, more accurate and less expensive

than the previous system used to match pre-printing samples with actual printed materials. The new system has also allowed a more accurate proofing of prototype charts, catalog covers and booklets. A second unit is expected to start in March.

## **NOAA NOTES**

# **National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration**

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