

**New Management Appointees:** NOAA Administrator D. James Baker has announced two new appointments to the NOAA management team.

Scott B. Gudes has joined NOAA as the new Deputy Under Secretary. Previously, he was the Minority Staff Director for the Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, and State, The Judiciary, and Related Agencies, Senate Committee on Appropriations. In addition to his work with the Appropriations Committee, he has had extensive experience at the Office of Management and Budget and the Of-

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ice of the Secretary of Defense. Baker said Gudes "has broad knowledge of NOAA activities and Department-wide programs and will bring to this important leadership position his background of senior experience with a diverse community."

Paul F. Roberts II has also joined NOAA as the Chief Financial Officer. Previously, Roberts was the Director of Business Resources in the Office of the Assistant Secretary of the Army (Financial Management and Comptroller). He has a long history of senior budget positions in the Department of the Army. Baker said he "will bring in-depth knowledge of financial management, budget formulation and execution, and capital investment programs" to NOAA's Office of Financial Administration.

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JUSTIN KENNEY

*President Clinton shakes hands with the crowd at the National Ocean Conference at Monterey, Calif., site of NOAA's Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary.*

## Clinton, Gore Speak at National Ocean Conference

Amid pledges of increased funding for ocean projects, the National Ocean Conference attracted Federal policy makers, scientists, and ocean enthusiasts to the two-day forum in Monterey, Calif., on June 11 and 12.

The conference, jointly sponsored by the Commerce Department, NOAA, and the Department of the Navy, brought both President Clinton and Vice President Gore to the shores of NOAA's Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary to discuss how to protect the oceans, and to focus attention on new efforts to chart a sustainable future for them.

"In the 21<sup>st</sup> century, the world will

look increasingly to the oceans for food, fuel, new medicines, and other resources," Gore said. "Already, we see troubling signs that marine resources are overstressed. We must be careful stewards and ensure the oceans are protected for all time."

The President and Vice President were joined by scientists, academics, environmentalists, business leaders and representatives of local, state and Federal government, who gathered in Monterey to begin forming a common vision for the future of the ocean.

The National Ocean Conference, the first of its kind, was designed to

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## Chinese Marine Partnership Agreements Signed

Zhang Dengyi, Administrator of the People's Republic of China State Oceanic Administration (SOA), led a seven member Chinese oceanographic delegation to NOAA in Washington, D.C., for a meeting on May 4, at the invitation of NOAA Administrator Dr. D. James Baker. Zhang and Dr. Baker, together with leading representatives of NOAA and SOA, met and exchanged views on a broad range of issues concerning U.S.-China marine and fisheries science and technology cooperation. Over the next week, the SOA delegation visited NOAA headquarters and field sites in Maryland and Florida.

Among the highlights of the visit, Dr. Baker and Zhang signed two Partner Marine Natural Reserve Agreements which formalized the cooperative arrangement between the Tianjin Wetland Nature Reserve and the Chesapeake Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve, and the Sanya Coral Reef Nature Reserve and the Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary. In addition, to promote cooperation in implementing joint programs in integrated coastal management, both sides agreed to establish a Marine and Coastal Zone Management Joint Coordination Panel. This Panel will be staffed by Federal and state coastal managers from each country. The first meeting of this group will take place later this year.

The two delegations discussed a number of areas for future cooperation, such as integrated coastal management, ocean and global change, air-sea interaction, marine natural disaster reduction and mitigation, marine high technology, data and information exchange, living marine resources, aquaculture, and personnel training and exchange. ☺



Zhang Dengyi, Administrator of the People's Republic of China State Oceanic Administration, and NOAA Administrator D. James Baker signed agreements allowing the two nations to work cooperatively on joint coastal management programs and marine reserves. Looking on are Lu Caixia, SOA's Deputy Director, and NOAA's then-Acting Chief Scientist, Al Beeton.

## Weather Satellite Successfully Launched

A new satellite that will improve weather forecasting and monitor environmental events around the world was successfully launched last month.

NOAA-K, a joint project of NOAA and NASA, was launched from Vandenberg Air Force Base, Calif., into a near-polar orbit 516 miles above the Earth on a U.S. Air Force Titan II rocket. It will circle the Earth every 102 minutes, passing over the North and South Poles on each orbit.

NOAA-K is the first in a series of five satellites with improved imaging and sounding capabilities that will operate over the next 12 years. Like other NOAA satellites, NOAA-K will collect meteorological data and transmit the information to users around the world to enhance weather

and climate forecasting. In the United States, the data will be used primarily by the National Weather Service for its operational long-range weather and climate forecasts.

The design of the satellite will enable it to "scan" the Earth, and provide continuous global images of cloud cover, surface parameters such as snow, ice, and vegetation; atmospheric temperatures, moisture, and aerosol distributions; and collect and relay information from data platforms.

"With NOAA-K, we will get better measurements of atmospheric temperature and moisture values," said Mike Mignogno, NOAA's polar program manager. "These translate into better information, particularly

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**Vice President Announces Report at White House News Conference**

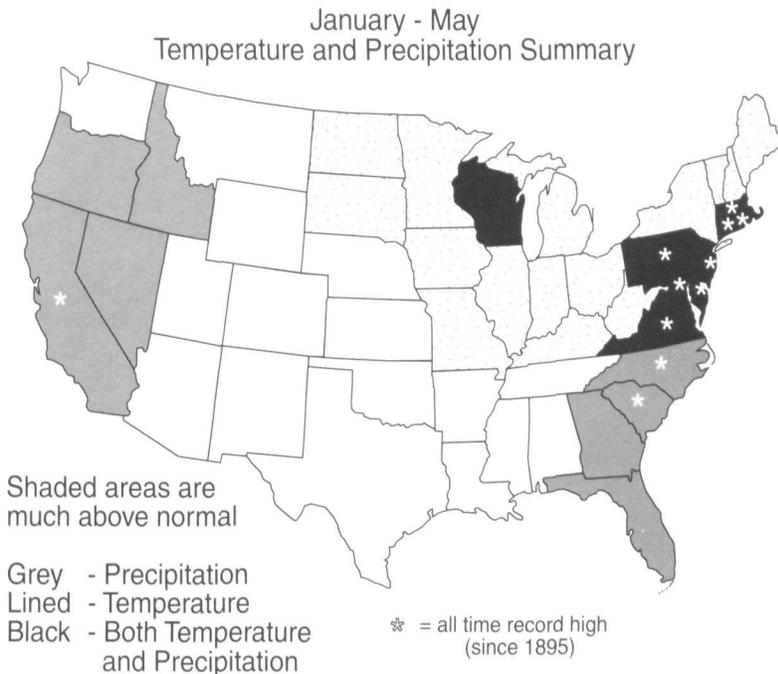
# Is Global Warming Making El Niño Worse?

**A** NOAA study released this month shows that average global temperatures for January through May 1998 far exceed previous records for those months. The report also shows that over the past century, El Niños have become more frequent and progressively warmer.

Vice President Al Gore, who released the report at a White House news conference, said it showed that global warming may be making the effects of El Niño even worse.

“This century is the warmest in 600 years, 1997 was the warmest year on record, and we’ve set new temperature records every month since January,” he said. “This report is a reminder once again that global warming is real, and that unless we act, we can expect more extreme weather in the years ahead.”

The NOAA analysis, done by the National Climatic Data Center in

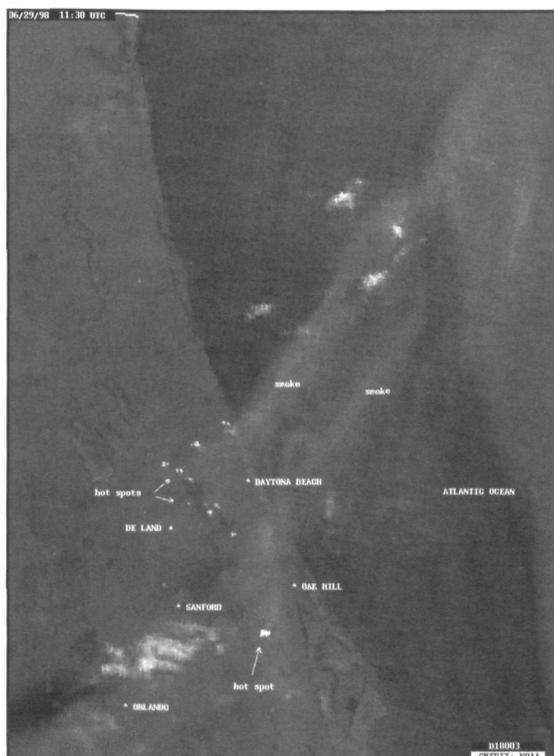


Asheville, N.C., examined the 10 strongest El Niño events of this century and found that they have become more frequent and warmer. Although it is not clear that the

increasing frequency and warmth of El Niños is a direct result of global warming, the analysis suggests that the effects of El Niño are compounded by rising global temperatures.

For the first five months of 1998, new temperature records were set in five states, and new precipitation records in 13. Temperature or precipitation, and in some cases both, were far above normal in 32 states. Tornadoes have killed 122 people this year, matching the annual record set in 1984. Elsewhere around the world, unusually warm ocean temperatures have severely damaged fragile coral reefs from the Florida Keys to Australia, and prolonged drought have contributed to thousands of wildfires in Malaysia, Brazil and Mexico.

“This El Niño gives us a taste of the extreme, erratic weather our children and grandchildren can expect more of unless we reverse the trend of global warming,” the Vice President said.



## Florida Fires Seen By Satellite

Fire and smoke can be clearly seen in this June 28 NOAA satellite photo of eastern Florida, the site of devastating fires this month. More NOAA satellite imagery of the fires can be found at the Operational Significant Event Imagery home page (<http://www.osei.noaa.gov>).

# Focus On...

## National Ocean Conference

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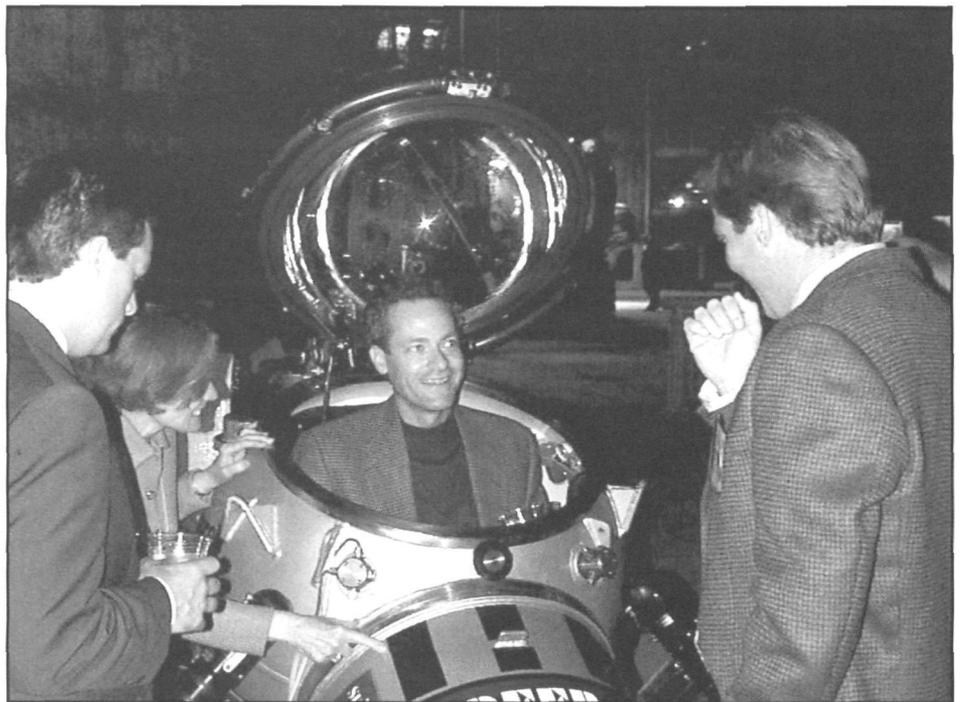
achieve several goals, including demonstrating the interlinked nature of ocean issues, bringing together various interest groups to work together on common ocean interests, begin building a common vision for the future of the ocean, and encouraging greater public awareness of ocean issues.

The conference's forum included discussions focusing on the ocean's role in commerce, global security, environment and health, the Law of the Sea Treaty, exploration, and research, among other topics. A session with Congressional and state and local government officials, on the second day, was chaired by Commerce Secretary William Daley and Transportation Secretary Rodney Slater.

Later on the second day, in Monterey's seaside San Carlos Park, Vice President Gore, President Clinton and First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton reiterated their commitment to the ocean and the environment.

"Through innovation and prudence, we've proved we can clean the water, the air, protect marine sanctuaries and wildlife refuges, phase out deadly pesticides and ozone-eating chemicals, and do it while still producing the world's strongest, most competitive economy," the President said.

"With partnerships and persistence," he added, "we must extend this record of success to our oceans. If we want our children to inherit the gift



JUSTIN KENNEY

*NOAA Deputy Administrator Terry D. Garcia (center) tries out a one-person submersible at the National Ocean Conference in Monterey, Calif.*

of living oceans, we must make the 21st century a great century of stewardship of our seas."

They spoke to both the local audience and, by satellite, to rebroadcast sites in Washington and NOAA's Silver Spring campus. The entire conference was also broadcast to computer users worldwide over the Internet.

At the conference, the White House announced \$224 million in funding through 2002 for major initiatives to explore, protect, and restore the Nation's ocean resources.

Among these efforts are:

- Extending the moratorium on offshore oil and gas drilling for an

additional ten years, and permanently barring new drilling in national marine sanctuaries.

- Taking measures to reduce over-fishing and protect essential fish habitats, including banning on the sale or import of undersized Atlantic swordfish.
- Modernizing the Nation's ports, deepening and maintaining shipping channels and improving navigational safety, among other projects.
- Joining the Law of the Sea Convention, to maintain America's leadership in international ocean affairs.
- Strengthening protection of coral

reefs in U.S. waters by directing Federal agencies to expand research, preservation and restoration activities, as well as completely restoring 18 damaged reefs in the Atlantic, Caribbean and Pacific.

- Mapping and exploring U.S. ocean waters with advanced underwater technology, to discover new opportunities in the ocean and better understand how to protect marine resources. This includes the expansion of two shallow water observatories and the construction of two new deep-sea observatories and two high-

tech submersibles, to explore exotic sea life. Also included is a new initiative, in partnership with the National Geographic Society and the Goldman Foundation, to explore NOAA's marine sanctuaries.

- A new web site listing beach

## **Environmental Heroes Feted in Monterey**

To recognize outstanding dedication to the marine environment, the Clinton Administration today awarded seven Environmental Heroes at the National Ocean Conference in Monterey, Calif.

advisories and closings, and a coordinated strategy to respond to toxic algal blooms.

The President also called on Congress to fund the Clean Water Action Plan fully.

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The recipients of the NOAA Environmental Hero Awards are among 25 recognized this year for their "tireless efforts to preserve and protect the nation's environment."

The award recipients include:

- Ted Danson, president of the American Oceans Campaign, an organization dedicated to protecting and preserving the vitality of coastal waters, estuaries, bays, wetlands and deep oceans. Danson has narrated two public service announcements for the International Year of the Ocean, one of which debuted at the conference.

The 30-second public service announcement debuting at the conference, *Ocean—The Things You Do*—points out that not only are small bodies of water connected to the ocean, but each of our actions is connected to the ocean. In the International Year of the Ocean, the message is that each action you take, even changing your car's oil, can have an impact on the ocean. Everything we dispose of has the potential of winding up in the ocean,

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JUSTIN KENNEY

Former NOAA Chief Scientist and National Geographic Explorer-in-Residence Dr. Sylvia Earle shows the one-person submersible "DeepWorker" to actor Ted Danson (left), president of the American Oceans Campaign and a recipient of an Environmental Hero award at the National Ocean Conference in Monterey, Calif. "DeepWorker" is a part of the Sustainable Seas Expeditions, a National Geographic project which will explore the national marine sanctuaries beginning in April 1999 with Monterey Bay.

## Monitor's Propeller Recovered

Crews working to survey and document the condition of the sunken wreck of the *U.S.S. Monitor* recovered the Civil War-era ironclad warship's propeller earlier this month, a major step in the study and preservation of the ship. Other smaller artifacts, the propeller well cover and a deck plate, were also recovered.

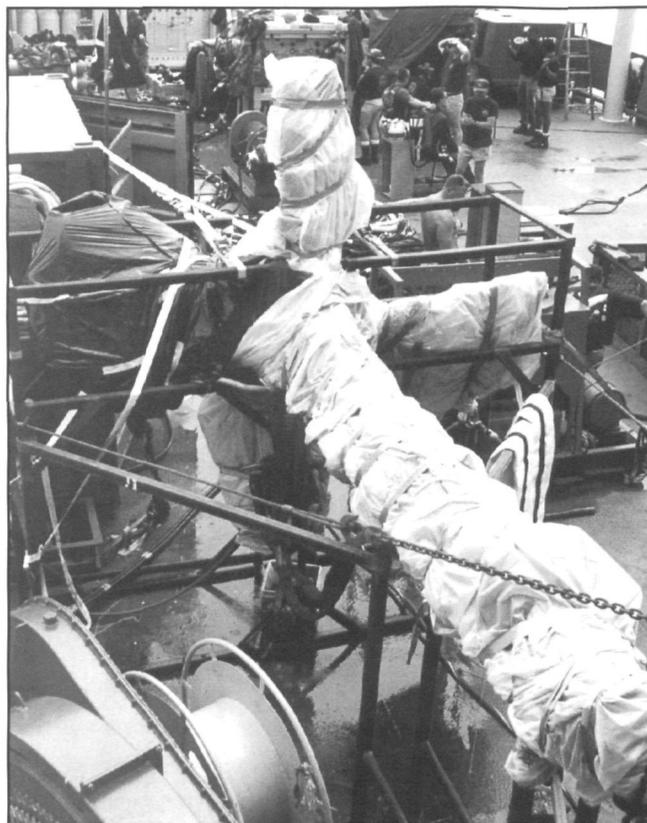
A team of divers and other specialists from NOAA, the U.S. Navy, and the National Undersea Research Center/University of North Carolina at Wilmington were in the process of conducting a detailed survey of the *Monitor* when they realized that conditions were right to attempt the recovery of the unique, historic artifact.

"The recovery of the propeller and a section of the shaft is a momentous occasion, not only for the research dive teams, but also for historians, archaeologists, and mariners who have followed the expeditions that have chronicled the *Monitor* for so many years," said John D. Broadwater, manager of the Monitor National Marine Sanctuary.

Divers cut through nine inches of the solid-iron shaft to free the propeller. The entire artifact, propeller and shaft, is about 11 feet long and weighs about three tons. The propeller, or screw, is about nine feet in diameter. It was designed by *Monitor's* designer, Swedish-American engineer John Ericsson. The propeller is one of the few surviving examples of what experts say was Ericsson's most important contribution to the development of naval power—improvement in screw propulsion.

*Monitor*, whose wreckage lies under 230 feet of water some 16 miles off

*The propeller of the USS Monitor (right, in sheeting) was recovered earlier this month by a team of divers and other specialists from NOAA, the U.S. Navy, and the National Undersea Research Center/University of North Carolina at Wilmington*



the coast of North Carolina, is protected by NOAA as a national marine sanctuary. The Navy, the University of North Carolina, and others have worked with NOAA for many years to survey and study the historic ship, and retrieve smaller artifacts.

Earlier studies of the wreck show that it is deteriorating and many experts feel the collapse of what remains of the *Monitor's* hull is inevitable. The ongoing survey work is the first step of a long term preservation plan which calls for eventual shoring and support of some parts of the submerged hull, and—when possible—recovery of items such as the propeller and turret. Plans call for the propeller and other artifacts to be moved to The Mariners' Museum in Newport News, Va., where other smaller *Monitor* artifacts, and the ship's

unique four-fluke anchor recovered in 1983, are on display.

*U.S.S. Monitor* was launched Jan. 30, 1862, and was the first ironclad, turreted warship. Her famous March 9, 1862, battle with the Confederate warship *Virginia* (former *U.S.S. Merrimac*) was the first battle of ironclad ships and ended in a virtual draw after the combatants exchanged cannon fire for hours, sometimes at point-blank range. *Monitor* sank in a storm on Dec. 31, 1862. *Monitor's* wreck was discovered in 1973 and was designated as the first national marine sanctuary in 1975.

More information about the *Monitor* and other 11 national marine sanctuaries can be found on the Internet at <http://www.nos.noaa.gov/ocrm/nmsp/welcome.html>. ☺

## Environmental Heroes Recognized at Ocean Conference in Monterey

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whether through rainstorm runoff or through direct dumping. The announcement is the second in a series of three.

- American Oceans Campaign was also been recognized as one of this year's Environmental Heroes, as an organization
- Jean-Michel Cousteau, head of the Jean-Michel Cousteau Institute, who served as host at NOAA's kickoff at the International Year of the Ocean, and has spent his life exploring the world's oceans aboard the research vessels Calypso and Alcyone.
- Dr. Sylvia Earle, explorer in residence at the National Geographic and former NOAA Chief Scientist, who has spent more than 6,000 hours doing underwater diving and research.
- Bob Talbot, noted marine photographer, has donated the beautiful images he creates to NOAA for a variety of projects aimed at protecting marine resources, both during the International Year of the Coral Reef and the International Year of the Ocean.
- Moss Landing Marine Laboratories faculty, staff and graduate students have worked extensively with NOAA's Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary programs in Monterey, Calif., including the mapping of habitats.
- Nathaniel Shaw Bingham was given a posthumous Environmental Heroes Award for his work as one of the nation's most effective fisheries conservation advocates. Bingham, who died in May, had been the habitat protection

director for the Pacific Coast Federation of Fishermen's Associations, a commercial fishing lobbying group.

Katie McGinty, chair of the White House Council on Environmental

Quality, presented plaques and recognition letters from Vice President Gore to California environmentalists during a luncheon at the conference in June. ☺

## NOAA-K Satellite to Improve Forecasting of Weather, Climate

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in the troposphere under cloudy conditions. The result will be accurate, global, tropospheric temperature and moisture data under all sky conditions."

"The improved cloud, snow cover and sea surface temperature data means improved forecasts of potential flooding and drought conditions," said Ronald McPherson, director of NOAA's National Centers ☺



*The NOAA-K satellite blasted off from Vandenberg Air Force Base in California.*

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Baker also expressed his appreciation and gratitude to Bill Mehuron, the Acting Deputy Under Secretary, and Andy Moxam, Acting Chief Financial Officer, for their outstanding support and assistance in these two important positions. "I look forward to continuing to work with them and to receiving their guidance as a part of the NOAA team," he added.

**Greenland Salmon Export Fishery Closed at U.S. Urging:** The United States succeeded in negotiating an agreement to close the Atlantic salmon commercial fishery in west Greenland for the rest of this year to prevent fur-

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ther decline in the fishery's dangerously low salmon stocks.

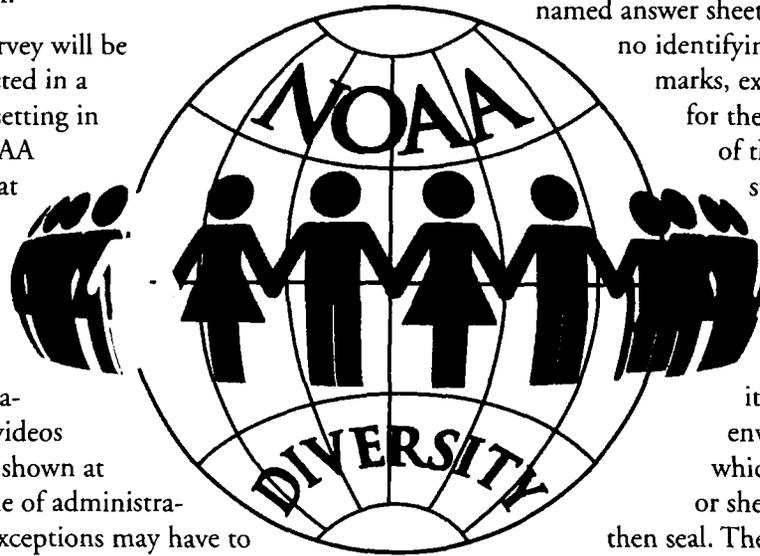
This agreement was worked out at a meeting held in Edinburgh, Scotland June 8-12 by the North Atlantic Salmon Conservation Organization (NASCO), of which the U.S. is a member. NASCO, however, agreed to allow the Greenland fishery to continue operating for internal consumption, but not for export of salmon. At the June meeting, NASCO noted that drastic conservation measures it implemented this year should aid in the recovery of salmon stocks to a level that will support a sustainable fishery shared equally by its users.

"The significance of this action cannot be overstated," said the head of the U.S. Delegation, Andy Rosenberg. "The wild salmon stocks are at perilous levels and require the strongest conservation measures. Denmark [on behalf of Greenland] worked with us in taking this precautionary action." ☺

## Diversity Survey To Be Administered

As reported in last month's NOAA Report, NOAA's Office of Diversity will begin the survey phase of the NOAA-wide organizational assessment this summer.

The survey will be conducted in a group setting in all NOAA offices at each geographic location. Informational videos will be shown at the time of administration. Exceptions may have to be made for shift workers. It is hoped that by giving the survey in a group setting, during work hours, the employees will not have the distractions that arise when sitting at their desks and our survey participation rate will be higher. Surveys done in this manner in other agencies,



such as the Internal Revenue Service, have had response rates greater than 70 percent.

All surveys will be anonymous. Each employee will fill out an unnamed answer sheet with no identifying marks, except for the name of the supervisor, and will place it in an envelope which he or she will

then seal. These sealed surveys will be sent to a contracting firm for processing. No one other than employees of the contractor firm will see the individual answer sheets.

Check out the Office of Diversity's home page at <http://www.rdc.noaa.gov/diversity.html> for more information. ☺

## Ocean Conference

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- Expanding an ocean monitoring system, to better understand the role of the oceans in shaping our weather and climate, and to help address the threat of global warming. The Administration wants to place hundreds of monitoring buoys in the North Atlantic and North Pacific to measure critical ocean data.
- Declassifying and publicly releasing some secret and restricted Navy data, to help increase the understanding of marine life, to enhance weather forecasting and climate change research, and to identify valuable ocean resources. ☺

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