



# noaa week

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## Ocean Gamefish Ecology Study Underway in Gulf of Mexico

### Western Atlantic Currents Are Erratic and Unpredictable

Using drifting data buoys which "report" to a French satellite, scientists with the Environmental Research Laboratories' Miami-based Atlantic Oceanographic and Meteorological Laboratories have learned that ocean currents in the western Atlantic are far more erratic and unpredictable than earlier imagined.

"Current motion near the surface is extremely variable," says Dr. Donald V. Hansen, Director of AOML's Physical Oceanography Laboratory.

Of five drifting data buoys, deployed by NOAA scientists last September about 60 miles apart in the Atlantic area known as the Sargasso Sea, some covered scarcely any net distance at all over periods of two or three months at a time, ending up approximately where they started; others moved in unpredictable directions, changed directions frequently, circled, or doubled back.

The scientists had expected the buoys to drift generally westward, perhaps finally to join the Gulf Stream.

Data being gathered, as well as fixes on location, were radioed periodically to a French EOLE satellite. The satellite, which

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A unique study of the ecology of ocean gamefish began on June 15, when more than 50 sportfish boats put out to sea to take part in the "Old Salt" fishing tournament, in the Gulf of Mexico about 100 miles off the Florida "Sun Coast" (Crystal River south to Fort Myers).

Collaborating in the study will be many bluewater fishermen, several NOAA components, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, about a dozen academic institutions, and several business firms.

Dates of the four-part event (June 15-18, July 20-22, August 24-26, and September 14-16) were set to coincide with the crossing of NASA's ERTS-1 (Earth Resources Technology Satellite) over the tournament area. The event is sponsored by the non-profit Gulf Oceanographic Development Foundation of Florida, and the coordinator is the State University System of the Florida Institute of Oceanography. Financial profit from entrance fees is used to support gamefish research at Florida universities.

The end result is expected to indicate whether expanded usage of scientific programs employing space technology can help NOAA--and through it the sportfishing fraternity--toward a better understanding of recreational fishing resources in the U.S. Theoretically, satellite inspection of great stretches of the ocean may reduce some of the guesswork about where the big fighting fish congregate by directing fishermen to favorable locations. An auxiliary result could be an increase in the efficiency of research vessels engaged in oceanographic surveys at the sea surface.

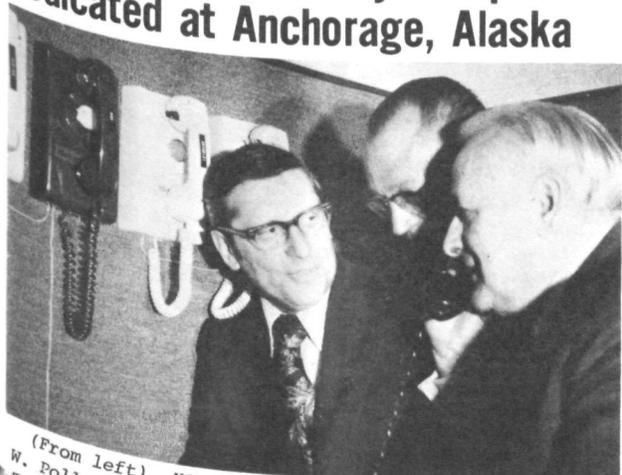
Catches are contributed to marine scientists seeking to understand the relationship between fish populations and oceanographic features. For the third year, the NOAA Ship OREGON II, under the direction of the National Marine Fisheries Service Southeast Fisheries Center in Miami, Fla., will serve as mothership and floating laboratory for the fleet of anglers.

NOAA's VIRGINIA KEY, from the Atlantic Oceanographic and Meteorological Laboratories in Miami, conducted preliminary surveys of Gulf waters to be studied during the tournament. The Laboratories' studies of the Loop Current are part of a larger investigation of the application of satellite technology to oceanography.

ERTS-1 and NOAA-2, operated by the National Environmental Satellite Service, will repeatedly focus banks of scanners on the fishing site. ERTS-1 provides coverage of the Gulf once every 18 days, and NOAA-2 views the area twice daily. Oceanic features, such as the edges of major currents, can be detected by

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### Weather Forecasts by Telephone Dedicated at Anchorage, Alaska



(From left) NOAA Deputy Administrator Howard W. Pollock and Jack T. Harris, Jr., Anchorage Telephone Utility manager, watch as Alaska Governor William A. Egan tries out the new "Weather Forecasts by Telephone" system in Anchorage. See story on page 7.

## Dr. Robert E. Burns Named Acting Director of POL

Dr. Robert E. Burns, Research Oceanographer at the Environmental Research Laboratories' Pacific Oceanographic Laboratories, in Seattle, Wash., has been named Acting Director of POL. He has been a senior-level program leader within POL for several years.

He joined the Department of Commerce in 1962 after holding various positions with the Department of the Navy. During the 1964-65 term, he was a Department of Commerce Science and Technology Fellow. Advisory panels and committees on which he has served include: JOIDES Pacific Advisory Panel (1966) and as chairman from 1968 to 1973; the U.S.-Japan Natural Resources Panel; and the Marine Geology Panel and Steering Committee AAPG Geothermal Survey of North America from 1968 to 1970.

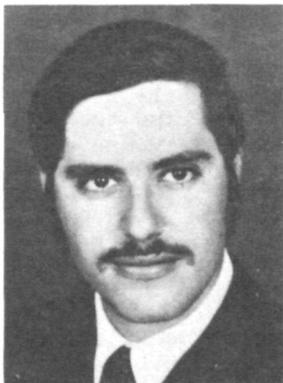
He received his B.S. in geology from Wooster College, Wooster, Ohio; his M.S. in geology from Lehigh University, Bethlehem, Pa.; and his Ph.D. in oceanography from the University of Washington, Seattle.

## User's Guide to NODC Data Services Revised

The Environmental Data Service National Oceanographic Data Center has recently released a revised "User's Guide to NODC Data Services." The Guide is prepared to help the user of NODC's services formulate requests for data and related information. Part I describes NODC's products and services, including recently developed data summaries and displays. Part II describes data bases and formats in which data can be obtained. Appendixes provide a statistical summary of the volume and types of data at NODC; list available NODC publications; depict numbering systems used to record the geographic position of data; contain examples of data listings, summaries, and displays; and explain the entries and codes used in data printout formats.

Copies may be obtained for \$1.00 domestic postpaid from the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402 or for \$0.75 at the Government Printing Office Bookstore.

## Lt. Lapine Heads Triangulation Party G-20



Lieutenant Lewis A. Lapine is the new Chief of Triangulation Party G-20. The 21-member party is presently headquartered in Albany, Ga., conducting geodetic surveys in the area.

Lieutenant Lapine has served with Triangulation Parties G-19 and G-37 and aboard the NOAA Ship RESEARCHER since joining the NOAA Corps in 1970.

## South Atlantic-Gulf Fish Featured In Fourth of NMFS Poster Series

A new four-color poster displaying 49 marine fishes of the South Atlantic Ocean and the Gulf of Mexico is available. It is the fourth in a series of fish posters depicting aquatic inhabitants of U. S. waters, that was developed by Bob E. Finley, Chief of the National Marine Fisheries Service's National Consumer Educational Services Office, in Chicago, Ill.

Copies of the new poster were presented by Dr. Robert W. Schoning, Acting Director of the NMFS, to industry leaders attending the joint annual meeting of the Southeast Fisheries Association and the Shrimp Association of the Americas in Tampa, Fla., on June 15.

Like the three earlier charts (devoted to fishes of the North Atlantic, of the North Pacific, and to species found off southern California and Mexico) the 30-by-48-inch charts are printed on washable non-glare plasticized paper that hangs flat against a surface without curling. A list of common and scientific names of the fishes is included, as well as artwork that shows seafloor life common to the region.

All four charts are available from Government bookstores and the Superintendent of Documents, Washington, D. C. 20402. The price of each chart is \$2.00.

For the fish chart series, The National Consumer Educational Services Office has been awarded a "Mark of Excellence" for superior craftsmanship and skill in pursuit of graphic communications by the Kimberly-Clark Corporation.



(From left) Mr. Finley and Mrs. Carrie Gourlie, Secretary, accepted the award for NCEO from Robert Frank, Manager Sales Promotion of Kimberly-Clark Corporation.

## Wendell A. Porth Dies

Wendell A. Porth, Meteorologist in Charge at the National Weather Service Office in Tampa, Fla., since 1971, died on June 12. His assignments since entering the NWS in 1955 included serving as MIC at Rockford, Ill., and Shreveport, La. He is survived by his wife, Doris, of 6425 Cresthill Drive, Tampa, Fla. 33615, and two sons and a daughter.

## Minced Fish May Stretch Consumers' Food Dollars

A new kind of fish product, "minced fish", will become increasingly available to consumers and is expected to be lower in cost than other similar seafood items. The product, according to Dr. Robert W. Schoning, Acting Director of the National Marine Fisheries Service, is as pure and nutritious as higher graded cuts, but processed differently. It is the result of several years of cooperative experimentation by industry and NMFS fishery scientists and technologists. Their objective was to perfect machine techniques used to strip meat from bones so that formerly wasted pieces of edible flesh could be recovered and formulated into wholesome marketable forms, attractive to shoppers.

Most of the minced fish thus produced will be pressed into large fish blocks, manufacturers say, which can be processed into a variety of items for sale at frozen food counters. These include fish portions cut from blocks of minced fish, for direct use or as the main ingredient in frozen fish dinners, fish sandwiches, or casserole-type entrees. Food processors also are experimenting with new kinds of products that can incorporate the easily handled minced fish into composite items-- fish mixed with potatoes, fish in spreads or dips, or several kinds of minced fish mixed together or with other ingredients to produce exciting new flavors. An added advantage of the mincing process is that the machines are geared to extract meat from kinds of fish whose small size or bony anatomy make it impracticable to process them on machines built primarily for filleting fish. Canning companies, too, can be expected to take advantage of the new product.

According to labeling requirements published by NMFS in the Federal Register May 12, 1973, all products manufactured from minced fish under Department of Commerce inspection procedures must be so designated in clear type following the name of the sale item. In short, the words "made from minced fish" must follow a term such as "fish sticks" or "fish portions."

## James L. Cook Named Chief of Party G-16

James L. Cook, is the new Chief of Party G-16. The 15-man party is headquartered at Renton, Wash., from which it is conducting geodetic surveys in Oregon and Washington. Mr. Cook has been with the federal government since 1943.

## DISCO's Ice Cream Goes to Children's Hospital

When the NOAA Ship DISCOVERER was deactivated, the ice cream in the ship's freezer was donated to the Children's Hospital of the King's Daughters in Norfolk, Va.

## Carlstead To Be Acting Director Of NWS Pacific Region

Edward M. Carlstead has been detailed as Acting Director of the National Weather Service Pacific Region, beginning approximately July 21. He will continue to serve as Meteorologist in Charge of the Weather Service Forecast Office in Honolulu, Hawaii, during the period of this detail.



His earlier assignments have included serving as the Chief of Scientific Services at Pacific Region Headquarters; Official in Charge of the Weather Service Station attached to the Naval Command Systems Activity in Pearl Harbor, Hawaii; Research Meteorologist at the Fleet Numerical Weather Facility in Monterey, Calif.; and as Chief Analyst in the Joint Numerical Weather Prediction Unit in Suitland, Md.

## Lt. Howard Herz Heads Astronomic Party G-47



Lieutenant Howard W. Herz has been named Chief of Astronomic Party G-47. The party is presently headquartered at North Platte, Nebr. Lieutenant Herz has been a commissioned officer since 1969. His previous assignments have been aboard the NOAA Ship DAVIDSON, with Parties G-21, G-36, and G-47.

## New LSC Ice Report Covers Winter of 1970-71

The Lake Survey Center's eighth Ice Cover Report--for the Winter of 1970-71 (NOAA Technical Memorandum NOS LSC D 4) is now ready for distribution.

The LSC has conducted aerial ice reconnaissance over the Great Lakes since 1963 as part of a broad-based program to study the physical phenomena of the lakes. The program provides ice-cover data, which includes ice characteristics and concentrations for each individual lake and selected areas. The report presents ice charts which depict observed ice conditions during the winter of 1970-71, and includes a general discussion of ice development and weather.

The 1970-71 program was carried out under the general direction of Dr. L. Bajorunas, Chief of the LSC Limnology Division. The Ninth U.S. Coast Guard, Cleveland, provided flight support, and, as in previous winters, a general coordination of LSC and Canada Department of Transport ice reconnaissance flights was maintained.

## Position Descriptions

This is the second part of a three part series on position descriptions. In the first part, the purpose and requisites of an adequate position description were presented. This part concerns the individual responsibilities of managers, supervisors, employees, and personnel representatives in preparing and maintaining position descriptions.

It is most important to recognize that the writing of a position description is not a mere paper work exercise. This document represents a definition of a job performed by a NOAA employee and is used for the purposes of determining actions governing pay, training, performance appraisal, promotion, retention, and other personnel or management actions. Each of these items is of great importance to the organization and more frequently of greater importance to the employee.

Who prepares the position description is not as important as the fact that the description must reflect an accurate and understandable statement of management's desire and intent and that it be meaningful to those who need to use it.

Responsibility for the preparation of a position description often depends on individual circumstances within an organization. It may be best at any given time that a position description be written by the employee in the position, the immediate supervisor, a higher level supervisor, a personnel representative or any combination of these. However, managers and supervisors are responsible for determining the assignment of duties and responsibilities to individual positions and, therefore, must assume ultimate responsibility for the accuracy of position descriptions applicable to the work directed by them.

Obviously, position descriptions should be written by those most knowledgeable about the position in question. When a totally new position is to be established, the immediate supervisor should write the description, if he is directly responsible for determining the nature of the work to be performed by a future occupant of the position. When an existing description becomes out of date due to gradual changes in an employee's major duties and responsibilities, the employee currently performing the work will probably be best suited to prepare a factual and updated description. In many cases, NOAA personnel specialists may develop revised or new position descriptions based on information provided to them as a result of discussions with employees while conducting individual job audits or maintenance review surveys.

Sometimes it is assumed that the

writing of position descriptions requires a special touch or technique and, consequently, employees adept at writing but not totally knowledgeable of the position requirements are pressed into service. Well written descriptions are to be commended, but they must clearly reflect the major duties and responsibilities actually required of the positions. Too frequently, the use of a ghost writer results in a lack of understanding by the employee assigned to the position as to the exact nature of his work, since he has not been involved with writing or reviewing the description.

Regardless of who prepares the position description, the final product should be reviewed by supervisors and personnel representatives to assure that the principal duties are fully described and that responsibilities are pinpointed. Also, if the position is occupied, the employee should be afforded an opportunity to review the description and discuss it with his supervisor to provide a full understanding of the nature and scope of the work expected of him. Any misunderstandings or differences of opinion which occur between supervisors and employees about concepts of the total job, must be resolved by the supervisor.

Keeping position descriptions accurate is an important and continuing responsibility. Effective personnel management requires managers, supervisors, and other employees to understand and accept their responsibilities for the maintenance of current and accurate position descriptions. When descriptions become outdated, they no longer reflect management's intentions. Obviously, any personnel or management action taken on noncurrent information will have little or no value. In addition, position descriptions are official records and inattention to them can adversely affect employees and management.

Action can be initiated in several ways to accomplish the desired maintenance of position descriptions on a current basis. The conduct of the annual Whitten Review requires supervisors and their employees to review existing descriptions and arrive at a mutual understanding and agreement as to the accuracy and adequacy of position descriptions in their organization. Changes in an organization's assigned programs, projects, work techniques, methods, or personnel should trigger the attention of managers and supervisors to a review of existing position descriptions to determine the need for revisions. Personnel representatives, in the conduct of surveys and job reviews, are charged with the responsibility of determining whether work

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## Optional Life Insurance Premium Reduction

The Civil Service Commission has reduced premiums for the \$10,000 optional life insurance held by some employees. This reduction is effective the first day of the pay period that begins on or after July 1, 1973, and will first be reflected in pay checks due August 1, 1973.

Premium rates for the \$10,000 optional life insurance are based on the employee's age group. The old and new rates are:

Age Group <sup>1/</sup>	Premium for \$10,000 Optional Insurance <sup>2/</sup>				
	Biweekly		Monthly		
	Old	New	Old	New	
Under 35	\$1.30	\$ .80	\$2.82	\$1.73	
35 to 39	1.70	1.20	3.68	2.60	
40 to 44	2.40	1.90	5.20	4.12	
45 to 49	3.60	2.90	7.80	6.28	
50 to 54	5.50	4.50	11.92	9.75	
55 to 59	17.00	10.50	36.83	22.75	
60 and over	19.00	14.00	41.17	30.33	

<sup>1/</sup>Changes in January following birthday.

<sup>2/</sup>Premium is proportionate amount for employees paid weekly or semi-monthly.

There is no change in premium rates for the regular insurance which is based on the amount of your pay but with a \$10,000 minimum. Nor is there an open enrollment season for life insurance at this time. These are being considered by the Civil Service Commission in conjunction with some other possible changes in the Life Insurance Program and will be announced later.

An employee who has declined the optional insurance, or the regular insurance, or both does not necessarily have to wait for an open season to cancel this declination and become insured. If you filed a declination or waiver of life insurance, it may be cancelled at any time if (1) it has been in force for at least one year, and (2) you are under age 50, and (3) you furnish satisfactory evidence of good health.

If you are considering the cancellation of a declination of optional insurance you are reminded that in order to keep the optional insurance after retirement, you must have been enrolled for it for all your service since April 14, 1968, during which it was available to you. For additional information about cancelling declinations, contact your servicing personnel office.

Employees who have filed a designation of beneficiary are also reminded to review their circumstances to make sure the designation reflects their current wishes.

### Position Descriptions (Continued from page 4)

assignments are properly described and of bringing inaccuracies to the attention of managers and supervisors. Employees are responsible also for noting major changes in their duties and responsibilities and bringing them to the attention of their supervisors.

The effectiveness of NOAA's position classification program is dependent to a large degree on the interest and participation of managers, supervisors, employees and personnel specialists in carrying out their individual responsibilities concerning the preparation and maintenance of position descriptions.

### Career Management

A key to personal satisfaction, security and status is a successful and fulfilling career. Unfortunately, most of us make major career decisions on the "spur of the moment" or when opportunities happen to arise. We think of short term benefits rather than long range goals. This type of career decision-making can result in missed opportunities, failure to meet qualifications, and directionless efforts.

Career management is an approach to

career decision-making that offers an individual the opportunity to plan his career with a view to long range goals. It involves communication and intelligent decision-making. It allows the individual to study the choices available within a particular career field and choose those options which best suit his needs and goals.

Career management programs are available for many NOAA related career fields. They have been developed to help employees:

- 1) get a reliable picture of their career structure;
- 2) forecast changes within their career field;
- 3) interpret their career choice in terms of individual capabilities and aspirations;
- 4) systematically set career goals and re-evaluate them over a period of time;
- 5) participate in training and development activities relative to their career fields.

Later editions of Personnel Perspective will discuss other aspects of career management including some of NOAA's Career Management Programs.

## Sports Fishermen Cooperate In NMFS Shark-Tagging Project

Since 1964, more than 10,000 sharks have been caught, tagged, and released by private and Federal scientific establishments and sport fishermen, in a shark-tagging project of the National Marine Fisheries Service's Narragansett (R.I.) Laboratory. Until they are recaptured, the sharks travel the Atlantic Ocean adorned with bright red, yellow, and blue decorations bearing messages in any of five languages.

Shark-tagging is one of many tools used by NMFS marine scientists to chart migrations of deepwater fish. Under direction of Biologist John G. Casey, the NMFS program is closely integrated with billfish and tuna tagging studies conducted at the Woods Hole (Mass.) Oceanographic Institution.

The NMFS program is based on the premise that investigations of shark populations can yield quantities of data important to marine science, to sport and commercial fisheries, and perhaps to economic planners. It depends largely on the cooperation of fishermen, primarily along the Atlantic and Gulf coasts, who receive instructions and tagging materials from the Narragansett Laboratory.

Added knowledge of sharks and their habits is of interest to research scientists, to sportsmen who enjoy catching them in ever-increasing numbers, to the commercial fishermen who supply foreign markets, and to students of potential fisheries resources in the U.S. The many sharks available in U.S. waters represent an enormous but untapped source of nutrition.

Information learned from the tags returned after recapture of 335 sharks by commercial fishermen of 18 foreign countries and U.S. sport and commercial fishermen includes: the maximum distance covered was 2,070 miles (by a blue shark); the maximum time that elapsed between tagging and recapture was over 7 1/2 years (a sandbar shark); and the blue shark may travel 1,000 miles annually.

## NOAA Wins Four 1972 Blue Pencil Awards

Three NOAA publications and a NOAA film were among the winners of the Federal Editors Association's Blue Pencil Awards for 1972.

"Heating Degree Days, Computed at NOAA Offices, Measure Fuel Consumption," by Ann K. Cook, News Chief in NOAA's Office of Public Affairs in Rockville, Md., was the first place winner in the category on Feature News Releases (with visuals).

"Heat Wave," by Carl A. Posey, Acting Public Affairs Officer at the Environmental Research Laboratories in Boulder, Colo., won second place in the category on Technical Publications, any number of pages, more than one color.

"Flare," Produced by Elliot A. Macklow, Chief of NOAA's Motion Picture Service, Rockville, Md., was awarded second place in the Motion Picture category.

"NOAA Week," edited by Catherine S. Cawley, won third in the category for Newsletters or house organs (minimum quarterly issue), 8 pages or less.

## Surface Wind Forecasts Are Produced by Automated System

The National Weather Service's Techniques Development Laboratory has developed an automated system that produces nationwide forecasts of surface wind out to 48 hours. The new product, developed and implemented by Meteorologist Gary Carter of TDL, became operational on May 22. It should aid forecasters concerned with the prediction of surface winds.

Automated forecasts for 233 stations are available on teletypewriter on a request/reply basis. The forecasts are updated twice daily at approximately 0745 GMT and 1945 GMT.

Separate single-station forecasting equations were derived for each of seven projections (between 12 and 48 hours in advance of 0000 GMT and 1200 GMT data) by relating observed surface winds to forecasts from the National Meteorological Center's primitive equation model. This approach, called Model Output Statistics, involves the use of screening regression.

## Ocean Gamefish Ecology Study (Continued from page 1)

interpreting information on their shape, color, and temperature transmitted from the versatile sensing systems aboard the unmanned space vehicles. In earlier experiments, scientists at the NMFS laboratory at Pascagoula, Miss., were able to link satellite and aircraft-acquired data to the location of schools of menhaden fish in the Gulf of Mexico.

The surface data collected by satellite and the oceanographic data will be coordinated and compared at the experiment's end. Biologists, oceanographers, physicists, and computer experts will analyze all data in attempts to relate those environmental factors to the distribution and availability of oceanic game fish. Findings will be conveyed to sport fishermen in comprehensive forms and made available to other users through the facilities of the Environmental Data Service.

## Western Atlantic Currents (Continued from page 1)

was launched by the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, had originally been designed for tracking 300 free-flying balloons for measurement of atmospheric flows, and the French space agency, CNES, agreed to incorporate the drift buoy experiment among its complementary projects.

The prime value of the experiment, says Dr. Hansen, is that statistical analyses of buoy movement will give scientists a clearer idea of how many buoys, how far apart, will be necessary for an effective ocean monitoring system.

The buoy data will have an almost immediate application as a new international project, the Global Atmospheric Research Program-Atlantic Tropical Experiment (GATE), gets under way in the tropical Atlantic in the summer of 1974.

Other NOAA scientists involved in the experiment were Robert L. Charnell and David J. Pashinski of the Physical Oceanography Laboratory and Thomas R. Bartholomew of the National Ocean Survey's Engineering Development Laboratory.

## Sea Grant Researchers Develop Submarine Sand Recovery System

Working under a NOAA Sea Grant, scientists at the University of Hawaii have developed an economical and ecologically sound system for mining valuable ocean-bottom sand. On the island state, about a half million cubic yards of sand are used annually by the construction industry and at least an additional half million yards are presently required for planned beach improvement projects.

Led by Frederick M. Casciano, the researchers have built a full-scale working model of an apparatus which burrows snake-like into the sandy ocean floor and sucks up a slurry of sand and water without stirring up the bottom. The Submarine Sand Recovery System (SSRS) consists of a long, flexible hose joining a pump on the surface vessel, with a suction head or probe. The probe is buried by hydrojet action in sand at the bottom of the ocean, water is drawn down to the undersand probe and the resulting mixture of sand and water is pumped up through a six-inch pipe. Also built into the probe is a toothed crusher to grind up larger bits of coral or other material which might clog the system.

According to Mr. Casciano, the system can relocate sand at a rate of 50 cubic yards per hour and, exclusive of its pump, can be built for about \$12,000. Large conventional dredges may cost as much as \$4,000 a day for operating costs alone. The SSRS's designers believe it is an ideal instrument for recovering offshore sand in such areas as Hawaii or in the Caribbean where the warm, clear water is accommodating to divers, where delicate coral ecosystems abound, and where coral and shell fragments occur in the sand. It is designed for use in thick sand deposits and will prove most useful for small-scale operations such as beach nourishment projects requiring 20,000 to 30,000 cubic yards of sand where mobilization costs for large sea-going dredges would be prohibitive.

## Anchorage, Alaska, Has Most Comprehensive Weather Forecasts by Telephone System in the World

The most comprehensive "Weather Forecasts by Telephone" in the world was dedicated at the National Weather Service Forecast Office in Anchorage, Alaska, on June 1. Participants in the ceremony included Alaska Governor William A. Egan, NOAA Deputy Administrator Howard W. Pollock, Chairman John Stern of the Alaska Public Utilities Commission, and E. L. Hawkins of the Anchorage Telephone Commission. Other guests at the dedication, hosted by Anchorage Meteorologist in Charge Dr. Edward Diemer, were Stuart G. Bigler, Director of the NWS Alaska Region; John McCarty, President of the Audichron Company; and many state and local officials.

The 24-hour service provides four basic types of forecasts--local, marine, recreational, and motorist--each available by dialing a separate number. Synchronized entry allows each caller entry at the beginning of the weather message with a delay of no greater than 10 seconds. The system is equipped with a device that will eliminate the detailed weather forecast

## 4,693 Seismic Events Located On ERL's 1972 Earthquake Map

The annual computer-drawn map showing the surface positions (epicenters) and depths for all seismic events located during 1972 by the Environmental Research Laboratories' National Earthquake Information Center has been published.

The total number of hypocenters--the underground "sources" of earthquakes--was 4,693, of which 4,661 were earthquakes, 30 were explosions and suspected explosions and two were nontectonic earthquakes called "rockbursts" (caused by the sudden, earth-jarring cave-ins of mines). Shallow-focus earthquakes (0-70 kilometers deep) totalled 3,370; intermediate focus (71-300 kilometers), 1,063; and deep-focus (301 kilometers and deeper), 229.

NEIC, which is part of ERL's Earth Sciences Laboratories, locates all large earthquakes, worldwide, and many of the small ones.

During 1972, the Center located 21 major earthquakes--those of magnitude 7 or greater, or those causing fatalities. Included among these were the devastating earthquakes on December 23, in Managua, Nicaragua, and on April 21 in Southern Iran.

The explosions and suspected explosions were mine explosions, underground nuclear tests, and similar events.

## NGS Field Parties Convene in Georgia

National Geodetic Survey Field Parties G-18, G-19, G-20, G-23, and G-32 convened recently at the Chehaw State Park in Albany, Ga., for a get-together and picnic. The group of 168 included also several retirees and some members of the Georgia Department of Transportation. Four of the parties were working in Georgia and another stopped over while enroute from Florida to New York.

and give only a capsule weather summary if the number of incoming calls increases sharply, as during an emergency. This feature allows 2,375 calls per hour to be answered during heavy calling periods, and as the volume of calls declines, the expanded forecasts are automatically restored.

Personnel at WSFO Anchorage may update the forecasts at any time--even while the system is handling incoming calls--by calling directly into the machine over a private line.

Ten seconds of commercial message time will be available preceding the weather forecast announcements, and businesses in the area are expected to take advantage of the opportunity to promote their products or services.

This is the same equipment that is to be expanded to other cities in the U.S. It is the result of research and coordination between American Telephone and Telegraph, the Audichron Company, and the NWS Headquarters. It was designed by the NWS and developed and built by Audichron.

# calendar of events

June 16 - NOAA's Aquarium at the Woods  
September 16 Hole, Mass., Laboratory of  
Woods Hole, the National Marine Fisher-  
Mass. ies Service is open to the  
public every day from 10 a.m.  
to 5 p.m. (Charles L. Wheeler,  
607-548-7684)

July 17-19 "The Oceans and National  
Seattle, Wash. Economic Development,"  
Sponsored by the National  
Oceanic and Atmospheric  
Administration. (Vice Ad-  
miral W. W. Behrens, Jr.,  
Associate Administrator for  
Interagency Relations, Room  
5807, Main Commerce Building,  
Washington, D. C. 20230.  
202-967-5444, or Seattle-  
King County Economic Devel-  
opment Council, 1218 Third  
Ave., Suite 1900, Seattle,  
Wash. 98101. 202-622-2730)

July 23-27 International Symposium on  
Helsinki, Hydrology of Lakes. Spon-  
Finland sored by the International  
Association of Hydrological  
Science of the International  
Union of Geodesy and Geo-  
physics. (A. P. Pinsak,  
Lake Survey Center, Nation-  
al Oceanic and Atmospheric  
Administration, 630 Federal  
Building, Detroit, Mich.  
48226. 313-226-6039)

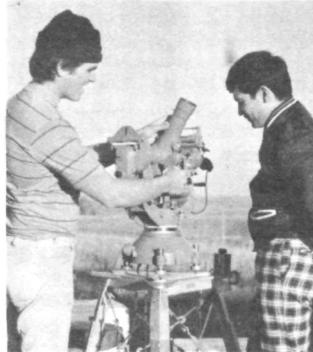
July 30 - "Observation and Measure-  
August 4 ment of Atmospheric Pollu-  
Helsinki, tion." World Meteorological  
Finland Organization and World Health  
Organization. (Vaughn D.  
Rockney, Code W13, National  
Weather Service, 8060 13th  
Street, Silver Spring, Md.  
20910. 301-495-2340)

August 8-10 Interdepartmental East  
Boston, Mass. Coast Winter Storms Con-  
ference. Sponsored by the  
Subcommittee for Basic  
Meteorological Services  
of the Interdepartmental  
Committee for Meteorolog-  
ical Services. (Samuel  
O. Grimm, Jr., Code W117,  
National Weather Service,  
8060 13th Street, Silver  
Spring, Md. 20910. 301-  
495-2293)

The first ship to be used by the Coast  
and Geodetic Survey, predecessor of the  
National Ocean Survey, was the JERSEY, in  
1834. The first vessel built by and for the  
agency was the schooner NAUTILUS, in 1838.

# notes about people

Mehrabuddin Ahmadyar (right), a student  
from Afghanistan, recently visited Nation-  
al Geodetic Survey Astro Party G-47, then  
headed by Lieutenant  
Albert E. Theberge  
(left). Mr. Ahmadyar  
is studying photo-  
grammetry at Purdue,  
and is visiting field  
parties to view field  
operations. He plans  
to return to Afghan-  
istan and become a  
member of the Engi-  
neering Faculty at  
Kabul University,  
when he finishes his  
work at Purdue.



Wives of personnel in National Geodetic  
Survey Party G-18 meet weekly in Albany,  
Ga., to do volunteer work for the commu-  
nity where their party is headquartered.

They make bed pads and bedside kits for  
cancer patients; help prepare literature  
for distribution by the American Cancer  
Society; mend books for the Morningside  
Elementary School Library; and prepare  
games and other material for special ed-  
ucation classes. Other projects are  
being considered for the future.

Participants in this volunteer work are  
Mrs. John L. Alford, Mrs. William Brummett,  
Jr., Mrs. Michael K. Fowler, Mrs. John W.  
Meyer, Mrs. Jerry A. Odum, Mrs. Donald  
D. Rexrode, Mrs. Graham Smoot, Mrs. Hubert  
Sulfridge, Mrs. James D. Swinney, Mrs.  
Harry Threlkeld, Mrs. Gordon Vaughan, Mrs.  
Lester H. Williams and Mrs. Richard L. Wright.

Harry C. Rice, Computer Specialist with  
the National Weather Service Communications  
Division at Suitland,  
Md., has been elected  
Commander of the Prince  
George's Power Squad-  
ron, a unit of U. S.  
Power Squadrons. Mr.  
Rice, who has been  
with the Communications  
Division for five  
years, is a retired  
Air Force forecaster  
with over 22 years in  
the Air Weather Serv-



ice. The Prince George's Power Squadron  
is presently teaching about 625 area  
residents the USPS Basic Boating Course  
in seven different locations. The four  
Squadrons serving the Washington area  
are teaching this free 12-week course to  
over 1900 students at 19 locations. The  
Prince George's Power Squadron is one of  
more than 400 Squadrons in the Cooperative  
Charting Program, which provide the  
National Ocean Survey with many thousands  
of nautical chart corrections annually.

Items to be considered for publication in NOAA WEEK should be submitted to:  
Office of Public Affairs, NOAA, Room 221, Bldg. 5, Rockville, Md. 20852. Phone (301) 496-8243

# **National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration**

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