



noaa week

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NOAA Grant Aids Georgia Sanctuary

Secretary of Commerce Rogers C. B. Morton has announced a \$1.5 million grant to help Georgia establish an estuarine sanctuary on Sapelo Island for scientific research and educational purposes.

This is the second grant awarded through NOAA under terms of the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972 in an effort to preserve examples of the various types of estuaries in the U.S. and its territories.

With the Federal funds—and at least an equal amount provided by the State—9,600 acres of marsh and island surrounding the Duplin River in McIntosh County will be maintained in its natural state to permit long-term study of natural and human processes in estuarine ecosystems.

(Continued on page 2)

Commerce Poster Contest Announced

In support of the Presidential Cost Reduction Campaign announced in the June 13, 1975, edition of *NOAA Week*, the Department of Commerce is sponsoring a poster contest to help publicize the Campaign. The winner of the contest will be the employee whose idea for a poster best depicts methods through which we can show cost savings, increased productivity, and energy conservation. The winning poster idea will be used in suggestion wall plaques, on bulletin boards, in employee newsletters throughout Commerce and distributed as flyers with each employee's paycheck.

NOAA employees are urged to submit ideas for posters to: Edna Leimbach, NOAA Incentive Awards Officer, Personnel Division, Attn: AD414, Rockville, Md., 20852, before August 11,

Deepwater Ports Project Office Established in EDS

A Deepwater Ports Project Office has been established in the Environmental Data Service to meet requirements placed upon NOAA by the Deepwater Port (DWP) Act of 1974, which established procedures for the location, construction, and operation of deepwater ports off the coasts of the United States. Dr. Dail W. Brown will head the new office.



Dr. Brown

The DWP Act invests licensing authority in the Secretary of Transportation, while the Administrator of NOAA is called upon to provide essential support. To meet NOAA's obligation, EDS' Project Office will review, evaluate, and prepare recommendations for the Administrator on DWP license applications, related environmental impact statements, and adjacent coastal State status.

The Act specifies that, upon (Continued on page 4)

Ocean Dumping Effects In N. Y. Bight Reported

Scientist Restores Vegetation on Bay's Denuded Floor

A University of Miami Sea Grant scientist, using a new seeding technique, has restored vegetation on a bay bottom denuded by heated water and silt from a power plant.

Since the release of these effluents into Biscayne Bay ended, Dr. Anitra Thorhaug has succeeded in growing *Thalassium testudinum*—commonly called turtle grass because it is a favorite food of sea turtles—on the bay's bare floor.

Her research is supported by the Office of Sea Grant, and the Florida Power and Light Company and the Atomic Energy Commission have helped finance the studies.

"Where turtle grass is, the fish are," Dr. Thorhaug says. "It provides food and protection for sport and commercial fishes during various stages of their life cycles..."

In many areas, dredging, siltation, and pollution have destroyed seagrasses—a vital part of bay ecosystems. Attempts to restore turtle grass by planting sprigs of *Thalassia* met with limited success and, if done on a large scale, would damage the (Continued on page 2)

A preliminary report after 18 months' study of the life and environment of the New York Bight—a roughly pentagonal 15,000-square-mile area extending from an apex between Long Island and New Jersey to the edge of the continental shelf about 100 miles offshore—concludes that:

—Despite significant evidence that ocean disposal of wastes off New York has caused some ecological damage, there appears to be no immediate threat to the public health or to Long Island beaches;

—Ocean dumping as now practiced there should cease once alternative disposal methods of lesser environmental impact are found.

The seven-year study, being conducted by the Environmental Research Laboratories' Marine Ecosystems Analysis (MESA) program, is designed to provide a comprehensive look at how the New York Bight ecosystem copes with the environmental pressures of a major urban-industrial complex and some 20 million humans. Charles Gunnerson is the Director of the MESA program.

Soon after its July 1973 start, the MESA New York Bight project began focusing on determining the specific ecological effects of offshore dumping of sewage sludge (a byproduct of wastewater treatment), dredge spoil, waste acid, and other materials at a rate of nearly half a billion (Continued on page 3)

Economic Forecast of U.S. Fishing Industry to 1985 Prepared

If present trends continue, the U.S. fisheries industry will grow only slightly in the next 10 years despite a rising demand for seafood products, according to the National Marine Fisheries Service.

Also, unless the U.S. industry can lift its production to levels that meet the Nation's future needs, the rising demand will be satisfied principally by imports of foreign fishing products, which have doubled in the last 10 years.

Such prospects are suggested in a "baseline" economic fore-

cast which examines historical trends and traditional practices in U.S. fisheries and projects them to show conditions to be expected if no changes or improvements take place by 1985.

The report, prepared by Synergy, Inc., of Washington, D.C., is currently being analyzed by NMFS, which is preparing a National Fisheries Plan to be published later this year. A major objective of the plan is to establish goals and lines of action that will encourage increased U.S. production of fisheries products and thus reduce the heavy U.S.

dependence on seafoods from abroad.

The Synergy study was designed to get a view of the future condition of U.S. fisheries to provide reference points for planning. It took no account of the possibilities for expansion to be explored in the National Fisheries Plan or the possibilities inherent in the declaration, by the Law of the Sea Conference and the U.S. Congress, of exclusive fisheries jurisdiction in waters up to 200 miles from the U.S. coasts.

It clearly suggests that, unless (Continued on page 3)

Boulder Labs, Schools Launch Project GET AHEAD

Project GET AHEAD, a tutorial program for students in Boulder, Colo., schools has been launched on a trial basis by the Boulder Laboratories and the Boulder Valley School District. The program is patterned after a successful program in Denver sponsored by the Association of Federal Professional and Administrative Women.

According to J. Virginia Lincoln, a Boulder representative of the Association and Chief of the Solid Earth Data Services Division of the Environmental Data Services' National Geophysical and Solar Terrestrial Data Center, "The Boulder Laboratories are providing advisors on a one-to-one basis for students needing remedial help, and gifted students seeking help in a particular area or needing a challenge."

GET AHEAD has the support of the management of NOAA, the National Bureau of Standards, and the Institute for Telecommunication Sciences. The students and their volunteer advisors meet either at study aide sessions one night a week at the Bureau, or arrangements are made to work with students in the tutor's office or at other locations convenient for both tutor and student.

At the present time approximately 20 Boulder Laboratories tutors are involved in the program.

Personnel Perspective will appear in the July 3 issue of NOAA Week

CHARTING ADVISERS AT THE RECENT NATIONAL OCEAN SURVEY—CANADIAN HYDROGRAPHIC SERVICE MEETING at the Lake Survey Center in Detroit, Mich., were (front row, from left)

Ellsworth M. Walsh, CHS; William J. Monteith, LSC; Capt. Richard H. Houlder, NOS; and (standing, left) Adam J. Kerr, CHS. William A. Bergen (standing, center), Walter A. Carpus (standing, right), and Frank A. Blust (not in photo) were observers during the two-day meeting.



The group is part of the Charting Advisers program established in 1963 as a joint U.S.—Canadian effort to improve the compatibility and uniformity of charts of the Great Lakes and to coordinate operations of the agencies to achieve optimum mutual benefits.

Vegetation Restored

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beds from which the sprigs were cut.

Dr. Thorhaug had a new idea: Why not plant turtle grass seeds? She took a diving crew to the Bahamas where, wearing scuba gear, they harvested 3,000 *Thalassia* fruits, from which, at the University of Miami's Rosenstiel School of Marine Science, 20,000 seeds were separated, and treated with root-growth hormones.

The divers planted the hormone-stimulated seeds in rows, anchoring them with brightly colored plastic. The seeds sprouted roots almost immediately and grew rapidly. Nine months later, only 31 percent of the plants were dead, dormant, or missing.

Dr. Thorhaug estimates her seeding technique can restore seagrasses 10 to 12 times faster than natural processes. It could hasten the comeback of vegetation in underwater lands blighted by dredging, siltation, chemicals, or sewage, and could be used to

Survey Completed

The 20-man National Geodetic Survey field party headed by Robert R. Gerrish has completed a 320-mile geodetic survey of ground elevations to update measurements used in monitoring earth movements along the California Aqueduct.

More than 300 elevations were measured along the route, which began at Oakland, proceeded to San Leandro, then to two miles east of Midway and then south along the Aqueduct via San Luis Dam to Pastoria Creek.

grow seagrasses on underwater banks or canal sides.

But much research remains to be done, she notes. The stresses placed on the young plants by fluctuating water salinity and temperatures must be evaluated.

In the meantime, her diving teams are planting turtle grass seeds in an area of Biscayne Bay between Miami and Miami Beach, where siltation and pollution long ago thinned out bottom vegetation and where few fish cruise.

Georgia Sanctuary

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climates, with seasonal tropical elements.

The State's Department of Natural Resources will manage the area.

Research will be coordinated by the University of Georgia; administered by the university's Marine Institute, already located on Sapelo Island; and will include:

- Acquisition of baseline data including a full description of the natural biophysical characteristics of the estuarine ecosystem.

- Systems analysis and related studies to permit construction of models depicting the function and interaction of components of the ecosystem;

- Long-term monitoring to measure the character and extent of natural or man-induced changes in the area;

- Assessment of the impact of management policies and uses of the natural resources of the estuarine systems, including socioeconomic impacts, and basic studies in such areas as physiology, microbiology, and biochemistry.

The sanctuary will be available for "low intensity" recreation use—including fishing, crabbing, and hunting—as long as the level and kind of use do not detract from or alter the natural environment, according to Robert W. Knecht, NOAA's Assistant Administrator for Coastal Management.

Correction

In the June 13, 1975, edition of *Personnel Perspective*, in the article entitled "Updating Career Management Records," it was incorrectly stated there were presently operational career management programs for the career fields of Hydrologist and Electronics Technician. These two programs have been temporarily discontinued pending the development of a career management program for the meteorological career field.

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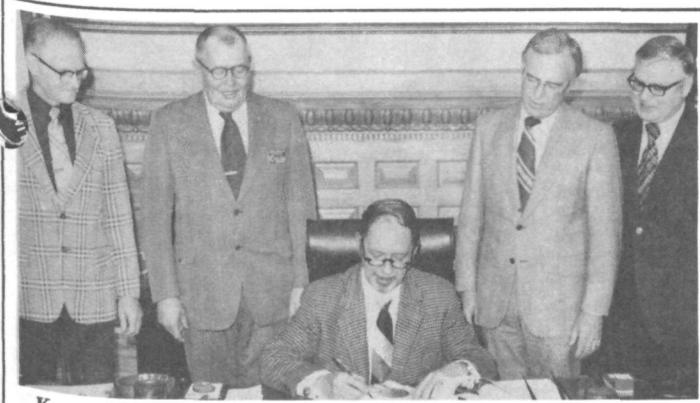
Articles to be considered for publication should be submitted at least a week in advance to NOAA Week, Room 221, WSC-5, Office of Public Affairs, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Rockville, Md. 20852.

NOAA Week reserves the right to make corrections, changes or deletions in submitted copy in conformity with policies of the paper or the Administration.

Catherine S. Cawley, Editor
Warren W. Buck, Jr., Art Director



Participants in the National Weather Service's 26th Weather Service Operations Class were (front row, from left) Charles T. Kashatok, WSO Bethel, Alaska; Gary F. Smedley, WSO Del Rio, Tex.; Michael E. Dirksen, WSFO Bismark, N. Dak.; Lawrence Cedrone, WSFO Philadelphia, Pa.; William E. Hill, WSFO St. Louis, Mo.; Marion W. Kuykendall, WSMO Houston, Tex.; Richard A. Lane, WSO Huntington, W. Va.; (back row, from left) Frank Dillenkoffer, Instructor; Charles J. Mahoney, WSO Winslow, Ariz.; Paul Greaves, WSFO Albany, N.Y.; Harry F. Reynolds, WSO Spokane, Wash.; David J. Olson, WSO Duluth, Minn.; Timothy J. Lee, WSO Lihue, Hawaii; Robert E. Merritt, WSO Macon, Ga.; Robert J. McKay, WSFO Portland, Oreg.; Gregory F. Mull, WSFO Columbia, S.C.; Daryl R. Jameson, WSO Eugene, Oreg.; and Larry McEwen, Instructor.



Kansas Governor Robert Bennett was watched, as he signed the Kansas Emergency Preparedness Week Proclamation, by (standing, from left) Gordon Brokaw, Topeka National Weather Service Forecast Office Community Preparedness Specialist; Roy Konapaska, Kansas State Civil Defense Director; Dr. Robert Bohannon, Director of the Kansas State University Extension Division; and Frank Mosier, State Executive Director of the Agricultural Soil Conservation Service. At about the same time, the Kansas Legislature passed, and the Governor signed, a law requiring tornado drills in all public schools in the State.

German Officials Visit Pivers Island, N.C., Fisheries Facility

Two ranking officials of the Federal Republic of Germany recently visited the National Marine Fisheries Service Atlantic Estuarine Fisheries Center on Pivers Island, N.C. Werner Feldt, of the Federal Marine Research Institute in Hamburg, and Hannes Edelhauser, Federal Minister of the Interior, Bonn, discussed ecological and environmental problems that are developing with the construction and operation of nuclear power stations. The Center is one of the leading radioecological research centers in the United States.

Economic Forecast

(Continued from page 1)
 There is informed and coordinated attention to national goals, U.S. fisheries will fall short of keeping pace with demand for seafood products. The projected 2.3 billion-pound increase in the U.S. consumption of edible seafoods by 1985 will have to be met by imports unless U.S. industry makes up the difference. If present trends are not altered, the value of imports of edible products (\$0.54 billion in 1967 and \$1.48 billion in 1974) will rise to \$2.08 billion (in 1974 dollars). NMFS points out that future planning must consider the need to protect, rehabilitate, and enlarge the U.S. share of fisheries resources and to anticipate the rocketing growth of marine recreational angling, which could double in the next decade.

You owe it to yourself. Do yourself a favor—join the Composite Check Program. For details call 301-496-8507.

Water Level Gages Are Inspected

A two-month field trip to inspect and maintain water level gages located at various sites on Lakes Erie and Ontario and the Niagara and St. Lawrence Rivers has been completed by Charles McWee and Dennis MacKay of the Lake Survey Center's Water Level Gaging Section. The trip was part of the Section's Spring Gage Maintenance Program. To complete it, Mr. McWee and Tom Yatooma will start another trip about June 30th to inspect the telemetering gages on Lakes Huron and Superior and the permanent gages on Lake Michigan. In addition, they will check and calibrate the water temperature gages on these lakes, making any necessary repairs for their continued operations.

The Water Level Gaging Section maintains and operates the water temperature gages for the Great Lakes Environmental Research Laboratory in Ann Arbor, Mich.

A DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE BRONZE MEDAL recently was presented to Joe F. Wilson (left), a Cartographer in the Research Group of the National Ocean Survey's Office of Aeronautical Charting and Cartography, by Rear Admiral Allen L. Powell, NOS Director. Mr. Wilson was recognized for his "major contributions to increased production capacity and improved quality of NOS reproduction resources through application of color process printing to aeronautical charting."



Fisheries Center Completes Spring Bottom Trawl Survey

The National Marine Fisheries Service Northeast Fisheries Center in Woods Hole, Mass., has completed its Spring Bottom Trawl Survey. The surveys are made each spring and autumn to determine the seasonal distribution and relative abundance of fish and invertebrate species on the continental shelf from Cape Hatteras to Nova Scotia, including the Gulf of Maine. In addition to the standard bottom trawls, the ichthyoplankton is sampled, and the environment is monitored

through temperature probes, weather observations, and salinity and oxygen profiles at specified depths. The surveys form a vital part of the management plans provided each year by the Northeast Fisheries Center for fish stocks in the Western North Atlantic.

The final leg of the 1975 spring survey represented two 'firsts' for the women of the Center: Linda Despres served as Chief Scientist, and her assistants outnumbered the men 7 to 6.



Aboard the Albatross IV at the completion of the Spring Ground-fish Survey are (front row, from left) Ms. Despres, Susan Peterson, Ann Tibbetts, Elizabeth Bavaqua, Milton Palmer, Evelyn Howe, Margaret Campbell, (back row, from left) Robert Livingstone, Otis Jackson, Douglas Lawson, Alison King, Gordon Waring, and Hugh Oldham.

Ocean Dumping Effects in N.Y. Bight

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 cubic feet per year. Other conclusions from the first report include:
 -Little sediment or dumped material is transported over the ocean floor in the present dumping site areas except during the passage of major storms, when movement of as much as 1,200 feet has been observed over periods of several days.
 -At the dredge spoil dump site, a mound of material some 30 feet high has accumulated over about a generation of dumping.
 -Levels of nutrients (nitrogen, phosphorus, and silica com-

pounds) are generally high near the sewage sludge dump, and slightly above "normal" around the dredge spoil dump site. Beyond these localized increases, nutrients in the Bight appear to be controlled mainly by the outflow of the Hudson and Raritan Rivers.
 -The unsightly black mud popularized as "black mayonnaise" does not indicate the presence of sewage sludge. In fact, the existence of muds in some topographic lows off Long Island is typical of transient muddy patches found along much of the Atlantic coast.
 -Concentrations of coliform (intestinal) bacteria in Bight shellfish beds appear to be increasing. Last year the Food and Drug Administration expanded the area closed to shellfishing near the dump site.
 -Fish taken from the apex have a higher incidence of fin rot than specimens taken elsewhere in the Bight.
 -Antibiotic-resistant strains of coliform bacteria have been found in the Bight, suggesting that this acquired resistance, or "R-factor," is transmitted via harmless as well as harmful bacterial species. The public health significance of this last discovery is not known.

NOAA scientists have agreed to help the Environmental Protection Agency study alternative dumping sites offshore, should the decision be to move present dumping farther out to sea.

notes about people

Dr. Thomas S. Austin, Director of the Environmental Data Service, is now Chairman of the interagency Panel on International Programs and International Cooperation in Ocean Affairs (PIPICO), succeeding William Sullivan, Coordinator of Oceans and Fisheries, Department of State. PIPICO is the interagency committee which coordinates United States participation in international programs in ocean affairs, including bilateral and multilateral programs involving the investigation, development and use of the world ocean and its resources. Louis B. Brown, International Affairs Officer, Office for the International Decade of Ocean Exploration, National Science Foundation, succeeded Dr. Austin as Vice Chairman. The Chairmanship and Vice Chairmanship rotate among participating Federal agencies.

Harvey R. Bullis, Jr., Director of the National Marine Fisheries Service Southeast Fisheries Center in Miami, Fla., was appointed Assistant International Coordinator for Fisheries at the recent Cooperative Investigations of the Caribbean and Adjacent Regions (CICAR) VII meeting in Mexico City. The appointment will extend through the CICAR II Symposium scheduled for July 1976 in Caracas, Venezuela.

Dr. Harris B. Stewart, Jr., Director of the Environmental Research Laboratories' Atlantic Oceanographic and Meteorological Laboratories in Miami, Fla., has been appointed chairman of the seven-nation steering committee planning the Cooperative In-

vestigation of the Caribbean and Adjacent Regions (CICAR) II Symposium. He and other CICAR representatives from Cuba, Jamaica, Mexico, the Netherlands, the Soviet Union, and Venezuela are planning the meeting which will be held at the Parque Central in Caracas, Venezuela, July 12 through 16, 1976, to present the results of five years of cooperative marine research in the Gulf and Caribbean.

John C. O'Brien is the Meteorologist in Charge of the new National Weather Service Meteorological Observatory at Longview, Tex. His previous assignments since joining the NWS in 1955 were Atlantic Weather Patrol; Portland, Maine; Huntington, W. Va.; Kennedy Space Center, and Daytona Beach, Fla.

The first upper air soundings will be taken at Longview on July 7, and network radar operations will begin early in 1976 when the new Enterprise radar is delivered.

Paul Stokols, who received his B.S. degree in meteorology at Pennsylvania State University recently, is the fourth in a series of students who have worked with the AFOS (Automation of Field Operations and Services) Experimental System as part of a jointly funded program between the National Weather Service and the Penn State Department of Meteorology. Each student works a term with the AFOS Systems Experimentation Branch under the guidance of a faculty member. During that period, he receives academic credit as well as



Participants in Weather Radar Course No. 23 at the National Weather Service Technical Training Center in Kansas City, Mo., were (front row, from left) Walter R. Goto, WSO Medford, Ore.; Robert G. Bonner, WSMO Waycross, Ga.; Donald W. Reed, NMC, Suitland, Md.; Art Lester, WSO Cape Hatteras, N.C.; Raymond E. Miles, WSO Amarillo, Tex.; Frank Perry, Jr., WSMO Chatham, Mass.; (back row, from left) Ralph Tice, Instructor; Jesse D. Kelly, WSMO Limon, Colo.; Gerald Cathey, WSFO Oklahoma City, Okla.; Fred Hochreiter, SRH, Fort Worth, Tex.; Ray Choffee, WSO Victoria, Tex.; Frank R. Pflanzner, WSMO Neenah, Wis.; Charles W. Thomas, ECWP, Norfolk, Va.; and Joel Wertman, Instructor.

A DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE BRONZE MEDAL recently was presented to John P. Baptist (left), former Research Fish Biologist at the National Marine Fisheries Service Atlantic Estuarine Fisheries Center, in Beaufort, N.C., by Dr. Theodore R. Rice, Center Director. Mr. Baptist, who has retired after 31 years with the NMFS, was cited for "meritorious service and outstanding contributions to the field of radioecology and to the preservation of the marine environment and fisheries resources from nuclear power development."



work experience. The program's purposes are to let university people have experience with AFOS so that their training programs can be changed, and to give the NWS an opportunity to see how new meteorologists react to AFOS. Mr. Stokols will remain with the program through the summer.

The Lake Survey Center recently opened its Marine Base at Monroe, Mich., to nearly 50 members of the U.S. Power Squadrons, some from as far away as Buffalo, Chicago and Milwaukee. The program included a discussion of the Cooperative Charting Program by Casey Zaranek; a laser-ranger demonstration by Bob Stachon; an explanation of horizontal angle measuring by sextant by Damon Frutche; a tour of the base; and a ride on the LAIDLAY.

Others contributing to the meeting were: Louise Buszka, Sharon and Margo Johnson, Bill Monteith, Teddy Kuchial, Mickey Krebs, Howard Booker and members of the Engineering

Division. Frank Blust, Charting Operations Chief, was Chairman.

USPS members expressed a desire to attend a similar meeting next year.

Andrew Evansha, a volunteer Cooperative Observer for the National Weather Service for almost 30 years, recently had more than weather to observe from the porch of his home in Freeland, Pa.

A black bear lumbered into his yard and was immediately treed by his dogs. The bear stayed in the tree for hours and, from his vantage point about 15 feet above the ground, watched calmly as hundreds gathered to watch him.

According to Donald Denion, Deputy Chief of NOAA's Administrative Operations Division in Rockville, Md., who was in Freeland that weekend, the local fire department flushed the bear out of the tree with a fire hose about 12 hours later. He eventually ambled back into the woods.

Deepwater Ports Office Established

(Continued from page 1)

petition of an adjacent or neighboring State, the Secretary of Transportation shall ask the NOAA Administrator to determine whether that State is likely to be impacted by a DWP oil spill to an extent equal to or greater than the impact on the State connected to the DWP by pipeline. The determination must be made within 45 days after a petition is received from a State.

Procedures developed to evaluate the potential impact of DWP oil spills on adjacent coastal states will also be used in developing NOAA's recommendations on license applications and environmental impact statements. Other possible environmental impacts, including those that might result from the presence of physical structures, dredging of

wetlands, and secondary development will also be considered.

NOAA's DWP review activities will be fully documented and made available for public examination.

Dr. Brown previously worked on energy/environment research in the Office of the Associate Administrator for Marine Resources, and before that was in the Office of the Associate Administrator for Environmental Monitoring and Prediction. Before joining NOAA, he was an Oceanographer for the Smithsonian Institution.

He received his Ph.D. Degree in Oceanography (Ecology) from the University of California at Santa Barbara.



National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

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