



noaa week

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Safe Boating Week NOAA Programs Promote Safety Of Boaters

An improved electronic navigation system, Loran-C, is being added to 100 NOAA nautical charts this year. The move, long awaited by commercial shipping and recreational boaters, will provide a major assist in promoting safety at sea, and its announcement coincided with the observance this week of National Safe Boating Week. NOAA is a member of the National Safe Boating Committee, which annually promotes the observance.

Loran—for long range navigation—is used by ships to plot their positions. Loran-C is an improved version of Loran-A, which was developed during World War II, and is now widely used by commercial fishermen, shipping and pleasure boaters.

Loran-C can operate under all weather conditions, whereas Loran-A signals are often disrupted by atmospheric disturbances. Its addition by the National Ocean Survey to nautical charts results from the establishment of coastal loran stations that enable the program to function. With the construction of these stations along the coast, the program to add Loran-C to nautical charts will now go into full swing. Loran-C will be printed on one side of the chart and, where appropriate, Loran-A on the reverse side. The Loran-A system will continue to be used until the Loran-C program is fully in effect.

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Model Plane Is Tested as Atmospheric Sounder

Airplane soundings of the atmosphere go back to the days when goggled pilots flew instrumented biplanes to gather the weather information balloon-borne sensors do today.

Now Environmental Research Laboratories scientists are trying it again, with a bullet-nosed probe flown from a specially constructed airfield near Boulder, Colo.

But the NOAA probe was designed to measure only one aspect of the atmosphere—the electrical field. And it is a model.

Developed by ERL's Atmos-

IWC Cuts Whale Catch Quotas Sharply

Cooling Degree Day Serves as Index Of Summertime Energy Requirements

While there is some controversy among meteorologists and engineers as to which atmospheric parameters are most directly related to energy usage, the cooling degree day concept—summer sister of the more familiar heating degree day used to estimate fuel consumption in winter—is thought to be the best means of

anticipating summertime energy usage.

According to the Environmental Data Service, which computes degree day statistics, the cooling degree day serves as an index of air conditioning requirements.

It is computed by subtracting 65°F from the daily mean tem-

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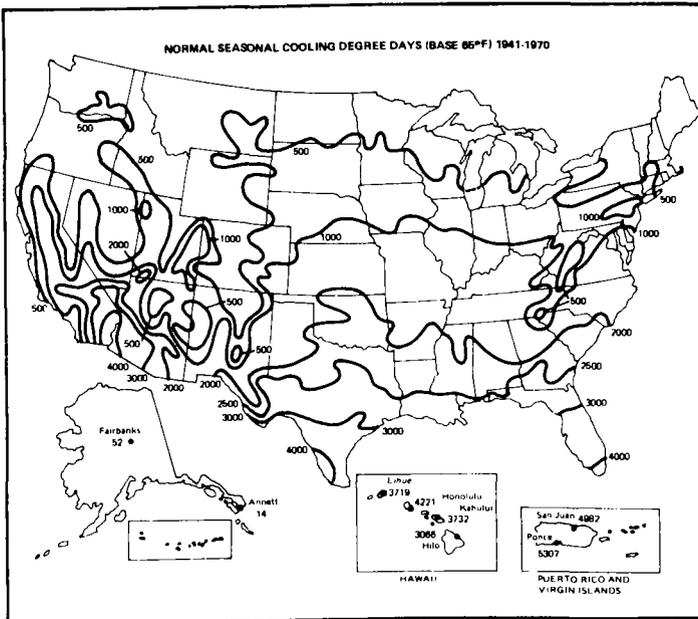
A new management procedure for conservation of the world's whales was implemented by the International Whaling Commission at its 27th meeting in London, England, last week. The immediate impact of the new procedure will be a reduction of nearly 9,000 whales from catches recommended by the IWC last year.

Dr. Robert M. White, NOAA Administrator and U.S. Commissioner to the IWC, who made the announcement, said the reduction represents "a major step forward in the international effort to protect all species of whales."

The quota set for the 1975/76 season last week totals 32,578, and includes areas for which quotas were not previously set. Commercial whaling will now be prohibited for all fin and sei whales in the North Pacific; fin whales in almost all of the Antarctic and in the North Atlantic except for areas around Iceland and Newfoundland; sei whales in a major region of the Southern Hemisphere; and sperm whales in the vicinity of Eastern Australia.

At least a 20 percent reduction over the 1974/75 catch figure.

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Microfilming Unit Moves to Boulder

The Environmental Data Service's Seismogram Microfilming Service was recently relocated from Asheville, N.C., to Boulder, Colo., where it has been consolidated with its parent organization, the National Geophysical and Solar-Terrestrial Data Center.

The high-precision scientific microfilming facility is operated by a staff of 18 people under the supervision of Delbert S. Leach. It uses panoramic cameras of special design for copying seismograms—the records of earthquakes recorded by a global network of sensitive instruments.

Seismic observatories around the world send some 300,000 records each year to be copied by the special equipment and catalogued in a national archive in Boulder containing almost four million seismograms. The principal source of the seismograms copied is the 115-station World Wide Standard Seismo-

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spheric Physics and Chemistry Laboratory and its contractor, Hobby Specialties of Boulder, the airplane has an eight-foot wingspan and six-foot fuselage, and is pushed along by a horsepower and a half of model airplane engine fueled on methane and castor oil.

It carries miniaturized instruments to sense the strength of the atmosphere's electrical field, earth currents, and the conductivity of the air. Its remote-controlled missions are flown in clear air, to altitudes of from 10,000 to 15,000 feet (3,000 to 4,500 meters). Although the model could safely penetrate

some types of cloud, moisture in the cloud would interrupt the electrical record.

Dr. Heinz Kasemir, who directs the laboratory's atmospheric electricity program, explains why they are trying the model.

"We have needed a remote-controlled probe for a long time," he says, "to take measurements when and where we want them, with high-quality instrumentation. Free balloons go where the wind sends them, and you usually lose your instrument package, which limits how good the instruments can be. And a

(Continued on page 3)

personnel perspective

Current Vacancies in NOAA

To insure that NOAA employees are aware of job possibilities throughout the agency, a list of current NOAA-wide vacancies is published below. Employees interested in any of the listed vacancies

should contact their servicing personnel office for information where to apply.

Announcement Number	Position Title	Grade	MLC	Location	Issue Date	Closing Date
726-75	Statistics and Market News Reporting Officer	GS-15	NMFS	Washington, D.C.	6-16-75	7-8-75
732-75	Supv. Geophysicist	GS-12	NWS	Adak, Alaska	6-16-75	7-8-75
733-75	Fishery Biologist	GS-13/14	NMFS	Washington, D.C.	6-16-75	7-8-75
735-75	Fishery Administrator	GS-14	NMFS	Washington, D.C.	6-16-75	7-8-75
737-75	Supv. Meteorologist	GS-14	NWS	Topeka, Kansas	6-18-75	7-10-75
740-75	Supv. Electronics Engr.	GS-14	NWS	Silver Spring, Md.	6-18-75	7-10-75
743-75	Clerk Typist	GS-3	ERL	Juneau, Alaska	6-18-75	7-10-75
745-75	Logistics Management Spec.	GS-12	ERL	Juneau, Alaska	6-18-75	7-10-75
751-75	Program Analyst	GS-12/13	NMFS	Washington, D.C.	6-25-75	7-10-75
752-75	Supv. Management Analyst	GS-12	HDQS	Rockville, Md.	6-25-75	7-10-75
753-75	Food Technologist	GS-12	NMFS	Pascagoula, Miss.	6-25-75	7-10-75
755-75	Fishery Resource Manager	GS-14	NMFS	Gloucester, Mass.	6-25-75	7-10-75
756-75	Electronics Tech.	GS-8	NOS	Detroit, Mich.	6-25-75	7-10-75
757-75	General Engr.	GS-12/13	NOS	Miami, Fla.	6-25-75	7-10-75
75-109	Staff Assistant	GS-11	HDQS	Washington, D.C.	7-3-75	7-11-75
761-75	Clerk-Steno. (2 positions)	GS-4/5	NOS	Bay St. Louis, Miss.	6-27-75	7-12-75
762-75	Supv. Meteorological Tech.	GS-12	EDS	Asheville, N.C.	6-27-75	7-12-75
765-75	Meteorologist	GS-13	NWS	Miami, Fla.	6-27-75	7-12-75
766-75	Physical Scientist	GS-12	EDS	Anchorage, Alaska	6-27-75	7-12-75
746-75	Oceanographer	GS-14	HDQS	Rockville, Md.	6-25-75	7-17-75
748-75	Fishery Development Coordinator	GS-15	NMFS	Washington, D.C.	6-25-75	7-17-75
758-75	Program Manager	GS-14	NOS	Bay St. Louis, Miss.	6-25-75	7-17-75

Employee Responsibilities In Outside Employment

From time to time NOAA employees find it desirable to accept outside employment in addition to their jobs with NOAA. In accepting such outside employment, employees must be careful to assure that the outside employment does not conflict in any way with their duties as Federal employees. General guidelines governing this area are detailed in Department of Commerce Administrative Order 202-735 and in Chapter 16, "Personnel Relations and Services," Section 02 (4) of the NOAA Personnel Handbook.

Basically, a Federal employee's outside employment: (1) must not be incompatible with his or her government employment, (2) must not permit the employee to gain improper benefit from his or her government employment, and (3) must be such that the employee avoids the appearance of impropriety.

A more detailed discussion of each of these three situations follows:

1. Incompatibility: There are three principal ways in which outside employment could be incompatible with one's government employment:

a. Outside employment may create a conflict of interest. A conflict of interest may be triggered by a situation in which the outside employment and the government employment concern the same subject matter. If a person is in a situation where loyalty to one of these interests could require disloyalty to the other, the circumstances present a conflict of interest, whether or not any disloyalty ever actually occurs.

b. Outside employment may impair one's capacity to perform his or her government job. Employees should not perform outside work during government duty hours, and should make it clear to their outside employers that they are unavailable at such times. In addition, an employee should not engage in any activity which might impair his or her mental or physical capacity to perform his or her government work, or which may create a problem of supervision. A problem may be raised when an employee wants to take time off from his or her government job to perform outside work. This judgement must be made by supervisory personnel on the basis of Government convenience, in the same way as if leave or vacation were requested for recreational purposes.

c. Outside employment for certain kinds of organizations is specifically prohibited. These include organizations: (1) having or seeking financial relationships with the Department of Commerce; (2) whose activities are regulated by the Department; or (3) with interests which may be affected by the employee's performance of his or her government responsibilities, such as the recipients of inspection services. Further, association with foreign organizations must be specifically authorized.

2. Improper Benefit: An employee may not gain improper benefit from his or her government employment. This means that no gratuities or payments may be accepted for any services which are a part

Retirees To Receive 5.1 Percent Bonus

Because of the 0.4 percent rise in the Consumer Price Index (CPI) in May (the third consecutive month in which the CPI advanced more than 0.3 percent), retired Federal employees will receive a 5.1 percent cost-of-living increase effective August 1, 1975.

Since the passage of Public Law 93-136 in October, 1973, liberalized the eligibility requirements for cost-of-living annuity increases, there is no deadline requirement for retirement which employees must meet to take advantage of the bonus. Employees who retire after an annuity increase goes into effect are entitled to annuities that would be no less than the ones they would have received had they retired prior to the increase.

The August bonus which will appear in the September annuity checks of retirees, will be the second cost-of-living increase this year. The last one raised annuities 7.3 percent and occurred last January. Some employees may want to retire on or before July 31, 1975, in order to take advantage of the minimum guarantee of the 7.3 percent increase which became effective last January. An example of how an employee's annuity would be computed if he or she did retire on or before July 31, 1975, follows:

	December:	July:
High-3 average:	\$15,000	\$15,500
Years of service:	30 yrs.	30 yrs., 7 mos.
Earned monthly annuity:	\$655.00	\$690.00
(includes survivor benefit)		
Cost-of-living adjustment:	\$655 x 7.3% = \$48.	
Monthly annuity employee would receive:	\$655 + \$48 = \$703.	\$690.00

The December figure would be greater and would be the basic annuity. The 5.1 percent would be applied to the basic annuity. If an employee chooses to retire after July 31, 1975, he or she would get the benefit of the 5.1 percent increase but not the 7.3 percent increase which became effective last January.

of or are directly related to one's government work. This rule can best be understood as intending to keep certain members of the public from obtaining services not available, or available in some less desirable form, to the public at large.

3. Appearance of Impropriety: Employees should be granted the widest latitude possible in conducting their own affairs. On the other hand, the Department of Commerce has a unique relationship with the Nation's business community, and is thus in a specially sensitive position. This requires that Departmental employees avoid even the appearance of impropriety, and that questionable cases be resolved against taking the outside employment.

From a legal standpoint, each case of potential conflict must be judged on its own merits. Advice is available from either Mr. James Lawless in Rockville, Md., or Mr. Stephen Powell in Seattle, Wash., of the Office of General Counsel.

Approximately 40 dignitaries attended the recent dedication ceremony for the newly established Evansville, Ind., NOAA Weather

Radio, including U.S. Senator Vance (right) who addressed the group and then closed the switch placing the transmitter in operation at the moment of commissioning. Glen V. Sachse, Meteorologist in Charge of the Weather Service Forecast Office in Indianapolis, gave the keynote address; Clyde H. Downes (left), MIC at WSO Evansville, was the Master of Ceremonies; and Principal Assistant John Robertson introduced the Evansville staff.



IWC Cuts Whale Catch Quota Sharply

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ures is expected to result. The new procedure also affords protection for whale stocks long before they are reduced to endangered levels (previously they were placed in a protective status only when they approached extinction). Also, quotas were set by stock and species, instead of by the archaic "Blue Whale Unit", which lumped many stocks and species together. Management of whale stocks and species by ocean areas will enable more careful attention to the needs of individual stocks in various parts of the ocean.

Dr. White paid tribute to the intense interest of non-governmental conservation and environmental groups in the U.S. and throughout the world which have worked to stop whaling, pointed out that much remains to be done, and expressed the

hope that IWC-member nations will adhere to the organization's decisions.

The U.S. Delegation to the meeting included Congressman Edwin B. Forsythe of New Jersey; Dr. Elvis J. Stahr, President of the National Audubon Society; Dr. William Aron, Director of NOAA's Office of Ecology and Environmental Conservation; Prudence I. Fox, Foreign Affairs Officer in NOAA's Office of International Affairs; and Michael F. Tillman, Task Director for Cetaceans in the Marine Mammal Division of the National Marine Fisheries Service Northwest Fisheries Center, as well as representatives of other government and non-government groups concerned with the conservation of whales.

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noaa week

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

Impact of Commercial Fishing Industry on Economy Measured

The U.S. commercial fishing industry, with a fish catch valued at about \$907 million at dockside in 1973, may have had a cumulative impact on the U.S. economy of as much as \$6.7 billion, according to a study prepared for the National Marine Fisheries Service.

The study of the economic contribution of the industry, conducted under contract by a private consulting firm, Centaur Management Consultants, Inc., of

Washington, D.C., was the first of its kind, and was commissioned as background information for a National Fisheries Plan to be published later this year.

The cumulative economic impact on the economy, NMFS spokesmen said, comes from the total of wages, earnings, and employment generated by commercial fish catching, processing, wholesale and retail trade, transportation, and related industries. Thus, the \$907 million catch of 1973 was the base for the estimated \$6.7 billion in associated commercial activity involving, as the study showed, almost 500,000 man-years of employment.

TV Show Credited With Saving Life Of Woman Viewer

Paul B. Holcomb, Meteorologist in Charge of the National Weather Service Office in Sioux City, Iowa, was a participant in a recent TV panel show credited with saving a woman's life during a tornado. The half-hour pre-taped "Focal Point" program was shown at 11 a.m. on May 11.

That afternoon a tornado destroyed the small town of Magnet, Nebr.

The following day a lady called the TV station, KTIV, Channel 4, and said the show saved her life, because before seeing it she did not know she should get under a heavy workbench in the basement—where she was found, uninjured, when rescuers dug her out of the collapsed house.

The other panel member on the show was Tom Elliott, Sioux City Civil Defense Director.

The study also examined the position of the U.S. fishery in relation to imports of foreign fisheries products, which have been steadily increasing in recent years. It was estimated that if imports from foreign nations were replaced by domestic production, the additional economic impact might approach \$3 billion, with an increase of 200,000 man-years in employment.

The National Fisheries Plan now under development by NMFS is a comprehensive effort to set out goals for the enhancement of U.S. fisheries, and rehabilitation as necessary, for the next 10 years. The planning has involved the States, the industry, recreational fishermen and their organizations, and consultants from the universities and professional fields. The plan takes into account the possible extension of U.S. jurisdiction over fisheries to 200 miles.

ERL Scientists Test Model Airplane as Atmospheric Sounder

(Continued from page 1) tethered balloon has limitations too.

"A remote-controlled airplane is an ideal platform for atmospheric electricity measurements. But the target and reconnaissance drones used by the military are much too expensive for our purposes. A large model airplane seemed to be just the

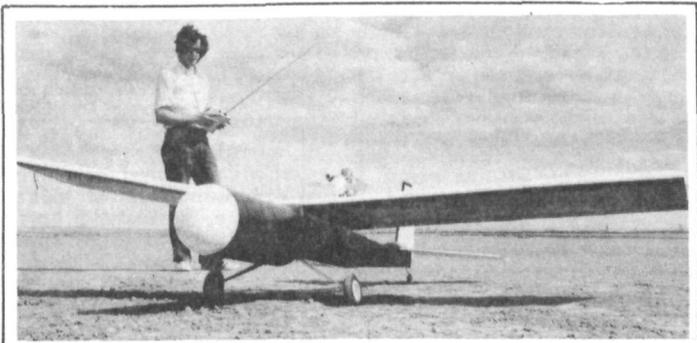
thing." The airplane being developed by the laboratory costs about a hundredth what a military drone does, but it is not the usual model plane.

The front of the fuselage has been smoothed and covered to keep measurements from being "contaminated" by turbulence and the electrical anomalies of

construction materials. The pedestal-mounted engine keeps the smear of castor oil (typical of model airplane engines) from covering the wings and confounding the sensors and autopilot.

The autopilot itself is one of the airplane's most unusual features, for it uses the natural force the airplane was built to measure—the atmosphere's electrical field—to stabilize the plane in flight. This type of atmospheric electric autopilot was invented by Dr. Maynard Hill of the Johns Hopkins University Applied Physics Laboratory. "We needed an automatic pilot," Dr. Kasemir explains, "because when the airplane is very high we cannot see it easily to control it, and we needed a lightweight system to keep it level."

In demonstrations of the autopilot, switching off the system can put the airplane into a spin; switching it back on causes the plane to return to level flight immediately.



Pilot Fredric Gould flies the model from a radio-control panel on the specially built airfield runway 400 feet long and 100 feet wide.

NOAA has recently issued press releases announcing that:

—It has awarded the following grants to assist the states in the continued development of their coastal management programs: New Jersey, \$470,750; Massachusetts, \$382,000; Louisiana, \$342,000; and Rhode Island, \$304,440.

—The three-man National Geodetic Survey Astronomical Field Party headed by Richard Maxey is surveying in New London, Middlesex, Windham and Tolland Counties in Connecticut, and that headed by Lt. Patrick L. Wehling, Jr., is surveying in Wisconsin and Michigan.

—The 20-man NGS Field Party

headed by James L. Cook is engaged in a six-month, 350-mile survey of geographic positions in 26 Michigan counties.

—The six-man NGS party headed by Arthur Christenson is conducting a four-month geodetic survey in Michigan's Upper Peninsula and Wisconsin.

—Robert Gerrish's 18-man NGS Field Party has begun a geodetic survey along a 435-mile segment of the Alaskan oil pipeline which will enable engineers to detect the results of seismic activity. The survey is being conducted under a cooperative agreement with the consortium of petroleum firms building the pipeline.

Indianapolis Aviation Group Has Busy Sunday

The National Weather Service Forecast Office (Aviation Section) in Indianapolis, Ind., had a busy Sunday when almost 1,000 planes descended on Weir Cook Municipal Airport and eight other area airports the day of the 1975 Indianapolis 500 Race. Most arrived between 6 a.m. and 10 a.m. and the Fly-Out commenced about 3 p.m. It was complicated by the severe thunderstorm watch and thunderstorm warnings in effect at the time. Many pilots contacted the Flight Service Stations and WSFO Indianapolis for additional information before their departures. The quarter who remained

overnight caused another heavy briefing load on Monday morning. During the race, WSFO Indianapolis again prepared an aviation weather handout that included the 10 a.m. surface weather map and aviation route forecasts within a 600-mile radius of Indianapolis. This year the Indianapolis Airport Authority made about 1,000 copies of this handout and placed one copy, along with other departure instructions, in plastic bags hung on the door latches of all planes parked at Weir Cook Airport. About 400 additional copies were taken to outlying airports by FSS personnel.

NOAA Announces Programs To Promote Boating Safety

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fect, probably in five years.

Other NOAA programs to promote boating safety and assist recreational boaters, fishermen and commercial shipping include:

—Publication and issuance in August of a 44-page paper-bound booklet, "So You Bought A Boat," by Captain Robert E. Williams, a limited edition of which was published last year under the University of Washington Sea Grant Program. As a regular NOAA publication, the booklet will receive much wider distribution and provide boaters with numerous safety tips and hints on cruising not normally found in more conventional books on boating.

—The NOS is also updating approximately 550 of its charts in the next year. New information is constantly gathered by NOAA's hydrographic survey vessels and through the cooperative efforts of members of the U.S. Power Squadrons and the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary and from other government and private sources.

—The NOS marine centers in Norfolk, Va., and Seattle, Wash., are sponsoring Cooperative Charting and Chart Updating Seminars for leaders of the U.S.

Power Squadrons and U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary to equip them better for volunteer investigations in support of the nationwide chart correction programs.

—Vital information on the Great Lakes water levels, which can vary from those published on nautical charts by as much as four feet or more during fluctuating high waters, can be obtained from the NOS' Lake Survey Center Monthly Bulletin of Lake Levels.

—The National Weather Service prepares forecasts for shore areas of the U.S. every six hours, oftener when conditions change rapidly. When strong winds or hazardous seas are anticipated, these forecasts include statements of the degree of hazard and the areas where warning signals will be displayed. Similar forecasts and warnings are issued for the Great Lakes and many inland lakes, reservoirs and waterways.

—In a growing number of shore areas, weather information can now be received through VHF-FM radio stations operated by the NWS. The 77 stations in operation are on the air continuously, repeating every four to six minutes taped weather messages that are updated periodically and

Elliot A. Macklow, Chief of NOAA's Motion Picture Services, last week showed his latest movie, *Clam and Oyster Sam*, to the U.S.

shellfish industry's annual conference in Charleston, S.C., and was named the Shellfish Man of the Year by the National Shellfish Institute. The honor recognizes not only his latest film, but many years of outstanding presentations which have done a great deal to promote public appreciation of fish and shellfish.



Cooling Degree Days Help Energy Planning

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perature (one-half the sum of the high and low temperature for a given day). For example, if today's high temperature is 82° F and the low temperature is 60° F, the daily mean temperature is 71° F (82+60=142; one-half of 142=71). This equals six cooling degree days (71-65=6). If the daily mean temperature is 65° F or lower, the cooling degree total is zero.

As temperatures increase, more cooling degree days accumulate, and more energy is required to maintain indoor tem-

peratures at a comfortable level. Utility companies use cooling degree days when they determine how much power they need to generate. The weather forecasts for the next day, the next week or the next month can be turned into an approximate accumulation of cooling degree days for the period. From this, they compute, and plan for, the power supply.

The map depicts normal seasonal cooling degree day totals for the United States and is based on data for 1941-1970. It shows what to expect in an average summer for a given location. For example, the Southeast is much warmer (more cooling degree days) than the California coast and, therefore, requires more power to keep cool.

Local National Weather Service offices can provide area cooling degree data and accumulations. More detailed local and national data are available in several of the publication series of the National Climatic Center, Federal Building, Asheville, N.C. 28801.

EDS Unit Moves

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graph Network and other stations participating in the international data exchange through the World Data Centers.

The NOAA archive sends several million copies of seismograms annually to scientists for research purposes.

next week's best fish buys

According to the NMFS National Fishery Education Center in Chicago, the best fish buys for the next week or so are likely to be fish sticks and Maine sardines along the Northeast Seaboard; fresh croaker and spot in the Middle Atlantic States, including the D.C. area; flounder and grouper in the Southeast and along the Gulf Coast; Lake Superior whitefish and canned tuna in the Midwest; fresh snapper fillets and canned tuna in the Northwest; and dressed whiting and squid in the Southwest.



National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

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