



# noaa week

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## Message From the Administrator

President Ford has issued a memorandum to all heads of departments and agencies stating his concern over the substantial rise in the average grade of General Schedule employees. While he acknowledged that some of the rise was due to technical advances, he also felt there was good indication that the classification and position management areas of various agencies were not functioning as well as they could. He stated "...there is evidence of both overgrading and undergrading because positions are either improperly described or inaccurately classified. This creates a situation which is unfair to all concerned. There are also indications in several agencies of excessive organization fragmentations, duplication of work and superfluous layers of supervision..."

President Ford called upon agency heads to "...reexamine your internal position management and classification systems to ensure they are operating effectively and in full compliance with applicable laws and regulations." Agency heads are to conduct this review in a manner to be prescribed by the Civil Service Commission and are to report to the Commission the actions they have taken and their results.

Secretary Richardson has also issued a memorandum to all Heads of Operating Units in which he recognizes shortcomings in the application of position classification. The Secretary states, "In order to maintain the credibility of the Federal compensation system we must assure the fair and proper application of job grading standards throughout the work force, and must structure the positions to which these standards are applicable in such a manner as to assure the greatest return for the taxpayer's dollar." He also said that all managers in the Department at all levels are to "...take appropriate steps to insure the periodic review of the grade structure currently in effect within their respective organizational units and make it a practice to restructure vacant positions wherever possible to bring out required corrective action."

While I believe NOAA, in general, has conformed to good classification and management practices, there is always room for improvement. Managers can expect closer reviews and a much stronger emphasis to be placed on the classification of positions. I expect all managers to accept their responsibility in this area and to work closely with personnel staffs to carry out these mandates.

*Robert M. White*

Dr. Robert M. White  
NOAA Administrator

## ERL Scientists, Aircraft Stand By for Hurricanes

### N.J. Consortium Receives Initial NOAA Sea Grant

The New Jersey Marine Sciences Consortium, made up of 16 institutions of higher learning, has received an initial \$220,100 Sea Grant for research in marine resources development, marine environmental studies, and establishment of a marine advisory service program.

Dr. Lionel A. Walford, Director of the Consortium, said the cooperative group was created to pool New Jersey's marine science facilities and talent, and to conduct a comprehensive program of teaching and research in the marine sciences. It operates a research facility at Seaville in Cape May County and another at Sandy Hook.

The Consortium will provide approximately \$156,000 in non-Federal matching funds to augment the Sea Grant.

Under the grant, Princeton University scientists will begin a study of the growth rates and natural mortality of two species of commercially valuable shellfish, the surf clam and the ocean quohaug. The surf clam is heavily exploited at present and considerable harvesting pressure is

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Environmental Research Laboratories scientists and research aircraft are poised to fly into the first storms of the 1976 hurricane season in the Atlantic-Caribbean-Gulf area and the eastern North Pacific.

Mobilized for the research and reconnaissance flights are scientists from ERL's National Hurricane and Experimental Meteorology Laboratory in Coral Gables, Fla., and two heavily instrumented "flying laboratories" from ERL's Research Facilities Center at Miami International Airport.

Present plans call for the aircraft and scientists to deploy for hurricane penetrations as the storms occur. Missions into early Pacific hurricanes will be flown from Acapulco, Mexico. From July through October, hurricane

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## R.I. Awarded CZM Grant

NOAA has awarded the State of Rhode Island a \$118,400 grant to analyze the onshore impacts of offshore oil and gas development.

Under the grant, Rhode Island officials will conduct a series of studies to determine the effects—social, economic, and environmental—of offshore energy production on Rhode Island's coast. The planning studies will be directed toward the entire 419-mile coast, with particular focus on the area surrounding the former naval air station at Quonset Point.

Data from the studies will enable the State to determine what types of energy facilities could be located along the coast, the most suitable areas for placing them, their possible effects upon critical natural areas, and what auxiliary facilities—schools, homes, businesses—might be needed onshore in the event of offshore operations.

The study information will be incorporated into the ongoing development of Rhode Island's coastal management program. Under development for two

*(Continued on page 3)*

## NOAA Ship Kelez Wins 1975 Karo Award

The officers and crew of the NOAA Ship Kelez have received the Karo Award for 1975 from

The Society of American Military Engineers for "their sustained superior performance in the Marine Ecosystem Analysis New York Bight Project."

The Karo Award is a silver plaque named for the former Director



Lt. Cdr. Stachelhaus  
of the U.S.

Coast and Geodetic Survey, R. Adm. H. Arnold Karo, President of The Society in 1957. It is offered annually to the field unit of the National Ocean Survey which has made an outstanding contribution in the engineering and scientific field.

The MESA New York Bight Project is a complex marine ecosystem investigation with overall objectives to describe, understand, and monitor the physical, geological, chemical, and biological processes of discrete marine environmental systems and to

*(Continued on page 3)*

## FAA, NWS Begin Thunderstorm Warning Test

The Federal Aviation Administration and the National Weather Service have begun a five-month test of a new procedure for alerting pilots to thunderstorm activity within 30 miles of selected airports.

The test began June 1 at the three New York airports—La Guardia, JFK, and Newark—and Washington National and Philadelphia International Airports. FAA and the NWS will evaluate the test results to see if the new

*(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
635-76	Program Analyst	GS-14	NMFS	Washington, DC	6-10-76	6-24-76
636-76	Fishery Biologist	GS-12	NMFS	Washington, DC	6-10-76	6-24-76
637-76	Electronics Engineer	GS-13	NWS	Silver Spring, MD	6-10-76	6-24-76
638-76	Computer Specialist	GS-11	NWS	Suitland, MD	6-10-76	6-24-76
641-76	Electronics Tech	GS-12	NWS	Lubbock, Tex.	6-10-76	6-24-76
642-76	Supv. Meteorologist	GS-13	NWS	Grand Island, Nebr.	6-10-76	6-24-76
645-76	Administrative Assistant	GS-9	NOS	Rockville, MD	6-16-76	6-30-76
646-76	Geodesist	GS-12	NOS	Rockville, MD	6-16-76	6-30-76
647-76	Fishery Biologist (Research)	GS-12	NMFS	Woods Hole, Mass.	6-16-76	6-30-76
649-76	Operations Research Analyst	GS-12	NMFS	Woods Hole, Mass.	6-16-76	6-30-76
648-76	Fishery Biologist (Management)	GS-12	NMFS	Gloucester, Mass.	6-16-76	6-30-76
650-76	Meteorological Tech.	GS-8	NWS	Huron, S. Dak.	6-16-76	6-30-76
651-76	Meteorologist	GS-13	EDS	Houston, Tex.	6-16-76	6-30-76
639-76	Electronics Engineer	GS-14	NWS	Silver Spring, MD	6-10-76	7-1-76
653-76	Meteorologist	GS-12	NWS	Cheyenne, Wyo.	6-17-76	7-1-76
654-76	Meteorologist	GS-12	NWS	Albuquerque, N. Mex.	6-17-76	7-1-76
655-76	Administrative Officer	GS-11	NMFS	Honolulu, Hawaii	6-17-76	7-1-76
656-76	Technical Publications Editor	GS-7	NMFS	Auke Bay, Alaska	6-17-76	7-1-76
657-76	Supv. Meteorologist	GS-13	NWS	Sacramento, Calif.	6-17-76	7-1-76
658-76	Meteorologist	GS-12	NWS	Phoenix, Ariz.	6-17-76	7-1-76
659-76	Supv. Meteorologist	GS-11	NWS	Patuxent River, MD	6-17-76	7-1-76
660-76	Statistician (Biology)	GS-12	NMFS	Beaufort, N. C.	6-17-76	7-1-76
643-76	Program Support Officer	GS-13	HDQS	Rockville, MD	6-14-76	7-6-76
663-76	Supv. Meteorologist	GS-15	NWS	Seattle, Wash.	6-21-76	7-6-76
664-76	Physicist	GS-12	ERL	Miami, Fla.	6-21-76	7-6-76
665-76	Meteorologist	GS-12	NWS	Anchorage, Alaska	6-21-76	7-6-76
666-76	Meteorological Tech.	GS-10	NWS	Wilmington, Del.	6-21-76	7-6-76
667-76	Meteorological Tech.	GS-10	NWS	Newark, N.J.	6-21-76	7-6-76
644-76	Computer Specialist	GS-13	NOS	Rockville, MD	6-16-76	7-8-76
652-76	Computer Systems Analyst	GS-13	NWS	Silver Spring, MD	6-16-76	7-8-76
661-76	Meteorologist	GS-14	NWS	Silver Spring, MD	6-17-76	7-9-76
662-76	Associate Director, NMFS	GS-16	NMFS	Washington, DC	6-21-76	7-13-76



A NOAA Field Personnel Officer's Seminar was held in Rockville, Md., during June 7-9, 1976. Subject areas covered in the seminar included: personnel management evaluation, labor management relations, factor evaluation system, equal employment opportunity, upward mobility programs, productivity, and under-utilized skills file. Pictured are:

FRONT ROW: Dick Holliday, Fort Worth, Tex.; Jack Routh, Kansas City, Mo.; Bill Pennie, St. Petersburg, Fla.; Bonita Dobbins, Salt Lake City, Utah; Ralph Reeder, NOAA Headquarters, Rockville,

Md.; Nick Rizzo, Garden City, N.Y.; Hasker Samuel, NOAA Headquarters, Rockville, Md.; Jim Taormina, Gloucester, Mass. SECOND ROW: Ed Hubin, Boulder, Colo.; Carroll McCutcheon, Fort Worth, Tex.; Bill George, NOAA Headquarters, Rockville, Md.; Gil Ehrsam, Asheville, N.C.; John Norris, Honolulu, Hawaii; Gordon Shadoin, Seattle, Wash.; Myra Wells, NOAA Headquarters, Rockville, Md.; Roy Brown, NOAA Headquarters, Rockville, Md.; Joe Murdock, NOAA Headquarters, Rockville, Md.; Tom Farrelly, Norfolk, Va.; Larry Wise, Anchorage, Alaska; and Dick Lumpkin, NOAA Headquarters, Rockville, Md.

## Q. & A. On Retirement Benefits

Following are some questions and answers on retirement benefits which may be of interest to NOAA employees:

**Q.** Early in my career, I had two years of Federal service. When I quit, I took a refund of my retirement deductions. I have now worked 28 more years. I want to retire after 30 years of Federal service and do not have the money to make the redeposit for the first 2 years; do I have to work an additional two years to make up the 30 years?

**A.** No. The period covered by the refund is included in the total for the purpose of meeting the 30 year service requirement. However, if the refund is not redeposited, with appropriate interest, the two

years covered by the refund may not be credited in determining the length of service for annuity computation purposes. Consequently, your rate of annuity, without the redeposit, would be based on 28 years only.

**Q.** My friend told me that he took a refund of his retirement deductions, did not redeposit it, and his rate of annuity was not lowered when he retired on disability. Why?

**A.** If an employee retires because of disability, is under age 60 and has service of less than 21 years and 11 months, he may be entitled to the 40 percent guaranteed minimum disability annuity which is payable whether or not he makes the redeposit. Each case may be different, so check with your servicing personnel office.

# USGS and NGSDC Release 1973 Earthquake Data

*United States Earthquakes 1973* has been published jointly by the U.S. Geological Survey and the Environmental Data Service's National Geophysical and Solar-Terrestrial Data Center. The report describes all earthquakes felt in the U.S. and nearby territories during the year.

Earthquakes are listed chronologically in 11 regions: Northeastern Region, Eastern Region, Central Region, Western Mountain Region, California and Western Nevada, Washington and Oregon, Alaska, Hawaii, Panama Canal Zone, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands. A cross-reference of state and town names is also provided. In addition, the report includes sections on horizontal and vertical control surveys for crustal movement studies, tsunamis, well-water fluctuations, and strong-motion seismograph data.

Copies of the report are for sale by the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402, for \$1.85.



Staff and members of the Coastal Zone Management Advisory Committee met recently at the Commerce Department to discuss among other topics the impacts of amendments to the Coastal Zone Management Act agreed to by House-Senate conferees. (Seated, from left) Delores Clark, Committee Manager; Janet Adams, California Coastal Alliance, Woodside, Calif.; NOAA Associate Administrator John W. Townsend, Jr., Chairman; Ann Jennings, Sierra Club, Columbia, S.C.; Dr. Richard J. Keating, Executive Secretary. (Standing, from left) Dr. Joe Moseley, Texas Coastal and Marine Council, Austin; Robert Jones, Southeastern Fisheries Association, Tallahassee, Fla.; Robert Cahn, Conservation Foundation, Washington, D.C.; Don Allen, New England Electric System, Westboro, Mass.; Carl Savit, Western Geophysical Co.; Houston, Tex.; Scott Whitney, College of William and Mary, Williamsburg, Va.; Dr. Y. R. Nayudu, Marine and Coastal Zone Resources Consultant, Juneau, Alaska; John McWilliam, Toledo-Lucas County Port Authority, Toledo, Ohio; Charles Herdendorf, Center for Lake Erie Area Research, Columbus, Ohio; Emanuel Bertrand, Lagoon Marina, St. Thomas, V.I. Committee members not present were former Oregon Governor Tom McCall; William Moody, AFL-CIO, Washington, D.C.; and John Spellman, King County Executive, Seattle, Wash.

## R.I. Is Awarded \$118,400 CZM Grant

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years, the State program is a cooperative Federal-State effort to minimize destruction of wetlands and other coastal ecosystems, and to guide development of the coast for a variety of competing, socio-economic purposes.

The Office of Coastal Zone Management administers the program under provisions of the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972. To assist Rhode Island in developing its program, OCZM has awarded it nearly \$600,000 including the current grant which supplements an earlier award. The State has added \$293,282 in matching funds, boosting the total effort to about \$875,000.

The supplemental grant will be administered by the Rhode Island Statewide Planning Program, which will prepare an environmental assessment and socio-economic development plan for the Quonset Point-Davisville area; accelerate transfer of the surplus naval facility to State ownership;

obtain technical information relating to infrastructure and human resource requirements of Outer Continental Shelf production; plan for adverse OCS impacts on State and locally affected communities and coastal lands and waters; provide policy guidance to the Governor and State legislature; and conduct other activities.

### FAA, NWS Begin Test

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procedures enhance safety by helping pilots avoid hazardous weather situations.

When they spot a strong thunderstorm within 30 miles of one of the test airports, NWS radar observers at Patuxent River, Md., Atlantic City, N.J., and New York City will notify the meteorologist at FAA's Central Flow Control Facility in Washington, and provide information on the storm's location, intensity, height and movement. This information will be passed on to the appropriate air traffic control facility for relay to pilots operating in the affected area.

According to Stanley Lacy, Chief of the NWS Aviation Branch, the FAA air traffic control facilities participating in the test program are the New York and Washington Air Route Traffic Control Centers, which handle en route traffic operating under instrument flight rules between airports; the New York Common IFR Room, which handles instrument approaches and departures at the New York airports; and the control towers at the five airports.

Comments from pilots and others in the aviation community are being solicited by FAA for use in evaluating the test.

Stand up and be counted -

JOIN NOVAC!

## Amateur Radio Operators Help Warn of Tornado

More than 50 amateur radio operators in the Dallas-Fort Worth area responded to a call from the Fort Worth Weather Service Forecast Office for assistance after a tornado watch was posted for the area on the afternoon of May 26. Several tornadoes occurred, one of which did considerable damage in Dallas. In each instance the amateur radio operators noted the tornado formation as it occurred and immediately reported formation and progress to the NWS. This resulted in an almost continuous flow of information on storm location and progress

to the public via broadcast channels and NOAA Weather Radio. There is no doubt the efforts of this group contributed to there being no lives lost in the tornado.

The Fort Worth/Dallas amateur radio operators, organized as a part of the national Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service (RACES), number 170. Each, in addition to having passed a technical examination to become an amateur radio operator, must have received eight hours of classroom instruction to qualify as a spotter.

## Kelez Receives 1975 Karo Award (Continued from page 1)

analyze the impacts of natural and man-related alterations on this marine environment. The high degree of professionalism and the personal enthusiasm and dedication exemplified by the officers and crew of the Kelez have

resulted in the smooth execution and successful completion of unique and difficult field assignments.

Lt. Cdr. John D. Stachelhaus was the Commanding Officer of the Kelez.



The NOAA Ship Kelez

### noaa week

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

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

## Draft Report On Oil Slicks Is Reviewed

The Massachusetts Institute of Technology Department of Civil Engineering Ralph Parsons Lab hosted a workshop of experts on June 3-4, 1976, to review the draft of a report they are preparing for the Environmental Data Service's Deepwater Ports Project Office. The report, Basic Techniques for Predicting the Behavior of Surface Oil Slicks, is being prepared under a grant through the Office of Sea Grant. It documents state-of-the-art capabilities in oil trajectory modeling.

At the workshop, MIT tried to obtain a critical outside review and evaluation of the draft from experts in the field. Participants included representatives from Woods Hole Oceanographic Institute; U.S. Coast Guard; Texas A&M University; Shell Development Company and Texaco, Inc., representing the American Petroleum Institute; and NOAA.

Topics in the report discussed at the workshop included modeling of coastal wind fields; spreading of oil slicks by wind-waves and ocean currents; experimental basis for fixed "drift-factor" that relates wind speed and surface wind-driven current; oil slick transformations; dissolution and subsurface transport; evaporation of oil; and oil emulsification.

MIT will finalize the draft report, using the workshop input, and plans to release it in November 1976.

## Scientists, Aircraft Await Hurricanes

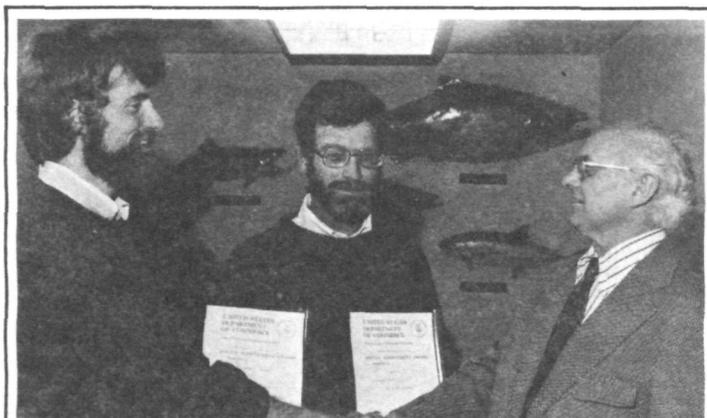
Missions will be flown from Miami with deployments as needed to put the aircraft within operating range of Atlantic and Pacific storms.

Dr. N. B. LaSeur, Director of the Florida laboratory, said this year's Pacific flights will provide, in addition to reconnaissance data, new information on the structure and internal dynamics of eastern Pacific hurricanes, which have not been studied thoroughly before.

Atlantic hurricane flights will continue research that is helping NOAA prepare for the resumption of Project Stormfury, an experimental effort to determine whether hurricanes can be modified by seeding, with beneficial results.

No hurricane has been seeded by NOAA since 1971's Ginger, and no seeding is contemplated this year. But information obtained from research and reconnaissance flights in recent years has helped refine the seeding and evaluation plans for Stormfury, still two years away from further seeding experimentation.

"Each year we've taken better instrumentation into these storms," Dr. Robert C. Sheets,



**SPECIAL AWARDS FOR SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH AND ACHIEVEMENT** recently were presented to (from left) Dr. Steven T. Zimmerman and Robert J. Ellis by Dr. William A. Smoker, Director of the National Marine Fisheries Service Northwest Fisheries Center Auke Bay (Alaska) Fisheries Laboratory.

Through his expert leadership in 1975 of teams of scientists conducting intertidal biological baseline research in the Bering Sea and Gulf of Alaska for the Outer Continental Shelf Energy Assessment Program, Dr. Zimmerman has achieved important scientific objectives reflecting great credit to NMFS, according to Dr. Smoker.

Mr. Ellis received the Laboratory's 1975 C.Y. Conkle Annual Publication Award for his publication "Distribution, Abundance, and Growth of Juvenile Sockeye Salmon, *Onchorhynchus nerka*, and Associated Species." It was judged best out of 12 publications on the basis of originality, impact on the field of fishery research, clarity of presentation, experimental design, and justifiability of conclusions.

## San Francisco Bar Pilots Receive Special Service Award From NWS

Art Gustafson, Meteorologist in Charge of the San Francisco National Weather Service Forecast Office, recently presented the San Francisco Bar Pilots a Special Service Award in recognition of their many years of service to the NWS. The Bar Pilots, who guide ships into ports in

the Bay area, have been providing weather observations and sea conditions in the vicinity of the Golden Gate. These observations became increasingly significant upon the discontinuance of the Coast Guard Light Ship in San Francisco Bay.

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From August through October, the two NOAA aircraft will be joined intermittently by "Galileo II," the National Aeronautics and Space Administration's Convair 990 research aircraft, in probing Atlantic hurricanes.

who leads hurricane field research at the laboratory, explained, "and each year we've been able to add some new insights to our body of hurricane knowledge. Last year, we had a very successful season from a research standpoint, with seven flights into three Atlantic hurricanes.

"We view the 1976 season as a shakedown period for new instruments, aircraft, and participants. But we also expect the season to yield information that will help us understand both the large scale and microphysical processes in hurricanes."

One major difference in 1976 is that NOAA Forty-two, a new Lockheed WP-3D "Orion," now in the shakedown process, will have its first taste of the life of a hurricane hunter. The new plane will carry much of its advanced instrumentation into this year's hurricanes, but will use interim radars. Final radar installations will be made this winter.

The newcomer will be accompanied by NOAA's C-130 research aircraft, which has already compiled a long record of hurricane penetrations.

## Slide Presentation On CZM Receives Award

A NOAA slide presentation on the Coastal Zone Management Act, prepared for use by the Office of Coastal Zone Management and coastal states in explaining provisions of the Act, was among the winners of Blue Pencil Awards for outstanding government publications produced in 1975.

The awards are presented by the National Association of Government Communicators.

The slide presentation, "Coastal Zone Management; A State-Federal Partnership," was written and designed by William J. Brennan, now Public Affairs News Chief, and formerly Public Affairs Officer with OCZM; and Milton E. Sloane, Public Affairs Specialist at OCZM.

## Geodetic Survey Is Underway In Michigan

A two-month geodetic survey along the Grand River from Grand Haven, Mich., and the Saginaw River from Essexville, Mich., is being conducted by the National Ocean Survey.

A five-man party, one of four highly specialized such units operating throughout the Great Lakes area for the Lake Survey Center, will determine elevations along a 10-mile and 13-mile route respectively. The data will assist in the LSC's continuing evaluation of the International Great Lakes Datum (1955), which is the datum of reference for all Great Lakes water level and bench mark elevations as jointly developed and coordinated by the United States and Canada. These elevation measurements are important for use in engineering projects such as construction of shoreline structures, coastal zone management and charting and mapping activities.

The team is headed by Arthur Christenson.

## N.J. Consortium

(Continued from page 1)

anticipated for the ocean program over the next several years. Information gained through this research is expected to be valuable in managing these fisheries.

Two other projects—one Stevens Institute of Technology and one at Rutgers University—deal with the production of drugs, particularly anticoagulants, from seafood processing wastes. Presently, the only important blood clotting substance in general use is heparin, derived from beef lung and pig intestine. Heparin is becoming increasingly scarce, however, and the researchers hope to derive a less expensive and more potent anticoagulant from proven marine sources such as those found in the processing wastes of crabs, clams, and certain fish.

In the field of environmental research, a broad range of projects will be initiated. Included are studies, at Montclair State College and Atlantic Community College, of the polluted Newark Bay estuary (including Arthur Kill and Kill Van Kull) with a comparison of the relatively pollution-free Great Egg Harbor estuary. Such studies provide scientific "baseline data" that help establish pollution reduction guidelines.

In addition to its 12 research projects, the New Jersey Marine Sciences Consortium also will establish a new marine advisory program for the State at Rutgers University.



# **National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration**

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