



noaa week

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NOAA To Play Major Role in MTS/IEEE's OCEANS 76

U.S. and Japan Researching Albacore

Research by the United States and Japan on the North Pacific albacore stock—thought to be approaching its biological limits—will be continued under an informal agreement announced by NOAA.

In recent years the total annual harvest of North Pacific albacore has increased from 70,000 to 100,000 metric tons, primarily because of the expansion of the Japanese pole-and-line fishery, which accounted for 64 percent of the 1974 catch. Other major fisheries are the Japanese longline, 15 percent; and the U.S. troll and live-bait fishery, 21 percent.

The agreement between the two nations emerged from a pop-

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Solar Radiation Riddle Is Solved

A solar radiation riddle posed by early satellite measurements now has been answered by newer satellites and an Environmental Research Laboratories scientist.

Early data from satellites poised above the earth's atmosphere revealed that the earth did not reflect as much solar radiation back into space as had been believed. But scientists could not explain whether this extra energy was absorbed directly by the atmosphere or at the surface of the earth.

Now, Dr. Kirby J. Hanson, Director of ERL's Global Monitoring for Climatic Change program, who recently completed a global study of solar radiation, has found that most of the excess is absorbed at the earth's surface. His discovery is useful for estab-

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WHOI Awarded \$420,000 Sea Grant

The Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution has received a \$420,000 Sea Grant to continue its research in aquaculture and its studies into the effect of petroleum hydrocarbons on marine fishes.

The Federal funds will be supported by an additional \$511,836 in non-Federal funds.

In the aquaculture experiments, scientists will investigate the effects of sustained constant temperatures on the development of three different species of bivalve molluscs. In a related experiment, they will carry out research on species which have shown promise in previous experiments for artificial culture in a waste-recycling aquaculture system. This research will make use of effluent from secondary sewage treatment, agricultural and fisheries wastes and commercial fertilizer as sources of nutrients for a wide variety of marine

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NOAA in Boulder Tries FLEXITIME

NOAA's employees in Boulder, Colo., are participating in a six-month experimental program of FLEXITIME.

"FLEXITIME replaces fixed working day time schedules with a certain number of core hours, supplemented by more flexible hours for morning arrival, length of midday break, and afternoon departure," explained Jack Kemper, Director of Research Support Services for NOAA-Boulder. "Employees still work eight-hour days, and the laboratories will still observe official hours of 8 a.m. to 5 p.m."

Although there are many variations in FLEXITIME in operation, here is how the system works in Boulder:

Staff members and supervisors agree in advance on the work hours for at least a two-week

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OCEANS 76 comes to Washington September 13-15, and with it comes NOAA participation—led by the Administrator and Deputy Administrator, and including representatives of the National Ocean Survey, Environmental Research Laboratories, Environmental Data Service, Manned Undersea Science and Technology office, NOAA Corps, Sea Grant, Office of Marine Minerals, and Coastal Zone Management.

"This promises to be a stimulating and informative conference," said Dr. Robert M. White, NOAA Administrator. "Many of the sessions are of great interest to NOAA, and I am delighted that so many NOAA people are contributing to the event. I strongly urge support on the part of every appropriate group."

OCEANS 76 is the second joint conference of the Marine Technology Society and the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers, and will be held at the Sheraton Park Hotel.

A special feature this year will be the International Plenary Ses-

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EDS Book Discusses Weather's Impact On U.S. History

America's weather has helped shape our culture, national character, folklore, and conversation. It has frequented the pages of our history and, at times, changed its course.

The Environmental Data Service has just published *American Weather Stories* as part of NOAA's Bicentennial observance. Written by Patrick Hughes, Chief of EDS' Publications and Media Staff, this popularly written book traces the American weather experience from the hurricanes that threatened Columbus to the peculiar run of bad weather that has plagued American presidents on their inauguration days; from Americans who recorded the weather and climate of the Revolutionary and Civil War eras to those who suffered through the "year without a summer," the Blizzard of '88, and the dust-bowl droughts of the 1930's.

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Rob Mairs Helps U. S. Olympic Effort

NOAA's satellite service, NESSE, can claim at least some of the credit for three medals won by the United States in the summer Olympics in Canada.

Rob Mairs, Oceanographer with the Washington, D.C., Satellite Field Services Station, was the official Meteorologist for the U.S. Sailing Team, which won

three medals out of six events—two silver and one bronze. Only one other country, West Germany, won as many medals.

Competitors in the sailing events agreed Mr. Mairs' forecasts were more accurate than those of Meteorologists with the other teams, especially on days when gradient wind was opposing lake breeze. In his forecasts, Mairs made considerable use of satellite imagery.



Mr. Mairs and his wife, Diane, meet President Ford at White House reception for U.S. Olympic Team.

A DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE BRONZE MEDAL was presented recently to Alec Slepitzka, a Cartographer in the Review Section of the Visual Chart Branch in the National Ocean Survey's Office of Aeronautical Charting and Cartography, "in recognition of major contributions in the preparation and maintenance of accurate aeronautical charts." He has been with the NOS and its predecessor, the Coast and Geodetic Survey, for 34 years.

(From left) Mr. Slepitzka, NOS Director R. Adm. Allen L. Powell, and Mrs. Slepitzka.



Ferrel Surveying Portsmouth Area Currents

A 4½-month tide and current survey of Portsmouth Harbor and the Great Bay area of New Hampshire is being made this summer and fall by the National Ocean Survey.

The survey, which also will monitor the temperature and salt content of the water, together with the survey of the area's tides and tidal currents, will improve knowledge of the waterway's circulation, help determine the flow of pollutants and assist in combating pollution in the harbor and bay.

NOS Director R. Adm. Allen L. Powell said, "The information gained from this survey will be of great importance to navigation, to engineers engaged in coastal development, as basic information for research projects, and in the determination of coastal boundaries."

The field activities will be carried out by the NOAA Ship Ferrel, a 133-foot, 363-ton vessel designed especially for surveys in estuarine waters. She carries a complement of six officers and 14 crew, and her Commanding

Woods Hole Sea Grant

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organisms that make up a natural food chain.

In studying the effects of petroleum hydrocarbons, the scientists will, among other things, investigate the influence of low levels of the hydrocarbons on the cellular structure in various tissues of marine fishes.

In another project, the compatibility of certain species of fish normally found in other areas with the Atlantic salmon and other native East Coast species will be studied.

Also to be carried out this year are pollution studies of sediment dispersal in New Bedford Harbor and Western Buzzards Bay, an investigation into the nature of various physical processes of very small coastal inlets, and a study into the dynamics of the moored inclining spar buoy used as a current sensor.

Officer is Lt. Cdr. Roy K. Matsushige.

The NOS will use the survey data to update its tide and current prediction tables and establish tidal datums.

U.S., Japan Albacore Research Continues

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ulation dynamics albacore workshop held at the National Marine Fisheries Service laboratory in Honolulu, Hawaii, in December 1975, and involved the NMFS' Southwest Fisheries Center, La Jolla, Calif., and the Far Seas Fisheries Laboratory of Shimizu, Japan.

The workshop considered preliminary stock assessments based on standard analyses of catch, effort, and size composition that put the maximum sustainable annual yield for albacore between 115,000-125,000 metric tons,

Answer Supplied for Solar Radiation Riddle

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lishing global radiation values for mathematical models of weather and climate.

Dr. Hanson found that a surprising 52 percent of the solar energy striking the planet is absorbed by its ocean and land surface, 19 percent is consumed by the atmosphere, and 29 percent is reflected back into space. Until now, on the basis of scattered, ground-based measurements, it was widely believed that no more than 47 percent of the solar energy reaching the earth was absorbed by its surface, 17 percent was intercepted by the atmosphere, and 36 percent reflected back into space.

The study is the first attempt, based on satellite and surface observations, to calculate how much sunshine reaches the earth's surface on a global scale.

The study also showed that the northern hemisphere receives more solar radiation than the southern hemisphere.

To make his calculations, Dr. Hanson used information sum-



Howard Seymour, Marine Fisheries Agent, University of Delaware, explains the university's aquaculture project to members of National Sea Grant Communicators Steering Committee. Listening (left to right) are Bob Bunting, Texas A&M; Pansy Bray, Washington Sea Grant; Linda Weimer, University of Wisconsin; and Bronwyn Hurd, Massachusetts Institute of Technology. These committee members, along with Kathi Jensen and Karin Danberg, University of Delaware; Leatha Miloy, Texas A&M, and Jim Elliott and Brian Gorman, National Sea Grant Office, met in Rehoboth Beach, Del., to discuss plans and programs for the coming year.

only slightly above the current catch.

The on-going investigation includes participants from the California Department of Fish and Game, the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, the Washington Department of Fisheries, and the Pacific Marine Fisheries Commission.

U.S. albacore fishermen actively support and finance government-industry research programs with the objectives of increasing the efficiency of albacore fishing and developing scientific information for albacore conservation.

marized from two years of data gathered by the TIROS IX and X, NOAA-1 and -3, and Nimbus II satellites.

The summarized information, prepared by J. Sadler, a Meteorologist at the University of Hawaii, was based on a cloud analysis of weather charts produced by the National Environmental Satellite Service.

Dr. Hanson combined these satellite measurements with recorded data from pyranometers—instruments which measure the amount of sun received at the earth's surface—maintained by the National Weather Service.

The pyranometer data were taken at Swan Island, southwest of Jamaica in the Caribbean, and Canton Island, just south of the equator and northwest of Samoa. These islands were selected because they are too small to have much effect on local cloudiness. The measurements were taken between February 1965 and January 1967, the same period covered by the Sadler satellite data summary.

FLEXITIME Is Tried

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period. All fulltime employees must work between 8:30 and 11:30 a.m. and between 1:30 and 3:30 p.m. However, they may come to work anytime between 7 and 8:30 a.m. In the middle of the day a flexible time band operates between 11:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m., permitting the employee to take a lunch period lasting from half an hour to two hours.

When the afternoon core time ends at 3:30 p.m., employees who have completed eight hours of work plus lunch break can leave; others may adjust their eight-hour workday to end as late as 6 p.m.

In November 1972, the Bureau of Indian Affairs in Albuquerque, N. Mex., inaugurated the Federal FLEXITIME program. Now more than 35,000 employees among 43 Federal organizations are participating. More than 90 percent have retained the program.

noaa week

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

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



A NOAA UNIT CITATION was presented recently to the staff of the Environmental Data Service's Deepwater Ports Project Office (DPPO) "in recognition of their unique and outstanding accomplishments in meeting requirements placed upon NOAA by the Deepwater Ports (DWP) Act of 1974."

The recipients were (from left) Norman Meade; Dr. Dail Brown, Director, DPPO; Dr. Edward Meyer; Judith Wallace; Dan Hoysysh; Capt. Charles Burroughs; Joseph Bishop; and (not in photo) Dr. Frederick Godshall and Wanda Baker.

A DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE BRONZE MEDAL has been awarded to Orval C. Turner (right), Personnel Management Specialist in the Operations Branch of the Personnel Division, in recognition of his many years of meritorious service in Personnel Administration and for his effective supervision and training of new personnel. His contributions include the effective handling of transition problems involved in two major reorganizations and providing sound guidance in implementing the Privacy Act in personnel management areas.



The award was presented by T. P. Gleiter, Assistant Administrator for Administration.



DEDICATION CEREMONIES held recently for the new National Weather Service Forecast Office in Topeka, Kans., marked a milestone in the 89-year history of weather service there. Participants in the ceremonies included Charles G. Knudsen, NWS Central Region Director, and Karl R. Johannessen, NWS Associate Director for Meteorology and Oceanography.

According to Philip E. Shideler, Meteorologist in Charge of the WSFO, the new building is leased from the city of Topeka, and is the result of friendly, businesslike relations between a Federal agency and local government. It is one of the first NWS buildings in the country to be especially designed and built to accommodate the new computer-communications facilities scheduled to begin nationwide operations in a few years.

NOAA To Play Major Role in OCEANS 76

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sion, September 13 from 9 a.m. until noon. Twelve nations that are among the leaders in marine science and technology will have senior policy representatives to review their ocean endeavors. At the International Luncheon following the session, Dr. White will sum up the morning's proceedings and the major address will be given by Secretary of Commerce Elliot L. Richardson.

NOAA Deputy Administrator Howard W. Pollock will lead off the Law of the Sea session Monday afternoon, with a report on the current conference in New York that began August 2.

The Ocean Affairs Banquet Tuesday evening, September 14, will be highlighted by a televised post-dinner panel by 12 members of Congress with interest in and responsibilities for marine affairs.

The 1976 Compass Distinguished Achievement Award will be given to William Q. Wick, Director of Oregon State University's Sea Grant program, on September 15. "The award is being made in recognition of Mr. Wick's extremely successful application of the 'county extension agent' concept originally conceived as being a key part of

the Nation's Sea Grant Marine Advisory Program," said Dr. John Calhoun, President of the Marine Technology Society. Oregon State's Sea Grant program was one of the first in the Nation to be awarded the designation "Sea Grant College", when Mr. Wick was Director of the university's Sea Grant Marine Advisory Program; he was later named to head the whole Sea Grant program at OSU.

W. M. Nicholson of the National Ocean Survey will chair the Law of the Sea session; he was also a Vice-Chairman of the



Mr. Vadus Mr. Nicholson

OCEANS 76 conference committee. Joseph R. Vadus of NOAA is Chairman of the Conference Committee.

A sampling of the session participants from NOAA includes Dr. David Halpern of the Pacific Marine Environmental Laboratory, Dr. Rudolf J. Engelmann of ERL, Dr. William T. Hodge of EDS' National Climatic Center, C.D. Kearse of the NOS Engineering Development Laboratory, Dr. Thomas S. Austin and Peter deRegt of EDS, Dr. Milton Johnson of the NOAA Corps, Amor Lane of the Office of Marine Minerals, John Padan of ERL, and several NOAA Data Buoy Office staff members, including Kenneth E. Steele, E. G. Kerut, Gregory W. Withee, and Lt. W. Craig Blasingame.

New Weather Book

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A large number of historical photographs and illustrations accompany the text, including a complete almanac/gallery of American presidents and the weather elements they encountered on Inauguration Day.

American Weather Stories is for sale by the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402. Price \$2.10. Order No. 003-018-00070-9.



A COMMERCE BRONZE MEDAL was presented to Mr. Shideler (center) by Mr. Knudsen (left) and Mr. Johannessen (right) as part of the ceremonies. Mr. Shideler was cited for his "sustained and extremely competent performance, and for his efforts toward developing a strong local forecast program."

6th Anniversary Open House Plans Being Made Now

NOAA field facilities which this week indicated intentions of holding Open Houses to celebrate NOAA's 6th Anniversary are:

-The National Weather Service Office in Medford, Ore., will hold its Open House on September 19, in conjunction with the Medford-Jackson County Airport Open House celebrating the 50th anniversary of commercial aviation in Oregon. Medford was one of the pioneering stations in Oregon in the support of this program. The first WSO was opened December 22, 1926, with the first balloon sounding taken at 7:20 a.m. United Airlines, Hughes Air West, and all other facilities at the airport are scheduled to take part in the open house.

-The National Marine Fisheries Southwest Fisheries Center in La Jolla, Calif., will hold Open House aboard the NOAA research vessel, David Starr Jordan, in San Diego, on September 23. Approximately 2,000 guests are expected to attend.

The early date was selected because the ship is scheduled to leave on a two-month porpoise behavior cruise on October 4.

- WSO Toledo, Ohio.
- WSFO Boston, Mass.
- WSO Richmond, Va.
- WSO Billings, Mont.
- WSO Lihue, Hawaii.

-NMFS Northeast Region in Gloucester, Mass.

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notes about people

Lloyd G. Heavner, Meteorologist in Charge of the Billings, Mont., Weather Service office,

has been named MIC of the Missoula, Mont., WSO. He replaces Edward W. Nelson who has retired.

Mr. Heavner has previously served as Fire Weather Meteorologist in Pendleton, Ore., and as MIC of the Pocatello, Idaho, WSO.

He received a bachelor's degree in Fish and Wildlife from Montana State College, and a bachelor's degree in Meteorology from Oklahoma State University.

Suzanne Servis, Administrative Associate with the State University of New York - Cornell Sea Grant Program, in Albany, N.Y., has joined the staff of the Procurement and Grants Management Branch of the Administrative Operations Division, under the Intergovernmental Personnel Act. She is currently working on a Master's Degree in Business Administration at the State University of New York, where she completed her undergraduate studies in geography, after two years at the University of Wisconsin at Madison. Her responsibilities in Albany included monitoring expenditures, reviewing subcontracts submitted by the fifteen campuses involved in the SUNY-Cornell Sea Grant Program and advising the researchers on financial matters as well as



Mr. Heavner



Ms. Servis



THEIR SCIENTIFIC UPWARD MOBILITY TRAINING COMPLETED, Larry Griffin (center) and Enoch Smith (right), recently received training certificates from Dr. Thomas D. Potter (left), Director of the Environmental Data Service's National Climatic Center in Asheville, N.C., and they are now serving in their respective targeted positions at NCC.

Mr. Griffin participated for two years in the 20/20 Work Study Program and is now serving as a Computer Technician in the Computer Support Branch, ADP Services Division. The study portion of his program was accomplished at the Asheville, N.C., campus of the University of North Carolina.

Mr. Smith participated in the Scientific Technician Program for one year, and is now serving as a Meteorological Technician in the Applied Climatology Branch, Climatological Analysis Division.

Federal and University regulations. As a Grants Management Specialist during her year with NOAA, she will be performing similar duties.

Ms. Servis' experience on the recipient end of a grant should provide a new perspective for her Federal counterparts, and she hopes to return to Albany with a clearer view of NOAA's expectations of grantees under the Sea Grant Program.

The Intergovernmental Personnel Act provides for exchanges of personnel between the Federal government and state and local governments and institutions of higher education for their mutual benefit and this assignment is one of several in which NOAA has participated.

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 fresh cod fillets and cooked salad shrimp along the Northeast Seaboard; gray sea trout and croaker in the Middle Atlantic States, including the D.C. area; mullet and grouper in the Southeast and along the Gulf Coast; fresh dressed whitefish and monkfish fillet in the Midwest; kippered salmon tips and salad shrimp meat in the Northwest; and fresh sea bass and ocean perch in the Southwest.



PARTICIPANTS IN A COLLOQUIUM on the "Multiple-Species Fishery Problem," held recently at the Tiburon, Calif., Laboratory of the National Marine Fisheries Service Southwest Fisheries Center, included (from left) Peter B. Adams, Tiburon Laboratory; Dr. William H. Lenarz, Tiburon Laboratory; Dr. Virgil J. Norton, University of Rhode Island; Dr. William W. Fox, Jr., La Jolla Laboratory, SWFC; Dr. Loh Lee Low, Northwest Fisheries Center, NMFS; Norman J. Abramson, Tiburon Laboratory, Convener of the Colloquium; Dr. Carl J. Walters, University of British Columbia; Patrick K. Tomlinson, Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission; Dr. Edmund S. Hobson,

Tiburon Laboratory; Dr. Albert V. Tyler, Oregon State University; Roy Mendelsohn, Yale University; Dr. Robin Allen, Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission; and Dr. Norman J. Wilimovsky, University of British Columbia.

The "Multiple-Species Fishery Problem" relates to difficulties associated with managing two or more interacting species when subjected to fishing pressure.



National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

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