

WSCH4..LIB  
L/A12  
2

# **This Week In NOAA**

---

**Activities for the week ending**

**December 21, 1984**

---

Due to the upcoming holidays, there will be no reports for the next two weeks.

Next submission will be due in RAS/DC471 by Thurs., Jan. 10, 1985.



**U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration**

THIS WEEK IN NOAA

Table of Contents

	Page
CHRISTMAS GREETINGS FROM THE DEPUTY ADMINISTRATOR .....	1
ITEMS FROM OFFICES AND LINE ORGANIZATIONS	
<u>Staff Offices</u>	
General Counsel .....	2
Public Affairs.....	3
National Climate Program Office .....	4
<u>Line Organizations</u>	
National Ocean Service .....	5
National Weather Service .....	6
* National Marine Fisheries Service .....	
National Environmental Satellite, Data, and Information Service .....	7
* Office of Oceanic and Atmospheric Research .....	
Sea Grant .....	8
* CALENDAR OF EVENTS .....	
* OF SPECIAL INTEREST .....	

\*An asterisk indicates no items this week.



**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**  
**National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration**

Washington, D C 20230

**THE DEPUTY ADMINISTRATOR**

December 19, 1984

TO: All NOAA Employees

The holiday season is a time to celebrate our blessings, to reaffirm our beliefs, to contemplate the months just past and to look forward to the opportunity of the new year.

The past 12 months have been particularly eventful for NOAA. Much has been expected of us, across the entire spectrum of our science and service and, in its tradition, NOAA has served the nation well.

By any standard, ours is a dynamic, exciting agency, one with which it is an honor and a pleasure to be associated. The men and women who make up our organization are among the finest and most talented public servants in the Federal government.

As the holiday season approaches, Associate Administrator Jim Winchester and I join in extending our appreciation for your excellence and dedication, and our best wishes for the year to come. May your holiday season be a memorable one.

Sincerely,

  
Anthony J. Calio



December 21, 1984

OFFICE OF GENERAL COUNSEL

Pacific Salmon Negotiations Conclude

After a two-week negotiation and an all-night session, the United States and Canada reached agreement on a series of annexes to the salmon interception treaty negotiated in 1982. The annexes, which all parties viewed as a prerequisite to ratification, provide interim guidance to the international commission on conservation and allocation objectives for five species of Pacific salmon important to U.S. commercial, recreational and Indian treaty fishermen. Agreement in principal was reached on numerical objectives concerning fisheries in the boundary areas, on transboundary rivers, and on major intercepting fisheries for depressed stocks of chinook and coho salmon originating in both countries. A drafting session is scheduled for January 14, 1985, to reduce the informal agreement to writing.

U.S. v Washington settlement negotiations

In a closely related development, NOAA attorneys met with attorneys representing the Department of the Interior, the treaty Indian tribes and the States of Alaska and Washington to discuss terms for settlement of the pending litigation which seeks to account for the Alaskan harvest of salmon subject to treaty sharing requirements in Washington State. Alaska has made it clear that settlement of this litigation is a prerequisite to that state's support for ratification of the Canadian treaty. We are working with Interior and Justice to bring about such a settlement.

Consistency Hearing in Exxon's Santa Ynez Unit Appeal

On December 11, 1984, NOAA's General Counsel, Robert J. McManus, conducted a public hearing in Exxon's Santa Ynez Unit consistency appeal in Santa Barbara, CA. Testimony was received from Exxon, the California Coastal Commission, the County of Santa Barbara, and eighty-seven (87) witnesses. The parties, the County and interested persons have until December 21, 1984, to submit information and statements into the record.

United States v. King, et al., Criminal No. CR 84-212M (W.D. Wash.)

Defendants in this case were indicted on various felony counts for conspiracy and aiding and abetting Lacey Act violations as a result of their involvement in the harvest and sale of approximately 60,000 pounds of illegal halibut taken in Alaskan waters and transported to Bellingham, Washington by the United States fishing vessel MAR DEL SUD in August of 1983. The case is the most serious domestic fishing violation ever detected on the West Coast. Defendants Decker and Sinnett, former employees of the Sea-Pac Company, were allowed to plead to gross misdemeanors in exchange for their testimony against their former employer. King, the captain of the MAR DEL SUD, was allowed to plead to one felony count in exchange for his testimony. The defendant Welsh remains at large. On December 10, 1984, following a four-day trial and more than two days of jury deliberations, the defendant Kovacs, an international fish broker, was convicted of two felonies, the defendant Sea-Pac Company was convicted of one felony, and the defendant Dahl was acquitted. Sentencing is scheduled for January 17, 1984.

December 21, 1984

OFFICE OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS

In Print - Three major and highly diverse articles on NOAA have appeared in prestigious publications over the past month. On Dec. 16, the New York Times published a comprehensive feature about the NOAA Corps training program at Kings Point, N.Y.; and, in the process, told a lot about the Corps. The Amtrak Express printed a long article, The Weather Beaters, giving excellent insight into the interaction of Federal and private weathercasting, with special emphasis on Bob Ryan, Channel 4 weathercaster and longtime NOAA friend. The third article, appearing in the Dec. 3 issue of the New Yorker, dealt in part with the outdoor art at NOAA's Western Regional Center in Seattle. The project received a warm review, as witness:

"The Seattle Arts Commission shepherded to completion, last year, a collaborative project involving five public artists -- Armajani, Burton, Martin Puryear, George Trakas, and Douglas Hollis -- on the grounds of the New Western Regional Center of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, a federal body that is known to insiders as 'the wet NASA.' Each artist made a separate piece, or 'installation,' along a winding twenty-two-hundred-foot path that borders Lake Washington. They worked together on the over-all plan, though, and they also conferred often and at length with NOAA's landscape architects and with a local citizens' group that wanted to know just what was going on and why." The NOAA project seems to have pleased nearly everybody -- NOAA, the artists and the local citizens, who are welcome to visit the grounds at any time. The five installations are far from monumental. Puryear's concrete-and-glass "Knoll for NOAA" looks like a large spherical rock buried in the earth, with only the top part showing. Burton's 'Viewpoint,' a group of chairs and benches shaped from huge glacial rocks that were dredged up from the lake, has become a popular picnic spot for NOAA employees. Trakas's 'Berth Haven,' a wood-and-steel-plate platform at the shoreline, enables visitors to get down to the water level to see at close hand the wildflowers and, with luck, some of the wildlife that abound there. In Hollis's 'Sound Garden,' tall steel poles like organ pipes catch the wind and emit muted sounds reminiscent of whale song. Armajani's two 'NOAA Bridges' are simple arched structures on which are printed, in large block letters, an excerpt from 'Moby Dick.' All five pieces blend quietly with the landscape and with the long, low NOAA buildings."

On The Air - Brian Cislak of Voice of America interviewed John McElroy on the current and future applications and benefits of NOAA satellites. Once scripted and edited, the finished 15-minute program can be translated into as many as 40 different languages and distributed to VOA broadcasters worldwide.

In The Wind - The National Weather Service and the Pride of Baltimore will team up in a special project to call attention to the need for marine observations during the Pride's trans-Atlantic voyage next March. PAW will conduct a comprehensive PA plan, which will include pre-sailing media release; a ceremony at Baltimore Harbor when the Pride sails; and follow-up media activity.

December 21, 1984

NATIONAL CLIMATE PROGRAM OFFICE

Nuclear Winter Update. Dr. Alan Hecht accompanied Presidential Science Advisor, George Keyworth for a briefing, December 19, on Nuclear Winter to FEMA advisory board. Members of the Board include the Honorable Paul Nitze, Lt. General Brent Scowcroft, Dr. Edward Teller and Dr. Eugene Wigner.

Loss of Mississippi Wetlands. The Minerals Management Service of the Department of Interior held its fifth annual Information Transfer Meeting, November 27-29 in New Orleans, La. A major agenda item dealt with the loss of wetlands in the Mississippi delta area which is now occurring at a rate of about 50 square miles (32,000 acres) per year, due primarily to the relative rise of sea level. R. Etkins, of the National Climate Program Office, briefed the participants on the relationship between CO<sub>2</sub> induced climate warming and global sea level rise. Whereas the current global average rate is estimated to be in the range of 2 to 3 millimeters per year, the rate of rise in the Mississippi gulf coast area is over a centimeter a year, largely because of land subsidence due to the extraction of oil, natural gas, and ground water. The Mississippi wetlands problem is particularly acute because of the unusual flatness of the shore face in this region which tends to magnify the amount of land loss for a given amount of sea level rise.

December 21, 1984

National Ocean Service

American Geophysical Union (AGU) Meeting - Nine C&GS employees presented papers at the AGU Fall Meeting in San Francisco, December 3-7, 1984. There were 3,800 attendees involved with geophysical activities in private industry, academic institutions, and government agencies. The papers and subsequent discussions included the latest developments in seafloor deformation, tectonics, prediction and modeling, and geodetic instrumentation. (J. Bossler, 443-8204)

RADS Deployment in Miami - On December 6, 1984, the NOS Office of Oceanography and Marine Assessments successfully deployed a Remote Acoustic Doppler Sensor (RADS) system in the Government Cut Channel in Miami, Florida. The system is based on a AMETEK Straza DCP4400/300 current profiler which provides real-time currents from the channel every six minutes. These measurements are collected, stored and displayed by an IBM-PC which is located at the site. A real-time display of the current profiles from the channel is to be used by the Biscayne Bay Pilots Association, on an experimental basis, as an aid for navigating large vessels in and out of Miami Harbor. The system deployment required extensive diver support which was obtained from the NOAA Diving Program and the vessel used for the deployment was provided by the U.S. Coast Guard. (T. Mero, 443-8026)

Real-Time Water Levels in Great Lakes - As an outgrowth of Project PORTS workshops held in the Great Lakes, efforts are underway to provide lake carriers with real-time water level information at critical locations. An agreement is being negotiated with the U.S. Coast Guard and the Lake Carriers Association. The Coast Guard will broadcast real-time water levels from selected telemetering water level stations using additional computer equipment furnished by the Association to receive and prepare the data. (P. Morris, 443-8443)

NOAA Diver Technical Assistance to EPA at Hazardous Site - The NOAA Diving Program is assisting the Environmental Protection Agency in the search and possible location of hazardous materials which have been reported in Big Quarry, Pennsylvania, by local divers. Mr. Steve Urick will supervise the diving operation, and provide diving and underwater photographic/video tape support. (A. Francis, 443-8007)

December 21, 1984

NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE

Chinese Visitors - Five scientists from the People's Republic of China visited the National Weather Service November 23 to December 4, 1984, to discuss hurricane storm surge forecasting. The delegation, headed by Professor Liu of the Institute of Oceanography in Shandong, stopped first at the Office of Systems Development's Techniques Development Laboratory (TDL) in Silver Spring, Maryland, to discuss the SLOSH hurricane storm surge model and the storm surge work that is being conducted in China. Next, they traveled to Miami, Florida, to spend several days at the National Hurricane Center and talk about hurricane forecasting, hurricane evacuation and preparedness, and applications of the SLOSH computer model. The visit coincided with NOAA's Hurricane Conference, where they attended several sessions. The delegation completed its tour of the U.S. with a visit to Texas A&M University. There, they discussed additional aspects of storm surge and tide modeling with faculty members. Dr. Jye Chen, one of the NWS's storm surge modelers located at TDL, accompanied the delegation to Miami and Texas A&M, and he acted as a technical translator. (Will Shaffer 427-7772)

Howard Johnson Motor Lodge - The Howard Johnson Motor Lodge in Topeka, Kansas, has teamed up with the National Weather Service to ensure that their motel patrons are alerted to the potential of severe weather. When a tornado watch is in effect for that area, a 5 inch by 5 inch card notifying guests of the potential for tornadoes, where to get additional information on the situation, and what protective measures should be taken is provided to guests as they check in and hand carried to already occupied rooms. (Bill Proenza 8-578-5463)

Weather Data Users Meeting - The subscribers to the National Weather Service Family of Services will meet January 10, 1985, in Los Angeles to discuss recent and planned changes in the services provided. The Subscribers Working Group has developed operational standards which will be presented for National Weather Service consideration. (Bob Carnahan 427-7258)

Great Salt Lake and Utah Lake - The Great Salt Lake continues to rise with a reading on December 15, 1984, of 4208.40 feet. The Great Salt Lake is expected to peak next spring near 4210.5 feet, more than 1 foot above last year's peak of 4209.25 feet. The present level of Utah Lake as of December 15 is 2.50 feet above Compromise -- its legally agreed to level. Utah Lake is expected to peak late next spring between 4 to 5 feet above Compromise. This, however, is lower than the 1984 peak of 25.4 feet above Compromise on June 20. Despite the heavy precipitation during October through early December, both lakes are not rising as fast as last year, thus providing some hope for a more gradual rise this spring. (Jose Marrero 427-7624)

December 21, 1984

NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL SATELLITE, DATA, AND INFORMATION SERVICE

Satellite Launch Successful. NOAA-9 was launched on December 12, 1984, at 10:42 GMT. The launch had been scrubbed 13 times before, dating back to November 8, 1984. All stations report that a good orbit was obtained. The satellite was turned over from NASA to NOAA on December 15, 1984. All instruments will be turned on by December 31, 1984, except for the Earth Radiation Budget Experiment (ERBE) and the Solar Backscatter Ultraviolet (SBUV) radiometer. These two instruments are new to the NOAA satellites, and will not be fully activated until mid-January. NOAA-9 will replace NOAA-7 as the operational afternoon polar orbiter by February 1985. (S. Schneider, 763-7570)

VAS Temperature Soundings. On December 12, 1984, the first temperature soundings to be used operationally from the VISSR Atmospheric Sounder (VAS) of the Geostationary Satellite GOES-5 appeared on the 1200 Greenwich Mean Time FAX maps. The soundings are being produced daily over the eastern Pacific for the 1200 GMT Limited Time Mesh forecast by the NESDIS staff at the Cooperative Institute for Meteorological Satellite Studies at the University of Wisconsin. This is the culmination of a four year research effort to introduce experimental geostationary soundings in the operational forecast models. A full operational implementation is scheduled for 1986. (C. Hayden, FTS 364-5325)

Florida's Cooling Trend. The Orlando Sentinel newspaper will be publishing an article regarding the recent (last 40 years) cooling trend in Florida's mean annual and winter temperatures. They are using numerous articles and publications sent to them by the NESDIS National Climatic Data Center. The article will focus on the impact of the cooling trend on Florida's local economy. (T. Karl, FTS 672-0450)

Christmas of 1884. Twenty-seven degrees, cloudy with winds out of the north at 14 knots. That's the way it was in the Washington, D.C. area on Christmas of 1884 according to NCDC records. This, and similar information, was supplied to a writer who was preparing a story on Christmas 100 years ago. (M. McGuirk, FTS 672-0682)

December 21, 1984

NATIONAL SEA GRANT COLLEGE PROGRAM

Profitability of Deep Ocean Mining Estimated - Corporate planners in the metals industry can estimate the profitability of a deep ocean mining venture under different cost, timing, and regulatory assumptions using a new Massachusetts Institute of Technology Sea Grant computer model. The model assumes a manganese nodule mining venture, undertaken by a consortium of U.S. companies, which would excavate a minesite in the Pacific Ocean believed to be rich in minerals.

The model predicts a 9.21 percent annual internal rate of return on a venture for which estimate capital costs are \$1.141 billion, with annual operating costs of \$223 million. On the income side, 73 million pounds of nickel are estimated to be recovered and sold annually at \$3.75/lb.; 60 million pounds of copper at \$1.25/lb.; and 8.6 million pounds of cobalt at \$5.63/lb. The model's economic analysis integrates costs and revenues with taxation and regulation assumptions to calculate the internal rate of return.

(F. Schuler, 443-8977)

Tour Boats Boost Island Economy - Tour boats handled more than 2.6 million passengers, better than half the annual number of visitors to Hawaii, and generated \$100 million in both direct and indirect income for the state's economy, according to a recent Hawaii Sea Grant report. Comprised of 112 boats, the industry paid over \$5 million in tax revenues during a 12-month period in 1982-1983.

On the big island of Hawaii, for example, where glassbottom boat rides are popular, the tour boat industry had gross revenues of \$3.2 million, paid almost \$1 million in benefits for 110 employees, paid \$250,000 in taxes, and generated estimated direct and indirect revenues of \$7.2 million. To further improve and develop ocean recreational opportunities on the big island, Hawaii Sea Grant has prepared a five-year development plan with support from the state's Department of Planning and Economic Development. The Big Island Ocean Recreation and Tourism (BIORT) organization is now making the plan available for public comment through workshops and the island's libraries.

(T. Murray, 443-8886)

# **National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration**

## **ERRATA NOTICE**

One or more conditions of the original document may affect the quality of the image, such as:

Discolored pages  
Faded or light ink  
Binding intrudes into the text

This has been a co-operative project between the NOAA Central Library and the Climate Database Modernization Program, National Climate Data Center (NCDC). To view the original document, please contact the NOAA Central Library in Silver Spring, MD at (301) 713-2607 x124 or [Library.Reference@noaa.gov](mailto:Library.Reference@noaa.gov)

HOV Services  
Imaging Contractor  
12200 Kiln Court  
Beltsville, MD 20704-1387  
July 23, 2010