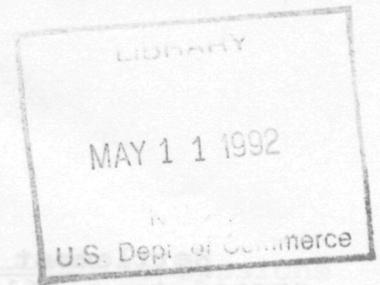
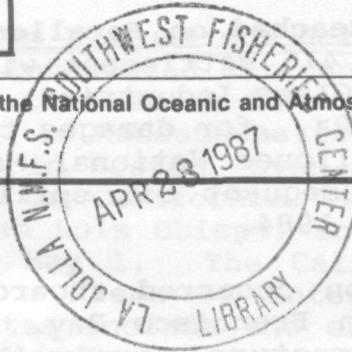




NOAA REPORT



NOAA Report is an administrative document, issued by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration for the information and use of agency personnel.



April 22, 1987

COMING UP

American Meteorological Society/Society of American Foresters Ninth Conference on Fire and Forest Meteorology in San Diego, Calif., April 21-24.

World Meteorological Organization Congress in Geneva, Switzerland, May 4-29.

International Hydrographic Organization Conference in Monte Carlo, Monaco, May 5-15.

NOAA Awards Luncheon, 11:30 a.m., at Andrews Air Force Base Officers' Club, Md., May 22.

Good News For Fishermen:--Americans are harvesting more fish and selling more of those fish at sea to foreign processing vessels than ever before, according to the National Marine Fisheries Service.

Over the past several years, as the United States has cut fish allocations to foreigners sharply, American fishermen have expanded by a considerable margin their joint venture operations, in which they sell their catch at sea to foreign processing vessels. In 1986 U.S. joint venture operators unloaded onto foreign vessels a record 2.9 billion pounds of fish, worth \$155 million, also a record. The joint venture catch in 1985 was 2 billion pounds, worth \$104 million.

The U.S. fish harvest in 1986 was 9.4 billion pounds, a healthy gain over the 8.7 billion-pound-total in 1985. At the same time, the foreign fish catch in the United States' 200-mile-wide exclusive economic zone continues to fall, plummeting in 1986 to 1.3 billion pounds, only half of the 2.6 billion pounds taken in 1985. As recently as 1982, when foreigners took 3.1 billion pounds of fish from U.S. waters, joint-venture catches amounted to only 561 million pounds.

Settlement Reached on Farallones Sanctuary Spill:--NOAA has agreed to a \$618,416 settlement with Bankers Trust of New York, Pittsburgh Plate Glass Industries, and the Keystone Shipping Co., of Philadelphia, Pa., for damages to the natural resources of the Gulf of the Farallones National Marine Sanctuary caused by the explosion and subsequent oil spill from the tanker, T/V Puerto Rican, in October 1984.

The explosion occurred aboard the T/V Puerto Rican eight miles outside San Francisco Bay. The disabled ship was towed offshore for structural evaluation, but during a storm on November 2, it broke in two, leaking fuel oil inside the sanctuary. The more than 1 million gallons of petroleum that discharged into the Pacific Ocean ultimately traveled through the Gulf of the Farallones National Marine Sanctuary, continuing northward past Bodega Bay.

Because of the resulting pollution, a suit was filed by the Justice Department in District Court on behalf of NOAA for damages to the sanctuary.

Temperature Forecasts Improving:--Predictions of maximum and minimum temperatures issued by National Weather Service Forecast Offices improved dramatically during October 1986 through March 1987 compared to those from the same period in 1985-86, national verification statistics show. In particular, the minimum temperature forecasts were 11 percent more accurate than those produced last winter, and the maximum temperature forecasts were 3 percent better. These significant changes are quite similar to those for the official temperature forecasts produced during the summer of 1986. The overall improvement is related to the availability of an enhanced numerical weather prediction model and a new statistical guidance system now available to Weather Service forecasters.

William A. Jump Memorial Award:--Michael P. De Luca, a scientist with NOAA's Office of Undersea Research, has been selected to receive the William A. Jump Memorial Award in recognition of outstanding service in administration and notable contributions to the efficiency and quality of public service. Nominees for this award must be career federal employees under 37 years old. The award for exemplary achievement includes a Gold Key and a certificate of merit. The award ceremony will be at the Department of Agriculture in June.

Waterproof Nautical Charts Tested:--Testing of the marketability of waterproof charts is underway at the National Ocean Service. NOS will print 1000 charts of Prince William Sound on Polyart II plastic paper at its Hoover Building printing plant. Copies of the waterproof charts will cost \$8.50 each, compared to \$7.25 for regular charts.

Coastal Management Program Evaluations Set:--Public sessions and individual meetings with interested citizens are scheduled in Massachusetts and California this month to evaluate the states' coastal management programs. In Massachusetts, teams lead by Ed Lindelof, will hold meetings in Boston, Lynn, Hyannis, Chatham, and Fall River April 21-24. In California, meetings are slated for San Francisco, Eureka, San Luis Obispo, Los Angeles, and San Diego from April 27 through May 1. The California evaluation team leader is John McLeod. Areas of interest for the NOAA evaluation teams in both states include the extent to which the states are implementing and enforcing their approved Coastal Management Programs and their adherence to the terms and conditions for financial assistance awards.

Hurricane Season Kickoff Planned:--A press conference kicking off the 1987 hurricane season will be held May 27 at the National Hurricane Center in Coral Gables, Fla., to highlight the season's safety effort by the National Weather Service. Featured: Dr. Neil Frank, retiring NHC director, and Dr. Robert Sheets, incoming acting director.

Employees Invited To Silver Spring Symposium:--"Everything You Wanted To Know About Silver Spring" is the theme of a brown bag session to be held May 5, at noon in Room 5230 of the Hoover Building. NOAA employees scheduled to move to NOAA's new Maryland headquarters later this year will hear members of the state's National Capital Parks and Planning Commission on traffic patterns, historic preservation, shopping, housing, and area organizations and businesses. There will be an ample discussion period. Similar sessions will be scheduled in other NOAA Washington-area installations based on interest. Those planning to attend should contact Rose Larocca, 377-1521.

Przywitowski Heads MASC Division:--Richard Przywitowski has been named chief of the Mountain Administrative Support Center's Systems Division. Przywitowski has been with the department of Commerce since 1965 and a member of the Division since the formation of MASC in 1983. MASC provides support services for all Commerce agencies in the area, including NOAA, the Bureau of the Census, the Economic Development Administration, International Trade Administration, Minority Business Development Agency, National Bureau of Standards, National Telecommunications and Information Administration, and Office of the Inspector General.

Technology Transfer Awards:--Gerald R. Ochs of NOAA's Environmental Research Laboratories has been chosen by the Federal Laboratory Consortium for Technology Transfer to receive a Special Award for Excellence in Technology Transfer. The award is given for Ochs' "persistent, creative, and successful efforts to transfer laser wind and turbulence sensing technology to private industry." In support of the national policy to transfer

technologies developed in government laboratories to the private sector, NOAA's Wave Propagation Laboratory also has been chosen by the Consortium to receive a Special Award for Excellence in Technology Transfer. WPL is cited for being the prime mover in the transfer of the radar wind profiler technology by creating and stimulating a new industry for the improvement of the nation's weather services. It is estimated that a potential billion-dollar industry has been created by the WPL's basic research. Both awards will be presented on May 5 at the Consortium's annual meeting in Lexington, Ky.

Weather Support for Storms Experiment:--The Canadian Atmospheric Environment Service (AES) and NOAA's Weather Service Forecast Office and Ocean Service Unit in Seattle are putting the final touches on a plan to provide operational meteorological support to the Ocean Storms Experiment scheduled for the fall off the Pacific Northwest coast. Plans have been made for an operational joint AES/NOAA Marine Desk in Seattle to support this international effort to study upper ocean dynamics and the structure of storms.

Second Artificial Intelligence Workshop Set:--The second Workshop on Artificial Intelligence Applications in Environmental Sciences, sponsored by ERL, will be held in Boulder, Colo. Sept. 15-17. The workshop will serve as a forum for discussion among researchers currently applying artificial intelligence technologies to environmental science problems, and among individuals who wish to evaluate the applicability of such technology to their needs. The workshop will commence with a session providing an overview of artificial intelligence and its applications, and will conclude with panel discussions on the likely future of the technology in environmental education, research, and forecasting.

NOAA Leads Cooperative Albacore Effort:--A collaborative effort this year among the NOAA ship *Cromwell*, government research vessels from New Zealand and France (New Caledonia), and the U.S. commercial albacore trollers in the South Pacific will provide the first comprehensive description of near-surface oceanography and an assessment of the distribution and availability of albacore in surface trolling in the Subtropical Convergence Zone which extends from Chile to New Zealand, about 2,400 miles south of the equator. The zone is an area where subtropical and subantarctic waters blend together and where fishermen and biologists have found that many kinds of ocean fishes are especially abundant.

During the *Cromwell* survey, transect placement and location of "albacore water" in the region was assisted by sea surface temperature imagery received from NOAA polar-orbiting satellites equipped with infrared sensors. Images were received in near real-time and enhanced using the shipboard equipment.

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National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

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