

NOAA Report

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WASHINGTON, DC 20230



January 22, 1990

COMING UP

International Union of Geodesy and Geophysics Tsunami Commission, Tsunami Warning System of the Pacific, Honolulu, Hawaii, Jan. 30-Feb. 1

American Meteorological Society 70th Annual Meeting in Anaheim, Calif., Feb. 4-9

Federal Budget Briefing, Washington, D.C., Feb. 5

National Fish Meal and Oil Association, Washington, D.C., Feb. 6

6th Meeting of the NOAA Panel on Climate and Global Change, Anaheim, Calif., Feb. 8-9

New Jersey Threatens Striped Bass:--New Jersey is not complying with the Interstate Fisheries Management Plan for the Striped Bass, according to a report from the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission to the Secretaries of Commerce and the Interior. The plan calls for a 28-inch minimum size limit and a one fish per person bag limit. All other coastal states from Maine to North Carolina either meet or exceed these measures.

New Jersey's prior 36-inch minimum size limit and daily bag and possession limit of five fish expired on December 31, 1989. Currently, there is no size or bag limit in the state, although harvest by nets in state waters is illegal and sale of striped bass in New Jersey is prohibited. Without these restrictions, New Jersey poses a threat to the efforts to restore the striped bass.

The Secretaries have 30 days after notification by the Commission to agree or disagree with the report. If the Secretaries find that the state is not complying, then they will impose a moratorium on striped bass fishing in New Jersey waters.

Tsunami Centers Upgrade Computers:--NOAA's Pacific Tsunami Warning Center recently converted its operations from an aging Data General minicomputer to its new Masscomp/Concurrent 6000 computer system. The Alaska Tsunami Warning Center converted its

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computer system in 1988. Both centers are now providing enhanced tsunami warning services using the latest in computer hardware and software technology.

The new system is especially well suited for acquiring and analyzing seismic and tide data and interfacing with various communications systems to disseminate critical warning products to users around the Pacific Basin. With the use of these new computers and development of improved analysis techniques, the time needed to issue a tsunami warning has been reduced up to 50 percent.

Dolphin Mortality Reduced:--Total dolphin mortality in the eastern tropical Pacific Ocean from U.S. tuna purse seine fleet operations dropped 36 percent from 1988 to 12,643 dolphins, well below the overall annual quota of 20,500 animals, according to NOAA's National Marine Fisheries Service. Eastern spinner dolphin was the only stock to exceed 50 percent of its mortality quota. A detailed analysis of the causes of the reduction will be made after all vessels return from trips started in 1989 and data from on-board observers are processed.

NOAA Corp Officers Receive Awards:--Six NOAA Corps Officers have received NOAA Special Achievement Award Medals for sustained superior performance. They are:

Lieutenant Edward M. Clark, Jr., a Northwest Area Training Coordinator for the National Marine Fisheries Service's Office of Enforcement

Lieutenant Robert W. Maxson, Chief, Air Photo Mission, Aircraft Operations Center

Lieutenant Jonathan W. Bailey, Chief, Flight Edit Mission, Aircraft Operations Center

Lieutenant Bradford L. Benggio, Chief, Air Photo Mission, Aircraft Operations Center

Lieutenant Philip M. Kenul, Chief, Flight Edit Section, Aircraft Operations Center

Lieutenant (j.g.) Brian K. Taggart, Chief, Air Reconnaissance Mission, Aircraft Operations Center

NOAA Supports SPOT-2 Launch:-- NOAA's Fairbanks Command and Data Acquisition Station provided support for the successful launch of the French Space Agency's (CNES) land remote sensing satellite, SPOT-2 on January 22. The satellite was launched by Arianespace on an Ariane-4 vehicle from Kourou, French Guyana. The Fairbanks station will provide tracking, telemetry and command support for up to two weeks on a cost reimbursable basis.

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National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

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