

noaa week

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Law of Sea Conference Underway

A NOAA team led by Howard W. Pollock, NOAA's Deputy Administrator, is now in Geneva, Switzerland, for the second session of the Law of the Sea Conference, after having prepared intensively throughout the past several months. The United States has important political, strategic, economic, and scientific interests in the oceans, many of which can best be protected by a multilateral treaty toward which the NOAA team is contributing.

NOAA was responsible for coordinating the Commerce Department's position on fisheries, resources of the continental shelf, marine pollution, scientific research, minerals of the deep sea and navigational issues.

Among the issues in which the NOAA group has been deeply involved is that of the resources, especially the manganese nodules, of the deep sea bed beyond national jurisdiction. There is general agreement among the nations that the deep sea bed and its resources are the "common heritage of mankind", but less agreement on the meaning of this term. A major U.S. objective is to gain provisions in the treaty that guarantee access to these resources for U.S. companies, under reasonable conditions, coupled with security of tenure. On the other hand, the developing countries support granting an international authority a wide range of discretionary powers and functions, including price and production control, over these resources.

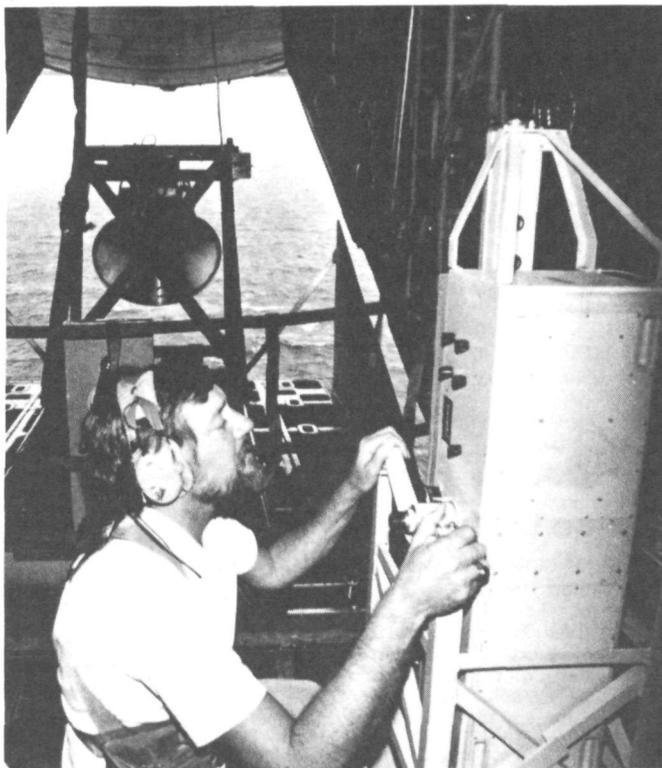
Other issues that the NOAA group has worked with and that the Conference is considering are related to the protection of the marine environment from land-based, seabed, and vessel source pollution.

The issue of marine scientific research is couched primarily in terms of maximizing freedom of research beyond the territorial sea, on the one hand, and protecting the interests of coastal nations, on the other.

The traditional law of the sea subjects, including fisheries, the continental shelf, navigation, and such other subjects as the rights

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Scientists Testing Satellite Ocean Sensors



With the cargo door of the C-130 open and the "RADSCAT" antenna deployed, Robert Berles, from AOML, adjusts a down-pointing laser used to profile ocean wave heights beneath the airplane.

A team of scientists from NOAA and the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, aboard one of NOAA's heavily instrumented research aircraft in the air over the Atlantic, is testing new laser and microwave devices designed to measure ocean waves from space.

The clear weather and high, seaward-blowing winds behind winter storms spinning into the Atlantic north of Cape Hatteras create an ideal natural laboratory for their tests.

Staging out of NASA's Langley Research Center, the C-130 aircraft and the scientific team are trailing the parade of winter storms out to sea, flying patterns at levels from 300 to 20,000 feet to test how clearly new remote-sensing devices "see" wave motion at the sea surface.

The project will provide data needed to develop and refine proposed air-borne and satellite sensors, including those scheduled to fly aboard SEASAT, the first satellite dedicated to observing the ocean from space planned for launch late in the decade.

Project leader Duncan Ross, an oceanographer with the Environmental Research Laboratories' Atlantic Oceanographic and Meteorological Laboratories in Miami, Fla., explains, "even under conditions of constant wind, the return energies we receive from the ocean surface can be altered by other factors. For example, what we interpret as ocean-wave slope and height is highly dependent on how long a time local wind conditions have persisted, and over what distance the wind is blowing. These returns are even affected by how stable the atmosphere is at a given time and location.

"Thus, if we want to predict how the surface will 'look' to our sensors, we need to know what variations to expect from various combinations of wind speed and duration, and the distance over the water or fetch.

"The conditions behind a winter cold front off the Atlantic coast give us a near-perfect environment for this kind of experiment. We have constant winds in the 25 to 35 knot range, blowing offshore. This gives us the ability to monitor varying returns as fetch increases in the seaward direction."

The instruments, installed aboard the C-130 from ERL's

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Contract for Snow Research Awarded by NESS to SUNY

A \$20,000 contract for measuring areal extent, variation and radiometric patterns of snow under various forest cover in the Adirondack Mountains has been awarded to State University of New York in Syracuse by the Environmental Sciences Group of the National Environmental Satellite Service.

Under terms of the contract, the University's College of Environmental Science and Forestry—in cooperation with the New York Snow Survey—use terrestrial information and underflight imagery to relate spectral reflectance in the test area to forest type. The information will be used in a manner permitting measurement of the variation in reflectance in response to the presence and condition of the snow cover.

In addition, simultaneous with selected satellite overflights, several photographic underflights will be conducted using a multi-spectral imaging system. The data from these flights will be used to aid in developing empirical relations between in situ and satellite-sensed reflectances.

Forest areas pose a problem in operational satellite snow mapping as it is difficult to determine whether such snow cover differs in depth, area, and water equivalent from the snow cover in surrounding non-forested areas. Little quantitative information is available on mountainous snow-covered forested areas as their isolation renders conventional snow sampling techniques difficult. For this reason, remote sensing techniques are being utilized.

NOAA Unit Citation Presented To Huntsville, Ala., WSO



Receiving a NOAA Unit Citation here is the staff of the National Weather Service Office at Huntsville, Ala. Because of its actions during the tornado outbreak on April 3-4, 1974, the group was cited "in recognition of outstanding individual and collective contributions in furthering NOAA's mission."

From left above are Huntsville's Meteorologist in Charge Douglas L. Davis; Principal Assistant Wilton L. Rodgers; Robert M. Ferry, MIC of the Weather Service Forecast Office in Birmingham, Ala., who presented the Citation; Weather Service Specialist Wilburn K. Cobb; and Weather Service Specialist James A. White, who has retired.

Weather Service Specialist Thomas E. Ward was not present when the photo was taken, and Weather Service Specialist Alfred Eisgrub was honored posthumously.

Law of the Sea Conference Underway

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and interests of land-locked countries, are of primary concern to most nations. A coastal nation economic zone of 200 miles has received strong support, with the United States conditioning its acceptance upon a balance of coastal country rights and duties in the zone and on continued freedom of navigation and overflight beyond 12 miles. In general, there is widespread support, including U.S. support, for an economic zone involving:

- coastal nation rights of exploration and exploitation of living and non-living resources;
- coastal nation rights over artificial islands;
- coastal nation rights over drilling for all purposes;
- rights of other nations to lay pipelines and cables.

Fisheries has been a subject of special importance to the NOAA group. The United States, feeling strongly about the intensive exploitation and in some cases depletion of North American fisheries resources off our coasts, believes that coastal countries should have management jurisdiction over coastal and anadromous species, with accompanying duties of conservation and full utilization. Highly migratory species, the U.S. holds, should be managed by regional or international organizations. Management machinery must reflect these biological differences in fish populations, and only broad-based international agreement can ade-

quately protect the species.

Mr. Pollock served both as Director of the Commerce Department Task Force on Law of the Sea and Head of the Department's contingent to the Law of the Sea deliberations. In Geneva he is an alternate representative to the conference.

NOAA team members in addition are David Wallace, Deputy Administrator for Marine Resources, who serves as Deputy Director of the Departmental Task Force; George Taft of the Office of General Counsel, who is Executive Director of the Task Force; and James Storer of Marine Resources, who specializes in fishery matters. Dr. Dayton L. Alverson, Director of the National Marine Fisheries Service Northwest Fisheries Center, has also been closely involved.

The team works closely with all Commerce agencies, including the Domestic and International Business Administration, Maritime Administration, and Science and Technology, as well as NOAA components, for coordination and creation of the departmental position. The group also participates in the inter-agency task force on law of the sea, where the various departmental positions are merged into a United States position. In addition, NOAA has taken part in numerous preliminary conferences and in bilateral and small multilateral meetings, in efforts to reach understandings that may smooth the way for progress in Geneva.

obituaries

Grace M. Anderson

Grace M. Anderson, an Accounting Supervisor in the Personal Services Branch of the Payroll Section of NOAA's Finance Division in Rockville, Md., died March 16. She had been with NOAA and its predecessor agencies since 1963, and previously was employed by the Defense Department.

She is survived by two daughters, Claudia A. Nevins, of Washington, D.C., and Pamela Zangerle, of 102 Dogwood St., S.W., Vienna, Va.; a son, David K. Anderson, also of Vienna; and a granddaughter.

Abraham S. Kussman

Abraham S. Kussman, former Forecast Warning Coordinator at the National Weather Service Forecast Office in New York City, died on March 14. He had retired in 1973 after more than 35 years' Federal service. He was assigned at Albany, N.Y.; Washington, D.C.; Cincinnati, Ohio; and at LaGuardia and JFK Airports and Eastern Region Headquarters, in New York, before going to WSFO New York.

He is survived by a son, Richard, 164 Church St., New Rochelle, N.Y. 10805; and a daughter, Mrs. Bonnie Bergman, 1480 Route 46, Apt. 166-A, Parsippany, N.J. 07054; and two grandchildren.

State Taxes Change

Employees who are subject to state tax withholdings for the States of New York, Oklahoma and Nebraska, may notice a minor change in their state tax for salary checks dated on or after March 26, 1975.

Ocean Sensors Tested

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Research Facilities Center in Miami, include two types of radar, a laser profilometer, and a microwave radiometer, all looking seaward at the same time. One of the radars, called a "RADSCAT," uses a four-foot dish antenna; to deploy this system, the airplane's aft cargo door must be opened in flight and the dish aimed at the ocean surface. Scientists from the University of California's Jet Propulsion Laboratory and NASA's Langley Research Center installed and operate the microwave sensors.

The experiment, planned for completion this month, is funded jointly by ERL's Ocean Remote Sensing Laboratory and NASA.

Dr. B. F. McLuckie

Dr. Benjamin F. McLuckie died in Newark, Del., on March 17, the day

before he was to receive a National Weather Service Public Service Award for his work in developing a storm warning preparedness course for the NWS Southern Region.



Dr. McLuckie

He worked as a Warning Procedures Consultant at the Fort Worth, Tex., headquarters of the Southern Region during the summers of 1972 and 1973. The course he developed, "Warning: A Call to Action," is a sociological perspective for understanding behavior patterns in a crisis and minimizing storm-related casualties. More than 300 Southern Region employees have voluntarily taken it, and it is compulsory for trainees.

Dr. McLuckie is survived by his wife and four children, to whom the award will be presented at a later date.

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 rainbow trout and squid along the Northeast Seaboard; fluke and sea bass in the Middle Atlantic States, including the D.C. area; king mackerel and Spanish mackerel in the Southeast and along the Gulf Coast; ocean perch fillets and pan-dressed smelt in the Midwest; cod fillets and kippered halibut chunks in the Northwest; and whiting and squid in the Southwest.

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
Anna V. Felter, Art Director

ENDEX/OASIS Training Held in 10 Cities

Environmental Data Service personnel recently held a series of 17 ENDEX/OASIS training courses in 10 cities. ENDEX and OASIS are EDS computerized referral service systems for environmental data and information sources. ENDEX provides reference to historical environmental data files, OASIS to technical literature concerning the environmental sciences and marine resources.

About 370 people attended the first day of the training sessions, which consists of an overview and computer-terminal demonstration of the systems. About half of the attendees participated in an additional 1 1/2 days of "hands-on" practice in using the ENDEX/OASIS systems.

No additional training sessions are currently scheduled, but groups desiring to attend such a course should contact either James Stear of EDS' Environmental Science Information Center, on (202) 634-7334 or Christopher Noe of EDS' National Oceanographic Data Center, on (202) 634-7298. Demonstrations can be arranged in EDS offices in Washington, D.C., Woods Hole, Mass., Miami, Fla., Jolla, Calif., or Seattle, Wash.

NGS Field Personnel Participate In Geodesy, Supervisory Seminar

The first of several training seminars planned for National Geodetic Survey field personnel was held recently at the National Weather Service Technical Training Center in Kansas City, Mo. The 11 participants, representing the various elements of the NGS field operations, were presented courses in geodetic surveying, gravity, astronomy, satellite operations, instrumentation and automation by five NGS office personnel and two field personnel, and an instructor from the NOAA Personnel Division gave the course in Supervision and Group Performance.

The objectives of the four-week seminar were to provide cross training and to give each student a basic understanding of the science of geodesy. The students, selected on the basis of their individual achievement, interest, and potential, will be able to better relate their activities to those of other elements in the agency.

Training of field personnel has generally consisted of correspondence courses and on-the-job training. Due to the frequent moves of field parties, standard on- or off-campus college courses cannot be effectively utilized.



(Front row, from left) Thomas Rouchka; Dan Bowling; Commander James Collins, NGS Deputy Director; Vernon Wilson; George Nelson; (standing) Ronald Ramsey; George Rivers; Bob Martine; David Crockett; Andrew Lindsay; Edward Word; and George Heid.

James K. Huntoon To Receive Neumann Award

Percy L. Johnson, President of AFGE Local 2703 and R. L. Carnahan, Acting Assistant Administrator for Administration, join the Neumann Committee in congratulating James K. Huntoon on his selection for the second annual Elmer Neumann Award for achievements in the field of Employee-Management Relations. Mr. Huntoon's selection was based on his contributions during the first multi-unit contract negotiations held in NOAA, and his efforts to reflect NWS employees' viewpoints to higher management.

Mr. Huntoon will be formally recognized by Local 2703 at the annual Dinner-Dance on April 12, at the Walter Reed NCO Club. In the Washington area, tickets may be obtained from Aubrey Bladen, AD163, 496-8595.

boundary identification. Discussions have also been held with the Commission on possible use of LSC photographs and field sheets for studies of shoreline damage and recession rates along the Great Lakes.

The Commission prepares, maintains, and coordinates plans for water and related land resources in the Great Lakes Basin. Its members include representatives from the eight states bordering the Lakes, eleven Federal agencies, and administrators of the Great Lakes Commission.

Richard A. Foster, Chief of the Program Division in the Office of Programs and Budget in Rockville, Md., is one of 27 career Federal employees selected from more than 1,000 applicants to participate in the second year of the Federal Executive Development Program (FEDP-II).



Mr. Foster

Sponsored by the Civil Service Commission in collaboration with the Office of Management and Budget, the program is designed to provide opportunities for Federal managers at the GS-15 level to prepare themselves for assumption of increased responsibilities in the Federal service.

The program will start in early May with a seven-week executive education session at the Federal Executive Institute in Charlottesville, Va., which will be followed by one or more developmental work assignments in various agencies.

notes about people

Frank D. Taylor has been named Official in Charge of the Las Vegas, Nev., Weather Service Office. He replaced Reid B. Gardner, who has retired. Mr. Taylor was previously OIC of the Olympia, Wash., Airport WSO.



Mr. Taylor

In the recent Department of Commerce Federal Credit Union election, two NOAAites—John M. Amstadt, Program Analysis Officer in the Office of the Associate Administrator in Rockville, Md., and Nicholas E. Sampogna, Assistant Chief of the National Ocean Survey's Reproduction Division in Washington, D.C.—were elected to the Board of Directors; and Dorothy J. Perry, Cartographer in the Radio Facility Chart Branch of the NOS Aeronautical Chart Division in Silver Spring, Md., was elected a member of the Credit Com-

mittee. When the new Board of Directors subsequently held its own election, Mr. Amstadt was elected Treasurer, for the 19th year, and Mr. Sampogna was elected to his second term as Second Vice President.

Cdr. K. William Jeffers is now stationed in Rockville, Md., as Chief of Operations of the National Ocean Survey's Office of Fleet Operations, which manages the NOAA Fleet. He has been serving as Commanding Officer of the NOAA Ship Rainier.



Cdr. Jeffers

The Lake Survey Center's Director, Commander Darrell W. Crawford, who has been appointed as alternate Commerce representative to the Great Lakes Basin Commission, attended the Commission's recent meeting in Lansing, Mich. LSC has offered to cooperate and participate with the Commission's Standing Committee on Coastal Zone Management in providing data to Great Lakes States for use in marine

The Environmental Research Laboratories in Boulder, Colo., has selected its first candidates for a work-study program designed as a pilot effort within ERL to provide additional employment opportunities to staff members as part of ERL's equal employment opportunity and affirmative action efforts.

They are (front row, from left) Marcella Guerra, Karon Gleason, Nancy Walters, and (back row, center) Lee Johnson.

In the back row on the left is Joseph O. Fletcher, ERL's Deputy Director, and on the right is Dr. Wilmot N. Hess, Director of ERL.



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 No.	Position Title	Grade	MLC	Location	Issue Date	Closing Date
483-75	Supv. Meteorologist	GS-14	NWS	Cleveland, Ohio	3/10/75	3/24/75
505-75	Meteorological Tech.	GS-9/10	NWS	Elkins, W.Va.	3/12/75	3/26/75
506-75	Program Analyst	GS-12	NMFS	Galveston, Texas	3/12/75	3/26/75
507-75	Contract Specialist	GS-7/9	NASO	Seattle, Wash.	3/12/75	3/26/75
508-75	Electronics Tech.	GS-11	NWS	Norfolk, Va.	3/12/75	3/26/75
510-75	State-Federal Grant Coordinator	GS-13	NMFS	Juneau, Alaska	3/14/75	3/28/75
512-75	Supv. Meteorologist	GS-13	NWS	Bismarck, N.D.	3/17/75	3/31/75
520-75	Supply Mgt. Officer	GS-13	HDQS	Riverdale, Md.	3/18/75	4/1/75
521-75	Physical Science Administrator	GS-12	ERL	Oak Ridge, Tenn.	3/18/75	4/1/75
522-75	Meteorological Tech.	GS-8/9	NWS	Trenton, N.J.	3/18/75	4/1/75
509-75	Meteorologist	GS-14	NWS	Silver Spring, Md.	3/14/75	4/4/75
511-75	Physical Scientist	GS-15	NESS	Suitland, Md.	3/14/75	4/4/75
373-75	Publications Officer	GS-13	EDS	Washington, D.C.	3/17/75	4/7/75
reissue						
513-75	Physical Science Administrator	GS-14/15	ERL	Boulder, Colo.	3/17/75	4/7/75
519-75	Supv. General Engineer	GS-14	NWS	Salt Lake City, Utah	3/18/75	4/8/75

Change in FEGLI Contributions

Effective March 2, 1975, withholdings for employees who are enrolled in the Federal Employees Government Life Insurance Program (FEGLI), will be increased from 27.5 cents to 35.5 cents per thousand for regular life insurance. Agency contributions will be adjusted to conform to the 2/3 to 1/3 cost-sharing ratio. Accordingly, to maintain this ratio, employee withholdings will be increased eight cents, biweekly, per \$1000 of regular insurance and the agency contribution four cents, biweekly, (13.75 to 17.75 cents) per \$1000 of regular insurance. No change in optional life insurance withholdings is contemplated at this time. Refer to the following scale to obtain total withholdings based on salary:

ANNUAL PAY		REGULAR INSURANCE	AMOUNT OF WITHHOLDINGS PER PAY PERIOD		
GREATER THAN	BUT NO GREATER THAN		BI-WEEKLY	SEMI-MONTHLY	MONTHLY
0	\$8 000	\$10 000	\$3 55	\$3 85	\$7 69
\$8 000	9 000	11 000	3 91	4 24	8 47
9 000	10 000	12 000	4 26	4 62	9 23
10 000	11 000	13 000	4 62	5 01	10 01
11 000	12 000	14 000	4 97	5 38	10 77
12 000	13 000	15 000	5 33	5 77	11 55
13 000	14 000	16 000	5 68	6 15	12 31
14 000	15 000	17 000	6 04	6 54	13 09
15 000	16 000	18 000	6 39	6 92	13 85
16 000	17 000	19 000	6 75	7 31	14 63
17 000	18 000	20 000	7 10	7 69	15 38
18 000	19 000	21 000	7 46	8 08	16 16
19 000	20 000	22 000	7 81	8 46	16 92
20 000	21 000	23 000	8 17	8 85	17 70
21 000	22 000	24 000	8 52	9 23	18 46
22 000	23 000	25 000	8 88	9 62	19 24
23 000	24 000	26 000	9 23	10 00	20 00
24 000	25 000	27 000	9 59	10 39	20 78
25 000	26 000	28 000	9 94	10 77	21 54
26 000	27 000	29 000	10 30	11 16	22 32
27 000	28 000	30 000	10 65	11 54	23 08
28 000	29 000	31 000	11 01	11 93	23 86
29 000	30 000	32 000	11 36	12 31	24 61
30 000	31 000	33 000	11 72	12 70	25 39
31 000	32 000	34 000	12 07	13 08	26 15
32 000	33 000	35 000	12 43	13 47	26 93
33 000	34 000	36 000	12 78	13 85	27 69
34 000	35 000	37 000	13 14	14 24	28 47
35 000	36 000	38 000	13 49	14 61	29 23
36 000	37 000	39 000	13 85	15 00	30 01
37 000	38 000	40 000	14 20	15 38	30 77
38 000	39 000	41 000	14 56	15 77	31 55
39 000	40 000	42 000	14 91	16 15	32 31
40 000	41 000	43 000	15 27	16 54	33 09
41 000	42 000	44 000	15 62	16 92	33 84
42 000	--	45 000	15 98	17 31	34 62

Questions concerning the change should be referred to your servicing personnel office.

Since the above increases may prompt some employees to decline their optional insurance coverage and/or waive their regular life insurance coverage the following should be understood:

a. An employee who has declined the optional insurance, or waived the regular insurance, or both, may cancel that declination of waiver only if:

1. it has been in force for at least one year;
2. he or she is under age 50; and
3. he or she furnishes satisfactory evidence of good health.

b. An employee must be insured at the time he or she retires (as well as retire on an immediate annuity and either retire for disability or after 12 years of creditable service) if he or she wants to be eligible to continue regular life insurance coverage as an annuitant at no further cost.

c. An employee must not only be insured at the time he or she

Vacation Plans

Once again, it is time for NOAA employees to plan their vacation schedules. Since the work of NOAA must continue, don't forget that your planning should include a discussion of your vacation leave plans with your supervisor. By doing so you'll avoid conflict with other employees' leave plans and, hopefully, not have to worry about last-minute leave changes.

The most important leave to schedule is that which would be above the normal ceiling and, if not used, subject to forfeiture at the end of the 1975 leave year. There is a two-year period in which restored leave must be used. Therefore, employees who had 1973 leave restored must use both the current year's leave and the 1973 restored leave. The 1973 restored leave will be permanently forfeited if not used by the end of this leave year.

Employees who plan to retire or resign from the Federal service in 1975 may receive a lump-sum payment for all leave to their credit at the time of their separation. Therefore, these employees may not wish to schedule leave. It is important to remember, however, that the employee's subsequent change of plans concerning leaving the Federal service will not be a sufficient justification for restoring leave in excess of the ceiling at the end of the leave year.

When scheduling leave to be taken at the end of the leave year, unforeseen circumstances such as closing of offices because of weather or unscheduled holidays based on Presidential Proclamations should be taken into consideration. Annual leave forfeited on these bases alone may not be restored.

NOAA Personnel Handbook Chapter 12, "Leave," Section 12-02.3c, should be referred to when requesting scheduled leave. In addition, Form CD-101, "Leave Chart," is prescribed for posting leave schedules. Both the CD-101 and the SF-71, "Application for Leave," may be used as proof that forfeited leave had been scheduled.

retires, but must also have had the optional insurance in force for no less than: (1) the full period or periods of service during which the optional insurance was available to him or her; or (2) the 12 years of service immediately preceding retirement, if he or she wants to be eligible to continue optional life insurance coverage as an annuitant. The full cost of the optional insurance is withheld from the retiree's annuity through the month in which the annuitant's 65th birthday occurs. Thereafter (or if the employee retires after age 65), there is no further cost to him or her.

d. The amount of regular insurance carried by a retired employee is based on his or her annual pay at date of separation or, if he or she has been placed in a nonpay status until separation, expiration of one year in nonpay status, whichever is earlier. The amount of optional life insurance carried by a retired employee is the same \$10,000 amount he or she carried as an employee. The amounts of regular and optional life insurance are reduced by two percent each month, effective at the beginning of the second calendar month after the month in which: (1) the employee becomes insured as an annuitant or (2) the retired employee's 65th birthday falls, whichever is later. These reductions continue until the amounts of regular and optional insurance carried reach 25 percent of the amounts in force before the first reduction.



National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

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