U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE
Northeast Fisheries Center
Woods Hole, Massachusetts 02543

16 February 1973

NEWS RELEASE

The Polish research vessel Wieczno will be operating in continental shelf waters between Cape Cod and Cape Hatteras between February 17 and March 15. On board will be scientific personnel from the National Marine Fisheries Service Laboratory in Woods Hole, Massachusetts.

The Wieczno, a 210-foot long vessel operated by the Fisheries Research Institute in Gdynia, Poland, is the same vessel that docked in Woods Hole last fall in connection with research conducted for the International Commission for the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries (ICNAF).

On this trip, the Wieczno will be sampling fish eggs and larvae in cooperation with the National Marine Fisheries Service MARMAP Program (Marine Resources Monitoring, Assessment, and Prediction). Joint work such as this is authorized by a Polish-U.S. agreement on biological research in the Mid-Atlantic.

The Woods Hole Laboratory vessel, Albatross IV, is presently sampling randomly-chosen stations pre-selected between Florida and Cape Hatteras for the same MARMAP survey. (The National Marine Fisheries Service is part of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration of the U.S. Department of Commerce.)

After ten days of ichthyoplankton sampling, the Wieczno will conduct its own survey of fish - especially herring and mackerel - between Cape Hatteras and Cape Cod. There will be two scientists from the Woods Hole Laboratory

on board as observers. Information from this survey will be used in Poland's research report to ICNAF.

The Wieczno will make port in Norfolk, Virginia, on or about March 15.

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE
Northeast Fisheries Center
Woods Hole, Massachusetts 02543

NEWS RELEASE

1973

March 5 - A Polish fishery research vessel which has been working with the U.S. National Marine Fisheries Service in conducting a fish survey south of Long Island has been granted permission by the State Department to occupy fishing stations within the U.S. 12-mile territorial limit for the period March 6-8, 1973.

The 210-foot long Wieczno has two U.S. scientists aboard as observers- one from the National Marine Fisheries Service laboratory in Woods Hole, Mass., and the other from the Virginia Institute of Marine Science. (The National Marine Fisheries Service is part of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) of the U.S. Department of Commerce.)

The R/V Wieczno has been taking samples of herring and mackerel in international waters as part of cooperative research between the United States and Poland authorized by bi-lateral treaty. The State Department has given the Wieczno permission to fish no closer than 6 miles from south of Moriches Bay to Montauk Point for the three days specified.

The Wieczno began the survey February 28 off the coast of Virginia where she took aboard the two U.S. scientific observers. On Monday, March 5, she was about 15 miles south of Moriches Inlet, on the south of Long Island. While inside the 12-mile limit on March 6, 7, and 8, the research vessel will occupy sampling stations east to Montauk Point. The Wieczno will dock in Woods Hole, Mass., on or about March 15.

In the ten-day period prior to February 28, the Wieczno conducted plankton sampling in international waters in cooperation with the National Marine Fisheries Service MARMAP program.

Poland is a member of the International Commission for the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries (ICNAF) which depends on research conducted by its members to help formulate fishing regulations to conserve the fish stocks.

Northeast Fisheries Center
Woods Hole, Massachusetts 02543

August , 1973

NEWS RELEASE

Scientists of the National Marine Fisheries Service laboratory in Woods Hole, Mass. (no connection with Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution) were out on the dock today to welcome those aboard a 230-foot long fishery research vessel from the Soviet Union.

In several weeks the Soviet vessel Belogorsk--with U.S. government fishery biologists aboard-- will be sampling in one of the most fertile fishing areas in the world: Georges Bank, a shallow area formed by a huge ledge on the Continental Shelf beginning about 50 miles east of Cape Cod.

The work onboard ship will be routine for the U.S. scientists, for it is the same work performed each Fall and each Spring aboard their own research vessel Albatross IV: cruise to a pre-determined location (randomly selected by computer), set a net large enough to hold several tons of fish on the bottom, tow the net for 30 minutes, haul the net and dump the catch on a table on deck, sort and weigh the fish by species, record lengths, preserve some scales, stomachs and gonads for onshore laboratory analysis.

This is otherwise known as surveying the fish populations to monitor changes in abundance, distribution, species composition, and age composition. The Woods Hole laboratory is a fishery research laboratory under the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) of the U.S. Dept. of Commerce with the specific responsibility of determining the status of commercially valuable fish stocks off New England.

Each Fall since 1967 the Soviet Union-- a member, along with the U.S. and 14 other nations, of the International Commission for the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries (ICNAF)-- has sent a ship to Woods Hole to help in sampling the valuable groundfish populations which live near the sea bottom out to the edge of the Continental Shelf. Before the survey ends in November, both Belogorsk and Albatross IV will have covered a total of over 300 sampling stations between Nova Scotia and Cape Hatteras, North Carolina.

-more-

Twice yearly surveys from Woods Hole are now particularly important in the face of what Secretary of Commerce has called "the increasingly deteriorating situation . . . the systematic overexploitation of the fisheries resources off the U.S. East Coast." Secretary Dent made his remarks last June in a statement calling attention to a United States proposal before ICNAF to reduce foreign fishing off New England. The preparatory work for this proposal--which would limit each nation to a predetermined level of fishing "effort"--was done by National Marine Fisheries Service scientists in Woods Hole.

In addition to yielding a relative abundance index of fish available to bottom trawls, the Fall and Spring surveys also provide estimates of spawning success so that future management regulations can be based on realistic measures of the number of young fish that will be available one and two years hence. For instance, the Fall 1971 survey indicated the number of haddock entering the adult population would remain low through 1974.

There is probably no more thorough, standardized and comprehensive measure of the production of one ecological system than this seven-year study by the National Marine Fisheries Service of groundfish populations from Nova Scotia to Cape Hatteras.

Other foreign vessels will also visit Woods Hole this fall in connection with a completely different survey being conducted by ICNAF, the international commission which manages the fish stocks. Ships involved in this survey--also including Belogorsk and Albatross IV--will take samples of early life stages of herring, which float in surface waters north and east of Cape Cod. A Polish vessel, Wieczno, arrives in August, a French vessel, Cryos, in September and a West German vessel, Anton Dohrn, in October.

The United States government has had a fishery research station in Woods Hole since 1871.

-END-

For further information, contact Susan Eddy (617) 548-5123.

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE
Northeast Fisheries Center
Woods Hole, Massachusetts 02543

News Release

September 15, 1973

Two scientists from the National Marine Fisheries Service Laboratory in Narragansett, Rhode Island, will be aboard the French research vessel Cryos when she departs from Woods Hole, Mass., today to begin a 5-nation survey of larval herring north and east of Cape Cod. The National Marine Fisheries Service Laboratory in Woods Hole is supplying sampling gear and coordinating the survey which is being conducted for the International Commission for the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries (ICNAF).

Each nation participating in the survey will spend two weeks taking samples of early life stages of herring from surface waters between Cape Cod and Nova Scotia. Each two-week period will be consecutive, thus, the result will be a continuous picture of the dispersion of larval herring from the major spawning areas.

When the Cryos completes her two-week leg, the Polish research vessel Wieczno will conduct a two-week leg. (The 210-ft long Wieczno docked in Woods Hole last Monday and is now doing joint research with the National Marine Fisheries Service on groundfish populations--cod, haddock, flounder--on Georges Bank).

Following the Wieczno, the Soviet research vessel Belogorsk is scheduled to depart from Woods Hole in October for her two-week leg, then the West German research vessel Anton Dohrn, and finally the National Marine Fisheries Service vessel Albatross IV in November.

This is the third Fall that ICNAF nations have cooperated to gather information on spawning populations of herring in the Northwest Atlantic. The Cryos was in Woods Hole in 1971 to participate in the first such survey, and both the Wieczno and the Anton Dohrn were in Woods Hole to participate in last Fall's survey.

The 185-ft long Cryos tied up at the National Marine Fisheries dock on Thursday. She is based at St. Pierre et Miquelon, French-controlled territory off Newfoundland.

# # #

Susan Eddy
617-548-5123

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE
Northeast Fisheries Center
Woods Hole, Massachusetts 02543

24 September 1976

NEWS RELEASE

For More Information Contact
Public Information Section

For Release After
September 24, 1976

SOVIET FISHERIES SCIENTISTS IN SOCCER GAME WITH MASSACHUSETTS MARITIME ACADEMY

The National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) in Woods Hole has announced a soccer game between visiting Soviet fisheries scientists and Massachusetts Maritime Academy. The game will be held on October 1 at 3 p.m. at the Academy's soccer field in Buzzards Bay.

Soviet team members are from the fisheries research vessel BELOGORSK which is visiting the NMFS laboratory in Woods Hole. This is the third straight year that the BELOGORSK has come to Woods Hole and the second straight year for the soccer matchup. The Soviet team composed of members of the ship's crew and scientific party who play soccer only as a hobby, tied Massachusetts Maritime Academy 3-3 last year.

Lev S. Berezkin, captain of the Soviet ship, will be on the team. The traditional exchange of flowers and national flags and the playing of the respective national anthems will precede the game.

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE
Northeast Fisheries Center
Woods Hole, Massachusetts 02543

28 September 1976

NEWS RELEASE

For More Information Contact
Public Information Section
(617) 548-5123

For Release After
September 26, 1976

OPEN HOUSE ON SOVIET SHIP

The USSR's fisheries research vessel BELOGORSK will hold an open house on October 3 from 1 to 5 p.m. in Woods Hole. This is the third consecutive year that the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) has arranged for a public viewing of the Soviet factory stern trawler.

Guides will be on board to display, among other things, the research laboratories, the bridge, and the living quarters. Informative literature will also be handed out. The NMFS Aquarium will also be open.

Home port for the 267-foot, 2,435-ton (gross) ship is Kaliningrad, USSR. Captain of the vessel, Lev S. Berezkin, was the first to bring a Soviet research vessel into US waters when he guided the ALBATROS to the NMFS Woods Hole laboratory in 1967. Fourteen of the 62 personnel on board the BELOGORSK have been to Woods Hole before, including the third consecutive appearance of first mate Victor E. Stepanov.

The BELOGORSK is cooperating with the US on four research cruises. Two of the cruises--a bottom trawl survey of groundfish abundance and distribution and a tagging program for sea herring migrations and mortality--have been completed. The third cruise will be a survey of larval sea herring abundance and distribution and a continuation of the groundfish survey. The fourth cruise will be a daytime-nighttime study of pelagic fish abundance.

The BELOGORSK will depart the Northwest Atlantic for Kaliningrad during the first week in November.

Editor's Note: Included is an 8x10-inch photograph of the BELOGORSK

NOS Ship Mt. Mitchell Aids

New England Fisheries Workers

1977 ?

Woods Hole, MA -- The National Ocean Survey's medium survey ship Mt. Mitchell moved into New England waters for the first time in February. The 231-foot, 1591-ton ship assisted NMFS's Northeast Fisheries Center in a larval herring survey on Georges Bank and in the Gulf of Maine.

From February 12 to 26 the Mt. Mitchell carried eight scientists from the Northeast Fisheries Center for studies on: (1) The abundance and distribution of herring larvae and their planktonic food; (2) the primary productivity (nutrient and chlorophyll concentrations) of the water column; and (3) the different water masses in the area. This work was part of the research program of the International Commission for the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries, an organization to which the United States no longer belongs, but with which the United States cooperates for research purposes.

In addition, the ship participated in some of the after-effect studies in the vicinity of the Argo Merchant oil spill. Plankton, sediment, and benthic invertebrate samples were collected for hydrocarbon analysis.

a.

1979?

William H. Callahan (left) and Fred E. Lux (right) of the Northeast Fisheries Center's Woods Hole Laboratory have been awarded 35 and 25-year pins, respectively. More than 21 years of Callahan's 35 years of federal service have been spent with the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) and its predecessor, the Bureau of Commercial Fisheries. He is currently a member of a group summarizing and analyzing the biological and statistical data on the groundfishes and surf clams in the Northwest Atlantic. Such summarizations and analyses will play a key role in the fishery management plans developed by the New England and Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Councils.

Fred Lux has been at the Woods Hole Laboratory since 1955. Since that time Lux has been actively involved in projects on industrial fishes, flounders, and inshore and offshore surveys of groundfishes. He is also the Center's coordinator for the New England Fishery Development Program --one of NMFS leading efforts to provide information and assistance to local fishermen.

NMFS Biologist

Honored by EPA

Dr. John B. Pearce, a supervisory fishery research biologist for NMFS's Northeast Fisheries Center, has been awarded a Regional Special Award of Merit by the Environmental Protection Agency. In the award, Dr. Pearce was lauded as one who "represents that rare combination of excellent research scientist and effective public protagonist of environmental concerns".

Dr. Pearce, Manager of the Center's Environmental Assessment Division at Sandy Hook, New Jersey, has developed a comprehensive program to document the effects of ocean dumping in the New York Bight on the area's fish and shellfish resources. This multidisciplinary program includes biochemical, physiological, ecological, microbiological, and behavioral studies. During 1976, Dr. Pearce's Division led the study of the major summer fish kills off New Jersey and contributed much of the biological analysis of the fish, benthic invertebrate, sediment, and water samples collected in the wake of the ARGO MERCHANT oil spill.

The award further noted that Dr. Pearce "has participated in many academic, governmental, and private foundation efforts to preserve evironmental quality and enhance resources significant to man".

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE
Northeast Fisheries Center
Woods Hole Laboratory
Woods Hole, Massachusetts 02543
Contact Jon A. Gibson (548-5123)

February 6, 1978

For immediate release

SOVIET SHIP ON SECOND JOINT RESEARCH CRUISE

Woods Hole, Ma--ARGUS, a Soviet fisheries research ship, is on its second joint American-Soviet research cruise in American waters from January 27 to March 23. The 9-year old, 290-foot stern trawler from Kaliningrad on the Baltic Sea will stop at the mouth of Woods Hole Harbor on February 12 and March 2 to exchange American scientists from the Northeast Fisheries Center. The ship will not dock in Woods Hole because her draft is too deep for the docks there.

The 4 American and 12 Soviet scientists on board are studying continental shelf waters from Georges Bank to Cape Hatteras for the depth distribution, daily feeding habits, and growth and maturation rates of squids and for the geographical distribution, abundance, and age composition of mackerels. Altogether, 24 American scientists will join the 115 persons on board the ARGUS for both cruises.

The first cruise from October 15 to November 25 dealt with the hydrography and the distribution and abundance of nutrients, phytoplankton, and zooplankton on the Scotian Shelf, Gulf of Maine, Georges Bank, and Middle Atlantic Bight, as well as with the depth

More

Soviet Ship
Add One

distribution, spawning grounds, daily movements and feeding habits, growth and maturation rates, and ability to be attracted to lights of squids.

Between the first and second cruise the ARGUS surveyed waters off the southeastern United States for fish and squid populations. The cruise now underway is the 56th involving a Soviet vessel in the 11 years such cooperative research has been going on between the Northeast Fisheries Center and the Soviet Union. Since the enactment of the 200-mile limit this bilateral research has taken on new importance. Such joint research is one of four factors used by the Secretaries of State and Commerce to allocate among nations any surplus production of our fish stocks that cannot be harvested by American fishermen.

1983?

Evelyn B. Howe of the Northeast Fisheries Center's Woods Hole Laboratory recently received a 20-year pin from the United States Department of Commerce. Mrs. Howe, a North Falmouth resident, has worked at the laboratory since 1963. In 1976 she shifted from the administrative section (accounts maintenance clerk) to the research section (fisheries technician) and has since become one of the few seagoing women in the federal government.

1983?

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE
Northeast Fisheries Center
Woods Hole, Massachusetts
July 14, 1978

NOAA News
Room 108
Rock-Wall Building
Office of Public Affairs
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
Rockville, Maryland 20852

Dear Sir:

Please include the enclosed obituary in the next issue of "NOAA News."

Sincerely yours,

Robert L. Edwards
Center Director

Judy A. Brennan Hoskins

Judy A. Brennan Hoskins died June 11. Since 1970 when she began as a mathematical statistician analyzing fisheries data for the National Marine Fisheries Service in Woods Hole, Mass., she assumed increasingly important advisory roles in international fisheries problems. She served on numerous committees of the International Commission for the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries, and represented the U.S. in bilateral negotiations. At the time of her death she was Chief of an Investigation researching multispecies fisheries management. She was 31 years old and is survived by her husband, Dr. Hartley Hoskins of the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE
Northeast Fisheries Center
Woods Hole, Massachusetts 02543
June 25, 1979

F13:JAG

NEWS RELEASE

For immediate release

For more information contact:
W. Redwood Wright
(617) 548-5123

WOODS HOLE, MA--Mariners should avoid a string of 11 buoys south of Martha's Vineyard and Nantucket, according to the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS).

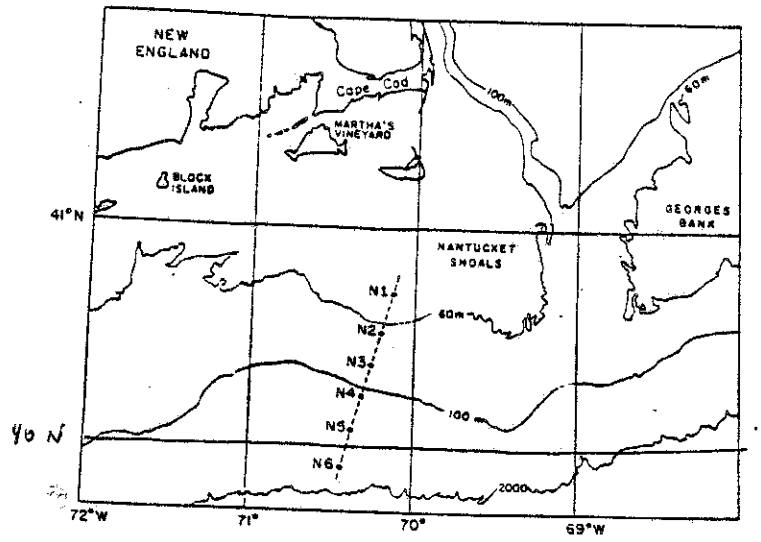
These orange, or orange-and-white, buoys are equipped with lights and radar reflectors. Buoy locations are shown in the attached figure and table. Two buoys are located at all positions except "N6" which has one buoy.

Generally, the buoy locations are about 10 miles apart, starting at a point about 10 miles west-southwest of the Davis Shoals whistle (8DS) and running south-southwest to a point almost at the edge of the continental shelf.

These buoys mark the positions of delicate underwater instruments which will be measuring current directions and speeds through this fall. These current "meters" are part of a one-year experiment by NMFS, the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution(WHOI), the United States Geological Survey, and the University of New Hampshire.

Any buoys found loose or damaged should be reported to Robert C. Beardsley of WHOI at (617) 548-1400, or W. Redwood Wright of NMFS at (617) 548-5123.

-30-



Mooring No.	Latitude	Longitude	Float Identification
N1	40°41.7'	70°08.5'	V, T
N2	40°29.9'	70°13.0'	G, J
N3	40°20.6'	70°16.0'	X, Y
N4	40°12.8'	70°18.1'	W, Z
N5	40°02.2'	70°22.3'	I, K
N6	39°51.2'	70°25.4'	C

NORTHEAST FISHERIES CENTER

News Release

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION · NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE
NORTHEAST FISHERIES CENTER
WOODS HOLE, MASSACHUSETTS 02543

(617) 548-5123 · CONTACT: JON A. GIBSON

15 August 1979 For Immediate Release

Fisheries Award Winner

WOODS HOLE, MA--Anne Tibbetts Lange, a research fishery biologist at the National Marine Fisheries Service laboratory in Woods Hole, has won that lab's first annual "Judith Brennan Hoskins Memorial Award." Anne, a Woods Hole resident who has worked at the lab since 1972, was selected as the one non-managerial-level employee at the lab whose work most exceeded expectations.

During the past year Anne has been the chief US scientific advisor in the American-Canadian negotiations over East Coast fishing boundaries. She has also continued to gain international recognition for ther research into the biology and assessment of North Atlantic squid populations.

For winning the award, Anne has received a certificate of award and has had her name inscribed on the memorial plaque shown in the attached photograph. The plaque will be displayed on the second floor lobby of the fisheries lab.

Judith Brennan Hoskins, for whom the award was named, was employed at the fisheries lab until her death at age 31 in June 1978. At the time of her death, she was chief of the lab's fishery analysis investigation and had established an international reputation as a researcher of multispecies fishery management and as an advisor to both bilateral fishery negotiations and the International Commission for the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries. Bound volumes of Judith Brennan Hoskins' scientific

-more-

publications have been presented to her parents and to the library at the fisheries lab.

-end-

NORTHEAST FISHERIES CENTER

News Release

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
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NORTHEAST FISHERIES CENTER
WOODS HOLE, MASSACHUSETTS 02543

(617) 548-5123 · CONTACT: JON A. GIBSON

16 August 1979 For Immediate Release

Fisheries Employees Earn Service Pins

WOODS HOLE, MA--The four employees of the National Marine Fisheries Service's Northeast Fisheries Center (NEFC) and its component Woods Hole Laboratory (WHL) pictured above have been awarded length-of-service pins. Pictured from left to right are Edgar W. Bowman, Dr. George J. Ridgway, Harriette E. (Betty) Murray, and Dr. Marvin D. Grosslein.

Marv Grosslein, currently the chief of the marine ecosystems investigation at the WHL, has received a 20-year length-of-service pin. Marv is a resident of West Falmouth and has spent his entire federal career at the WHL.

George Ridgway, currently the NEFC's planning officer, has received a 25-year length-of-service pin. George is also a resident of West Falmouth. His federal career has included being a biochemist at the National Marine Fisheries Service's Seattle (Washington) Laboratory and a laboratory director at the NEFC's former Boothbay Harbor (Maine) Laboratory.

Ed Bowman, currently the NEFC's liaison to the Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council, has received a 15-year length-of-service pin. Ed is a Falmouth resident and has previously been stationed in Ann Arbor, Michigan; Gloucester, Massachusetts; and Washington, D. C.

-more-

Fisheries Employees Earn Service Pins
Add One

Betty Murray, currently a biological laboratory technician for the WHL's benthic dynamics investigation, has received a 35-year length-of-service pin. Betty is also a Falmouth resident and has spent her federal career within Barnstable County.

-end-

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE
Northeast Fisheries Center
Woods Hole, Massachusetts 02543

August 24, 1979 F13: JAG

TO: PA-Norma V. Reyes

FROM: F13-Jon A. Gibson JAG

SUBJECT: Article for "NOAA News"

The following obituary should be placed in the next issue of "NOAA News." If you foresee any problems in running this item in the publication, let us know immediately.

Paul S. Galtsoff

Dr. Paul S. Galtsoff, director emeritus of the NMFS Woods Hole Laboratory (the world's oldest fisheries research facility), died at age 92 on August 23. Dr. Galtsoff began his federal career as the naturalist on the original R/V ALBATROSS. He retired in 1964 as director of the shellfish laboratory in Woods Hole, continuing on until 1971 as guest investigator. His 60-year reign as one of the world's preeminent shellfish research biologists began after his graduation from the Imperial Moscow University in 1910. Prior to his immigration to the US with his wife and fellow researcher Eugenia in 1921, he was the senior zoologist of the Russian Imperial Academy of Science. He is author of the classic, The American Oyster, and received the Interior Department's distinguished service award and gold medal in 1962.

cc: F -Terry L. Leitzell
F13 -Robert L. Edwards
F131-Richard C. Hennemuth

NORTHEAST FISHERIES CENTER

News Release

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION · NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE
NORTHEAST FISHERIES CENTER
WOODS HOLE, MASSACHUSETTS 02543

(617) 548-5123 · CONTACT: JON A. GIBSON

13 September 1979 For Immediate Release

NMFS Zoologist to Head Scientific Society

WOODS HOLE, MA-- Dr. Bruce B. Collette, a National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) zoologist, has been elected President of the American Society of Ichthyologists and Herpetologists (ASIH) for 1981. Dr. Collette, an expert on the anatomy and classification of tunas, mackerels, halfbeaks, and needlefishes for the NMFS National Systematics Laboratory in the Smithsonian Institution, was elected at the 29 July-4 August annual meeting of the ASIH at the University of Maine in Orono.

The ASIH, a 66-year-old organization with 2,000 international members, publishes the well known and well respected scientific journal Copeia. Dr. Collette is a former ichthyological editor of the journal, as well as former scientific editor for the National Marine Fisheries Service.

-end-

Editor's Note: A photograph of Dr. Collette is available upon request by calling: (FTS) 381-5751.

NORTHEAST FISHERIES CENTER

News Release

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
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NORTHEAST FISHERIES CENTER
WOODS HOLE, MASSACHUSETTS 02543

(617) 548-5123 · CONTACT: JON A. GIBSON

13 September 1979

For Immediate Release

NMFS Lab Director Co-Convenes International Fish Conference

WOODS HOLE, MA-- Dr. Daniel M. Cohen, Director of the National Marine Fisheries Service's National Systematics Laboratory in the Smithsonian Institution, recently co-convened the Workshop on Systematics of Fishes Living in Cold and Temperate Waters of the World Oceans. Dr. William N. Eschmeyer of the California Academy of Sciences was the other co-convenor.

NOAA, along with the National Science Foundation, sponsored the 5-6 August workshop held at the University of Maine in Orono. The workshop is part of the joint American-Soviet agreement on "Study of the World Ocean." Two Japanese, six Soviet, and forty North American scientists discussed mutual problems, reviewed current research, and explored further cooperation in studying the anatomy and classification of cold and temperate water fishes around the world.

-end-

Editor's Note: A photograph of Dr. Cohen is available upon request by calling: (FTS) 381-5751.

NORTHEAST FISHERIES CENTER

News Release

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION · NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE
NORTHEAST FISHERIES CENTER
WOODS HOLE, MASSACHUSETTS 02543

(617) 548-5123 · CONTACT: JON A. GIBSON

25 September 1979 For Immediate Release

Scientists and Fishermen Tackle Scallop Problem

WOODS HOLE, MA--The NMFS's Northeast Fisheries Center (NEFC), the New England Fishery Management Council, and the New England fishing industry are jointly tackling the problems of managing the sea scallop fishery.

The Scallop Oversight Committee of the Council, now in the process of preparing a sea scallop fishery management plan, is seeking to maximize the yield from each scallop reaching a harvestable size (i.e., balancing the tradeoffs between increasing growth and decreasing survival with age). One way the Council might accomplish this objective is by modifying the currently used scallop-capturing gear to increase the minimum size of captured scallops and/or decrease the gear-caused mortality of less-than-minimum-sized scallops.

Accordingly, the Council recently requested the NEFC to study scallop gear performance. The Seafood Producers Association of New Bedford, Massachusetts, headed by Jim Costakis, cooperated in the study by arranging for a commercial-type scallop drag to be built by Dockside Repair, Inc., of New Bedford, and to be delivered to the NEFC in Woods Hole. The drag is a scaled-down model of the one used on most scallop draggers in the New Bedford fleet, as well as on all three

-more-

draggers operated by Roy Enoksen, president of Dockside Repair, Inc. The Seafood Producers Association also arranged for John Sweeney, a retired sea captain with over 25 years of scallop fishing experience, to be the New England fishing industry's official observer and advisor in the study.

The first round of the study was devoted to developing methods for underwater viewing of gear performance. On nine day-trips in June, the NEFC's 65-foot, 70-ton gear research vessel RORQUAL--captained by Lieutenant Jack Moakley of the NOAA Corps--hauled the eight-foot-wide, commercial-type drag through the waters off Cape Cod, Martha's Vineyard, and Nantucket Island. NEFC engineers, divers, fisheries equipment specialists, and electronic technicians, under the guidance of Lieutenant Commander Ron Smolowitz of the NOAA Corps, observed drag performance through: (1) underwater viewing by SCUBA diver's riding the drag, and (2) shipboard viewing of color television pictures from diver-held and gear-mounted cameras.

Six divers were able to ride the drag as fast as 2 knots, as long as 20 minutes, and as deep as 80 feet. In the process, the divers--led by Cliff Newell--made the first observations on the undersea operation of scallop gear in New England waters.

In addition to developing methods for evaluating gear performance, the study provided valuable observations on the efficiency of the drag for remaining on the bottom, capturing those scallops in its path, damaging those not caught, and retaining smaller-sized specimens. The videotape has been edited initially to a 50-minute version for showing

to the Council and the New England fishing industry. The tape will be ultimately edited to 26 minutes for a cable television presentation.

The New England scallop fishery is now unregulated. However, in the forthcoming scallop management plan, gear modifications arising from this study might provide an alternative management tool to the often controversial quotas currently employed in managing Atlantic groundfish.

-end-

The R/V RORQUAL, a World War II Army tugboat, was converted for fisheries research in 1961 and has since been operating in the Northeast.

NORTHEAST FISHERIES CENTER

News Release

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION · NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE
NORTHEAST FISHERIES CENTER
WOODS HOLE, MASSACHUSETTS 02543

(617) 548-5123 · CONTACT: JON A. GIBSON

18 October 1979

For Release After
18 October 1979

Woods Hole Laboratory Employee Tapped "Best" in National Marine Fisheries Service

WOODS HOLE, MA--Eva S. Montiero, a statistical assistant at the Woods Hole Laboratory of the National Marine Fisheries Service's (NMFS) Northeast Fisheries Center, has been selected the Service's best employee for 1978.

Terry L. Leitzell, Assistant Administrator for Fisheries of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), presented a certificate of award and a 500-dollar check to Mrs. Montiero at a 10:00 a.m. ceremony today at the Whitman Auditorium in Woods Hole.

Mrs. Montiero is an East Falmouth resident, mother of two (Michael R. Montiero and Janis M. Hendricks), and grandmother of two (India M. and Lawrence M. Hendricks).

The Assistant Administrator for Fisheries recognized Mrs. Montiero as one who had "demonstrated exceptional and sustained effort toward accomplishment of the NMFS mission." Her work involves laboratory duties (i.e., preparing for research cruises, processing of biological data collected at sea, and preparing special reports on the research cruises for the fishing industry) and at-sea duties (i.e., collecting and processing biological data, and supervising and training others

-more-

in the same skills). In particular, she incorporated last-minute changes into the cruise tracks of the Center's research vessels ALBATROSS IV and DELAWARE II to include sampling locations specifically requested by the New England fishing industry. She also radioed biological data thoroughly and accurately from the research vessels to the Center's fish stock assessment biologists without the aid of any computer-assisted auditing of those data. Such efforts permitted the Center to respond fully to the New England Fishery Management Council's request for immediate information on the status of the Northeast's fish stocks.

Mrs. Montiero, a member of the local Cape Verdian community, was one of the first persons to break the employment barrier in the Woods Hole scientific community in 1965 as program secretary of the Marine Biological Laboratory's Systematics-Ecology Program under the direction of Dr. Melbourne R. Carriker. Since joining the Woods Hole Laboratory staff in 1972, Mrs. Montiero has undergone training in marine biology at Cape Cod Community College, received two "letters of appreciation and commendation" from the Center's Director, two "outstanding" annual performance appraisals, two NOAA "unit (group) citations," and a "special achievement incentive award."

Dr. Robert L. Edwards, the Center's Director, congratulated Mrs. Montiero at the ceremony by noting that "Our programs are only as good as the people we have to carry them out, and Eva represents the best of what a NMFS employee should be."

Woods Hole Laboratory Employee Tapped "Best"
in National Marine Fisheries Service
Add Two

Director of the Center's Woods Hole Laboratory, Richard C. Hennemuth, stated that "What makes Mrs. Montiero truly exceptional is the way she transfers her energy, vitality, and interest in doing a good job to her fellow workers. It seems that anyone who works with her assumes her level of interest, tries to do as good a job, and realizes that a job well done is a source of great satisfaction and enjoyment. This is true both in the laboratory and at sea; and it effects not only her peers but the supervisory and more technically trained scientific staff as well."

Also in attendance was Dr. Bradford E. Brown, chief of the research division (resource assessment) in which Mrs. Montiero works. Dr. Brown placed her performance in perspective when he noted that "Public concern over NMFS activities is ever present, but constantly shifts from program to program and from region to region; currently it's on resource assessment in the Northeast. When such concerns arise, outstanding personal achievements and contributions, which are normally of special value only to the immediate program or region, become of special value to NMFS as a whole. With the public's attention now on Northeast resource assessment, it seems especially appropriate that the entire Service recognize Eva's truly outstanding achievements and contributions."

-end-

Eva S. Montiero of East Falmouth receives certificate recognizing her as the best employee in the National Marine Fisheries Service in 1978. Terry L. Leitzell, Director of the Service, presented the award as well as a 500-dollar check at a ceremony in Woods Hole on Thursday.

NORTHEAST FISHERIES CENTER

News Release

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION · NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE
NORTHEAST FISHERIES CENTER
WOODS HOLE, MASSACHUSETTS 02543

(617) 548-5123 · CONTACT: JON A. GIBSON

February 5, 1980

WOODS HOLE, MA -- Dr. Roland L. Wigley, a research fishery biologist for the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) laboratory here, has announced a one-year trial retirement to Florida. Wigley, an international expert on the distribution and abundance of bottom-dwelling marine organisms, was lauded in both prose and poetry at a party in his honor at the NMFS Aquarium on Wednesday, January 30. Among the gifts was a folder of photographs documenting and highlighting his career. Among Wigley's accomplishments was revealing the distribution and abundance of the deep-sea red crab which launched the current commercial fishery for that species. The photo shows one of the more humorous gifts he received at his trial retirement party.

NORTHEAST FISHERIES CENTER

News Release

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
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NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE
WOODS HOLE, MASSACHUSETTS 02543

(617) 548-5123 · CONTACT: JON A. GIBSON

June 30, 1980 For Immediate Release

WOODS HOLE, MA -- The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's (NOAA) fisheries laboratory at Woods Hole, Mass., has received a grant of $113,829 from the U.S. Department of Energy to install solar power heating and hot water supply systems.

The grant is one of four awarded to NOAA's National Marine Fisheries Service laboratories. Other laboratories receiving grants are located at Gloucester, Mass., La Jolla, Calif., and Narragansett, R.I.

The Woods Hole project, to be completed in 18 months, is expected to provide approximately 18 percent of the building's energy requirements. The project is one of 843 projects totaling $31 million funded by the U.S. Department of Energy.

Richard C. Hennemuth, Director of the Woods Hole facility, notes that the "solar project is part of a comprehensive energy conservation effort at the facility." Roof insulation, window insulation, and thermostatic control for each office will be installed in addition to the solar power heating system.

Hennemuth observes that "much of the facility's heating problem results from about three-fourths of the facility's surface area being glass." The south side of the building is an energy collector and often warmer than necessary; the north side is an energy dissipater and often cooler than desirable.

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The project which demonstrates the Federal Government's commitment to solar energy should stimulate the growth and improve the efficiency of the solar industry, encourage more rapid commercialization of solar heating and cooling products and systems, and enable the Federal sector to develop trained personnel in the maintenance and operation of solar energy systems.

Hennemuth says "records will be kept on the costs of installation, operation, and maintenance of the system, as well as on the energy savings attributable to it." These records will be made available to local businesses considering the installation of solar power heating and water supply systems.

NORTHEAST FISHERIES CENTER

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WOODS HOLE, MASSACHUSETTS 02543

(617) 548-5123 · CONTACT: JON A. GIBSON

17 July 1980 For Immediate Release

WOODS HOLE, Mass. -- Four employees of the National Marine Fisheries Service's Woods Hole Laboratory have recently retired.

Three of the four are shown in the attached photograph: (from left to right) Betty Murray, Bob Livingstone, and Art Posgay. Not pictured is Marge Hock.

Helen E. (Betty) Murray, a biological laboratory technician, had been at the facility for 32 years. She is a resident of Falmouth Center.

Robert (Bob) Livingstone, Jr., a research fishery biologist, had been at the facility for 24 years. He had earlier worked with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in Seattle, Wash., Stanford, Calf., La Jolla, Calf., and Newark, Del. He is a resident of Falmouth Center.

Julius A. (Art) Posgay, a research fishery biologist, had been at the facility for 26 years. He had earlier worked with the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution and the Massachusetts Division of Fisheries and Wildlife.

Marjorie E. (Marge) Hock, a support services supervisor, had been at the facility for eight years. She had earlier worked with the U.S. Food and Drug Administration in the Washington, D.C., metropolitan area, and the U.S. Army in Natick, Mass. She is a resident of Yarmouthport.

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WOODS HOLE, MASSACHUSETTS 02543

(617) 548-5123 · CONTACT: JON A. GIBSON

8 September 1980

For Immediate Release

Fisheries Award Winner

WOODS HOLE, MA--Frank P. Almeida, a research fishery biologist at the National Marine Fisheries Service laboratory in Woods Hole, has won that lab's second annual "Judith Brennan Hoskins Memorial Award." Frank, an East Falmouth resident who has worked at the lab since 1975, was selected as the one non-managerial-level employee at the lab whose work most exceeded expectations.

During the past year, Frank assessed the biological status of silver hake (whiting) and red hake stocks in the Northwest Atlantic. This biological assessment information was instrumental in the New England and Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Councils' decision on optimum yields from these stocks. Frank has also conducted a study of the geographic differences in the relative sizes of various body parts on silver hake, in order to determine the geographic distributions of the different stocks of that species in the Northwest Atlantic. Frank has further improved the techniques and usefulness of the computer processing system at the fisheries lab.

For winning the award, Frank has received a certificate of award and has had his name inscribed on a memorial plaque displayed on the second-floor lobby of the fisheries lab.

Judith Brennan Hoskins, for whom the award was named, was employed at

- more -

the fisheries lab until her death at age 31 in June 1978. At the time of her death, she was chief of the lab's fishery analysis investigation and had established an international reputation as a researcher of multispecies fishery management and as an advisor to both bilateral fishery negotiations and the International Commission for the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries.

Anne Tibbetts Lange, the winner of last year's award, also finally received the certificate portion of her award at the same time that Frank received his certificate.

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(617) 548-5123 · CONTACT: JON A. GIBSON

16 September 1980 FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WOODS HOLE, MA--The fisheries research ship ALBATROSS IV will hold an open house on Tuesday, 23 September, from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. The ship will be docked at the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) laboratory here.

Five unique and/or advanced types of oceanographic research equipment will be displayed on the rear deck and dock area. Scientists will be available to answer questions on the equipment, the ship, and the fisheries laboratory.

The open house celebrates three events. It commemorates the 10th anniversary of the founding of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)--the fisheries laboratory's parent agency. It celebrates this year as the "Year of the Coast." It also supplements the week-long (22-26 September) meeting of 500 international oceanographers in Woods Hole as part of the Third International Congress on the History of Oceanography.

In addition to the ALBATROSS IV open house, an extensive exhibit on the 109-year history of the NMFS laboratory will be set up in the Woods Hole Aquarium. This exhibit is based on the one featured in the Woods Hole Historical Society's Bradley House Museum in summer 1979. The Aquarium and its special exhibits will not only be open from 10:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. on the same day (23 September) as the ALBATROSS IV open house, but will also be open from 12:30 to 4:30 p.m. on the other four days of that week (22 and 24-26 September) and on the five days of the following week (29 September through 3 October).

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ALBATROSS IV, THE FISHERIES RESEARCH SHIP ASSIGNED TO THE NMFS WOODS HOLE LABORATORY, WILL HOLD AN OPEN HOUSE AT THE FISHERIES DOCK BETWEEN 10:00 A.M. AND 2:00 P.M. ON TUESDAY, 23 SEPTEMBER. SPECIAL RESEARCH GEAR WILL BE DISPLAYED AND SCIENTISTS WILL BE ONBOARD TO ANSWER QUESTIONS.

PHOTO TAKEN IN 1890 OF U.S.S. ALBATROSS AND OLD FISHERIES RESEARCH FACILITY IN WOODS HOLE. AN EXTENSIVE EXHIBIT ON THE 109-YEAR HISTORY OF THE NMFS WOODS HOLE LABORATORY WILL BE ON DISPLAY IN THE WOODS HOLE AQUARIUM FROM 12:30 TO 4:30 P.M. DURING 22-26 SEPTEMBER AND DURING 29 SEPTEMBER - 3 OCTOBER.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE
Northeast Fisheries Center
Woods Hole, Massachusetts 02543

NEWS RELEASE

22 September 1980

For Immediate Release

WOODS HOLE, MA--The National Ocean Survey hydrographic survey ships RUDE and HECK will hold an open house on Saturday, 27 September, from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. The ships will be docked at the National Marine Fisheries Service Laboratory.

The RUDE and HECK specialize in wire-drag surveys along the East and Gulf Coasts, locating and obtaining least depths on submerged objects which may be hazardous to navigation. Presently, the ships are conducting wire-drag and diving operations off Oak Bluffs, Martha's Vineyard. The NOS vessels are part of the 25-vessel fleet of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA).

During the open house, vessel personnel will be available to answer questions concerning the ship, equipment, and vessel operations. The RUDE and HECK are unique in their ship operations in that they have a single commanding officer for both vessels.

The open house celebrates three events. It commemorates the 10th anniversary of the founding of NOAA--the National Ocean Survey's parent agency. It celebrates this year as the "Year of the Coast." It also supplements the week-long (22-26 September) meeting of 500 international oceanographers in Woods Hole as part of the Third International Congress on the History of Oceanography.

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NORTHEAST FISHERIES CENTER

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WOODS HOLE, MASSACHUSETTS 02543

(617) 548-5123 · CONTACT: JON A. GIBSON

December 1, 1980 For Immediate Release

Northeast Fisheries Center Workshop on Cooperative Education Programs

WOODS HOLE, MA -- During 17-19 November, the National Marine Fisheries Service's Northeast Fisheries Center (NEFC) hosted a workshop here on cooperative education programs.

The National Association for Equal Opportunity in Higher Education conducted the workshop for representatives of 21 traditionally black universities and colleges which also have significant hispanic enrollments.

One of the workshop's immediate goals was to encourage minority and female students to participate in the cooperative education programs at the NEFC, the Southeast Fisheries Center (SEFC) in Miami, FL, and the four other marine science and education organizations in Woods Hole -- Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution (WHOI), Marine Biological Laboratory (MBL), U.S. Geological Survey's Branch of Atlantic-Gulf of Mexico Geology (USGS) and Sea Education Association (SEA). Another immediate goal was to emphasize to research program managers the advantages and importance of hiring co-op students. The workshop's ultimate goals were to increase the number of qualified minorities and females interested in marine science careers and to offset the current employment underrepresentation by these groups in this field, through the experience and exposure offered by these cooperative education programs.

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Add One
Northeast Workshop

Principal speakers (topics) of the workshop were: Richard E. Hennemuth, Director of the NEFC's Woods Hole Laboratory ("The Future of Fisheries with an Outlook to Equal Employment Opportunity and Affirmative Action"); Lloyd Randolph, Regional Director of Federal Programs for the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission ("Federal Affirmative Hiring"); Otto O. Meyers, Jr., and Kitty Clark of the NOAA Office of Civil Rights ("Overview of NOAA Affirmative Action Programs"); Dr. Bradford E. Brown, NEFC's EEO Coordinator ("Co-op: A Means to an End"); Louise D. Turner of the NOAA Upward Mobility Branch ("Co-op in NOAA"); Karen Tench of the Co-op Director's Office of Lincoln University ("Co-op: One School's Experience"); and James Taormina, NMFS Northeast Region Personnel Officer ("Untangling the Red Tape").

Also presented were two perspectives on the cooperative education program of the NEFC, SEFC, WHOI, MBL, USGS, and SEA. First, an eight-member panel of co-op students, currently or recently associated with the NEFC's cooperative education program, discussed their actual experience. A key topic was how they had adjusted from an academic to professional environment, and in many cases, how they had adjusted from an urban to a rural or small community setting.

Second, representatives of the research programs of the six scientific organizations discussed co-op and other job opportunities for students within their programs. A principal theme was the ability of research administrators to convert co-op students to permanent employees upon graduation.

Add Two
Northeast Workshop

The representatives of the 21 universities and colleges indicated that the firsthand experience with the personnel, facilities, programs, and localities for the cooperative education programs would likely result in increased student interest and participation from their schools. Officials from the NEFC felt that the workshop was a milestone in expanding the cooperative education programs to schools formerly not fully aware of this program, and hopefully in promoting equal employment opportunity and affirmative action.

The schools represented were: Bennett College, Bowie State College, Cheyney State College, Clark College, Coppin State College, University of the District of Columbia, Elizabeth City State University, Fisk University, Grambling State College, Hampton Institute, Jackson State University, Lincoln University, University of Maryland Eastern Shore, Morgan State University, Morris Brown College, Norfolk State University, Roxbury Community College, South Carolina State College, Southern University, Virginia State University, and Virginia Union University.

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NORTHEAST FISHERIES CENTER

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WOODS HOLE, MASSACHUSETTS 02543

(617) 548-5123 · CONTACT: JON A. GIBSON

December 5, 1980

For Immediate Release

WOODS HOLE, MA -- Dr. Roland L. Wigley, a recently retired fishery biologist with the National Marine Fisheries Service here, has been awarded the U. S. Department of Commerce's Silver Medal. The Silver Medal is granted by the Secretary of Commerce for "very valuable contributions of national or international scope to science, ... demonstrated skill or ability in the performance of duties which resulted in program advancement; (and) meritorious authorship."

In granting the award, Secretary of Commerce Philip M. Kultznick noted that,

"Dr. Wigley is recognized for his contribution to the development of the Northeast's billion-dollar fishing industry and the protection of the Northwest Atlantic's sensitive environment. His studies of deep-sea red crabs and northern shrimp helped launch and/or sustain those fisheries. His studies of the distribution and abundance of large, bottom-dwelling marine invertebrates is the only existing comprehensive baseline for evaluating the environmental effects of outer continental shelf development. Important spinoffs have been the discovery of five new marine species and the development of new deep-sea survey gear.

His and his staff's study of marine food webs have shown that through careful ecosystem management, the harvest of Northwest Atlantic finfish can be increased 100 percent over the mid-1970's levels, including those species (cod, haddock, flounder, etc.) traditionally favored by American consumers. Such research was also instrumental in revealing the transfer of oil from the wreck of the ARGO MERCHANT through the food web to economically important and endangered species."

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Add one
Silver medal

Dr. Wigley received his B.S. degree from the University of Maine in 1949 and a Ph. D. from Cornell University in 1953.

Dr. Wigley resides with his wife Nancy in Woods Hole. They have two daughters, Cynthia and Susan.

-end-

NORTHEAST FISHERIES CENTER

For Immediate Release

News Release

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
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NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE
WOODS HOLE, MASSACHUSETTS 02543

(617) 548-5123 · CONTACT: JON A. GIBSON

18 May 1981

Narragansett, Rhode Island--The University of Rhode Island (URI) has received the world's largest and most thorough assemblage of scientific papers on marine mollusks--the Galtsoff Collection.

Dr. John A. Knauss, Dean of the URI Graduate School of Oceanography and Provost for Marine Affairs, accepted the 5400 papers from Dr. Robert L. Edwards, Director of the National Marine Fisheries Service's Northeast Fisheries Center in Woods Hole, Massachusetts.

The Galtsoff Collection represents 62 years of scientific endeavor by Dr. Paul S. Galtsoff, who, prior to his death in 1979, was the world's leading authority on marine mollusks and Director Emeritus of the Northeast Fisheries Center's Woods Hole Laboratory. The scientific papers focus on the classification, anatomy, physiology, ecology, and populations of marine mollusks, particularly the American oyster. This invaluable source of scientific information for marine biological and environmental researchers and marine shellfish fishermen and aquaculturists also stresses lobsters and sponges.

The breadth and depth of the Galtsoff Collection is a reflection of one of the most important and interesting men in American marine science. Born in 1887 in Moscow, Russia, Galtsoff graduated from Imperial Moscow University in 1910. In 1914 his colleagues elected him Senior Zoologist of the Russian Academy of Sciences. In 1917 he became Director of one of the world's oldest marine biological laboratories in Sevastopol on the Black Sea.

-more-

His military service to the White Russian Army during World War I and the Russian Communist Revolution limited his research between 1914 and 1921. He and his wife Eugenia immigrated to the United States in 1921 after escaping Sevastopol by ship only 12 hours before the Red Russian Army arrived with his name on its death list.

Galtsoff worked for the National Marine Fisheries Service and its predecessor agencies until his mandatory retirement at age 70 in 1958. However, he continued to serve the agency as a consultant until 1968. Altogether, he authored more than 150 scientific papers, including his classic treatise on The American Oyster. In 1964, the U.S. Department of the Interior presented him with a gold medal for distinguished service to the American people.

-end-

Dr. Robert L. Edwards of the National Marine Fisheries Service presents a plaque to Dr. John A. Knauss of the University of Rhode Island to commemorate the donation of the Galtsoff Collection of scientific papers on marine mollusks to the University's library.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE
Northeast Fisheries Center
Woods Hole, Massachusetts 02543

October 26, 1981 F/NEC:JAG

Mr. Robert Finch
Cape Cod Museum of Natural History
Route 6A
Brewster, MA 02631

Dear Mr. Finch:

Attached for your information is a copy of a note from Charles Wheeler of the Northeast Fisheries Center's Woods Hole Laboratory to Dr. Robert Edwards, the Center Director. The note documents the abnormally large and frequent fluctuations in Woods Hole Harbor temperatures recently. You may wish to speculate on the relationship between these temperature fluctuations and any other fluctuations you may have observed in the coastal environment.

Also, as I indicated to you in our telephone conversation this morning, I have bagged four ruffed grouse so far this hunting season. One of these was the gray phase which to my knowledge is the only phase observed here on Cape Cod at least since I have been here since 1976. The other three included a pure red phase and two red-gray gradations. To my knowledge, these are the first red phase birds seen here in some time.

As I indicated to you, the red phase is the dominant phenotype within any subspecies/population, but its occurrence is more limited by cold weather than that of the gray phase. With two successive mild winters and dry springs (the latter directly related to brood survival), it appears that the red phase is here in force. This ties in well, also, with the observations of the Massachusetts Division of Fisheries and Wildlife that ruffed grouse populations in the state are at all-time highs in some areas.

For your information, I have included photocopied pages from the bible in the field, The Ruffed Grouse by Frank W. Edminster. These pages should help to thoroughly confuse you on the matter of subspecies, populations, and color phases. If you ever want to do an in-depth review of this color-phase matter, then I suggest you contact Dr. Gordon W. Gullion of the University of Minnesota at St. Paul. He is the reigning expert on ruffed grouse.

Sincerely yours,

Jon A. Gibson

Jon A. Gibson
Technical Writer-Editor
(Fishery Biology)

Attachments(2)

Bob:

Following is a table showing the vagaries of Woods Hole water temperature in recent weeks. Incidentally, the summer quarter (July - Sept.) last year was the warmest in 19 years and 1981 was a close second. 1980 summer mean: 70.9°F; 1981 summer mean: 70.1°F. The 19 year mean for the summer quarter is 68.7°F. (All temperatures below are °F)

Week #	Period covered	19 year means	1981 mean	Divergence from 19 year mean
32	Aug. 6 - 12	70.9	73.2	+2.3
33	" 13 - 19	70.5	72.3	+1.8
34	" 20 - 26	69.9	70.3	+0.4
35	Aug. 27 - Sep. 2	69.7	69.4	-0.3
36	Sep. 3 - 9	68.5	68.4	-0.1
37	" 10 - 16	67.1	68.7	+1.6
38	" 17 - 23	65.9	66.9	+1.0
39	" 24 - 30	64.2	63.8	-0.4
40	Oct. 1 - 7	62.8	59.9	-2.9
41	" 8 - 14	60.7	56.9	-3.7

This little exercise emphasizes the proper attitude toward New England and particularly Cape Cod weather: always expect the un expected!

Charlie

Jon A. Gibson

NORTHEAST FISHERIES CENTER

News Release

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
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WOODS HOLE, MASSACHUSETTS 02543

(617) 548-5123 · CONTACT: JON A. GIBSON

4 January 1982 For Immediate Release

Fisheries Award Winner

WOODS HOLE, MA--Ralph K. Mayo, a research fishery biologist at the National Marine Fisheries Service's Laboratory in Woods Hole, has won that lab's third annual "Judith Brennan Hoskins Memorial Award." Mr. Mayo, a Teaticket resident who has worked at the lab since 1973, was selected as the one nonmanagerial-level employee at the lab whose work most exceeded expectations.

Mr. Mayo is an internationally recognized expert in processing and analyzing fisheries statistics. He has been responsible for compiling fisheries statistics from the Northwest Atlantic for use by international organizations such as the UN's Food and Agriculture Organization, and for initially analyzing such statistics for population assessments by American scientists. He has personally assessed the Northwest Atlantic populations of redfish (ocean perch) and has helped in assessing the populations of Northwest Atlantic haddock, yellowtail flounder, pollock, and scup.

Mr. Mayo has played an important role in: (1) assessing the fisheries impacts of oil and natural gas exploration and development in the Northwest Atlantic, (2) assessing the fisheries impacts of siting an oil refinery on the northern New England coast, (3) collecting catch statistics on the foreign fisheries in the Northwest Atlantic, and (4) characterizing the discarded catches by American fishermen in the Northwest Atlantic.

-more-

Mr. Mayo is also Acting President of the American Fisheries Society's Southern New England Chapter.

For winning the award, Mr. Mayo has received a certificate of award, a check for 500 dollars, and has had his name inscribed on a memorial plaque displayed on the second-floor lobby of the fisheries lab.

Judith Brennan Hoskins, for whom the award was named, was employed at the fisheries lab until her death at age 31 in June 1978. At the time of her death, she was chief of the lab's fishery analysis investigation and had established an international reputation as a researcher of multispecies fishery management and as an advisor to both bilateral fishery negotiations and the International Commission for the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries.

Also recently receiving recognition at the fisheries lab have been James M. Crossen of Falmouth Center (30-year Length of Service Award), Marion J. Hubler of Mashpee (Special Act Award), Gwendolyn L. Kelley of Pocasset (25-year Length of Service Award), George F. Kelly of Sippewissett (35-year Length of Service Award), Bernice E. Kingsley of Falmouth Center (Quality Step Increase Award), Anne M. T. Lange of Woods Hole (Group Special Act Award), Ralph K. Mayo (Group Special Act Award), Steven A. Murawski of Sippewissett (Group Special Act Award), Kathryn A. Paine of Teaticket (Quality Step Increase Award), Joan Palmer of Teaticket (Quality Step Increase Award), Robert W. Ransom of Falmouth Center (15-year Length of Service Award), James W. Sandlin of Maravista (25-year Length of Service Award), Violet M. Sikora of Pocasset (15-year Length of Service Award), and Malcolm J. Silverman of Falmouth Center (15-year Length of Service Award).

-end-

Jon A. Gibson

NORTHEAST FISHERIES CENTER

News Release

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(617) 548-5123 · CONTACT: JON A. GIBSON

18 February 1982

For Immediate Release

WOODS HOLE, MA--Cooperative fisheries research between American and Polish scientists has yielded valuable information on Northwest Atlantic mackerel.

American scientists from the National Marine Fisheries Service and Polish scientists from the Polish Sea Fisheries Institute are on board the Polish research vessels ADMIRAL ARCISZEWSKI and KANARYJKA. The scientists have hydroacoustically located and mapped a major concentration of Atlantic mackerel around Hudson Canyon--about 30-50 miles south of Long Island and east of New Jersey and about 150-250 feet deep. Extensive biological samples and hydroacoustical records have been taken.

These samples and records have provided valuable data on temperature preferences, behavioral characteristics, distributional patterns, and age/size composition in the Northwest Atlantic mackerel stock. The data are not only of interest to fishermen, but also to fisheries scientists who will use them in their information and advice to the New England and Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Councils. These Councils, created by the Magnuson Fishery Conservation and Management Act, manage the fisheries in their respective region's 200-mile limit.

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Add One
Mackerel

The ADMIRAL ARCISZEWSKI and the KANARYJKA arrived here on January 19 and February 15, respectively, and will continue research between Georges Bank and Cape Hatteras until the end of March. The American scientists on board will direct the collection of 3,000-5,000 tons of mackerel (out of a population estimated at 800,000 tons) during the study. Research for the remainder of the period will focus on determining: (1) indices of mackerel population size, and (2) inadvertent catches of other species while fishing for mackerel.

-end-

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE
Northeast Fisheries Center
Woods Hole, Massachusetts 02543

News Release No. 82-03:

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

For More Information Contact:

Jon A. Gibson (617-548-5123)

HADDOCK POPULATION DECLINING

WOODS HOLE, MA, December 7--Scientists at the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) laboratory at Woods Hole say the Georges Bank and Gulf of Maine haddock populations are declining.

The Georges Bank population of two-year-old and older haddock--the age when most reach a catchable size--was estimated at 40-50 million fish at the beginning of 1982, down from more than 70 million fish in 1981, and down substantially from the 1977-80 period when very large numbers of young haddock entered the fishery. The long-term average population for Georges Bank is 140 million fish. The Gulf of Maine population has been more stable in recent years, but also appears to be below its long-term average.

Dr. Bradford E. Brown, Acting Director of the NMFS's Woods Hole Laboratory, feels that "if fishing effort stays at the current level, and if the number of young haddock growing to a catchable size each year continues to be low, then the biomass, or total weight, of the Georges Bank population could decline by over 50 percent by the beginning of 1985."

-more-

ADD ONE

HADDOCK POPULATION DECLINING

Reported haddock landings by commercial fishermen reflect these population declines. The 1982 landings from Georges Bank will likely approximate 15-16 thousand metric tons -- down 35 percent from 1981, and down 42 percent from 1980. Increased effort by commercial fishermen for large haddock in the Gulf of Maine will keep 1982 reported landings from the Gulf of Maine on a par with 1980 and 1981.

The total price received at the dock (the "exvessel price") for American landings of haddock exceeded 22 million dollars in 1981.

Future populations and landings will depend primarily upon future production, survival, and growth of young haddock, say the NMFS scientists. Since it takes at least two years before a haddock can grow to a catchable size (also called "recruitment"), and since the estimated numbers of young haddock produced in 1981 and 1982 were relatively few, there will be no recovery in haddock populations until 1985 at the earliest.

The New England Fishery Management Council currently manages these haddock populations primarily to protect future recruitment. Under its Interim Fishery Management Plan/Draft Environmental Impact Statement for Atlantic Groundfish, the Council restricts the harvesting of young haddock in the hope that many of them will live long enough to spawn at least once. Such restrictions, in effect since March 31, 1982, include seasonal spawning-area closures, minimum net-mesh sizes, and minimum possession-length sizes.

-more-

ADD TWO

HADDOCK POPULATION DECLINING

Dr. Brown noted that the NMFS Woods Hole Laboratory "regularly provides information on the current and future populations of Northwest Atlantic fishes to fisheries managers such as the New England Fishery Management Council." However, because of the fishing industry's interest in such information, Dr. Brown says "the laboratory will begin to make a special effort to provide the information directly to industry members."

-end-

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE
Northeast Fisheries Center
Woods Hole, MA 02543

News Release No. 83-01

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

For More Information Contact:

Jon A. Gibson (617-548-5123)

Joint U.S.-Poland Fisheries Research Renews

WOODS HOLE, MA, January 24--Today the Polish research vessel WIECZNO arrives in Woods Hole to begin the 12th year of joint U.S.-Poland fisheries research.

American scientists from the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) will board the ship and direct her studies until she returns to Poland in mid-March. The WIECZNO will be joined later by two other Polish vessels, the ADMIRAL ARCISZEWSKI and KUNATKA. Again, NMFS scientists will board and direct research for these two vessels.

The joint research will again focus on "pelagic," or open-water, animals such as mackerel, squid, and sharks. Information will be sought on these animals' geographic distribution, relative abundance, age composition, maturity rates, feeding habits, blood diseases and parasites, temperature preferences, etc.

An important finding in last year's joint research was the practicality of an American fishery for overwintering mackerel in Southern New England waters. Any such findings from this year's joint research will be immediately radioed to interested American fishermen. There will also be an opportunity for a few American fishermen to board one of the research vessels and observe firsthand the trawling operations.

-end-

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE
Northeast Fisheries Center
Woods Hole, Massachusetts 02543

News Release No. 83-02

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

For More Information Contact:

Jon A. Gibson (617-548-5123)

1982 LANDINGS
UP IN VALUE
DOWN IN WEIGHT

WOODS HOLE, MA, February 9 -- Commercial landings of finfish and shellfish in New England decreased less than one percent in weight, but increased more than four percent in value, in 1982.

The 1982 landings were 698 million pounds valued at 380 million dollars. The 1981 landings were 704 million pounds valued at 363 million dollars.

Landings (in millions of pounds and dollars) by major New England ports for 1981 and 1982 are shown below:

Port	1981		1982	
	Pounds	Dollars	Pounds	Dollars
Gloucester, MA	176	45	144	46
New Bedford, MA	76	78	82	85
Rockland, ME	45	11	57	11
Portland, ME	45	17	67	13
Pt. Judith, RI	40	13	56	20
Boston, MA	30	12	27	12

-more-

ADD ONE

1982 LANDINGS

The National Marine Fisheries Service's Northeast Fisheries Center has also broken these figures down state by state and species by species. The Center cautions that these breakdowns are only preliminary, though:

State	1981		1982	
	Pounds	Dollars	Pounds	Dollars
ME	238	104	217	101
NH	8	4	8	4
MA	370	197	355	212
RI	80	48	113	54
CT	8	10	5	9

Species	1981		1982	
	Pounds	Dollars	Pounds	Dollars
Atlantic cod	100	33	104	38
Haddock	55	22	46	23
Yellowtail flounder	32	16	45	24
Atlantic herring	139	8	73	4
Sea scallop	20	79	16	58
American lobster	36	82	37	85
All others	322	123	377	148

-end-

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE
Northeast Fisheries Center
Woods Hole, Massachusetts 02543

News Release No. 83-03

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

For More Information Contact:

Jon A. Gibson (617-548-5123)

MORE, BIGGER, AND EARLIER MACKEREL FOR NORTHEAST'S FISHERMEN?

WOODS HOLE, MA, February 22--Warmer-than-usual waters in the Northwest Atlantic this winter may bring an earlier-than-usual season for mackerel fishermen this spring. A bonus will be the presence of more and larger fish than in recent seasons.

The attached figure shows the usual presence of Atlantic mackerel along the Northeast coast. However, the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) reports a major mackerel concentration only 30 miles east of Atlantic City, New Jersey, as of the second week of February -- closer to shore and shallower in depth than usual for this period.

This major mackerel concentration was located and is being studied by the NMFS's Northeast Fisheries Center (NEFC) in Woods Hole, Massachusetts, in cooperation with the Polish Sea Fisheries Institute (PSFI) in Gdynia, Poland. Both NEFC and PSFI fisheries scientists are now on board one Polish research vessel, the WIECZNO, and one Polish fishing vessel, the ADMIRAL ARCISZEWSKI, off New Jersey. A second Polish fishing vessel, the KUNATKA, will join the study in early March.

-more-

ADD ONE

MACKEREL FISHERMEN

This joint American-Polish study has also confirmed an abundance of large fish (between 17 and 19 inches and about two pounds each) in this year's mackerel population. The NEFC has further documented with its own perennial series of research vessel surveys a steady 75 percent (522-million-pound) increase in the mackerel population since 1978.

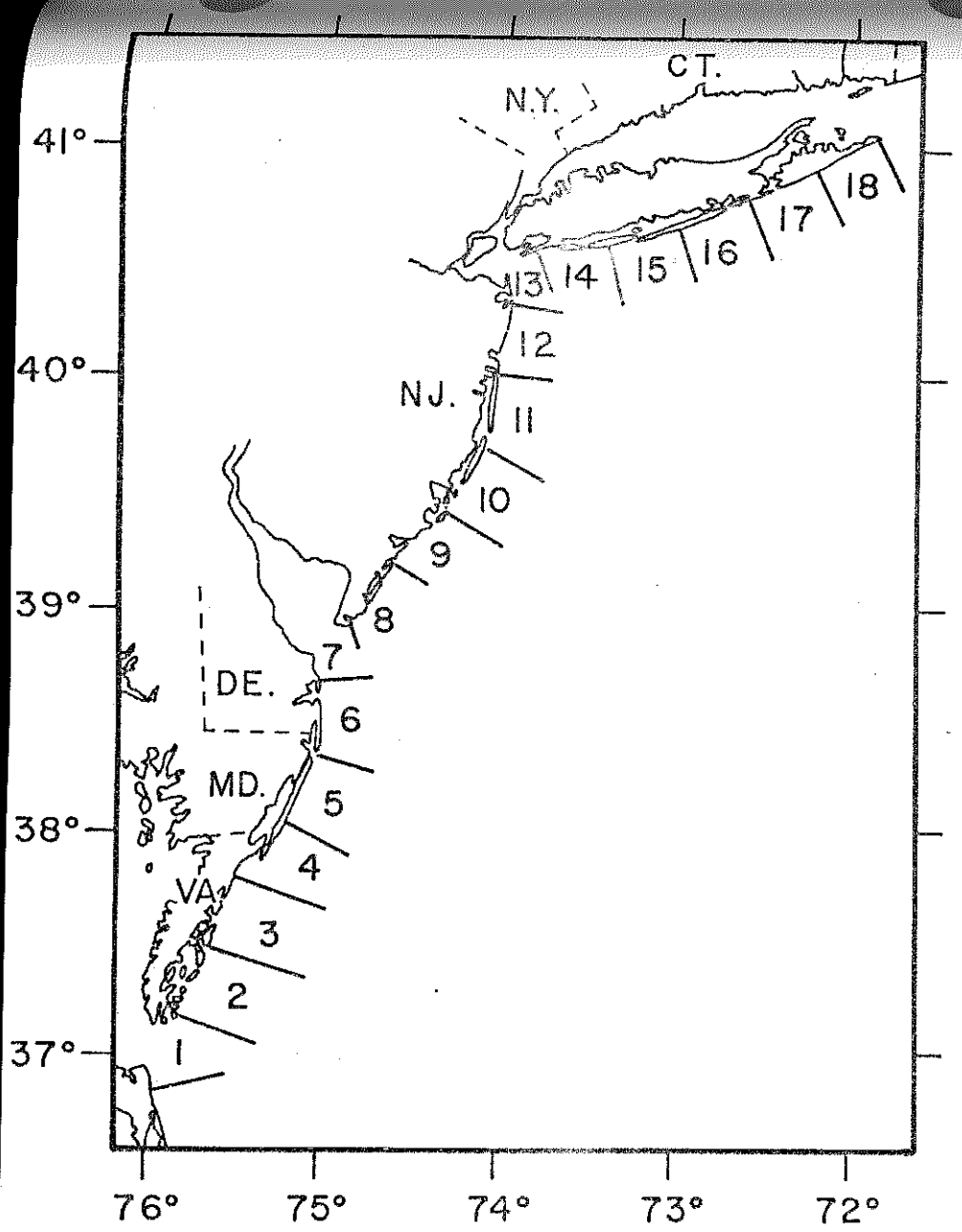
The Northeast's mackerel fishermen may well expect more, bigger, and earlier fish this spring.

-end-

Editor's Note: In addition to the attached figure is an enclosed background document. This document not only gives excellent information for this news item, but also for future news items on Atlantic mackerel.

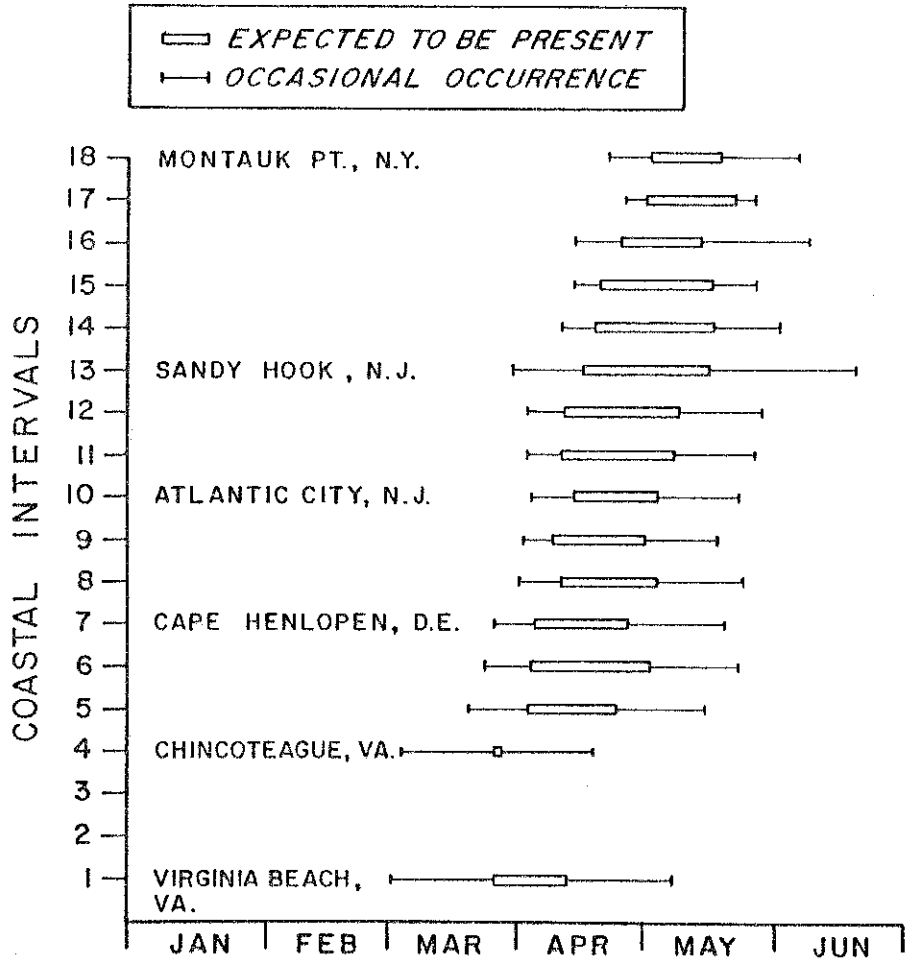
Attachment (1)

Enclosure (1)



MACKEREL PRESENCE BY INTERVALS

BASED ON SPORT FISHING REPORTS, 1969-80



Background Information to Accompany

Northeast Fisheries Center

News Release No. 83-03 --

"More, Bigger, and Earlier Mackerel for Northeast's Fishermen?"

prepared by

Dr. Emory D. Anderson

Senior Assessment Scientist

Resource Assessment Division

The seasonal distribution of Atlantic mackerel was unusual in 1982, and thus far in 1983, in the Northwest Atlantic. In most years, mackerel begin moving south out of the Gulf of Maine in October-December. Commercial landings tend to pick up first in Gloucester, Massachusetts, in about October and then in Provincetown, Massachusetts, in November-December as the fish move south along the coast. These mackerel continue around Cape Cod and follow the coast west and south; in some years they support a brief recreational fishery off the coast of northern New Jersey in November or December. The migration along the coast continues southward as far as Cape Hatteras before the mackerel turn around and head back north in the spring.

In 1982, though, the movement out of the Gulf of Maine was delayed due to warmer-than-usual water temperatures. Mackerel schools were observed around Cape Cod in January, and some reports were received of small mackerel east of Cape Cod in February. Recreational party- and charter-boat catches of mackerel were reported off northern New Jersey as late as mid-January.

The distribution of mackerel is governed, in part, by water temperature. Mackerel overwinter between Cape Hatteras and Georges Bank, but generally shift north or south within this area in response to higher or lower water temperature at that time of year (December-April). Perennial bottom-trawl survey catches of mackerel by the NMFS Northeast Fisheries Center (NEFC) at Woods Hole, Massachusetts, during the spring (March-April) documented a gradual northward shift during 1968-74 in response to a general warming trend. Based on the higher water temperatures in the winter of 1982-83, it is not surprising that mackerel are farther north than usual at this time.

A cooperative research program is currently in progress between the NEFC and the Polish Sea Fisheries Institute (PSFI) in Gdynia, Poland, to learn more about the distribution pattern and age structure of the overwintering mackerel stock. This program, involving a Polish research vessel, two Polish factory trawlers, and both U.S. and Polish scientists, began in late January 1983 and will continue through April 1983. Similar research on mackerel was done with Poland in 1981 and 1982. Cooperative fishery research has been done by the NEFC and the PSFI since 1972.

The Polish research vessel WIECZNO is nearing completion of a bottom-trawl survey begun in late January conducted between Cape Hatteras and Georges Bank. The purpose of this survey was to locate the principal concentrations of mackerel in the area. The Polish factory trawler ADMIRAL ARCISZEWSKI began a research fishery for mackerel in early February and will be joined by the other Polish factory trawler, the KUNATKA, in early March. In addition to taking large catches of mackerel for the purpose of monitoring the age structure of the stock, these two vessels will also scout designated areas during specific periods of time to further define the extent of mackerel distribution.

Activities through the first two weeks of February have identified a major concentration of mackerel centered about 30 miles east of Atlantic City, New Jersey. Results from the cooperative work with the Polish vessels, as well as observations from U.S. fishermen, have indicated that mackerel are presently closer to shore and in shallower water than was the case in 1981 or 1982.

Historically, mackerel have, on average, appeared close to shore and first become available to recreational fishermen by the last week of March off Delmarva and by the end of the first week of April off southern New Jersey. The recreational (and domestic commercial) fishery in the Mid-Atlantic area follows the northward-migrating fish until they disappear past Long Island and continue north. Based on the increased water temperature now being observed, it is possible that this spring's coastal run of mackerel may come earlier than normal. Further research on the distribution pattern of mackerel and water temperatures associated with their occurrence should provide beneficial information for the wise management and utilization of the species.

The mackerel stock in the Northwest Atlantic has been the subject of scientific investigation since the late 1800's, and since 1972 has been analyzed extensively by scientists from the NEFC, Canada, and other countries such as Poland which fished it intensively from 1968 until 1977. Research since the early 1970's has focused primarily on assessing the status of the stock and the effects of fishing it. The total international catch increased from about 10,000 metric tons in 1960 to a high of 430,000 tons in 1973, and then subsequently dropped to a relatively steady level of 25,000-35,000 tons during 1978-82. The U.S. commercial catch has not exceeded 4,400 tons during the past two decades, whereas the recreational catch was estimated to be about 16,000 tons in 1970. Recreational catch estimates have been based on periodic national and regional creel surveys, and since 1979 on a comprehensive annual national survey of marine recreational fishing. The estimated

catch in 1979 was about 3,300 tons. Estimates for years since 1979 have not been released yet, but are assumed to be higher than in 1979.

The mackerel stock in the Northwest Atlantic has fluctuated in abundance considerably during the past two decades. Based on analysis of catch-at-age data for the international fishery (commercial and recreational), since 1962, the weight or biomass of the total stock (all fish age 1 and older) increased from around 300,000 metric tons during 1961-65 to a peak of 1.8 million metric tons in 1970-71 before dropping to an estimated 323,000 metric tons in 1978. Since 1978, the total stock has increased almost 75% in weight to about 560,000 metric tons at the beginning of 1983. The spawning portion of the stock (estimated as 50% of the age 2 fish and 100% of the age 3 and older fish) was estimated to be about 470,000 metric tons at the start of 1983. These fluctuations in the stock, and most importantly the recent rebuilding, have been documented by the biomass indices calculated from results of the spring and autumn bottom-trawl surveys conducted by the NEFC between Cape Hatteras and Nova Scotia, and also from catch-and-effort data from the U.S. commercial fishery. Estimates of the U.S. recreational catch of mackerel in the past have been well correlated with estimates of stock biomass. The recovery trend in mackerel should signal increased recreational catches. Also of interest to anglers is the relative abundance of large mackerel measuring 17-19 inches in total length and weighing around two pounds each. These are primarily fish from the fairly good 1974 (age 9) and 1978 (age 5) year classes.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE
Northeast Fisheries Center
Woods Hole Laboratory
Woods Hole, Massachusetts 02543

March 30, 1983 F/NEC1:JG

Ms. Carolyn Woodwell
Falmouth Enterprise
Depot Avenue
Falmouth, Massachusetts 02540

Dear Carolyn,

Following are the vital facts on two of the Woods Hole Laboratory's employees who will retire Thursday, March 31, as I indicated I would provide this morning (March 29). I hope that by interviewing these two employees, you can develop a good human interest story. Charlie Wheeler, from the old time school of field naturalists, has more than a half century of first hand observations on the local environment and its fish and wildlife populations. Ed Handy has first hand observations on the computer revolution in marine sciences.

1. Charles Lincoln Wheeler

- Local address: 92 Sippewisset Road
- Date began Laboratory employment: 7/6/59
- Beginning title: Fishery Research Biologist (Marine)
- Current title: Fishery Biologist (Research)

2. Edward Ellsworth Handy

- Local address: 98 Shore Street
- Date began Laboratory employment: 10/3/70
- Beginning title: Electric Accounting Machine Program Supervisor
- Current title: Supervisory Computer Specialist

Sincerely,

Jon A. Gibson

cc: Dr. Marvin D. Grosslein

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE
Northeast Fisheries Center
Woods Hole, Massachusetts 02543

News Release No. 83-04

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

For More Information Contact:

Jon A. Gibson (617-548-5123)

FISH REACTION TO FISHING GEAR

WOODS HOLE, MA, April 19 -- New findings on fish reaction to fishing gear, captured on videotape, will be shown and discussed on Wednesday, April 27, at the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) Aquarium in Woods Hole.

A morning session from 9:00 a.m. to noon will be directed at commercial fishermen. An afternoon session from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. will be directed at fish behaviorists and fisheries biologists. Other interested public may attend either session.

These videotapes, edited from over 1,000 hours of underwater shooting by the Scottish Department of Fisheries and Agriculture (SDFA), cover such topics as trawls overtaking fish schools, fish schools encountering gill nets, fish taking baited hooks, haddock and Atlantic cod behavior, etc.

Leading the discussion and answering questions will be Dr. Clem Wardle, a fish behaviorist, and Mr. Jack Robertson, a fishing gear specialist. Both men come from the SDFA's marine laboratory in Aberdeen, Scotland.

Funding for the visit of Dr. Wardle and Mr. Robertson came from the Massachusetts Coastal Zone Management Program. The Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries (MDMF), with assistance from NMFS and the Massachusetts Inshore Draggermen's Association, is hosting them.

-more-

ADD ONE

FISH REACTION TO FISHING GEAR

Also, the New England Fisheries Development Program has funded a sales/loan program for these videotapes to be administered by the MDMF and the Massachusetts Maritime Academy.

Shown below are the subjects covered in one of the videotapes -- "Fish Behavior in Trawls: 1980-1982."

-end-

FISH BEHAVIOUR IN TRAWLS 1980-1982

Black and white video tape available from the Director, DAFS Marine Laboratory, PO Box 101, Aberdeen, UK

Real time (zero clock at end of "Crown Copyright" title)

Min/Sec	
00.00	40m visibility, 600HP four panel trawl seen from above and side
01.22	Starboard V board curtain of sand cloud sandeels
02.15	Port V board. Views of fish swimming between boards towards net mouth
03.13	Board sand cloud and wingend passing as if you are a fish
03.40	Saithe and haddock swimming into net mouth
04.02	Fish turning to swim forwards with net behind bobbins
04.56	Continuous shot of a large school of saithe over bobbins in net mouth
18.24	Same shot all fish move back due to speed increase 2.4 to 2.9 knots
19.10	Same fish move forwards as net slows to 2.5 knots
20.24	Sequences of mackerel, saithe and sandeels feeding on sandeels
22.04	Illustrations of fish becoming exhausted and turning to pass into net.
24.15	Skate. 53 herded by lower bridle during two minutes into path of net
26.17	Skate, spurdog, wide angle view of mouth area 600HP panel trawl
28.41	Mackerel schools in deep water swimming in net mouth
29.02	Remote vehicle moving into mouth area to observe saithe
30.01	Mackerel swim from among saithe forwards and out of net mouth
31.19	Trawl board sand cloud passing into net mouth displacing fish to side
32.48	Haddock and saithe escaping between board sand cloud and outside of net
33.40	Haddock escaping over headline of trawls
38.44	Codend, sprats meshed, squid ink passing out of codend small squid inside
40.01	Net funnel area fish held up by flapper fish passing out through meshes here
41.59	Sandeels passing out all over net surface
42.27	Codend bulging and stretching when loaded, meshes open, small fish escaping
44.14	Empty codend loose meshes
44.29	Codend 600HP trawl 50cm saithe, 45 baskets, long extension piece
46.02	Sandeels trapped by stretched meshes of the extension piece
47.34	View to codend from back of stretched funnel
48.20	Short codend constricted due to load in codend
48.27	Square mesh codend with no constriction or closing of meshes due to load
48.52	Smaller fish swimming and escaping from square mesh codend
49.32	Nephrops reactions to fishing line of trawl in burrows and on surface
51.28	Nephrops herded or lost by bridle, red light in the dark
51.58	End sequence net coming fast round rock
53.00	Address of Laboratory and Crown Copyright caption.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE
Northeast Fisheries Center
Woods Hole, Massachusetts 02543

News Release No. 83-05

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

For more information contact:

Dr. Carolyn Brown (617) 548-5123

WILL SLIME BLOOM HIT AGAIN?

WOODS HOLE, MA, June 28--A study is underway by the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) to determine distribution and abundance of slime-producing jellyfish, siphonophores, in the Gulf of Maine and Georges Bank. A slime bloom similar to the one last year could be devastating to the fishing industry.

The objective of the study is to determine what triggers these slime blooms. This may enable NMFS's Northeast Fisheries Center (NEFC) to forecast a winter-spring bloom for 1983-84.

This slime study is a cooperative effort between the NEFC and other institutions. The NEFC, the Harbor Branch Foundation, and the U.S. Navy will begin cruises in early July, using the Research Vessel Johnson and the submersible Sealink. Later in the fall, the State of Maine's Research Vessel Challenge is scheduled to take part in the study. The NEFC's Gloria Michelle will be used throughout the study in the Cape Ann area of Massachusetts Bay. Samples taken during cruises will be shipped to the Polish Sea Fisheries Institute in Gdynia, Poland, for sorting.

If you have information on the occurrence of slime, please contact Carolyn Griswold, by writing National Marine Fisheries Service, RR 7, South Ferry Road, Narragansett, RI 02882, or call (401) 789-9326.

- end -

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE
Northeast Fisheries Center
Woods Hole, Massachusetts 02543

News Release 83-06

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

For More Information Contact:

Thomas L. Meyer (617-548-5123)

REWARD FOR TAGGED LOBSTERS

WOODS HOLE, MA, July 1 -- The National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) will give a five-dollar reward, plus the current landed value, for specially tagged lobsters in the Gulf of Maine.

The NMFS will begin tagging on July 5 within a 40-nautical-mile radius of Truxton Swell in the central Gulf of Maine. The tagged lobsters could be recaught anywhere in the Gulf, though.

Each tag is a short length of bright orange tubing attached to the base of the lobster's back. One side of each tag has a tag number and the word "REWARD"; the other side has the words "NMFS, WOODS HOLE, MA."

Fishermen who catch any of these tagged lobsters should: (1) record the tag number, catch date, and catch location; (2) keep the lobster alive or frozen with the tag intact; and (3) upon returning to port, notify the nearest NMFS port agent for immediate payment.

This tagging study is a joint effort between the State of Maine's Department of Marine Resources and the NMFS's Northeast Fisheries Center. The study will last three years, release 1000 tagged lobsters each year, and yield information on lobster abundance, health, growth, reproduction, and migration.

-more-

FIGURES

No.	Caption
1	Using the NOAA research vessel Gloria Michelle, the Maine Department of Marine Resources and the National Marine Fisheries Service's (NMFS) Northeast Fisheries Center in Woods Hole, Mass., will tag and release 1000 lobsters each July for the next three years within a 40-nautical-mile radius of Truxton Swell in the central Gulf of Maine. Fishermen who return any tagged lobsters they catch to their nearest NMFS port agent will receive an immediate five-dollar reward, plus the current landed value.
2	Fishermen should watch for tagged lobsters similar to the one in the illustration. Each tag is a bright international orange vinyl tube attached by a yellow nylon thread to a stainless steel wire clip. The wire clip -- which closely resembles a staple -- is inserted into the layer of muscle just under the rear carapace shell, between the body and tail section. The tag is retained during molting.

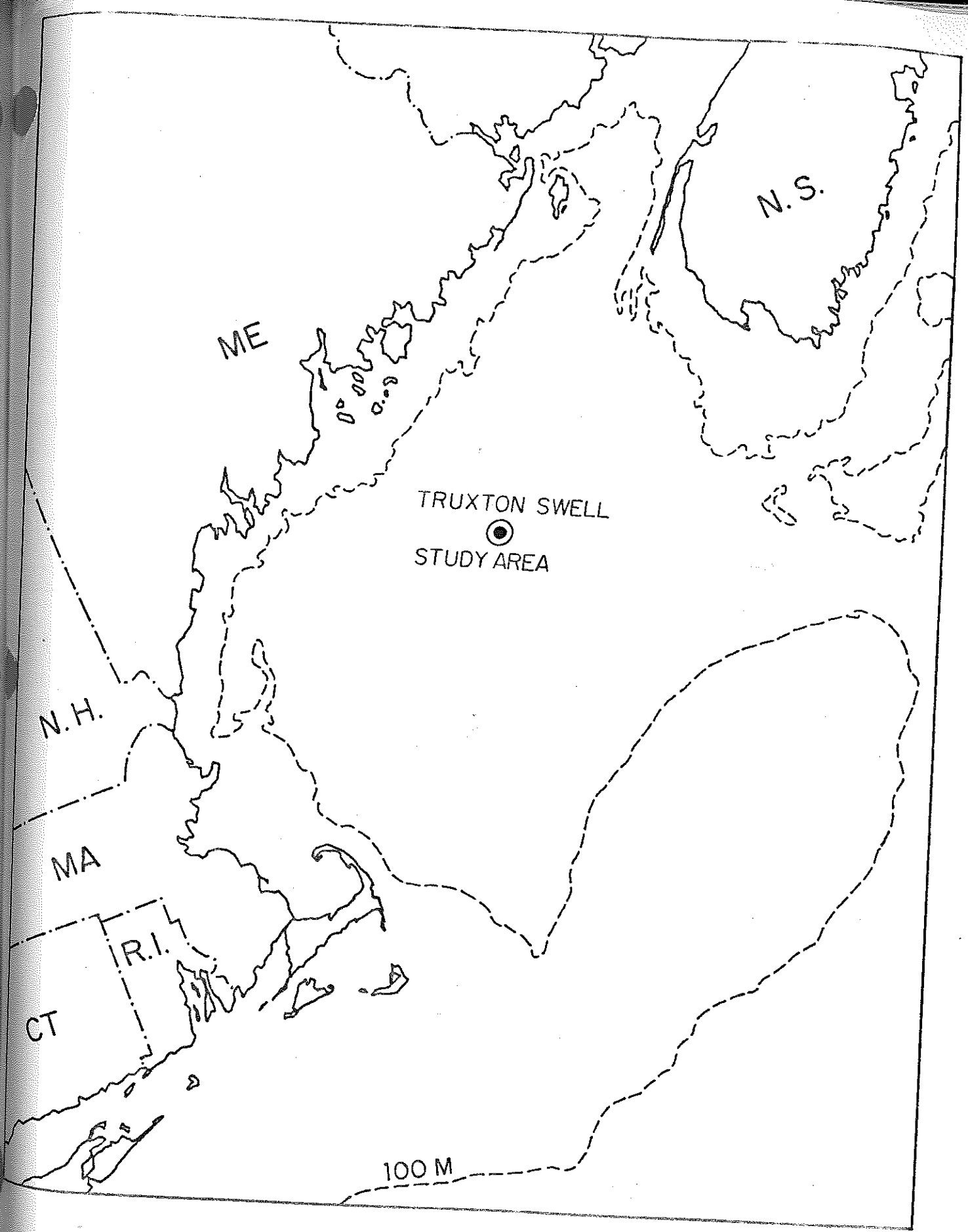


Figure 1.

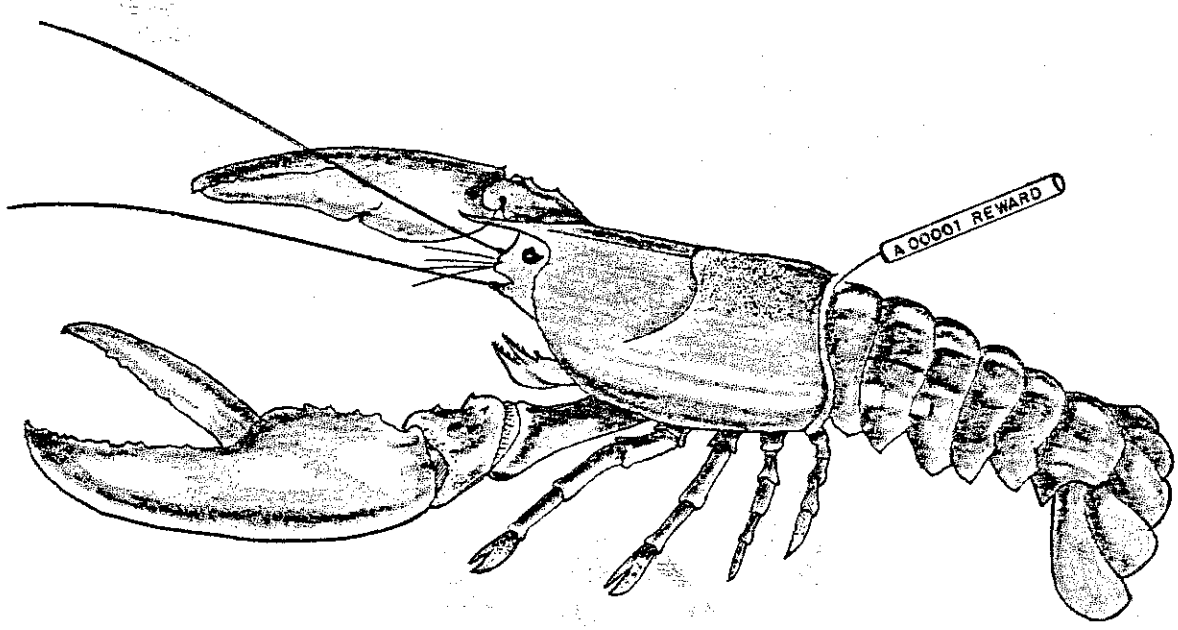


Figure 2.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE
Northeast Fisheries Center
Sandy Hook Laboratory
Highlands, New Jersey 07732

News Release No. 83-07

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

For more information contact:

Dr. Carl Sindermann
201-872-0200, Ext. 201

The R/V KYMA - A Ship for All Seasons

Sandy Hook, NJ, August 5 -- Around the waters of Raritan Bay and the New York Bight one of the busiest of the older boats is supporting the activities of marine scientists. The research vessel KYMA is operated by the Sandy Hook Laboratory of NOAA's National Marine Fisheries Service.

The tough 65-foot workhorse is a converted U. S. Army T-boat, built in 1952. The Army operated the vessel for nearly two years and then mothballed her. The Office of Naval Research recommissioned the vessel in April, 1962, and turned her over to New York University. She was christened KYMA, which means wave in Greek, as a result of a student contest in the Department of Meteorology and Oceanography. New York University did considerable refitting for the next year including converting the cargo hold to a laboratory, adding fuel tanks to increase range and bilge keels to help stability. It sailed from home port in the Bronx to Montauk and was used by the Ocean Sciences Laboratory for hydrological and biological studies of Long Island and Block Island Sound. In May of 1974 KYMA was transferred to the Sandy Hook Laboratory.

KYMA now fitted for diver support, biological sampling by trawl and dredge as well as for sediment and hydrographic sampling. Because of her ability to perform a variety of tasks, the cruise activities are frequent and particularly active in the summer. She is scheduled for about 150 days each

-more-

year. Every Monday, from May to October, for example, it steams down the coast to Long Branch and lab scientists take samples of water at six stations on a course extending offshore approximately 14 miles, then they either dredge scallops for a NMFS researcher at the Milford, CT laboratory studying shellfish enzymes or take sediment samples four miles southeast of Ambrose Light near the sewage sludge dumping area. Bottom dissolved oxygen is also monitored since it can get quite low in this area every summer. These bottom samples, both the scallops and sediments, are analyzed for a study of seasonal change in heavy metal concentrations. The water transect samples will be used to study the seasonal behavior of a "cold cell" an oceanographic feature off New Jersey which can influence temperature and nutrient content of inshore waters, hence the movements of migrating fishes.

Twice a month the KYMA carries out a group conducting a fish survey of the Sandy Hook, Raritan and Lower New York Bays. At eight stations a trawl net is set and all the fish and crabs collected are weighed, measured and counted. This study is intended to document how productive different bottom types are and what species congregate at the various locations throughout the year. Some of the study sites are borrow pits, places previously mined for sand, other locations sampled are in channels and on natural bottom.

An interesting task scheduled for later this summer involves support of NOAA's Ocean Systems Division who will set up a test for a current measuring system at Ambrose Light Tower. The Ambrose Tower, 8 miles east of Sandy Hook, is a focal point for maritime traffic in the shipping lanes entering the New York Harbor complex. The system involves mooring current meters and transmitting "real-time" information on speed and direction of bottom currents. Diver support for surveying the bottom, deployment of current meters and instrumentation will all be done from the KYMA.

Another agency using the KYMA is the U. S. Public Health Service. For at least one week each year, a mobile lab is driven to Sandy Hook from Davisville, RI, and bacteriological cultures are identified and counted from samples taken aboard the KYMA. This monitoring effort determines the boundary limit of harvestable shellfish grounds around the Bay entrance.

In addition, academic collaborators from Rutgers, Drew, SUNY (Stony Brook), and the University of Delaware share some vessel time with Sandy Hook scientists through the year, often bringing students to learn shipboard techniques. They collect samples for immunology, parasite, disease, behavior and other studies.

With present Federal budget constraints the chances of vessel replacement are extremely slim, so regular maintenance and operating efficiency are particularly important. Watching over the vessel, its equipment and cruise participants is Captain Fritz Farwell. A native of New Jersey, Captain Farwell came to the laboratory in 1969 with experience in operating recreational charter vessels and is expert in marine wiring, hydraulics, and diesel mechanics. His knowledge of local waters makes him a valuable member R/V KYMA add three of every cruise planning session and the scientists respect his opinion and ability. The success of many cruises has hinged on his sensible solutions to difficult problems of sampling and setting out of special gear. For the immediate future, the monitoring of conditions and changes of the New York Bight marine resources will remain the committed mission of the KYMA.

-end-

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE
Northeast Fisheries Center
Woods Hole, Massachusetts 02543

News Release No. 83-08

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

For More Information Contact:

LCDR Ronald J. Smolowitz (617-548-5123)

WOODS HOLE, MA, August 8--This year is the centennial of U.S. Government marine research on board a series of four ships bearing the name Albatross.

The original and most famous Albatross was a steamship and also carried the sailing rigging of a brigantine. For 40 years it conducted fish and bottom surveys on the Atlantic continental shelf, in the Bering Sea, and in the Pacific. The Albatross had the distinction of being the first vessel built by any government especially for marine research. Its first scientific cruise was made in the summer of 1883. The Albatross was decommisssioned in 1921.

The second Albatross was originally the Patuxent and was acquired by the U.S. Bureau of Fisheries from the Navy in 1926. The Navy had used it as a minesweeper in World War I and later as a sea tug. The Bureau of Fisheries renamed it the Albatross II, after costly repairs. It sailed as a research vessel for only six years due to extreme age and a lack of funds. The Albatross II conducted biological studies of the New England fishing banks. It was taken out of service in 1932.

Like the Albatross II, the Albatross III was built for other purposes and later converted to fisheries research. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service--successor to the U.S. Bureau of Fisheries--acquired it from the General Seafoods Corporation for one dollar in 1939. Its conversion

-more-

to a research vessel was interrupted by World War II and the Navy. In 1944, conversion continued. It became the research vessel Albatross III in March 1948. The Government used it for fisheries and oceanographic work in the Northwest Atlantic for 11 years. Lack of funds continually haunted the vessel. Increased maintenance and operational costs forced the Government to put the Albatross III up for sale in March 1959. It was purchased in November of that year by the Island Steamship Line of Hyannis, Massachusetts.

The Albatross IV, like the original Albatross, was designed and built especially for fisheries and oceanographic research. Since 1963, the Albatross IV has continued the work of its predecessors, conducting marine research in the Northwest Atlantic for the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS)--successor agency to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's former Bureau of Commercial Fisheries. The NMFS falls under the U.S. Department of Commerce's National Oceanographic & Atmospheric Administration.

Many things have changed in 100 years. Government policies on marine research have changed from time to time. Through it all, the Albatross keeps coming back. The research continues. The tradition goes on.

-end-

Editor's Note: Black-and-white glossy prints of each of the four Albatross's are available by contacting Brenda F. Figuerido (617-548-5123).

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE

News Release No. 83-09

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

For More Information Contact:

Kenneth Sherman (401-789-9326)

NORTHEAST MARINE ECOSYSTEM PRODUCTIVE

WOODS HOLE, MA, August 19, 1983--The marine ecosystem off the northeastern United States is among the most productive in the world, with the plankton production changing little, but the fish production changing much during this century. These conclusions and others were announced by scientists with NOAA's National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS). The findings come from NMFS's program to study the trends in marine ecosystems, called MARMAP (marine resources monitoring, assessment, and prediction).

The NMFS scientists stated that the Northeast's marine ecosystem--covering the continental shelf from Canada to Cape Hatteras--is about two times more productive than the North Sea, and about five times more productive than a soybean field on an equal-area basis. About 300 grams of carbon are incorporated into the biological system each year for each square meter of water in the Northeast marine ecosystem.

The plant plankton and the animal plankton have not changed substantially over the past 70 years, according to the scientists. This plankton or "primary" productivity supports the ecosystem's food chain which in turn supports a two-million-ton annual fish catch and a one-billion-dollar annual harvesting and processing industry for the coastal states from Maine to North Carolina.

-more-

MARINE ECOSYSTEM

ADD ONE

However, the NMFS scientists reported large-scale changes in the Northeast marine ecosystem's fish stocks. The stocks have been subjected to double jeopardy. Although natural variations in the marine environment have significantly changed the abundance of fish stocks, intensive fishing has had greater impact and has caused a sharp decline since the mid-1960's. Heavy fishing, mostly by foreign fishermen, reduced the total amount or "biomass" of fish from eight million to less than four million tons.

Large catches of adult herring and mackerel depressed those populations to low levels. Herring and mackerel normally prey heavily on a small, fast-growing fish, the sand lance or "sand eel." Using a MARMAP techique that yields an abundance index of fish eggs and larvae, and thus of the spawning adults, the NMFS scientists discovered that with the reduced herring and mackerel predation, the sand eel population exploded during the late 1970's and continues to dominate the ecosystem. Two million tons of sand eel, half the fish biomass of the Northeast marine ecosystem, have replaced the formerly abundant herring and mackerel stocks.

The Northeast marine ecosystem is now recovering, though. Passage of the Magnuson Fishery Conservation and Management Act of 1976, the creation of the New England and Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Councils in 1977 to manage the Northeast's marine fisheries, and a 70-percent reduction in foreign fishing have spurred the recovery. However, scientists continue to monitor the ecosystem with MARMAP to insure that any new heavy fishing doesn't severely or

-more-

irreversibly change the finfish community the way it did earlier with herring and mackerel.

Also, scientists will make a special effort to measure the impact of predation among fish populations. Since initial estimates indicate that fish species can significantly control their own population sizes through cannibalism and competition for prey, the NMFS scientists will be especially watching the sand eel to see if reductions in its population will allow for recovery of the herring and mackerel.

The NMFS scientists conducting the MARMAP program in the Northeast marine ecosystem work at NMFS Laboratories at Woods Hole, Massachusets; Narragansett, Rhode Island; and Sandy Hook, New Jersey. Their MARMAP studies systematically map changes in the marine ecosystem which support the fish stocks which in turn support the region's valuable fisheries, including haddock, cod, flounders, bluefish, crabs, shrimps, anchovies, sardines, pollock, hake, squid, and other resources. MARMAP's ecological mapping surveys have covered the 200-mile wide continental shelf from the Gulf of Maine to Cape Hatteras 32 times during the past five years and provided, for the first time, a complete measurement of ocean productivity against which changes in the abundance and distribution of living ocean resources can be measured in the future.

Editor's Note: Three excellent black-and-white glossy photos of sand eels, squid feeding on sand eels, and squid feeding on menhaden are available from Kenneth Sherman at (401) 789-9326.

-end-

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE
Northeast Fisheries Center
Woods Hole, Massachusetts 02543

News Release No. 83-11

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

For More Information Contact:

Stephen H. Clark (617-548-5123)

REWARD FOR TAGGED POLLOCK

WOODS HOLE, MA, September 12, 1983--During September, fisheries biologists will tag small "harbor" pollock along the central Maine coast. Each tag is a yellow spaghetti-like tube which will be inserted below the dorsal fin.

A three-dollar reward will be given for each returned tag. Anyone capturing a tagged pollock should return the tag, together with information on the date and location of capture, to the nearest National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) port agent (offices in Rockland, Portland, and Gloucester), or to the nearest Maine Department of Marine Resources (MDMR) office or representative. The tagging project ic a cooperative effort between NMFS's Northeast Fisheries Center (NEFC) in Woods Hole, Massachusetts, the MDMR, and the Canadian Department of Fisheries and Oceans in Dartmouth, Nova Scotia. According to Dr. Stephen H. Clark, Chief of the NEFC's Gulf of Maine-Georges Bank Resources Investigation, the project "should provide for distinguishing different pollock populations, or 'stocks,' and for determining migration of these stocks in the western Gulf of Maine." Clark adds that "such information is needed for effectively managing pollock stocks in the Northwest Atlantic."

-more-

POLLOCK TAGGING
ADD ONE

The Canadian Department of Fisheries and Oceans has tagged small harbor pollock along the east coast of Nova Scotia for several years. Those tagged fish have been recaptured throughout the Scotian Shelf region, although a few have been recaptured on eastern Georges Bank and in the central Gulf of Maine. Until now, no comparable tagging study has been undertaken for the large concentrations of small harbor pollock found along the Maine coast in summer and autumn.

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE

News Release No. 83-12

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

For More Information Contact:

Dr. John Boreman (617-548-5123)

NEFC AWARDS FUNDS FOR SALMON RESEARCH

WOODS HOLE, MA, October 3, 1983 -- The Northeast Fisheries Center (NEFC) spent a total of $100,000 during the past fiscal year (October 1, 1982, to September 30, 1983) for Atlantic salmon research. Organizations receiving funds were Maine's Atlantic Sea Run Salmon Commission, the University of Rhode Island, the University of Maine, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and the NEFC itself.

The 100,000 dollars came from the NEFC's parent agency, NOAA's National Marine Fisheries Service, for determining the international catch of U.S.-spawned Atlantic salmon both in the high-seas fishery off West Greenland and in the coastal fisheries off the Canadian and U.S. East Coasts. Knowing which nations catch how many U.S.-spawned fish will be important for United States participation in the new North Atlantic Salmon Conservation Organization, a treaty-based body responsible for salmon management in the North Atlantic.

The Atlantic Sea Run Salmon Commission received 36,000 dollars and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service received 9,000 dollars for tagging salmon smolts (juveniles) spawned by adults ascending several Maine rivers and the Connecticut River. The Commission's funds will also be used for computer-assisted processing of historical catch data on fish tagged during the past 15 years.

-more-

SALMON RESEARCH

ADD ONE

The University of Rhode Island received 22,000 dollars for determining the specific characteristics of scales, otoliths (ear bones), and other hard body parts of U.S.-spawned Atlantic salmon that may distinguish those fish from others in the high-seas fishery.

The University of Maine received two awards totalling 23,000 dollars for evaluating: (1) genetic characteristics; and (2) markers other than external tags (chemical dyes, internal tags, etc.) for distinguishing U.S.-spawned Atlantic salmon stocks from all other stocks.

The NEFC will use 10,000 dollars to computer-analyze the data from all of these studies, to hold scientific workshops for evaluating the findings, and for similar purposes.

Editor's Note: Attached are two previously released background items: (1) a write-up on the Atlantic salmon fishery, its management, and research plans; and (2) a news release on the NEFC's Director being appointed one of the three U.S. Commissioners to the North Atlantic Salmon Conservation Organization.

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE
Northeast Fisheries Center
Woods Hole, Massachusetts 02543

August 3, 1983 F/NEC: JAG

TO: Marine Recreational Fisheries Interests

FROM: National Marine Fisheries Service

SUBJECT: Atlantic Salmon

Because you have expressed a desire to be kept informed of the National Marine Fisheries Service's activities in the marine recreational fisheries field, we have prepared for you the attached brief report on our new research on Atlantic salmon. Until we hear from you to the contrary, we will continue to periodically provide you with updates on the Service's research, management, and enforcement activities with respect to the Northwest Atlantic's recreational fisheries.

Attachment (1)

NEW RESEARCH ON ATLANTIC SALMON

Background on the Fishery and Its Management

The United States, Canada, and many European countries as far south as Spain produce Atlantic salmon which annually migrate to the waters off West Greenland where they remain from one to several years before returning to their native rivers to spawn. Greenland has no Atlantic salmon rivers, but conducts a significant fishery that has been the focus of international concern since the mid-1960's. From 1964 to 1972, Greenlanders, Danes, Norwegians, and Faroese increased the West Greenland high-seas fishery to the point where scientists feared for the survival of the species. In 1971, for example, 2,700 metric tons of salmon, or 750,000 individuals, were caught in the high-seas fishery off West Greenland. Scientists have estimated that on the average about 42% of these fish come from the United States and Canada.

In 1972, the International Commission for the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries (ICNAF) --a treaty-based internationl fisheries management organization--was able to set national quotas on fished species in the Northwest Atlantic for the first time. Shortly thereafter, the West Greenland high-seas fishery also came under control of ICNAF. The total catch was gradually reduced to about 1,100 metric tons annually, and the high-seas fisheries of Norway, Faroe Islands, Sweden, and Denmark were completely eliminated by 1976. The ICNAF measures continued in force until 1977 when the United States extended its fisheries jurisdiction to 200 miles and ICNAF was terminated.

After termination of ICNAF, the Atlantic salmon was without an international organization responsible for its management in the Northwest Atlantic. Under the International Council for the Exploration of the Sea (ICES), the Atlantic salmon was studied and the fishery off West Greenland was managed through negotiations strictly within the European Economic Community (EEC), or common market,based on advice from the ICES working group on North Atlantic salmon. No organization existed, however, specifically for the management of Atlantic salmon which contained all interested nations.

New Management Regime and Research

Then, on 3 March 1982, the United States signed a new treaty for the conservation of Atlantic salmon in the North Atlantic. Other countries signing the treaty were Canada, EEC, Iceland, and Norway. The treaty establishes an international organization consisting of a council and three regional commissions, with each commission responsible for waters: (1) off North America, (2) off West Greenland, or (3) in the Northeast Atlantic. The treaty seeks to conserve, restore, enhance, and rationally manage the stocks of Atlantic salmon.

With the new treaty as its stimulus, the National Marine Fisheries Service's Northeast Fisheries Center (NEFC) began an Atlantic salmon research program in March 1983 to study the high-seas fishery and the interception of U.S.-spawned salmon in the Northwest Atlantic. At that time, representatives from the NEFC, the National Marine Fisheries Service's Northeast Regional Office, and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service met to discuss the general direction for the NEFC's Atlantic salmon research and the needs of other organizations in the United States concerned with Atlantic salmon research. On 25 March 1983, NEFC scientists met with Canadian scientists in Halifax, Nova Scotia, to review Canadian research on Atlantic salmon. On 21 April 1983, many of the U.S. scientists--from federal agencies, state agencies, and universities--met at the NEFC's headquarters in Woods Hole, Massachusetts, to plan a detailed program of research for the National Marine Fisheries Service. After review of ongoing research, the U.S. scientists felt the NEFC could contribute most significantly in four areas: (1) explore and assess methods other than external tagging to separate U.S.-spawned stocks of Atlantic salmon from other stocks on the high seas, (2) assist states in analyzing their tagging data, (3) assist states in expanding their tagging programs, and (4) sponsor technical workshops which would bring together people within the New England area working on Atlantic salmon to discuss common problems.

As a result of these meetings, and of the research objectives developed during them, the NEFC has taken, or will take, the following steps:

1. Provide money to Maine's Atlantic Sea Run Salmon Commission to evaluate the timing, size, and distribution

of commercial and home-water exploitation of 50,000 tagged hatchery-reared smolts in 1984.

2. Assist the same commission in summarizing and evaluating its tag return data, and in establishing a data processing system to be used in ongoing tagging studies.
3. Provide money to the University of Rhode Island for the assessment of certain characteristics associated with scales, otoliths, and body measurements which may be used in identifying U.S.-spawned stocks of Atlantic salmon on the high seas.
4. Put out a nationwide request for proposals for two studies on the review and evaluation of both genetic and nongenetic techniques which could distinguish U.S.-spawned Atlantic salmon stocks from all other stocks. We are now reviewing the proposals we have received and will make a decision in the near future on how and where money will be spent to achieve these objectives.
5. Plan a workshop in August 1984 to evaluate the stock identification techniques that will be studied between now and then.

A great deal of time and effort has been spent by a great many people to restore runs of Atlantic salmon to New England. Their efforts are now being greatly rewarded with a significant increase in runs in several rivers. The National Marine Fisheries Service, which has responsibility for research in the Fisheries Conservation Zone (3-200 miles from the coast) and beyond is for the first time developing a significant research program which will assist the states and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. A year from now we hope to be in a position to know which procedures are most useful for identifying U.S.-spawned Atlantic salmon, regardless of where they are on the high seas. This will be useful in evaluating the degree of exploitation of U.S.-spawned fish in the West Greenland fishery, as well as in the Canadian fishery as the salmon migrate from West Greenland back to the United States. If our Atlantic salmon are being killed by other countries on the high seas, it is important that the United States be in a position to evaluate its significance.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE
Northeast Fisheries Center
Woods Hole, Massachusetts 02543

News Release No. 83-13

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

For More Information Contact:

Jon A. Gibson (617-548-5123)

NEW DIRECTOR OF NORTHEAST FISHERIES CENTER WINS COMMERCE DEPARTMENT SILVER MEDAL

WOODS HOLE, MA, October 26, 1983--Allen E. Peterson, Jr., newly appointed director of the National Marine Fisheries Service's (NMFS) Northeast Fisheries Center in Woods Hole, Mass., was presented today with the U.S. Commerce Department's Silver Medal, the Department's second highest award.

The medal, presented by Commerce Secretary Malcolm Baldridge, was made for Peterson's national and international work in carrying out recent federal fishery legislation.

NMFS is part of the Commerce Department's National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

Peterson, who received the award for his work while director of NMFS's Northeast Regional Office in Gloucester, Mass., was cited for his efforts that resulted in a five-fold increase in joint ventures for American squid fishermen, and in a negotiated agreement with Canada that allows U.S. fishermen to compete with Canadian sea scallop imports.

In addition, Peterson negotiated a politically sensitive observer program in the Japanese longline tuna fishery and successfully presented the U.S. position for the international management of Atlantic salmon.

-more-

SILVER MEDAL
ADD ONE

Although Peterson has been acting as Center Director since late August, he only officially assumed his new role on October 16.

The Northeast Fisheries Center is NMFS's research arm in the New England and Mid-Atlantic states. In addition to Woods Hole, Center laboratories are located in Gloucester, Massachusetts; Narragansett, Rhode Island; Milford, Connecticut; Sandy Hook, New Jersey; Washington, D.C.; and Oxford, Maryland. The Center employs about 500 people and is the principal source of biological information for managing the Northeast's marine fisheries resources and habitats.

Peterson succeeds Dr. Robert L. Edwards as Center Director. Edwards assumed the role of Special Assistant to the NOAA Assistant Administrator for Fisheries on July 1, 1982, to direct NMFS activities in support of the U.S. case over the international litigation of the East Coast maritime boundary between the United States and Canada. Between Edwards' departure and Peterson's arrival, Richard C. Hennemuth served as Acting Center Director.

Peterson, a native of Worcester, Massachusetts, graduated from the University of Massachusetts, Amherst, in 1962 with a Bachelor of Science degree in Wildlife Management, and in 1964 with a Master of Science degree in Wildlife and Fisheries Biology. He joined the Massachusetts Department of Fisheries, Wildlife, & Recreational Vehicles in 1964 as an Assistant Fish & Game Biologist, holding progressively responsible positions and becoming Director of the Department's Division of Marine Fisheries in 1976.

He is married to the former Joan Fischer of Huntington, New York. They and their two daughters, Kristin and Kara, reside in Sandwich, Massachusetts.

Peterson is an avid fisherman and hunter, spending much of his free time on the water or in the field.

-end-

To: Joe Grasso, WA

From: Cathy Noonan

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE
Northeast Fisheries Center
Sandy Hook Laboratory
Highlands, New Jersey 07732

News Release No. 83-14
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

For More Information Contact:
Cathy Noonan, 201-872-0540

SANDY HOOK LABORATORY ANNUAL OPEN HOUSE, 1983

HIGHLANDS, NJ, October 21, 1983--The Sandy Hook Laboratory of the National Marine Fisheries Service, will hold its 13th Annual Open House on Friday, October 21, 1983. This fisheries research laboratory, directed by Dr. Carl J. Sindermann, will be open to the public from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Exhibits will be on display in the two research buildings at Sandy Hook and visitors will be able to tour through the various laboratory working areas where specimens will be displayed and activities discussed. Research topics focus on studies of commercial and recreational fisheries of the Middle Atlantic region as well as impacts of man on the marine environment.

Other marine-oriented organizations will participate in the event, including the New Jersey Marine Sciences Consortium, Brookdale Community College, American Littoral Society, the U. S. Coast Guard Oil Response Team, the Marine Academy of Science and Technology and the Gateway National Recreation Area. The Open House is an excellent opportunity for young people anticipating a career in estuarine or ocean science to see current activities engaged by oceanographers and fisheries and marine biologists. The Open House will also provide an opportunity for people interested in the subject of food from the sea to become acquainted with the Federally-funded fisheries research programs of this coastal area.

- more -

The Laboratory is located near the tip of Sandy Hook. Signs will be placed to direct the public through the Gateway National Recreation Area to the Laboratory parking areas. Two main buildings (numbers 19 and 74) will be open with displays and aquaria and staff members will be available to answer questions.

Past attendance has been quite large and visitors should allow between one to two hours to complete the tour. If you have any further questions, regarding the program, please contact Mrs. Cathy Beaman at 872-0200, ext. 214.

- end -

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE
Northeast Fisheries Center
Woods Hole, Massachusetts 02543

News Release No. 83-15

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

For More Information Contact:

DR. FREDRIC M. SERCHUK (617-548-5123)

SEA SCALLOP POPULATIONS CONTINUE DECLINE

WOODS HOLE, MA, December 9, 1983 -- Sea scallop populations on Georges Bank and off the Mid-Atlantic states are the lowest since they were first surveyed in 1975.

According to Dr. Fredric Serchuk, scallop biologist for the National Marine Fisheries Service's (NMFS) Northeast Fisheries Center in Woods Hole, Mass., these populations "are now one-fourth to one-third their size during 1975-79." Serchuk added that this is "the third straight year of sea scallop declines on Georges Bank; the fourth off the Mid-Atlantic states."

These estimates come from NMFS's annual survey of scallop populations from Nova Scotia to North Carolina. This year's survey was conducted with the NOAA Ship Albatross IV during July 26 to September 2. The analytical results of the survey data have just been compiled.

The outlook for the Georges Bank and Mid-Atlantic sea scallop populations isn't good either. The large number of scallops spawned during 1979 in the Great South Channel region of Georges Bank, which some had counted on to sustain the fishery, have been depleted faster than anticipated. The number of scallops spawned since 1980 has been low. Serchuk feels that "no recovery will likely occur until 1986 at the earliest."

-more-

ADD ONE
SEA SCALLOPS

The Gulf of Maine's offshore sea scallop populations are in better condition. The 1983 NMFS survey found dense beds of scallops on two of the Gulf's shallow-water ledges: Fippennies and Jeffreys. These scallops are small, though, with 50-100 needed to produce one pound of meats (or each scallop producing about one-sixth to one-third of an ounce of meat). Fishermen, however, are permitted by federal regulation to only land scallops which average a 35-or-less count per pound (or each scallop averaging about one-half ounce of meat).

No significant scallop beds were found in the deepwater survey sites in the Gulf of Maine. According to Serchuk, this means that scallopers in the Gulf "will likely rely more on the scallop population located inshore of the three-mile limit separating state and federal waters."

The recent research vessel survey also sampled a population of Iceland scallops (a species similar to the sea scallop) off Cape Cod. Major concentrations were found in 30-40 fathoms of water east-southeast of Pollock Rips Channel. The population is well-balanced between larger and smaller-sized individuals.

Fishermen, processors, and others with an interest or need to know the specific locations, densities, and sizes of scallops sampled during the recent survey should request a copy of Woods Hole Laboratory Reference Document No. 83-37. Write: Dr. Fredric M. Serchuk, National Marine Fisheries Service, Northeast Fisheries Center, Woods Hole, MA 02543.

NORTHEAST FISHERIES CENTER

NEWS RELEASE

United States Department of Commerce
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
National Marine Fisheries Service
Northeast Fisheries Center
Woods Hole, Massachusetts 02543

News Release No. 84-01

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

For More Information Contact:

THURSTON BURNS (617-548-5123)

SCIENTISTS TO SAMPLE FISH ON COMMERCIAL VESSELS AT SEA

WOODS HOLE, MA, January 20 -- Federal fisheries scientists and technicians begin a regionwide program the week of January 22-28 to sample commercial fishermen's catches at sea on board cooperating fishing vessels. This "sea-sampling" program will significantly inject fishermen's observations on fish populations into the fisheries management process.

The National Marine Fisheries Service's Northeast Fisheries Center has completed a few sea-sampling trips on a limited or trial basis in recent years. This year, though, the Center will conduct a full-scale program of at least 26 sea-sampling trips out of most major and many minor fishing ports from Rockland, Maine, to Hampton, Virginia.

The first sea sampling off the New England states will focus on the northern shrimp fishery in the Gulf of Maine. Cooperating vessels will sail from Gloucester, Mass., Portland, Me., and smaller Maine fishing ports. The first sea sampling off the Mid-Atlantic states will focus on the black sea bass, scup, silver hake, and squid fisheries. Cooperating vessels will sail from such fishing ports as Hampton, Va., and Cape May and Toms River, N.J.

-more-

SEA SAMPLING

ADD ONE

According to Allen E. Peterson, Jr., the Director of the Northeast Fisheries Center, "This sea sampling will provide detailed data on the species and sizes of fish caught in different areas by different methods. Sea sampling complements the Center's ongoing programs of sampling fish populations with its own research vessels, and sampling fishermen's landings (their catches minus their discards at sea) at fishing ports."

Peterson noted that, "In the past, it was difficult if not impossible to use fishermen's qualitative observations in the scientists' quantitative assessments of Northwest Atlantic fish populations. Sea sampling changes that. Fishermen will now see their observations quantified by Center scientists and used by the scientists to develop fish population assessments. The assessments are in turn used by the New England and Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Councils to manage the region's principal fisheries such as haddock, Atlantic mackerel, sea scallops, etc.

Fishing vessel captains or owners will be contacted and invited to participate in the program by Northeast Fisheries Center port agents stationed in major fishing ports, or by Thurston Burns, the program coordinator in Woods Hole. State marine fisheries agencies will also assist in arranging sea-sampling trips. All data collected on such trips will be confidential.

-end-

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE
Northeast Fisheries Center
Narragansett Laboratory
South Ferry Road
Narragansett, RI 02882 1199

News Release No. 84-02
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

For more information contact:
Kenneth Sherman (401) 789-9326

OCEANOGRAPHY FOR THE STAR WARS GENERATION

NARRAGANSETT, RI, March 6, 1984--NOAA's National Marine Fisheries Service is involved in a major nationwide project which is just taking shape--the Year of the Ocean.

The year will begin officially on March 10, 1984, the first anniversary of President Reagan's Proclamation of an Exclusive Economic Zone of the 200 nautical miles immediately off our shores. Activities during the year sponsored by the numerous existing ocean-related organizations throughout the U.S. will concentrate on awareness, celebration and stewardship.

A Year of the Ocean Foundation, a nonpartisan, nonprofit corporation with a two-year lifetime, has been formed to coordinate activities and work to aquaint the Nation with the importance in strengthening the dialogue among those that use the sea to foster its productivity and health. On its steering committee are representatives of industry, government, and other organizations.

The kickoff for "the Year" will be held on Friday, March 9, with NOAA sponsoring Ocean Science Day. During this day, school children in 12 participating cities across the U.S. are invited to tour open house NOAA facilities. Programs conducted will include demonstrations, films, and presentations and displays on ocean subjects. The National Marine Fisheries Service Laboratory at Narragansett will be host to over 250 students from

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OCEANOGRAPHY

ADD TWO

South Kingstown Junior High School, Monsignor Clark School, Chariho Regional High School, and Jamestown Elementary School. They will be given a guided tour of the NOAA facility overlooking Narragansett Bay. Displays will demonstrate how scientists use surveys of fish eggs and larvae to estimate the abundance of fish stocks. New "Star-Wars" generation electronics equipment used to electronically measure and classify plankton will be demonstrated. The fully-automated system is the only one of its type in the World and is part of a joint research and development project being conducted with laboratories in France and Japan. Much of the innovative electronics were provided by a team of researchers including scientists and engineers from NMFS and the University of Rhode Island Schools of Oceanography and Engineering.

In keeping with the Star Wars oceanography theme, the students will be shown how high-speed computers translate satellite images of sea-surface temperature into charts to be used by fishermen in locating ocean fronts that concentrate migrating fish species.

Fish Food of the Future

The students are also in for an eating experience. Fish food made from a minced meat extraction of firm-fleshed underutilized and highly nutritious species, will be available for sampling by the more adventurous students. The new "space-age" ocean food will be prepared and served by personnel of the NOAA/NMFS Technological Laboratory in Gloucester. In addition to fishery oceanographers, biologists, mathematicians, and chemists, several officers of the NOAA Corps will be on hand to describe the variety and challenge of professional opportunities in the ocean sciences.

-more-

alternate p.3.

OCEANOGRAPHY

ADD THREE

Captions

Photo 1

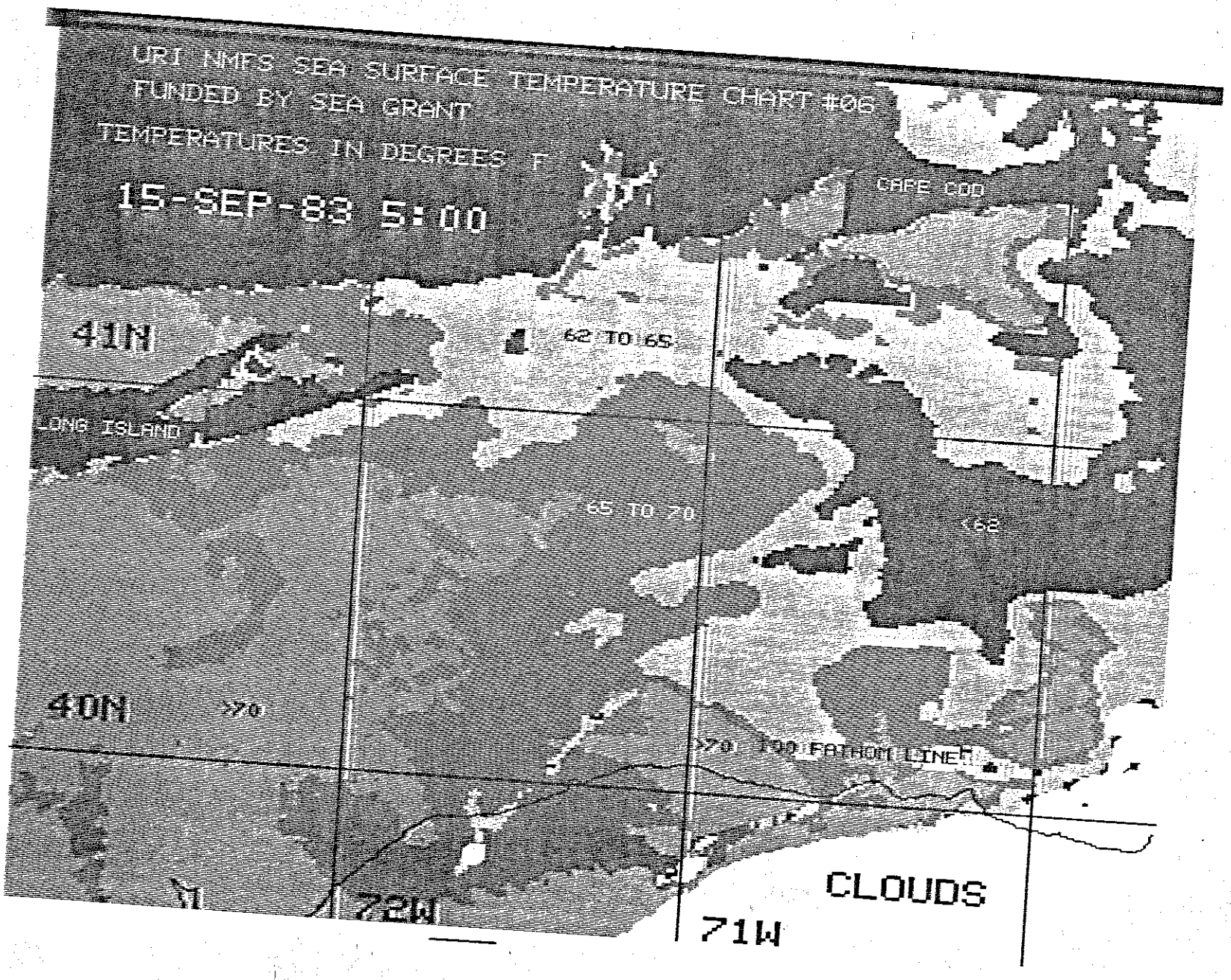
Recent findings of the NMFS, Narragansett Laboratory show that most of the fish production in northeast waters (Georges Bank) is consumed by natural predators including other fish, squids (see above) whales and birds. At present only about 10-15% of the fish stocks off the northeast coast appears to be available to the fishing industry on a continuing basis; studies by NMFS are underway to increase this percentage. The photo shows squid feeding on young menhaden in New England coastal waters.

Photo 2

High-speed computers are now being used to transmit satellite images of sea-surface temperatures into charts to be used by fishermen in locating ocean fronts that concentrate migrating fish. This new system is being developed by the University of Rhode Island and NMFS under a fund from NOAA's Sea Grant program.

For additional information please contact Dr. Kenneth Sherman, Director, NOAA/NMFS Laboratory, Narragansett, RI 401-789-9326.

-end-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NORTHEAST FISHERIES CENTER

NEWS RELEASE

United States Department of Commerce
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
National Marine Fisheries Service
Northeast Fisheries Center
Woods Hole, Massachusetts 02543

Press Release No. 84-03

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

For More Information Contact:

ARTHUR W. NEILL (617-548-5123)

U.S. OFFICIALS GARNER IMPORTANT POSTS IN NEW SALMON CONSERVATION ORGANIZATION

WOODS HOLE, MA, March 8, 1984--Representatives of several nations recently gathered in Edinburgh, Scotland, for the inaugural meeting of the North Atlantic Salmon Conservation Organization (NASCO).

NASCO, established under an international treaty which came into force on October 1, 1983, is composed of a Council and three Regional Commissions. Countries signing the treaty include Canada, Denmark (in respect to the Faroe Islands), the European Economic Community, Iceland, Norway, Sweden, and the United States. Finland also took part in the meeting as an observer and is expected to join NASCO.

The U.S. delegation to the Edinburgh meeting consisted of the three U.S. Commissioners to NASCO -- Allen E. Peterson, Jr., of Sandwich, Massachusett, Dr. Frank E. Carlton, Jr., of Savannah, Georgia, and Richard A. Buck of Dublin, New Hampshire -- as well as government advisors and scientists.

At the meeting, Peterson, who is Director of the National Marine Fisheries Service's Northeast Fisheries Center in Woods Hole, Mass., was

-more-

appointed by the multinational delegation as Vice President of NASCO's Council. Also, Buck, well known salmon conservationist and Chairman of Restoration of Atlantic Salmon in America, Inc., was appointed as Vice Chairman of the North American Commission.

NASCO seeks to promote the conservation, restoration, enhancement, and rational mangement of Atlantic salmon stocks. It will, for the first time, bring salmon-producing and salmon-harvesting nations together for cooperatively assessing the health of the resource and for reversing the decline of salmon throughout the North Atlantic. Scientific & statistical information, scientific research, and regulatory measures will be NASCO's focus in the future.

Scientific research will provide data on salmon stocks and enable NASCO to propose regulatory measures to control the harvest of Atlantic salmon by ocean fisheries. Until such data are available, however, it may be necessary to adopt temporary measures to curb overharvest and rebuild stocks now considered by many at a crisis level.

U.S. origin salmon are being intercepted in the fisheries off West Greenland, Labrador, Newfoundland, and Nova Scotia. Because the U.S. has significant numbers of salmon migrating through these areas, it became party

ADD TWO

SALMON

to two of the three Regional Commissions: the West Greenland and North American Commissions. It will be through these two Commissions that the U.S. will make management and regulatory proposals to minimize interception and protect stocks.

The North American Commission, which is composed of Canada and the United States, will meet on May 3, 1984, in Ottawa, Canada, to discuss specific proposals. Canada is now revising its regulations on salmon fisheries. The U.S. is deeply concerned about the revisions being considered by Canada, particularly as they impact U.S. salmon. It's anticipated that the U.S. Commissioners to NASCO will have the opportunity to review the Canadian revision before the May meeting.

The next meeting of NASCO will again be held in Edinburgh beginning May 22, 1984.

NORTHEAST FISHERIES CENTER

NEWS RELEASE

United States Department of Commerce
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
National Marine Fisheries Service
Northeast Fisheries Center
Woods Hole, Massachusetts 02543

News Release No. 84-04

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

For More Information Contact:

WILLIAM KELLY (804-723-3360)

HARD BLUE CRABS MOST-LANDED SEAFOOD IN MID-ATLANTIC STATES

WOODS HOLE, MA, May 22--Hard blue crabs are again the most-landed seafood in the Mid-Atlantic states, according to preliminary data provided by the National Marine Fisheries Service. Commercial fishermen landed 98 million pounds of the tasty crabs, valued at 29 million dollars, during 1983. That's two-million more pounds and three-million more dollars than in 1982.

Atlantic menhaden were still the most landed finfish in the Mid-Atlantic states, but that species is not consumed as seafood, but processed into fish meal, oil, and solubles which, in turn, are used in a variety of industrial and commercial applications. Mid-Atlantic landings contributed to the 927-million-pound, 37-million-dollar landings of menhaden along the U.S. Atlantic coast.

The highest-valued seafood species landed in Mid-Atlantic states last year was the sea scallop. Even though landings of scallop meats dropped from six to four-million pounds between 1982 and 1983, the value jumped from 16 to 32-million dollars, due to the much-higher prices being paid for scallop meats.

-more-

ADD ONE

BLUE CRABS

The only species to decline significantly in landings and value last year was the American oyster. From 1982 to 1983, oyster landings dropped from 20 to 13-million pounds of meats, and value dropped from 33 to 22-million dollars.

Table 1 lists seafood species landings and values data.

Virginia again led Mid-Atlantic states in total landings. Its 751-million pounds--a state record--accounted for 77 percent of the region's 969-million-pound total.

The 1983 rankings of the Mid-Atlantic states in landings and values, respectively, were Virginia (1st, 1st), Maryland (2nd, 3rd), New Jersey (3rd, 2nd), New York (4th, 4th), Delaware (5th, 5th), and Pennsylvania (6th, 6th). Table 2 lists state landings and values.

For the second year in a row, the port of Cape May-Wildwood, N.J., had the highest landings and values of any Mid-Atlantic port. Its 44-million pounds and 25-million dollars also ranked it 16th nationally in landings, 14th in value. Sea sallops were a major factor in its rankings.

The Hampton Roads, Va., area had the second-highest landings and values. It also nationally ranked 20th and 18th, respectively, in landings and values.

Table 3 lists port landings and values.

-more-

ADD TWO

BLUE CRABS

Editor's Note: Detailed data on U.S. fisheries are now available in a 122-page booklet, "Fisheries of the United States, 1983." For information on how to obtain a copy, write NTIS, Attn: Order Desk, 5285 Port Royal Rd., Springfield, VA 22161. Or you can call (703) 487-4650.

TABLE 1. SPECIES LANDINGS AND VALUES DATA FOR MID-ATLANTIC STATES.

Species	1982 Million pounds	1982 Million dollars	1983 Million pounds	1983 Million dollars
Hard blue crab	96	26	98	29
Surf clam	47	24	52	23
Ocean quahog	31	10	32	10
Summer flounder	11	8	15	10
Squids	11	2	14	4
American oyster	20	32	13	22
Silver hake	10	3	11	3
Scup	9	4	9	4
Weakfish	7	3	7	3
Sea scallop	4	16	6	32

TABLE 2. STATE LANDINGS AND VALUES DATA FOR MID-ATLANTIC STATES.

State	1982 Million pounds	1982 Million dollars	1983 Million pounds	1983 Million dollars
Virginia	691	69	751	85
Maryland	100	51	90	45
New Jersey	90	45	87	54
New York	36	45	38	38
Delaware	4	2	4	2
Pennsylvania	*	*	*	*
TOTAL	921	213	969	224

* Less than 0.5

TABLE 3. PORT LANDINGS AND VALUES DATA FOR MID-ATLANTIC STATES.

Port	1982 Million pounds	1982 Million dollars	1983 Million pounds	1983 Million dollars
Cape May-Wildwood, NJ	45	18	44	25
Hampton Roads Area, VA	33	18	32	21
Ocean City, MD	23	10	21	9
Atlantic City, NJ	20	9	18	8
Chincoteague, VA	7	4	12	6
Point Pleasant, NJ	11	5	12	6
Cape Charles-Oyster, VA	7	4	9	5
Hampton Bays, NY	*	*	8	4
Greenport, NY	*	*	6	8

* Not available

NORTHEAST FISHERIES CENTER

NEWS RELEASE

United States Department of Commerce
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
National Marine Fisheries Service
Northeast Fisheries Center
Woods Hole, Massachusetts 02543

News Release No. 84-05

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

For More Information Contact:

RONNEE SCHULTZ (617-548-5123)

COD RETAINS CROWN AS MOST-LANDED NEW ENGLAND FISH

WOODS HOLE, MA, May 22--Atlantic cod were again the most landed fish in the five coastal New England states, according to preliminary data provided by the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS). Commercial fishermen landed 112-million pounds of the tasty finfish in 1983.

Dr. Fredric Serchuk, NMFS cod biologist, feels the large landings of cod "stem from a redirection of effort by fishermen to catch cod--mostly due to a large decrease in the amount of haddock available to fishermen."

Haddock landings have dropped from 55-million pounds in 1981 to 45-million pounds in 1982 to 33-million pounds in 1983. According to Dr. William Overholtz, NMFS haddock biologist, the outlook for haddock is "continued declines until 1986, with no signs yet of any recovery after that."

Other major species showing increased landings last year were yellowtail flounder (up from 44-million pounds in 1982 to 69-million pounds in 1983) and American lobster (up from 38-million pounds in 1982 to 42-million pounds in 1983).

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ADD ONE

NEW ENGLAND FISH

Major species showing decreased landings were Atlantic herring (down from 73-million pounds in 1982 to 51-million pounds in 1983) and sea scallops (down from 16-million pounds of meats in 1982 to 14-million pounds of meats in 1983). Even though scallop landings decreased, the dockside value increased from 57 to 78-million dollars due to much higher prices being paid for scallop meats.

Overall, landings for all species increased from 687 to 711-million pounds, with their value also increasing from 374 to 435-million dollars. Table 1 lists species landings and values data.

Massachusetts continued to lead New England states in 1983 with 53 percent of the landings and 56 percent of the value. The rankings of other New England states in 1983 landings and values, respectively, were Maine (2nd, 2nd), Rhode Island (3rd, 3rd), New Hampshire (4th, 5th), and Connecticut (5th, 4th). Table 2 lists state landings and values data.

Maine was the only state to show a landings decrease--14-million pounds--which was due in part to the 22-million-pound decrease in Atlantic herring landings off New England last year. According to Dr. Vaughn Anthony, NMFS herring biologist, the "failure of herring to move inshore as much as usual during the summer reduced the catch in the coastal weirs and stop seines." Anthony also pointed to "reduced demand for herring by foreign importers" as another reason for the decreased herring landings.

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ADD TWO

NEW ENGLAND FISH

Gloucester, Mass., again landed the most fish of any New England port. Its 151-million pounds in 1983 (up from 147-million pounds in 1982) also ranked it seventh nationally. The value of Gloucester's 1983 landings, 38-million dollars, dropped from 44 million in 1982, but still placed it eighth nationally in that category.

New Bedford, Mass., benefactor of the much higher prices being paid for scallop meats last year, again had the highest valued landings of any New England port. Its 109-million-dollar value in 1983 (up from 83-million dollars in 1982) also ranked it first nationally. It easily out-valued runner-up Los Angeles, Calif., which had an 85-million-dollar value. (Los Angeles mostly lands tuna, another high-valued species.) New Bedford's 112-million pounds of landings in 1983 also placed it eighth nationally in that category.

The rankings among six major New England ports in 1983 landings and values, respectively, were Gloucester (1st, 2nd); New Bedford (2nd, 1st); Pt. Judith, R.I. (3rd, 3rd); Rockland, Me. (4th, 5th); Portland, Me. (5th, 4th); and Boston, Mass. (6th, 6th). Table 3 lists port landings and values data.

Editor's note: Detailed data on U.S. fisheries are now available in a 122-page booklet, "Fisheries of the United States, 1983." For information on how to obtain a copy, write NTIS, Attn: Order Desk, 5285 Port Royal Rd., Springfield, VA 22161. Or you can call (703) 487-4650.

TABLE 1. SPECIES LANDINGS AND VALUES DATA FOR NEW ENGLAND.

Species	1982 Million pounds	1982 Million dollars	1983 Million pounds	1983 Million dollars
Atlantic cod	104	37	112	38
Yellowtail flounder	44	25	69	34
Atlantic herring	73	4	51	3
American lobster	37	85	42	101
Haddock	45	22	33	19
Sea scallops*	16	57	14	78
All others	368	144	390	162
TOTAL	687	374	711	435

*Data for meats only

TABLE 2. STATE LANDINGS AND VALUES DATA FOR NEW ENGLAND.

State	1982		1983	
	Million pounds	Million dollars	Million pounds	Million dollars
Massachusetts	344	204	377	245
Maine	217	101	203	108
Rhode Island	113	55	114	66
New Hampshire	8	4	10	4
Connecticut	6	10	8	12

TABLE 3. PORT LANDINGS AND VALUES DATA FOR NEW ENGLAND.

Port	1982 Million pounds	1982 Million dollars	1983 Million pounds	1983 Million dollars
Gloucester, Mass.	147	44	151	38
New Bedford, Mass.	95	83	112	109
Pt. Judith, R.I.	64	21	62	26
Rockland, Me.	50	11	55	12
Portland, Me.	66	15	54	16
Boston, Mass.	28	13	24	11

NORTHEAST FISHERIES CENTER

NEWS RELEASE

United States Department of Commerce
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
National Marine Fisheries Service
Northeast Fisheries Center
Woods Hole, Massachusetts 02543

News Release No. 84-06

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

For More Information Contact:

JON A. GIBSON (617-548-5123)

DIVER-SCIENTISTS TO STUDY NEW ENGLAND GILLNET FISHERY

WOODS HOLE, MA, May 24--On May 26, fisheries scientists will begin diving to the sea floor in the Gulf of Maine to launch the undersea phase of a planned three-year study of gillnetting in New England waters.

Scientists from the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries (MDMF), University of Connecticut, and University of New Hampshire will conduct 27 dives on Pigeon Hill, an undersea ridge 23 miles off Cape Ann, Mass., during May 26-31. They will descend and ascend in a NOAA National Undersea Research Program diving bell--operated from the University of North Carolina at Wilmington's research vessel *Seahawk*--then use surface-supplied dive gear to study the nets. The MDMF's research vessel *F.C. Wilbour* will assist the study by setting and hauling the gillnets, and making daily trips between Pigeon Hill and Rockport, Mass.

The gillnetting study stems from a 1982 request by the New England Fishery Management Council to NMFS's Northeast Fisheries Center in Woods Hole, Mass. The Council had been approached in 1982 by the Interstate Party Boat Association to look into competition among various users--trawlers, gillnetters, party boat

-more-

operators, etc.--for the same species in the same areas. The Council felt, though, that not enough information was available on gillnetting in New England waters to adequately address the issue. Thus, the Council asked the Northeast Fisheries Center to find out: (1) what kinds, amounts, and sizes of fish are caught by gillnets; (2) what happens to the fish after they're caught, but before they're hauled aboard the boat; and (3) to what extent lost or "ghost" gillnets might continue to catch fish?

Following the May 26-31 cruise using the *Seahawk* for studies directed at tended gillnets, scientists from NMFS, MDMF, University of New Hampshire, University of Connecticut, and Southeastern Massachusetts University will conduct a June 21-29 cruise using the Harbor Branch Foundation's (Fort Pierce, Fla.) research submersible *Johnson Sea-Link* for studies directed at ghost gillnets.

Dr. Alan W. Hulbert, NMFS's chief scientist for the undersea phase of the study, praised both gillnetters and party boat operators for "their cooperation and assistance so far."

NORTHEAST FISHERIES CENTER

NEWS RELEASE

United States Department of Commerce
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
National Marine Fisheries Service
Northeast Fisheries Center
Woods Hole, Massachusetts 02543

News Release No. 84-07

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

For More Information Contact:

DR. FREDRIC M. SERCHUK (617-548-5123)

PARTY BOATS VOLUNTEER VALUABLE FISHERIES DATA

WOODS HOLE, MA, June 8--Voluntary data collection by party-boat captains during their fishing trips provides fisheries scientists with valuable information, according to a report just released by the Northeast Fisheries Center. (Party boats are vessels which provide anglers--for a nominal fee--a day's fishing at offshore grounds.)

The report evaluates a pilot study conducted last September and October by the Interstate Party Boat Association of Gloucester, Mass., in cooperation with the Northeast Fisheries Center. The captain of each party boat in the pilot study recorded data for each fishing trip on a one-page logbook form, then sent the logbook to the Center for statistical analysis. Data were provided on: (1) area and time fished; (2) number of anglers aboard; (3) species, numbers, and sizes of fish caught; (4) presence or absence of gillnets in areas fished; (5) loss of fishing gear and time due to entanglement in gillnets; and (6) occurrence of gillnet marks observed on fish caught.

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ADD ONE
PARTY BOATS

Center scientists find the data obtained from the logbooks helpful in a Center study of gillnetting along the Northeast coast. The Center began the study in response to a 1982 request by the New England Fishery Management Council for analysis of competition among trawlers, gillnetters, and party boaters for the same species in the same areas.

Dr. Fredric Serchuk, a senior assessment scientist for the Center, feels the voluntary logbooks "can provide the Center with--among other things--the types of data needed to document party boat/gillnet conflicts." He noted that the Center "cannot obtain such detailed data from its general surveys of marine recreational fisheries along the Northeast coast."

Serchuk added that "expansion of the voluntary party-boat logbook system over a broader area and longer time would provide more representative data on party boat/gillnet conflicts." He said, however, that "full participation by the Northeast's party-boat fleet is neither necessary nor recommended."

Allen E. Peterson, Jr., Director of the Northeast Fisheries Center, lauded the cooperation of the party-boat captains in the pilot study, and credited "much of the study's success to the close supervision and quality control performed by the Interstate Party Boat Association." Peterson added that the voluntary party-boat logbook system is one of "a growing number of cooperative efforts between the Center and the region's recreational and commercial fishermen aimed at improving Center-fishermen relations and providing detailed data for better fisheries conservation and management.

Anyone interested in a free copy of the report on the pilot study should write: Dr. Fredric M. Serchuk, Northeast Fisheries Center, Woods Hole, MA 02543, or call (617) 548-5123 x 245.

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NEWS RELEASE

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Woods Hole, Massachusetts 02543

News Release No. 84-08

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

For More Information Contact:

ARTHUR W. NEILL (617-548-5123)

PUBLIC MEETING

ON ATLANTIC SALMON

WOODS HOLE, MA, June 19--The three U.S. Commissioners to the North Atlantic Salmon Conservation Organization (NASCO) will hold a public meeting at 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, June 21, at the Ellsworth, Me., Holiday Inn.

They will discuss the status of Atlantic salmon, the development of NASCO, and the results of NASCO's first annual meeting in Edinburgh, Scotland, during May 22-26. Allen E. Peterson, Jr., Director of the Northeast Fisheries Center and Head of the U.S. Delegation to the NASCO annual meeting, said he was "deeply concerned over NASCO's failure to take any action to reduce the heavy exploitation of U.S.-produced salmon on their feeding grounds off West Greenland, or along the Canadian coast as they return to their American spawning streams."

The other two U.S. Commissioners who will be at the Ellsworth meeting are Richard A. Buck, Chairman of Restoration of Atlantic Salmon in America, Inc., and Dr. Frank E. Carlton, Vice Chairman of the National Coalition for Marine Conservation, Inc.

NASCO is an eight-member, treaty-based regulatory organization which was started last October as a direct result of the steady international decline in Atlantic salmon fisheries.

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NORTHEAST FISHERIES CENTER

NEWS RELEASE

United States Department of Commerce
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
National Marine Fisheries Service
Northeast Fisheries Center
Woods Hole, Massachusetts 02543

News Release No. 84-09

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

For More Information Contact:

JON A. GIBSON (617-548-5123)

OPEN HOUSE ON
FISHERIES RESEARCH
SHIP *ALBATROSS IV*

WOODS HOLE, MA, June 25, 1984--NOAA's fisheries research ship *Albatross IV* will hold an open house in conjunction with Gloucester's annual blessing of the fleet, St. Peter's Fiesta. The ship will dock along the harbor loop and will be open from 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. on Saturday, June 30, and from 12:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. on Sunday, July 1.

NOAA's National Marine Fisheries Service uses the 187-foot *Albatross IV* to monitor changes in fisheries resources and habitats on the continental shelf between Nova Scotia and North Carolina. Built in 1962, the ship is the fourth in a line of historically important fisheries research vessels bearing the same name and dating back over a hundred years.

The National Marine Fisheries Service's Northeast Fisheries Center will have more than three-dozen displays on the ship, including fisheries sampling gear, field-collected specimens & samples, educational exhibits, and informative videotapes & slide shows. Scientific personnel will be available to answer questions.

The virtually restored fishing schooner *Ernestina*--the last one to sail out of Gloucester--will likely hold her open house while tied alongside the *Albatross IV*. The paired ships should give viewers a rare and vivid comparison between the old and the new.

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NORTHEAST FISHERIES CENTER

NEWS RELEASE

United States Department of Commerce
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
National Marine Fisheries Service
Northeast Fisheries Center
Woods Hole, Massachusetts 02543

News Release No. 84-10
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

For More Information Contact:
THOMAS MEYER (617-548-5123)

REWARD FOR

TAGGED LOBSTERS

WOODS HOLE, MA, July 13--One thousand lobsters are now crawling around the Gulf of Maine with new, bright orange, spaghetti-like tags inserted between their body and tail sections. Each tag is worth five dollars--plus the prevailing landed value--to fishermen who turn in the tagged lobsters to their nearest National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) port agent.

Fishermen catching a tagged lobster should record the tag number, carapace length, and capture date & location, then keep the lobster alive or frozen (with the tag intact) until they can notify the nearest port agent. If fishermen cannot reach a port agent, they should mail the tag and the above information, along with any general comments ("berried," "softshell," etc.) to Thomas Meyer, Northeast Fisheries Center, Woods Hole, MA 02543.

This lobster tagging, completed by the second week in July, marks the second year in a row that biologists from NMFS's Northeast Fisheries Center have released 1000 tagged lobsters in the Gulf of Maine. The biologists will also release a third batch of 1000 next year in the final phase of a three-year cooperative study by the Center and the Maine Department of Marine Resources. The joint study seeks information on lobster abundance, migration, growth, contaminants, etc. Such information is needed to determine the effect of the expanding offshore lobster fishery on the valuable inshore lobster fishery.

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE
Northeast Fisheries Center
Sandy Hook Laboratory
Highlands, NJ 07732

September 11, 1984

NEWS RELEASE

ENVIRONMENTAL WORKSHOP PLANNED AT SANDY HOOK

Dr. Barry Commoner, a prominent environmental scientist and author will deliver the keynote address for the Milford Memorial Convocation on Wednesday, October 3, at Sandy Hook. The program theme is "Fish and Bricks" and the topics will be addressed in two afternoon panels.

The workshop is designed to bring together representatives of groups interested in the Lower Hudson and Raritan estuary. The focus will be on a review of development plans for the shoreline and issues affecting aquatic resources related to shoreline rehabilitation and construction projects.

Two afternoon panels are planned. The first moderated by Dr. Robert Abel, President, NJ Marine Sciences Consortium, will summarize shoreline projects and planning. Representatives from NJ Dept. of Environmental Protection, the New York City Dept. of City Planning, and the New York Office of the US Army Corps of Engineers will review plans for the New Jersey shore of the Hudson, metropolitan New York, including Newark, proposed Bay channelization and dredging.

The second panel, moderated by B. A. Bennett, Executive Director of the American Littoral Society, will address fishery concerns. Biologists will cover such topics as the resources at risk, pollution effects and mitigation measures.

The workshop is the sixth in an annual series honoring the late Dr. Lionel Milford, a marine scientist instrumental in the founding of all three host institutions. The workshop has at least two purposes - a forum for exchange of information and ideas, with contributions from a wide array of interest groups including recreational and commercial fishing organizations, environmental action groups, development interests, maritime and legal concerns and the interested public. The final product will be a volume which reflects and summarizes the day's discussions.

The entire program will take place at the auditorium at Gateway National Park, October 3. The keynote address is scheduled for 10:00 am. Lunch will be served from 12 to 1:30 pm and a preregistration fee of $5.00 will cover lunch. Write or call Mrs. Kathe Wolbers (872-0202) if you are planning to take lunch.

JAN GIBSON

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE
Northeast Fisheries Center
Sandy Hook Laboratory
Highlands, NJ 07732

September 17, 1984

NEWS RELEASE

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The entire program will take place at the auditorium at Gateway National Park, October 3. The keynote address is scheduled for 10:00 am. Lunch will be served from 12 to 1:30 pm and a preregistration fee of $3.00 will cover lunch. Write or call Rex Patton Mathers (872-0202) if you are planning to take lunch.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
National Marine Fisheries Service

Northeast Fisheries Center
Sandy Hook Laboratory
Highlands, New Jersey 07732

News Release No. 84-12 (S.H.)

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Sept. 28

For More Information Contact:
Cathy Newman, 201-872-0200

SANDY HOOK LABORATORY ANNUAL OPEN HOUSE, 1984

HIGHLANDS, N.J., September 28, 1984,--The Sandy Hook Laboratory of the National Marine Fisheries Service, will hold its 14th Annual Open House on Friday, September 28, 1984. This fisheries research laboratory, directed by Dr. Carl J. Sindermann, will be open to the public from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Exhibits will be on display in the two research buildings at Sandy Hook and visitors will be able to tour through the various laboratory working areas where specimens will be displayed and activities discussed. Research topics focus on studies of commercial and recreational fisheries of the Middle Atlantic region as well as impacts of man on the marine environment.

Other marine-oriented organizations will participate in the event, including the New Jersey Marine Sciences Consortium, Brookdale Community College, American Littoral Society, the U. S. Coast Guard Oil Response Team, the Marine Academy of Science and Technology and the Gateway National Recreation Area. The Open House is an excellent opportunity for young people anticipating a career in estuarine or ocean science to see current activities engaged by oceanographers and fisheries and marine biologists. The Open House will also provide an opportunity for people interested in the subject of food from the sea to become acquainted with the federally-funded fisheries research programs in this coastal area.

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The Laboratory is located near the tip of Sandy Hook. Signs will be placed to direct the public through the Gateway National Recreational Area to the Laboratory parking areas. Two main buildings (numbers 19 and 74) will be open with displays and aquaria and staff members will be available to answer questions.

Past attendance has been quite large and visitors should allow between one to two hours to complete the tour. If you have any further questions, regarding the program, please contact Ms. Cathy Noonan at 201-872-0200, ext. 205.

NORTHEAST FISHERIES CENTER

NEWS RELEASE

United States Department of Commerce
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
National Marine Fisheries Service
Northeast Fisheries Center
Woods Hole, Massachusetts 02543

News Release No. 84-12

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

For More Information Contact:

DR. MICHAEL SISSENWINE, (617-548-5123)

U.S. COMMERCE DEPARTMENT AWARDS SILVER MEDAL TO FISHERY BIOLOGIST

WOODS HOLE, MA, November 17--The U.S. Department of Commerce has awarded a Silver Medal to NOAA scientist Dr. Vaughn C. Anthony.

Dr. Anthony is a supervisory fishery research biologist for the Northeast Fisheries Center in Woods Hole, Mass. The Northeast Fisheries Center is the research arm of NOAA's National Marine Fisheries Service in the New England and Mid-Atlantic States.

The Silver Medal, the second highest award given by the Department, is granted by the Secretary of Commerce for "meritorius contributions of unusual value to the Department." Commerce Secretary Malcolm Baldridge presented the award to Dr. Anthony in formal ceremonies at the Hoover Building in Washington, D.C., on November 13.

Baldridge cited Dr. Anthony's "stock assessment research accomplishments, his leadership in national and international assessment-oriented committees and working groups, and his innovations in communicating research findings to Center constituents in the form of semitechnical reports and popular articles." Stock assessment is the study of the current and projected size and health of fish populations.

-more-

ADD ONE

SILVER MEDAL

The Commerce Secretary also noted that Dr. Anthony's contributions "have significantly improved the management of fishery resources worth millions of dollars to the national economy."

Dr. Anthony received his bachelor's degree from the University of Maine, his master's degree from the University of Michigan, and his doctor's degree from the University of Washington. He and his wife, Joanne, reside in East Falmouth, Mass. They have two sons, Kevin and Jason.

NORTHEAST FISHERIES CENTER

NEWS RELEASE

United States Department of Commerce
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
National Marine Fisheries Service
Northeast Fisheries Center
Woods Hole, Massachusetts 02543

News Release No. 85-01

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

For More Information Contact:

ROGER THEROUX, (617) 548-5123x253

WOODS HOLE FISHERIES LAB CELEBRATES CENTENNIAL

WOODS HOLE, MA, March 28, 1985--Officials of the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) lab in Woods Hole draped a 50-foot banner across the facility this morning to announce the kickoff of the lab's centennial celebration.

Richard Hennemuth, Director of NMFS's Woods Hole Laboratory, said the celebration "marks a century of federal commitment to marine fisheries research." The lab, built in 1885 by the U.S. Fish Commission (forerunner of NMFS), was the first permanent facility in the world to be specifically designed for and dedicated to marine fisheries research.

Hennemuth said the celebration will include special exhibits in the lab's public display aquarium from June to September on the history and contributions of the lab in providing the information needed for marine fisheries conservation and management. Also, during mid-August the lab plans to hold an international forum on the future of fisheries research and management, climaxed by a rededication of the lab by several national and local fisheries and political leaders.

-more-

FISHERIES CENTENNIAL

ADD ONE

The Woods Hole Laboratory is currently headquarters for the NMFS's Northeast Fisheries Center, coordinating research in six of NMFS's other labs in the New England and Mid-Atlantic states. The Woods Hole Laboratory's own research focuses on populations of commercial and recreational fishes in the U.S. Fishery Conservation Zone (3-200 miles offshore) from the Canadian border to Cape Hatteras, North Carolina, and on the environment which supports those populations and their fisheries.

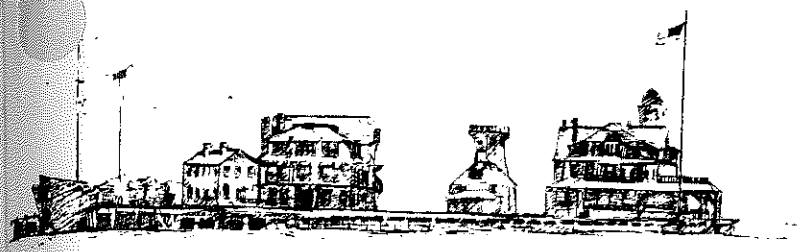
Information from this population and environmental research is used by the New England and Mid-Atlantic Fisheries Management Councils to manage their regions' fisheries which are worth one billion dollars annually to the Nation's economy.

-end-

Editor's Note: The banner raising at 9:30 a.m. on Thursday, March 28, will offer good photo and film opportunities. The lab director and other officials will be available for brief interviews. Call Jon Gibson, (617) 548-5123x228, to arrange special coverage. Also, news kits will be mailed several weeks prior to the major centennial events in mid-August to provide thorough background for news coverage. Call Jon Gibson to reserve a kit.

1885

UNITED STATES
COMMISSION OF FISH AND FISHERIES.



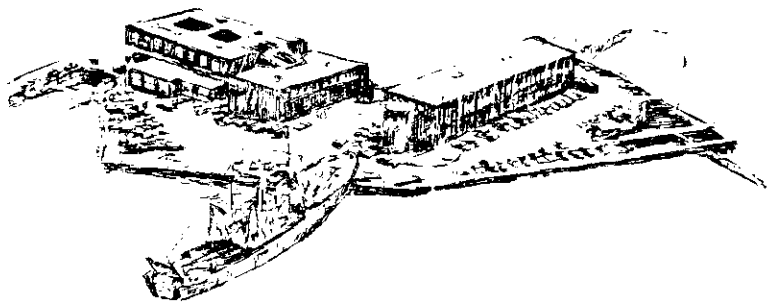
WOODS HOLE FISHERIES LABORATORY CENTENNIAL

Constructed in 1885 by the U.S. Fish Commission, the fisheries laboratory in Woods Hole was the first facility in the world to be specifically built for and dedicated to marine fisheries research. The Woods Hole Laboratory has played a leading role in marine fisheries research throughout its history, and is now part of the National Marine Fisheries Service, with responsibility for conservation and management of marine fisheries off the northeastern United States.

To commemorate the history and accomplishments of the Woods Hole Laboratory, 1985 will be a year of special exhibits and presentations for the public, highlighted by a centennial celebration in Woods Hole in August. There will be a series of public lectures on the history and contributions of the Woods Hole Laboratory by world-renowned fisheries scientists. Many other special activities will also be held with participation by national, regional, state and local officials, culminating in a ceremony rededicating the laboratory and aquarium facilites.

These events will emphasize the U.S. Government's continuing role as a trustee of the living marine resources and the National Marine Fisheries Service's responsibility for providing information needed for management and conservation of these resources.

1985



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE

NORTHEAST FISHERIES CENTER

NEWS RELEASE

United States Department of Commerce
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
National Marine Fisheries Service
Northeast Fisheries Center
Woods Hole, Massachusetts 02543

News Release No. 85-02

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

For More Information Contact:

TOM MEYER, (617) 548-5123

REWARD FOR TAGGED LOBSTERS

WOODS HOLE, MA, June 29, 1985--On Saturday, June 29, the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) will end six days of tagging lobsters in the Gulf of Maine. Up to 1,000 lobsters will be marked with international orange tags (see figure below) and released in the western part of Jordan Basin in about 100 fathoms.

Fishermen who catch any of these tagged lobsters can claim a five dollar reward **plus the current landed value of the lobster.** Fishermen should record the tag number, the date and location of capture, the carapace length, and any general comments about the lobster. Keep the lobster alive or frozen with the tag intact. Upon return to port notify the nearest NMFS port agent. If a port agent cannot be reached, mail the tag and above information to: Tom Meyer, National Marine Fisheries Service, Woods Hole, MA 02543; the reward will be mailed to you.

This is the final year of a three-year lobster tagging program between Maine's Department of Marine Resources and NMFS's Northeast Fisheries Center. Recapture of tagged lobsters will provide data on abundance, migration, growth, heavy metal concentrations, and interactions between inshore and offshore lobsters in the central Gulf of Maine.

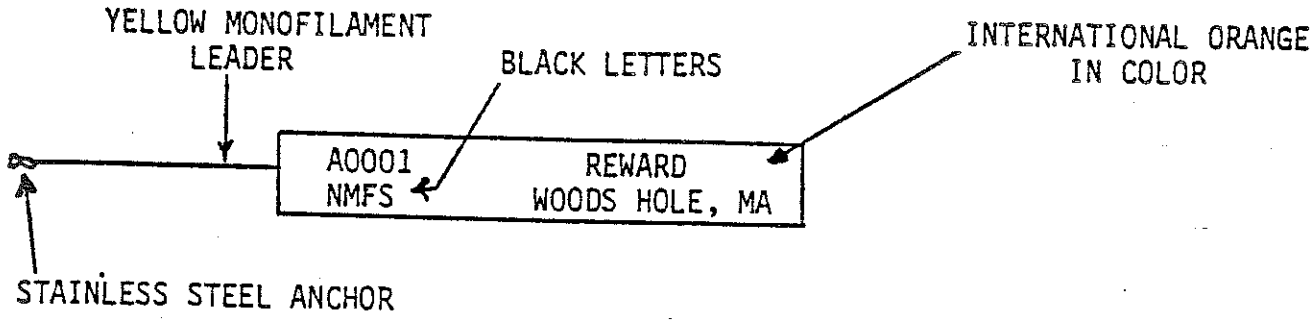


FIGURE 1. LOBSTER TAG

NORTHEAST FISHERIES CENTER

NEWS RELEASE

United States Department of Commerce
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
National Marine Fisheries Service
Northeast Fisheries Center
Woods Hole, Massachusetts 02543

News Release No. 85-03

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

For More Information Contact:

DR. MARVIN D. GROSSLEIN, (617) 548-5123

WORLD'S OLDEST FISHERIES RESEARCH LABORATORY CELEBRATES CENTENNIAL

WOODS HOLE, MA, August 3, 1985--The world's oldest fisheries research laboratory, NOAA's Woods Hole (Massachusetts) Laboratory, celebrates its centennial during August 13-16.

Five public lectures, two technical forums, one historical exhibit, and a rededication ceremony highlight the celebration. These activities will bring together key government, academic, industry, and private leaders in North American fisheries.

PUBLIC LECTURES

The lectures--free to the public--deal with the history and future of marine ecology, fisheries research & management, and the Woods Hole scientific institutions. Dr. John Steele, Director of the nearby Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution, opens the lecture series at 2:00 p.m. on August 13 at Lilly Auditorium on "Advances in Marine Ecology and Relevance to Fisheries."

At 7:30 p.m. on August 13 at Lilly Auditorium, Dr. Robert L. Edwards speaks on "History and Contributions of the Woods Hole Fisheries Laboratory." Dr. Edwards was formerly Director of the Northeast Fisheries Center, the coordinating organization for the Woods Hole Laboratory and six

-more-

other National Marine Fisheries Service laboratories in the New England and Mid-Atlantic states. He is currently Technical Assistant to the NOAA Assistant Administrator for Fisheries.

At 10:00 a.m. on August 14 at Redfield Auditorium, Dr. Paul R. Gross, President and Director of the Marine Biological Laboratory in Woods Hole, speaks on "The MBL and the Fisheries: A Century of Cooperation in Woods Hole."

At 2:00 p.m. on August 14 at the Lilly Auditorium, Dr. William F. Royce speaks on "100 Years of Development in Fisheries Science & Management." Royce was formerly the Director of the Woods Hole Laboratory, and is currently an international fisheries consultant in Seattle, Washington.

Dr. Peter A. Larkin, Professor at the University of British Columbia, closes the lecture series at 7:30 p.m. on August 14 at Redfield Auditorium on "Fisheries Research Strategy for the Future."

TECHNICAL FORUMS

Two forums on August 15 will discuss the future of North American fisheries research and management. Both forums will be held under a 250-seat, open-air tent on the grounds on the fisheries lab. Admission is free.

The morning forum, starting at 10:00 a.m., deals with "Fisheries Research Strategy for the Future." Participants will be: Carl R. Sullivan, Moderator (Executive Director, American Fisheries Society); Dr. Peter A. Larkin; Dr. John L. McHugh (Professor, State University of New York); Dr. Gilbert C. Radonski (President, Sport Fishing Institute); and Dr. William F. Royce.

WOODS HOLE LAB

ADD TWO

The afternoon forum, starting at 2:00 p.m., deals with "Fisheries Management in the 1980's and Beyond." Participants will be: Richard H. Schaefer, Moderator (Northeast Regional Director, National Marine Fisheries Service); William G. Gordon (Assistant Administrator for Fisheries, NOAA); Alan D. Guimond (Chairman, New England Fishery Management Council); Robert L. Martin (Chairman, Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council); Allen E. Peterson, Jr. (Center Director, Northeast Fisheries Center); Jeff Pike (Assistant to U.S. Representative Gerry E. Studds); Dr. Gilbert C. Radonski; and Lucy Sloan (Executive Director, National Federation of Fishermen).

HISTORICAL EXHIBIT

Beginning August 13, the fisheries lab's public display aquarium will feature a special exhibit on the lab's history, as well as new exhibits on the lab's current research. The aquarium is open from 10:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. daily. Admission is free.

The historical exhibit will include a chronological display of old photos, newspaper clippings, field notebooks, sampling gear, etc., from the fisheries lab's past. The aquarium's regular attractions include fish tanks, "hands-on" tanks, seal pool, educational displays, and scientists available to answer questions.

The special exhibit closes with the aquarium's traditional September 15 switch from summer hours to winter hours.

-more-

WOODS HOLE LAB

ADD THREE

REDEDICATION CEREMONY

The rededication of the Woods Hole Laboratory takes place at 10:00 a.m. on August 16. National, state, and local officials will participate, including Dr. Anthony J. Calio, Acting NOAA Administrator, and William G. Gordon.

LAB FUNCTIONS

Research at the Woods Hole Laboratory focuses on populations of commercially and recreationally important fishes in the U.S. Fishery Conservation Zone (3-200 miles offshore) from the Canadian border to Cape Hatteras, North Carolina, as well as on the habitats which produce those populations. Information from this research is used by the New England and Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Councils to manage their regions' fisheries which are worth one billion dollars annually to the Nation's economy.

-end-

Editor's Note: 4x5 photos of the fisheries lab in 1885 and 1985 are available. Call Brenda Figuerido at (617) 548-5123 x 257. News kits are available for those who will attend and cover. Call Jon Gibson at (617) 548-5123 x 228.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE
Northeast Fisheries Center
Sandy Hook Laboratory
Highlands, NJ 07732

News Release No. 85-05
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

For More Information Contact:
Tony Pacheco, 201-872-0200

SENATOR LAUTENBERG TO SPEAK AT LIONEL A. WALFORD CONVOCATION

Plans have been completed for the Seventh Annual L. A. Walford Convocation. The theme will be "Recreational Fisheries and the Environment - Past, Present, and Future." The sessions will be held Saturday, November 2, 1985 at Brookdale Community College, beginning at 10:00 am in Forum 103.

Keynote speaker will be Senator Frank Lautenberg who will present a Washington perspective of new and pending legislation relating to management and conservation of marine resources.

Following the Senator's remarks there will be a panel of five speakers, each addressing aspects of marine resources. They will emphasize either habitat or management changes that have occurred or are foreseen.

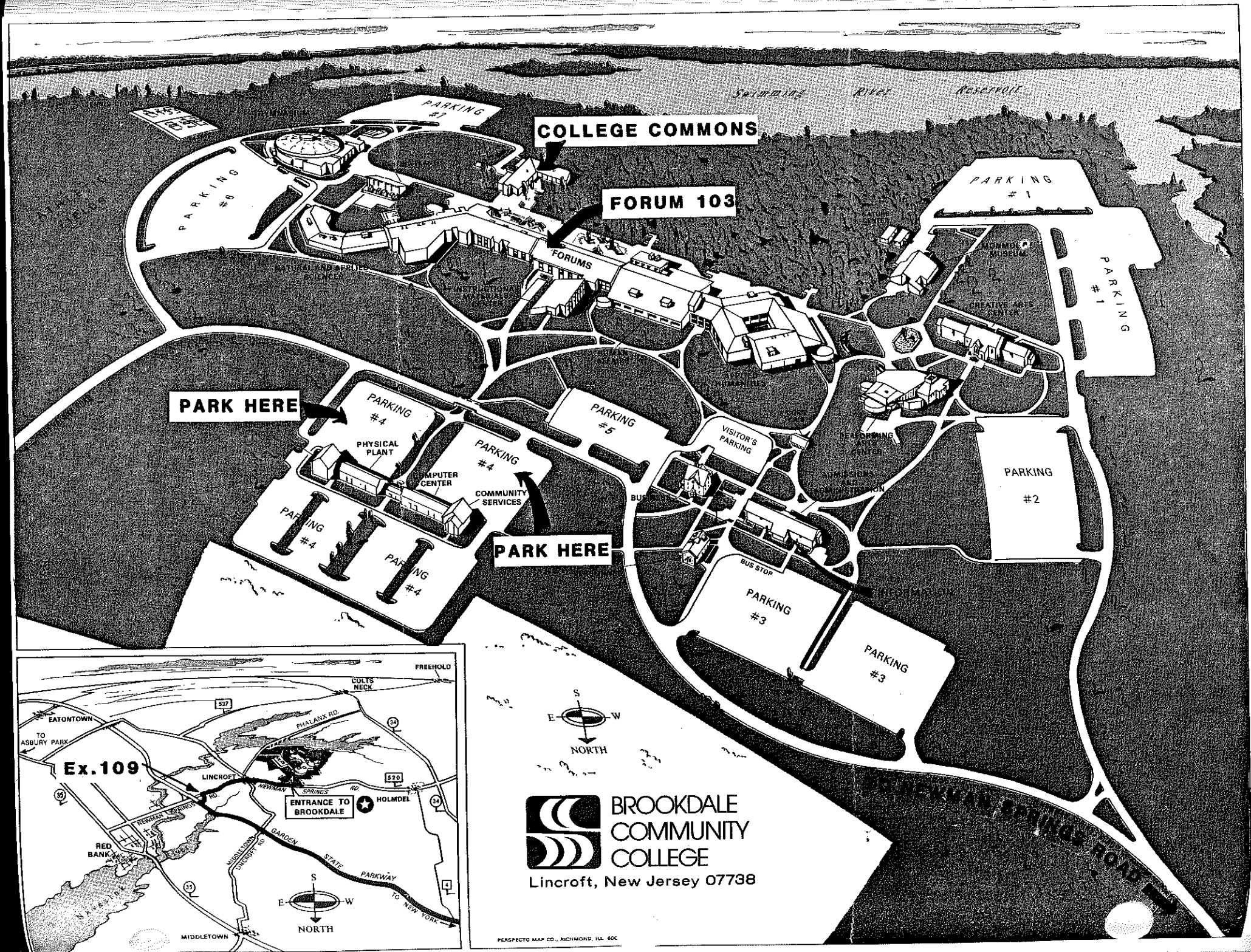
Henry Lyman, Publisher Emeritus, of Saltwater Sportsman Magazine will talk on the inshore fisheries, their development, research needs, and the future. Dr. Franklin Daiber, professor at the University of Delaware, will discuss the role of estuaries in the life of coastal fishes.

The afternoon program will begin with Robert Boyle, Senior Editor of Sports Illustrated, reviewing events in the Hudson River since 1968 when his book on the river was published.

Christopher Weld, Director of the National Coalition for Marine Conservation, will discuss management issues of the offshore pelagic fisheries (billfish, sharks, and tunas), and Dr. John Boreman of the NMFS Woods Hole Laboratory will summarize striped bass research and management and review the question of how far we have advanced in 25 years.

The program will conclude with a question and answer period, with the penalists fielding questions from each other and the audience.

The Convocation is part of a series initiated in 1979 and designed to provide the public an opportunity to focus on coastal issues and problems. The series is sponsored jointly by the National Marine Fisheries Service Sandy Hook Laboratory, the New Jersey Marine Sciences Consortium, and the American Littoral Society. The Convocations honor Dr. Lionel A. Walford who was instrumental in founding all three host organizations.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FORUM 103
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PARKING #1
PARKING #2
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PARKING #4
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PARKING #6
PARKING #7
FORUMS
PHYSICAL PLANT
COMPUTER CENTER
COMMUNITY SERVICES
VISITOR'S PARKING
BUS STOP
NEWMAN SPRINGS ROAD
Swimming Pool
Reservoir
NATURAL AND APPLIED SCIENCES
INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS CENTER
APPLIED HUMANITIES
CREATIVE ARTS CENTER
PERFORMING ARTS CENTER
ADMISSIONS AND ADMINISTRATION
BUSINESS
MONMOUTH MUSEUM
FREEHOLD
COLTS NECK
EATONTOWN
TO ASBURY PARK
Ex.109
LINCROFT
PHALANX RD.
NEWMAN SPRINGS RD.
ENTRANCE TO BROOKDALE
HOLMDEL
RED BANK
MIDDLETOWN
GARDEN STATE PARKWAY
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RECREATIONAL FISHERIES AND THE ENVIRONMENT

Past, Present and Future . .

U.S. Dept. of Commerce
Northeast Fisheries Center
Sandy Hook Laboratory
Highlands, N.J. 07732

The Walford Convocation series of lectures and workshops was initiated in 1979 to p[illegible] a forum for the public to focus on coastal [illegible] and problems. This series is sponsored by the three institutions making up the marine sciences community of Sandy Hook, NJ, each involved with the seacoast in a unique way.

- The National Marine Fisheries Service is concerned with assessment of living marine resources and pollution impacts upon stocks and their habitats.
- The New Jersey Marine Sciences Consortium provides educational programs, university research support and advisory services to broaden public awareness and interest in marine resources.
- The American Littoral Society, a non-profit organization of amateur and professional naturalists, encourages the study of marine life, particularly nearshore, and fosters public awareness in coastal issues and needs for conservation actions.

The Convocations honor Dr. Lionel A. Walford who was instrumental in founding all three host institutions.

Brookdale Community College
Newman Springs Road
Lincroft, New Jersey 07738
Forum 103
November 2, 1985

I. INTRODUCTIONS

10:00 am	Stuart J. Wilk Laboratory Director NMFS, Sandy Hook Laboratory Highlands, NJ 07732	Welcoming Remarks
[illegible]n	Dr. Robert B. Abel President, New Jersey Marine Sciences Consortium	Introduction of Keynote Speaker
10:30 am	The Honorable Frank Lautenberg U.S. Senator, New Jersey	A Washington Perspective — Keynote Address

II. THE PANEL

11:00 am	Henry Lyman Publisher Emeritus Saltwater Sportsman Magazine Boston, MA	Inshore Fisheries — Development, Research and the Future
11:30 am	Dr. Franklin C. Daiber Professor of Biology University of Delaware Newark, DE	The Role of the Estuary in the Life of Coastal Fishes
12:00 noon	Lunch break	
1:30 pm	Robert Boyle Senior Editor Sports Illustrated Cold Springs, NY	The Hudson River — A Dynamic Review of Events Since '68
2:00 pm	Christopher M. Weld Director, National Coalition for Marine Conservation Boston, MA	Management Issues of the Offshore Pelagic Fishery
[illegible]n	Dr. John Boreman Fishery Biologist NMFS, Northeast Fisheries Center Woods Hole, MA	Striped Bass Research and Management — How Far Have We Come in 25 Years?

III. QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

3:00 pm

Moderators
Stuart J. Wilk, NMFS, Sandy Hook Laboratory
D.W. Bennett, Executive Director, American Littoral Society

Yes ☐ No ☐

Plan to attend ☐

Name _____

No. in party _____

Lunch may be purchased at Brookdale's College Commons.

Please respond no later than October 25, 1985.

NORTHEAST FISHERIES CENTER

NEWS RELEASE

United States Department of Commerce
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
National Marine Fisheries Service
Northeast Fisheries Center
Woods Hole, Massachusetts 02543

News Release No. 85-06
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

For More Information Contact:
Anne L. Studholme, (201) 872-0200

CENTER FISHERY BIOLOGIST AWARDED U.S. COMMERCE DEPARTMENT SILVER MEDAL

WOODS HOLE, MA, NOVEMBER 22,1985--Michael P. Fahay, a fishery biologist at the National Marine Fisheries Service's Sandy Hook, N.J., laboratory has received the U.S. Department of Commerce's Silver Medal. Commerce Secretary Malcolm Baldridge presented the medal to Fahay at a November 13 ceremony at Commerce headquarters in Washington, D.C.

The Silver Medal, the Department's second highest award, honors meritorius contributions of unusual value. Baldridge bestowed the award to Fahay and three other Service biologists from other regions of the country for their editorial production of a highly acclaimed scientific book on the "Ontogeny and Systematics of Fishes." The Secretary called Fahay's effort "a distinguished achievement and significant contribution to the fisheries literature."

The 760-page book is the proceedings of a symposium held August 15-18, 1983, at La Jolla, Calf., and attended by 250 scientists from 10 countries. The book presents the state of scientific knowledge on the developmental stages, relationships, and fisheries for many of the world's marine and freshwater fishes. Fahay and his three co-award winners planned the symposium, invited speakers, authored several chapters, enlisted 70 other authors to produce additional chapters, and edited all manuscripts.

Mike, a native of the West Coast and a 20-year employee of the Sandy Hook laboratory, resides with his wife Cindy in Locust, N.J. They have three children: Lisa, Christine, and Jesse.

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NORTHEAST FISHERIES CENTER

NEWS RELEASE

United States Department of Commerce
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
National Marine Fisheries Service
Northeast Fisheries Center
Woods Hole, Massachusetts 02543

New Release No. 86-02

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

For More Information Contact:

DR. FREDRIC M. SERCHUK, (617) 548-5123

MORE SCALLOPS ON WAY

WOODS HOLE, MA, January 8, 1985 -- Large numbers of young sea scallops are appearing off the East Coast, according to the National Marine Fisheries Service's (NMFS) Northeast Fisheries Center in Woods Hole, Massachusetts.

These young scallops, spawned in 1982 and comprising the 1982 "year class" of sea scallops, will grow enough to attain legal size later this year or in early 1987. Allen E. Peterson, Jr., Director of NMFS's Northeast Fisheries Center, feels "the 1982 year class could reverse the current seven-year decline in the Northeast's sea scallop fishery."

The Center's parent agency, NMFS, is part of the U.S. Commerce Department's National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, and has stewardship responsibilities for the nation's marine fisheries resources.

The Northeast's sea scallop fishery is managed by the New England Fishery Management Council in conjunction with the Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council as part of their responsibilities under the Magnuson Fishery Conservation and Management Act. On April 1, 1986, the NMFS will implement new regulations developed by the Councils which will require scallops to be a "minimum" size before they can be sold. Currently, scallops need only be an "average" size before sale.

- more -

SCALLOPS

ADD ONE

Under the average-size regulations, strong year classes of sea scallops--such as the huge 1979 year class in the Great South Channel area of Georges Bank--have been quickly harvested at small sizes and then "mixed" with larger scallops from other sites to achieve the regulated average. This mixing technique crops strong year classes before the scallops grow to a spawning size, and lessens the ability of scallop stocks to naturally replenish themselves. The new minimum-size regulations should result in fishermen landing mostly adult-sized scallops and should significantly improve the chances for these new adults to spawn at least once.

Peterson feels that "the timing of the new scallop regulations is excellent from a conservation standpoint. When the strong 1982 year class, particularly in the Mid-Atlantic, becomes vulnerable ('recruited') to the fishery later this year or in early 1987, fishermen will be dissuaded from fishing those scallop beds composed of juvenile scallops."

"Increased survival of these 1982 year class scallops until they have both attained a legal size and had a chance to spawn, could fulfill the New England and Mid-Atlantic Councils' objective of restoring long-term vitality to the Northeast's sea scallop industry."

- more -

SCALLOPS

ADD TWO

RECENT CATCHES

American catches from the East Coast's three major sea scallop stocks--Mid-Atlantic, Georges Bank, and Gulf of Maine--peaked in 1978 at 32 million pounds of scallop meat. The catch has declined each year since. Based on preliminary data, the 1985 American catch is expected to be about 15 million pounds, the lowest since 1975. The 1985 catch is expected to be worth about 75 million dollars in dockside or "ex-vessel" prices to fishermen, a 20-million-dollar decline from 1984.

SIZE OF INCREASE

Evidence of the strong 1982 year class of sea scallops comes from the Northeast Fisheries Center's annual summer survey of scallop distribution and abundance on the Northeast continental shelf. The just completed analysis of the 1985 summer survey data shows a marked increase in the abundance indexes of small, pre-commercial size scallops from the 1982 year class in both the Mid-Atlantic and on Georges Bank.

In the Mid-Atlantic, the survey abundance index of small scallops in the New York Bight area was the highest since surveys began in 1975; in the Delmarva area it was the third highest since surveys began.

On the U.S. portion of Georges Bank, the survey abundance index of small scallops in the Great South Channel area was the fourth highest since surveys began, and was triple the 1984 value. The small scallop index for the southeastern part of Georges Bank was the third highest since surveys began, and was double the 1984 value.

- end -

NORTHEAST FISHERIES CENTER

NEWS RELEASE

United States Department of Commerce
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
National Marine Fisheries Service
Northeast Fisheries Center
Woods Hole, Massachusetts 02543

News Release No. 86-03

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

For More Information Contact:

RONNEE L. SCHULTZ, (617) 548-5123

NEW ENGLAND FISH HARVESTS DOWN IN '85

WOODS HOLE, MA, March 5, 1986 -- Preliminary figures for commercial landings of New England fish during 1985 were 588.9 million pounds, valued at 423.6 million dollars. These 1985 figures are down 105.4 million pounds and 9.8 million dollars from the 1984 figures, according to Allen E. Peterson, Jr., Director of the National Marine Fisheries Service's Northeast Fisheries Center.

New England landings (in millions of pounds and dollars) by state for 1984 and 1985 were as follows:

	1984		1985	
State	lb.	$	lb.	$
Maine	179.1	107.6	174.2	101.0
New Hampshire	11.9	8.4	8.4	5.6
Massachusetts	375.5	233.5	295.8	235.2
Rhode Island	120.0	70.4	103.8	69.9
Connecticut	7.8	13.5	6.7	11.9
TOTAL	694.3	433.4	588.9	423.6

-more-

FISH LANDINGS

ADD ONE

Landings by major port for 1984 and 1985 were as follows:

Port	1984		1985	
	lb.	$	lb.	$
Rockland, ME	42.9	9.4	57.8	11.2
Portland, ME	37.0	14.5	35.9	17.2
Gloucester, MA	179.1	37.1	115.6	37.1
Boston, MA	20.2	11.2	19.2	12.0
New Bedford, MA	99.5	107.7	90.6	103.2
Newport, RI	20.8	15.7	16.8	13.7
Pt. Judith, RI	69.9	27.3	56.8	28.0

Landings by major species for 1984 and 1985 were as follows:

Species	1984		1985	
	lb.	$	lb.	$
Atlantic cod	95.8	35.6	77.4	33.9
Haddock	26.0	18.4	14.4	13.5
Pollock	39.5	6.4	42.3	6.9
Yellowtail flounder	36.2	26.4	23.6	19.6
Redfish (ocean perch)	12.2	3.5	9.7	3.2
Silver hake (whiting)	33.0	4.2	31.0	5.4
Butterfish	24.0	6.4	7.7	2.6
Atlantic herring	73.7	3.7	57.0	3.0
Squids	12.9	3.2	15.0	4.2
Sea scallops	11.1	62.5	10.2	50.1
American lobsters	41.5	107.0	42.3	106.0

-end-

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NORTHEAST FISHERIES CENTER

NEWS RELEASE

United States Department of Commerce
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
National Marine Fisheries Service
Northeast Fisheries Center
Woods Hole, Massachusetts 02543

News Release No. 86-04

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

For More Information Contact:

WILLIAM N. KELLY, (804) 723-3360

1985 MID-ATLANTIC FISH HARVESTS

UP IN WEIGHT, DOWN IN VALUE

WOODS HOLE, MA, April 2, 1986 -- Preliminary figures for 1985 commercial fish landings in the Mid-Atlantic states of New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland, and Virginia were 966 million pounds, valued at 225 million dollars. These 1985 figures are up 116 million pounds and down 24 million dollars from the 1984 figures, according to Allen E. Peterson, Jr., Director of the National Marine Fisheries Service's Northeast Fisheries Center.

Mid-Atlantic landings (in millions of pounds and dollars) by state for 1984 and 1985 were as follows:

	1984		1985	
State	lb.	$	lb.	$
Virginia	606	84	723	77
New Jersey	112	68	107	61
Maryland	91	55	92	47
New York	38	40	39	38
Delaware	3	2	5	2
Pennsylvania	<0.5	<0.5	<0.5	<0.5
TOTAL	850	249	966	225

-more-

FISH LANDINGS

ADD ONE

Landings at major ports for 1984 and 1985 were as follows:

	1984		1985	
Port	lb.	$	lb.	$
Cape May-Wildwood, NJ	52	28	30	18
Hampton Roads area, VA	33	30	24	25
Atlantic City, NJ	29	14	22	12
Ocean City, MD	24	11	18	7
Point Pleasant, NJ	13	6	17	6
Chincoteague, VA	9	5	12	7
Cape Charles-Oyster, VA	10	4	11	5
Hampton Bays, NY	8	5	9	6
Montauk, NY	11	10	8	9
Greenport, NY	5	6	<5	<3

NOTE: Because of the federal Privacy Act, landings at major ports are not included if there are less than three processors at those ports (e.g., Reedville, VA).

-more-

FISH LANDINGS

ADD TWO

Landings of major species for 1984 and 1985 were as follows:

	1984		1985	
Species	lb.	$	lb.	$
Hard blue crabs	98	28	93	28
Surf clams	62	31	63	33
Ocean quahogs	36	11	47	14
Summer flounder (fluke)	19	12	14	13
Silver hake (whiting)	13	3	14	3
Squids	18	4	11	3
American oysters	14	32	8	16
Weakfish (gray sea trout)	4	3	6	3
Sea scallops	6	32	5	32
Scup	8	4	5	3

-end-

Dup Judith Brawnlow

NORTHEAST FISHERIES CENTER

NEWS RELEASE

United States Department of Commerce
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
National Marine Fisheries Service
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Woods Hole, Massachusetts 02543

News Release No. 86-05

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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SALMON TAGGING PROGRAM

ENCOUNTERS PROBLEMS

WOODS HOLE, MA, July 9, 1986 -- The Federal Government's program to restore Atlantic salmon to the rivers in the northeastern United States has encountered a couple of problems, according to Allen E. Peterson, Jr., Director of the National Marine Fisheries Service's Northeast Fisheries Center in Woods Hole, Massachusetts.

"The first problem," notes Peterson, "is the hesitancy of some fishermen along the coast of eastern Canada to return tags to the Fisheries Center taken from salmon that they have harvested because of uncertainty over whether Canadian citizens qualify for the eight-dollar (U.S.) reward." Peterson noted that "anyone, U.S. citizen or not, qualifies for the reward."

"The second problem is the incidence of a few fishermen in the northeastern United States in unsuspectingly returning tags from illegally harvested salmon." Salmon cannot currently be legally harvested in some northeastern U.S. rivers. These closures are designed to protect small-sized, hatchery-produced salmon until they descend to the sea where they can grow, mature, and then someday return as large, highly prized gamefish.

-more-

SALMON TAGGING

ADD ONE

The tagging program, a joint effort between the National Marine Fisheries Service, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and the New England states, attach tags to about 150,000 of the million-plus hatchery-produced juvenile or"smolt" Atlantic salmon which are annually released into the Connecticut River, the Merrimack River, and various Maine rivers. Each 5/8-inch long, green or blue-colored tag is attached behind the dorsal (top) fin of the 7-9 inch long smolt, and has a number on one side and the phrase, "REWARD, NMFS, WOODS HOLE, MASS., USA 02540," on the other side.

To claim the eight-dollar (U.S.) reward, fishermen catching legal salmon should send the tag to the Fisheries Center along with information on when, where, and how (rod & reel, trap net, etc.) caught, and the length and weight (if possible) of the fish.

Peterson indicated that "our ability to manage Atlantic salmon depends upon our knowledge of their habits, and we need to know more about their habits at sea, including routes of migration, timing of migration, and areas of concentration."

Tag returns provide that knowledge, but some Canadian fishermen are reluctant to return tags, in part, because of a feeling that only U.S. fishermen can claim the U.S. reward. Peterson countered that "the reward will be paid to any party who returns a tag along with the requested information on its capture."

-more-

SALMON TAGGING

ADD TWO

On the other hand, some American fishermen have returned tags from salmon caught in the Connecticut River and its tributaries when there was a ban on keeping salmon caught in those waters. A total ban on keeping salmon caught in the main stem of the Connecticut River is now in effect until further notice by all four states bordering the river (Connecticut, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, and Vermont), both to protect the smolts until they can descend the river to reach the sea, and to protect the returning adults which are the broodstock of the whole restoration program.

It's unclear whether fishermen returning tags from illegal fish: (1) have misidentified the salmon smolt as another species (brown trout, rainbow trout, etc.); (2) are unaware of the applicable state ban; or (3) feel that tag-bearing fish are exempt from the ban (which they are not).

Peterson stated that "the Fisheries Center will continue to pay rewards for tags taken from any salmon regardless of the apparent circumstances of harvest." He added, though, that "in order to reduce the harvest of tagged smolts next spring, the Fisheries Center will undertake an educational campaign with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the New England states to help fishermen better distinguish between small salmon and small trout, and to be aware more fully of all state regulations pertaining to salmon fishing."

-end-

NORTHEAST FISHERIES CENTER

NEWS RELEASE

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Woods Hole, Massachusetts 02543

News Release No. 86-06

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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ARTHUR W. NEILL, (617) 548-5123

FOREIGN HARVESTS OF U.S. SALMON TO BE REDUCED

WOODS HOLE, MA, August 29, 1986 -- The North Atlantic Salmon Conservation Organization (NASCO) acted at its third annual meeting in Edinburgh, Scotland, during June 23-27 to reduce harvests of Atlantic salmon of U.S. origin when these fish are outside U.S. waters.

Atlantic salmon originating in New England rivers annually migrate along Canada both to get to and return from their summer feeding grounds off West Greenland. During this feeding and migration period, commercial fishermen off West Greenland and Canada harvest these U.S.-origin salmon. The number of U.S. fish harvested by these foreign fishermen often exceeds the number finally returning to U.S. rivers.

In NASCO's North American Commission, whose members include Canada and the United States, the United States proposed that Canada close its 1986 commercial fisheries in Newfoundland and Labrador on September 1 due to the high percentage of U.S.-origin salmon harvested off those Canadian provinces during the fall. Canada agreed to an October 15 closure. Historically, these fisheries have closed on December 31.

-more-

FOREIGN HARVESTS

ADD ONE

In NASCO's West Greenland Commission, whose members include Canada, Denmark (in respect of Greenland), the European Economic Community, and the United States, the members agreed to an 850-metric-ton (mt) total allowable catch (TAC) based on an August 1 opening for both the 1986 and 1987 seasons. The agreement stipulates that if the opening is changed to a later date, the TAC may be increased according to the projected increase in weight of the salmon between August 1 and the later opening. The Home Government of Greenland elected to open the salmon fishery on August 15 with an increased TAC of 909 mt. Although a smaller TAC would produce a larger return of U.S.-origin salmon, having the TAC set for two years instead of one will stabilize the West Greenland fishery in the face of continued pressure for higher TAC's.

Allen E. Peterson, Jr., Director of the Northeast Fisheries Center and head of the U.S. Delegation to NASCO, said "the measures adopted by NASCO's North American and West Greenland Commissions clearly support U.S. efforts to restore its historical salmon runs by allowing additional salmon to return to their home waters. In Canada alone, we expect these measures, along with other measures taken over the last two years, to reduce Canadian harvests of U.S. fish upwards of 30 percent."

Peterson added that "It's gratifying to see that salmon producing and salmon harvesting nations can, in fact, work together to reverse the continuing worldwide decline of Atlantic salmon runs."

-more-

FOREIGN HARVESTS

ADD TWO

In other actions taken at the NASCO annual meeting, the North American Commission adopted proposals to investigate the impact of acid rain on Atlantic salmon and the effects of introducing and transferring Pacific salmons into the Great Lakes and along the Atlantic seaboard. The NASCO Council, which oversees all three Commissions (North American, West Greenland, and North East Atlantic), elected Allen Peterson to a second term as Vice-President, and the North American Commission elected Dr. Frank E. Carlton, a U.S. Commissioner from Savannah, Georgia, as its Chairman.

The purpose of the treaty establishing NASCO is to promote the conservation, restoration, enhancement, and rational management of salmon stocks in the North Atlantic Ocean by means of international cooperation. NASCO also provides for the acquisition, analysis, and dissemination of scientific information on these stocks. The members are Canada, Denmark (in respect of the Faroe Islands and Greenland), the European Economic Community, Finland, Iceland, Norway, Sweden, and the United States. The USSR is expected to join NASCO in the near future.

-end-

Dup Judith Braunlow

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NEWS RELEASE

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National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
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Woods Hole, Massachusetts 02543

News Release No. 87-02

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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1986 NEW ENGLAND FISH HARVESTS DOWN IN WEIGHT, UP IN DOLLARS

WOODS HOLE, MA, March 20, 1987 -- Preliminary figures for commercial landings of New England fishes and invertebrates during 1986 were 555.7 million pounds, valued at 448.9 million dollars.

These 1986 figures are down 34.1 million pounds and up 29.4 million dollars from the 1985 figures, according to Allen E. Peterson, Jr., Director of the National Marine Fisheries Service's Northeast Fisheries Center. Landings of such traditionally important groundfishes as cod, haddock, and yellowtail flounder decreased by 26.4 million pounds in 1986 compared to 1985, accounting for most of the overall decrease last year.

The following tables compare the weights and values of New England landings in 1985 and 1986 on a state, port, and species basis. A special table has also been included on landings of American lobsters in each of the New England states.

-more-

ADD ONE

NEW ENGLAND LANDINGS

Preliminary Weights and Values of Fish and Invertebrate Landings in New England on a State-by-State Basis for 1985 and 1986

	1985		1986	
State	Millions of Pounds	Millions of Dollars	Millions of Pounds	Millions of Dollars
Massachusetts	296.2	231.5	271.3	243.6
Maine	175.5	100.9	168.2	108.4
Rhode Island	103.8	69.9	101.6	75.1
New Hampshire	7.6	5.3	7.9	6.2
Connecticut	6.7	11.9	6.7	15.6
TOTAL	589.8	419.5	555.7	448.9

NOTE: Landings of fishes in live weight; landings of invertebrates in meat weight.

-more-

ADD TWO

NEW ENGLAND LANDINGS

Preliminary Weights and Values of Fish and Invertebrate Landings in New England on a Port-by-Port Basis for 1985 and 1986

	1985		1986	
Port	Millions of Pounds	Millions of Dollars	Millions of Pounds	Millions of Dollars
Gloucester, MA	116.5	37.1	109.6	37.8
New Bedford, MA	90.6	103.2	65.8	106.0
Pt. Judith, RI	56.8	28.0	52.1	28.5
Rockland, ME	58.6	11.1	42.7	9.1
Portland, ME	36.1	17.2	34.3	22.4
Boston, MA	19.8	12.1	30.7	19.0
Newport, RI	16.8	13.7	11.6	12.8

-more-

ADD THREE

NEW ENGLAND LANDINGS

Preliminary Weights and Values of Fish and Invertebrate Landings in New England on a Species-by-Species Basis for 1985 and 1986

	1985		1986	
Species	Millions of Pounds	Millions of Dollars	Millions of Pounds	Millions of Dollars
Atlantic herring	57.0	2.9	70.4	3.8
Atlantic cod	82.3	34.7	60.8	35.6
American lobster	43.7	107.4	42.7	112.1
Pollock	43.5	6.8	32.1	14.0
Silver hake (whiting)	31.0	5.4	31.5	5.9
Yellowtail flounder	23.6	19.6	22.2	20.5
Winter (blackback) flounder	21.5	18.5	16.3	16.8
White hake	16.2	3.4	11.9	4.8
Sea scallop	10.2	50.0	11.5	61.2
Haddock	14.4	13.5	10.9	10.9
Northern shrimp	9.3	4.0	10.3	6.6
Summer flounder (fluke)	9.9	10.5	10.0	13.1
Scup	8.8	5.0	8.0	4.3
Swordfish	2.6	7.0	2.2	7.4

NOTE: Landings of fishes in live weight; landings of invertebrates in meat weight.

-more-

ADD FOUR

NEW ENGLAND LANDINGS

Preliminary Weights and Values of American Lobster Landings in New England on a State-by-State Basis for 1985 and 1986

	1985		1986	
State	Millions of Pounds	Millions of Dollars	Millions of Pounds	Millions of Dollars
Maine	20.1	45.0	19.7	46.2
Massachusetts	15.6	40.1	15.0	41.0
Rhode Island	5.1	14.6	5.1	16.7
Connecticut	1.7	5.0	1.8	5.4
New Hampshire	1.2	2.7	1.1	2.8
TOTAL	43.7	107.4	42.7	112.1

-end-

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NEWS RELEASE

United States Department of Commerce
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
National Marine Fisheries Service
Northeast Fisheries Center
Woods Hole, Massachusetts 02543

News Release No. 87-03 (Joint Release with U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service)

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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SMALL TAGGED SALMON SHOULD BE RELEASED UNHARMED

WOODS HOLE, MA, March 28, 1987--The Federal Goverment will soon tag about 150,000 small Atlantic salmon with external, "Carlin"-type tags and release them into New England's Connecticut and Penobscot Rivers.

About 100,000 tagged, juvenile (or "smolt") salmon will be released during early May into Maine's Penobscot River. About 50,000 tagged smolts will be released during early April into Massachusetts stretches of the mainstem Connecticut River and into Massachusetts, Connecticut, and Vermont tributaries to the mainstem.

The Carlin tag is a 5/8-inch long, green or blue-colored, oval-shaped disc that is attached behind the dorsal (top) fin of the 7-9 inch long smolt. Each of these tags has a number on one side and the phrase, "REWARD, NMFS, WOODS HOLE, MA, USA," on the other side.

Although the tags indicate a reward (which is 12 dollars), all states in the Connecticut River Basin have made it illegal to keep any Atlantic salmon that has been caught in the river or its tributaries. Maine has made it illegal to keep any Atlantic salmon (whether of sea-run or land-locked variety) less than 14 inches long that has been caught in that state's waters.

-more-

ADD ONE

TAGGED SALMON

Atlantic salmon bearing these Federal tags are **NOT** exempt from any applicable state fishing regulations. **Consequently, fishermen catching a tagged smolt Atlantic salmon should immediately return the fish to the water unharmed.**

The various state regulations that prohibit the harvesting of Atlantic salmon smolts protect the tagged smolts as they descend to the sea where they can grow, mature, and someday return as large, highly prized gamefish. These regulations also support the purpose of the tagging program to gather needed data on the at-sea habits of adult Atlantic salmon.

The tagging program, a joint effort among the National Marine Fisheries Service, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and the New England states, attaches Carlin tags to about 150,000 of the million-plus, hatchery-produced smolts which are annually released into New England rivers as part of a long-term effort to restore the region's salmon populations and fisheries. Tag returns provide needed data on the Atlantic salmon's at-sea habits, including migration routes, migration timing, concentration areas, and fishing vulnerability. Such data permit the United States to: (1) enact better salmon management measures for its territorial waters; and (2) negotiate better salmon management measures for other national and international waters through U.S. membership in the treaty-based North Atlantic Salmon Conservation Organization.

-end-

Dup Judith Brownlow

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NEWS RELEASE

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National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
National Marine Fisheries Service
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Woods Hole, Massachusetts 02543

News Release No. 87-04

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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1986 MID-ATLANTIC FISH HARVESTS

DOWN IN WEIGHT, UP IN DOLLARS

WOODS HOLE, MA, April 22, 1987 -- Preliminary figures for 1986 commercial landings of fish and shellfish in the Mid-Atlantic states of New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Virginia, and Maryland were 775 million pounds, valued at 245 million dollars.

These 1986 figures are down 203 million pounds and up six million dollars from the 1985 figures, according to Allen E. Peterson, Jr., Director of the National Marine Fisheries Service's Northeast Fisheries Center.

The following tables compare the weights and values of Mid-Atlantic landings in 1985 and 1986 on a state, port, and species basis.

-more-

ADD ONE

MID-ATLANTIC LANDINGS

Preliminary Weights and Values of Mid-Atlantic Fish and Shellfish Landings on a State-by-State Basis for 1985 and 1986

	1985		1986	
State	Millions of Pounds	Millions of Dollars	Millions of Pounds	Millions of Dollars
Virginia	725	80	530	80
New Jersey	108	61	108	67
Maryland	101	56	89	51
New York	39	40	43	45
Delaware	5	2	5	2
Pennsylvania	<0.5	<0.5	<0.5	<0.5
TOTAL	978	239	775	245

NOTE: Landings of fish in live weight; landings of most shellfish in meat weight.

-more-

ADD TWO

MID-ATLANTIC LANDINGS

Preliminary Weights and Values of Mid-Atlantic Fish and Shellfish Landings on a Port-by-Port Basis for 1985 and 1986

	1985		1986	
Port	Millions of Pounds	Millions of Dollars	Millions of Pounds	Millions of Dollars
Cape May - Wildwood, NJ	48	25	53	28
Ocean City, MD	25	11	29	12
Hampton Roads area, VA	24	25	25	24
Atlantic City, NJ	22	12	22	13
Point Pleasant, NJ	17	6	15	6
Chincoteague, VA	12	7	14	8
Cape Charles - Oyster, VA	11	5	11	4
Montauk, NY	8	9	11	13
Hampton Bays, NY	9	6	8	6
Mattituck, NY	<5	<3	5	3
Greenport, NY	<5	<3	4	4

NOTE: Landings of fish in live weight; landings of most shellfish in meat weight. Also, because of the federal Privacy Act, landings at major ports are not included if there are less than three processors at those ports (e.g., Reedville, VA).

-more-

ADD THREE

MID-ATLANTIC LANDINGS

Preliminary Weights and Values of Mid-Atlantic Fish and Shellfish Landings on a Species-by-Species Basis for 1985 and 1986

	1985		1986	
Species	Millions of Pounds	Millions of Dollars	Millions of Pounds	Millions of Dollars
Hard blue crabs	102	29	86	28
Surf clams	67	33	69	37
Ocean quahogs	42	13	43	13
Squids	9	13	13	4
American oysters	14	25	12	24
Summer flounder (fluke)	14	13	11	13
Silver hake (whiting)	14	3	8	2
Scup (porgy)	5	3	7	4
Sea scallops	5	22	7	29
Atlantic mackerel	3	0.3	6	1

NOTE: Landings of fish, squid, and blue crab in live weight; landings of other shellfish in meat weight.

-end-

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NEWS RELEASE

United States Department of Commerce
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Woods Hole, Massachusetts 02543

News Release No. 87-05

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

ARTHUR W. NEILL, (617) 548-5123

NASCO FURTHER PROTECTS SALMON FROM INTERCEPTION FISHERIES

WOODS HOLE, MA, August 24, 1987 — August 25 kicks off a series of three dates which will be milestones in the Atlantic salmon conservation movement. On that date and on October 1 and 15, various controls will take effect which will — for the first time — largely control salmon "interception" fisheries throughout the species' entire natural range.

Interception fisheries involve the harvesting by one country's fishermen of the salmon produced in another country's rivers, and principally occur in three locations: (1) off The Faroe Islands (Danish Territory between Iceland and mainland Europe) where mostly European-origin but some North American-origin salmon are caught; (2) off Newfoundland and Labrador where mostly North American-origin salmon but some European-origin salmon are caught; and (3) off West Greenland where significant numbers of both North American and European-origin salmon are caught.

-more-

SALMON

ADD ONE

These comprehensive controls on interception fisheries result from the fourth annual meeting of the treaty-based North Atlantic Salmon Conservation Organization (NASCO) held this past June 7-11 in Edinburgh, Scotland. At the June meeting, NASCO enacted its first conservation measures for the Faroese fishery, and renewed its conservation measures for the Newfoundland-Labrador and West Greenland fisheries which it first enacted at last year's annual meeting.

For the Faroese fishery, NASCO has agreed to cap the fishery -- on a trial basis -- at a combined harvest of 3,945,000 pounds for the 1987-88, 1988-89, and 1989-90 fishing seasons, with the harvest in any one season not to exceed 1,380,000 pounds. NASCO will also oversee effort restrictions in the Faroese fishey whose season opens October 1 and ends May 31. These conservation measures are the first ones enacted by NASCO through its component North-East Atlantic Commission.

At last year's annual meeting, NASCO enacted conservation measures through its other two component Commissions, the North American and the West Greenland. The North American Commission, composed of the United States and Canada, agreed last year to close the commercial salmon fishery off Newfoundland and Labrador on October 15, instead of the traditional December 31, due to the high percentage of U.S.-origin salmon being harvested off those Canadian provinces in the fall. The October 15 closure will be in effect again this year.

-more-

SALMON

ADD TWO

The West Greenland Commission, composed of the United States, Canada, Denmark (in respect to its Territory of Greenland), and the European Economic Community, agreed last year to an annual total allowable catch in the West Greenland fishery of 1,875,000 pounds -- based on an August 1 opening -- which would be in effect for both last year's and this year's fishing seasons. The agreement stipulates that if the opening is changed to a later date, the catch may be increased according to the projected increase in weight of the salmon between August 1 and the later opening. The Home Government of Greenland has elected to open this year's West Greenland fishery on August 25 with an increased catch of 2,095,000 pounds.

Allen E. Peterson, Jr., one of the three U.S. Commissioners to NASCO and the Director of the National Marine Fisheries Service's Northeast Fisheries Center, lauded NASCO's actions.

"The agreement reached by NASCO's North-East Atlantic Commission to regulate salmon harvests completes the cycle within NASCO. In just four short years, all three Commissions have taken definitive steps to reduce the harvests by one country's fishermen of the salmon produced in another country's rivers. This will now free the Commissions to address other important issues for which they have responsibility."

-end-

NORTHEAST FISHERIES CENTER

NEWS RELEASE

United States Department of Commerce
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
National Marine Fisheries Service
Northeast Fisheries Center
Woods Hole, Massachusetts 02543

News Release No. 87-06
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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SANDY HOOK LABORATORY CELEBRATES 17th ANNUAL OPEN HOUSE, 1987

HIGHLANDS, NJ, October 6, 1987--The Sandy Hook Laboratory of NOAA's National Marine Fisheries Service, will hold its 17th Annual Open House on Friday, October 23, 1987. The fisheries research laboratory will be open to the public from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Exhibits will be on display in Building 74 and visitors will be able to tour the various laboratory working areas where specimens will be displayed, research activities discussed, and questions answered. Research topics focus on studies of commercial and recreational fisheries and marine resources of the Middle Atlantic region as well as assessing impacts of man's activities on the marine environment.

There will be exhibits of scientific sampling gear, as well as ongoing scientific experiments. A special groups of displays will feature a variety of techniques and samples from a new study aimed at determining the changes in fishery resources as sludge dumping is phased out of the 12-mile site off the New Jersey coast. Younger children will enjoy the "Hands-On Touch Tank" where they will be able to see and handle young marine animals. "Diver Dan" is also back this year. Special aquaria tanks will hold larger marine species as well as a moray eel collection.

-more-

OPEN HOUSE

ADD ONE

Extra special attractions will be a seafood cooking and tasting demonstration of underutilized species of fish by specialists from the New Jersey Sea Grant Extension Service and a create-your-own design ink prints using real fish.

In addition, other marine-oriented organizations from Sandy Hook and the local fisheries community will be on hand with displays and to answer questions. These include: Gateway National Recreation Area, the New Jersey Marine Sciences Consortium, American Littoral Society, Marine Academy of Science and Technology (MAST School), U. S. Coast Guard - Sandy Hook Unit, U. S. Coast Guard Pollution Response Team from Governors Island, NMFS Northeast Region Habitat Conservation Branch and the Sandy Hook Child Care Center. The Brookdale Community College teaching laboratory (Bldg. 53) at Sandy Hook, has scheduled a field trip to Horseshoe Cove; a discussion on establishing and maintaining salt-water aquaria, and a lecture on coastal erosion. These events are scheduled between 9:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m.

The Laboratory is sponsoring a poster contest for the surrounding school districts, asking the children to create their "Solution for Pollution". The contest was designed to provide the children with an awareness of the marine environment. Prizes will be awarded at noon for 1st, 2nd and 3rd places in categories for grades K-12.

-more-

OPEN HOUSE

ADD TWO

The Sandy Hook Laboratory is located near the tip of Sandy Hook. Signs will be placed to direct the public through the Gateway National Recreation Area to the Laboratory parking areas.

Past attendance has been quite large and visitors should allow approximately one hour to complete the tour. If you have any questions regarding the program, please contact Ms. Cathy Noonan at (201) 872-0200.

-end-

dup J. Brownlaw

NORTHEAST FISHERIES CENTER

NEWS RELEASE

United States Department of Commerce
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
National Marine Fisheries Service
Northeast Fisheries Center
Woods Hole, Massachusetts 02543

News Release No. 87-07

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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FISH SURVEYS

25-YEARS OLD

WOODS HOLE, MA, November 13, 1987--The return to port here of the NOAA fisheries research ship *Albatross IV* on November 6, and a celebration being held today, mark the 25th anniversary of the Northeast Fisheries Center's research vessel survey program.

Since 1963, the program has conducted over 60 surveys of the distribution, abundance, biology, and environment of the Northwest Atlantic's living marine resources. This survey-collected information is the world's longest running and largest sized body of such information on marine fisheries resources. The information is invaluable for managing the Northeast's marine commercial and recreational fisheries which are worth more than one billion dollars to the nation's economy annually.

The first survey took place in summer 1963 off New England. Since then, the program has expanded and currently includes spring and autumn surveys ranging from Cape Hatteras, North Carolina, to Nova Scotia, and from inshore areas to beyond the edge of the continental shelf. Both the *Albatross IV* and her sister NOAA fisheries research ship, the *Delaware II*, are used in these surveys.

-more-

ADD ONE

FISH SURVEYS

Typical recent surveys take 45-55 days to complete, with the work being broken up into two-week segments or "legs." On each leg, Center scientists sample fish and shellfish populations and collect environmental data at 350-400 prelocated "stations." The resulting samples and data are immediately made available to interested parties after the survey, and are also stored for later detailed research.

Allen E. Peterson, Jr., Director of the Northeast Fisheries Center, noted that "Beginning the survey program in 1963 was timely in that massive foreign fishing fleets appeared off our shores shortly thereafter. The survey program provided much of the scientific basis for monitoring the effects of foreign fishing on the rich Georges Bank fishing ground and other areas, and thus laid the scientific foundation for the Fishery Conservation and Management Act of 1976 (200-mile limit)."

Peterson also added that "The value of the survey program samples and data is enhanced by the program's standardized procedures, wide geographic coverage, and ability to sample juvenile as well as adult fish. Such survey attributes," noted Peterson, "permit reliable comparison of survey results from year to year, and allow effective forecasting of trends in resource abundance up to two or three years into the future."

-end-

NORTHEAST FISHERIES CENTER

NEWS RELEASE

United States Department of Commerce
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
National Marine Fisheries Service
Northeast Fisheries Center
Woods Hole, Massachusetts 02543

News Release No. 88-02

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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ARTHUR W. NEILL, (508) 548-5123

INTERNATIONAL ATLANTIC SALMON ORGANIZATION ELECTS U.S. PRESIDENT

WOODS HOLE, MA, August 2, 1988 -- Allen E. Peterson, Jr., of Sandwich, Massachusetts, has been named president of the North Atlantic Salmon Conservation Organization (NASCO). Peterson was elected at the June annual meeting of the international organization, which was held in Reykjavik, Iceland. NASCO operates under a 1983 treaty signed by nine parties agreeing to promote conservation, restoration, enhancement, and good management of Atlantic salmon stocks.

Peterson is also science and research director of the National Marine Fisheries Service's Northeast Fisheries Center in Woods Hole, Massachusetts. He will replace Gudmunder Eiriksson of Iceland, who retired at the end of the meeting. Norway's Svein Aage Mehli will serve as NASCO vice president.

Peterson is one of three U.S. commissioners to NASCO. Commissioners Frank E. Carlton of Savannah, Georgia, and Richard A. Buck of Dublin, New Hampshire, also attended, along with other government advisors and scientists.

-more-

ADD ONE

NASCO

Similar delegations were present from the other signatory parties: Canada, Denmark, the European Economic Community, Finland, Iceland, Norway, the Soviet Union, and Sweden.

NASCO is organized geographically, with three commissions covering the Atlantic region and a council. The North American and Northeast Atlantic Commissions have long-term fishery management measures in place, and discussed the effectiveness of these measures, the state of the fisheries, and the scientific advice received on the salmon stocks. The West Greenland Commission negotiated an agreement for regulating total catch during 1988-1990. The agreement sets total catch for the three years at 2,520 metric tons, with catch in any one year not to exceed the annual average of 840 metric tons by more than 10 percent.

The NASCO council discussed analyses of catch statistics, compilation of salmon tagging data, and a reward program to encourage tag returns. The council also took under advisement reports on threats to wild salmon posed by salmon aquaculture in the North Atlantic and by non-indigenous trout and salmon that may be introduced, imported, or transferred to North Atlantic areas.

The next NASCO annual meeting will be held in Edinburgh, Scotland, in June, 1989.

-end-

NORTHEAST FISHERIES CENTER

NEWS RELEASE

United States Department of Commerce
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
National Marine Fisheries Service
Northeast Fisheries Center
Woods Hole, Massachusetts 02543

News Release No. 88-03

For More Information Contact:
DR. FREDRIC M. SERCHUK, (508)548-5123

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

FISHING MORTALITY AT NEW HIGH FOR GEORGES BANK COD

WOODS HOLE, MA, October 18, 1988--Fishing pressure for cod on Georges Bank significantly intensified in 1987 resulting in the highest fishing mortality rate ever recorded for this fish stock, according to a recently completed Northeast Fisheries Center stock assessment evaluation. Dr. Fredric M. Serchuk, the Center scientist who conducted the evaluation, notes that, "High fishing effort is keeping cod numbers at record-low levels and minimizing the number of fish available to spawn."

The Northeast Fisheries Center is the research arm of NOAA's National Marine Fisheries Service for the northeastern United States. Serchuk is Chief of the Center's New England Offshore Fishery Resources Investigation which monitors and evaluates the status and condition of finfish and shellfish resources in the Georges Bank and Gulf of Maine regions.

-more-

ADD ONE

FISHING MORTALITY AT NEW HIGH FOR GEORGES BANK COD

Serchuk emphasizes that, "Fishing mortality in 1987 was so high that only about 30 percent of the Georges Bank cod that were alive at the beginning of 1987 survived to the beginning of 1988. Where such high fishing mortality has been maintained on cod stocks in other areas of the world, stock collapses have occurred." Serchuk characterized the status of the Georges Bank cod stock as "precarious."

Cod is important in both commercial and recreational fisheries in New England. Of the 26.6 thousand metric tons (58.6 million pounds) of cod landed by New England commercial fishermen in 1987, 19.0 thousand metric tons (42.0 million pounds) came from Georges Bank, with a landed value of approximately 32 million dollars. Recreational catches in 1987 from the Georges Bank stock exceeded 2,900 metric tons (6.4 million pounds).

Recently completed analyses indicate that the spawning stock (mature fish) of Georges Bank cod is depressed and at an all-time low. For the fifth consecutive year, spawning stock size declined. At the beginning of 1988, spawning stock biomass (the aggregate weight of all spawners in the population) was only 30.9 thousand metric tons (68.1 million pounds), the lowest value in the 11 years that such statistics have been computed. The present spawning stock size is only one-third of that observed in 1980.

-more-

ADD TWO

FISHING MORTALITY AT NEW HIGH FOR GEORGES BANK COD

Northeast Fisheries Center staff estimate that the 1988 U.S. commercial catch of Georges Bank cod will be about 23.8 thousand metric tons (52.5 million pounds), about 25 percent higher than in 1987. The increased 1988 catch will result from continued record-high fishing effort and from the above-average number of cod hatched in 1985 (the 1985 year class) which have/will reach a size at which they are fully vulnerable to commercial fishing operations.

At the current fishing mortality rate, however, the 1985 year class will be quickly depleted. The 1989 fishery will then primarily depend on fish hatched in 1986 and those fish hatched in 1987 that have grown large enough to be caught by commercial fishing gear. Catches in 1989 are likely to drop dramatically since the 1986 year class is a poor one. Although the 1987 year class presently appears strong, continued high fishing mortality and dependence by the fishery on young, mostly immature fish (ages 2 and 3) will prevent any rebuilding of the spawning stock from the current record-low levels.

-more-

ADD THREE

FISHING MORTALITY AT NEW HIGH FOR GEORGES BANK COD

Serchuk adds that "Cod is the predominant species landed in the U.S. Atlantic coast groundfish fishery, generally accounting for more catch, by weight, than any other species. The sharp decline in the size of the Georges Bank stock to a level well below its normal historical range is a cause for major concern with regard to the future of this valuable resource."

EDITORS' NOTE: Attached are three figures.

-end-

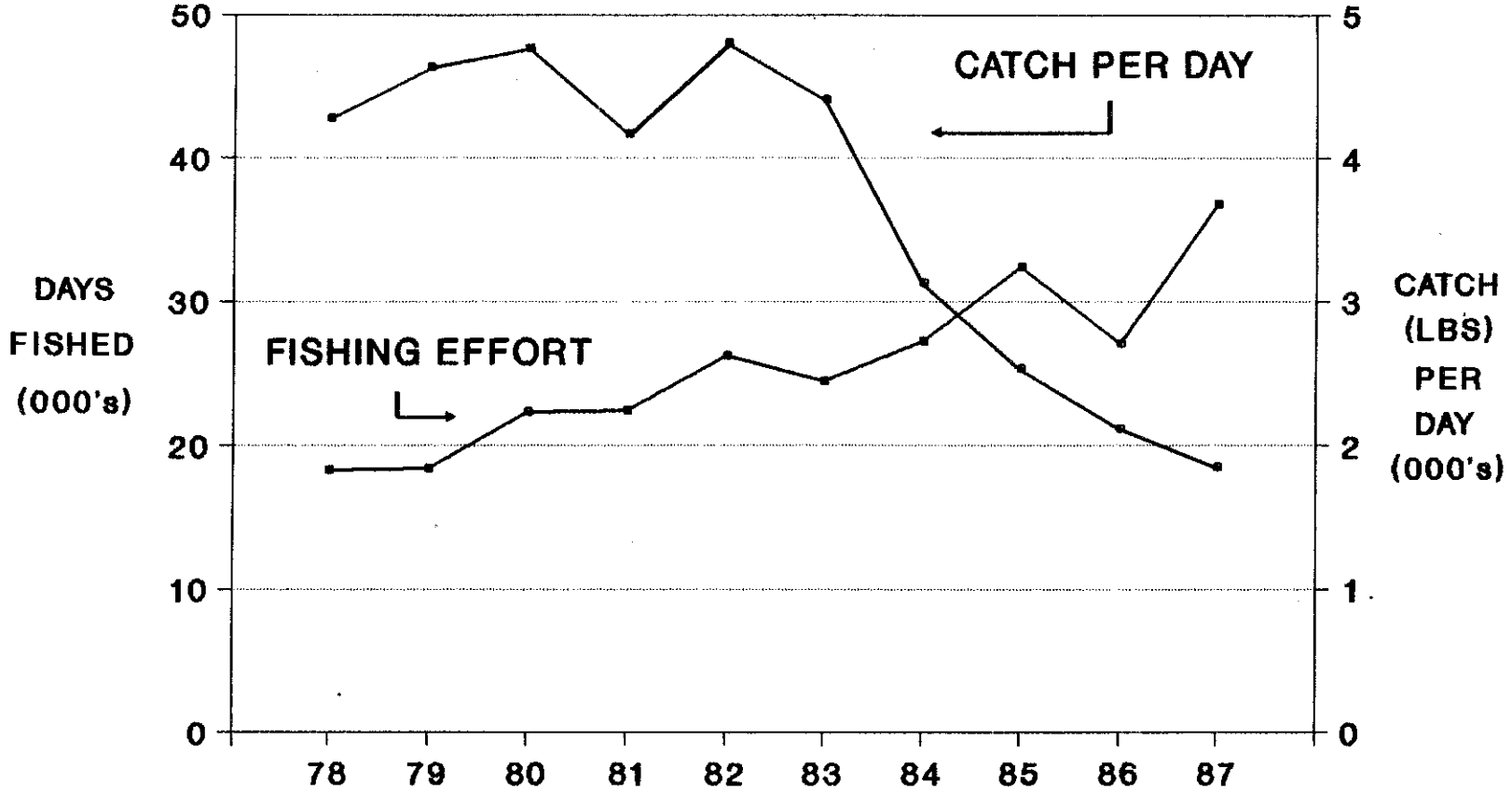

Figure 1. Trends during 1978-87 in fishing effort for, and average catch per day per vessel of, Georges Bank cod. Fishing effort is measured on the lefthand scale in thousands of days fished. Catch per day per vessel is measured on the righthand scale in thousands of pounds.

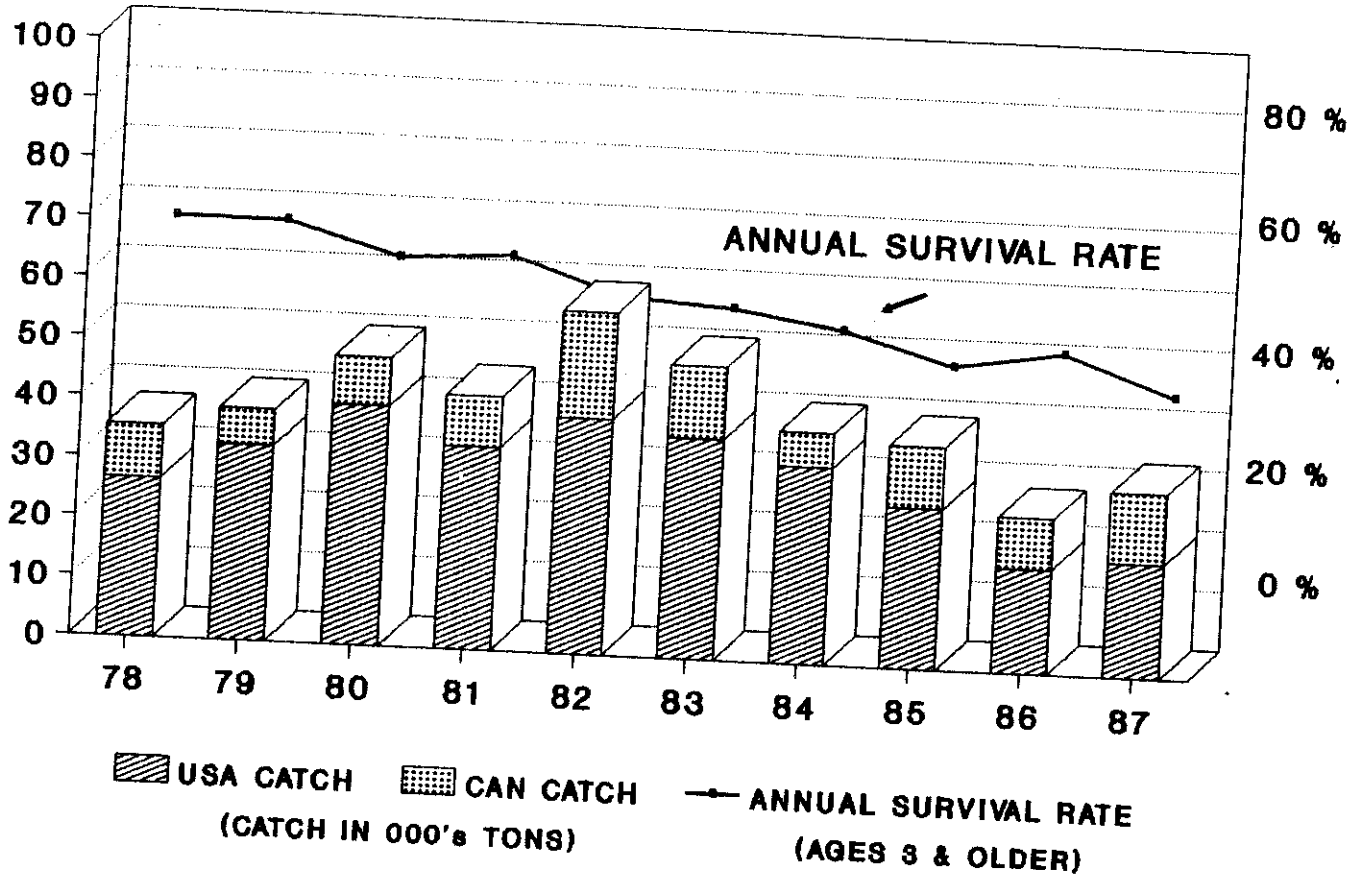

Figure 2. Trends during 1978-87 in both the annual survival rate and the annual catch of Georges Bank cod. Survival rate is depicted for fish that are three years old or older (the ages that are fully vulnerable to commercial fishing operations) and is measured on the righthand percent scale. Annual catch is partitioned into USA and Canada catches, and is measured on the lefthand scale in thousands of metric tons (one metric ton equals 2,205 pounds).

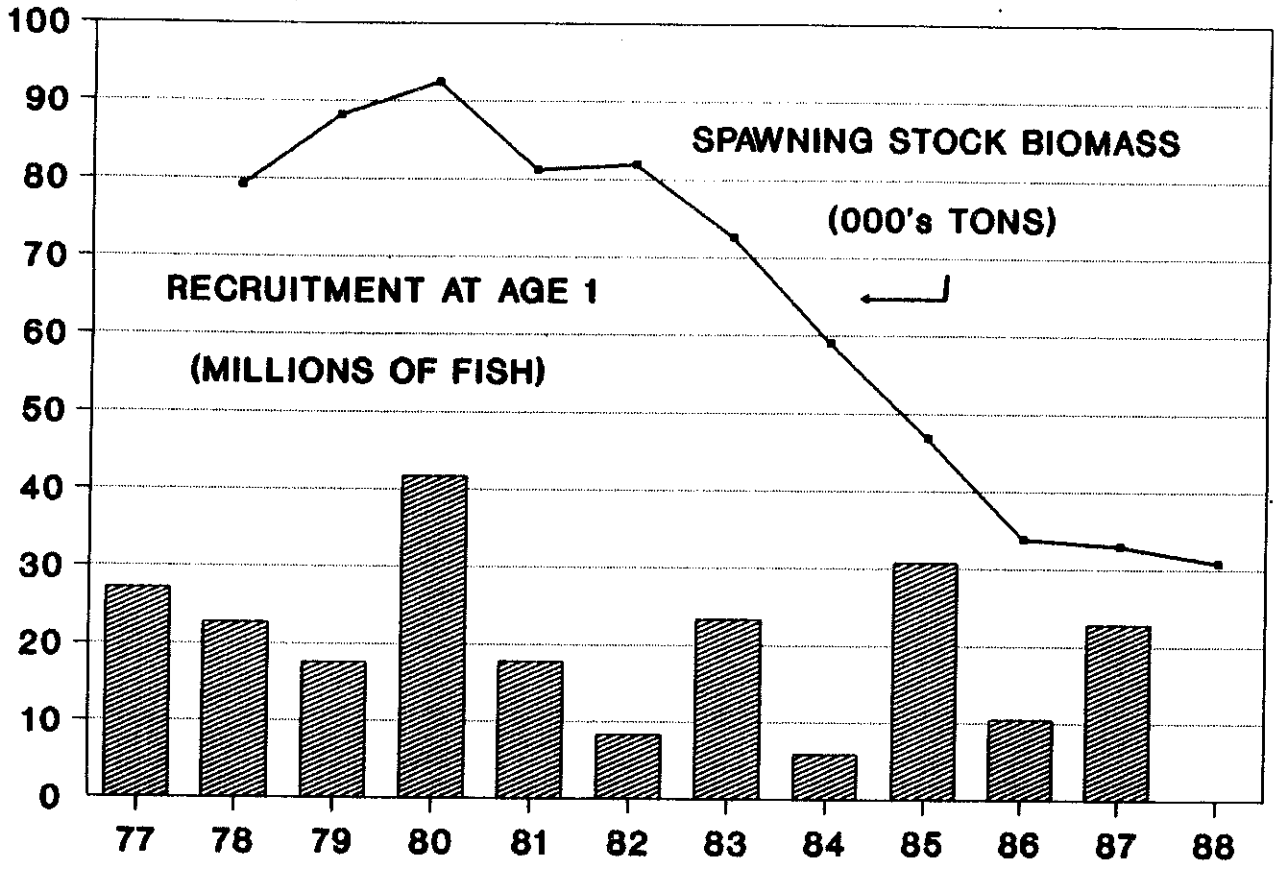

Figure 3. Trends during 1978-87 in spawning stock biomass and recruitment at age 1 for Georges Bank cod. Spawning stock biomass is measured in thousands of metric tons. For the bars representing recruitment at age 1, the year underneath each bar is the year that the cod were hatched; the height of the bar depicts how many millions of those fish survived to age 1 in the following year.

NORTHEAST FISHERIES CENTER

NEWS RELEASE

United States Department of Commerce
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
National Marine Fisheries Service
Northeast Fisheries Center
Woods Hole, Massachusetts 02543

News Release No. 88-04

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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JON A. GIBSON, (508) 548-5123

DEPUTY CENTER DIRECTOR

GARNERS NEW JERSEY

ENVIRONMENTAL RECOGNITION

WOODS HOLE, MA, December 5, 1988--Dr. John B. Pearce, Deputy Director of the Northeast Fisheries Center, has been recognized by the state of New Jersey for his activities on behalf of coastal environmental quality in that state.

Pearce chaired New Jersey Governor Thomas Kean's Blue Ribbon Panel on Ocean Incidents for 1987-88. The panel's report identified serious problems in coastal environmental quality as a result of residential, commercial, and industrial development along the New Jersey coast and its coastal rivers and estuaries. The report offered several suggestions to deal with these problems, including increased education of the citizenry, enforcement of existing regulations, and limitations on development.

-more-

ADD ONE

PEARCE

In part because of the report, Governor Kean has sought a New Jersey Coastal Zone Commission, and has obtained through appropriate regulatory authorities a limited moratorium on coastal zone development.

In recognition of Dr. Pearce's activities in chairing the panel, the Commissioner of the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection, Christopher J. Daggett, presented Pearce with a framed poster depicting the 1987 New Jersey Waterfowl Stamp. Proceeds from sales of the stamps which all New Jersey waterfowl hunters must purchase, and from royalties on sales of the prints, are used to acquire critical wetlands.

Pearce and his wife Ruth are Falmouth residents. He is currently President of the Sippewissett Association, and a member of the Advisory Board of the 300 Committee which seeks to acquire open space in Falmouth.

-end-

NORTHEAST FISHERIES CENTER

NEWS RELEASE

United States Department of Commerce
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Northeast Fisheries Center
Woods Hole, Massachusetts 02543

News Release No. 88-05

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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GREGORY R. POWER, (508) 548-5123

FISHERIES CENTER AWARDS SEA SAMPLING CONTRACT

WOODS HOLE, MA, December 22, 1988--The Northeast Fisheries Center of the National Marine Fisheries Service's Northeast Region has awarded a contract to the Manomet Bird Observatory of Manomet, Mass., to conduct an experimental program of sea sampling.

Under the contract, Manomet Bird Observatory will place biological technicians (sea samplers) aboard U.S. commercial fishing vessels in the Northeast to sample vessel catches and collect detailed information on vessel operations. The contract calls for sea sampling of about 200 commercial fishing trips between January 1 and September 30, 1989, covering six major Northeast fisheries.

Fisheries to be sampled are the small-mesh and shrimp fisheries in the Gulf of Maine, the large-mesh and experimental silver hake (whiting) fisheries on Georges Bank, the Nantucket Shoals trawl fishery, and the winter trawl fishery offshore of the Mid-Atlantic Bight and Chesapeake Bay.

-more-

ADD ONE

SEA SAMPLING

According to Allen E. Peterson, Jr., Science and Research Director of the Northeast Region, the purpose of the program is to provide fisheries scientists, economists, managers, and administrators with "detailed tow-by-tow information for better characterizing fishing operations, fishermen's catches, and fish populations off the Northeast coast." Peterson adds that such information is "essential for improving fisheries management in a manner which both conserves our renewable fisheries resources and addresses the economic interests of commercial fishermen."

Any owners or operators of fishing vessels interested in participating in this sea sampling program should contact Steve Drew, Manomet Bird Observatory's contract manager, at (508) 224-6521. Vessels will be compensated for the room and board of sea samplers.

-end-

NORTHEAST FISHERIES CENTER

NEWS RELEASE

United States Department of Commerce
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
National Marine Fisheries Service
Northeast Fisheries Center
Woods Hole, Massachusetts 02543

News Release No.89-01

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

For More Information Contact:

RONNEE L. SCHULTZ, (508) 548-5123

1988 NEW ENGLAND FISH HARVESTS
UP IN WEIGHT, DOWN IN VALUE

WOODS HOLE, MA, March 18, 1989--Preliminary figures for commercial landings of New England fish and shellfish during 1988 were 568.6 million pounds, valued at 493.2 million dollars. These 1988 figures are up 23.4 million pounds, but down 19.2 million dollars, from the 1987 figures, according to Allen E. Peterson, Jr., Science and Research Director of the National Marine Fisheries Service's Northeast Region.

This marks the first time since 1984 that the value of New England landings has failed to increase. In the past, decreases in the value of New England landings have generally been attributed to increases in the imports of less expensive Canadian fishery products. However, imports of cod and other finfish from Canada to New England dropped from 1.08 billion pounds in 1987 to 0.95 billion pounds in 1988, indicating that there are probably other market factors affecting prices.

-more-

ADD ONE

NEW ENGLAND LANDINGS

The following tables compare the landings and values of New England fish and shellfish in 1987 and 1988 on a state, port, and species basis. A special table has also been included on landings and values of lobsters in each of the New England states.

Preliminary Landings and Values
of Fish and Shellfish in New England
on a State-by-State Basis in 1987 and 1988

State	1987		1988	
	Millions of Pounds	Millions of Dollars	Millions of Pounds	Millions of Dollars
Massachusetts	258.1	278.9	286.5	274.0
Maine	170.1	132.4	155.9	123.6
Rhode Island	100.2	77.4	106.3	69.4
New Hampshire	8.3	7.7	10.8	8.8
Connecticut	8.6	16.0	9.1	17.4
TOTAL	545.2	512.4	568.6	493.2

Note: Landings of fish, lobster, and crab in live weight; landings of other shellfish in meat weight.

-more-

ADD TWO

NEW ENGLAND LANDINGS

Preliminary Landings and Values
of Fish and Shellfish in New England
on a Port-by-Port Basis in 1987 and 1988

Port	1987		1988	
	Millions of Pounds	Millions of Dollars	Millions of Pounds	Millions of Dollars
Gloucester, MA	93.0	34.0	107.4	30.8
New Bedford, MA	78.7	143.7	90.3	141.0
Pt. Judith, RI	46.6	27.4	49.7	25.5
Portland, ME	43.8	35.8	43.9	30.4
Rockland, ME	38.7	8.1	40.6	6.7
Provincetown/ Chatham, MA	25.3	12.7	25.2	11.7
Boston, MA	23.0	16.9	20.8	14.5
Newport, RI	11.8	12.4	12.8	11.6

Note: Landings of fish, lobster, and crab in live weight; landings of other shellfish in meat weight.

-more-

ADD THREE

NEW ENGLAND LANDINGS

Preliminary Landings and Values
of Fish and Shellfish in New England
on a Species-by-Species Basis in 1987 and 1988

Species	1987		1988	
	Millions of Pounds	Millions of Dollars	Millions of Pounds	Millions of Dollars
Atlantic herring	84.5	4.4	89.1	5.1
Atlantic cod	58.4	43.7	75.4	42.3
Northern lobster	42.8	124.7	45.2	133.6
Pollock	44.6	17.8	32.9	11.1
Silver hake (whiting)	25.9	7.3	24.9	5.3
Sea scallop	18.2	80.6	18.4	80.0
Winter (blackback) flounder	18.4	22.7	16.7	20.7
Yellowtail flounder	16.4	18.7	10.9	13.0
White hake	11.7	5.2	10.5	3.2
Scup	7.8	5.1	7.9	5.4
Summer flounder (fluke)	8.7	14.3	7.7	11.6
Northern shrimp	11.1	12.2	6.8	7.5
Haddock	6.6	8.5	6.4	7.0
Swordfish	2.5	8.6	4.1	12.0

NOTE: Landings of fish, lobster, and shrimp in live weight; landings of scallops in meat weight.

-more-

ADD FOUR

NEW ENGLAND LANDINGS

Preliminary Landings and Values
of Lobster in New England
on a State-by-State Basis in 1987 and 1988

State	1987		1988	
	Millions of Pounds	Millions of Dollars	Millions of Pounds	Millions of Dollars
Maine	19.8	54.6	21.7	60.7
Massachusetts	15.0	43.8	15.5	47.3
Rhode Island	5.3	17.8	4.9	15.6
Connecticut	1.6	5.3	2.0	6.8
New Hampshire	1.1	3.2	1.1	3.2
TOTAL	42.8	124.7	45.2	133.6

NOTE: Landings in live weight.

-end-

NORTHEAST FISHERIES CENTER

NEWS RELEASE

United States Department of Commerce
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
National Marine Fisheries Service
Northeast Fisheries Center
Woods Hole, Massachusetts 02543

News Release No.89-02

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

For More Information Contact:

RONNEE L. SCHULTZ, (508) 548-5123

NMFS EMPLOYEE MARKS 50 YEARS IN FEDERAL SERVICE

WOODS HOLE, MA, April 6, 1989--William N. Kelly became a federal employee when Franklin Roosevelt was in the White House. Nine presidents later, Kelly is a NOAA National Marine Fisheries Service employee marking his 50th year in federal service.

Kelly's Hampton, Va., office collects fishery statistics in the Mid-Atlantic and Chesapeake Bay for Fish Market News, a weekly industry landings-and-price newsletter. Kelly is currently a supervisory fishery reporting specialist and a recognized expert on commercial fishing in the region.

An informal ceremony commemorating Kelly's service was held at the National Marine Fisheries Service's Northeast Fisheries Center at Woods Hole, Mass., on March 22. That morning, Secretary of Commerce Robert A. Mosbacher offered his congratulations in a phone call taken by Kelly in the office of Allen E. Peterson, Jr., the science and research director of the Service's Northeast Region. The secretary remarked on Kelly's unusual longevity.

-more-

ADD ONE

KELLY

During the ceremony, Kelly received a ship's clock and barometer set purchased with donations from fellow employees. Present and former co-workers from around the country contributed written tributes and memoribilia to a scrapbook compiled for the occasion and presented to Kelly.

Kelly said, "One way to last a long time is to work for good people. . .Those kind words about being outstanding are not for me. They're for the people under me. No boss is really outstanding, it's the people under him who make it that way."

Later this month, Kelly's 50-year pin will be presented to him in Washington, D.C., by Department of Commerce officials. Kelly has announced his intention to retire from federal service this summer.

Kelly was born in Holyoke, Mass. He joined the federal service as a clerk-typist at the Watertown Arsenal in Watertown, Mass., in March 1939. One year later, he transferred to the Bureau of Fisheries at Boston. After serving in the Army in World War II, Kelly returned to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (successor to the Bureau of Fisheries and predecessor to the National Marine Fisheries Service), first in the Boston office and later in College Park, Md.

-more-

ADD TWO

KELLY

In June 1947, Kelly was reassigned to the Fish Market News office in New York City, where the publication originated in 1937. For 12 years he covered landings and prices on that waterfront, including the famed Fulton Fish Market. In 1955, he was transferred to the Hampton, Va., office where he has served for 33 years.

-end-

Editor's Note: Enclosed is an 8x10 black & white glossy with suggested cutline.

J. Gibson

NORTHEAST FISHERIES CENTER

NEWS RELEASE

United States Department of Commerce
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
National Marine Fisheries Service
Northeast Fisheries Center
Woods Hole, Massachusetts 02543

News Release No. 89-03

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

For More Information Contact:

JON A. GIBSON, (508) 548-5123

CENTER SCIENTIST NAMED TO MARINE MAMMAL ADVISORY POST

WOODS HOLE, MA, May 19, 1989--The U.S. Marine Mammal Commission has appointed Dr. Tim D. Smith to a three-year term on its Committee of Scientific Advisors (CSA). Smith is chief of the Northeast Fisheries Center's Population Dynamics Branch in Woods Hole, Mass. The Center is the research arm of the National Marine Fisheries Service's Northeast Region.

The CSA monitors federal government activities as they affect wildlife covered by the federal Marine Mammals Protection Act. It also provides technical advice to the commission for managing marine mammal populations. Among topics currently being addressed by the CSA is one of great importance to the Northeast--incidental mortality of harbor porpoises during commercial fishing operations.

Dr. Smith is a resident of Falmouth, Mass. He and his wife, Margene, have an 18-year-old daughter, Rachel.

-end-

J. Gibson

NORTHEAST FISHERIES CENTER

NEWS RELEASE

United States Department of Commerce
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Woods Hole, Massachusetts 02543

News Release No. 89-06
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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FISHERY BIOLOGIST

RECEIVES AWARD

WOODS HOLE, MA, December 7, 1989--Donald D. Flescher, a fishery biologist with NOAA's National Marine Fisheries Service, has received the Distinguished Service Award from the American Fisheries Society (AFS).

The award, presented to Flescher by AFS president Joe Dillard at the society's recent annual meeting in Anchorage, Alaska, acknowledges Flescher's extensive efforts in assembling the society's collection of North American fish photographs. The collection currently has 669 photos and is being widely used by citizens, educators, and fisheries scientists and managers. Flescher has chaired the AFS's Fish Photo Committee since it began in 1985. The society, a professional organization formed in 1870, has over 8,000 members.

Since 1970, Flescher has been with the National Marine Fisheries Service's Woods Hole Laboratory where he surveys the distribution and abundance of marine fisheries resources from Nova Scotia to North Carolina. He began his federal career in 1967 at the Naval Weapons Center in China Lake, Calif. He and his wife, Diane, are residents of Hatchville. They have two sons, Christopher, 19, and Craig, 17.

-- end --

NORTHEAST FISHERIES CENTER

NEWS RELEASE

United States Department of Commerce
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
National Marine Fisheries Service
Northeast Fisheries Center
Woods Hole, Massachusetts 02543

News Release No. 90-01
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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TERI FRADY, (508) 548-5123

FISHERY BIOLOGIST

RECEIVES BRONZE MEDAL

WOODS HOLE, MA, February 21, 1990--Dr. Fredric M. Serchuk, fishery biologist and chief of the National Marine Fisheries Service's (NMFS) New England Offshore Fisheries Resources Investigation, has been awarded the bronze medal by the U.S. Department of Commerce for his achievements in fishery science. Serchuk, an East Falmouth resident, is an expert on Atlantic cod and sea scallops, two species critical to commercial fisheries in the Northwest Atlantic.

Serchuk is responsible for advising managers and fishermen on the population sizes and health of species important to those fishing in federal waters off New England. He is assigned to the Woods Hole laboratory of NMFS's Northeast Region. NMFS is part of the Commerce Department's National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA).

Over the past several years, Serchuk has developed ways to keep tabs on sea scallop populations being harvested by commercial fishermen in the Northeast. This work includes determinig how many scallops are available to fishermen, whether scallop populations are spawning successfully, and how many offspring will survive to reproduce and be harvested by fishermen, as well as noting the effects of various types of fishing gear on scallop populations.

-- more --

BRONZE MEDAL
ADD ONE

Using data from NMFS's annual surveys of sea scallops in the Northwest Atlantic, Serchuk has successfully described and assessed the population status of these animals. He predicted the recent increases in both scallop harvests and the number of boats participating in the scallop fishery.

Serchuk has also completed the first assessments of Northwest Atlantic cod stocks that describe these populations by age. These assessments revealed major changes in resource abundance and allowed Serchuk to predict complex changes in commercial catches more than two years in advance. These changes are now a major concern for fishermen and managers of Atlantic cod.

Serchuk's expertise has also become internationally known. He has been appointed a U.S. delegate to the International Council for the Exploration of the Sea (ICES), headquartered in Copenhagen, Denmark. Serchuk will serve on ICES's Advisory Committee on Fisheries Management, a highly influential group that advises managers of European fish stocks. He was also recently invited by the Portuguese government to visit fisheries laboratories in that country.

Serchuk has been employed by NMFS for 12 years. He has published more than 25 scientific papers on stock assessment and related topics. He and his wife, Sandra, reside in East Falmouth.

The bronze medal is awarded by the Commerce Department to recognize major contributions by its employees to the region in which they're employed.

-- end --

K. Forbes

NORTHEAST FISHERIES CENTER

NEWS RELEASE

United States Department of Commerce
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
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Woods Hole, Massachusetts 02543

News Release No. 90-02
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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RONNEE L. SCHULTZ, (508) 548-5123

PRELIMINARY 1989 LANDINGS AND VALUES OF NEW ENGLAND FISH AND SHELLFISH

WOODS HOLE, MA, April 16, 1990--Landings of fish and shellfish in New England in 1989 were down slightly from 1988, from 569.9 to 565.1 million pounds, a decrease of less than one percent. Value of the landings was up slightly, from $493.5 to $508.8 million in dockside or "ex-vessel" prices, an increase of three percent.

These are preliminary figures developed by the National Marine Fisheries Service's Northeast Fisheries Center in Woods Hole, Mass. The figures are subject to minor change as late or corrected reports are received from the field.

Massachusetts again led other New England states in landings and value. The biggest gain in landings among states was by Rhode Island, up 18.9 million pounds; biggest gain in value was by Maine, up $8.6 million.

Gloucester, Mass., again led other New England ports in landings; New Bedford, Mass., again led in value. The biggest gains in landings and value among ports were by Portland, Maine, up 5.1 million pounds and $4.0 million.

For food fish and shellfish, respectively, Atlantic herring and American lobster again led other species in landings; Atlantic cod and lobster again led in value. The biggest gains

-- more --

in landings among food fish and shellfish, respectively, were by cod, up 2.2 million pounds, and lobsters, up 3.5 million pounds. The biggest gains in values, respectively, were by cod, up $4.9 million, and sea scallops, up $4.0 million.

Maine again led the New England states in lobster landings and value. The biggest gain in landings was by Maine, up 1.6 million pounds; biggest gain in value was by Rhode Island, up $1.9 million.

The first three of the following four tables list complete landings and values by state, port, and species; the fourth table lists lobster landings and values by state.

Preliminary Landings and Values for Fish and Shellfish in New England States in 1988 and 1989 (rank in parentheses)

State	1988 Millions of Pounds	1988 Millions of Dollars	1989 Millions of Pounds	1989 Millions of Dollars
Massachusetts	286.5 (1)	274.0 (1)	268.9 (1)	272.8 (1)
Maine	157.3 (2)	123.9 (2)	151.1 (2)	132.5 (2)
Rhode Island	106.2 (3)	69.4 (3)	125.1 (3)	75.0 (3)
New Hampshire	10.8 (4)	8.8 (5)	11.4 (4)	10.2 (5)
Connecticut	9.1 (5)	17.4 (4)	8.6 (5)	18.3 (4)
TOTAL	569.9	493.5	565.1	508.8

Note: Landings of lobster and crab in live weight; other shellfish in meat weight.

-- more --

ADD TWO
NEW ENGLAND LANDINGS

Preliminary Landings and Values of Fish and Shellfish in New England by Principal Port for 1988 and 1989 (rank in parentheses)

Port	1988 Millions of Pounds	1988 Millions of Dollars	1989 Millions of Pounds	1989 Millions of Dollars
Gloucester, Mass.	107.4 (1)	30.8 (2)	98.6 (1)	30.0 (3)
New Bedford, Mass.	90.3 (2)	140.9 (1)	90.4 (2)	141.0 (1)
Portland, Maine	43.9 (4)	30.4 (3)	49.0 (3)	34.4 (2)
Pt. Judith, R.I.	49.6 (3)	25.4 (4)	48.3 (4)	23.6 (4)
Rockland, Maine	40.6 (5)	6.7 (8)	24.8 (5)	7.0 (8)
Provincetown/ Chatham, Mass.	25.2 (6)	11.6 (6)	23.7 (6)	12.9 (6)
Boston, Mass.	20.8 (7)	14.5 (5)	17.3 (7)	14.4 (5)
Newport, R.I.	12.8 (8)	11.6 (6)	12.3 (8)	11.5 (7)

Note: Landings of fish, lobster, and crab in live weight; other shellfish in meat weight.

-- more --

ADD THREE
NEW ENGLAND LANDINGS

Preliminary Landings and Values of Fish and Shellfish
in New England by Species for 1988 and 1989

Species	1988		1989	
	Millions of Pounds	Millions of Dollars	Millions of Pounds	Millions of Dollars
Atlantic herring	89.1	5.1	89.6	5.0
Atlantic cod	75.4	42.3	77.6	47.2
American lobster	45.2	133.6	48.7	135.2
Pollock (Boston bluefish)	32.9	11.1	23.2	9.8
Silver hake (whiting)	24.9	5.3	22.6	4.3
Sea scallop	18.4	80.0	20.6	84.0
Winter flounder (blackback, lemon sole)	16.7	20.7	13.6	18.5
Yellowtail flounder	10.9	13.0	11.5	12.6
White hake (ling)	10.5	3.2	11.3	4.4
Northern shrimp	6.8	7.5	8.0	7.9
Summer flounder (fluke)	7.7	11.6	5.0	9.0
Scup (porgy)	7.9	5.4	4.0	3.0
Swordfish	4.1	12.0	4.0	11.3
Haddock	6.4	7.0	3.8	4.6

NOTE: Landings of fish, lobster, and shrimp in live weight; scallops in meat weight.

-- more --

ADD FOUR
NEW ENGLAND LANDINGS

Preliminary Landings and Values of Lobster
in New England by State for 1988 and 1989 (rank in parentheses)

State	1988		1989	
	Millions of Pounds	Millions of Dollars	Millions of Pounds	Millions of Dollars
Maine	21.7 (1)	60.7 (1)	23.3 (1)	59.2 (1)
Massachusetts	15.5 (2)	47.3 (2)	16.2 (2)	48.5 (2)
Rhode Island	4.9 (3)	15.6 (3)	5.7 (3)	17.5 (3)
Connecticut	2.0 (4)	6.8 (4)	2.1 (4)	6.4 (4)
New Hampshire	1.1 (5)	3.2 (5)	1.4 (5)	3.6 (5)
TOTAL	45.2	133.6	48.7	135.2

NOTE: Landings in live weight.

-- end --

NORTHEAST FISHERIES CENTER

NEWS RELEASE

United States Department of Commerce
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Woods Hole, Massachusetts 02543

News Release No. 90-04
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

For More Information Contact:
DR. TIM D. SMITH, (508) 548-5123

NEW MARINE MAMMAL INVESTIGATION

WOODS HOLE, MA, May 25, 1990--The Northeast Fisheries Center has created a Marine Mammal Investigation. The Center has studied whales, dolphins, porpoises, and seals for more than a decade, largely through contracts with academic and private research institutions. Increasingly frequent and more complex demands upon the Center for marine mammal information have prompted the elevation of these studies into a formal, permanent investigation.

The investigation will focus on: (1) the indirect interactions between marine mammals and commercially/recreationally important fish stocks through competition for space and food; (2) the incidental take of marine mammals during fishing operations, as well as the effects on whale populations of whale watching activities; and (3) the current status of Northwest Atlantic marine mammal populations.

The investigation will be stationed at the Center's Woods Hole (Mass.) laboratory, and initially composed of six current Center employees: Tim D. Smith (chief), Gordon T. Waring, Thomas W. Polacheck, David C. Potter, John R. Nicolas, and Janeen M. Cox

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News Release No. 90-05
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For More Information Contact:
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CENTER SCIENTIST GARNERS USDOC GRANT

WOODS HOLE, MASS., May 31, 1990--Dr. Tim D. Smith, chief of the Northeast Fisheries Center's newly established marine mammal investigation, has been awarded a $31,000 grant by the U.S. Department of Commerce (USDOC).

The grant will permit Smith to develop a computer workstation tailored to the needs of population-level fishery biologists. Similar workstations, which improve the storing, retrieving, and analysis of discipline-specific data, have already been developed for such disciplines as engineering, accounting, etc.

The grant comes from the USDOC's "pioneer fund" which encourages departmental employees to develop better materials and methods for government or commercial application. The fund, which is administered out of the office of the secretary of commerce, is designed to promote individual initiative among USDOC employees. Smith, working with Center colleagues Thomas W. Polacheck, Ray Conser, and Ralph K. Mayo, expects a prototype workstation to be available for testing by population-level fishery biologists this coming winter.

Dr. Smith is a resident of Falmouth. He and his wife Margene have a 19-year-old daughter, Rachel.

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NORTHEAST FISHERIES CENTER

NEWS RELEASE

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News Release No. 90-06
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

For More Information Contact:
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SALMON TAGS WORTH BIG BUCKS

WOODS HOLE, MA, May 23, 1990--The North Atlantic Salmon Conservation Organization (NASCO) has created a lottery to increase fishermen's return rates of tags found on harvested Atlantic salmon.

Those fishermen returning tags will not only receive the current $15 (U.S.) reward, but will also be automatically eligible for a drawing with 31 cash prizes totaling $13,600. There are one grand prize ($2,500), three first prizes ($1,500 each), three second prizes ($1,000 each), three third prizes ($500 each), and 21 fourth prizes ($100 each).

NASCO is an international, treaty-based organization which promotes conservation, restoration, enhancement, and sound management of salmon stocks in the North Atlantic. It has nine members: Canada, Denmark (in respect of the Faroe Islands and Greenland), the European Economic Community, Finland, Iceland, Norway, Sweden, the Soviet Union, and the United States.

Participation in the lottery, or "Atlantic Salmon Tag Return Incentive Scheme," by the nine NASCO members is voluntary. All but the Soviet Union are taking part.

-- more --

ADD ONE
SALMON

According to Allen E. Peterson, Jr., science & research director of the National Marine Fisheries Service's northeast region and one of three U.S. commissioners to NASCO, "tag returns provide important, if not essential, information on the biology and harvests of the stocks of North Atlantic salmon." He said such information "is particularly valuable for the U.S. effort to restore fish to New England rivers."

The lottery applies only to readily identifiable, external ("Carlin"-type) tags that are returned to an official tag-return agency. In the United States, the official tag-return agency is the Atlantic Salmon Tag Return Clearinghouse, NOAA, National Marine Fisheries Service, Woods Hole, MA 02543.

Each April, the clearinghouse will inform NASCO headquarters in Edinburgh, Scotland, of all eligible U.S.-origin tags that were returned. Tags returned to the clearinghouse after the closing date will be eligible the following year.

All tag returns from NASCO members participating in the lottery are eligible for the grand prize drawing for $2,500 which will be announced at the NASCO annual meeting each June. The tag returns will then be sorted into the three commission areas of NASCO -- West Greenland, North American, and North East Atlantic --

-- more --

according to the place of harvest of the tagged salmon. Ten awards will then be selected randomly for each commission area. The first selected will win $1,500, the second $1,000, the third $500, and the next seven $100 each.

All U.S. tags returned from the United States and Canada will be entered into the grand prize drawing along with the North American Commission drawing. All U.S. tags returned from West Greenland will be entered into the grand prize drawing along with the West Greenland Commmission drawing. All U.S. tags returned from East Greenland will be entered into the grand prize drawing along with the North East Atlantic Commission drawing.

NASCO headquarters will send checks in the appropriate amount within 60 days of the announcement of the awards. The first drawing of award winners will take place at this year's seventh annual meeting of NASCO in Helsinki, Finland, during 12-15 June 1990.

-- end --

J. Gibson

NORTHEAST FISHERIES CENTER

NEWS RELEASE

United States Department of Commerce
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News Release No. 90-07
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

For More Information Contact
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TWO NMFS SCIENTISTS ELECTED TO INTERNATIONAL CONSERVATION POSTS

WOODS HOLE, MASS., June 15, 1990--Two Northeast Fisheries Center scientists have been elected to leadership positions in the International Council for the Exploration of the Sea (ICES).

Dr. Fredric M. Serchuk, Chief of the Center's New England Offshore Fishery Resources Investigation, has been elected to a three-year term as Chairman of ICES's Advisory Committee on Fishery Management. Dr. Kevin D. Friedland, a fishery research biologist with the Center's Coastal and Estuarine Fishery Resources Investigation, has been elected to a three-year term as Chairman of ICES's Atlantic Salmon Working Group.

ICES is an 88-year-old, treaty-based organization which coordinates research in the Northeast Atlantic, and provides advice to various national and international organizations involved in fisheries management throughout the North Atlantic. The United States is a member nation. Participation in ICES permits the United States, among other things, to deal directly with the successes and failures of fisheries research and management in the Northeast Atlantic, and apply the lessons to research and management in the Northwest Atlantic (i.e., off the U.S. coast).

-- more --

NMFS
ADD ONE

Dr. Serchuk's committee provides scientific fishery management advice on over 100 fish stocks to the European Economic Community (the "Common Market"), the International Baltic Sea Fishery Commission, the North-East Atlantic Fisheries Commission, and the North Atlantic Salmon Conservation Organization. Serchuk's committee also advises 27 ICES assessment working groups on their population assessments of fish stocks.

Dr. Friedland's working group analyzes and evaluates the population status and the effects of fishery management actions on all North Atlantic salmon stocks regulated by the North Atlantic Salmon Conservation Organization. These analyses and evaluations are important in limiting the exploitation of U.S.-origin Atlantic salmon as they feed offshore of West Greenland during the summer, and as they migrate along Canada during the spring and fall.

Three other Center employees hold ICES offices. Dr. Steven A. Murawski, Chief of the Center's Mid-Atlantic Offshore Fishery Resources Investigation, chairs the Multispecies Working Group. Dr. Carl J. Sindermann, the Center's Senior Scientist, chairs the Working Group on Introductions and Transfers of Marine Organisms. Dr. Michael P. Sissenwine, Chief of the Center's Research Planning and Coordination Staff, chairs the Inter-Committee Recruitment Group.

The Northeast Fisheries Center is the research arm of the National Marine Fisheries Service's (NMFS) Northeast Region. NMFS is part of the U.S. Department of Commerce's National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

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NORTHEAST FISHERIES CENTER

NEWS RELEASE

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News Release No. 90-08
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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NORTH ATLANTIC SALMON AGAIN THREATENED BY HIGH-SEAS FISHING

WOODS HOLE, MASS., August 21, 1990--The North Atlantic Salmon Conservation Organization (NASCO) has adopted resolutions aimed at two problems in conserving North Atlantic salmon.

NASCO is an international treaty-based organization which conserves, restores, enhances, and manages North Atlantic salmon stocks. It has fishery management authority -- with respect to Atlantic salmon -- over its nine members: Canada, Denmark (in respect of the Faroe Islands and Greenland), the European Economic Community, Finland, Iceland, Norway, the Soviet Union, Sweden, and the United States.

The first conservation problem is based on NASCO's prohibition of any salmon fishing by its members beyond their prescribed coastal waters (i.e., 200 miles off the Faroe Islands, 40 off West Greenland, and 12 everywhere else). To circumvent this prohibition, some Danish fishing vessels have reportedly reregistered as either Polish or Panamanian vessels (over which NASCO has no control), and then fished for salmon beyond prescribed coastal waters (i.e., on the "high seas"). NASCO adopted a resolution at its recent annual meeting in Helsinki, Finland, deploring this practice. NASCO

-- more --

also plans to act through multilateral and bilateral channels in an effort to end this practice.

The second conservation problem is based on the use of large-scale driftnets in this high-seas salmon fishery. Because--on a worldwide basis--these massive nets (often miles long) not only catch large numbers of target fishes, but can also catch and kill large numbers of marine mammals, seabirds, and non-target fishes, the United Nations has called for an end to their use. To support the U.N. position generally and to reduce the high-seas catch of North Atlantic salmon specifically, NASCO has also adopted a resolution deploring the use of these nets.

In other actions at its annual meeting, NASCO set up a working group to study and report on an offer by a private party to purchase from the Faroe Islands and West Greenland their respective catch quotas of Atlantic salmon. NASCO also encouraged more research by its members into the possible genetic and pathologic effects of escaped farmed salmon on wild salmon. In response to the rapid increase in Atlantic salmon farming throughout the North Atlantic, the organization has issued guidelines for the creation and operation of salmon gene banks to protect threatened stocks, and has drafted guidelines for a "code of practice" for salmon farmers to minimize any negative effects on wild stocks.

The U.S. delegation to the NASCO annual meeting consisted of the three U.S. Commissioners to NASCO (Dr. Frank E. Carlton of Savannah, Ga., Richard

SALMON
ADD TWO

B. Roe of Gloucester, Mass., and Clinton B. Townsend of Skowhegan, Maine), as well as government advisors and scientists. Allen E. Peterson, Jr., the Science & Research Director for the National Marine Fisheries Service's Northeast Region, was re-elected President of NASCO for a second two-year term.

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NORTHEAST FISHERIES CENTER

NEWS RELEASE

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News Release No. 90-09 (local)
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BERMUDA CONTAINER LINES RECOGNIZED FOR ASSISTANCE TO NOAA'S FISHERIES CONSERVATION AND GLOBAL CLIMATE CHANGE PROGRAMS

WOODS HOLE, MASS., November 7, 1990--Nine years of assistance by Bermuda Container Lines' merchant vessel Oleander to NOAA's marine fisheries research laboratory in Narragansett, R.I., were recognized in ceremonies on October 25 in Newark, N.J. -- the Oleander's home port.

Mr. Gray Castle, NOAA deputy administrator, presented a commemorative plaque and certificate of recognition to the shipping company for assisting in NOAA's fisheries conservation and global climate change programs.

Since 1981, the Oleander has provided free transport to researchers and their sampling gear once each month on one of the vessel's weekly round-trips between New Jersey and Bermuda. The researchers, often volunteers, collect samples of water temperature, salinity, and plankton all along the cruise path. The samples are returned to the Narragansett laboratory where they help NOAA scientists better understand the role of oceanographic conditions in the short-term and long-term changes in the productivity of fish populations.

Since this past March and continuing for two years, the Oleander will carry researchers on every weekly roundtrip in order to gather more timely samples in waters surrounding the federal government's deepwater dumpsite

-- more --

106 miles east of New Jersey. The samples should help NOAA scientists determine if a recent increase in sewage sludge dumping at the site (resulting from the closure of the inshore dumpsite just 12 miles off New Jersey) is affecting offshore fisheries resources and habitats.

Bermuda Container Lines has just replaced the present Oleander with a new ship of the same name. The new ship was not only built with a stateroom specifically for carrying a researcher, but also with an extra pump-and-well system for housing a thermal salinograph. The thermal salinograph will permit the continuous measurement of sea-surface temperature and salinity. Such measurements should help NOAA scientists better detect any long-term changes in the ocean environment associated with global climate change.

Bob Benway and Jack Jossi of the Narragansett laboratory are the two NOAA scientists involved most closely with the Oleander's sampling efforts, which are part of the federal goverment's Atlantic Volunteer Observing Ship Program. Benway called the Oleander sampling "essential in helping the lab carry out its mission, particularly during this era of extremely tight federal funding."

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NORTHEAST FISHERIES CENTER

NEWS RELEASE

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News Release No. 90-10 (local)
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INTERNATIONAL FISH SCIENCE MEETING HOSTED AT NMFS NORTHEAST FISHERIES CENTER IN WOODS HOLE, MA

WOODS HOLE, MA, December 4, 1990 -- An international group of experts in fish population dynamics are meeting in Woods Hole, Mass., from December 4 to 13 at the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) laboratory. Approximately 20 scientists from Denmark, Norway, Iceland, Scotland, England, Germany, Poland, the Soviet Union, the Netherlands, France, Canada, and the United States will work on mathematical models for predicting fish numbers, and will discuss the mechanics of competition between marine mammals and humans for food fish.

The group is the Multispecies Working Group of the International Council for the Exploration of the Sea (ICES). ICES is an 88-year-old, treaty-based organization that coordinates marine research and provides advice and information to various fisheries management organizations concerned with the North Atlantic. The United States is an ICES member.

The group is chaired by Dr. Steven A. Murawski, chief of the Population Dynamics Branch at the NMFS Northeast Fisheries Center (NEFC). The multispecies group usually meets at ICES headquarters in Copenhagen, Denmark, but moved this meeting to Woods Hole to use NEFC computer capabilities for running models.

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FISH SCIENCE MEETING
ADD ONE

Managing a fishery that targets a number of species at one time is a challenge facing the fishing industries of many nations. These fisheries are quite common in the North Atlantic. The New England groundfishery is one of these.

The groundfish fleet harvests several species on any given trip, and so treats the varied species as a single source of fish. Evaluating the effects of multispecies fishing on the ecosystem is understandably more complex than it is for a single-species fishery. For example, harvesting predatory fish like bluefish, cod, and dogfish influences how many of their prey--fish like mackerel, herring, and the young of many species--are left for spawning and for fishermen to harvest.

The working group will continue to evaluate the success of various mathematical models to describe the effects of fishing on species that are targeted by multispecies fishing efforts.

They are also considering a topic that has attracted significant scientific interest in the past few years: the competition among marine mammals, sea birds, and man for food fish. This work is part of the ongoing interest the group has in predator-prey relationships and how they affect the number of fish that live long enough to successfully reproduce or be harvested by fishermen.

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NORTHEAST FISHERIES CENTER

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News Release No. 91-01 (local)
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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DR. JOHN B. PEARCE, (508)548-5123

GULF OF MAINE GETS THE SCIENTIFIC TREATMENT

WOODS HOLE, MA, January 8, 1991 -- A three-day scientific meeting on the future of the Gulf of Maine begins today in Woods Hole.

The meeting stems from the 1989 agreement by three states (Maine, New Hampshire, Massachusetts) and two provinces (Nova Scotia, New Brunswick) bordering the Gulf of Maine to coordinate environmental research and management in the gulf. This is one of the first large-scale international scientific efforts to describe and monitor a body of ocean before ecological or environmental degradation is widespread, rather than after it is clearly out of hand. The Coastal Research Center at the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution (WHOI) is hosting the meeting.

Woods Hole Scientists from WHOI, the National Marine Fisheries Service, and the U.S. Geological Survey will be joined at the workshop by colleagues from elsewhere in New England and Canada.

Building on a string of meetings that led to the creation of the Gulf of Maine Program, this workshop will concentrate on

presenting summaries of what is known about resources and environmental conditions in the gulf, where research should be concentrated to further this knowledge, and what environmental monitoring is most important in preserving the quality and quantity of marine life in this diverse area of the ocean. Presentations will span the range of natural science -- geology, climatology, oceanography, fishery science, meteorology, food chain dynamics, resource management, and other associated topics.

For general information on the meeting, contact Dr. Bruce Tripp, WHOI, at 548-1400. For information on fishery science and ecology, contact Dr. Steven Murawski, NMFS, or Dr. John Pearce, NMFS at 548-5123.

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NORTHEAST FISHERIES CENTER

NEWS RELEASE

United States Department of Commerce
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Woods Hole, Massachusetts 02543

News Release No. 91-03
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

For More Information Contact
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OBITUARY: RICHARD C. HENNEMUTH

WOODS HOLE, MA, March 4, 1991 -- Richard C. Hennemuth died February 15 at age 60 after a long illness. He leaves many friends in the international fishery science community, and many accomplishments in the marine fishery science field.

Dick was born in Grand Forks, North Dakota, on July 25, 1930. He received his Bachelor of Science degree (biology major, physical science minor) from Gustavus Adolphus College, St. Peter, Minnesota, in 1952, and his Master of Science degree (zoology major, statistics minor) from Iowa State University, Ames, Iowa, in 1954. Additional education included studies in oceanography from the University of California, Scripps Institute of Oceanography, La Jolla, California, during 1955-59, in mathematics from San Diego State University, San Diego, California, during 1955-60, and in statistics from Harvard University, Cambridge, Massachusetts, during 1965-67.

Dick began his marine fishery science career with the Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission in La Jolla in 1954. At the Commission, he was probably one of the first North American scientists to use yield-per-recruit analysis. Six years later, he began his federal career with the Bureau of Commercial Fisheries' (BCF) La Jolla Biological Laboratory, but soon thereafter transferred to the BCF's Woods Hole (Massachusetts)

- more -

Biological Laboratory (WHBL). By 1970, he had become Deputy Director of the BCF's North Atlantic Fisheries Research Center (NAFRC) which included the Woods Hole, Boothbay Harbor (Maine), and Narragansett (Rhode Island) Biological Laboratories. Later that same year, the BCF became the National Marine Fisheries Sevice (NMFS), the NAFRC became the Northeast Fisheries Center (NEFC), and the WHBL became the Woods Hole Laboratory.

During the late 1960s and early 1970s, Dick served as the principal U.S. scientist to the International Commission for the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries (ICNAF), and helped ICNAF deal with the unprecedented increase in foreign fishing off the East Coast, and the concurrent unprecedented decrease in fish stocks in those waters. His research and management advice initially contributed to the creation of the first national quo within the total allowable catch (TAC) for each stock, and subsequently contributed to the creation of the first overall TAC for all stocks combined. This latter effort represents the first significant attempt at multispecies fishery management, addressing the need to rebuild total finfish and squid community biomass, compensate for interspecific competition for prey, and reduce by-catch of nontarget species. He also chaired ICNAF's Standing Committee on Research and Statistics where he directed th first research into the data and analytical requirements for using effort controls, as opposed to catch controls, in managing Northwest Atlantic fisheries.

- more -

Soon after implementation of the U.S. 200-mile limit in 1977, the NEFC expanded to include laboratories in Gloucester, Massachusetts; Milford, Connecticut; Sandy Hook, New Jersey; Washington, D.C.; and Oxford, Maryland. Dick's position changed to Woods Hole Laboratory Director, and Assistant Center Director in charge of all fishery management-oriented research. In this latter role, he worked on the relationship between the NEFC's fishery science program and the needs of the newly established New England and Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Councils. Most notably, he served as moderator of the Northeast Fishery Management Task Force -- organized in 1979 by the two Councils, funded by NMFS, and composed of representatives from the fishing industry, the Councils, federal and state agencies, academic institutions, and the general public -- which promoted discussion and dialogue on major issues of fishery management and explored effects of various fishery management alternatives.

During this same period, he also authored a section of President Jimmy Carter's *Global 2000 Report* on the future of the world's fishery resources.

During the early 1980s, Dick served as a scientific advisor to the U.S. State Department as it sought to establish a U.S. Antarctic fishery science program associated with the new (international) Commission for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources. He served as the first Chairman of the Commission's Working Group on Fish Stock Assessment, and was instrumental in developing the methods subsequently used to evaluate recovery of depleted Antarctic fish stocks.

- more -

During this same period, he also served as first Chairman of the Stock Assessment Committee for the NOAA Chesapeake Bay Program. He played a key role in developing a comprehensive plan -- involving all relevant federal agencies, state agencies, and academic institutions in the Bay area -- to improve stock assessments for the Bay's fishery resources.

After a major reorganization of the NEFC in 1985, Dick assumed the role of Research Planning and Coordination Chief, a position he held until his retirement in 1988. In this role, he was able to dedicate most of his energies to the one aspect of fishery science that most interested him: statistics. Dr. Robert L. Edwards, NEFC Director from the mid 1960s to the early 1980s, recalled that Dick "carried out his administrative duties with grace, but was happiest when participating in the intellectual challenges associated with statistical research." Dick played a lead role in the establishment of the (international) Center for Statistical Ecology and Environmental Statistics at Pennsylvania State University. Last year, the International Association for Ecology awarded Dick its "Distinguished Statistical Ecologist Award" at the Fifth International Congress of Ecology in Yokohama, Japan.

One other award should be noted. In 1977, Dick was awarded the U.S. Department of Commerce's Gold Medal, the Department's highest honor and one bestowed for contributions of international importance. The award, also given concurrently to Dr. Edwards, recognized the role each had played in establishing in 1967 the highly successful series of cooperative bilateral

and multinational fishery resource surveys in the Northwest Atlantic. These cooperative efforts, involving research vessels from more than a dozen countries including the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe, saved the United States millions of dollars in research "sea days" and provided the data used in the very effective fishery management activities undertaken by ICNAF during the early 1970s.

Dr. Brian J. Rothschild, who interacted professionally with Dick in one form or another throughout much of Dick's career, recalled that "Whenever a major problem arose or a major opportunity appeared, Dick was there at the beginning to chart the best course and involve the right people to solve the problem or seize the opportunity. He willingly left much of the recognition and many of the honors, though, to those who followed in his path."

In his memory, the NMFS Woods Hole Laboratory will place a public-use bench -- with commemorative plaque -- on the laboratory grounds besides Woods Hole Harbor. Those wishing to contribute to the purchase of this memorial bench and plaque should send donations so indicated to: Dr. Marvin D. Grosslein, Officer-in-Charge, Woods Hole Laboratory, 166 Water St., Woods Hole, MA 02543 USA.

Dick leaves his wife, Ardys J. (Nelson), five children (Rebecca J., Jeffrey C., Bradley J., Tamara S., and Gregory S.), and two brothers.

- end -

NORTHEAST FISHERIES CENTER

NEWS RELEASE

United States Department of Commerce
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News Release No. 91-04
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For More Information Contact:
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PRELIMINARY 1990 LANDINGS AND VALUES OF NEW ENGLAND FISH AND SHELLFISH

WOODS HOLE, MA, March 21, 1991--Landings of fish and shellfish in New England were higher in 1990 than in 1989, up from 565 to 648 million pounds, an increase of 15 percent. Value of the landings was also higher, up from $509 to $543 million in dockside or "ex-vessel" prices, an increase of seven percent.

These are preliminary figures developed by the National Marine Fisheries Service's Northeast Fisheries Center in Woods Hole, Mass. The figures are subject to minor change as late or corrected reports are received from the field.

Massachusetts led other New England states in landings and value. Massachusetts also had the biggest gains in landings and value, up 58.0 million pounds and $30.1 million.

Gloucester, Mass., led other New England ports in landings; New Bedford, Mass., led in value. The biggest gain in landings was by Gloucester, up 26.5 million pounds. The biggest gain in value was by New Bedford, up $18.9 million.

Atlantic herring (sea herring) led other species in landings. American lobster led other species in value. The biggest gain in landings was by herring, up 23.3 million pounds. The biggest gain in value was shared by sea scallops and yellowtail flounder, both up $14.7 million.

-- more --

ADD ONE
NEW ENGLAND LANDINGS

Maine led the New England states in lobster landings and value, as well as in the biggest gains in landings and values, up 4.7 million pounds and $2.4 million. Massachusetts was second in lobster landings and values. Lobster landings for all New England states rose from 48.7 million pounds in 1989 to 55.4 million pounds in 1990, but average price per pound fell from $2.78 in 1989 to $2.46 in 1990. It should be noted that lobster landings for the Canadian maritime provinces rose as well, from 87.5 million pounds in 1989 to 90.0 million pounds in 1990. It appears that lobster supply exceeded lobster demand, and that the oversupply, in combination with the Northeast's economic downturn, drove prices down.

The following tables give preliminary landings and values by state, major port, and major species, as well as lobster landings and values by state, in 1989 and 1990.

-- more --

ADD TWO
NEW ENGLAND LANDINGS

Preliminary Landings and Values for Fish and Shellfish in New England States in 1989 and 1990 (rank in parentheses)

State	1989 Millions of Pounds	1989 Millions of Dollars	1990 Millions of Pounds	1990 Millions of Dollars
Massachusetts	268.9 (1)	272.9 (1)	326.8 (1)	303.0 (1)
Maine	151.1 (2)	132.5 (2)	169.5 (2)	130.1 (2)
Rhode Island	125.0 (3)	75.0 (3)	131.8 (3)	72.9 (3)
Connecticut	8.6 (5)	18.3 (4)	9.5 (5)	26.9 (4)
New Hampshire	11.4 (4)	10.3 (5)	10.7 (4)	10.1 (5)
TOTAL	565.0	508.9	648.3	543.0

Note: Landings of fish and some shellfish (lobster, shrimp, and crab) in live weight; landings of all other shellfish in meat weight.

-- more --

ADD THREE
NEW ENGLAND LANDINGS

Preliminary Landings and Values of Fish and Shellfish in New England by Major Port in 1989 and 1990 (rank in parentheses)

Port	1989		1990	
	Millions of Pounds	Millions of Dollars	Millions of Pounds	Millions of Dollars
New Bedford, Mass.	90.4 (2)	141.0 (1)	113.9 (2)	159.9 (1)
Gloucester, Mass.	98.5 (1)	30.0 (3)	125.0 (1)	40.5 (2)
Portland, Maine	49.0 (3)	34.4 (2)	48.9 (4)	31.7 (3)
Pt. Judith, R.I.	48.3 (4)	23.6 (4)	57.0 (3)	31.6 (4)
Provincetown/ Chatham, Mass.	23.7 (6)	12.9 (5)	30.1 (6)	15.5 (5)
Boston, Mass.	17.3 (7)	12.8 (6)	19.6 (7)	14.1 (6)
Newport, R.I.	12.3 (8)	11.5 (7)	15.0 (8)	13.6 (7)
Rockland, Maine	24.8 (5)	7.0 (8)	36.2 (5)	3.1 (8)

-- more --

ADD FOUR
NEW ENGLAND LANDINGS

Preliminary Landings and Values of Major Fish and Shellfish in New England in 1989 and 1990

Species	1989		1990	
	Millions of pounds	Millions of dollars	Millions of pounds	Millions of dollars
American lobster	48.7	135.2	55.4	136.3
Sea scallop	20.6	84.0	24.5	98.7
Atlantic cod	77.6	47.1	95.2	61.0
Yellowtail flounder	11.4	12.7	31.0	27.4
Bluefin tuna	2.2	18.5	2.1	20.1
Winter flounder (blackback, lemon sole)	13.6	18.5	14.2	15.6
Goosefish (monkfish, angler)	23.3	9.9	19.9	11.8
Pollock	23.0	9.8	21.1	10.5
Swordfish	3.9	11.4	3.0	8.6
Northern shrimp	8.0	7.8	9.7	7.0
Longfin squid (loligo)	36.6	16.8	16.8	6.4
Silver hake (whiting)	22.5	4.4	28.0	6.3
Haddock	3.8	4.5	5.4	6.1
Atlantic herring (sea herring)	89.6	5.0	112.9	5.8
American plaice (dab)	7.7	8.8	5.5	5.6
Summer flounder (fluke)	5.5	10.3	2.3	5.5
Witch flounder (gray sole)	5.2	9.0	3.3	5.5
White hake	11.3	4.4	11.1	4.5

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-- more --

ADD FIVE
NEW ENGLAND LANDINGS

-- cont. -- cont. -- cont. -- cont. -- cont. -- cont. -- cont. --

Species	1989 Millions of pounds	1989 Millions of dollars	1990 Millions of pounds	1990 Millions of dollars
Shortfin squid (illex)	9.6	2.6	12.1	3.4
Scup (porgy)	4.0	3.1	4.8	2.7
Atlantic mackerel	10.6	2.4	13.8	2.6
Butterfish	5.4	3.3	3.4	2.0

Note: Landings of scallops in meat weight; all other landings in live weight.

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ADD SIX
NEW ENGLAND LANDINGS

Preliminary Landings and Values of Lobster in New England by State in 1989 and 1990 (rank in parentheses)

State	1989 Millions of Pounds	1989 Millions of Dollars	1990 Millions of pounds	1990 Millions of Dollars
Maine	23.3 (1)	59.2 (1)	28.1 (1)	61.6 (1)
Massachusetts	16.2 (2)	48.5 (2)	15.8 (2)	43.9 (2)
Rhode Island	5.7 (3)	17.5 (3)	7.2 (3)	19.5 (3)
Connecticut	2.1 (4)	6.4 (4)	2.6 (4)	7.2 (4)
New Hampshire	1.4 (5)	3.6 (5)	1.7 (5)	4.1 (5)
TOTAL	48.7	135.2	55.4	136.3

Note: Landings in live weight.

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NORTHEAST FISHERIES CENTER

NEWS RELEASE

United States Department of Commerce
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
National Marine Fisheries Service
Northeast Fisheries Center
Woods Hole, Massachusetts 02543

News Release No. 91-05
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

For More Information Contact:
JON A. GIBSON, (508) 548-5123

ECUADOREAN FISHERIES LEADER CONSULTS CENTER SCIENTISTS ON RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

WOODS HOLE, MA, April 23, 1991--On April 10, Dr. Luis Herreria Bonnet, a leader in the Ecuadorean fisheries community, consulted with Northeast Fisheries Center scientists on marine mammal, turtle, and fishery resource management.

Ecuador has extensive commercial and artisanal fisheries which account for a significant amount of the diet and economy in its coastal communities. It also has the Galapagos Islands National Park/International Biosphere Reserve.

Dr. Herreria is currently legal counsel to the Ecuadorean fishing industry. Previous positions include: Undersecretary for Fisheries, Ecuador Ministry of Industries; President and member of Board of Directors, (Ecuador) National Fisheries Institute; and President, Guayaquil Superior Court. Dr. Herreria has and will continue to play a dominant role in the development and implementation of national legislation affecting marine mammal, turtle, and fishery resource management.

Three potential benefits to Ecuador emanating from the April 10 meeting include: (1) reference to the U.S. Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972, with its 1988 amendments, as a basis for improving marine mammal management in Ecuador; (2) bolstering of

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the Ecuadorean fisheries research program by linking foreign nations' interests in fishing in Ecuadorean waters to those nations' individual willingness to support (physically and/or financially) Ecuadorean fisheries research; and (3) extended visitation by Ecuadorean fisheries scientists to the Center's Woods Hole Laboratory to gain experience in our methods of assessing populations of marine fishery resources and providing biological advice to fishery managers.

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Editor's Note: an 8 x 10, black & white glossy of Herreria's visit to the Center's Woods Hole Laboratory is available.

NORTHEAST FISHERIES CENTER

NEWS RELEASE

United States Department of Commerce
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
National Marine Fisheries Service
Northeast Fisheries Center
Woods Hole, Massachusetts 02543

News Release No. 91-06
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

For More Information Contact:
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SYMPOSIUM WILL ASSESS OCEAN DUMPSITE RECOVERY

SANDY HOOK, NJ, May 28, 1991--On June 18 and 19, a scientific symposium will review and evaluate the findings of a three-year study on the ability of the inshore sewage-sludge dumpsite off New York City to recover following the 1986-87 phaseout of dumping at the site.

The dumpsite, officially called the 12-Mile Dumpsite because of its nearest distance to the northern New Jersey coast, was the largest sewage-sludge dumpsite in the world. The study of its recovery has been the most comprehensive and thorough investigation of its type ever conducted.

The symposium will be hosted by the Environmental Processes Division (EPD) of the National Marine Fisheries Service's (NMFS) Northeast Fisheries Center. It will be held at the Ocean Place Hilton in Long Branch, New Jersey. The NMFS, an agency of the U.S. Department of Commerce's National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), is steward of the nation's living marine resources.

The 12-Mile Dumpsite, located near the apex of the New York Bight, received sludge from as many as 200 sewage-treatment plants going back to the 1920s. In 1970, the U.S. Food and Drug

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Administration (FDA) closed the area around the dumpsite to commercial shellfishing because of high levels of coliform bacteria (an indicator of sewage pollution) in shellfish and sediment. At the same time, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) denied further applications for dumping at the site, and, in 1985, adopted a schedule to phase out all dumping at the site between early 1986 and the end of 1987.

The phaseout offered a chance to see the extent to which fishery resources and habitats would change to levels more typical of the New York Bight. Accordingly, the EPD launched a three-year (July 1986 through September 1989) study of the 12-Mile Dumpsite's recovery. The EPD was joined in the study by scientists from: the EPA's Environmental Research Laboratory in Narragansett, R.I., and Region II Headquarters in Edison, N.J.; the FDA in Davisville, R.I., the NMFS's Beaufort (N.C.) Laboratory; the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection; and the Lamont-Doherty Geological Observatory of Columbia University.

The symposium will have two parts. First will be scientific presentations on changes in the sediment, water, and marine life in and around the 12-Mile Dumpsite. Second will be a panel discussion on the implications of the study's findings to the recovery of fishery resources and habitats, to the future for ocean dumping itself, and to the direction of future research.

DUMPSITE RECOVERY
ADD TWO

Panelists will be: Robert Tucker, Director of the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection's Office of Science and Research; John Pearce, Acting Science and Research Director of the NMFS's Northeast Fisheries Center; William Gordon, Director of the New Jersey Sea Grant College Program; Jim Chambers of the NOAA Coastal Programs Office; D.W. Bennett, Executive Director of the American Littoral Society; John Bryson, Executive Director of the Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council; Joel O'Connor of the EPA's Region II; and Garry Mayer of the University of Rhode Island - NOAA Cooperative Marine Education and Research Program.

Keynote speaker of the symposium will be John Keith, Assistant Commissioner of the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection. Richard Caspe, Director of EPA's Region II, will review the history of EPA's involvement with the dumpsite.

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EDITOR'S NOTE: There is a $50 symposium registration fee, primarily to cover meals. News media representatives wishing to cover the symposium and not needing the meals can have the fee waived by contacting--in advance--Cathy Noonan at (908) 872-3001 or -3007.

NORTHEAST FISHERIES CENTER

NEWS RELEASE

United States Department of Commerce
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
National Marine Fisheries Service
Northeast Fisheries Center
Woods Hole, Massachusetts 02543

News Release No. 91-07
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

For More Information Contact:
DR. KENNETH SHERMAN, (401) 782-3210

SYMPOSIUM WILL ASSESS HEALTH, IMPROVE MANAGEMENT
OF NORTHEAST'S CONTINENTAL SHELF ECOSYSTEM

NARRAGANSETT, R.I., August 1, 1991--The Northeast Fisheries Science Center will convene a major scientific symposium to assess the health of the Northeast's continental shelf ecosystem (NSE), and to improve the coordination and integration of federal and state governments and the academic community in their efforts to restore resource abundance and environmental quality to the NSE.

The symposium, called "The Northeast Shelf Ecosystem: Stress, Mitigation, and Sustainability," will be held in Corliss Auditorium at the University of Rhode Island's Narragansett Bay Campus during August 12-15. Sponsors include the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, NOAA's National Marine Fisheries Service, U.S. Marine Mammal Commission, U.S. Department of the Interior's Minerals Management Service, American Fisheries Society, and the University of Rhode Island's Marine Affairs Program. Dr. John A. Knauss, the U.S. Department of Commerce's Undersecretary for Oceans and Atmosphere will give the keynote address.

The NSE, which extends from the Gulf of Maine to Cape Hatteras (N.C.), and from tidal wetlands to the edge of the continental shelf, is one of 48 recognized "large marine ecosystems," or LMEs, around the world, and one of eight off the United

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States. Other U.S. LMEs are the Southeast Shelf, Gulf of Mexico, California Current, Gulf of Alaska, Eastern Bering Sea, Chukchi Sea, and Beaufort Sea.

A large marine ecosystem is a natural unit of oceanic organization where the overall production of marine animal populations is normally controlled. The first biological evidence of global climate change within the World Ocean will likely be found in such systems. Also, the most effective management measures for fighting the stresses of overfishing and nonpoint-source pollution off the New England and Mid-Atlantic states will likely be those operating at the LME level.

At the conclusion of the symposium, a statement will be issued on the health of the NSE in terms of the long-term sustainability of its living marine resources.

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EDITOR'S NOTE: A program of talks is available upon request. The $25 registration fee will be waived for news media representatives with proper credentials. Contact Karen Heise-Gentile, (401) 782-3215.

NORTHEAST FISHERIES CENTER

NEWS RELEASE

United States Department of Commerce
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
National Marine Fisheries Service
Northeast Fisheries Center
Woods Hole, Massachusetts 02543

News Release No. 91-08
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

For More Information Contact:
DR. JOHN B. PEARCE, (508) 548-5123

CENTER SCIENTIST COMMENDED BY COMMERCE UNDER SECRETARY

WOODS HOLE, MA, October 11, 1991 -- Dr. Ambrose Jearld, Jr., the Acting Chief of the Northeast Fisheries Science Center's (NEFSC) Research Planning and Coordination Staff, has been presented the prestigious "Administrator's Award" by Dr. John A. Knauss, Administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) and Under Secretary (of the U.S. Department of Commerce) for Oceans and Atmosphere. The award was given on September 20 at the Army Navy Country Club in Arlington, Va. Dr. Jearld was accompanied by his wife, Anna C. Martin-Jearld. The award carries a $2,000 cash bonus.

The NEFSC is the research arm of the National Marine Fisheries Service's Northeast Region. The National Marine Fisheries Service, a NOAA agency, is the federal steward of the nation's living marine resources.

Jearld received the award for his advising and counseling a variety of governmental, academic, civic, cultural, and community affairs organizations in the areas of equal employment opportunity and affirmative action during the 1987-91 period. Allen E. Peterson, Jr., the Science & Research Director of the National

-- more --

Marine Fisheries Service's Northeast Region, lauded Jearld, saying "The staff at the Center, and the Region as a whole, cannot envision another person more deserving of this significant recognition than Dr. Jearld. His dedication and enthusiasism to recruiting, training, and retaining under-represented groups in the marine science field are irrefutable."

Peterson further noted that "Dr. Jearld's efforts have brought attention to the need to recruit talented minorities, particularly into research positions. His activities have changed the attitudes of the general citizenry, and the staff of the Center as well."

Dr. Jearld and his wife, a Counselor at the Teaticket (Mass.) Elementary School, have one daughter, Saba Angelique, 14-years old, and one son, Asa Omari M., 8-years old. They reside in East Falmouth, Mass.

-- end --

J. Gibson

NORTHEAST FISHERIES CENTER

NEWS RELEASE

United States Department of Commerce
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
National Marine Fisheries Service
Northeast Fisheries Center
Woods Hole, Massachusetts 02543

News Release No. 91-09
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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R/V *ALBATROSS IV* RETURNS TO WOODS HOLE

WOODS HOLE, MA, November 20, 1991 -- The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) research vessel *Albatross IV* is scheduled to return to Woods Hole, Massachusetts, on Monday November 25 after undergoing approximately $1 million in repairs and refitting. The vessel was taken out of service two-and-a-half years ago, but the pressing need for a second fisheries research vessel for NOAA in the Northeast U.S. led to its reactivation.

The ship remained at the National Marine Fisheries Service's Northeast Fisheries Science Center (NEFSC) in Woods Hole after it was taken out of service. The *Albatross IV* was built in the early 1960s and arrived at Woods Hole in 1962 on Thanksgiving Day. It is scheduled for replacement between 1996 and 1998 in NOAA's long-term plan to modernize its research fleet. Since the *Albatross* has been out of service, the NEFSC has relied on the smaller research vessel *Delaware II* for most of its scientific work at sea.

In addition to ongoing critical trawl and dredge resource surveys, NEFSC scientists are involved in a new series of studies investigating global climate change and its ecological consequences. A 1992 study of temperature stratification on Georges Bank and its possible effect on the survival of zooplankton and larval fish will require enough deck space for

-- more --

a variety of concurrent biological and oceanographic sampling, and more lab and bunk space for the multidisciplinary crew, as well as significant increases in computing power.

It became clear while the *Albatross IV* was not available to the NEFSC that a larger ship would be required for these and other studies, and that a new vessel was not likely to be ready in the next five years.

The *Delaware II* is too small to handle such complex cruises. It is also unlikely that the additional time required for a new large-scale study could be eked from the *Delaware*'s already demanding schedule.

After being berthed at the pier for more than two years, the *lbatross IV* required significant maintenance and repair before it could be put back into service. Upgrades were also planned for its computing and navigational systems. The vessel left Woods Hole in June and returns with refurbished electrical systems, a new galley, hull repairs, and completely overhauled engines and hydraulic systems. Work was completed at the federal Atlantic Marine Center in Norfolk, Virginia.

The *Albatross IV* will take several short "shakedown" cruises before its first research cruise, beginning with the trip to Woods Hole from Norfolk, Virginia, on November 23. A few more short trips out of Woods Hole will further test the test hydraulic and electrical systems. The vessel is scheduled to depart December 2 for its first research cruise, an 18-day trip to measure fishing power of various research trawling gear.

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Northeast Fisheries Science Center

N E W S

For Immediate Release
April 6, 1994

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NR94-3

RESEARCH VESSEL *ALBATROSS IV* RETURNS TO WOODS HOLE

Woods Hole, Mass.---The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) has completed $3 million in repairs and upgrades on the research vessel *Albatross IV* as part of NOAA's fleet replacement and modernization program. The work was completed in Norfolk, Vir., and Jacksonville, Fla.

The *Albatross* is a stern trawler designed specifically for fisheries research along the northeastern United States. It is one of two fisheries research vessels operating out of Woods Hole, Mass., in support of the National Marine Fisheries Service's Northeast Fisheries Science Center. The vessel is used extensively by Center scientists conducting at-sea experiments and data collection for biological and physical science studies. These include assessment of living marine resource stock distribution, abundance, size, and health; oceanographic studies; environmental monitoring studies; and integrated ecosystems studies in critical areas such as Georges Bank.

As part of the renovation, both laboratory space and equipment on the vessel were upgraded, including addition of an acoustic Doppler current profiler (ADCP) and a seawater sampling system. The ADCP allows scientists to measure current speed at depths to about 750 ft while the vessel is in motion. Winches and associated deck equipment were overhauled or replaced. A new computer system for scientific work was installed. The ship also has emerged from the shipyard with better navigation and communications equipment.

--MORE--

Albatross **Page 2**

The *Albatross IV* underwent a $1 million overhaul in 1991, after being tied up for more than a year. The pressing need for vessel time in order to conduct scientific work in the Northeast caused NOAA to reactivate the ship. As part of the modernization plan, the *Albatross IV* is scheduled for replacement around the turn of the century.

The *Albatross IV* was built in the early 1960s and was the first fisheries and oceanographic research vessel of its kind constructed in the United States. The vessel is the fourth *Albatross* to berth in Woods Hole. The first was the famed steamer *Albatross*, which was the first vessel commissioned by any government specifically for marine research. The *Albatross* served for 40 years as a research vessel in the Northwest Atlantic, the Pacific, the Caribbean, the Bering Sea, and in two wars.

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Northeast Fisheries Science Center

N E W S

Condition of Fish Embryos and Red Blood Cells May Reflect Fish Health and Environmental Quality in New Haven Harbor

For Immediate Release
May 18,1994

Contact:
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Milford, Conn. - - - Scientists of the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) in Milford will be examining several fish species in New Haven Harbor beginning this summer to see what can be determined about pollution in the harbor by looking at embryo development among tautog and the microstructure of red blood cells in tautog, Atlantic silversides, and winter and windowpane flounders.

Dean Perry, David Nelson, and James Hughes, scientists at the NMFS Northeast Fisheries Science Center (NEFSC), have received grants for the studies from the Community Foundation for Greater New Haven. The scientists believe this work will provide information useful to scientists and managers grappling with nearshore pollution and related fish declines.

In both projects, the known pollution of New Haven Harbor by hydrocarbons, PCBs, and various heavy metals makes the site excellent for studying the biological effects of pollution on selected fish species. The studies will also contribute to the ongoing work of scientists attempting to use fish and other marine organisms as biological indicators of pollution levels in an ecosystem.

In the Perry and Nelson project, tautog were selected for study because recent biological surveys off Connecticut indicate that the population may be in decline. The scientists will collect tautog embryos from New Haven Harbor and examine them for evidence of damage resulting from pollution.

Their results will be compared with changes linked to pollution in studies of the emybryos of other fish species. Several studies of the early developmental stages of fish embryos have been conducted at the NMFS Milford laboratory, including some that have shown pollution-related damage to DNA and reduced reproductive capability in winter flounder. These studies have also shown the highest mortalities of developing fishes near coastal areas that also were polluted by organic contaminants and heavy metals.

Hughes' project will concentrate on examining the red blood cells of tautog, Atlantic silversides, and winter and windowpane flounders. He will be looking for "micronucleation" in the cells, a condition sometimes caused by environmental pollution and that has been linked to anemia in other marine fishes. Microneuclei look like major cell nuclei, but are much smaller. They result from impaired cell division or chromosome breakage and are either chromosome fragments or whole chromosomes that lagged in the development process.

Also, the presence of micronucleation may give scientists clues to abnormal chromosomal development in animals whose chromosomes are not easy to examine directly. Chromosomal breakage, rearrangement, and misdivision have been shown to be relatively common in animals living in an environment with high contaminant loads. However in many organisms, including most fishes, chromosomes are too small, too numerous, and divide too slowly for study. Projects such as Hughes' will help scientists determine whether animals from polluted environments with elevated levels of micronucleation experience biological difficulties that can be related to those experienced by animals that have been shown to have chromosomal damaged related to similar pollution.

The Community Foundation for Greater New Haven is a local resource for donors, volunteers, and nonprofit organizations working to improve their communities. In its 65-year history, hundreds of individuals from throughout the region have made gifts and bequests to the foundation, and built up its assets to $120 million. The annual income, more than $5.2 million last year, is used to convene leadership around critical issues, increase nonprofit effectiveness through technical assistance, and support a broad range of nonprofit activities.

The NEFSC comprises seven laboratories, of which Milford is one, and is the research arm of NMFS in the Northeast Region of the United States. The NMFS is part of the Department of Commerce's National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

-END-

Northeast Fisheries Science Center

N E W S

For Immediate Release
July 13, 1994

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Milestone Reached in Salmon Conservation

Woods Hole, Mass.- - -The North Atlantic Salmon Conservation Organization (NASCO) has reduced the 1994 catch quota off West Greenland by 25 percent. West Greenland waters are where both North American and European stocks of Atlantic salmon spend their summers feeding and growing prior to returning to their home rivers to spawn.

The 25-percent reduction -- from 213 to 159 metric tons (from 470,000 to 350,000 pounds) -- **will insure that enough spawning fish will return to U.S. and Canadian rivers to sustain the North American stocks of this highly prized game and food fish**. This resource restoration milestone has been achieved ahead of schedule in the second year of a five-year management plan developed by NASCO. For perspective, it was only two decades ago that more than 2,700 metric tons (5,950,000 pounds) of salmon were being caught annually off West Greenland.

NASCO is a nine-nation, treaty-based organization that seeks to conserve, restore, enhance, and rationally manage wild salmon stocks in the North Atlantic Ocean. The U.S. commissioners to NASCO are Allen E. Peterson, Jr., of Sandwich, Mass., Clinton B. Townsend of Skowhegan, Maine, and David F. Egan of Guilford, Conn.

Over the past decade, only 90,000 wild Atlantic salmon -- on average -- have returned annually to spawn in North American (both

U.S. and Canadian) rivers. Fishery managers believe that the number of returning spawners needed to sustain these stocks currently is 194,000. As a result of NASCO's reduction of the 1994 West Greenland catch, the number of returning spawners should reach 185,000 (more than 95 percent of the target) this year. In the next three years of the management plan, 100 percent of the target (194,000 spawners) will be protected by adjusting the annual quota.

The determination of the number of spawning fish needed to sustain the stocks is based on the quantity and quality of habitat available in each salmon-producing river. Much of the Atlantic salmon habitat in the United States is in the process of restoration.

Under the NASCO plan, the West Greenland catch quotas are based on the "harvestable surplus" of Atlantic salmon. The predicted number of "two-sea-winter" salmon in the North Atlantic (those having spent two winters at sea and thus likely beginning a spawning run the following spring) are reported to NASCO by the International Council for the Exploration of the Sea, an organization universally respected for its unbiased accounting of scientific information. From this number of two-sea-winter fish, NASCO protects the number needed for spawning. The remainder are the harvestable surplus, the number that can be safely caught by commercial, recreational, and native fisheries. The harvestable surplus also accounts for natural (nonfishing) mortality.

Peterson, head of the U.S. delegation to NASCO, commented that as a result of NASCO's action, "All of the pieces of the Atlantic salmon puzzle over which we humans have control are now in place to sustain the U.S. stocks of this species. As long as river flows, seawater temperatures, natural predation, and other natural factors approximate long-term average conditions, the future of the Atlantic salmon looks very bright indeed."

-END-

Northeast Fisheries Science Center

N E W S

For Immediate Release
July 13, 1994

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NOAA Honors Fish Stock Assessment Scientists

Woods Hole, Mass.- - -The scientists of the Population Dynamics Branch at the NMFS Northeast Fisheries Science Center (NEFSC) have been recognized for outstanding research in fish stock assessment with a NOAA Unit Citation.

The NEFSC's Population Dynamics Branch is considered to be among the finest fishery stock assessment groups in the world. The citation recognized the branch's sustained accomplishment in "outstanding stock assessment research in support of regional, national, and international fisheries management." The award was approved by Dr. D. James Baker, who is both the Department of Commerce's Undersecretary for Oceans and Atmosphere and NOAA's administrator. It was presented to the branch by Dr. John Pearce, Deputy Center Director of the NEFSC.

Against a backdrop of catastrophic declines in groundfish and other fish stocks of the northeastern United States, managers have struggled for the last 15 years to develop regulations that would reduce fish mortality rates and restore depleted stocks. During this time, in its role as scientific advisor on fish stocks, the Population Dynamics Branch assembled compelling evidence that the high rate at which fish were being removed from these populations was so severely diminishing their reproductive capacity that the fisheries were not sustainable.

The evidence for this picture of what was happening in the stocks was gathered by analyzing historical patterns of stock size and harvest rates, modeling populations by age structure, estimating present numbers of young fish and fecundity rates, examining

biological samples from commercial landings and research surveys, and analyzing fishing effort and economic factors associated with the industry.

The Branch has not only conducts traditional assessment analyses, but is also developing new methods to support decisions about managing stocks. For example, they are studying how to quantify the risks associated with fishery decisions. The Population Dynamics Branch is among the first groups attempting to scientifically evaluate the nature of multispecies fishery interactions, how the discards and bycatch affect overall stock numbers, and how the selective harvest changes the ecosystem in which the targeted fish are found.

The Population Dynamics Branch regularly advises the Northeast region's fishery management councils, state fishery managers, the fishing industry, environmentalists, and the public on fisheries science. They are frequent contributors to international scientific groups such as the North Atlantic Salmon Conservation Organization, the International Council for Exploration of the Sea, and the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries Organization.

The assessment advice produced by the Branch is reviewed by other scientists twice a year at technical workshops. Recent stock assessments completed by the branch include those for bluefish, summer flounder (fluke), Georges Bank cod and yellowtail flounder, spiny dogfish, and witch flounder.

-END-

Northeast Fisheries Science Center

N E W S

For Immediate Release

August 2, 1994

Contact:
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Dr. Fredric M. Serchuk Named Head of Conservation & Utilization Division

Woods Hole, Mass. - - - Dr. Fredric M. Serchuk has been named chief of the Northeast Fisheries Science Center's (NEFSC) conservation & utilization division. As division head, Dr. Serchuk will direct the U.S. government's study of ecological health, resource status, resource harvest, and seafood quality, and will advise on resource management, for marine and coastal waters from the Canadian border to Cape Hatteras, North Carolina.

The conservation & utilization division -- one of two major research units of the NEFSC -- employs 250 scientific and technical personnel at five research facilities and 13 field stations. The NEFSC is the research arm of the NOAA National Marine Fisheries Service's 19-state northeast region.

Prior to his selection as division chief, Dr. Serchuk was chief of one of the division's component investigations, the New England offshore fishery resources investigation. Also in recent years, Dr. Serchuk has held the prestigious post of chairperson of the International Council for the Exploration of the Sea's advisory committee on fishery management. He received academic degrees from Cornell, Massachusetts, and Michigan State.

Dr. Serchuk and his wife, Sandra, reside in East Falmouth, Massachusetts.

--END--

NR94-8

Northeast Fisheries Science Center

N E W S

For Immediate Release

October 21, 1994

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NURSE SHARK MATING AND NURSERY GROUNDS IDENTIFIED

Narragansett, RI - - - In the shallow waters of Florida's Dry Tortugas National Park, nurse sharks mate and bear young--a happy circumstance for Wes Pratt and Jeff Carrier, who recently became the first marine scientists to observe and study nurse sharks mating in the wild, and to film their behavior. The field studies were also filmed for an upcoming episode of National Geographic Television's *Explorer* series.

The scientists believe that nurse sharks need warm and shallow water, like that of the park's lagoons, for successful courtship. The National Park Service is considering establishment of a shark preserve in the Dry Tortugas to control increasing boat traffic in these sensitive nursery and mating areas.

Pratt, of the National Marine Fisheries Service Narragansett Lab, and Jeff Carrier, of Albion College, have spent a few weeks during each of the past four summers trying to observe nurse sharks that come into the warm lagoons of the Dry Tortugas to mate. The nurse shark is large, with average adult lengths of 7 to 10 feet and weights of 150 to 400 lbs. It is common in tropical and subtropical waters of both North and South America.

In general, scientists have scant information about where and when sharks mate or their mating behavior because the animals travel widely and are relatively solitary. This makes them difficult and costly to find during mating, unless they aggregate in a shallow, protected area such as the Dry Tortugas.

--MORE--

NR94-9

In this study, 17 adult female nurse sharks were identified using tags and natural fin markings and observed for three weeks this summer. The female sharks entered a shallow lagoon where 25 spotted pups were born. Each pup was between 14 and 18 inches long. The females then spent much of their time in the shallow water, about 2 feet deep, avoiding and selecting males.

The sharks apparently depend on the warmth and relative confines of the coastal lagoons to spread chemical cues that signal mating readiness. The shallow waters are also a refuge for females, and allow them leverage for controlling mating, discouraging some males. A powerful male is able to grasp the pectoral fin of one of these females, transport her to deeper water and internally fertilize her. The nurse shark's use of shallow water during the mating process underscores the need to protect sensitive coastal areas.

To further study gestation and reproductive chemistry of the females, two of the animals were captured at the end of this year's study and isolated at Sea World, Orlando for further investigation.

National Geographic Television will present an *Explorer* program on this study, tentatively titled "A Biting Kind of Love" on the TBS Superstation in the Spring of 1995.

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Northeast Fisheries Science Center

N E W S

Sea Scallops Plummet, Blue Crabs Skyrocket, in Northeast's 1993 Commercial Landings

For Immediate Release

October 28, 1994

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Woods Hole, Mass. -- Commercial landings of sea scallops in the Northeast dropped by 48 percent in poundage and 36 percent in dockside ("ex-vessel") revenue between 1992 and 1993. Most of the drop occurred in the New England states where 10 million fewer pounds of scallop meats were landed, and 39 million fewer dollars of ex-vessel revenue were generated.

Landings of blue crabs, which occur almost exclusively in the Mid-Atlantic states, rose by 97 percent in poundage and 120 percent in ex-vessel revenue between 1992 and 1993. The 131 million pounds of landings generated 76 million dollars of ex-vessel revenue.

These landings data come from the National Marine Fisheries Service's (NMFS) Northeast Fisheries Science Center in Woods Hole, Mass. A very small amount of landings data for 1993 has not yet been collected/tabulated, so all data remain provisional.

Attached are four tables which detail these landings data. Tables 1 and 2 list the poundage and revenue for landings of all major commercial species in the New England and Mid-Atlantic states, respectively, for both 1992 and 1993. Major commercial species include those that generate more than one million dollars in ex-vessel revenue.

Tables 3 and 4 list the poundage and revenue for total landings by state and major port, respectively, in the New England and Mid-Atlantic states for both 1992 and 1993. These data have been reported earlier, but are included here for reference. Major ports include those that generate more than 10 million dollars in ex-vessel revenue.

Following are summaries of 1993 landings by species for both the New England and Mid-Atlantic states:

1993 Landings/2

New England

The most-landed species in 1993 was Atlantic herring at 106 million pounds. It's a low-value species, though, which only generated six million dollars in ex-vessel revenue. The highest-revenue species in 1993 was American lobster at 143 million dollars.

Joining sea scallops in a precipitous drop were New England's three "traditional groundfish" -- haddock, yellowtail flounder, and Atlantic cod. Haddock dropped by 63 percent in poundage and 52 percent in ex-vessel revenue between 1992 and 1993. Yellowtail dropped by 36 percent in poundage and 25 percent in revenue. Cod dropped by 18 percent in poundage and 14 percent in revenue. Haddock landings have fallen so low that they are now less valuable than Maine's seaworm fishery. The seaworm fishery captures two species -- bloodworms and sandworms -- for sale as live bait to recreational fishermen.

Atlantic salmon harvested from aquacultural operations along coastal Maine are now the fourth most valuable seafood species in New England. In 1993, almost 15 million pounds were harvested, worth almost 43 million dollars.

Green sea urchins, whose eggs are highly prized by the Japanese, are now the sixth most valuable seafood species in New England. In 1993, more than 42 million pounds of urchins were harvested, worth more than 27 million dollars.

Mid-Atlantic

The most-landed species in 1993 was Atlantic menhaden at 672 million pounds. Menhaden, a non-seafood species, is primarily used for the production of meal, oil, and solubles, and secondarily used for livestock feed and for bait by commercial and recreational fishermen. It generated 40 million dollars in ex-vessel revenue. The highest-revenue species in 1993 was blue crab at 76 million dollars.

Joining sea scallops in a precipitous drop was a species synonymous with the Mid-Atlantic coast -- eastern oyster. Oysters dropped by 72 percent in poundage and 70 percent in ex-vessel revenue between 1992 and 1993. In the last 10 years (1983), the oyster harvest has declined by more than 12 million pounds of meats and 19 million dollars in revenue.

Species captured by the offshore pelagic trawl fisheries generally fared much better. Landings of butterfish rose by 53 percent in poundage and 43 percent in ex-vessel revenue between 1992 and 1993. Longfin squid rose by 23 percent in poundage and 26 percent in revenue. Northern shortfin squid rose by 20 percent in poundage and 11 percent in revenue.

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Northeast Fisheries Science Center

N E W S

1993 Landings/3

Table 1. Poundage and Ex-vessel Revenue for Major Species in the Commercial Fisheries Landings of **New England** States during 1992 and 1993.

Species	1992		1993	
	Millions of Dollars	Millions of Pounds	Millions of Dollars	Millions of Pounds
American lobster	149.3	52.3	142.9	53.9
Sea scallop[a]	103.6	20.8	64.4	10.5
Atlantic cod	51.5	60.8	44.4	50.0
Atlantic salmon[b]	45.3	12.9	42.6	14.9
Eastern oyster[a]	45.1	6.9	32.6	5.1
Green sea urchin	15.2	26.5	27.2	42.4
Northern quahog[a]	21.0	4.8	19.5	4.3
Bluefin tuna	14.1	1.9	18.8	2.1
Goosefish	17.4	30.3	17.8	33.5
Longfin squid	13.0	21.7	16.5	26.4
Softshell[a]	13.5	3.4	15.5	3.5
American plaice	13.9	14.7	15.0	12.8
Winter flounder	14.6	12.7	14.2	10.6
Yellowtail flounder	13.4	12.0	10.0	7.7
Witch flounder	6.9	4.8	8.9	5.6
Pollock	10.5	15.8	8.4	12.5
White hake	8.4	19.9	7.2	16.5
Silver hake	7.0	27.8	7.2	23.2
Atlantic herring	6.5	114.6	6.3	106.1
Summer flounder	6.8	4.2	6.1	3.2
Butterfish	2.7	4.5	6.0	7.9
Swordfish	5.7	2.1	5.8	2.1
Northern shrimp	7.5	7.4	5.2	5.0
Northern shortfin squid	9.7	39.3	4.5	18.9
Spiny dogfish	2.1	18.0	3.6	27.1
Sea worms[c]	3.4	0.9	3.5	0.9
Bay scallop[a]	1.3	0.2	2.7	0.4
Haddock	5.6	5.1	2.7	1.9
Blue mussel[a]	3.0	9.0	2.3	6.8
Skates[c]	2.4	26.5	2.3	16.5
Windowpane	3.0	4.6	2.2	3.4
Scup	3.8	7.1	2.1	3.9
Ocean quahog[a]	2.3	0.6	1.8	2.0
Conchs[a,c]	2.2	1.6	1.7	1.4
Atlantic surfclam[a]	1.8	3.5	1.7	2.2
Atlantic menhaden	1.3	24.4	1.7	27.3
Cusk	1.7	3.5	1.7	3.1
Red deepsea crab	1.1	2.3	1.5	3.2
Bigeye tuna	0.5	0.2	1.2	0.4

[a]Poundage computed as meat weight; all other poundage computed as live weight.
[b]Entire harvest from aquacultural operations.
[c]Category comprises several species.

–MORE–

1993 Landings/4

Table 2. Poundage and Ex-vessel Revenue for Major Species in the Commercial Fisheries Landings of the **Mid-Atlantic** States during 1992 and 1993.

Species	1992		1993	
	Millions of Dollars	Millions of Pounds	Millions of Dollars	Millions of Pounds
Blue crab	34.7	66.3	76.2	130.7
Atlantic menhaden	30.3	605.8	40.2	672.0
Sea scallop	47.9	10.1	32.3	5.5
Atlantic surfclam[a]	30.6	71.0	31.3	69.8
Northern quahog[a]	20.7	4.6	24.0	5.1
Ocean quahog[a]	16.6	47.5	17.1	45.9
Longfin squid	10.3	18.4	13.0	22.6
American lobster	12.9	3.9	12.5	3.6
Summer flounder	12.3	9.6	9.4	6.7
Silver hake	3.9	8.0	6.8	14.6
Bigeye tuna	4.1	0.8	4.4	1.2
Tilefish	5.3	3.3	4.3	3.3
Northern shortfin squid	3.7	17.6	4.1	21.0
Swordfish	4.8	1.5	4.0	1.3
Softshell[a]	2.4	0.5	3.5	0.9
Scup	3.7	5.7	3.5	5.8
Eastern oyster[a]	10.2	3.2	3.1	0.9
Goosefish	3.3	6.2	3.0	5.9
Black sea bass	2.5	2.6	2.6	2.7
Striped bass	2.0	1.1	2.6	1.3
Yellowfin tuna	3.5	1.9	2.3	1.1
Atlantic croaker	0.4	1.4	2.2	5.5
Weakfish	1.7	2.4	1.9	2.4
American eel	2.1	1.2	1.7	1.2
Spot	0.9	3.0	1.6	3.5
Sharks[b,c]	1.1	1.8	1.5	1.9
Bluefish	1.2	4.6	1.5	4.5
Conchs[a,b]	0.5	0.5	1.2	0.9
Winter flounder	1.3	1.3	1.1	1.0
American shad	0.9	1.6	1.0	1.5
Butterfish	0.7	1.5	1.0	2.3
White perch	1.4	0.9	1.0	1.3

[a]Poundage computed as meat weight; all other poundage computed as live weight.
[b]Category comprises several species.
[c]Spiny dogfish not included.

-MORE-

1993 Landings/5

Table 3. Poundage and Ex-vessel Revenue of Commercial Fisheries Landings in the New England and Mid-Atlantic States during 1992 and 1993.[a]

State	1992		1993	
	Millions of Dollars	Millions of Pounds	Millions of Dollars	Millions of Pounds
New England				
Massachusetts	280.6	274.3	232.1	219.2
Maine	163.3	201.2	181.1	236.4
Rhode Island	85.7	141.7	76.3	120.8
Connecticut	62.7	19.6	50.9	17.4
New Hampshire	11.5	10.3	11.8	11.0
Subtotal	603.8	647.1	552.2	604.8
Mid-Atlantic				
Virginia	90.5	630.5	108.1	728.3
New Jersey	97.5	204.4	96.3	196.1
New York	54.0	50.1	54.2	54.3
Maryland	36.4	57.1	53.4	84.9
Delaware	4.2	6.6	4.6	7.2
Subtotal	282.6	948.7	316.6	1070.8
Total	886.4	1595.8	868.8	1675.6

[a]Poundage of bivalve mollusks--scallops, clams, etc.--computed as meat weight; poundage of all other species computed as live weight.

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1993 Landings/6

Table 4. Poundage and Ex-vessel Revenue of Commercial Fisheries Landings in Major Ports of the New England and Mid-Atlantic States during 1992 and 1993.[a]

Port	1992		1993	
	Millions of Dollars	Millions of Pounds	Millions of Dollars	Millions of Pounds
New England				
New Bedford, MA	151.8	103.3	107.5	82.1
Portland, ME	43.6	59.2	49.1	86.1
Pt. Judith, RI	36.6	66.7	35.2	60.4
Gloucester, MA	34.1	101.7	31.3	67.6
Newport, RI	14.5	14.2	11.2	11.9
Provincetown/Chatham, MA	10.6	16.7	10.9	19.2
Boston, MA	12.6	14.2	10.8	11.3
Mid-Atlantic				
Cape May/Wildwood, NJ	34.9	93.9	36.2	95.0
Atlantic City, NJ	20.4	43.6	17.8	41.6
Pt. Pleasant, NJ	14.4	30.0	12.2	21.9
Montauk, NY	14.9	14.1	11.7	12.3

[a]Poundage of bivalve mollusks--scallops, clams, etc.--computed as meat weight; poundage of all other species computed as live weight. Major ports defined as those with total ex-vessel revenue exceeding 10 million dollars.

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Northeast Fisheries Science Center

N E W S

For Immediate Release

December 29, 1994

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NR94-13

FIVE NEFSC SCIENTISTS RECOGNIZED FOR EXCELLENCE

Woods Hole, Mass.-- Five scientists at the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) Northeast Fisheries Science Center (NEFSC) have been recognized with high honors at ceremonies in Washington, D.C. The NMFS is part of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) under the U.S. Department of Commerce.

The Bronze Medal is the highest honorary award given by NOAA. Four scientists have received the Bronze Medal: Thomas R. Azarovitz, Dr. Wendy L. Gabriel, Dr. Steven A. Murawski, and Wallace G. Smith. The medal is used to recognize outstanding accomplishments in management and science, developers of unusual and creative methods and procedures, and sustained superior performance. Dr. Paul J. Rago will receive the NOAA Administrator's Award. This award honors an individual's unique contributions to a NOAA program, usually in solving an urgent problem, resulting in significant improvements in service, operations, efficiency or the state of knowledge.

Wallace Smith is a fishery biologist and chief of the NEFSC Ichthyoplankton Dynamics Investigation at the NEFSC James J. Howard Laboratory in Sandy Hook, New Jersey. The group examines the early life phases of fishes. Under his leadership during the past 25 years, the group has provided information on the entire community of early life stages of finfish of the Northeast coast. The effort has resulted in the most complete record of ichthyoplankton ever assembled for a continental shelf ecosystem; in particular, full documentation of the severe loss and recovery of more than one million metric tons of Atlantic herring on Georges Bank. He is being honored for his sustained superior performance, and for his creativity, leadership, and persistence in providing evidence of natural ecological processes leading to the recovery of Atlantic herring. Smith lives in Oceanport, New Jersey with his family.

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Gabriel, Murawski, and Rago are all part of the NEFSC Population Dynamics Branch, the group that monitors commercially important fish stocks in the northeastern United States. That group was honored by NOAA earlier this year with a Unit Citation for outstanding research in fish stock assessment.

Tom Azarovitz has been the leader of the NEFSC Resource Survey Investigation for 17 years. This group organizes and conducts research cruises that sample marine populations on the U.S. continental shelf from Cape Hatteras, North Carolina, through the Gulf of Maine. Azarovitz was honored with a Bronze Medal for sustained superior performance in improving the accuracy, quality, processing, and archiving of biological samples and data gathered at sea. The survey and the data set it generates are considered models in the international fisheries scientific community. Azarovitz lives with his family in Falmouth, Massachusetts.

Dr. Wendy Gabriel is a fishery biologist and the chief of the NEFSC Coastal and Estuarine Fishery Resources Investigation. Her group provides stock assessment research on a variety of coastal fishes, including striped bass, bluefish, and summer flounder. She was recognized with a Bronze Medal for outstanding management of her staff, for creative research investigating species assemblages as a basis for ecosystem management of fisheries, and for significant contributions to assessment techniques. Gabriel is a resident of Falmouth, Massachusetts.

Dr. Steven Murawski is a fishery biologist and the chief of the NEFSC Population Dynamics Branch, which has three investigations and 26 staff members. The branch has primary responsibility for the production and transmission of all stock assessment information generated by the NEFSC. Murawski was recognized with a Bronze Medal for his significant research contributions, particularly in assessing and modeling multispecies fisheries and fishing effort; for his aggressive investigation, development, and application of new research techniques; and for his continued leadership at the national and international levels. Murawski lives with his family in Falmouth, Massachusetts.

Dr. Paul Rago is a fishery biologist in the NEFSC Mid-Atlantic Offshore Fishery Resources Investigation, where he provides assessments for Atlantic salmon, yellowtail flounder, and spiny dogfish. He was recognized with the NOAA Administrator's Award for his use of innovative approaches to problems that had been seemingly intractable to prior researchers. In particular, his work with various international researchers to develop a scientific framework for Atlantic salmon management has resulted in a significant reduction in takes of U.S. salmon on the high seas. His work on yellowtail flounder led to new techniques for incorporating discard into an assessment and for calculating risk for fishery management. Rago lives in Falmouth, Massachusetts with his family.

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Northeast Fisheries Science Center

N E W S

SOFT CLAMS MAKE STRONG COMEBACK IN NAVESINK AND SHREWSBURY RIVERS

For Immediate Release

April 12, 1995

Sandy Hook, N.J.---For fishermen wondering why soft clams have disappeared from the Navesink and Shrewsbury Rivers in recent years, there's good news and bad news. The bad news? Killifish are eating loads of young soft clams. The good news? The 1993 sets of the clams were so heavy that the killifish can eat all they need and there will still be plenty for clammers this year, if the shellfish survive into July.

By summer, the 1993 clams will be large enough for the fishery to harvest, and it should be a banner year according to Clyde L. MacKenzie, Jr., a researcher at the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) James J.Howard Laboratory. He estimates there are about 300 acres of clams in the two rivers, and 4000 to 5000 bushels of clams per acre. "This is an extremely dense concentration and would provide great harvesting for the local fishermen in the next few years," he says.

MacKenzie has studied shellfish for more than 30 years. In a recent study, he's discovered that both the striped and common killifish prey heavily on juvenile soft clams, so heavily that light to moderate sets in the rivers are wiped out and few clams grow large enough for fishermen. In the past five years, the clams have been so scarce that there's been no fishery and local buyers have purchased soft clams from suppliers in Maryland and Maine. However, dense sets provide more than enough clams to go around, MacKenzie says.

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--MORE--

To reach these conclusions, MacKenzie examined clam beds in, and the stomachs of killifish taken from, each river. In 1993, the set in each river was more than 20 times heavier than the 1994 sets. When he examined the stomachs of killifish from both rivers, MacKenzie found a high percentage of juvenile clams up to 10 millimeters (two fifths of an inch) long among the very young horseshoe crabs, snails, worms, barnacles, sea lettuce, and detritus also present in the fishes' guts. The killifish apparently could not eat clams larger than 10 millimeters.

While the heavy 1993 set is maturing into a large, healthy fishable population, the more modest 1994 set is virtually gone. MacKenzie reports that in June 1994, a bed in the Navesink River had about 160 clams per square yard, but by late July all the clams were gone. The story was the same in the Shrewsbury River, where the 1994 sample site yielded 537 clams per square yard in early July and none a month later.

"It looks as though killifish probably eliminate most of a set of soft clams every year when the fish are abundant," MacKenzie says. "However, they can only get a portion of heavy sets, such as the one in 1993, before the clams become too large for them to consume." He also points out that in some years there may also be other factors that influence survival of young clams including predation by blue crabs, water temperatures, dissolved oxygen levels, and severe weather.

MacKenzie is assigned to the NMFS Northeast Fisheries Science Center (NEFSC). He is the author of many scientific papers on shellfish and the book, "The Fisheries of Raritan Bay," a history of the local industry. The NMFS is the federal agency responsible for living marine resources, and is part of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA). The Center is the research arm of NMFS in the Northeast region.

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Northeast Fisheries Science Center

NEWS

MAINE REPLACES MASSACHUSETTS AS TOP SEAFOOD REVENUE-PRODUCING STATE IN NORTHEAST

For Immediate Release

October 2, 1995

Woods Hole, MA--In revenues produced, Maine replaced Massachusetts as the top commercial fisheries state in the Northeast. Maine accounted for $245 million in dockside (*i.e.*, from wild harvests) and farmgate (*i.e.*, from aquaculture harvests) fisheries revenues, an increase of $20 million over 1993. Massachusetts accounted for $206 million in dockside and farmgate fisheries revenues, a decrease of $32 million from 1993. Virginia was third among states in 1994 fisheries revenues at $101 million. Regionwide, fisheries revenues increased from $887 to $911 million between 1993 and 1994.

In pounds landed, Virginia and Maine retained their first- and second-place rankings from 1993 to 1994. Both states showed significant decreases in pounds landed: Virginia at 581 million pounds, down by 77 million; and Maine at 234 million pounds, down by 18 million. Massachusetts landed 183 million pounds. Regionwide, fisheries landings decreased from 1.65 billion to 1.47 billion pounds. See Table 1.

These fisheries revenue and landings data come from the National Marine Fisheries Service's Northeast Fisheries Science Center in Woods Hole, Mass. A small amount of data has not yet been collected and/or tabulated, so all data remain provisional. Annual landings figures are compiled from information collected both by the federal service and state governments. Annual figures are usually available by mid-summer of the following year, but were delayed for 1994 because several states reported later than in the past.

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Ports

In revenues produced, New Bedford, Mass., and Portland, Maine, retained their first- and second-place rankings from 1993 to 1994. Both ports showed significant decreases in revenues produced: New Bedford at $82 million, down by $25 million; and Portland at $44 million, down by $6 million. Pt. Judith, R.I., ($37 million) replaced Cape May/Wildwood, N.J. ($34 million) for the third spot among ports.

In pounds landed, Cape May/Wildwood retained its first-place ranking from 1993 to 1994. It showed a significant decrease, from 95 to 85 million pounds. New Bedford (66 million pounds) and Portland (64 million pounds) exchanged the second and third spots from 1993 to 1994. See Table 2.

Species

The American lobster fishery accounted for the most revenues in the Northeast in 1994 at $200 million. It was followed by sea scallop ($84 million) and blue crab ($73 million).

The Atlantic menhaden fishery accounted for the most landings in the region last year at 550 million pounds. It was followed by Atlantic herring (100 million pounds) and blue crab (90 million pounds). Menhaden, a non-seafood species, is used primarily for production of meal, oil, and solubles, and secondarily for livestock feed and for bait by commercial and recreational fishermen.

Three species of special interest are the Northeast's "traditional" groundfishes: Atlantic cod, yellowtail flounder, and haddock. Atlantic cod landings (39 million pounds) decreased from 1993 to 1994 by 24%. Yellowtail flounder landings (6.8 million pounds) decreased by 15%. Haddock landings (1 million pounds) decreased by 63%. For a longer-term perspective, in the last 10 years (*i.e.*, since 1984), Atlantic cod landings have decreased by 60%, yellowtail flounder landings by 81%, and haddock landings by 97%.

See Tables 3 and 4.

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--MORE--

Table 1.

Poundage[a] and revenue of commercial fisheries landings by state in the Northeast during 1993 and 1994

State	1993		1994	
	Millions of Dollars	Millions of Pounds	Millions of Dollars	Millions of Pounds
Maine	225.3	251.7	245.4	233.9
Massachusetts	238.2	223.2	205.9	183.3
Virginia	65.9	657.9	101.4	581.3
New Jersey	96.3	196.1	99.8	201.4
Rhode Island	79.2	131.7	76.9	111.7
New York	61.2	58.2	59.4	53.5
Maryland	53.4	85.0	58.7	65.1
Connecticut	49.3	26.5	44.4	19.8
New Hampshire	12.9	11.3	12.7	12.1
Delaware	5.3	8.3	6.3	8.2
Total	**887.0**	**1,649.9**	**910.8[b]**	**1,470.3**

[a] Poundage of bivalve (*e.g.*, sea scallops) and gastropod (*e.g.*, conchs) mollusks computed as meat weight; all other poundage computed as live weight.

[b] Regional value appears to differ from sum of state values due to rounding off of individual state values.

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Table 2.

Poundage[a] and revenue of commercial fisheries landings by major port[b] in the Northeast during 1993 and 1994

Port	1993		1994	
	Millions of Dollars	Millions of Pounds	Millions of Dollars	Millions of Pounds
New Bedford, MA	107.5	82.1	82.4	65.8
Portland, ME	49.1	86.1	43.6	63.9
Pt. Judith, RI	35.2	60.4	36.5	61.7
Cape May/Wildwood, NJ	36.2	95.0	33.8	85.2
Gloucester, MA	31.3	67.6	27.3	50.1
Atlantic City, NJ	17.8	41.6	20.9	42.8
Pt. Pleasant, NJ	12.2	21.9	15.3	37.0
Hampton, VA	9.9	5.6	15.1	6.8
Montauk, NY	11.7	12.3	14.7	10.5
Newport, RI	11.2	11.9	12.1	12.1
Provincetown/Chatham, MA	10.9	19.2	10.5	18.6

[a] Poundage of bivalve (*e.g.*, sea scallops) and gastropod (*e.g.*, conchs) mollusks computed as meat weight; all other poundage computed as live weight.

[b] Major ports arbitrarily defined as those yielding $10 million or more in ex-vessel revenue.

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Table 3.

Poundage[a] and revenue of commercial fisheries landings by major species[b] in the Northeast during 1993 and 1994

Species	1993		1994	
	Millions of Dollars	Millions of Pounds	Millions of Dollars	Millions of Pounds
American lobster	160.4	58.0	200.0	67.8
Sea scallop	97.9	16.2	84.0	16.8
Blue crab	47.8	80.8	73.0	89.8
Atlantic surfclam	33.4	72.5	43.9	72.6
Atlantic cod	45.0	50.6	36.2	38.7
Eastern oyster	35.9	9.2	35.8	9.3
Atlantic salmon[c]	42.6	14.9	35.6	13.5
Green sea urchin	27.2	42.4	33.4	38.9
Atlantic menhaden	41.9	698.9	33.4	549.8
Longfin squid	29.6	49.1	31.9	49.8
Northern quahog	31.6	6.7	30.6	5.9
Goosefish	21.7	44.8	26.1	42.0
Bluefin tuna	19.3	2.2	19.6	2.2
Ocean quahog	29.3	57.7	18.7	46.6
Summer flounder	15.3	9.7	18.3	11.0
Silver hake	14.0	38.2	13.7	35.4
American plaice	15.0	12.8	13.5	11.2
Softshell	20.5	4.6	12.5	2.6
Winter flounder	15.3	11.6	11.2	7.9
Northern shortfin squid	8.5	39.7	10.4	40.4
Witch flounder	9.0	5.7	9.3	5.9
Swordfish	9.9	3.4	8.5	2.8
Yellowtail flounder	10.4	8.0	8.1	6.8
Bigeye tuna	5.9	1.7	7.7	1.8
Pollock	8.4	12.5	6.8	8.3
Northern shrimp	5.2	5.1	6.5	8.2
Scup	5.7	9.7	5.8	8.8

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Table 3. Continued

Species	1993 Millions of Dollars	1993 Millions of Pounds	1994 Millions of Dollars	1994 Millions of Pounds
Atlantic herring	6.5	109.1	5.8	99.7
White hake	7.2	16.5	5.7	10.4
Skates[d]	3.0	28.4	5.0	19.5
Spiny dogfish	4.6	34.9	4.3	29.4
Butterfish	6.8	9.8	4.1	8.0
Sea worms[d]	3.5	0.9	3.8	0.9
Tilefish	5.0	4.1	3.4	1.7
Striped bass	2.7	1.3	2.9	1.6
Atlantic mackerel	1.3	10.3	2.6	19.7
Atlantic croaker	0.2	0.7	2.5	6.1
American eel	1.3	0.9	2.3	1.5
Black sea bass	2.9	3.0	2.2	1.9
Yellowfin tuna	2.6	1.3	2.0	1.3
Blue mussel	2.7	6.6	1.9	5.4
Bluefish	1.9	6.2	1.9	6.7
Weakfish	1.2	1.4	1.9	2.4
Bay scallop	1.6	0.2	1.8	0.3
Spot	0.1	0.3	1.6	4.3
Cusk	1.7	3.1	1.4	2.4
Jonah crab	1.0	2.4	1.3	2.7
Sharks[d,e]	1.9	2.1	1.2	1.0
Conchs[d]	2.2	1.4	1.2	1.6
Rainbow trout[c]	1.2	0.7	1.1	0.6
Haddock	2.7	1.9	1.0	0.7
White perch	0.9	1.1	1.0	1.3
Catfishes[d]	0.4	1.2	1.0	2.9

[a] Poundage of bivalve (e.g., sea scallops) and gastropod (e.g., conchs) mollusks computed as meat weight; all other poundage computed as live weight.
[b] Major species arbitrarily defined as those yielding $1 million or more in ex-vessel revenue.
[c] Entire harvest from aquacultural operations.
[d] Category comprises several species.
[e] Category does not include spiny dogfish.

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Table 4.

Poundage and revenue of commercial lobster landings by state in the Northeast during 1993 and 1994

State	1993		1994	
	Millions of Dollars	Millions of Pounds	Millions of Dollars	Millions of Pounds
Maine	73.9	29.9	100.9	38.9
Massachusetts	43.1	14.3	58.4	16.1
Rhode Island	18.8	6.2	21.0	6.5
Connecticut	6.5	2.2	6.2	2.3
New York	9.1	2.7	5.7	1.7
New Hampshire	5.6	1.7	5.6	1.7
New Jersey	3.2	0.9	2.1	0.6
Maryland	0.1	<0.1	<0.1	<0.1
Delaware	0.1	<0.1	<0.1	<0.1
Virginia	<0.1	<0.1	<0.1	<0.1
Total	**160.4**	**58.0**	**200.0**	**67.8**

--END--

J. Gibson dup

NMFS Northeast Region

News

Northeast Commercial Fish Landings and Revenues Steady at Largest Ports for First Half of 1995

For Immediate Release

February 28, 1996

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NR96-5

Gloucester, MA--Preliminary data on commercial fisheries landings and revenues for the Northeast's largest fishing ports are now available for the first six months of 1995. Data released today by the National Marine Fisheries Service's (NMFS's) Northeast Region on the 11 largest ports show first-half (January-June) landings over the past three years (1993-95) decreased by 1%; ex-vessel (dockside) revenues decreased by 9%.

Changes in landings and revenues from one year to the next stem from many causes. Examples include consolidation of purchasing at particular ports, and changes in the populations of the sought-after species, fishing effort, markets, regulations, quotas, and so on.

Landings data provide some measure of the extraction of the various species from Northeast waters. However, such data by themselves do not indicate the health of the fish stocks, or the economic health or viability of the industry or specific ports.

Updates on Harvest Data

Data on commercial fisheries harvests in federal waters (generally from 3 to 200 miles offshore) in the Northeast, which are collected by NMFS, will be available for all of 1995 during late spring 1996.

Landings from state waters (generally 0 to 3 miles offshore) are collected by state agents and reported to the fisheries service on a variable schedule. By mid-fall 1996, enough data on commercial fisheries and aquacultural harvests in state

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waters will have been made available to NMFS by the states in the Northeast to permit a report of preliminary 1995 landings and revenues for all states, ports, and species in the region.

Ports and Species

Ports: First-half data reports for **landings** at large commercial fishing ports (Table 1) in the Northeast during 1993-95 show increases in four ports, no change in one port, and decreases at six ports. First-half data reports for ex-vessel **revenues** at large commercial fishing ports in the Northeast during 1993-95 show net increases at five ports, no change at one port, and net decreases at five ports.

Species: Twenty-one species contributed more than $1 million each in ex-vessel revenues during the first-half of 1995 at the 11 aforementioned ports (Table 2). Data presented here on species primarily landed during the second half of the year (for example, long-finned squid, American lobster, and Atlantic herring) do not indicate annual landings. Other species that will eventually account for significant revenue (for example, bluefin tuna and blue crab) do not appear in the table because they too are primarily harvested in the second half of the year. Northern shrimp, scup, Atlantic mackerel, and butterfish are primarily landed in the first half of the year.

First-half data show net increases in first-half **landings** for seven species between 1993 and 1995, one showed no change, and 13 showed net decreases in landings. First-half data show net increases in first-half ex-vess **revenues** during 1993-95 for 11 species, and net decreases for 10 species.

Data Notes

- Before mid-1994, almost all landings and revenue data were collected through voluntary reporting, and were known to be underreported.
- Since mid-1994, data have been collected through a combination of mandatory and voluntary reporting. It is too early to assess how this reporting change may influence comparisons between data collected before and after the change.
- NMFS is working to improve the timeliness of federal data collection, most notably by investigating systems for electronic reporting by dealers.
- Data on species primarily landed at smaller ports (such as American lobster or softshell clams), are reported later in the year than data for species primarily landed at larger ports (such as sea scallop or Atlantic cod).
- Data on aquacultural harvests are reported by state agencies annually, usually in the summer for the prior year.

Editor's Note

This release can also be downloaded from our web page:
http://www.wh.whoi.edu/noaa.html

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Table 1. Ex-vessel revenue[a] and landed poundage[b] of commercial fisheries harvests for selected ports[c] in the Northeast during the first six months of 1993, 1994, and 1995

Port Name	1993		1994		1995	
	Millions of Dollars	Millions of Pounds	Millions of Dollars	Millions of Pounds	Millions of Dollars	Millions of Pounds
New Bedford, MA	51.7	30.3	34.6	21.9	38.3	21.3
Pt. Judith, RI	14.4	28.7	14.6	29.4	19.2	54.1
Portland, ME	20.9	27.0	17.6	18.5	16.1	13.4
Cape May/Wildwood, NJ	17.7	39.2	15.3	36.4	15.1	32.0
Gloucester, MA	14.2	21.8	11.3	21.1	12.7	20.8
Atlantic City, NJ	8.6	21.2	10.5	20.1	11.0	20.1
Hampton, VA	5.3	3.3	6.6	3.7	7.0	4.0
Pt. Pleasant, NJ	6.3	11.9	7.3	14.8	6.1	11.8
Newport, RI	4.8	5.3	5.2	5.6	5.1	8.0
Provincetown/Chatham, MA	4.4	5.0	3.9	4.9	4.4	6.7
Portsmouth, NH	1.7	2.1	1.9	2.3	1.9	2.1
TOTAL	**150.0**	**195.8**	**128.8**	**178.7**	**136.9**	**194.3**

[a] Ex-vessel revenue is based on prices paid for the harvest prior to any on-shore handling, processing, or reselling. [b] Landed poundage generally consists of meat weight for bivalve (e.g., sea scallops) and gastropod (e.g., conchs) mollusks, and a combination of round weight (i.e., equivalent to live weight) and dressed weight (e.g., gilled and gutted weight) for all other species. [c] Ports selected were those which accounted for more than $10 million in ex-vessel revenues for all of 1994, with two exceptions. First, Portsmouth, NH, was added to ensure some representation for the state of New Hampshire. Second, Montauk, NY, which usually appears as a major port in the annual landings report, was deleted here because data are not yet available for the first six months.

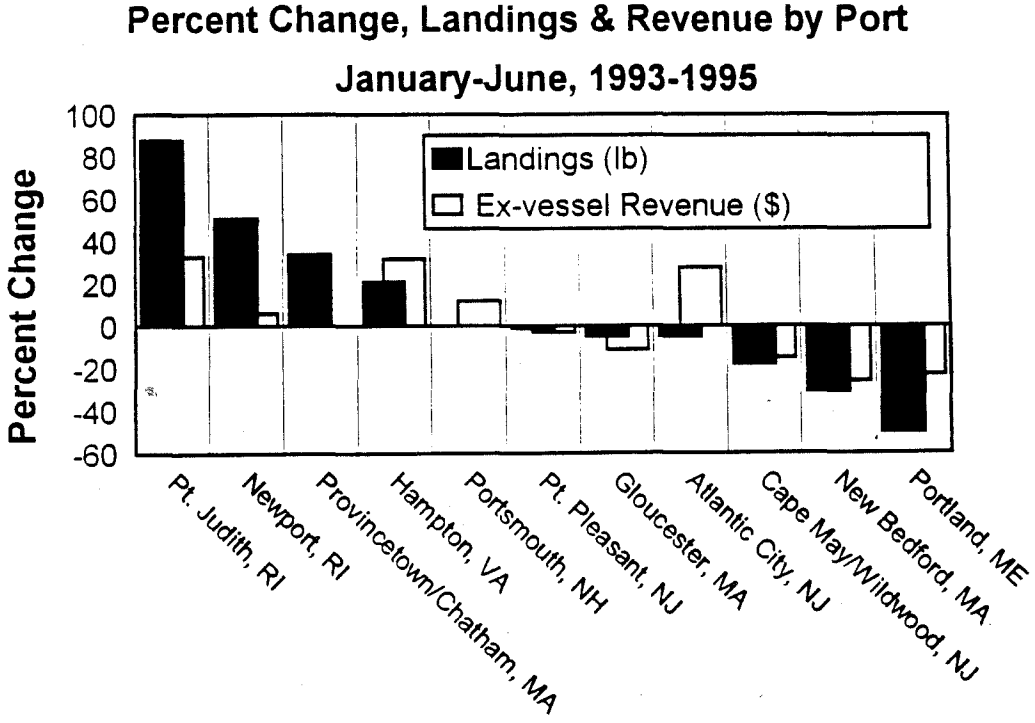


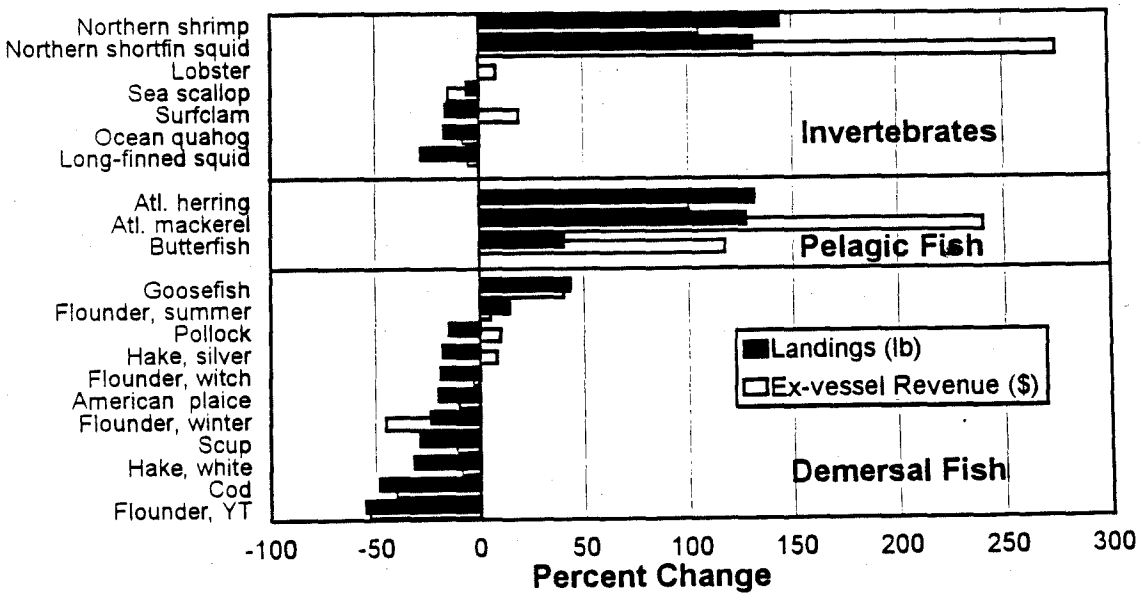
Table 2. Ex-vessel revenue[a] and landed poundage[b] of commercial fisheries harvests of selected species[c] for selected ports[d] in the Northeast during the first six months of 1993, 1994, and 1995

Species	1993		1994		1995	
	Millions of Dollars	Millions of Pounds	Millions of Dollars	Millions of Pounds	Millions of Dollars	Millions of Pounds
Sea scallop	36.9	6.8	27.6	5.4	31.2	6.4
Atlantic surfclam	11.2	25.4	14.8	25.6	13.3	21.4
Atlantic cod	18.8	19.2	16.0	18.3	11.2	9.9
Goosefish	7.8	5.8	7.4	6.5	10.9	8.3
Longfin squid	8.8	20.0	6.6	9.9	8.4	14.4
Summer flounder	6.0	3.5	5.9	3.7	6.3	4.0
Ocean quahog	6.2	16.9	5.1	13.2	5.7	14.0
American lobster	5.1	1.3	5.5	1.5	5.5	1.3
American plaice	6.0	5.1	5.2	4.2	5.4	4.1
Northern shrimp	1.9	1.8	1.5	2.0	3.9	4.4
Witch flounder	3.9	2.7	3.7	2.5	3.8	2.2
Pollock	3.0	3.9	2.8	3.2	3.3	3.0
Winter flounder	5.3	3.8	3.3	2.2	2.9	2.1
Yellowtail flounder	5.5	4.0	2.1	1.6	2.6	1.8
Silver hake	2.4	8.0	2.8	7.9	2.6	6.6
Scup	2.8	5.1	2.5	5.0	2.5	3.6
White hake	2.3	3.1	2.1	2.6	2.1	2.0
Atlantic mackerel	0.5	6.4	1.2	12.9	1.7	14.5
Atlantic herring	0.8	13.0	0.8	15.7	1.6	30.0
Northern shortfin squid	0.4	2.9	1.4	8.5	1.5	6.7
Butterfish	0.6	1.5	1.2	2.6	1.3	2.1
TOTAL	**134.8**	**160.2**	**119.5**	**155.0**	**127.7**	**162.8**

[a] Ex-vessel revenue is based on prices paid for the harvest prior to any on-shore handling, processing, or reselling. [b] Landed poundage generally consists of meat weight for bivalve (e.g., sea scallops) and gastropod (e.g., conchs) mollusks, and a combination of round weight (i.e., equivalent to live weight) and dressed weight (e.g., gilled and gutted weight) for all other species. [c] Species selected were those which accounted for more than $1 million in ex-vessel revenues at the selected ports for the first six months of 1995. [d] Ports selected were the same as in Table 1. See Footnote C in Table 1 for details.

Percent Change, Landings & Revenue by Species at 11 Selected Ports

January-June 1993-1995



NMFS Northeast Region

News

Semiannual Fish Stock Assessment Workshop Set for Woods Hole

Scientists to Report on Status of American Lobsters, Summer Flounder, Surfclams, Ocean Quahogs, Logbook Data

For Immediate Release

June 12, 1996

Woods Hole, Mass.--- The 22nd Northeast Regional Stock Assessment Workshop (SAW) will be held at at the National Marine Fisheries Service Northeast Fisheries Science Center June 17-21, in Woods Hole, Mass. The scientific advice generated through this process provides the basis for building sustainable fisheries in the Northeast region.

The workshop reviews the work of several subcommittees that include scientists from around the Northeast. This session's species subcommittees met in May to update reports on the status of American lobsters, summer flounder, Atlantic surfclams, and ocean quahogs. One subcommittee analyzed the data set resulting from information reported in the vessel logbooks that are now required in the multispecies and scallop fisheries.

The subcommittee reports are presented during the SAW to the Stock Assessment Review Committee for a rigorous review of the underlying data, analytic methods, and results. The SAWs are held twice a year, and focus on species, stocks, or scientific issues recommended by the regional fishery management councils and fishery managers.

The subcommittee investigating logbooks is providing the first analysis of these data. Scientists are looking for trends expressed in the information, investigating ways of comparing logbook effort and landings data with that from prior years, and will recommend improvements to the present logbooks.

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NR96-8

--MORE--

The Invertebrate Subcommittee will be conducting an assessment update for American lobsters in light of the findings of an independent panel of international experts convened in March to review some specific issues in lobster assessment. Although the panel's draft report supported work done to date, it also made some recommendations about the direction and nature of future research which will be considered by the SAW.

The Southern Demersal Subcommittee will update the present assessment of summer flounder with particular emphasis on changes in the spawning stock biomass of this depressed stock.

In addition to logbooks, the Invertebrate Subcommittee will also concentrate on new information about growth in surfclams and ocean quahogs and work to incorporate that information into an updated assessment.

The last SAW meeting produced updates on the status of squids, Atlantic herring, and winter flounder in the Northeast Region. The squids are holding steady, while Atlantic herring continue their spectacular rebound, and winter flounder show little improvement in their serious decline. A first-ever look at bottom-dwelling species as a unit revealed that the general decline in these fish is spreading into the least-sought of these species, and that in some species, changing historical distribution patterns may be a response to thinning numbers of individuals.

--END-

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Northeast Region

N E W S

Commercial Fisheries Revenues for Northeast Coastal States Hit $980 Million in 1995

For Immediate Release

September 17, 1996

Gloucester, MA--Ex-vessel revenues from commercial fisheries and farmgate revenues from maricultural operations in Northeast coastal states during 1995 totaled $983.1 million. Revenues increased by 8% over 1994 and by 11% over 1993.

These revenue values are preliminary data prepared by the National Marine Fisheries Service's (NMFS's) Northeast Region. The region's 10 coastal states are Maine, New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New York, New Jersey, Delaware, Maryland, and Virginia.

Changes in harvests and revenues from one year to the next stem from several causes, including changes in the underlying populations of sought-after species and in the effort of fishermen to catch those species as determined by market demand, fishing regulations, etc.

Summary of Harvest Data

States: In 1995, Maine retained its first place in ex-vessel revenues for the second year in a row. Prior to 1994, Massachusetts had always held first place. Maine's 1995 revenues of $273.6 million were an 11% increase over 1994 and a 21% increase over 1993. Major reasons for Maine's emerging preeminence are the diversity of its fisheries and its access to high-value species. In 1995, Maine fishermen harvested 57 different species, with strong contributions by American lobster ($101.9 million), aquacultured Atlantic salmon ($56.7 million), green sea urchin ($35.6 million), and northern shrimp ($10.7 million). The eggs, or "roe," of the green sea urchin are considered a delicacy in the Far East export market.

-More-

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NR96-11

Northeast Region

N E W S

1995 Landings /2

Every state in the region, with the exception of Rhode Island and New Jersey, showed increased ex-vessel revenues over the 1993-95 period. Virginia showed the most impressive revenue growth; its 1995 revenues of $111.2 million were a 69% increase over the two-year period.

Ports: In 1995, New Bedford, Massachusetts, retained its first place in ex-vessel revenues. New Bedford's 1995 revenues of $89.8 million were a 9% increase over 1994 and a 16% decrease over 1993. Two high-value species, sea scallop ($37.3 million) and goosefish ($12.7 million), accounted for 56% of the port's total revenues. Like green sea urchin roe, goosefish livers are considered a delicacy in the Far East export market.

In 1995, 13 Northeast fishing ports--the largest number ever--had ex-vessel revenues in excess of $10 million. Over the 1993-95 period, seven of these ports showed increased revenues; six showed decreased revenues. Newport News, Virginia, showed the most impressive revenue growth; its 1995 revenues of $14.5 million were a 113% increase over the two-year period.

Species: Three important species in the Northeast's commercial fisheries showed major changes in ex-vessel revenues over the 1993-95 period: American lobster, eastern oyster, and northern shrimp. American lobster, which accounted for about one-fifth of the region's 1995 total revenues, showed a modest 3% increase over 1994, but a robust 29% increase over 1993.

Eastern oyster showed an 84% decrease in revenues over the two-year period. Two oyster diseases, "MSX" and "Dermo," played a major role in the collapse of the oyster fishery.

Northern shrimp, which is caught in the Gulf of Maine, showed a 154% increase in revenues over the two-year period.

The Northeast's three "traditional" groundfish--Atlantic cod, haddock, and yellowtail flounder--collectively accounted for ex-vessel revenues of $35.8 million in 1995, a 38% decline from 1993. These traditional groundfish now account for less than 4% of the region's ex-vessel revenues.

Sources and Availability of Harvest Data

Harvest and revenue data on Northeast fisheries are collected throughout the year by both the NMFS and the various state marine fisheries agencies in the region. Finfish and shellfish purchasers ("dealers") who buy directly from fishing vessels operating under federal permits are required to report their purchases to NMFS monthly. These monthly dealer reports provide the bulk of the available harvest and revenue data. For those fisheries managed by federal quotas (summer flounder, Atlantic surfclam, etc.), the dealer reporting requirements are even more frequent.

-More-

Northeast Region

N E W S

1995 Landings /3

Before mid-1994, almost all harvest and revenue data were collected through voluntary reporting, and were known to be underreported. After mid-1994, data have been collected through a combination of mandatory and voluntary reporting. It is too early to assess how this reporting change may influence comparisons between data collected before and after the change.

EDITOR'S NOTE

If you received this news release in the mail, you are automatically on the list to receive all other news releases. If you are not on the news release mailing list but wish to be so, contact: Jon A. Gibson, (508) 495-2228. This release may be downloaded from our website:

http://www.wh.whoi.edu/noaa.html

Table 1. Ex-vessel revenue[a] and harvested poundage[b] of commercial fisheries by state in the Northeast during 1993, 1994, and 1995

State	1993		1994		1995	
	Millions of Dollars	Millions of Pounds	Millions of Dollars	Millions of Pounds	Millions of Dollars	Millions of Pounds
Maine	225.3	251.7	245.4	233.9	273.6	253.6
Massachusetts	238.2	223.2	205.9	183.3	216.3	208.8
Virginia	65.9	657.9	101.4	581.3	111.2	776.3
New Jersey	96.3	196.1	99.8	201.4	95.3	177.2
New York	61.2	58.2	59.4	53.5	81.5	58.2
Rhode Island	79.2	131.7	76.9	111.7	70.7	128.4
Maryland	53.4	85.0	58.7	65.1	59.7	66.9
Connecticut	49.3	26.5	44.4	19.8	50.7	--.-[c]
New Hampshire	12.9	11.3	12.7	12.1	15.0	13.5
Delaware	5.3	8.3	6.3	8.2	9.0	10.3
Total	**887.0**	**1,649.9**	**910.8[d]**	**1,470.3**	**983.1[d]**	**1,693.6[d]**

[a] Ex-vessel revenue is based on prices paid for the harvest prior to any onshore handling, processing, or reselling.

[b] Harvested poundage consists of meat weight for bivalve (e.g., sea scallops), gastropod (e.g., conchs), and octopod (e.g., octopi) mollusks, and live weight for all other species.

[c] Poundage data for Connecticut--which were provided by the state--were provided as harvested weights without the market categories (e.g., goosefish "head on, gutted" versus "tails" versus "livers", etc.) needed to calculate live weights. Thus, Connecticut poundage data are not comparable with other states' poundage data and have not been included in this table.

[d] Totals may differ from sum of components due to rounding error of components.

-More-

Northeast Region

1995 Landings /4

Table 2. Ex-vessel revenue[a] and harvested poundage[b] of commercial fisheries for major ports[c] in the Northeast during 1993, 1994, and 1995

Port	1993		1994		1995	
	Millions of Dollars	Millions of Pounds	Millions of Dollars	Millions of Pounds	Millions of Dollars	Millions of Pounds
New Bedford, MA	107.5	82.1	82.4	65.8	89.8	70.9
Pt. Judith, RI	35.2	60.4	36.5	61.7	44.3	92.4
Portland, ME	49.1	86.1	43.6	63.9	40.0	66.8
Cape May/Wildwood, NJ	36.2	95.0	33.8	85.2	30.6	75.4
Gloucester, MA	31.3	67.6	27.3	50.1	26.0	65.3
Atlantic City, NJ	17.8	41.6	20.9	42.8	22.2	42.3
Montauk, NY	11.7	12.3	14.7	10.5	14.8	11.2
Newport News, VA	6.8	2.7	11.1	4.1	14.5	5.0
Newport, RI	11.2	11.9	12.1	12.1	11.9	13.4
Pt. Pleasant, NJ	12.2	21.9	15.3	37.0	11.8	22.7
Hampton, VA	9.9	5.6	15.1	6.8	11.4	5.7
Chatham/Provincetown, MA	10.9	19.2	10.5	18.6	11.0	18.5
Boston, MA	10.8	11.1	9.8	10.3	10.3	10.3

[a] Ex-vessel revenue is based on prices paid for the harvest prior to any onshore handling, processing, or reselling.

[b] Harvested poundage consists of meat weight for bivalve (e.g., sea scallops), gastropod (e.g., conchs), and octopod (e.g., octopi) mollusks, and live weight for all other species.

[c] Major ports arbitrarily defined as those yielding $10 million or more in ex-vessel revenue for 1995.

Northeast Region

1995 Landings /5

Table 3. Ex-vessel revenue[a] and harvested poundage[b] of commercial fisheries for major species[c] in the Northeast during 1993, 1994, and 1995[d]

Species	1993		1994		1995	
	Millions of Dollars	Millions of Pounds	Millions of Dollars	Millions of Pounds	Millions of Dollars	Millions of Pounds
American lobster	160.4	58.0	200.0	67.8	206.6	66.1
Sea scallop	97.9	16.2	84.0	16.8	89.3	17.3
Blue crab	47.8	80.8	73.0	89.8	75.0	90.4
Atlantic salmon[e]	42.6	14.9	35.6	13.5	56.7	22.1
Atlantic menhaden	41.9	698.9	33.4	549.8	45.0	752.3
Atlantic surfclam	33.4	72.5	43.9	72.6	39.1	63.7
Northern quahog	31.6	6.7	30.6	5.9	36.6	6.4
Green sea urchin	27.2	42.4	33.4	38.9	35.7	34.4
Goosefish	21.7	44.8	26.1	42.0	34.2	57.1
Atlantic cod	45.0	50.6	36.2	38.7	28.6	30.1
Longfin squid	29.6	49.1	31.9	49.8	23.1	39.7
Ocean quahog	29.3	57.7	18.7	46.6	20.8	49.0
Bluefin tuna	19.3	2.2	19.6	2.2	20.4	1.9
Summer flounder	15.3	9.7	18.3	11.0	19.4	10.5
American plaice	15.0	12.8	13.5	11.2	13.2	10.2
Northern shrimp	5.2	5.1	6.5	8.2	13.2	15.1
Silver hake	14.0	38.2	13.7	35.4	12.7	29.0
Winter flounder	15.3	11.6	11.2	7.9	12.3	8.5
Softshell (clam)	20.5	4.6	12.5	2.6	10.7	2.4
Atlantic herring	6.5	109.1	5.8	99.7	8.8	151.6
Witch flounder	9.0	5.7	9.3	5.9	8.4	4.9
Northern shortfin squid	8.5	39.7	10.4	40.4	8.1	31.0
Swordfish	9.9	3.4	8.5	2.8	7.6	2.6
Spiny dogfish	4.6	34.9	4.3	29.4	7.1	35.7
Pollock	8.4	12.5	6.8	8.3	6.8	7.4
Bigeye tuna	5.9	1.7	7.7	1.8	6.7	1.8
White hake	7.2	16.5	5.7	10.4	6.2	9.5
Yellowtail flounder	10.4	8.0	8.1	6.8	6.0	4.2
Eastern oyster	35.9	9.2	35.8	9.3	5.8	1.8
American eel	1.3	0.9	2.3	1.5	5.4	0.9
Scup	5.7	9.7	5.8	8.8	5.3	6.2
Striped bass	2.7	1.3	2.9	1.6	4.5	2.5
Yellowfin tuna	2.6	1.3	2.0	1.3	3.6	2.3
Sea worms[f]	3.5	0.9	3.8	0.9	3.2	0.6
Skates[f]	3.0	28.4	5.0	19.5	3.1	14.9
Atlantic croaker	0.2	0.7	2.5	6.1	3.0	7.4
Black sea bass	2.9	3.0	2.2	1.9	2.9	1.9
Tilefish	5.0	4.1	3.4	1.7	2.9	1.5
Atlantic mackerel	1.3	10.3	2.6	19.7	2.7	18.6
Blue mussel	2.7	6.6	1.9	5.4	2.5	6.7
Butterfish	6.8	9.8	4.1	8.0	2.5	4.4
Spot	0.1	0.3	1.6	4.3	1.9	3.9
Weakfish	1.2	1.4	1.9	2.4	1.8	2.6
Bluefish	1.9	6.2	1.9	6.7	1.6	4.3
Catfishes[f]	0.4	1.2	1.0	2.9	1.5	2.1
Haddock	2.7	1.9	1.0	0.7	1.2	0.9
White perch	0.9	1.1	1.0	1.3	1.2	1.4
Jonah crab	1.0	2.4	1.3	2.7	1.1	1.9
Conchs[f]	2.2	1.4	1.2	1.6	1.1	1.4
Windowpane	2.3	3.7	0.6	1.2	1.0	1.7
Cusk	1.7	3.1	1.4	2.4	1.0	1.7

[a] Ex-vessel revenue is based on prices paid for the harvest prior to any onshore handling, processing, or reselling.

[b] Harvested poundage consists of meat weight for bivalve (e.g., sea scallops), gastropod (e.g., conchs), and octopod (e.g., octopi) mollusks, and live weight for all other species.

[c] Major species arbitrarily defined as those yielding $1 million or more in ex-vessel revenue for 1995.

[d] Poundage data for Connecticut--which were provided by the state--were provided as harvested weights without the market categories (e.g., goosefish "head on, gutted" versus "tails" versus "livers", etc.) needed to calculate live weights. Thus, Connecticut poundage data are not comparable with other states' poundage data and have not been used in calculations for this table.

[e] Entire harvest from aquacultural operations.

[f] Category comprises several species.

Table 4. Ex-vessel revenue[a] and harvested poundage[b] of commercial fisheries for American lobster by state in the Northeast during 1993, 1994, and 1995

State	1993		1994		1995	
	Millions of Dollars	Millions of Pounds	Millions of Dollars	Millions of Pounds	Millions of Dollars	Millions of Pounds
Maine	73.9	29.9	100.9	38.9	101.9	37.2
Massachusetts	43.1	14.3	58.4	16.1	55.8	15.8
New York	9.1	2.7	5.7	1.7	22.1	6.7
Rhode Island	18.8	6.2	21.0	6.5	17.8	5.4
Connecticut	6.5	2.2	6.2	2.3	8.0	2.5
New Hampshire	5.6	1.7	5.6	1.7	6.7	1.8
New Jersey	3.2	0.9	2.1	0.6	2.1	0.6
Maryland	0.1	<0.1	<0.1	<0.1	0.1	<0.1
Delaware	0.1	<0.1	<0.1	<0.1	0.1	<0.1
Virginia	<0.1	<0.1	<0.1	<0.1	<0.1	<0.1
Total[c]	**160.4**	**58.0**	**200.0**	**67.8**	**214.7**	**70.0**

[a] Ex-vessel revenue is based on prices paid for the harvest prior to any on-shore handling, processing, or reselling.
[b] Harvested poundage represents live weight.
[c] Totals may differ from sums of components due to rounding error of components.

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