

Gehringer Is Named Deputy Director of NMFS

Jack W. Gehringer has been named Deputy Director of the National Marine Fisheries Service, the Commerce Department's National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration has announced.

Since 1972, Mr. Gehringer has been director of the Fisheries Service southeast region, headquartered in St. Petersburg, Fla., with responsibility for certain Federal fisheries activities in 17 states, plus Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands.

As Deputy Director, he will work with NMFS Director Robert W. Schoning in planning, developing, coordinating, and administering the Service's diverse research efforts and fisheries programs.

Mr. Schoning said the Deputy also works closely with the Director in maintaining primary supervision over day-to-day functions of the Service and about 1,700 full-time employees throughout the country. The primary goals of the NMFS are to promote full economic and safe utilization of fisheries resources; to conserve and allocate fisheries resources of interest to the people of the United States; to increase our fisheries resources through the use of hatcheries and aquaculture; to ensure that adequate consideration is given to the requirements of living marine resources in proposed environmental changes and to protect and conserve marine mammals in order to maintain the health and stability of the marine ecosystem.

Mr. Schoning said: "Jack Gehringer was chosen for this important post because of his broad experience and his record as a highly capable and effective leader. He is widely known in fisheries circles in the United States and abroad and is the author or co-



Gehringer

author of numerous scientific publications on various fisheries topics."

Mr. Gehringer joined the Federal fisheries agency in 1950 as a marine biologist with the Galveston, Tex., laboratory. Two years later, he was transferred to the Brunswick, Ga., laboratory where he was a program leader, assistant laboratory director, and later acting laboratory director until 1969. He then served as acting deputy regional director of the Southeast Region, and in 1970 was named associate regional director.

Mr. Gehringer received his B.S. degree in fisheries from Colorado A&M College in 1950 and is a member of several professional fisheries societies and institutes. He is married to the former Virginia Pennoyer, and they have three children.

Bob Finley Garners High NOAA Award

Bob E. Finley, Chief of the National Marine Fisheries Service's National Marketing Services Office, Chicago, Ill., is one of the winners of the six 1973 NOAA Awards for outstanding contributions to NOAA programs. Each of the six men receives a plaque and one thousand dollars.

Finley is one of three to receive the high NOAA honor for public service. His award was presented for pioneering a "new look" in the consumer education materials produced by the National Marketing Services Office.

Mr. Finley initiated and produced a popular series of full-color education posters on the fish of various regions. He also developed a bilingual kit in English and Spanish, designed for training low-income groups in the use of fishery products to obtain maximum nutrition at the lowest possible cost. The new formats, unique style, and added utility of these materials has increased their acceptance by the mass media and the public.

New Ocean Instrument Check Centers Open

The opening on the Pacific coast of two regional calibration centers for oceanographic instrumentation has been announced by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration of the U.S. Department of Commerce. The centers are located at Bellevue, Wash., a suburb of Seattle, and San Diego, Calif. Both are units of NOAA's National Oceanographic Instrumentation Center in Washington, D.C.

The task of the Northwest Regional Calibration Center and the Southwest Regional Calibration Center is to ensure high standards of data quality through the testing and calibration of oceanographic instruments and related equipment. Their facilities and services are available on a reimbursable basis to federal, state and local government agencies, academic institutions, and industrial concerns. The west coast facilities will materially reduce transportation costs and calibration turnaround time for instruments used in Pacific oceanographic activities, which previously were shipped to the main NOIC office in Washington, D.C. A third regional center is located near Bay St. Louis, Miss.

Both Pacific coast facilities are being operated for NOAA under contract, that in Bellevue by the Oceanographic Institute of Washington and the San Diego facility by the Marine Physical Laboratory of the University of California's Scripps Institution of Oceanography.

The San Diego facility is located at 9284 Balboa Avenue. Its services are available to the oceanographic and environmental science community in California and Hawaii.

The Bellevue facility is located at 300—120th Avenue, N.E., Benaroya Business Park, Building 6. Its servicing area embraces Alaska, British Columbia, Idaho, Montana, Washington, Oregon, and three northwestern coastal counties of California.

Shomura Heads NMFS Honolulu Laboratory

Richard S. Shomura, who received his Master's Degree at the University of Hawaii in 1960, has returned to the Islands as Director of the National Marine Fisheries Service, Southwest Fisheries Center, Honolulu Laboratory. His appointment, announced by Center Director Dr. Brian J. Rothschild, became effective September 16.

Since leaving Hawaii in 1970, Mr. Shomura has served NMFS as Associate Director for Fisheries at the Regional Office in Terminal Island, Calif. and later as Director of the Tiburon (Calif.) Fisheries Laboratory.



Shomura

A native of Honolulu, he has been with NMFS (and its predecessor, the Bureau of Commercial Fisheries, Department of the Interior) since 1950. This background of more than 20 years experience in tuna and tuna-related studies makes him an exceptional choice for this important post, said Dr. Rothschild.

The valuable food fish skipjack tuna (*Katsuwonus pelamis*) is presently regarded by science and industry as an important underutilized species, explained Mr. Shomura. An immediate intention of the Honolulu Laboratory is to intensify its studies of skipjack. "We plan to stress assessment of the resource, fishery analysis, bait fishery development, and the development of a possible purse seine fishery," he said. The Honolulu Laboratory will also increase its investigation of oceanic recreational fisheries. Mr. Shomura replaces Dr. Frank J. Hester.

NMFS Gets New Mobile Laboratory

Delivery of a specially equipped mobile laboratory designed primarily

to inspect seafood processing plants for hygienic and other conditions has been accepted by the Commerce Department's National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

The van, based at the NMFS technology laboratory at Pascagoula, Miss., will be used principally at fisheries processing plants that use the voluntary fisheries inspection program conducted by NOAA's National Marine Fisheries Service. Most frequent uses for the van, according to E. Spencer Garrett, laboratory director, will be for research on fish processing, for inspection and quality control, and for marine advisory services.

Dubbed PRIME/Van (for "Processing Research, Inspection, and Marine Extension") the laboratory-on-wheels is self-contained, with sufficient auxiliary power generating capacity to handle all electrical systems, including air conditioners. As presently equipped, it weighs about 12 tons.

The PRIME/Van is another step toward improving the effectiveness of the Fisheries Inspection Program of the Department of Commerce. With the PRIME/Van, numerous inspection and testing services can now be carried out on the scene without having to take samples to laboratories for analysis. Testing for spoilage and examining environmental sanitation of processing facilities are among other capabilities of the vehicle. The mobility factor can also save time for both the plant managers and the NMFS inspectors.

When not engaged in inspection services, the van can readily be adapted to other uses such as testing the safety of drinking water supplies during natural disasters or testing water quality before, during, or after a fish kill.

Mr. Garrett said the vehicle will also be available for demonstration seminars dealing with fisheries product inspection and will serve as a valuable educational tool in teaching the interested public via Sea Grant universities and other groups how inspection is carried out under the NMFS program.

Publications

Recent NMFS Scientific Publications

NOAA Technical Report NMFS SSRF-669. Eber, L.E., "Subpoint prediction for direct readout meteorological satellites." August 1973, iii + 7 p. For sale by the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, DC 20402.

ABSTRACT

The National Environmental Satellite Service (NESS) provides orbital information on meteorological satellites with direct transmission systems, through APT (Automatic Picture Transmission) Predict messages sent over standard weather communications networks. With periodic access to this information, operators of independent APT ground receiving stations can extrapolate, by means of nodal period and nodal increment, to determine future orbits within receiving range of their station. A technique for the prediction of subpoint location along an orbit as a function of time after ascending node was developed from consideration of Kepler's laws and derived expressions for the force due to the earth's gravitational potential. Subpoint latitudes and longitudes computed by this technique are within 0.1 degree of those given in NESS prediction.

NOAA Technical Report NMFS SSRF-672. Tagatz, Marlin E., and E. Peter H. Wilkens, "Seasonal occurrence of young Gulf menhaden and other fishes in a northwestern Florida estuary." August 1973, iii + 14 p. For sale by the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, DC 20402.

ABSTRACT

Gulf menhaden, *Brevoortia patronus*, and other species of fishes were collected by plankton net, seine, and surface trawl from Pensacola Bay, East Bay, and East Bay River from December 1969 to October 1971. Relative abundance, distribution, and relative growth of menhaden are given from the time they enter the estuary as larvae in December to the time they emigrate to the Gulf of Mexico as juveniles in September.