

## The Future of the Fisheries

### I. The Seattle Conference

The status and future of the United States' marine fisheries programs figured prominently in three of the six principal sessions at "The Oceans and National Economic Development," a conference sponsored by the U.S. Department of Commerce's National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration in Seattle, Washington on July 17-19, 1973.

Designed to lay the groundwork for NOAA and other government agencies to chart the U.S. oceanographic effort between now and the year 2000 A.D., the conference drew more than 600 persons, including the leaders of such diverse marine interests as labor, industry, government, conservation, recreation, commercial fishing, science, and sea transportation. Sessions included: (1) The Ocean's Energy and Mineral Resources; (2) The Ocean's Living Resources; (3) The Oceans as a Recreational Resource; (4) Coastal Zone Management and Marine Resource Development; (5) Regional Organizations and Economic Development of Marine Resources; and (6) Marine Transportation's Role in Meeting Energy Needs.

#### CONFERENCE GOALS

Conference goals, as outlined by NOAA Administrator Dr. Robert M. White, were "a complete assessment of our oceanic efforts" so that the conferees could gain a "better understanding of the different roles and responsibilities of government, industry and others—and how to go about moving ahead in exercising those roles and responsibilities." In return, Dr. White sought "a clearer understand-

ing of (the conferees') opinions about our national ocean priorities, and perhaps of the way to go about achieving them." Dr. White's remarks are printed beginning on page 7 of this MFR number.

First morning speakers, Sen. Warren G. Magnuson, Dr. Athelstan Spilhaus, and Mr. John Hussey, of the Senate Commerce Committee's Subcommittee on Oceans and Atmosphere (substituting for Sen. Ernest F. Hollings) critically touched upon the decline in U.S. marine fisheries and fishing and suggested ways and means of bringing this industry back to prominence. The afternoon session on "The Ocean's Energy and Mineral Resources," included an assessment of national needs and the prospects of obtaining or fulfilling a sizeable portion of those needs from marine or undersea deposits.

Marine fisheries were emphasized in second-day sessions on "The Ocean's Living Resources," and "The Oceans as a Recreational Resource." The conference format called for each session (except Coastal Zone Management) to have two or three 20-minute presentations, followed by a panel in which participants gave 10-minute talks. The floor was opened for brief discussion following each panel.

#### LIVING RESOURCES

Chairing the Living Resources session was Mr. Thomas Fulham, President of Suffolk University of Boston and Vice President of the Boston Fish Market Corporation. Mr. David Wallace, NOAA Associate Administrator for Marine Resources, presented "National Fisheries Policies and Programs for our National Needs,"

#### EDITOR'S NOTE

*On July 17-19, 1973, the U.S. Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) was among the sponsors of a conference in Seattle on "The Oceans and National Economic Development."*

*Attending the conference were 600 Government officials, industry leaders, environmentalists, scientists, and others.*

*The first several pages of this number of Marine Fisheries Review are devoted to that conference. The first article sets the stage by briefly describing the meeting and its sessions. The second article is by Under Secretary of Commerce John K. Tabor ("The Oceans and Industry"), substituting for Secretary Frederick B. Dent, who could not be present. The third article is by Dr. Robert M. White, Administrator, NOAA ("Sounding Our Ocean Future"). Secretary Tabor's and Dr. White's papers deal with the fisheries in the context of other potentialities and usages of the oceans; since the fishing community is but one segment of a broad group of those interested in the seas, we believe it desirable that the needs and desires of those other groups be noted in Marine Fisheries Review, as they are in these thoughtful papers. The fourth article is by David Wallace, Associate Administrator for Marine Resources, NOAA ("National Fisheries Policies and Programs for Our National Needs") and concentrates specifically and in some detail upon the fisheries. T.A.M.*



which begins on page 11 of this number of MFR. Mr. Frank Holas, President of the Booth Fisheries Division of Consolidated Foods Corporation and President of the National Fisheries Institute, gave industry's assessment of Federal fisheries policies and programs and examined the Federal government's role and relationship to an economically vigorous commercial fishing industry. Mr. Harold Lokken, Manager of the Fishing Vessel Owner's Association, Inc., presented the fisherman's view of Federal fisheries policies and programs, with emphasis on the special needs of the fisherman and the fisherman's relationship to the Federal government.

On the Living Resources Panel, Dr. Giulio Pontecorvo, Professor of Economics and Banking at Columbia University, spoke on the federal government's role in economic impediments and incentives. Dr. John S. Dempster, Jr., Vice President of the Zapata Haynie Corporation, provided an insight into the role of science and technology in the revitalization of our fishing industry and Congressman Joel Pritchard commented on the role of present institutions in the protection and advancement of fisheries. Rep. Pritchard also discussed Congressional legislative processes as they applied to marine fisheries problems. Presenting a paper on commercial, recreational and environmental relationships for Mr. Richard Stroud, Executive Vice President of the Sport Fishing Institute, was Mr. Frank Moss, Editor of *Sportfishing* magazine.

## A RECREATIONAL RESOURCE

Chairing the afternoon session on "The Oceans as a Recreational Resource" was Congressman Thomas N. Downing. Leadoff speakers were Dr. James G. Watt, Director, Bureau of Outdoor Recreation, Department of Interior, and Mr. Raymond Sherwin, Past President of the Sierra Club. Dr. Watt spoke on preserving the ocean's

recreational and social values for present and future generations, while Mr. Sherwin assessed guidelines for shaping new marine recreation programs.

Marine recreation panelists included Mr. Howard F. Larson, Vice President of the Outboard Marine Corporation, Dr. Niels Rorholm, Professor of Resource Economics at the University of Rhode Island, Mr. Robert L. Jones of Jones and Stokes Associates, an environmental consulting firm, and Mr. G. Ray Arnett, Director of the California Department of Fish and Game. Respectively, they addressed themselves to the economic, scientific and technological, social and environmental, and institutional aspects of marine recreation.

Banquet speaker was the Honorable John K. Tabor, Undersecretary of Commerce. His talk, "The Oceans and Industry," begins on page 2 of this number of MFR.

## COASTAL ZONE MANAGEMENT

Marine fisheries resources also figured prominently in the final day's sessions on "Coastal Zone Management and Marine Resources Development," chaired by the Honorable Howard W. Pollock, NOAA's Deputy Administrator, and "Regional Organizations and Economic Development of Marine Resources," chaired by the Honorable Betsy Ancker-Johnson, Assistant Secretary of Commerce.

Dr. Beatrice Willard, member of the President's Council on Environmental Quality, addressed the initial gathering on coastal zone management as a key to national ocean resource development. Dr. Allen V. Kneese, Director, Quality of the Environment Program of Resources for the Future, presented a paper on dealing with the establishment of a scientific, technical, and economic basis for coastal zone management decisions. The Federal perspective on coastal zone management was given by Mr. Robert W. Knecht,

Acting Director, Office of Coastal Environment, NOAA.

## REGIONAL ORGANIZATIONS FOR MARINE DEVELOPMENT

In the session on regional organizations, Rear Admiral Joseph J. McClelland of the U.S. Coast Guard and Chairman of the SEA USE Council, explained the regional marine science organization of the SEA USE Council in the Northeast Pacific Ocean area, citing the potential of such groups in future marine resource development. Dr. Edward Wenk, Professor of Engineering and Public Affairs at the University of Washington, Seattle, discussed the need and value of regional approaches to economic development of marine resources.

The Regional Organization Panel was led off by Mr. D. E. Skinner, President of the Seattle-King County Economic Development Council, speaking on the economic advantages of utilizing such regional organizations in the development of marine resources. An assessment of the regional approach from the federal, state and local government standpoints was made by Dr. William J. Hargis, Jr., Chairman of the University of Virginia's Department of Marine Science. Dr. Robert W. Stewart, Director, Pacific Region of Canada's Marine Sciences Directorate, provided a Canadian view of regional oceanography.

Luncheon speaker on the final conference day was Sen. Ted Stevens, who spoke on the national policies and programs for fisheries management and tasks related to land use management and seabed resources.

The final session, "Marine Transportation's Role in Meeting Energy Needs" dealt with industry, labor and Federal assessments of marine energy transportation problems and programs, and environmental factors, innovations, systems, and ships relating to existing and proposed energy transport programs.

W.L.H.