

National Fisheries Plan Data Gathered

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, in cooperation with State Governments, is developing a plan aimed at rehabilitating U.S. marine fisheries. The Commerce Department agency said many U.S. fisheries are suffering from the effects of heavy fishing by foreign fleets as well as from depleted stocks and environmental changes. Preparation of a National Fisheries Plan was recommended recently by the President's National Advisory Committee on Oceans and Atmosphere, and NOAA's National Marine Fisheries Service was assigned the task.

NMFS Director Robert W. Schoning said that a "draft outline" of a plan has been completed by a task force and will be used to review the needs of the fisheries with various interested people in and out of government. The outline describes the present problems facing U.S. fisheries and discusses a series of major issues which are of primary concern in any effort to meet our national purposes in fisheries if they are to provide employment, food, and recreation. The outline also reviews how the issues involved can be applied in formulating a viable National Plan.

Schoning said the objective is not merely a Federal plan, since by itself the Federal Government can fill only a part of the need. The plan is intended to indicate what action is required by all concerned with our fisheries. For this reason, the full plan cannot be developed without information, opinions, and ideas from fishermen, vessel owners, processors, State fisheries managers, marine recreational fishermen, conservationists, scientific organizations, trade groups, consumers, and others.

Using the "draft outline" as a base on which to build, input from these groups has been sought at a series of meetings held from September 1974 to January 1975 in many fishing communities along our coasts. The meetings were arranged with the cooperation of Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission, the Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission, the Pacific Marine

Fisheries Commission, the Marine Advisory Services of the Sea Grant Colleges, and the five NMFS regional directors.

Suggestions and comments presented at these meetings will be used to develop the ideas in the draft outline into a broad National Plan which will recommend legislation and other actions. Such recommendations will assist the U.S. fisheries to meet the growing demand for food and recreation, while ensuring that the valuable fisheries stocks are restored and maintained for future generations of Americans.

Van Campen Fills NMFS Tuna Development Slot

A former State Department Foreign Service Officer with wide experience in fisheries matters has been named to coordinate National Marine Fisheries Service activities with the Pacific Tuna Development Foundation. Wilvan G.



Van Campen

Van Campen will be involved in a program designed to enable U.S. industry and the island people to benefit economically from the large tuna resources of the region, which until now have been harvested by fishermen from other countries.

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration said Federal funds totaling \$375,000 have been approved for the planned 3-year program of experimental and exploratory fishing. The Federal money will be matched by financial contributions from major sectors of the United States tuna industry and from the governments of the State of Hawaii, the island possessions of Guam and American Samoa, and the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands.

The program will be managed by a non-profit Hawaii corporation, the Pacific Tuna Development Foundation, with directors drawn from the

island governments and the tuna industry, with Van Campen representing NOAA and NMFS as Coordinator of the Central and Western Pacific Tuna Program. Eight directors of the Pacific Tuna Development Foundation were named at a late summer meeting in Honolulu: August Felando, American Tunaboat Association; Stanley Swerdlhoff, American Samoa; Jack Bowland, Western Fishboat Owners Association; Charles Carry, Tuna Research Foundation; John Royal, representing the fishermen's unions; Governor Carlos G. Camacho of Guam; High Commissioner Edward E. Johnston of the Trust Territory; and Andrew Gerakas of Hawaii. Appointment of a ninth member who will represent the public at large was postponed to a later date.

Van Campen comes to the Commerce Department agency from the Department of State where he has been a Fisheries Specialist for the past seven years. He is familiar with the Pacific area, having served as Executive Secretary of the International North Pacific Fisheries Commission, Fisheries Attache at the U.S. Embassy in Tokyo, and with the NMFS at its Honolulu laboratory. Van Campen will be located at NMFS Southwest Fisheries Center in La Jolla, Calif., and report to the Southwest Regional Office of NMFS.

Evans Named to NMFS Environmental Post

The Commerce Department's National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration has announced that Dale R. Evans has joined the Washington



Evans

staff of the National Marine Fisheries Service as Chief of the Environmental Assessment Division, Office of Resource Management.

Evans joins the staff from the NMFS in Alaska where he was the Regional Coordinator in the Environmental Assessment Division. Prior to that Evans was actively involved in the Alaskan River Basin Studies and served as a Fishery Management Biol-

ogist at King Salmon and Anchorage, Alaska.

The division Mr. Evans will head has the responsibility for determining the effects of Federal water projects on fisheries resources, particularly activities of the U.S. Army's Corps of Engineers, the Bureau of Reclamation in the Department of the Interior, and certain functions of the Department of Agriculture.

Mr. Evans has a B.S. in Fisheries and Game Management from Oregon State University and has done graduate work in Natural Resources Economics at the George Washington University and the University of Alaska.

NOAA Selects Snyder To Be Naval Deputy

Appointment of Rear Admiral J. Edward Snyder, Jr., as his Naval Deputy has been announced by Robert M. White, Administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

Snyder will remain in his present position as Oceanographer of the Navy, assuming the position of Naval Deputy to the NOAA Administrator as additional duty. He succeeds William W. Behrens, Jr., who recently retired.

As Naval Deputy to the Administrator of the Commerce Department agency, Snyder works to foster closer accord between the Navy and NOAA in the sciences, particularly oceanography. Navy assignment to the position helps to ensure close coordination of the national oceanographic program. Snyder has served as Oceanographer of the Navy since June, 1972.

From 1963 to 1967, he served as Special Assistant to the Assistant Secretary of the Navy for Research and Development and as executive assistant to the Chairman of the Federal Interagency Committee on Oceanography. For his performance as special assistant, he was awarded the Legion of Merit for exceptionally meritorious service in the Navy and National Oceanographic Programs from 1936 to 1967. In addition, in 1967, Snyder was awarded the Navy League's Rear Admiral W.S. Parsons Award for scientific and technical progress in Navy oceanography and for his per-

sonal contributions to the National Oceanographic Programs.

He was born 23 October 1924, in Grand Forks, N.D. He is a graduate of the U.S. Naval Academy and the U.S. Naval War College, and holds a Master of Science Degree in Nuclear Physics from Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Snyder was first commissioned in 1944, saw action in the Pacific on the battleship *USS Pennsylvania* during World War II, and then served in cruisers until he entered the nuclear field in 1948. In 1949 he was a staff member of the Los Alamos Scientific Laboratory engaged in atomic weapon research and development.

In July 1958, Snyder completed a year and a half as commanding officer of the radar picket destroyer escort *USS Calcaterra*. He later spent two years in command of the destroyer *USS Brownson*.

Snyder achieved his second Legion of Merit award for his "exceptionally meritorious conduct" as commanding officer of the battleship *USS New Jersey* in action off the coast of Vietnam in 1968-69. In August 1971 he went to Norfolk, Virginia as Commander of the U.S. Atlantic Fleet Training Command. It was for his performance of duty while in the training command assignment that Snyder was awarded his third Legion of Merit. Snyder is married and has two children. He is a member of Sigma Xi, the honorary society for scientific research.

STATE BODY STUDIES FISHERIES MANAGEMENT

A comprehensive study to assist State legislators in formulating effective legislation for managing fisheries is being conducted by the Council of State Governments under a contract signed recently with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. High on the list of issues to be studied, according to the Commerce Department agency, are the present and potential roles played by State governments in managing fisheries along the seacoasts and in the Great Lakes. The Council's Committee on Suggested State Legislation produces an annual volume of suggested State laws on many subjects. In addition to a "model" act on fisheries manage-

ment, a specially assigned task force under terms of the new contract will prepare a detailed report covering fisheries management at the State level. The recommendations and report will be presented to State representatives at a national conference of the Council this spring.

The task force will be composed of State officials, including State legislators and administrative officers having major responsibilities in State fisheries management programs. An organizational meeting on the project was held in late July 1974 in Denver, Colo. Attending the meeting were: Thomas E. Kruse, Director, Fish Commission of Oregon; Frank Grice, Director, Division of Marine Resources, Massachusetts; Ed J. Huizer, Deputy Commissioner, Alaska Department of Fish and Game; State Senator Sanford Steckler of Mississippi; and State Representative Thomas Anderson of Michigan. Robert Hutton, Associate Director for Resource Management; Richard Schaefer, Chief, Office of State-Federal Relationships; and Stephen Powell of the Office of General Counsel represented NOAA and its National Marine Fisheries Service, while James Ridenour and Robert Mathews represented the Council of State Governments, headquartered in Lexington, Ky. A meeting of the full task force was held later on the west coast, and the group meets periodically throughout the 1-year study period as needed. Staff work is being performed by the State Services Office of the Council of State Governments, with assistance provided by NMFS.

To obtain independent perspectives on the framework of legislation that may be proposed, considerable travel will be undertaken by task force members. They will contact appropriate fisheries agency directors, industry leaders, recreational fishermen, and others knowledgeable on the needs of U.S. fisheries.

The Council of State Governments is a research and service organization, jointly supported by all States, which supplies extensive information intended to benefit the States within the Federal system, assists in State-Federal liaison, and provides staff services for affiliated organizations.

United States and Poland Establish a Plankton Sorting Center on the Baltic

The United States and Poland have agreed to establish the world's only known center specifically designed for advanced plankton sorting techniques. (Plankton is the microscopic animal and plant life found drifting or floating in the ocean or fresh water. It makes up the primary food source for many fish.)

The Center will be located at Szczecin on the northeast coast of Poland and will be a joint venture between the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and Poland's Sea Fisheries Institute. A building has already been constructed on the campus of the College of Agriculture and Fisheries at Szczecin to house the Center, and includes a lecture hall, three scientific laboratories, and a large sorting room capable of handling up to 3,000 plankton samples a year.

The Commerce Department agency said that during the coming 6 months a plankton sorting and taxonomy training program will be started involving an exchange of scientists between the two countries. Stephan Grimm and Idzi Drzycimski visited the Northeast Fisheries Center facilities at Woods Hole, Mass., and Narragansett, R. I., for training in plankton sorting and taxonomy for three weeks in September. Both facilities are operated by NOAA's National Marine Fisheries Service.

In October Elbert Ahlstrom of the NMFS Fisheries Center at La Jolla, Calif., visited the Polish facility for several weeks to train Polish fisheries scientists in larval taxonomy.

The Polish Center will provide sorting services for plankton samples collected in joint surveys conducted by the International Commission for the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries (ICNAF) of which both Poland and the United States are members. The work will be especially helpful in ICNAF assessment studies now taking place in the northwest Atlantic.

Plankton sorting is a time consuming and expensive operation when done by hand, as is now the general practice, but in addition to routine sorting operations, the staff at the new Center will test and employ auto-

matic systems including fluid separation devices utilizing the specific gravity of different sorts of plankton.

The new Center is expected to cost about \$350,000 with \$200,000 from the Polish Government and the remainder from U.S. counterpart funds allocated to NOAA. Counterpart funds are those held in foreign countries as a result of trade for use only in that country by the United States.

Secretary Dent Denies Seal Skin Import Permit

Secretary of Commerce Frederick B. Dent announced in September that he would not waive the prohibition against importation of seal skins from South Africa and South West Africa to the United States. Under the terms of the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972, importation is unlawful if the Secretary deems the harvest to be inhumane. Secretary Dent dispatched a team of independent veterinary consultants to view the harvest in August, and their report indicated that it was not humanely conducted.

The decision effectively denies an application by the Fouke Company, Greenville, S.C., for the right to import such skins from the South African and South West African harvest.

The Secretary issued the following statement:

"In November of 1973, the Fouke Company sought a waiver of a moratorium on fur seal importation provided under the terms of the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972, to import South African and South West African fur seal skins in unspecified numbers for the ensuing ten years.

"In December of 1973, the Company sought a waiver to allow importation of 5,600 skins left over from the 1973 harvest.

"The waiver of the moratorium, if granted, would precede an application by Fouke for permits to import the skins.

"The Marine Mammal Protection Act states that importation is unlawful if the animals are taken in a manner deemed inhumane by the Secretary."

"Accordingly, I sought the expert

opinions of two distinguished veterinary consultants, Dr. Wallace M. Wass, head of the Department of Veterinary Clinical Sciences at Iowa State University, and Dr. Leslie E. McDonald, Assistant Dean, Department of Physiology and Pharmacology, College of Veterinary Medicine, University of Georgia, on the way in which the South African harvest was conducted.

"Accompanied by Joseph Blum, marine mammal program coordinator in the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's National Marine Fisheries Service, they spent a part of August in South Africa and South West Africa observing the practices involved in the taking of the seals.

"It was established that the killing methods were inadequately carried out in many instances, and that the procedures failed to meet the standards required by our Marine Mammal Protection Act.

"Many workers were untrained or inadequately trained.

"In the light of my responsibilities, under the law, I must refuse the present application by the Fouke Company to allow importation of the skins, and I am so doing."

NOAA Contract Seeks Fish Name Standards

A contract authorizing studies that will eventually help consumers of fish and fishery products identify various species and products has been awarded to the Brand Group, Inc., Chicago, by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. The Commerce Department agency said the \$63,000 contract calls for the Chicago concern to analyze, plan, and recommend methods of developing an effective identification system to clarify and standardize market names of certain fish species and products.

NOAA's National Marine Fisheries Service will work with the contractor in reviewing and evaluating the current criteria and principles now used in establishing food product names, and seek to identify inconsistent and obsolete names that may now be in use. A new set of principles particularly applicable to fish and fisheries products is also being sought.

The need for such a program be-

came apparent a few months ago when more than 500 responses were received to a Fisheries Service request for suggestions and opinions as to the desirability of efforts to standardize the names of certain fish and fisheries products. The announcement pointed out that thousands of species are known throughout the world by scientifically accurate names, but differing and sometimes confusing common names used in labeling products from some species cause problems in

marketing and market development, and could disrupt attempts to write uniform labeling regulations. The Fisheries Service also said there is increasing interest in using fish and shellfish that, to date, have not been marketed generally, and for which no common names exist that are familiar to consumers. A spokesman said that new food processing techniques such as the use of minced fish blocks present opportunities to develop new products that have no recognized

market names.

After the report and recommendations are made by the contractor in April 1975, NMFS will consult with appropriate organizations in the public and private sectors relative to plans and procedures. Considerable time will be required before the program can be completed. Actions will be coordinated with interested parties such as the Food and Drug Administration, the American Fisheries Society, consumer groups, and the fishing industry.

Foreign Fishery Developments

Japan Tells 1972-73 Fishery Product Trade

EXPORTS

In 1973 the value of Japan's fishery exports were 21 percent higher than during the previous year: \$636 million versus \$527 million exported in 1972.

Table 1.—The value of Japan's fishery exports, by country and share of market, 1972-73.

Country	1973		1972	
	Value ¹	Share ²	Value ¹	Share ²
United States	226	35.5	194	36.8
Great Britain	39	6.1	41	7.8
West Germany	32	5.1	25	4.7
Canada	27	4.3	19	3.7
Switzerland	23	3.6	15	2.8
Taiwan	22	3.4	10	1.8
Australia	20	3.1	15	2.9
Philippines	19	3.1	17	3.2
Hong Kong	17	2.7	13	2.4
Puerto Rico (U.S.)	16	2.6	20	3.7
Other	195	30.5	158	30.2
Total exports	636	100.0	527	100.0

¹Values in US\$1 million.

²Shares in percent.

Source: Japanese Customs Returns.

Exchange Rates: 1973: 273 Yen = US\$1.00

1972: 308 Yen = US\$1.00

Table 2.—The value of Japan's fishery exports, by commodity and share of the market, 1972-73.

Commodity	1973		1972	
	Value ¹	Share ²	Value ¹	Share ²
Mackerel, canned	96	15.1	76	14.4
Tuna, Canned	90	14.1	88	16.7
Tuna, Frozen	79	12.4	58	10.9
Pearls	65	10.3	46	8.7
Salmon, canned	38	6.0	56	10.6
Squid, frozen	17	2.7	11	2.1
Shrimp, frozen	13	2.0	12	2.3
Saury, frozen	12	1.9	12	2.3
Other fish, live	12	1.9	3	.6
Fish oil	10	1.6	5	1.0
Other	204	32.0	160	30.4
Total exports	636	100.0	527	100.0

¹Values in US\$1 million.

²Shares in percent.

Source: Japanese Customs Returns.

Exchange Rates: 1973: 273 yen = US\$1.00

1972: 308 yen = US \$1.00

The United States was Japan's largest market in both years, accounting for 37 percent and 36 percent of Japan's total fishery exports for 1972 and 1973 respectively. Table 1 provides statistical data on Japan's fishery exports by country for 1972-73.

Canned mackerel and tuna, frozen tuna, and pearls were the most valuable of Japan's fishery exports in 1973. Because of fishing restrictions which affected Japan's salmon catch, exports of canned salmon declined in 1973. Table 2 provides data on Japan's fishery exports by commodity for the period 1972-73.

The Philippines purchased 18 percent of Japan's canned mackerel exports, followed by the United States (11 percent) and Singapore (10 percent). The United States was Japan's largest importer of canned tuna (31 percent) followed by Canada (20 percent) and Great Britain (12 percent). Almost all of Japan's frozen tuna (88 percent) went to the United States and Puerto Rico. Great Britain (55 percent) and Australia (26 percent) were leading buyers of Japanese canned salmon in 1973. Table 3 provides data on Japan's exports of fishery commodities by country for 1973.

Table 3. — Value of Japan's fishery exports, by commodity, country, and share of the market, 1973.

Commodity and Country	Value ¹	Share ²	Commodity and Country	Value ¹	Share ²
Canned Mackerel			Frozen Shrimp		
Philippines	18	18.3	Guiana	6	46.9
United States	11	11.0	United States	3	24.9
Singapore	10	10.4	Surinam	2	17.5
Ghana	6	6.8	Trinidad & Tobago	1	7.4
Papua-New Guinea	6	6.3	Nigeria	1	2.1
Other	45	47.2	Other	—	—
Total	96	100.0	Total	13	100.0
Canned Tuna			Frozen Saury		
United States	31	34.7	American Samoa	3	20.9
Canada	20	22.4	Madagascar	1	9.8
Great Britain	12	12.9	New Hebrides	1	7.1
Switzerland	7	7.9	South Korea	1	7.0
West Germany	7	7.7	Canary Islands	1	6.9
Other	13	14.4	Other	5	48.3
Total	90	100.0	Total	12	100.0
Frozen Tuna			Fish Meal		
United States	54	68.0	Taiwan	7	82.9
Puerto Rico (U.S.)	16	20.4	West Germany	1	10.6
Papua-New Guinea	2	3.1	Australia	—	2.7
Spain	2	2.8	South Africa	—	1.9
Italy	1	1.5	Hong Kong	—	.8
Other	4	4.2	Other	—	—
Total	79	100.0	Total	8	100.0
Canned Salmon			Canned Oyster		
Great Britain	21	55.3	United States	5	60.8
Australia	10	26.3	Canada	2	21.7
Netherlands	3	7.9	Austria	—	7.4
United States	2	5.3	South Africa	—	3.2
New Zealand	1	2.6	New Zealand	—	1.6
Other	1	2.6	Other	—	—
Total	38	100.0	Total	7	100.0

¹Values in US\$1 million.

²Shares in percent.

Source: Japanese Customs Returns.

Exchange Rate: 273 Yen = US\$1.00.