

## Baldrige Names 19 to Fishery Management Councils

Commerce Secretary Malcolm Baldrige has named 14 new members and reappointed 5 incumbents to the nation's eight regional fishery management councils. The appointments, announced by John V. Byrne, administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), were effective 11 August and will run for 3 years.

The councils, established by the Magnuson Fishery Conservation and Management Act, prepare fishery management plans for stocks of fish found in waters within their geographical areas. The act requires that council members be selected from lists submitted by governors of the constituent states.

The new members appointed are:

New England Council: Edward A. Blackmore, executive director, Maine Lobstermen's Association, Stonington, Maine; Thomas A. Fulham, chairman, Fulham and Maloney, Inc., Boston; and James W. Salisbury, commercial fisherman, Milbridge, Maine.

Mid-Atlantic Council: Robert T. Cooper, fish processor, Robert T. Cooper, Inc., Greenport, N.Y.; and Richard H. Miller, executive secretary, Long Island Fishermen's Association, East Quogue, N.Y.

South Atlantic Council: Belton O. Sanders, III, president Sanders Transport, Inc., Allendale, S.C.; and John Colburn, VP/Marketing, DESCO Marine, St. Augustine, Fla.

Gulf of Mexico Council: Maumus Claverie, Jr., attorney, New Orleans, La.; Julius Collins, president, J. Collins Trawler-Gulf Shrimp Company, Brownsville, Tex.; and Gary Knight, professor of law, Louisiana State University Law Center, Baton Rouge, La.

Pacific Council: James A. Crutchfield, professor, Department of Eco-

nomics, University of Washington, Seattle; and George J. Easley, administrator, Otter Trawl Commission of Astoria, Oreg.

North Pacific Council: Keith Specking, legislative assistant to the governor, Juneau, Alaska.

Western Pacific Council: Betty S. Guerrero, director, Bureau of Planning, Office of the Governor, Agana, Guam.

Incumbents reappointed are:

Mid-Atlantic Council: Elliot J. Goldman, attorney, the Philadelphian, Philadelphia, Pa., and Ricks E. Savage, commercial fisherman, Berlin, Md.

Caribbean Council: Jose Luis Campos, insurance broker, John Hancock Mutual Life Insurance Co., Hato Rey, Puerto Rico.

North Pacific Council: Harold E. Loken, retired, Seattle, Wash.

Western Pacific Council: Wadsworth Y. H. Yee, president, Grand Pacific Life Insurance Co., Honolulu, Hawaii.

## Hawaiian Cruise Eyes Lobster Predation

Cruise 81-04, the last in a 5-year series of expeditions of the *Townsend Cromwell* to investigate the biological resources of the northwestern Hawaiian Islands (NWHI), ended on 27 August after a 6-week trip. The main objective of the cruise was to continue investigations of such species as spiny lobster, shrimp, kona crab, bottom fish, and pelagic fish around Necker Island, French Frigate Shoals, Gardner Pinnacles, Maro Reef, Pearl and Hermes Reef, Raita Bank, St. Rogatien Bank, and several other small banks in the chain, according to Richard Shomura,

Director of the NMFS Southwest Fisheries Center's Honolulu Laboratory.

During lobster trap fishing operations, experiments were also conducted to determine the efficacy of escape panels in traps to release undersized lobsters, and the effect on the catch of the presence of lobster offal in the area of trap sets. The results of the latter experiments showed that lobster remains in the vicinity of traps apparently do have a very detrimental effect on the catch of spiny lobster.

Observations made from commercial lobster fishing vessels and from the *Townsend Cromwell* while hauling lobster pots in NWHI waters also have indicated that there is some predation by large carangids (uluas, *Caranx ignobilis*) and sharks on undersized and berried spiny lobsters when they are returned alive to the sea after being sorted from the catch. Lobsters released at the surface must return to the bottom in depths ranging from 15 to 60 m, thus exposing them to predation in midwater for some time before reaching the relative safety of the bottom.

One of the missions of the cruise was to determine the probability of lobsters safely reaching the bottom when they are released from the surface when potential predators are present, and the vulnerability of lobsters to predation when they are released at the bottom from a specially designed release bag. During the experiments, divers made visual observations and 16 mm movies to document predation on the released lobsters.

Underwater observations during the experiments corroborated the earlier surface observations. Large white uluas are indeed voracious predators on lobsters not only in midwater but when they are released at the bottom. In addition, the underwater observations provided interesting insights into various aspects of the behavior of prey and predator, under the experimental conditions.

Reginald M. Gooding of the NMFS Honolulu Laboratory served as Chief Scientist for the cruise. Other members of the scientific party were George H. Balazs, Steven H. Kramer, James L. Prescott, Michael P. Seki, and Gordon W. Tribble.