MANAGING OUR COASTAL ZONE

On February 20-21 a coastal zone conference sponsored by the New York State Sea Grant Program will be held at the campus center, SUNY, Albany. Registration forms will be mailed to in-state names on the Coastlines mailing list and will be available from the Program Office in Albany after January 15. Because of the workshop format, pre-registration is requested.

The year 1972 was a year of landmark legislation and court decisions for the coastal region of the nation. At the federal level: the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972, the Ocean Dumping Act of 1972. At the state level: approval of the Environmental Bond Issue of New York State, passage of the Coastal Zone Conservation Act at referendum in California. In the courts: decisions suggesting that the coastal zone is a public trust. These are the culmination of legislative actions in New York and other states aimed at establishing mechanisms for protecting the coastal region from overdevelopment, enhancing its environmental quality, and preserving its unique biological and physical resources.

The New York State Sea Grant Program seeks in this conference—Managing Our Coastal Zone—to assist the legislature and agencies of the State in the development of a plan and a management program for the coastal zone, through broad participation and interaction among concerned public, industry, and government. Through workshops discussing critical issues and management alternatives, a series of proposals and position papers will be developed. Published as the Proceedings of the Conference, these results will be available to the State agencies and to the New York State legislature for their guidance and action.

The objectives of the conference are: (1) to develop an understanding of the coastal zone of New York, its problems, and the laws relating to its management; (2) to identify State, regional, and local agencies, industries, and civic groups interested in coastal zone matters, and to define their interactions; and (3) to provide participants with an opportunity to make their viewpoints known to those who will formulate State policy for the coastal zone.

A series of introductory talks will provide a common framework for discussions. Topics include: coastal zone semantics and definition; coastal zone legislation—federal and state; policy alternatives for the state in terms of implementation of the Coastal Zone Management Act. Speakers will include Prof. Marc J. Hershman, Louisiana State Univ., Law Center, William D. Carey, Vice President, Arthur D. Little, and Donald F. Squires, NYSSGP Director.

Workshops will deal with critical issues for the coastal zone, (Tuesday evening), and implementation of coastal zone planning and management (Wednesday). Suggested topics for the critical issues session: electrical energy—its effect on the coastal zone; water quality problems of the coastal zone; resources—conservation and utilization; environmental control—physical limitations such as erosion, flooding, etc.; land use pressures on the coastal zone; unique areas—problems of preservation; recreation—public and private sectors. For the implementation session: implementation of coastal zone planning and management; preparation and coordination of coastal zone plans; the coast as a public trust; changing role of local governments; inter-and intrastate planning; economic implications of coastal zone management—where does the funding come from? and information and educational needs for coastal zone management.

Interested persons may suggest additional topics for workshop groups when they register. The fee of $9.00 includes dinner and the Proceedings. Special arrangements for student housing on the SUNY Albany campus can be made through the Sea Grant Program Office.

A joint meeting of the Marine and Great Lakes Advisory Councils to the NYSSGP will be held after the conference.

Regional Coastal Zone Conferences

In cooperation with regional planning boards Sea Grant is also planning a series of conferences at the regional level, giving citizens the opportunity to participate in their own region. These conferences will follow the state conference. Initial steps are underway with the Genesee/Finger Lakes Planning Board.
PLANNER JOINS SEA GRANT

Anthony Volpe has joined the New York State Sea Grant Advisory Service staff for the Great Lakes region. Mr. Volpe will be headquartered at SUC Brockport, working with Advisory Service efforts in coastal planning. Mr. Volpe brings a long planning background to the program. He was in charge of the Open Space Program for East Hartford, Conn, where he developed a plan to revitalize a six-mile stretch of a Connecticut River tributary. He also has worked extensively with the East Hartford Urban Renewal Agency in the planning of a 100-acre tract of land along the Connecticut River waterfront. This development, major portions of which are completed or under construction, combines tall office buildings and retail shops, apartment complexes, marinas, and public parks. The entire project, he notes, was made possible by the installation of a hurricane barrier after completion of an extensive storm sewer network in the project vicinity. Before these new installations, the area was plagued with flooding conditions.

Mr. Volpe has also served as chief of planning for urban renewal projects in Stanford, Conn, along Long Island Sound. In California he has done studies of people living in Oakland's Skid Row which includes large areas of waterfront on San Francisco Bay, and an in-depth social study of the San Francisco waterfront in the south of Market Street area. Mr. Volpe is a graduate of the University of California at Berkeley.

GREAT LAKES ADVISORY COUNCIL IN TORONTO

The Great Lakes Advisory Council to the NYSSGP met in Toronto November 29-30 at the invitation of the Canadian Centre for Inland Waters. Mr. James Bruce, Director of the Center, is a member of the Council.

The Great Lakes Council is one of two Councils helping to set policy and priorities for the New York State Sea Grant Program, composed of representatives from business and industry, local government, conservation groups and others in the community with an interest in protecting and using the coastal areas of our state.

While long-range goals for Sea Grant must still be hammered out, it was felt that in the immediate future we should give priority to: (1) programs to let people know about Sea Grant; (2) recognition of our international responsibility by increasing our collaboration with Canadians working on Lake Ontario; (3) use of our information in the private sector; and (4) environmental quality.

A subcommittee was formed of Leo Nowak (Erie-Niagara Counties Regional Planning Board), Jeff MacClenon (Buffalo Evening News), Leonard Starr (Fredonia Products, Inc.), and William Steggle, Ministry of the Environment, Ontario Province, to prepare a draft on long-range goals for the NYSSGP.

Discussion on research goals for Year III will be more appropriate after the long-range goals have been agreed on, but the following topics were accepted as possibilities: wastewater, heated effluents for water authority use, St. Lawrence River.

BOATING FIRMS AND SEA GRANT

Industry organization and better financial guidelines were two major needs emphasized by many of the 55 marina and boat business operators present at the Sea Grant marina meeting in Watertown, December 12. Firms from north of Ogdensburg to the Finger Lakes were represented in this initial effort to work with operators of the 1500 marinas in New York.

The featured speaker was George Rounds, National Association of Engine and Boat Manufacturers. A panel from the Dept. of Environmental Conservation, Office of Parks and Recreation, and U.S. Coast Guard discussed recent regulations including the Boat Safety Act of 1971, and the Ports and Waterways Safety Act. Concluding presentation dealt with sources of trained personnel, including Boards of Cooperative Education and Community Colleges.

Of particular interest to the sponsoring Sea Grant Advisory Service and Cooperative Extension Associations was the final discussion of how Sea Grant could best aid marina operators and boat businesses. Similar meetings for marina operators in the central Lake Ontario region, Lake Erie, and Long Island are planned for early 1973. A February 13 boating meeting has been scheduled for Long Island. Exact location and agenda can be obtained from the Advisory Service office in Stony Brook later this month.

WETLANDS TO BE TOPIC IN ROCHESTER

A wetlands symposium will be co-sponsored by the Dept. of Environmental Conservation, Monroe County Extension, and Sea Grant. It will be held at the Farm and Home Center, 246 Highland Avenue, Rochester, Tuesday, January 30, from 10 am to 4:30 pm. The symposium will bring together researchers from the academic field, public and private land managers, local government officials, and interested citizens concerned with planning, development, and management of the wetlands of New York State.

DATE: JANUARY 30
FRIDAY 7TH - SUN
HELP FOR FISHERMEN

The following items of special interest to the fishing community have been supplied by Roger Allbee, Regional Marine Specialist, Sea Grant Advisory Service.

Health Insurance

Individual shellfishermen can now obtain group rate health insurance coverage through the New York State Farm Bureau. Premium collection is done by the Farm Bureau on an individual basis. Long Island shellfishermen interested in such coverage should contact the office of Long Island Farm Bureau, 1287 Old Country Rd., Riverhead, N.Y. There is a possibility that finfishermen may also be able to receive such coverage through the Farm Bureau.

Chartered associations interested in obtaining group health insurance coverage should send the following information to Mr. David McDonough, Blue Cross-Blue Shield, 800 Second Ave., New York, N.Y. 10017: (1) a copy of chartered association’s by-laws, and (2) an up-to-date roster of members by name. If the chartered association is allowed to participate in group coverage, Blue Cross-Blue Shield requires that 75 percent of listed members participate. New association members can participate after a time lapse of one year.

Public Health Service Care

Fishermen as both owners and masters of documented vessels (over 5 tons) engaged in commerce of the United States are eligible for Public Health Service care. Two Public Health Service facilities are located within the New York City area: (1) Public Health Service Hospital, Bay and Vanderbilt Ave., Staten Island; and (2) Health, Education, and Welfare Dept. Outpatient Clinic, 245 West Houston St., N.Y.

If a fisherman needs care, and he is actually master aboard an operating vessel (over 5 tons) at such time, then he should proceed to the Public Health Service facility with a copy of his vessel’s registration. At the facility he will be required to fill out a form stating that he is master of a vessel registered with the Coast Guard, Merchant Vessels of the United States, at which time he will be given appropriate care.

Green Sheet Information

For those who have problems understanding the market terms and abbreviations used in the Fishery Market News Reports, the New York Office, Market News Division, National Marine Fisheries Service, has published a leaflet which explains the abbreviations and terms. Copies of this Information Leaflet New York Fishery Market News Report can be obtained by writing the New York Office, 201 Varick St., Room 951, New York, N.Y. 10014.

Borrowing Money

Financial assistance is available to fishermen through both government and private agencies. The Division of Financial Assistance, National Marine Fisheries Service; NOAA, U.S. Dept. of Commerce, administers two types of assistance programs. A private agency, the Farm Credit Bureau, will give loans to eligible fishermen.

The two forms of assistance administered by the National Marine Fisheries Service are: (1) the Fisheries Loan Fund, with a ceiling of $40,000 per loan, and (2) the Fishing Vessel Mortgage and Loan Insurance Program. The Fisheries Loan Fund is for those individuals who cannot get funds on reasonable terms from private financial institutions, or from disposal at fair price of assets not required in the business. Interested New York fishermen should address inquiries to the Field Office, National Marine Fisheries Service, State Fish Pier, Gloucester, Mass.

Through the Farm Credit Bank and local Production Credit Associations qualified fishermen can borrow money to finance general business operations, which might include a pier, building, freezer, or truck, and operating costs including family living requirements. If located in a rural area, qualified fishermen can also borrow money for buying, building, or remodeling a home.

SHOALS MARINE LABORATORY WINTERIZED

A laboratory and dwelling unit for research or as a base for field studies is now ready for winter use on uninhabited Appledore Island, ten miles offshore from Portsmouth, New Hampshire. The facility is supported by SUNY, Cornell, and the Univ. of New Hampshire.

Appledore Island is about 100 acres in extent with a shore-line of approximately 3 miles at high tide. The average tidal range is about 9 ft. The shore is mostly rocky with exposed and protected aspects, and there are a few gravel or rock beaches and one mud beach. A checklist of organisms at the Shoals includes 237 species of invertebrates, 137 species of algae, 48 species of fish, and 124 species of birds.

The Laboratory building is equipped with 50 ft of bench, common glassware, miscellaneous supplies, and running freshwater. Sea water can be hard carried from 125 ft away to the sea table. A 15 kw diesel generator supplies electric heat and lights and power outlets. The dwelling unit has two large bedrooms with two beds each, bathroom and kitchenette, all equipped.

Boat service arranged from Portsmouth, N.H. or Kittery, Me. at no charge. Costs: $10.00 per day. Information from:

John M. Kingsbury, Director, Shoals Marine Laboratory
202 Plant Science Bldg., Cornell University, Ithaca, N.Y. 14850
WETLANDS PUBLICATION

Proceedings of the Wetlands Management Symposium held August 14, 1972 and sponsored jointly by the Advisory Service and the Long Island Environmental Council have now been published in mimeograph form by the Advisory Service. The document, in addition to containing all formal presentations at the session, includes several appendices such as a chart prepared by the Council listing permit and review process and associated contact persons for each Long Island town. Single copies of this report are available at the Sea Grant Advisory Service Office, Marine Sciences Research Center, SUNY, Stony Brook, N.Y. 11790.

LOONY TALES

by Bill Walters, Regional Marine Specialist
Sea Grant Advisory Service

A recent oil spill in Long Island Sound was brought to the attention of the Advisory Service staff when two local teenagers delivered an oil-soaked red-throated loon to the marine office early evening, Saturday December 9. Despite attentive care, the bird expired later that evening. Investigation of the incident revealed an approximately 5-mile stretch of beach in the West Meadow and Stony Brook harbor area with scattered patches of No. 6 oil near the high tide line. The source of the oil has not been determined. Cleanup efforts were coordinated by the U.S. Coast Guard the following Monday morning.

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