

Coastlines Georgia

Volume 1, No. 5

October-November, 1978



Nine Coastal Residents On

New Coastal Management Board

Nine coastal residents dominate the new eleven-member Coastal Management Board appointed recently by Governor George Busbee. The coastal residents are: Carlton Gill, Bryan County; George Hannaford, Camden County; Tom Owen, Don Mendonsa and Hans Neuhauser of Chatham County; Dewey Benefield, Glynn County; Danny Goodman, Liberty County; and David Hornsby and Dan Williams of McIntosh County. Non-coastal members are Kay Hoffman of Clark County and Thomas Parker of Fulton County.

The new Board includes eight members who served on the Governor's Coastal Zone Management Advisory Council. Board members Gill, Hannaford, Owen, Mendonsa, Neuhauser, Hornsby, Hoffman and Benefield - having served for two years on the council - are thoroughly familiar with the potentials and demands of managing Georgia's coastal zone.

Under the Georgia Coastal Management Act, passed by the General Assembly in its session this year, the Coastal Management Board is directed to work closely with the Coastal Zone Management staff of DNR as the CZM management proposal is completed. The Board will establish criteria for the program and will approve grants to local governments based on the new Georgia legislation and the Federal Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972.

Two of the Board's more important missions will be to make the necessary policies to carry out the provisions of the Georgia act and to designate certain coastal areas of particular environmental concern. The Board will also recommend, when necessary, procedures for managing such areas.

About The Cover Photo



Are our coastal waters becoming more polluted? Maybe not, for this summer eight manatees were sighted well up the Brunswick River. This photo was taken by "Bill Morehead as one manatee (sea cow) took a sip of fresh water flushing off Lewis' Crab Factory in Brunswick.

2,500 copies printed at a cost of approximately \$1,475.00



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Joe D. Tanner, Commissioner

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Bill Morehead, Editor
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Coastal Resources

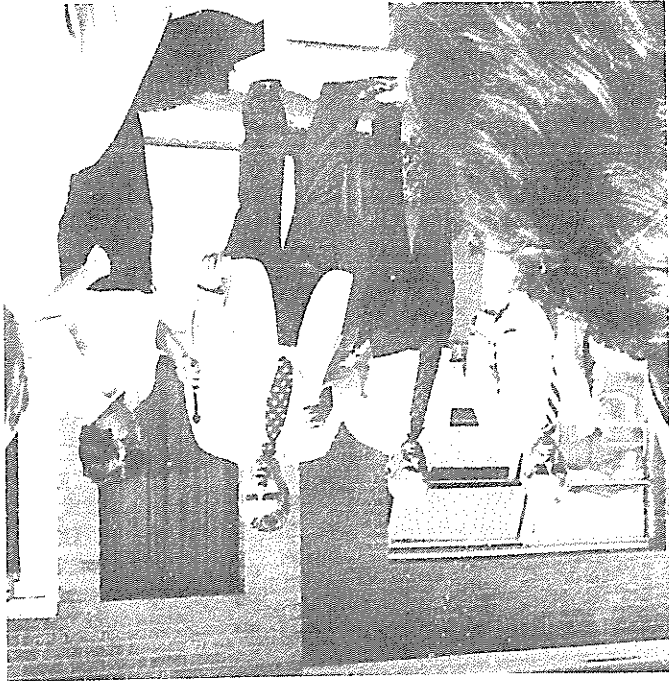
Marine Exhibit Center

Dedicated

Some 100 people attended the dedication of Coastal Resources new marine exhibit center on October 6. The exhibit center houses marine aquaria, petting aquaria for children, displays and informational materials about Georgia's coast.

The exhibit center is the result of cooperation between DNR and local citizens and agencies, especially the Coastal Highway Association and the Brunswick-Glynn County Chamber of Commerce.

Speakers at the dedication included Representative Dean Auten, H. J. Friedman, Sam Cofer and Dr. Robert Reimold.



Dr. Robert Reimold speaking at the Coastal Highway Association, Reimold, and Ray Stevens, local radio newsmen.

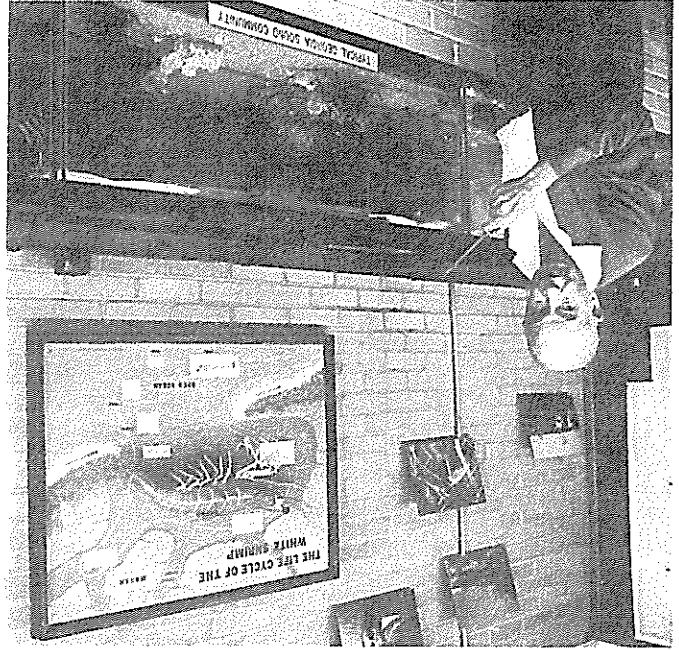
Dudley Moore Blakely

Dudley Moore Blakely is a fine example of the talent and abilities of coastal citizens. Blakely is an accomplished museum curator and exhibit specialist.

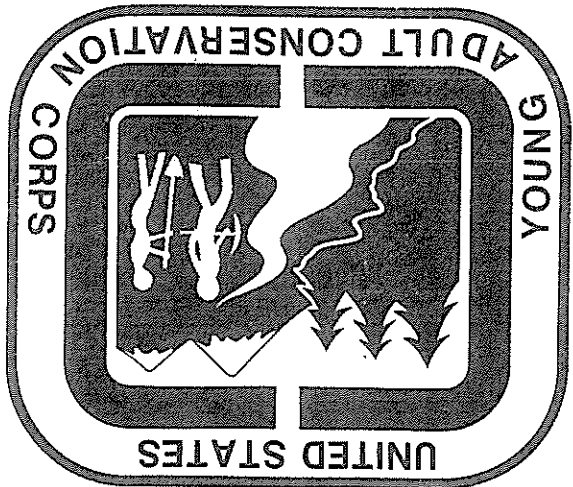
His latest exhibit for the Coastal Resources Center, a white shrimp, is perhaps the best such specimen on display anywhere.

Blakely says he tries "to get a good representation of the living animal," in his mind before he starts to create.

Local shrimp biologists say the specimen looks real enough to swim away. With Dudley Moore Blakely lived in Savannah and recently moved to St. Simons, the Coastal Resources Division will no doubt get more of Dudley Moore Blakely's works.



Dudley Moore Blakely, F.R.S.A., points out the details of his latest exhibit, a white shrimp, prepared for the Coastal Exhibit Center. Mr. Blakely has prepared exhibits for museums all over the world, including the Boston Science Museum.



Putting Coastal People
To Work . . .

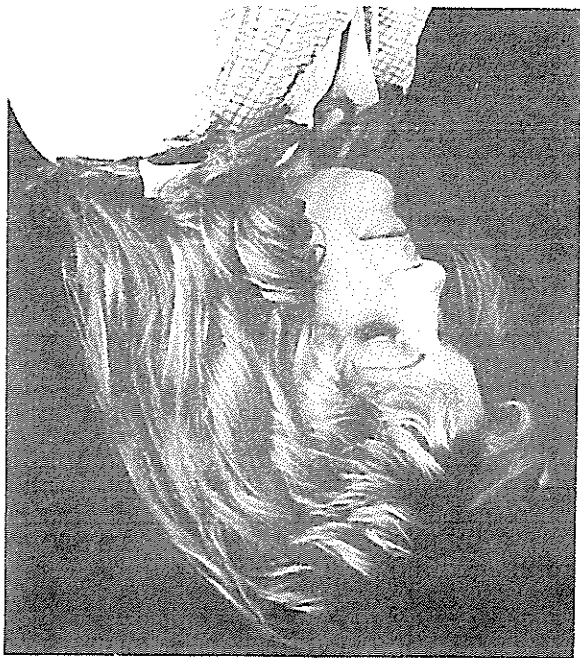
The Coastal Young Adult Conservation Corps

The Coastal Resources Division (CRD) is now employing young adults, between the ages of 16 and 23, to work in its new Coastal Resources Young Adult Conservation Corps (YACC).

The YACC program, funded by a \$110,000 grant from the U.S. Department of Interior and



Tim Hightower, the networker for Coastal Resources' YACC program. Tim is responsible for fitting the YACC program into the other activities of the division in such a way as to get the maximum production with a minimum of confusion.



Gail Phillips, the YACC assistant leader. No stranger to blue waters, Gail has captained her father's shrimp boat in both Atlantic and Gulf seas.

Agriculture, has already resulted in the hiring of Tim Hightower, a native of St. Simons Island and a recent graduate of East Carolina University in Greenville, North Carolina. Hightower is serving as the YACC Networker and will manage the YACC workers and the details of the program.

The grant will allow the Division to hire twelve laborers, in addition to Hightower and a secretary. Steve Olsson, a resident of Brunswick and a University of Georgia graduate in environmental sciences, has been hired as the YACC Leader. Olsson will serve as foreman on YACC projects. Gail Phillips, a resident of McIntosh County, is working as the assistant leader. Laborers hired to date under the program are: Terry Holcomb and James Fears, who are working with Jerry McCollum, Wildlife Biologist on Ossabaw Island's Heritage Preserve; Chris Nickels, Ervin Davis, Barbara Harrington, Danny Perry and Jimmy Rivers, who work at CRD's headquarters in Brunswick.

Under the YACC program, twelve young adults between the ages of 16 and 23 are hired at minimum wages to work in Coastal Resources' conservation projects.

During the grant period, which runs from October 2, 1978 to September 30, 1979, the main tasks of the YACC workers will be to help build the marsh boardwalk at Overlook Park on Highway 17 in Brunswick and to help build the dune and marsh boardwalks at the Sapelo Island Estuarine

Just as important, some YACC workers will serve as crew members of DNR boats in the shrimp monitoring and tagging programs, others as creel clerks in the sportfishing survey and still others in data management, marsh restoration and coastal protection programs. Groundskeeping and boat and equipment maintenance will be an ongoing responsibility of the YACC workers.

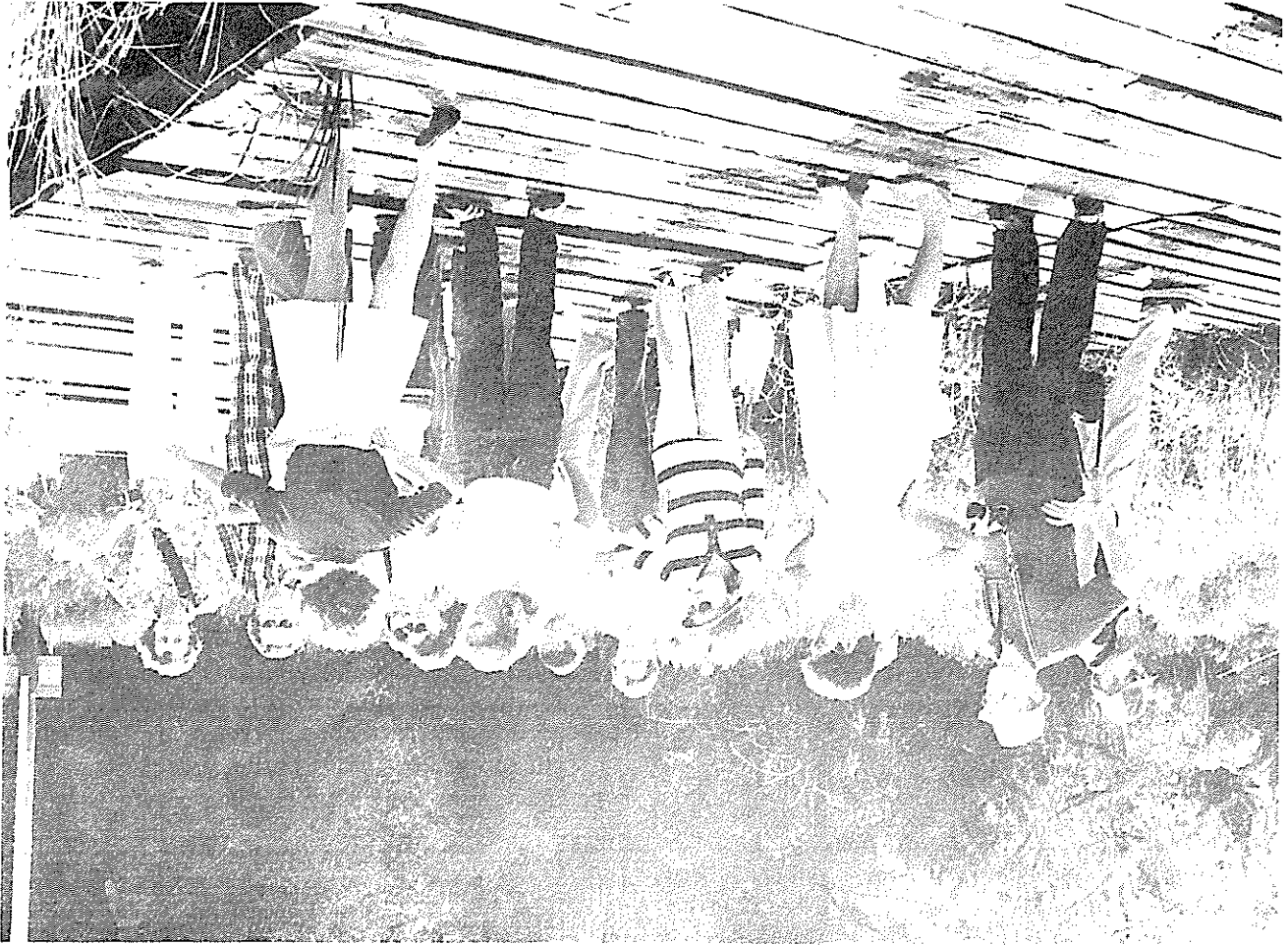
Sapelo Estuarine Sanctuary Tours

October, 78 people visited Sapelo Island. A member of CRD staff and a YACC worker (see p. 4) meet visitors at Meridian Dock on the mainland and accompany them aboard the M/V *Sapelo Queen*, operated by Capt. Fred Todd and Capt. Tracy Walker. En route to Sapelo, visitors learn about the wetlands area through which they pass, their route outlined on a nautical chart. Very soon, the M/V *Sapelo Queen's* passenger compartment will be equipped with a public (Story Continued On Page 6)

Sanctuary. But the twelve members of Coastal Resources YACC will do a lot more than just that. One of the main functions of the YACC program will be to provide educational assistance to local citizens and tourists. Some of the YACC workers will provide tour guidance at the Coastal Resources Division's Marine Exhibit Center and facilities. Others will assist in the educational efforts of the Sapelo tours.

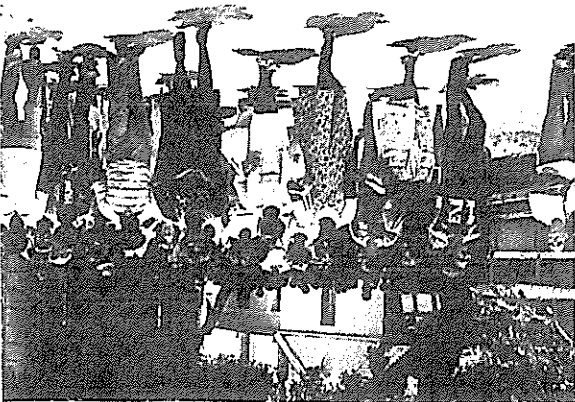
by Jenny Phillips

Public visits to Sapelo Island are popular with both local residents and tourists. At the beginning of August, when the Coastal Resources Division assumed administration of the visitation program, only Saturday morning trips to Sapelo were available to the public. In September, Wednesday afternoon tours were added, and continuing demand for spaces on the tour more than justifies this increase. September's visitor total was 202, compared with 86 in August. During the first half of



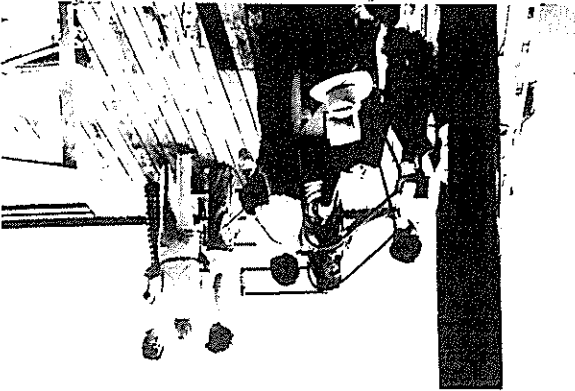
MARINE BREADBASSET--People visit the creekside marsh, noting the breakdown of plant matter to provide food for the many types of organisms that support estuarine food chains.

Special tours of the Sapelo Estuarine Sanctuary, such as this one for McIntosh County educators, are arranged as time and space permit.



Half the funding for Sapelo's public visitation program comes from U.S. Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, through Office of Coastal Zone Management Estuarine Sanctuary Program. The Department of Natural Resources is responsible for providing the state half of the funding.

Sapelo Game and Fish Division staff cooperate with Coastal Resources Division staff in operating the tour program. Mr. C. V. Waters, Coastal Regional Game Management Supervisor and his staff maintain the bus, provide the boat service that carries visitors to and from the island and supply interpretive material on the R. J. Reynolds Wildlife Management Area. Jenny Phillips, headquartered at Coastal Resources offices in Brunswick, coordinates the program. For information about Sapelo tours, call the Coastal Information office at (912) 264-7330.



WAITING FOR THE QUEEN--Visitors line up early for Saturday trips to Sapelo. This group arrived even before the M/V Sapelo Queen reached Meridian Dock, and kept an early-morning fisherman company by the water.



Visitors on the Sapelo tour on the grounds of the R. J. Reynolds mansion. While the interior of the mansion is not open to the public, for monetary and management reasons, the grounds prove to be very popular with the average visitor.

At the Marsh Landing dock on Sapelo Island, the group climbs aboard a small white bus for the island tour. The itinerary is designed to give people a taste of Sapelo's rich cultural, historical, and environmental diversity. They visit the *Spartina*-dominated marsh, walk the broad stretch of Nannygoat Beach, and see the upland forests of pine and live oak. Tabby ruins, the old commissary building with tree trunks for posts, the lighthouse and mansion link visitors with Sapelo's past; at the same time, visitors learn about current resources management and research activities.

The education program is still developing. A storage room at Long Tabby (the old tabby sugar mill building) will house an exhibit and information center. A projector and screen will be set up so that during inclement weather, visitors can see slides or a film to complement what they see from the bus. By the summer of 1979, boardwalks spanning a dune-beach site and a nearby marsh will be complete. A kiosk at each boardwalk will display information about marsh or beach environments. A picnic shelter and restrooms, to be located between the two boardwalks, are under consideration.

Improvements are anticipated for the mainland dock at Meridian as well. Plans include constructing restrooms and a larger waiting room,

Coastal Fisheries

NEW BAIT ZONE MAPS

Maps outlining the open areas for commercial and sport bait shrimping are available from the DNR offices in Brunswick, Demerles Creek and at most marinas, docks and bait shops along the coast.

The new areas, which went into effect on October 16, 1978 are defined on the maps by cross-hatching. The maps are free to the public.

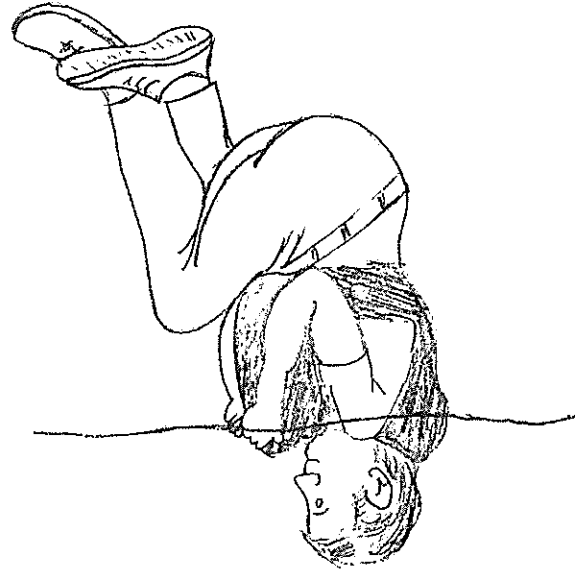
In The Drink . . .

Wintertime

by Capt. Mike Younce

Despite decreased boating activities during the winter months, Coast Guard figures show that nearly half of all boating fatalities happen during this period.

A person overboard during the winter months is in a different situation in the colder waters that prevail in our creeks and offshore area. In addition to drowning, cold water can kill in two other ways: by shock induced heart attack and by reduction of the body's core temperature, known as hypothermia. Upon entering the cold water, hypothermia immediately begins to take place.



The H.E.L.P. (Heat Escape Lessening Posture) position will increase survival time by 50%.



Mike Younce, captain of DNR's research vessel, the *George T. Bagby*. Mike is shown here at the wheel. First Mate David Ansley is in the background.

After 10-15 minutes the internal organs begin to cool. The body begins shivering to combat the cooling. Unconsciousness occurs when the core temperature falls to 90°F (32°C) and heart failure occurs when the core temperature drops to 85°F (30°C) or below.

Survival time of a person in cold water can be increased by one-third if a person remains still in the water instead of swimming. In 50°F water an above-average swimmer can swim a little less than a mile before becoming incapacitated.

The H.E.L.P. (Heat Escape Lessening Posture) method was developed to reduce the loss of body heat. The arms are held tightly against the sides and the thighs are pressed together and in a raised position. As a tremendous amount of heat can be lost from the head immersed in the water, the old down-proofing techniques where the head is lowered slowly into the water and gently raised to breathe should not be used. If the person overboard doesn't have a life jacket on, his survival time can be increased by treading water instead of using the down-proofing technique.

One can combat hypothermia several different ways.

1. Dress warmly, preferably in layers. A light

(Story Continued On Next Page)

The brochure is printed on yellow paper so it can be easily seen. It should be kept under a person's telephone for easy access.

Copies of the brochure will go to city and county police and government offices along the Georgia coast; to the Georgia State Patrol; to Civil Defense headquarters; and to other appropriate agencies. It will also be available to people who regularly work in coastal waters and marshes.

This document lists the United States Coast Guard emergency telephone number. It also gives DNR's toll-free number, to be used only in situations when the U.S. Coast Guard cannot respond to a call for search and rescue assistance. Anyone wanting general information should use the Information and Education number: 264-7330.

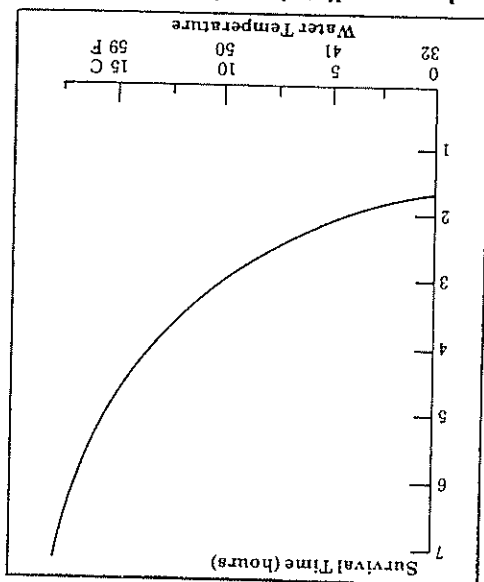
Dr. R. J. Reimold, Director of Coastal Resources Division, Department of Natural Resources, stressed that the Department is not trying to duplicate services normally provided by the U.S. Coast Guard, but to supplement what the U.S. Coast Guard can do in the way of search and rescue operations. There are some instances, he explained, where the U.S. Coast Guard does not have the authority to respond to an emergency. An airplane crash in the marsh, for example, might fall outside the U.S. Coast Guard's jurisdiction.

At the request of Governor Busbee, DNR Commissioner Joe D. Tanner asked the Department's coastal personnel to form a search and rescue assistance team. The new brochure is one result of that effort. It was compiled by O. R. Cothran, Chief of the Coastal Zone Management Section of the CRD; Capt. Michael Younce, skipper of the R/V *George T. Bagby*; and Capt. Paul Leverett, head of the Demerles Creek Law Enforcement office. All three have experience in marine search and rescue procedures.

Staff at the Seventh U.S. Coast Guard District in Miami, Florida and U.S. Rep. "Bo" Ginn and his assistant Woody Woodside supplied information for development of the brochure.

To help with coastal search and rescue needs, DNR recently set up a security operation at its Brunswick headquarters. This communications system functions 24 hours a day, 365 days a year, and is equipped with a VHF marine radio base station. DNR Security Staff monitors Channel 16. The security switchboard maintains a list of numbers for emergency search and rescue assistance in every coastal community in Georgia. Anyone who would like copies of the brochure or would like more information on search and rescue procedure, should write the Coastal Resources Division, 1200 Glynn Avenue, Brunswick, GA 31520, or call (912) 264-7330.

- shirt and a sweater are better than one heavy shirt or heavy sweater.
 - 2. When in a small boat or working on a big boat, wear a life jacket or a float coat - an ideal garment for cold weather boating.
 - 3. Try to keep your head clear of water. The body loses heat 82% faster when the head is immersed in water.
 - 4. Unless land is within easy reach, hold still in the water in the H.E.L.P. position.
 - 5. Get out of the water onto a log or upturned boat if you can.
- Immediate rewarming of a hypothermia victim is most important. The victim's movement should be held to a maximum. Remove the victim's clothes and apply hot, wet towels to the head, neck, sides and groin. If hot water is not available the victim may be rewarmed by direct body to body contact. Victims of hypothermia may suffer from lowered blood pressure during rewarming so the victim should be kept lying down with the legs slightly higher than the head.



Graph shows predicted survival times of average adults in water of different temperatures. The adults were holding still in the ocean water while wearing a PFD and light clothing. Survival time is increased by extra body fat and decreased by small body size.

Search and Rescue

Instructions Available

A new brochure telling people how to respond to calls for emergency search and rescue assistance is ready for distribution to the public. The instruction sheet, developed by Department of Natural Resources, is designed to help anyone who receives a distress call get all the information needed to send help.

Comprehensive Fisheries Management Plan

The Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972 and the Fishery Conservation and Management Act of 1976, have issued a mandate to the nation that individuals, local and state governments and the federal government cooperate to develop management plans for the conservation and wise utilization of the nation's marine resources.

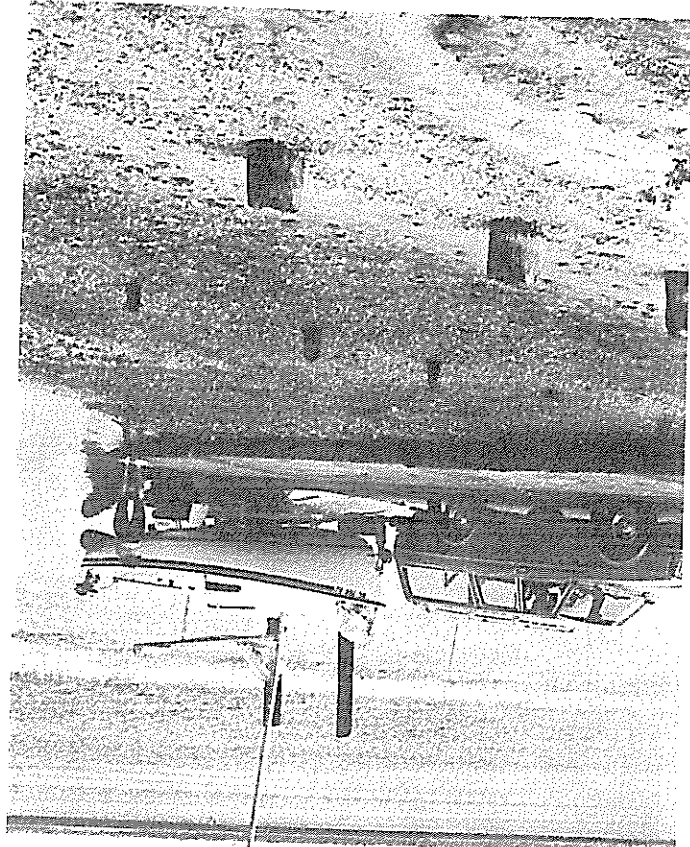
During our recent history, population growth along the nation's coasts has increased more rapidly than other sections of the country. This, plus increased pressure by foreign and domestic fishermen and increased marine recreational demands, dictate the need for long-range planning to insure the wise use and perpetuation of the renewable marine resources.

The State of Georgia has managed its marine resources for many years, but has yet to develop a long-range, comprehensive fisheries management plan which will insure conservation and sensible use of these living marine resources. We are at the threshold of a tremendous opportunity to expand and diversify the commercial, recreational and aesthetic marine resources for the benefit of the entire nation. This opportunity, however, must be accompanied by comprehensive planning and management to insure the perpetuation of the resources for future generations.

DNR's Coastal Resources Division has received a grant of \$69,759 from the Coastal Fisheries Assistance Program of the Office of Coastal Zone Management. This grant is to develop a long-range fisheries planning schedule to provide overall fisheries system strategies. Such a comprehensive fisheries management plan should go far toward providing the necessary framework for marine fisheries conservation in Georgia.

Proposed National Artificial Marine Reef Act

This bill, introduced by Senator Dick Stone (D-FL), was referred to the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science and Transportation where no action has been taken as yet. Highlights contained in the bill include establishing a program to develop artificial reefs in the Gulf of Mexico and the Atlantic Ocean, and authorizing \$2.5 million annually for the next five years to build these reefs, construct and maintain the necessary aids to navigation, and administer the program. In addition, grants administered by the Secretary of Commerce through the National Marine Fisheries Service would be made to the states to cover 75% of the cost of developing artificial reefs.



NOTE:
If you wish to add your name to
COASTLINES GEORGIA's mailing list,
write: Coastlines Georgia, DNR, 1200
Glynn Ave., Brunswick, GA 31520

(Bottom Right) U.S. Navy ordinance disposal personnel board the dredge from DNR's research vessel, the *Bagby*, as the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' *Carlson* records the activity. (Photo by the New Glyn

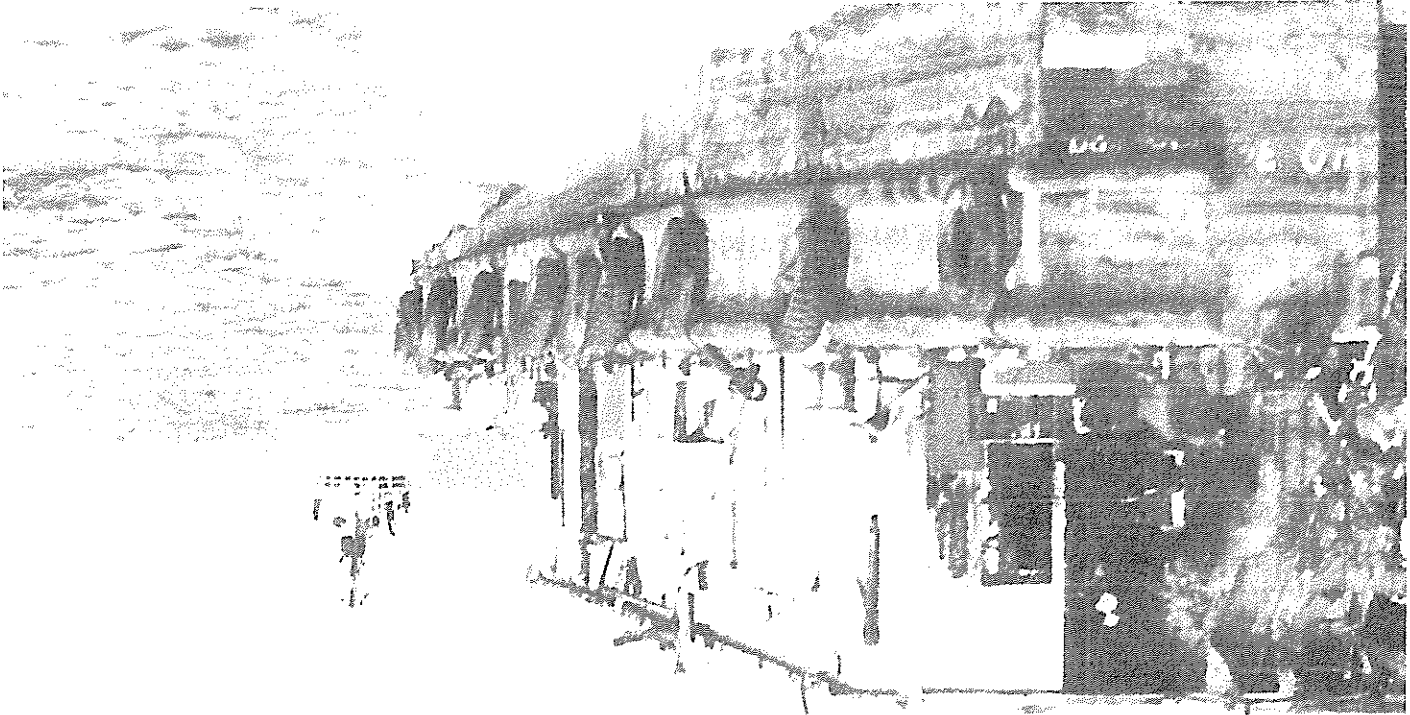
(Upper Right) Still afloat, the *Bacon* sinks in less than a minute. (Photo by the New Glyn Reporter).

(Bottom Left) Duane Harris and David Ansley, DNR divers, prior to checking the final resting site of the *Henry Bacon*.

(Top) U.S. Coast Guard vessel, *Cape Upright*, towing the *Henry Bacon* to the reef area.



FROM





Dredge To Reef

The sinking of the surplus U.S. Army Corps of Engineers dredge, the *Henry Bacon*, is a prime example of interagency cooperation. The U.S. Coast Guard, the U.S. Corps of Engineers and the U.S. Navy ordinance disposal personnel, all cooperated with DNR to recycle an old dredge into something which provides greater saltwater fishing habitat for Georgia fishermen.

The exploding and sinking of the proud old dredge was dramatic, as these photographs show. Less dramatic, but more important, were the weeks of cooperation in which made the dredge into part of Artificial Reef "L", off Ossabaw Island.

Do Salt Water Fishermen

Face Size and Catch Limits?

by Dean Poucher

The American fisherman's traditional concept of vast oceans with limitless stocks of fish was jarred when some coastal states instituted independent regulations limiting catch size and other limits for certain marine species. Now it appears that these and other type regulations may be on the horizon for both commercial and recreational U.S. fishermen. The South Atlantic Fishery Management Council is considering proposed fishery management plans for the various species in the Fishery Conservation Zone (FCZ), or the 200 mile ocean limit.

The FCZ is a band of ocean 197 miles wide around the U.S. Coast and Territorial waters. The traditional three-mile state jurisdictional waters are unaffected by Council plans, except for state enforcement of affected species.

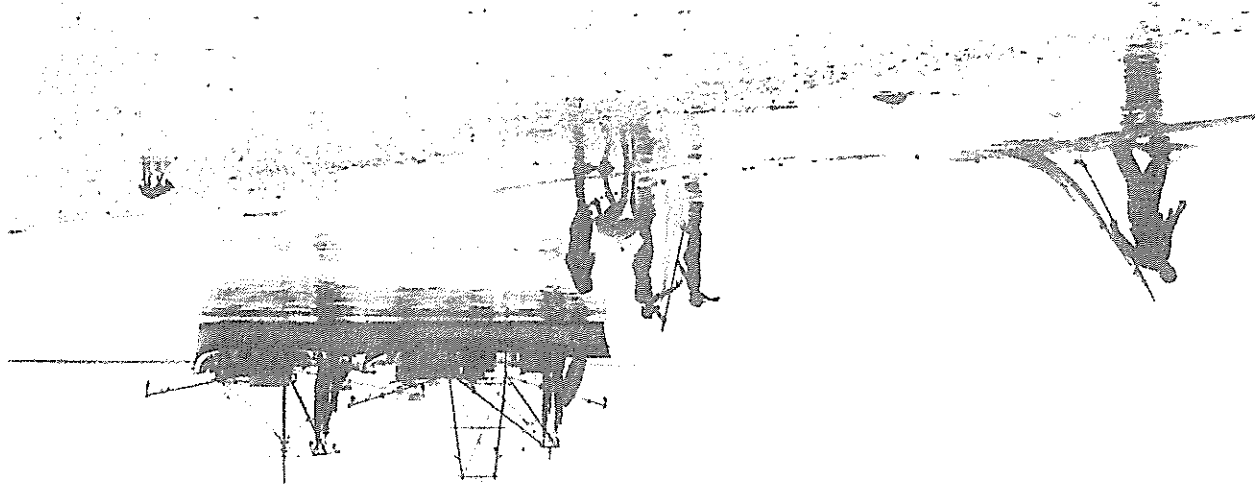
Foreign trawler fleets and large flotillas of foreign longline vessels have cut deeply into American fish stocks. Realizing that many species were in trouble from this foreign fishing pressure, as

well as from a lack of any domestic fishery conservation and management practices for ocean species, Congress passed the Fishery Conservation and Management Act (FCMA) of 1976 and created eight Regional Fishery Management Councils for U.S. and Territorial waters. Their responsibility is assuring that American fishermen get their fair share of the catch through wise ocean fishery conservation and management, as well as limiting foreign fishing to only the surplus (if any) of the Optimum Yield by U.S. fishermen.

Optimum Yield is defined as that amount of fish which will provide the greatest overall benefit to the Nation with particular reference to food production and recreational opportunity.

Management of the fish stocks in the waters of North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, and the east coast of Florida within the 200 mile limit is the responsibility of the South Atlantic Fishery Management Council with headquarters in Charleston, South Carolina. The thirteen voting members of the Council are facing some hard decisions that are likely to affect both recreational and commercial fishermen, as well as their allied and support industries, and the consumers of seafood in the Region.

(continued on page 13)



The Council is appointed by the Secretary of Commerce from a broad cross-section of each state's fishing interest, both commercial and recreational, as well as conservation and management experts.

Drawing on the best scientific data available, Council has under consideration a number of Fishery Management Plans, each with recommended management options, developed with input from its broad-based Advisory Panel and its Scientific and Statistical Committee.

In conjunction with neighboring Regional Councils, the South Atlantic Fishery Management Council is currently considering proposals for such fisheries as Snapper-Groupers, Billfish, Sharks, Broadbill Swordfish, Mackerel (pelagics) and many other species and specie groups.

The Fishery Conservation and Management Act (FCMA), has already reduced foreign fishing in the Fishery Conservation Zone (FCZ, 200 mile limit) by over 50 percent. But U.S. fishermen will also be affected by some of the fishing regulations in the proposed Fishery Management Plans (FMP's) under consideration by the Council. Size limits, catchlimits, and some season limitations due to spawning and habitat protection are but a few of the management options under study by the Council to attain the Optimum Yield for American commercial and recreational fishermen.

American fishermen are already seeing the results of a "breather" from foreign fishing on some fish stocks. Increased expansion of both domestic and foreign American seafood marketing is anticipated, as well as an increase in some stocks for recreational anglers, and an even more plentiful and economic supply of rich protein from the sea for the American consumers.

As yet, it appears unlikely that drastic regulations will be necessary in the South Atlantic Region, but many of the studies are far from complete. Lack of data on recreational catch and effort is one of the biggest problems in determining the status of many fish stocks. Some effects of the various Fishery Management Plans (FMP's) under consideration won't become apparent until after they become official regulations, and each plan will be carefully monitored and revised as necessary, at least annually.

All recreational and commercial fishermen, representatives of their allied and support industries, as well as consumers of seafood should watch closely for the announcement of public hearings which will be held well in advance of finalization of any proposed Fishery Management Plan in several areas of the Region. This is to allow all persons most likely to be affected by them to



have ample opportunity to voice their opinions before the Council's plans are presented to the Secretary of Commerce for approval and adoption. Fishermen, representatives of interested organizations and other interested persons, as well as members of the press are welcome to attend the regular Council meetings. These are held regularly during the year in different locations within the Region to encourage local input more conveniently to the Council decision-making process. Schedules of the meetings, their times and locations are available from the Council's headquarters in Charleston, South Carolina at 1 Southpark Circle, Suite 306, Zip Code 29407, or call 803-571-4366.

To Honor The Blue Crab

by Steve Olsson

A phone in his hand, an idea in his head, Tony Mathews is the driving force behind Georgia's first crabbing tournament. Largely through his efforts, the tournament not only exists, but also features a \$225 reward for the Georgia-caught blue crab that beats the South Carolina record.

The tournament, held in conjunction with the Tybee Island festival on the weekend of October 21-22, also featured four other reward categories for various blue crab catches.

Mathews' duties as the catalyst and general do-it-all for the tournament are remarkable when one considers he has been confined to a wheelchair for the past 20 years. "I'm actually no more limited than anyone else, though. I can do most anything I need to through this right here," he says, pointing to his handy phone.

Limited? Hardly. The 46-year-old Mathews also serves as president of the Savannah Italian Club, is active in the Benedictine Athletic Club and secretary of the Chatham County Democratic Club. You may also see him in the bleachers at Benedictine home football games.

A former Navy deep sea diver, Mathews roots go back through four generations of sea families. His particular interest in the blue crab, however, was stirred of late. Although their importance is often hidden in the shadows of the coast's shrimp industry, blue crabs, "Provide great recreational, nutritional, and economic value to both residents and tourists of Georgia's coast," Mathews notes.

Georgia's second leading seafood cash crop, blue crabs also provide economic entertainment for all ages. A piece of string, a sinker, a scoop net, a chicken neck and a bridge, bank or pier can provide hours of successful crabbing.

Considering these things, Mathews wondered why Georgia had neither established a crab record system or a crab tournament?

As he read of crabbing derbies in Maryland and Virginia, Mathews' interest and visions of a state crabbing tournament grew. Contacting various state agencies, however, he received no response in his attempts to procure information and set up a blue crab record system.

Finally, state representative Al Scott heard of Mathews' idea and, since then, the Coastal Resources Division of DNR and others have gotten involved and the seed has mushroomed into this Fall's first Georgia State Crabbing Tournament. The scoring system devised by Mathews

emphasizes the crab's size rather than its weight. "A crab's weight is too variable," he points out, "and this way, it's harder for people to fudge." Mathews says the priority in scoring a crab is given to the horizontal spine-to-spine distance. Secondary points are awarded on the crab's claw-to-claw spread, while its weight is the final criterion.

Through Ma Bell's magic and Mathews' energy, approximately \$500 in prize money is being offered for a record blue crab, made up of contributions from Congressman "Bo" Ginn, State Senator Charles Wessels, State senatorial candidate Glyn Bryant and State Representative Tom Taggart. E. W. Lewis, of Brunswick's Lewis Crab Factory, is also donating prize money.

Competitors are aiming at the South Carolina record blue crab caught by Skip Hoglin, as well as individual categories for the largest male blue crab; largest female blue crab; most unusual blue crab; and most unusual crab of any kind.

There is no time limit in which to break the South Carolina record. Coastal Resources Division biologist Henry Ansley, has set up various verification sites for catches.

Mathews said the Tybee Island Festival provided excellent food and entertainment and was a great time for family get-togethers. He said he hopes these events establish a precedent for future blue crab competition as well as an appreciation for an important part of coastal living.

People interested in the blue crab records program should contact: Tony Mathews, 1452 E. 40th St., Savannah, GA or DNR Coastal Information, 1200 Glynn Ave., Brunswick, GA 31520, (912) 264-7330.



Tony Mathews, Georgia godfather of the Coastal Blue Crab Tournament.

Shrimp Statistics

Program

by Mike Hardisky

The regional vessel file and shrimp Statistics program sponsored by the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) became fully operational last month. North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia and Florida are participating in the cooperative program to improve the shrimp landings data collected by providing a standard data base for the entire south Atlantic region.

To obtain the raw data, each state has port samplers who assist NMFS personnel in collecting shrimp landings from dock owners and fishermen. The program is truly cooperative in that fishermen and dock owners volunteer the landings information weekly and the four states cooperate to establish a common data base. The immediate advantages of this program are: timely shrimp landings information available to anyone and a coordinated management plan for all four states. Since the shrimp resource does not observe political boundaries, regional cooperation provides a more intelligent approach to shrimp management.

The figure below is an example of a shrimp report which can now be obtained in a few minutes on the computer. The report can be tailored to the specific needs of the manager by utilizing "keys" provided: (1) port: any port which includes 3 or more dealers; (2) area: any fishing area -- inside, 0-3 miles or 3-12 miles offshore; (3) state: the sum of any state's landings; (4) region: the entire four state region. Other options the computer program user has allows him to subdivide or designate the value of the landings sought and to designate the time period desired.

The shrimp report depicted below is the four state of Georgia for the month of September 1978. The information is divided into species of shrimp with pounds and dollar value landed for each count size (number of specimens per pound). At the bottom, all species are added to yield total catch of all species and the dollar value.

Below the summary information is an estimated effort for vessels (documented craft) and boats (non-documented) for combined inshore and offshore areas. Since the sounds in Georgia have not been opened for commercial shrimping, the values represent offshore areas.

One day fished is equivalent to 24 hours of fishing. With these figures we can estimate fishing effort by dividing the days fished by the number of trips. For example, the average documented vessel spent 18.7 hours fishing per trip and the average

SHRIMP REPORT

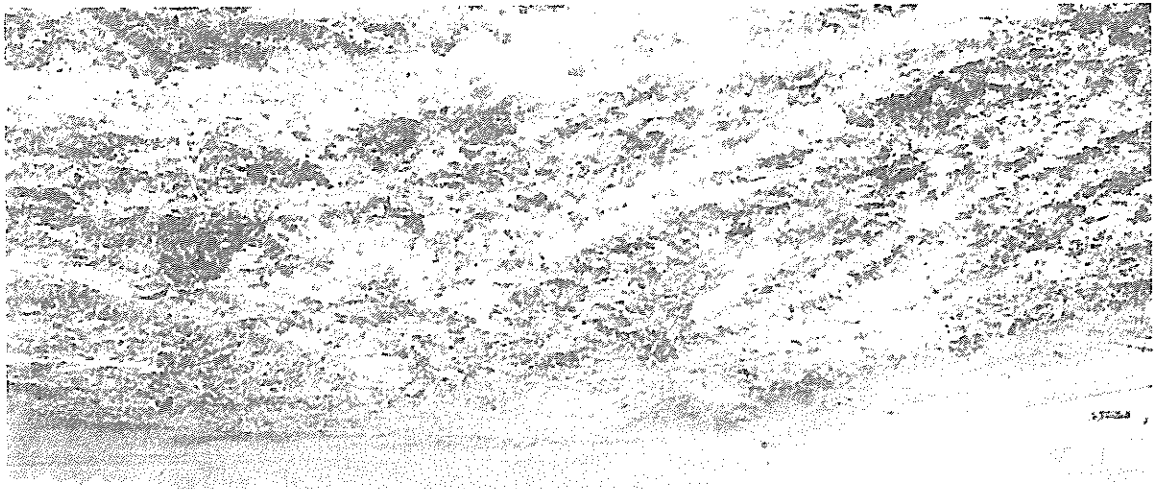
DO YOU WISH TO SUBGARIZE OVER PORTS (P), AREAS (A), STATES (S), OR REGION (R)?
 WHICH STATE DO YOU WISH TO ACCESS? (N,S,G,P)
 WHICH DATES DO YOU WISH THE DATA FOR? ENTER BEGINNING DATE, EX. 07/17/78
 ENDING DATE
 =09/01/78
 =09/30/78

SHRIMP REPORT
 STATE: GEORGIA
 TIME PERIOD 9/1/78 - 9/30/78

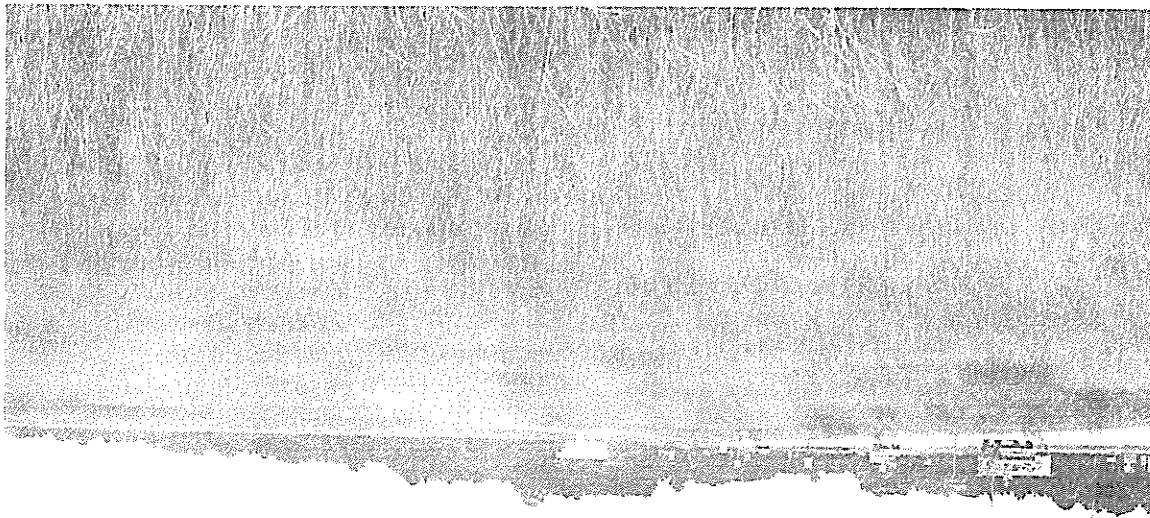
SPECIES: BROWN		
SIZE	LBS (OFF)	VALUE
15/20	0	0
21/25	12309	45543.20
26/30	6885	24097.50
31/35	250	678.50
36/40	0	0
41/45	0	0
46/50	0	0
51/55	0	0
56/60	0	0
61/70	0	0
71 & OVER	19424	70319.30
TOTAL SPECIES	19424	70319.30
SPECIES: PINK		
SIZE	LBS (OFF)	VALUE
15/20	0	0
21/25	87	361.92
26/30	138	477.48
31/35	0	0
36/40	0	0
41/45	0	0
46/50	0	0
51/55	0	0
56/60	0	0
61/70	0	0
71 & OVER	0	0
TOTAL SPECIES	225	839.40
SPECIES: WHITE		
SIZE	LBS (OFF)	VALUE
15/20	0	0
21/25	195922	724911.40
26/30	271851	951478.50
31/35	97482	287571.90
36/40	31550	86762.50
41/45	12194	30485.00
46/50	6370	15288.00
51/55	4452	10239.60
56/60	1974	4244.10
61/70	1109	2051.65
71 & OVER	458	687.00
TOTAL CATCH AREA	623362	2113719.65

boat spent 6.3 hours per trip. Any summary information (including 3 or more dealers) is available for interested parties. We encourage fishermen, dock owners or management personnel to visit our office and observe the utility of the system. For further information, call Mike Hardisky, 912-264-7218.

Coastal Protection



BEFORE: July 1976, 11,500 cubic yards of dredge material remain on the marsh after widening of U.S. 17, north of Brunswick, Ga. View looking north from convenience store near Howard Johnson Motel. Shortly after this photo, 4 to 5 feet of dredged material was removed down to the original marsh elevation through the cooperation of GA DOT officials, Cecil Pierce, T. H. Bacon, and Hal Rives.



AFTER: Two growing seasons later - July 1978, the tidal salt marsh, *Spartina alterniflora* has been restored.



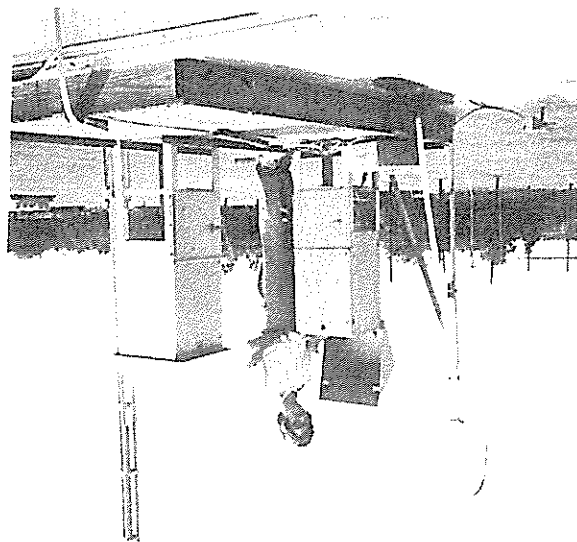
RubINETTE Douglas, Coastal Protection secretary, works with Drs. Marland and Bozeman in the processing of applications for marsh alterations. RubINETTE also serves as the secretary for the Coastal Marshlands Protection committee.

Air Quality Index

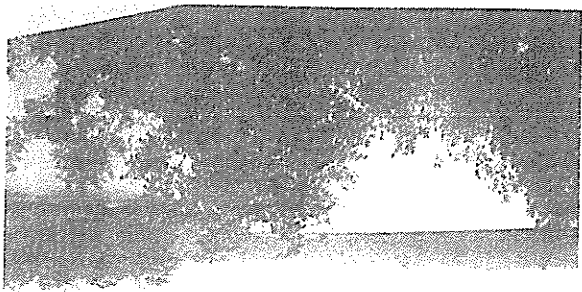
Environmentally concerned residents of Savannah and Chatham County can keep up to date on the local air pollution levels as the result of the publication of the air quality index by the Georgia Environmental Protection Division. The air quality index is calculated daily and reported by A. J. Lungwitz, an environmental specialist with E.P.D. This index includes a measurement of the total suspended particulates (T.S.P.) and sulfur dioxide levels. The T.S.P. include sand, soot, dust, pollen, seeds, and fibers. Sulfur dioxide is a gaseous product of fossil fuel combustion and fertilizer manufacturing processes.

The air quality index is calculated from noon to noon, Monday through Friday, from samplers located at the Savannah Electric site of the E.P.D. operations office (sulfur dioxide), and the city pump house located at West Lathrop and Augusta Avenues (T.S.P.). These sampling locations have been chosen by the use of EPA's diffusion model and are representative of the total sampling network of 10 stations which extends from Rincon to Windsor Forest. All samples from this network, including those used in the Air Quality Index, are sent to the Air Quality Laboratory in Atlanta for further analysis.

Interested individuals can find the Air Quality Index on the second page of the Savannah Morning News with the weather information, on Channel 22 p.m. and 7 a.m., Monday through Friday.



A. J. Lungwitz checking the ambient air sampler located on top of the E.P.D. operations office at Kilowatt Drive in Savannah.



A view of the Ogeechee River west of the I-95 bridge.

Wild and Scenic? . . . Ogeechee River

According to the Georgia Conservancy, the Ogeechee River has been included in a bill passed by the U.S. House of Representatives that would authorize a 3-5 year study to determine whether the Ogeechee should be classified as wild and scenic. These designations require that the natural water quality of the river will have no alteration from any source. This excludes both contaminants at any level and physical changes to the river by man.

Presently, the Ogeechee is classified as a fishing or recreational stream depending upon the location. These classifications allow the discharge of contaminants into the river so long as they are within certain levels. Both fishing streams and those classified for recreational activities such as water skiing, boating and swimming must have a minimum of five parts per million of dissolved oxygen, a pH between 6.0 and 8.5, a temperature increase from man-made sources of not more than 5°F, and receive no toxic wastes in such concentration that would harm man, fish or game. A fishing stream must not have a fecal coliform bacteria count that exceeds a maximum of 400 per 100 ml, and a geometric mean of 100 per 100 ml, and a recreational stream must have a fecal coliform count less than a geometric mean of 200 per 100 ml.

Coastal Glimpses



Jerry McCollum, wildlife biologist on Ossabaw Island's Heritage Preserve, often has to patrol the Island's lonely beaches. He is shown here removing a seine illegally stretched across a tidal creek.

Noel Holcombe is the new wildlife technician assigned to Ossabaw Island Heritage Preserve. Holcombe, a graduate biologist, recently left a position in Atlanta to join DNR.

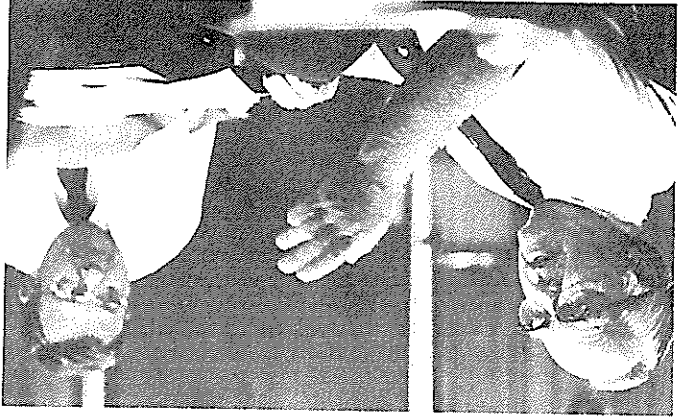


Sicilian donkeys stare through the early morning's haze as intruders come to their marsh on Ossabaw Island.

Coastal Glimpses



An important part of managing the coastal resources - from shrimping to tourism - includes evaluation of the productivity (or agricultural yield) of the salt marshes. CRD employees Helen Walker (left) and Barbara Harrington (right) are processing samples of marsh plants to estimate their productivity.



Sam Corer, of St. Simons Island, and Dolan Brown, of Twin City, at the September meeting of the Board of Natural Resources. These two board members, along with Commissioner Tanner, are by law responsible for determining the opening and closing zones of bait shrimping.



Increased tourism in the coastal area as well as industrial growth associated with the energy exploration on Georgia's Outer Continental Shelf, are daily concerns which make smiles on the faces of many coastal leaders including Phil Mellor, executive director of the Brunswick-Golden Isles Chamber of Commerce.

Coastal Zone Update

The Office of Coastal Zone Management has awarded a fourth year planning grant to the Coastal Resources Division of the Georgia Department of Natural Resources for completion of the Coastal Management Plan. The award is for \$553,436 and will be matched with \$138,359 in state and local funds. The Coastal Area Planning and Development Commission will receive \$82,600. \$17,000 of this will be used for a waterfront redevelopment study in St. Marys. The Brunswick-Glynn County Joint Planning Commission will receive \$78,600. \$25,000 of this will be used for a waterfront redevelopment study in Brunswick and \$30,000 will be used to assist in funding a master plan for St. Simons Island. The Chatham County-Savannah Metropolitan Planning Commission will receive \$20,000. The Governor's Office of Planning and Budget will receive \$23,184. Each of these agencies will assist DNR's Coastal Resources Division staff in accomplishing the goals of the program.

The fourth year of planning under the section 305 program will allow Georgia Coastal Resources staff to develop a networking process between the Department of Natural Resources and other state agencies sharing coastal management responsibilities and to develop links with local units of government, state agencies, and federal agencies to ensure consistent management of the coastal zone.

During this fourth year, DNR staff will complete the states management proposal; have it reviewed by local, state and federal agencies; hold public hearings; make appropriate changes; and forward the document to the Federal Office of Coastal Zone Management (OCCM). State staff will then assist OCCM by making necessary changes during the review, preparing appropriate portions of the draft environmental impact statement, and assisting with the final environmental impact statement as necessary. Also during the fourth year, DNR Coastal Resources staff will maintain an effective working

relationship with local units of government, state agencies, and federal agencies, that may be affected by the proposed arrangement plan. An effective ongoing public participation program will run concurrently. Affected individuals, interest groups and agencies will be kept informed through personal contact, draft and final proposal review, news media and the Coastal Resources newsletter, *Coastlines Georgia*.

Marine Recreation Conference

A three-state conference on coastal recreation was held October 22-24 at Myrtle Beach, South Carolina. Rick Cothran, DNR's section chief of Coastal Zone Management assisted in the organization of the conference.

The conference centered on the recreational pressures on coastal Georgia, South Carolina and North Carolina and plans local, state and federal agencies are making to meet these pressures. The conference, sponsored by the Federal Office of Coastal Zone Management and co-sponsored by the South Carolina Coastal Council, the Georgia DNR and the North Carolina Office of Coastal Management, featured speakers from public and private sectors, including federal agency heads, state agency heads, elected state officials and private corporation officers.

Speakers included Charles Fraser, Sea Pines Company, Hilton Head, South Carolina; Dewey Benefield, Sea Island Company, Georgia; and Patrick Doyle, Outboard Marine Corporation, Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Federal and state agency speakers included: Dallas Miner and Robert Knecht of the Federal Office of Coastal Zone Management; Dr. James Timmerman, Executive Director of South Carolina's Wildlife and Marine Resources Department; James P. Brown, of the North Carolina DNR and Community Development and Joe D. Tanner, Georgia DNR Commissioner.

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Coastal Resources Division
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1200 Glynn Avenue
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