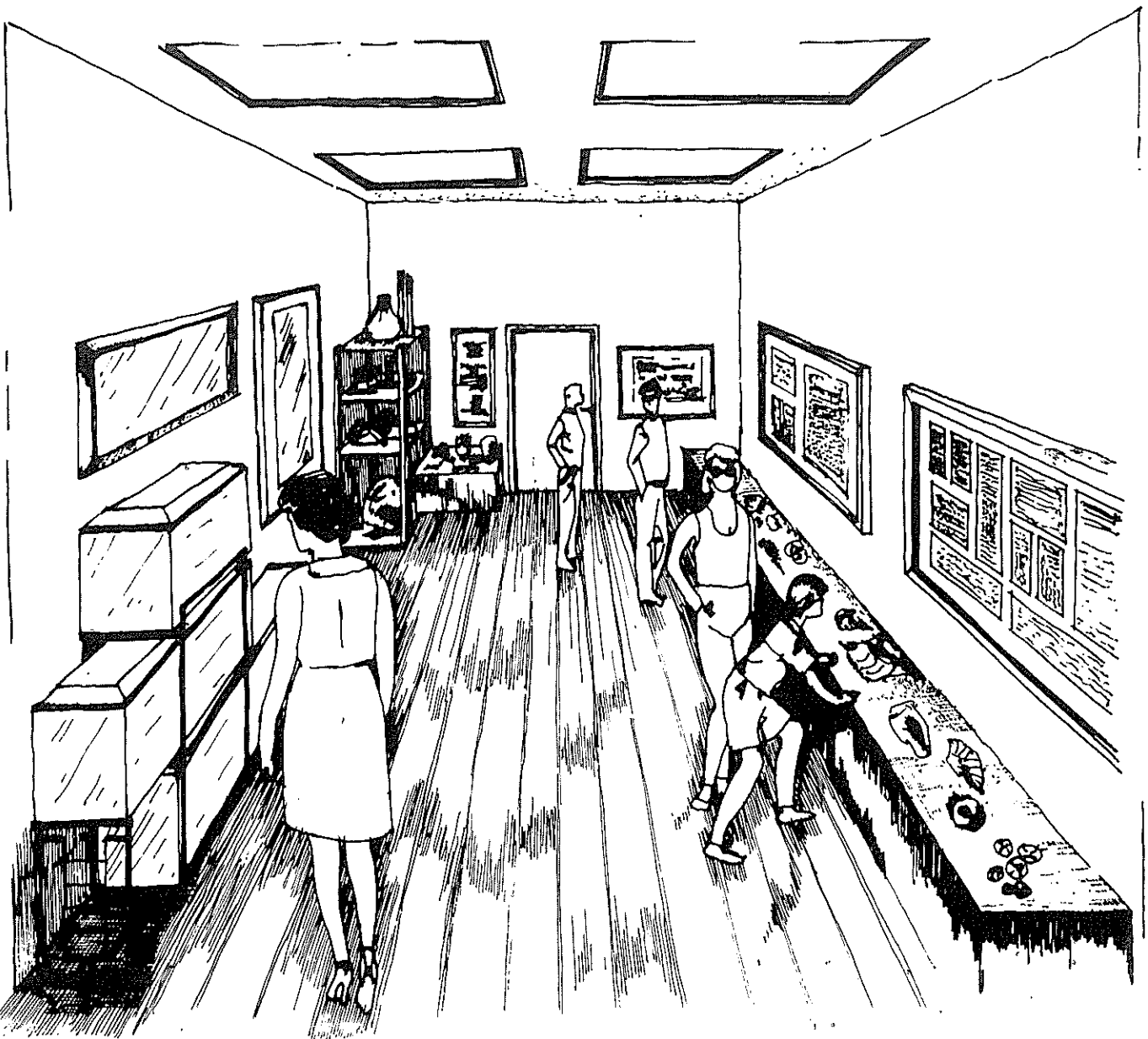


Coastlines Georgia

SPECIAL REGULATIONS ISSUE

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COASTAL RESOURCES DIVISION
BRUNSWICK, GEORGIA



June-July, 1978

Volume 1, No. 3



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COASTLINES GEORGIA is published by the Coastal Resources Program, Department of Natural Resources, 1200 Glynn Avenue, Brunswick, Georgia 31520.

Dr. Robert J. Reimold, Chief
Bill Morehead, Editor

Funds defraying partial cost of this newsletter are made available to DNR from the Office of Coastal Zone Management, National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration, Washington, D.C.

Coastal Information/ Exhibit Center

DNR's Coastal Resources Program is cooperating with the city of Brunswick, Glynn County, the Brunswick-Golden Isles Chamber of Commerce, the U.S. 17 Merchants Association, and the Coastal Highway District of Georgia to develop a coastal information/exhibit center to be housed at the Coastal Resources Office in Brunswick.

The project, spearheaded by H. J. Friedman, Sr., of the Coastal Highway District, was officially started on 18 May. The facility will provide a small information center which will house coastal exhibits, including aquaria, and resource information materials for local citizens and tourists.

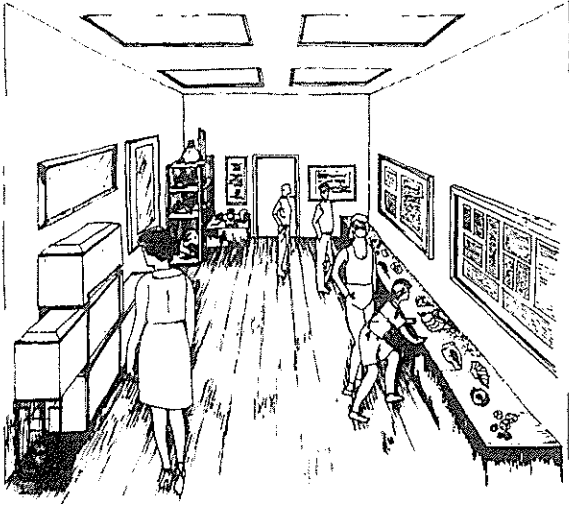
Funds to construct the information/exhibit center are being provided by the Coastal Highway District, U. S. 17 Merchants Association, the Brunswick-Golden Isles Chamber of Commerce and the new 1% hotel-motel sales tax in Brunswick and Glynn County.

Following the construction and operation of the information/exhibit center, a second phase of the project will be the construction of a marsh boardwalk at the Overlook Park extending into the Marshes of Glynn. In addition to the boardwalk, additional parking spaces will be constructed to aid fishermen and others who trailer boats to the nearby Brunswick Marina.

The marsh boardwalk, as well as the information/exhibit center are designed to be self-instructing, although members of the Young Adult Conservation Corps are expected to guide tour groups through both areas, especially during times of heavy tourist/student traffic, by prior arrangement with CRP's Information and Education Coordinator, Bill Morehead.

Dr. Robert J. Reimold, Chief of Coastal Resources, said, "The city of Brunswick

2,000 copies printed at a cost of approximately \$1200.00



had great foresight in building Overlook Park several years ago. Actually, it is the only place between Florida and South Carolina where the visitor is encouraged to pull over and view the marsh.” Reimold said the information/exhibit center, along with the boardwalk, will provide a greatly needed service to the public by offering information and education concerning the marsh and other coastal resources.

Marsh Restoration

The first Georgia application of a newly developed marsh restoration technique occurred in McIntosh County in April.



Dr. Bob Reimold shows workers the proper type of marsh grass to replant on the Department of Transportation’s marsh restoration project on White Chimney River in McIntosh County.

The project involved DNR, the Department of Transportation and the University of Georgia. Restoration consisted of hand-planting marsh plants in an area where the marsh had been disturbed by a temporary detour across White Chimney River. The detour was necessary to replace the bridge at the site.

Dr. Robert J. Reimold and his colleagues developed the technique under contract from the U.S. Army Dredged Materials Research Program while working for the University of Georgia Marine Extension Service. Now, as DNR’s coastal resources chief, Reimold is directing the use of the technique to help conserve Georgia’s valuable marshland.



Perry Jones, operations coordinator for DNR’s Coastal Resources Program, not only counts pennies for petty cash accounts, but is in charge of field purchasing, buildings and grounds, routine operations and research vessels at the Brunswick Office.

Johnny Bullard, DOT’s coordinator for the White Chimney River project, said the marsh replanting satisfied a number of environmental concerns but added very little to the cost of road improvement construction. The marsh replanting at the site cost \$500 (total project cost was \$161,700).

There are several benefits of marsh reconstruction, according to Reimold. Since Georgia’s marshlands and estuaries serve as nurseries for shrimp and other

seafood, replanting marsh areas helps to maintain the nursery effect. Also, if the areas were not replanted, silts and muds would erode into nearby rivers and creeks and the marsh would be lost permanently.

Finally, according to Reimold, marsh restoration such as this demonstrates that Georgians can use our marshes temporarily and, if care is taken, replace them.

Coastal Zone Management Update

The Coastal Resources Program recently hosted a workshop for state Coastal Zone Management program managers of the South Atlantic region.

Mr. John C. Phillips, Acting Regional Manager, South Atlantic Region, and Ms. Marion Cox, Assistant Regional Manager, South Atlantic Region, from the Washington, D.C. office of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administrations Office of Coastal Zone Management, discussed a number of CZM concerns with program managers from Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia and Florida.

Georgia's CZM staff participation in this exchange of ideas included O. R. Cothran, Harvey Young, Bobbie Carney, Tom Baurer, Eric Lesser, David Reeves, Mr. James Talley (executive assistant to the Department of Natural Resources); and Bob Reimold. Local government planning representatives included Roy Dudark and Ed Stelle (Brunswick-Glynn County Joint Planning Commission); Craig Root (Coastal Area Planning and Development Commission); and Milton Memton (Chatham-Savannah Metropolitan Planning Commission).

A workshop for people who deal directly with coastal zone management programs and their impacts was held last May 17 and 18 at Sea Palms on St. Simons Island. The format contained topics including CZM planning and management processes, how CZM is working and where the program is headed and the advantages of a comprehensive CZM program.

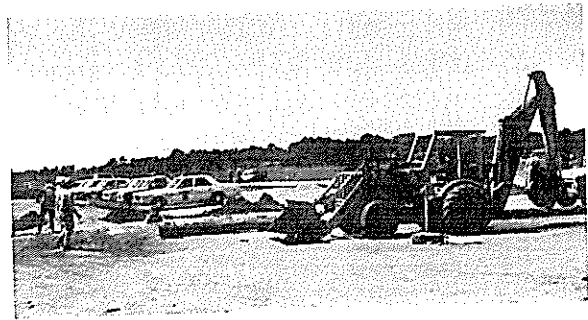
The session's co-sponsors were Brunswick Junior College, Georgia Southern College, the Coastal Plains Center for Marine Development Services and the Coastal Resources Program of DNR.

Coastal Resources Update

Visitors to DNR's coastal resources headquarters at 1200 Glynn Avenue in Brunswick will be delighted to find our parking lot paved. In the past, challenging games of hopscotch were required to negotiate the puddles and bog areas. Many visitors, and nearly all DNR employees, lost such games regularly.

But no more - the bogs are now buried under a smooth, black shroud of asphalt. Order out of chaos fairly beams in the well-designed parking lanes and curbing trim.

This and other additions (sewer lines, lights, etc.) literally paved the way for future additions to the DNR coastal complex.



Coastal Fisheries Update

SHRIMP TAGGING PROJECT UPDATE

Local and state-wide shrimpers should be on the alert for shrimp carrying red, yellow or white spaghetti-like tags. Approximately 10,500 shrimp will be tagged in this manner each year for the next four years. We will be tagging white and brown shrimp at the ratio of approximately 85% whites to 15% browns.

Our tagged shrimp will be released from three major sound systems in Georgia: south, central and north. Three different color tags will be used, one for each sound system. Printed on one side of the tag will be -- Reward Shrimp and Tag #000001, and on the other side -- DNR BWK., GA. 31520. There will be a stationary release point in the creeks and sounds in each of the three major systems, making a total of six stationary release points for the entire coast. These release points were chosen for their similarities in relation to salinity, water temperature, water flow, and their accessibility to the sounds and outside waters. The tags will be divided into six equal blocks of numbers from 1 to 10,500 representing the creeks and sounds of each of the three major systems. This will simplify our tagging operations and we will be able to tell instantly from what location a returned shrimp was tagged. We will also experiment with a holding time/mortality study to determine the mortality

CHARTER FISHING BOAT DATA

CAPTAIN'S	ADDRESS	PHONE NO. H PHONE NO. O	BOAT	MAKE	SIZE	NO. PERSON	DOCKS	LOCATION FISHED	TYPE OF FISHING	CHARTER DIVE PARTIES
Sherman Heley Judy Helmey		912-234-6654 912-897-1855	Miss Jerry Miss Judy	T-Craft T-Craft	28' 30'	6 6	Wilmington Isl. Wilmington Isl.	Offshore Offshore	trolling/ bottom	Yes Yes
Ralph Vick	203 Fiddlers Bend Savannah, GA	912-355-0645 912-234-6696	Water Way		45'	6	Isle of Hope M	Offshore/ Gulf Stream	trolling	No
Cap Fendig	Golden Isles Marina St. Simons, GA	912-638-2025 912-638-8633	Witchcraft III	Mako	23'	4	Golden Isles M	Artificial Reef-Bwk.	trolling	Yes
Jimmy Newman	3 Webster Drive Savannah, GA	912-354-0162 912-354-4591	Adventure II	T-Craft	34'	4-6	Thunderbolt M	offshore/ snapper banks	trolling/ bottom	Yes
Jim Walthall		912-925-6399 912-236-6870	Manatee		32'	6	Harbor Town Hilton Head	offshore	trolling/ bottom	Yes
James T. Hart	1404 Blakeley Rd. Savannah, GA	912-352-8887 912-897-5495	Pequod	Hatteras	34'	6	Turners Creek M	snapper banks	trolling/ bottom	Yes
Charles Llewellyn	1741 E. 31st. St. Savannah, Ga.	912-232-3097 912-354-1260	Citation	Cruise Craft	59'	30 35	Thunderbolt M	50M. offshore snapper banks	bottom	No
DeJ Turner	4 Porter Lane Jekyll Island, Ga.	912-635-2404	Big Possum	Mako	19'	4	Jekyll Marina	offshore	trolling/ bottom	Yes
Ralph Vick, Jr.	Alahabra Apts. Savannah, GA	912-354-6742 912-355-2310	Lucky Lady	Hatteras	45'	6	Isle of Hope M	offshore	trolling	No
Weldon Stamps	P. O. Box 57 Jekyll Island, GA	912-635-2571 912-635-2410	Wei-Mic IV	Uniflite	31'	6	Golden Isles M	offshore/ Tampa reef	trolling/ bottom	Yes
Bill Shearin	20 E. Victory Dr. Savannah, GA	912-233-6825 912-354-1260	Neva-Miss III	T-Craft	32'	6	Thunderbolt M	offshore	red snapper	Yes
Carl Griffith	131 Nelson Drive Savannah, GA	912-897-1446 912-897-9989	Fore Sail	Sportcraft	30'	6	Turners Creek M	offshore towers/ Blackfish banks	trolling/ bottom	Yes

(CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE)

CHARTER FISHING BOAT DATA
(CONTINUED)

Burt Herrin	5 Wymberly Pt. Rd . Savannah, GA	912-354-1230 912-355-2310	Lady Ann	Hatteras	41'	6	Isle of Hope M	offshore Gulf Stream Artificial R.	trolling/ bottom	?
Frank Mead	420 Union St. St. Simons, GA	912-638-4261 912-638-3611 ext. 523	Shadowfax	Mako	20'	4-6	Sea Island	Inland Rivers	mostly inshore	Yes
Dan Robertson	522 Postall Dr. St. Simons, GA	912-638-3151 912-638-3611 ext. 523		Proline	20'	6	Sea Island	Inshore Artificial R.	trolling/ bottom	Yes
W. A. Hamby Jr.	212 Broadway St. Simons, GA	912-638-8497 912-638-9146	No Name II		35'	6	St. Simons M.	Offshore Gulf Stream Artificial R.	trolling/ bottom	?
Vernon Crews	P. O. Box 418 Kingsland, GA	912-729-3353		Pleasure Fisherman Yacht	40'	6	St. Marys or St. Simons	offshore Gulf Stream Artificial R.	trolling/ bottom	Yes
Buford Birdsey	P. O. Box 838 St. Simons, GA	912-638-2047 912-638-8633	Cajun	Pacemaker	40'	?	Golden Isles M	offshore Gulf Stream Artificial R.	trolling/ bottom	Yes
Mike Parker	c/o Don Mussman P. O. Box 229 Richmond Hill, GA	912-756-3784		Sportcraft	27'	4	Lincoln River (near KilKenny)	offshore Gulf Stream Artificial R.	trolling/ bottom	Yes

Georgia Landings - 1977

The annual survey by the National Marine Fisheries Service on Georgia commercial fish and shellfish landings show that 94% of all dollar values of landings in 1977 came from shellfish (crabs, shrimp and oysters). Shrimp dollar values accounted for 75% of the total, while crab dollar values accounted for 18% of the total and oysters, the remaining 1%.

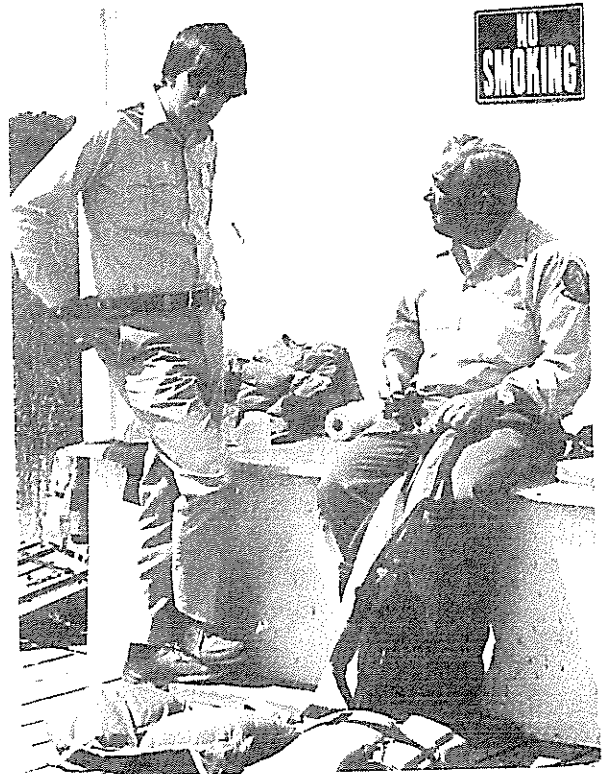
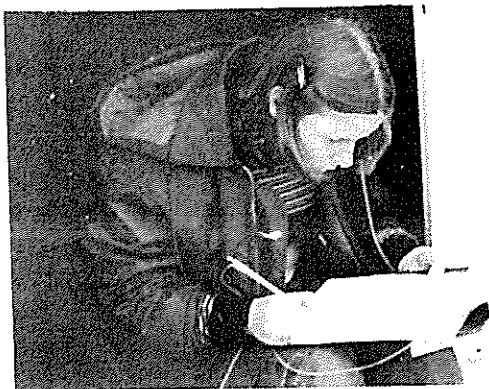
Fish landings were up more than \$200,000, with a dollar value of \$549,532, but the percentage of the total dollar value accounted for by finfish was only 6%.

Landings whose 1977 dollar value amounted to \$10,000 or more are shown below.

Beginning in 1978, Georgia DNR personnel associated with the Coastal Resources Program are assisting the National Marine Fisheries Service in collecting information about the 1978 landings.

GEORGIA COMMERCIAL FISH LANDINGS

	1977	
	POUNDS	DOLLARS
Catfish and Bull heads	75,139	41,860
Flounders, unclassified	82,136	28,262
Groupers	110,118	64,087
King Whiting	161,575	37,513
Scup or Porgy	135,188	73,834
Shad	117,996	84,412
Snapper, Red	71,303	124,663
Snapper, unclassified	9,060	13,029
Total Fish	864,413	549,532
Shellfish		
Crabs, Blue, hard	7,721,668	1,632,092
Shrimp, Heads on	4,594,575	6,842,002
Oysters (meats)	87,221	75,009
Total Shellfish	12,403,564	8,549,133
Grand Total	13,271,977	9,098,665



DNR research vessel captains Mike Younce and Pard Andreu (*Bagby* and *Cobia*) swap notes on the dock after a day's work on the water.

Law Enforcement Update

NORTHERN SECTOR

A total of 136 cases were made during April - 34 for fishing violations, 95 boating violations and 4 littering violation. A total of 164 warnings were issued.

Seventy-six convictions of violations are reported for April, resulting in total fines of \$2,637.00.

Hunter safety classes were conducted for 67 participants. Two classes were presented, each consisting of 12-hours of instruction and each taking three days to conduct.

Ranger Talmadge Hughes was recommended to represent the Coastal Northern Sector for Ranger of the Year.

Susan Stephens, a student at Frederica Academy on St. Simons, worked with DNR's saltwater fish tagging project during a recent mini-mester activity at the academy. Susan is shown here aboard the R/V *George T. Bagby* taking down data on the tagging project. This mini-mester program helped Susan gain experience about careers in marine resource management.

SOUTHERN SECTOR

Activity in the southern sector has increased some since the winter months. Boating and sports fishing are increasing as the weather continues to warm.

During the month of April this sector checked 1,181 licenses, 1,454 boats and wrote 56 cases and 35 warnings for violations. We had 49 convictions reported for April with \$2,713.00 collected in fines. Three of the cases listed were for hunting deer at night and resulted in one vehicle, one rifle, one deer and two lights being confiscated.

Twenty-seven of the cases and 27 warnings were written for violations of the Georgia boating safety act. This indicates that some boaters fail to check their safety equipment before embarking on a new boating year.



Frank Gould is a new ranger assigned to the coastal south district. Frank is retired from the U.S. Army with 20 years of service, mostly in southeast Asia and Europe. He is originally from Martinez, Georgia.

Three Mile Limit

The State will enforce the three-mile limit during the upcoming shrimp season by measuring the three nautical miles due eastward of the low water mark of Georgia's coastal islands, according to James B. Talley, Executive Assistant, Department of Natural Resources (DNR).

Responding to the decision by the State Supreme Court, which overturned a ruling of the Court of Appeals and returned the case of commercial shrimp fisherman John William Joyner to a Glynn County court for a new trial, Talley issued the following statement.

"On May 16, 1978, the Supreme Court of Georgia rendered a decision which adopts the Geneva Convention rules for the delineation of the State's jurisdictional limit along the Georgia coast.

Specifically in this case, the Court rules that the seaward boundary of the State's three-mile jurisdiction is three nautical miles, measured from

the low water line along the coast, except where a 'low-tide elevation' or sandbar lies within these three miles. Then, the three mile jurisdiction is measured from the low water line of such sandbar.

In the very near future, DNR will adopt specific guidelines and charts showing the three-mile limit. This information will be publicly distributed.

In the meantime, DNR will enforce the commercial shrimping laws three nautical miles eastward of the low water mark of the coastal islands."

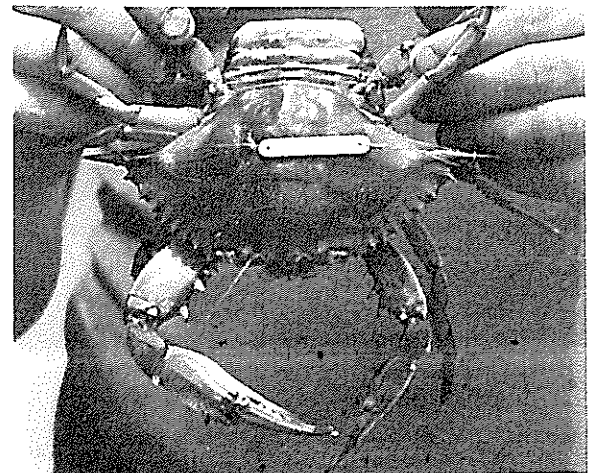
Long Distance Swimmer

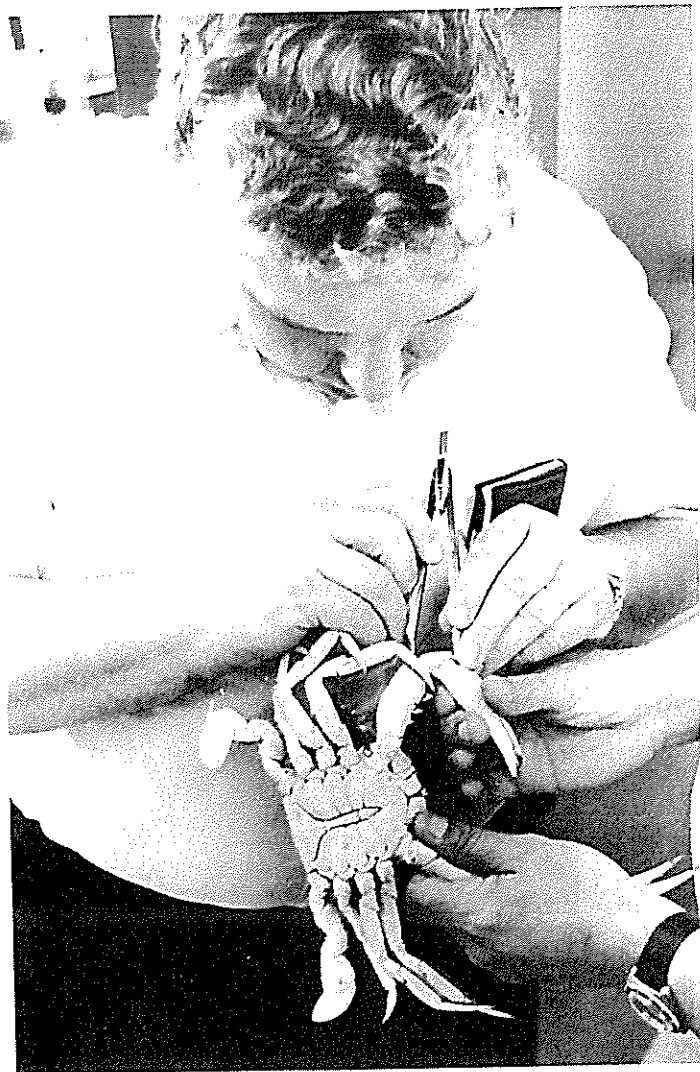
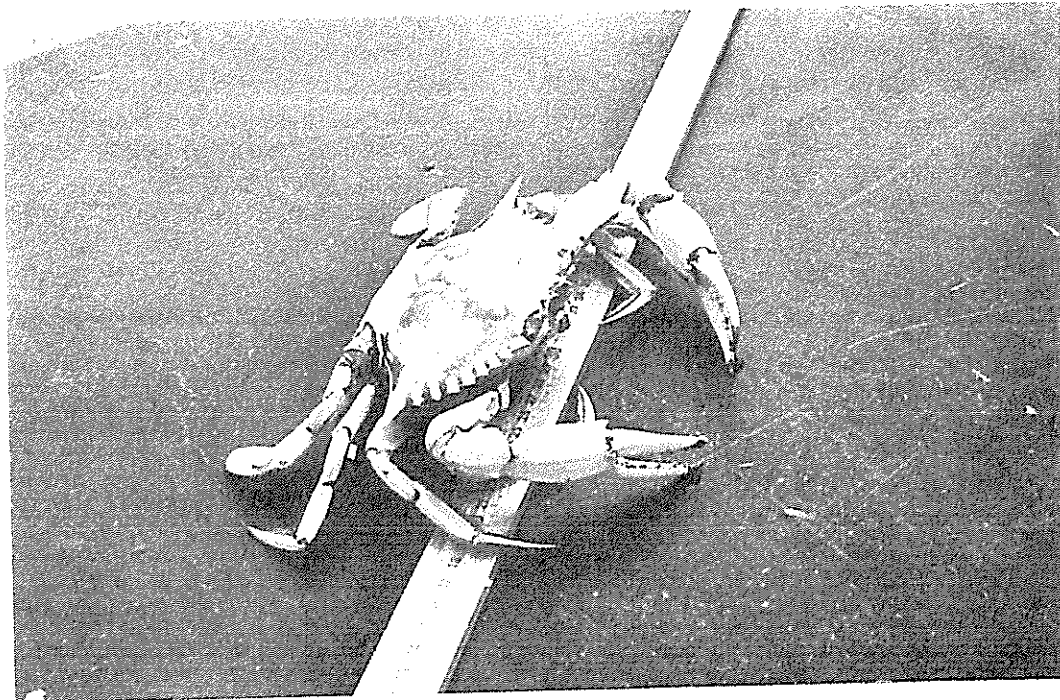
Crabbers and other coastal fishermen know it, but most other people don't. The scientific name for Georgia's second-most important seafood staple, the blue crab, is *Callinectes sapidus* (which means "beautiful swimmer").

Although not common knowledge, scientists know the mature blue crab is quite capable of migrating or swimming long distances. Another evidence of this came in several days ago when crabber Riley White of Waverly, Georgia, picked up this female sponge crab from the mouth of Jointer Creek near Jekyll Sound.

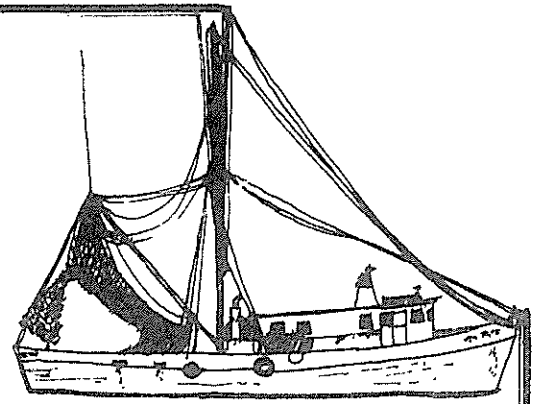
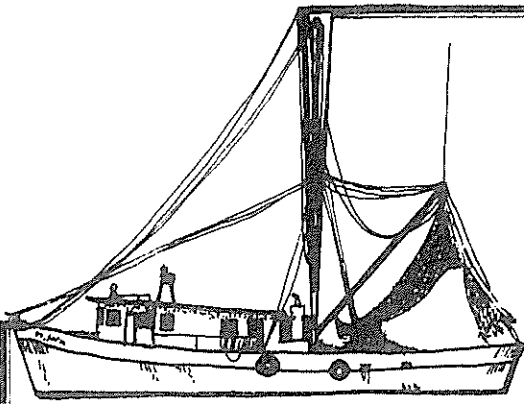
The tag on its back led DNR biologists to check with the state of North Carolina, where they found out that the crab was tagged at the mouth of Cape Fear River, near Wilmington, N.C.. The three hundred mile trip south for the pretty lady to our pleasant golden isles was in concert with thousands of other tourists, but her route apparently avoided heavy traffic jams.

Migrations of commercially important species like shrimp and crabs however, emphasize the need for interstate cooperation in the management of marine life.





Lester, the rare albino blue crab that Brunswick crabber Bobby Myers brought in a month ago, has found a happy home in the aquarium at DNR's Coastal Resources Office in Brunswick. Lester has appeared in newspapers in Georgia and Florida - he appears to like the attention, hamming it up any time a photographer happens his way. Sometimes, however, he does get a bit "crabby." He even sat still while DNR biologists took his measure for a report to the Smithsonian Institution in Washington, D.C.



1978 - 1979
G E O R G I A
C O A S T A L F I S H I N G R E G U L A T I O N S

SHRIMP

BLUE CRAB

OYSTER

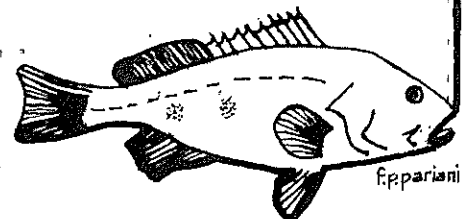
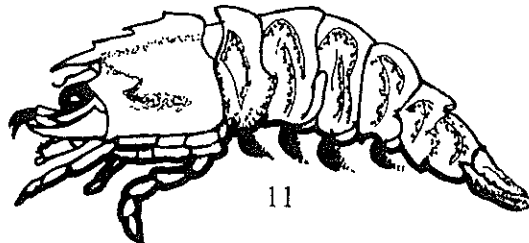
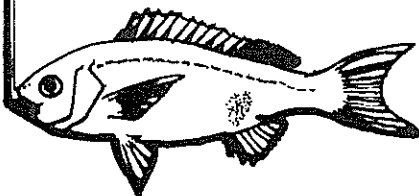
SHAD

CATFISH

EELS

OTHER

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
COASTAL RESOURCES PROGRAM
1200 Glynn Avenue
Brunswick, Georgia 31520



GENERAL INFORMATION

Licenses for commercial and sport fishing in the salt waters of Georgia are available from the Department of Natural Resources Offices in Brunswick (1200 Glynn Avenue, Brunswick, Georgia 31520) and in Richmond Hill (Highway 144, Richmond Hill, Georgia 31324).

Information concerning seasons and licenses may be obtained at the above offices or by calling the following numbers:

Brunswick (912) 264-7237 - Paul Leverett
Brunswick (912) 264-7330 - Bill Morehead
Richmond Hill (912) 727-2111 - Harrel Poole
Richmond Hill and Savannah (912) 944-2221 - Harrel Poole

For general information concerning saltwater fishing and other coastal natural resources, contact:

Department of Natural Resources
Coastal Information Office
1200 Glynn Avenue
Brunswick, Georgia 31520
(912) 264-7330

NOTE:

This saltwater fishing brochure is intended as a popular guide to the laws and regulations which govern the major fishing activities along the Georgia coast. It should not be interpreted by the reader to be a law book nor a formal presentation of the regulations adopted by the Board of Natural Resources.

The interested citizen may purchase a copy of the official game and fish laws of the State of Georgia (Code of Georgia annotated, Title 45) from Harrison Company Publishers, 3110 Crossing Park, Norcross, Georgia 30071.

SALTWATER DEMARCATION LINE

The line established in this State as the separation point between salt and fresh waters for fishing licenses, commercial fishing, and sport fishing is as follows:

(a) The point at which Interstate Highway 95 crosses the following bodies of water and their tributaries shall be the line of demarcation for them: St. Mary's River, Satilla River System (including Satilla River and White Oak Creek), South Altamaha River, Champney River, Butler River, Darien River and Cathead Creek, Little Ogeechee System (both branches). All water seaward of these points shall be considered salt water.

(b) The point at which the Seaboard Coastline Railroad crosses the following bodies of water and their tributaries shall be the line of demarcation for them: North Newport River System (both Riceboro and Peacock Creek branches), Big Ogeechee River, Savannah River (Seaboard Coastline Railroad crossing east of U.S. Highway 17). All water seaward of these points shall be considered salt water.

(c) The following rivers and their tributaries are designated as salt water for their entire length: Crooked River, Little Satilla River, South Brunswick River, Turtle River, Sapelo River, South Newport River, Jericho River, and all other rivers, streams and tributaries in the six coastal counties which are not enumerated above.

Provided, however, this section shall not apply to freshwater ponds on the seaward side of the demarcation line.

SHRIMP

COMMERCIAL FOOD SHRIMPING (Shrimp for Human Consumption Taken with Power-drawn Nets)

Licenses (Boat and Personal):

(a) **Commercial Boat License:** In order to obtain a commercial boat license which is required for fishing with power-drawn nets, the owner of the boat must first do one of the following: (1) file with the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) a \$5,000 forfeiture bond obtained from a bonding, surety or insurance company licensed to do business in Georgia; or (2) post a cash forfeiture bond in the amount of \$5,000 in an escrow account (opened in the name of the owner and DNR) in a state or federally chartered bank; or (3) file with DNR a signed affidavit stating that he or

she is the sole owner of the boat, and that the boat is owned free and clear from all encumbrances such as liens, mortgages and other evidences of a security interest, and acknowledging that the boat will be subject to confiscation and seizure, as provided in section 45-902 of the Georgia Game and Fish Code, when used in violation of that section of the law.

The cost of a boat license for a trawler owned by a Georgia resident is \$25 for the first 18 feet, and \$.50 per foot for each foot or fraction thereof over 18 feet. The cost of this license to a nonresident is \$25 over the cost to a resident, and if the non-resident's state charges a fee in excess of that amount to Georgia residents, the non-resident must pay the same amount which would be charged a Georgia resident to get a license in the non-resident's state.

Note: Boats licensed to catch shrimp for human consumption may be used for that shrimping purpose only. Once a boat so licensed is used for any other purpose (such as catching bait and for personal use), the boat may not thereafter be used to catch shrimp commercially for human consumption.

(b) **Personal Commercial Saltwater Fishing License:** A commercial saltwater fishing license costs a resident \$2, and a nonresident \$5. This license is separate and distinct from the commercial fishing boat license discussed above. Each person engaged in commercial fishing in the salt waters of this state is required to have such a license, except that when a person in charge of the operation of a commercial fishing boat has a commercial saltwater fishing license and is on board the boat, a person assisting in commercial fishing under the supervision of such person need not have a commercial saltwater fishing license.

Identification Boards:

Beginning April 1, 1979, each person taking shrimp with power-drawn nets will be required to have an identification board positioned on the bow or cabin of the boat. The numbers and letters to be placed on this board will be made available by DNR at the time the 1979 licenses are issued. Additional information regarding the identification boards will be available at that time.

Areas and Seasons:

The offshore waters (those waters outside, on the seaward side, of the sound limit out to the 3 mile limit) may be opened by the Department of Natural Resources from June 1 through December 31 of each year provided that the shrimp count is 45 or less to the pound with heads on. During the months of January and February, the offshore waters may be opened by DNR if the shrimp count is 50 or less to the pound with heads on. The Department of Natural Resources makes periodic samplings to determine the shrimp count. When the average count reaches the count required for opening, the offshore waters may be opened. If the count increases above the count specified for opening, i.e. there are more shrimp to the pound, the outside waters must be closed. The offshore waters, are permanently closed by law from March 1 through May 31 of each year.

All Georgia sounds are closed to the use of power-drawn nets.

Shrimping for human consumption with power-drawn nets is never permitted in tidal rivers or creeks.

A notice of the opening or closing of waters to the use of power-drawn nets will be posted by DNR at the courthouse and on shrimp docks at least 24 hours prior to the opening or closing. In addition, newspapers, radio stations and other media are also asked to cooperate in order to notify interested persons.

Hours:

Commercial food shrimping is legal only between the hours of 5 a.m. EST (6 a.m. EDT) and 8 p.m. EST (9 p.m. EDT). Trawling at all other hours is prohibited regardless of whether the waters are "open".

Catch Limits:

There are no limits on the number or pounds of shrimp which may be taken or possessed by a commercial food shrimper.

Restricted Zones:

Boating safety zones have been established off Jekyll Island, Savannah Beach (Tybee Island), St. Simons Island, and Sea Island. These zones consist of the waters from the northernmost point to the southernmost point of each of these islands from the high water mark to a distance 1,000 feet seaward from the high water mark. Power boats are prohibited in these zones.

SPORT LIVE BAIT SHRIMPING (Noncommercial Shrimper Taking Shrimp for Live Bait with 10' or smaller Power-drawn Net)

License:

A sport bait shrimping license is required in order to use a power-drawn net (not to exceed 10' at the widest part of its mouth) for the purpose of taking shrimp to be used for live bait in this State. The cost of this license for a resident is \$5.00 and for a nonresident, \$75.00. When two or more persons are sport bait shrimping on a boat, only one person on board the boat is required to have a sport bait shrimping license.

NOTE: It is unlawful for any person to sell or otherwise dispose of, for human consumption, any shrimp taken under a sport bait shrimping license. It is also unlawful for any person to possess such shrimp for the purpose of sale or other distribution for human consumption, or to personally consume such shrimp.

Identification Board:

See "Commercial Food Shrimping: Identification Boards" above.

Areas and Seasons:

A sport bait shrimper may take shrimp only in those rivers and creeks or portions thereof which have been specifically opened to bait shrimping by the Department of Natural Resources. Rivers and creeks may only be opened after sample trawls have been made indicating certain criteria have been met. There is no specific season for sport bait shrimping. Notice of the opening or closing of rivers and creeks is given in the same manner as set forth above and charts are available upon request. (See "Commercial Food Shrimping: Areas and Seasons").

Hours:

Sport bait shrimping is legal only between the hours of one-half hour before official sunrise to one-half hour after official sunset.

Catch Limits:

A sport bait shrimper may not possess at any time, more than 2 quarts of shrimp, no more than 1/2 pint of which may be dead, and may not take more than 4 quarts of shrimp within a 24 hour period. In addition, when two or more persons occupy the same boat, there may be no more than 4 quarts of shrimp on board the boat at any time, no more than 1 pint of which may be dead, and no more than 8 quarts of shrimp may be taken within a 24 hour period.

Restricted Zones:

See "Commercial Food Shrimping: Restricted Zones" above.

COMMERCIAL BAIT SHRIMPING (Shrimp Caught and Marketed As Bait)

Licenses (Dealer and Boat):

(a) **Bait Dealer's License:** No person may engage in the taking of shrimp for live bait to be sold, or the sale of shrimp for dead bait, unless that person has a bait dealer's license or is the full-time employee of such a person.

Sale of Bait Shrimp:

It is unlawful for a bait dealership to sell or otherwise distribute to one person, or for any person to buy, within a 24 hour period, more than 8 quarts of bait shrimp.

Bait shrimp may not be removed from an established dealership unless it is sold as:

(1) Live bait in a container of such size as to ensure that all live shrimp therein are covered by a minimum of one (1) inch of saltwater; or

(2) Dead bait which have been packaged with heads on

and frozen. Such packages shall contain no more than one (1) quart of shrimp and must be clearly marked with letters at least one half (1/2) inch in size, to read as follows: "SOLD FOR BAIT ONLY".

A bait dealer is prohibited from having at one time at the bait dealership more than 200 quarts of shrimp. Also, no more than 10% of the shrimp at the dealership may be dead, unless they are frozen and packaged as dead bait.

It is unlawful to sell or otherwise dispose of, for human consumption, any bait shrimp. It is also unlawful for any person to possess bait shrimp for the purpose of sale or other distribution for human consumption, or to personally consume bait shrimp.

Other:

Bait dealers must keep all shrimp in saltwater tanks meeting the standards described below unless and until the shrimp die, in which case the shrimp must be promptly frozen and packaged as dead bait. No licensed bait dealer may intentionally cause or allow shrimp to die.

A bait dealer must permit inspection of his or her bait dealership by employees of DNR at any reasonable time. Failure to comply with this requirement is a misdemeanor and grounds for forfeiture of the bait shrimping bond, and license revocation.

(1) Live bait shrimp facilities must consist of either floating bait containers or tanks with circulating or recirculating systems to provide an exchange of salt waters.

(2) Floating bait containers must be constructed with adequate openings to provide for a steady exchange of salt waters.

(3) Tanks with circulating saltwater systems must include adequate spray outlets to provide aeration as well as sufficient water inlets to create a circulating flow within the bait tank.

(4) All live shrimp-holding facilities must be constructed of nontoxic materials or materials which have been properly treated with an approved nontoxic substance. They must be maintained in a condition conducive to keeping shrimp alive, which requires regular cleaning and the removal of dead shrimp.

(5) No organisms other than shrimp can be held in live shrimp bait tanks.

(6) Freezer storage sufficient to freeze and to keep frozen any shrimp which die while in possession of a dealer and which are to be sold as dead bait must be maintained on the premises of the established bait dealership.

In addition, an applicant for a bait dealer's license must either file with DNR a \$1,000 forfeiture bond obtained from a bonding, surety or insurance company licensed to do business in Georgia, or post a cash forfeiture bond in the amount of \$1,000 in an escrow account (opened in the name of the bait dealer and DNR) in a state or federally chartered bank. The forfeiture bond is conditioned upon the faithful compliance by the bait dealer and all his or her full-time employees with the laws and regulations relating to the taking, sale and possession of bait shrimp. The cost of a bait dealer's license is \$2 for a resident, and \$5 for a nonresident. The bait dealer's license is required in lieu of a personal commercial saltwater fishing license.

It is unlawful for a bait dealer or any full-time employee of such a dealer to have or permit in or on the commercial fishing boat used for the bait dealership, or in or on the bait dealership premises, any shrimp for human consumption.

Equipment (including the boat) used for obtaining bait shrimp may not be used for any other commercial fishing purpose.

It is unlawful to sell, unload or otherwise dispose of, shrimp taken for a bait dealership, at any place other than the bait dealership for whom the bait was taken. The only exception is the transfer from a boat to a DNR approved vehicle (with equipment to keep the shrimp alive) which will unload the shrimp at a bait dealership which is not located on the waterfront.

(b) **Commercial Bait Boat License:** A commercial bait boat license is required for a boat with power-drawn nets which

is taking shrimp for sale as bait. However, neither the \$5,000 bond nor the affidavit is required. The cost of the commercial fishing boat license is as indicated in "Commercial Food Shrimping Licenses" above.

Identification Boards:

See "Commercial Food Shrimping: Identification Boards" above.

Areas and Seasons:

See "Sport Bait Shrimping: Areas and Seasons" above.

Hours:

The lawful hours for commercial bait shrimping (taking shrimp for sale as bait) are from one-half hour before official sunrise to one-half hour after official sunset.

Net Size:

A power-drawn net used for commercial bait shrimping may not be larger than 20' at the widest part of its mouth.

Catch Limit:

It is unlawful for any person engaged in commercial bait shrimping to have on board the boat used for taking the bait shrimp more than 50 quarts of shrimp at any time, no more than 10% of which may be dead.

Number of Boats:

Except from March 1 through July 15 of each year, it shall be unlawful for more than one (1) boat to be engaged at any one time in the taking of shrimp for any one bait dealer. From March 1 through July 15 there will be a limit of two (2) boats. When the identification boards are made available (see above) these boats will be designated by the suffixes "A" and "B", and "B" boats will be limited to the period of March 1 through July 15.

Records:

Each person engaged in taking shrimp for a bait dealership must record, within 30 minutes after the end of each trawl, the amount taken, and the time and place of the trawl. In addition, the total amount of shrimp taken by a boat must be recorded within 30 minutes after reaching the dock.

The bait dealer must maintain a record book showing, for each transaction, the amount of bait shrimp purchased, the person from whom it was purchased, and the date of the purchase, as well as the amount of live shrimp sold daily. These records must be submitted to DNR at least once a month. (1200 Glynn Ave., Brunswick, Ga. 31520)

SEINES

License:

No license is required to use a beach seine less than 100' in length in the salt waters of this State for noncommercial purposes. However, anyone using or pulling a seine 100' or greater in length must obtain a personal commercial saltwater fishing license at a cost of \$2 to residents and \$5 to nonresidents.

Seines Sizes:

Seines equal to or smaller than 12 feet in width, with a maximum depth of four feet, and a maximum stretch mesh of 1 inch, may be used at any time in salt waters.

Seines up to 100 feet in length, with a minimum stretch mesh size of 1¼", may be used on ocean front sides of beaches and on sand beaches bordering the south end of Tybee, St. Simons and Jekyll islands.

Seines from 100 to 300 feet in length, may be used on ocean front sides of beaches. Seines 100' to 300' in length, must have a minimum stretch mesh size of 2½". Seines over 300' in length are prohibited.

Catch Limits:

There are no limits on the amount or number of the catch obtained with a seine. However, general restrictions on the size and type of the catch, such as those pertaining to crabs (See "Crab Traps: Areas, Seasons and Hours" below) must be adhered to.

Other:

It is unlawful to use a beach seine as a gill net. A gill net is a single net or webbing attached to a float and lead lines which is fished in a stationary manner to ensnare or entangle the fish in the meshes. All gill nets are prohibited

in Georgia salt waters, except for shad and sturgeon fishing (See Shad Section).

CAST NETS

Cast nets are legal in Georgia and there are no specific restrictions applicable to the use of a cast net. No license is required unless they are used commercially, in which case a personal commercial saltwater fishing license and, if a boat is used, a boat license must be obtained.

CRABS

POWER-DRAWN NETS

Licenses (Boat and Personal):

See "Commercial Food Shrimping: Licenses" above.

Areas and Seasons:

All Georgia sounds are closed to the use of power-drawn nets.

The use of power-drawn nets to take crabs in the "offshore" waters (from the seaward side of the sound limits out to the 3 mile limit) is authorized when the Department of Natural Resources opens those waters. The notice of such openings will be handled in the same manner as set forth under "Commercial Food Shrimping: Areas and Seasons" above.

Power-drawn nets may never be used in tidal rivers or creeks to take crabs

Hours:

Power-drawn nets may be used to take crabs between the hours of 5 a.m. and 8 p.m. official time.

Net Size:

A power-drawn net used for taking crabs must be of at least 4½" stretched mesh.

Size and Catch Limits:

It is unlawful to take or possess spawning female crabs during the months of May and June. It is also unlawful to take or possess any crab (other than a peeler or a soft shell crab) less than 5" from spike to spike across the back. Peelers and soft shell crabs must measure at least 3" from spike to spike across the back.

Restricted Zones:

See "Commercial Food Shrimping: Restricted Zones" above.

CRAB TRAPS

Licenses:

Any person using a crab trap or similar enclosure or device constructed so as to allow free ingress of crabs, but no egress, must obtain a personal commercial saltwater fishing license. The cost of this license is \$2 for residents and \$5 for nonresidents.

In addition, if a boat is used to deploy or to pick up crabs from such crab traps, a commercial fishing boat license must be obtained. These license are available at DNR offices listed above. The fee for a resident is \$5 for the first 18 feet, and \$.50 per foot for each foot or fraction thereof over 18 feet. The cost of this license for a non-resident is \$25 over the cost to a resident, and if the non-resident's state charges a fee in excess of that amount to Georgia residents, the non-resident must pay the same amount which would be charged a Georgia resident to get a license in the non-resident's state.

Areas, Seasons and Hours:

Commercial crabbing is prohibited within 100' of the property line of any person or any extension of such person's dock. Also crab traps may not be placed or set in the channel of a stream. Other than these two restrictions, there are no limits on where crab traps may be used. In Georgia, it is legal to use crab traps year-round at any time

Size and Catch Limits:

"See Above."

Other:

Peelers and soft-shell crabs may only be sold to soft-shell crab dealers (who apply to and are licensed by the DNR). No one other than a licensed commercial fisherman or a soft-

shell crab dealer may possess peelers in commercial quantities. Also, it is unlawful for anyone other than a soft-shell crab dealer to operate a shedding facility. Soft-shell crab dealers may not purchase peelers from any one other than a licensed commercial fisherman.

OYSTERS

Licenses and Permits:

A person taking oysters commercially must obtain a personal commercial saltwater fishing license. If a boat is used by that person, a commercial boat fishing license must also be purchased. (See "Commercial Crab Boat Licenses" above.) In addition, a commercial fisherman must obtain from DNR each year an oyster collector's permit.

If a dredge is to be used, (minimum size must be less than 150 pounds total net air weight of dredge), an oyster dredging permit must be obtained from DNR at a cost of \$5. In addition, a bond in the amount of \$5,000, payable to the State and conditioned upon the faithful compliance with the law and regulations relating to the taking of oysters, must be secured.

Areas, Seasons and Hours:

Oysters may only be taken from September 14 through April 30 of each year.

If a person owns the land on both sides of a tidal stream for the stream's entire length, the owner may close the stream to the taking of shellfish. To do so, the property owner must post, at the mouth of the stream, a sign not less than six (6) inches in height which reads: "Posted: No Taking of Shellfish." The stream so posted may not be closed to the taking of finfish, nor may devices be constructed across the stream to prevent free egress or ingress.

If an individual plans to gather oysters in an area adjacent to upland property owned by someone else, the individual must first obtain written permission from that property owner, except in areas where there is no adjacent upland property. In some of those areas oyster rights are leased to commercial gatherers and individuals may not gather oysters in those areas without written permission of the lease-holder.

Some areas on the Georgia coast are closed to oyster gathering because of polluted waters which make the oysters unfit for human consumption. Any person taking oysters for sale must obtain an oyster collector's permit from a DNR Coastal Law Enforcement Office which states that the oysters to be sold were taken from clean waters (see above).

In order to obtain a commercial oyster collecting permit from the Georgia Department of Natural Resources, the collector must first have his shore facilities certified by the Georgia Department of Agriculture. While individuals gathering oysters for their own use are not required to obtain such a certificate, DNR suggests that everyone gathering oysters check with DNR to make sure the waters at the gathering ground are clean. DNR's Coastal Resources Program Office at 1200 Glynn Avenue in Brunswick has charts of the Georgia coast which show areas open and closed to oyster gathering as a part of their ongoing Shellfish Sanitation Program.

There are no limits on the hours during which oysters may be taken.

Size and Catch Limits:

In order to be gathered legally, oysters must measure at least 3" from hinge to mouth. An oyster of less than 3" may be taken if the smaller oyster is attached to a legal size oyster and the attached oyster cannot be removed without destroying the legal size oyster.

It is illegal for anyone engaged in shucking or canning oysters for market to have in their possession a quantity of oysters containing more than 5% of oysters which are under-sized.

An individual may take up to 2 bushels of oysters per day for his or her own use.

Methods of Gathering:

Oysters may be picked by hand from the intertidal zones or tonged, or dredged from both the subtidal and intertidal zones of state-owned or state-leased lands with permission of the landowner or lease holder.

Oysters may be taken by any means or device from a private bed by the owner or lessee of that bed for the purpose of transplanting to other beds in the State from unleased territory within said limits.

Standard Tub For Sale Of Oysters In Shell

All oysters sold in the shell in this State shall be measured in circular tubs, with straight sides, straight and solid bottoms, with holes in the bottom not more than one-half inch in diameter. A bush tub shall measure 18 inches from the inside across the bottom, and 21 inches from the bottom to the top or chine. All measures used for buying or selling oysters shall have a brand, to be adopted by the department, stamped thereon by the department. All measures found in the possession of any person not meeting the requirements of this section shall be destroyed by the department.

COMMERCIAL: SHAD FISHING

Licenses:

A commercial shad license must be obtained by anyone fishing commercially for shad. The cost of this license is \$5.25 for residents and \$100.25 for nonresidents.

Seasons, Areas and Hours:

The season for the commercial taking of shad is from January 15 to April 15 of each year. Sport shad fishermen may take shad year-round.

The Altamaha River, upstream from the Seaboard Coastline Railroad Bridge at Altamaha Park in Glynn County, and the Savannah and Ogeechee Rivers upstream from the Interstate 95 bridge, are closed to commercial shad fishing on Sundays, Mondays, and Tuesdays.

The Altamaha River, downstream from the Seaboard Coastline Railroad Bridge at Altamaha Park, and the Ogeechee and Savannah Rivers downstream from the I-95 bridges, are closed to commercial shad fishing on Saturdays, Sundays, and Mondays.

All other shad streams are closed to commercial shad fishing on Sundays, Mondays, and Tuesdays.

Commercial shad fishing is also prohibited in the Savannah Back River downstream from New Savannah Cut, as well as in that portion of the Savannah River from the New Savannah Bluff Lock and Dam downstream to a point opposite the mouth of Spirit Creek.

There are no restrictions on the hours for shad fishing.

Net Size, Placement and Length:

The size of all shad nets must be 4½" stretched mesh or larger. Bow nets must be at least 3½" stretched mesh.

Set nets may be placed only in the main run or channel of the stream.

All nets must be placed so as to allow one-third (1/3) of the stream width open and set nets must be placed at least 100 feet apart. Set nets must also have one end secured at the stream's bank and buoyed at the outer (streamward) end so as to be clearly visible to boaters. Drift nets may not be fished closer than 100 yards apart.

Set nets are limited to a maximum of 100' in length. Drift nets are limited to a maximum of 1,000' in salt waters.

Other:

Sturgeon, game fish and the various species of catfish, when taken in shad nets, must be released unharmed into the waters from which they were taken.

SPORTFISHING: SHAD:

Sport shad fishermen are restricted to 2 poles and lines or bow nets.

Licenses:

No license is required for spot shad fishing in salt waters.

Restricted Areas:

Shad fishing is prohibited in the Savannah Back River downstream from New Savannah Cut.

Catch Limits:

There is a daily creel limit for sport fishermen of eight (8) shad per day. This limit covers all species of shad including those commonly known as white and hickory shad.

COMMERCIAL CATFISHING LICENSE:

Commercial fishing for catfish in salt waters of this state requires a valid commercial saltwater fishing license and, if a boat is used, a valid commercial fishing boat license.

Legal Equipment:

Trot lines, wire baskets (not more than 72 inches in length or 60 inches in circumference; must have two throats - one at the extreme front and the second 17 inches behind the first; the second throat must have a trap door 7½ inches square), hoop nets (minimum stretch mesh of 2 inches which do not exceed 3½ feet in diameter or ten feet in length. Any and all such equipment must have permanent tags showing the commercial fisherman's name, address and license number.

Restricted Areas:

Commercial fishing for catfish in salt waters is restricted to areas eastward of the official demarcation line between fresh and salt waters in the state with the exception of:

- Altamaha River, North Branch: Commercial catfishing is legal downstream from the mouth of Lewis Creek.
- Altamaha River, South Branch: Commercial catfishing is legal downstream from the uppermost entrance to Hammersmith Creek.

Size Limit:

Possession of catfish under 9 inches in length is illegal.

COMMERCIAL EEL FISHING:

Commercial fishing for eels in the salt waters of Georgia requires a valid commercial saltwater fishing license and, if a boat is used, a valid commercial fishing boat license.

Legal Equipment:

Traps with a diameter of no more than two feet and a length of no more than four feet. Each trap must have a muzzle or throat which has a round opening of no greater than two inches in diameter. Mesh size for such traps must be no smaller than ½" x 1".

Pots may be no larger than 24 inches by 24 inches by 15 inches and must have a mesh size no smaller than ½" x 1". The muzzle or throat of such pots must have a round opening no greater than 2 inches in diameter.

Size Limit:

It shall be unlawful to retain any fish other than adult eels while engaged in commercial eel fishing. An adult eel is defined as an eel at least 6 inches in length.

COMMERCIAL STURGEON FISHING:

License:

Any person taking sturgeon in salt waters with commercial gear or for commercial purposes must obtain a personal commercial saltwater fishing license. If a boat is used, a commercial boat license is also required. (See "Commercial Crab Boat License" above.)

Season:

The season for sturgeon fishing is from January 15 to April 15.

Net Size and Placement:

The size of all sturgeon nets must be at least 6" on the square. Sturgeon nets must be placed so as to allow one-third of the stream width to remain open for the passage of fish.

Restrictions:

The shortnose sturgeon, *Acipenser brevirostrum*, is listed on the Georgia Endangered Species list and may not be taken by any means or for any purpose.

SALTWATER SPORTFISHING

Commercial Restriction:

Fishermen who take fish with sporting gear and who sell such fish must have a valid commercial fishing license and, if a boat is used in such fishing, a valid commercial boat

license.

Flounder:

Only flounder may be taken with a gig in the salt waters of Georgia.

Striped Bass:

Fishermen who take striped bass in any waters of the State, including the salt waters, are restricted to a possession and/or creel limit of 6 striped bass.

SALTWATER SPORTFISHING

With the above exceptions, saltwater sportfishing in Georgia requires no license, creel limits, time limits or other restrictions common to inland, fresh water fishing.

For general information concerning saltwater sportfishing in Georgia, contact Bill Morehead, Coastal Information Office, DNR, 1200 Glynn Ave., Brunswick, Ga. 31520.

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TO:

DNR Tests Survival Equipment

Working on coastal waters is many things, but one thing it always is, is dangerous. Recent tragedies on the sea and in the air around Georgia's coast emphasize this fact.

Responding to this, the Coastal Resources Program of DNR has been testing new safety equipment. Floatation suits are bulky and uncomfortable but provide good floatation and insulation in cold waters. They are primarily designed for winter use.

Life jackets (floatation vests) are cooler in the summer, but the buckling devices are dangerous, especially to fishermen using nets.

Nevertheless, the use of safety equipment on board DNR boats is mandatory and personnel are striving to test equipment which will provide optimum safety to the wearer both on board and in the water.



David Ansley appears to be walking on water, but he is actually going in the drink to test a floatation suit.



Steve Moseley tests a survival suit (which differs from a float suit by having more floatation and insulation - designed for a long stay in the drink). Suits such as these are routinely used along the Maine coast, and along the Washington-Oregon coast.

Outdoor Education Update

Eighty lucky teachers and high schoolers will find their education this summer along the banks of the Altamaha, according to Bob Baker, Chief of DNR's Outdoor Education Program.

Baker said the classroom will consist of three float trips along the Ocmulgee/Altamaha in June and July. Each trip will have 20-30 students plus DNR outdoor instructors.

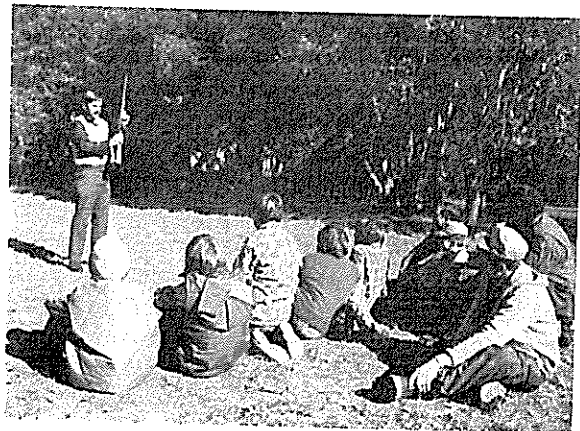
The idea behind the trips, according to Baker, is to bring into action the classroom materials which have been taught the previous year.

"Each float trip participant will be required to maintain a log book of the trip," Baker said. In addition, each will be asked to identify at least 25 trees, using three different methods.

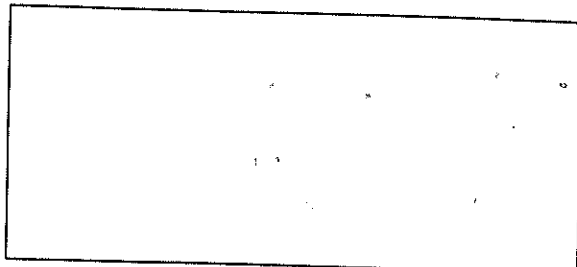
The participants will put in the Ocmulgee at Hawkinsville and, several days and hundreds of experiences later, will take out at Altamaha Park, near the Glynn/Wayne County border.

Each lucky youngster or teacher will be expected to identify fish, insects and birds; learn how to plot the trip on a map; and experiment with casting tracks and other impressions of animals they encounter, Baker said, adding they will learn camping by doing it.

Baker said the groups will use jon boats rather than canoes for transportation and safety reasons.



Wes Abler, DNR Outdoor Education Instructor, giving a hunter safety lecture to youngsters during the Sapelo Island Parent/Child hunt last December.



EPD Update

THE GEORGIA AIR SAMPLING NETWORK

Mr. A. J. Lungwitz and Mr. Larry Scoville, Southeastern Region, EPD, are responsible for the operation of the Georgia Air Sampling Network, GASN, in the coastal section of the State. The GASN has air sampling equipment at strategic locations and the purpose of the program is to determine the quality of the ambient air - that is, the outside air breathed by the general public.

At present, there are ten sampling sites in Chatham County and three in the Brunswick area. At each site specially designed equipment is used to measure the concentration of particulates and gaseous pollutants. The "particulates" consist of air-borne dust, aerosols, and smoke. They are trapped and collected on filter paper, using a vacuum-cleaner like device known as a "Hi-Vol" sampler. The gaseous pollutants regularly measured are sulfur dioxide and the nitrogen oxides. These components are collected by absorption in chemical solutions housed in bubbler tubes. The equipment samples a twenty-four hour period every six days.

In addition to the intermittent samplers, a number of continuous monitors are in use. Types being used at present measure ambient levels of sulfur dioxide and ozone and it is expected that the continuous monitors will be in much more general use in the future as better, more reliable equipment is developed.

The levels of pollutants allowed in ambient air are regulated or limited by law. Particulates, which usually result from industrial emissions, should not exceed 60 micrograms per cubic meter, based on an annual geometric mean. Sulfur dioxide, which is mainly produced by the burning of fossil fuels, is limited to 43 micrograms per cubic meter. Likewise, maximum permissible levels of the other materials are defined by State law. In the event that these levels are exceeded, the Director of Air Quality Control will declare an Air Pollution Episode and place into effect control measures necessary to prevent ambient air contaminant concentrations from reaching levels which would cause significant harm to the health of persons.

The GASN has been checking the quality of our air since 1966 and the data accumulated indicates that the air quality in the Brunswick area has improved. The annual means for particulates varied from 95 in 1969 to 64 in 1972. Compliance was achieved in 1974 when the mean decreased to 50 micrograms per cubic meter. In 1975, the mean showed an additional decrease to 43, and in 1976, it dropped to 39. Much of the improvements noted

can be attributed to successful pollution abatement programs initiated by the local industries.

SALT WATER INTRUSION TECHNICAL TASK FORCE MEETING

The Salt Water Intrusion Technical Task Force met March 16 at the office of the Coastal Area Planning and Development Commission (CAPDC) in Brunswick. The Task Force members present at the meeting were Harlan B. Counts of the U.S. Geological Survey, Bill Porter of the Army Corps of Engineers, Mike Gleaton of CAPDC, Bob Humphries of Save America's Vital Environment (SAVE), Harold King of the Coastal Audobon Society, David Swanson representing the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) Geologic and Water Resources Division, and John Fernstrom, Environmental Protection Division (DNR), Chairman.

The Environmental Protection Division (EPD) of DNR organized this task force as a part of the State of Georgia's efforts to comply with Section 208 of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act Amendments of 1972. This Act, which is known as Public Law 92-500, requires that water quality management planning activities be carried out in order to restore and maintain the integrity of the nations streams and rivers.

The Salt Water Intrusion Technical Task Force assists and provides recommendations to the Georgia EPD by performing the following functions:

1. Determining and inventorying salt water intrusion into fresh water systems that result from a reduction of fresh water flow from any cause.
2. Developing an assessment concerning existing and future potential degradation of water resources.
3. Recommending best management practices for the prevention and alleviation of salt water intrusion problems.
4. Developing a report concerning agencies, organizations, and legislation that are available or needed to control salt water intrusion related problems.
5. Developing a report concerning research considerations.

The specific concern of this task force is the intrusion of the salt water from the ocean into the fresh surface waters. Other sources of saline intrusion which are covered by the 208 Water Quality Management Planning Program include intrusion of saline pollutants from salt-water aquifers, brine from oil production, and other sources of saline wastes.

Harold King submitted a list of Best Management Practices proposals to the Task Force. The submittal included the following:

- a. Licensing of agricultural users as well as small users of deep wells.
- b. Requiring the dispersal of wells in congested areas.
- c. Increasing surveillance over well output and salinity.
- d. Having proposals for estuarine dredging address the possible environmental impact of the work on fresh water supplies.
- e. Controlling abandoned wells by proper plugging.
- f. Insisting on careful handling of oil well exploration and administration.
- g. Giving consideration to operational methods to reduce or eliminate the threat or problem of potential saline intrusion.

OCS Pipeline

OUTER CONTINENTAL SHELF DEVELOPMENTS

The U.S. Department of the Interior recently accepted bids on 43 of the 57 oil and gas lease tracts offered for sale on March 28 in Savannah. Exxon Co. USA was the leading bidder, receiving leases on 19 tracts.

Lease Sale #43 saw 11 companies bid a total of \$150,927,700 with high bids totaling \$109,695,692. The new sliding scale royalty bidding system may have cut down the amount of the bonuses but it did not diminish the competition for the royalty tracts.

The State of Georgia expects oil companies to apply for the required exploration permits as soon as the federal government issues new environmental regulations.

Under the new regulations, companies file a complete exploration plan with accompanying environmental reports with the United States Geological Survey (USGS). The USGS's Area Supervisor then requests comments from the Governor and DNR's Coastal Resources Program.

The companies provide detailed descriptions of their onshore support operations including the number of persons likely to be employed and/or move into the area; an estimate of any significant demand for supplies, services, water, energy or other resources; and a description of the most likely travel routes for ships and aircraft.

Prior to any exploratory operations, the lessees also must have an approved oil spill contingency plan.

If all goes well with the review of permits, drilling could begin this year. It could be several years, however, before the companies know if there are commercially recoverable reserves of oil and gas. Before any development begins in the South Atlantic, there will be another environmental impact statement. The oil companies are also

required to prepare development/production plans and environmental reports even more detailed than the exploration ones. Again the State has the opportunity to comment on these plans.

The next lease sale in the South Atlantic, Sale #54 - the Blake Plateau, had been scheduled for November, 1979. After reviewing the preliminary environmental studies on the area and consulting with Georgia scientists and representatives of the oil industry, Governor Busbee requested that the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) delay the sale until this frontier region is more thoroughly investigated.

In his letter to Mr. Frank Gregg, Director of BLM, Governor George Busbee stated:

"Based on the information which has been presented to us at this time, I must express a deep concern over the general lack of scientific data relating to the Blake Plateau. The Blake Plateau is an entirely different area than the Southeast Georgia Embayment, the location of Lease Sale #43. The Plateau is a much more hazardous area with extreme water depths, strong currents, and unpredictable transport systems. One oil company referred to it as a very 'high risk' frontier area with relatively 'low potential.' My concern is compounded by the recent suspension of the BLM Environmental Studies Program, the only comprehensive effort we know of to provide the needed information."

"In contrast to Lease Sale #43 where I have consistently urged Secretary Andrus to proceed on schedule in spite of marginal environmental data and the impending OCS Lands Act Amendments, I do not believe the prospective benefits justify accepting the risks of proceeding in the absence of basic environmental information. Once this data is acquired, the leasing schedule can be revised and the process resumed if the information obtained indicates that to be a prudent course of action."

In view of the Governor's comments, together with similar ones from other South Atlantic States, the Department of the Interior has decided to eliminate the Blake Plateau Sale from its current long range planning schedule.

THE COASTAL ENERGY IMPACT PROGRAM

Expanding the supply of energy to meet increasing needs places new demands on the lands and waters of Georgia's coast. This unique area of the State is highly regarded for its environmental, recreational and economic values, and competition for the use of coastal resources is increasing.

The recent lease sale #43 brought home this fact to coastal residents. Accelerated development of outer continental shelf oil and gas fields could require a variety of onshore facilities. While coastal

residents stand to benefit economically from this activity, there is also concern that it occurs in an orderly and environmentally responsible manner.

It is important that environmental damage be minimized. We must plan to accommodate temporary residents during the construction of facilities as well as the permanent residents resulting from energy development. In all likelihood, some new public facilities or services will be needed to support new residents.

In recognition of the fact that new or expanded energy facilities are critical components of coastal development, Congress amended the Coastal Zone Management Act in 1976 to create the Coastal Energy Impact Program (CEIP).

The Purpose of CEIP

The purpose of CEIP is to help assure coastal communities have the opportunity to accommodate energy related development in a responsible manner. Funds will become available during 1978 for this purpose, provided Georgia first develops an acceptable process for funds allocation and an acceptable coast management program.

How The Program Works

The process is designed to assist in selecting worthy projects to receive financial assistance from the federal government. Specific funding categories are established, each with its own eligibility requirements.

Planning assistance;

Public facilities and services assistance; and

Environmental and recreational loss assistance

Project proposals will be judged by the following criteria: Severity of impact (new population growth), immediacy of impact (timing of population growth), fiscal capacity of the applicant (the ability to finance the project) and consideration of environmental effects. Depending upon the category, additional factors are: quality of the proposal and consistency with plans. Each proposal will receive a total point score reflecting an evaluation of the criteria listed above. Those proposals earning the highest scores in each category will be given highest priority for funding

**Coastal Resources Program
Department of Natural Resources
1200 Glynn Avenue
Brunswick, GA 31520**

and will be funded until available money is exhausted.

Who May Receive Assistance?

Once the process is approved, any eligible locality situated within the six coastal counties, or any eligible State agency may apply for CEIP financial assistance as long as the applicant can demonstrate impacts caused by expanded energy development.

What Must Be Done to Apply For Assistance?

Eligible applicants desiring CEIP financial assistance will have to file an application for 1978 funding by July 10, 1978. All applications must be prepared in accordance with the requirements spelled out in the draft Intrastate Allocation Process.

Where Do We Go From Here?

Georgia must submit this proposed process to the federal Office of Coastal Zone Management for approval before any funds can be made available to project applicants. Current plans call for Georgia to submit its draft allocation process to OCZM in May of this year.

Information about the proposed allocation process may be obtained by contacting: Gordon Carruth, CEIP Coordinator, Office of Planning and Budget, 270 Washington St., S.W., Atlanta, Georgia 30334, Telephone: 404-656-3819.

Coastal Update

Georgia Conservancy

On June 24th, DNR Commissioner Joe Tanner will talk about the coast at the Georgia conservancy's state-wide meeting in Atlanta. Other parts of the day-long program include a rafting trip on the Chattahoochee, nature walks on Soapstone Ridge and an evening hotdog roast.

Starting at 9:30 a.m. at the Unitarian Church, 1911 Cliff Valley Way (I-85 and N. Druid Hills Road), the program is free and open to the public.

For further information, call the Conservancy's Atlanta office (404-262-1967) or Savannah office (912-355-4840).

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