

Symposia, Sirenia, and Moratoria

. . . .The **“First Annual Tropical and Subtropical Fisheries Technological Conference,”** scheduled for 8-10 March 1976 in Corpus Christi, Tex. is being cosponsored by Texas A&M University and the National Fisheries Institute in cooperation with the National Marine Fisheries Service. It will bring together researchers interested in the technology of fish utilization and factors affecting fish utilization through both scientific and industrial presentations. Industrial sections will feature new products and equipment, a breaded shrimp product clinic, and demonstrations of minced fish equipment. Scientific sessions will deal with minced fish, aquaculture, general technology, marketing and economics, plus a shrimp symposium. For further information, contact conference coordinator Bryan Cobb III, Department of Animal Science, Texas A&M University, College Station, TX 77843. . . .

. . . .The **Coastal Society, a new scientific and professional** nonprofit organization, is “dedicated to the promotion of knowledge, understanding, and wise use of coastal environments.” More information on the aims, purposes, plans, and membership requirements can be obtained from the Secretary, The Coastal Society, P.O. Box 34405, Bethesda, MD 20034. . . .

. . . .The fourth international oceanographic congress, entitled the **“Joint Oceanographic Assembly 1976,”** will be held in Edinburgh, Scotland, 13-24 September 1976. The program will consist of general symposia of invited papers on selected marine science topics of broad interdisciplinary interest. Special symposia will feature invited papers on selected specialized topics involving

more than one of the marine science disciplines. Eleven association sessions, organized by the International Association for the Physical Sciences of the Ocean, International Association of Biological Oceanography, and the Commission for Marine Geology, will also be held. Interested persons should contact the Joint Oceanographic Assembly, c/o The Royal Society of Edinburgh, 22 George Street, Edinburgh, EH2 2PQ, Scotland, United Kingdom for more information. . . .

. . . .**Almost 1,500 king mackerel were tagged and released** off Florida's east coast between January and September 1975, according to a *Florida Conservation News* report. Eleven of the tags were returned for the \$1-25 rewards offered through the cooperative Federal-State research program. Though a generally northerly migration was expected, the limited early returns had not yet confirmed it. Four king mackerel were taken near where they were tagged, three travelled south, and four travelled north. The longest migration was from Boynton Beach northward to Ponce de Leon Inlet in 33 days, a distance of 170 nautical miles. . . .

. . . .**Crab and shrimp processing wastes may be good fertilizer** for agricultural lands, according to extension soil science specialist E. Hugh Gardner at Oregon State University, Corvallis. Shellfish wastes contain such essential plant nutrients as nitrogen, potassium, sulfur, phosphorus, and calcium which are often present in fertilizers, says Gardner. Since each crop requires different minerals, OSU researchers have begun a 2-year Sea Grant project to determine the effects of shellfish wastes on soils and plants. The study is also trying

to meet an April 1976 deadline when the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality's permits for discharging solid seafood processing wastes into adjacent estuarine waters expires. More than half the seafood processing wastes are reportedly from shellfish. . . .

. . . .The **First Annual Marine Recreational Fisheries Symposium**, planned for Friday, 27 February 1976 at the Royal Orleans Hotel, New Orleans, La., will sponsor an in-depth discussion of marine management as it applies to recreational fisheries. Questions to be dealt with include the present benefits that fisheries are providing generally, what the future needs are, and how those needs will be filled. Interested persons should write the National Coalition for Marine Conservation, Box 5131, Savannah, GA 31403, or the Sport Fishing Institute, 608 13th Street, N.W., Suite 801, Washington, DC 20005. . . .

✓The **first sighting of a manatee in the Bahamas since 1904** was verified in September 1975 by marine mammalogist Dan Odell and two marine biology students of the University of Miami's Rosenstiel School of Marine and Atmospheric Science, the university reports. Odell, who is studying the biology of *Trichechus manatus* at the Rosenstiel School, said he is reasonably certain that only one manatee is living in the West End lagoon on Grand Bahama, and that it must have reached the island from the coastal waters of south Florida with a push from the Gulf Stream. Florida is at the northern limit of the manatee's range and the species is considered endangered there. . . .

. . . .A **moratorium on issuing commercial abalone permits to new divers** and the closure of a major portion of the Los Angeles-Orange County coastline to both sport and commercial abalone fishermen to allow the species to rebuild was recommended last fall by the California Department of Fish and Game. The management plan, designed to reverse a decline in the abalone fishery, also recommended limiting the sport fishermen to four abalone per day, down one from five, and reducing the northern season from 10 to 6 months—April through June and September through November. . . .