

Pacific Salmon, Shrimp Harvests, and Dogfish

....**Washington State's increasingly popular and successful dogfish fishery** was extended beyond its 15 February expiration date to 14 April, the Department of Fisheries has reported. Officials there see a dual benefit in the fishery: Much-needed reduction in dogfish and an increase in export sales. Between April 1975 and February 1976, more than 700,000 pounds of the underutilized species was harvested for export as a food item to Germany and Great Britain. State officials hope that it will develop into a year 'round industry....

....**Plans for the first International Conference on Chitin/Chitosan** have been announced by its co-hosts, the Massachusetts Science and Technology Foundation and the Sea Grant Program of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Conference dates eyed are either November 1976 or April 1977. Latest details on the Conference and scheduling are available from Vincent R. LoCicero, Conference Manager, Massachusetts Science and Technology Foundation, 10 Lakeside Office Park, Wakefield, MA 01880....

....**Washington State's largest sport-caught coho salmon** (*Oncorhynchus kisutch*) is the 26.5-pounder taken by George Drago of Aberdeen in the

Satsop River last season, the Department of Fisheries reports. The previous record was a 26-pounder taken at Westport several years before. The world record coho, 31 pounds, was taken at Cowichan Bay, Vancouver Island, B.C., Canada....

....**The traditional oyster rearing method, bottom culture**, may be replaced by raft, rack or out-bay culture in some Oregon estuaries report fisheries scientists with Oregon State University in Corvallis. New studies will involve placing seed oysters on the bottom of commercial growing grounds, on oyster growing trays and on experimental rafts. At the same time, other oysters will be raised in artificial seawater and the growth and survival of all will be compared. The scientists hope that their research will provide a link between production of hatchery seed and the culture of marketable oysters. They also hope to increase productivity in areas now considered marginal for oyster culture....

....**Roy W. Hann, Jr., has been named** acting director of Texas A&M University's Center for Marine Resources, the University reports. Hann, who will retain appointments in the Civil Engineering Department and Texas Engineering Experiment Station and as a

resident scholar in the Center for Energy and Mineral Resources, will administer the University's \$2.3 million Sea Grant College Program and coordinate other marine-related programs....

....**South Carolina's \$10.5 million 1975 shrimp harvest** (dockside value, \$1.90/lb, heads off) was a new record for the state's shrimpers, reports the Wildlife and Marine Resources Department. The 1974 dockside price was only \$1.02/lb and the catch was 4,754,852 pounds versus 1975's 5,533,675 pounds. Meanwhile, 1975 oyster landings dipped slightly to about one million pounds (at \$650,000) compared with 1.1 million pounds (at \$657,000) in 1974. The 1975 clam harvest was 170,000 pounds of meat at \$221,000, compared with 123,000 pounds in 1974 at \$132,000. The blue crab catch declined from 7.5 million pounds in 1974 to 6.2 million pounds last year while mullet landings were about the same at 842,000 pounds. Black sea bass landings, 142,000 pounds, continued to drop and spring herring marked another decline with only 18,000 pounds landed....

....**Arm wrestling octopi is against the law** in Washington State, says Fisheries Director Don Moos, following reports of divers forcing the Puget Sound creatures out of their dens with chemicals and "wrestling" or "tumbling" them. Adds Moos, "Molesting or harassing food fish or shellfish without the intent of taking them for human consumption is a misdemeanor. The use of chemicals on octopi is specifically prohibited by fisheries regulations, and there is evidence that octopi treated in this way often die afterwards." Use of instruments which penetrate or mutilate octopi is prohibited, as is the unlicensed commercial sale of octopi. The state's daily personal-use harvest is two octopi....