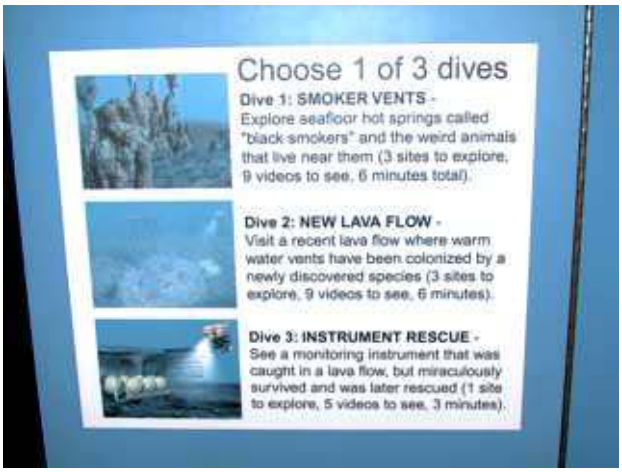
The HMSC Newsletter

OREGON STATE UNIVERSITY

December 2002 *Pamela Rogers, Editor*

Joystick control



Dive choices

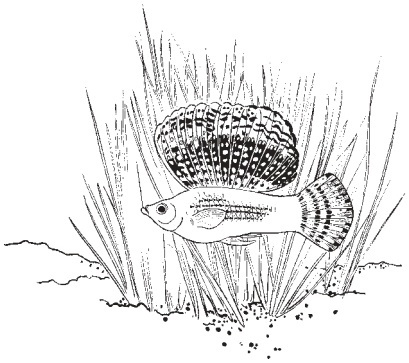
New ROPOS Exhibit is Launched

The Pacific Marine Environmental Lab (PMEL) staff of the NOAA VENTS program got to see how their research efforts are communicated to the public on Friday, November 22, as they were the honored guests at the Launch at Lunch, the dedication of the new Visitor Center exhibit "*Dive and Explore: ROPOS*".

Visitor Center staff held a reception to thank PMEL researchers for the hard work and commitment to public education they have shown through their continual efforts to disseminate the results of their research through theVisitor Center exhibits and programs.

Bill Chadwick was designated as "HMSC's Virtual Oceanographer" on a plaque to be placed on the Center's newest exhibit. The exhibit conveys the excitement of underwater discovery using virtual animations and actual video from the ocean floor supplied from PMEL's undersea dives using ROPOS. The exhibit environment is a simulation of the control room on board a ship. The visitor is able to choose between 3 possible dives, and during each dive appear to be in command of ROPOS, choosing where they wish to explore. The visitor interacts with both computer graphics and deep sea videos through an authentic joystick controller.

The dialog aboard the research vessel was actually recorded in the VENTS office using walkie-talkies to get the realistic scratchy sound. Bill recruited Jessica Waddell and Bob Dziak as voice actors and it was done in five minutes. Take some time and visit the exhibit—it is well worth your time.



West Coast Seagrass Colloquium Exceeds Expectations

On November 15 and 16, the West Coast Seagrass Colloquium was held at the HMSC and greatly exceeded the organizers' expectations. Walt Nelson, Bruce Boese and Jim Kaldy (EPA) were the co-organizers, with help from the Washington state seagrass working group. Expecting about 20 to 25 participants, the team was pleasantly surprised by an attendance of over 50. Participants came from Alaska, California, Canada, Florida, Mexico, Mississippi, Oregon and Washington, and included undergraduate and graduate students as well as consultants and researchers.

One goal of the Colloquium was an assessment of where seagrass research on West Coast systems stood versus the summary of the results of the 1990 West Coast Seagrass Symposium. In addition, there were a number of discussions about future directions for and concerns about native and introduced seagrass species (e.g. *Zostera japonica*). Some of the specialized topics were:

- Success of and problems with implementation of mitigation measures for construction impacts on eelgrass
- Macroalgae and eelgrass interaction in disturbed situations
- Description and discussion of the Pacific Coastal Ecology Branch (EPA) seagrass stress-response model
- Conflicts with on-bottom aquaculture and seagrasses
- A comprehensive, multi-investigator research program along the West Coast
- Management of exotic seagrasses
- West Coast management approaches

Dr. Robert Virnstein of Florida gave a different regional perspective with his talk on seagrass conservation and management on the East Coast. He pointed out the importance of informed advocacy by the public and having dollar amounts on the benefits of seagrass (such as the income per acre of seagrass from recreational fishing). This put in bold relief research here on the West Coast, such as the interaction of salmon and seagrass in estuaries.

A document summarizing the discussion points will be published at a later date.

All-HMSC Holiday Potluck
Wednesday, December 11
4:00 p.m.
Visitor Center

Meat and beverages will be provided. Please bring a side dish, salad, or dessert to share. Families welcome. Please note the new time.

From " @&%# Birdwatchers" to "Yaquina Birders & Naturalists"

Range Bayer and Bob Olson recently shared how the Yaquina Birders and Naturalists group started from an informal group of birdwatchers that naturally gravitated together from the HMSC and ODFW in about 1968-1972. Bob Olson, Warren Hanson, Peter Rothlisberg, and Gene Burreson were known as the "G.-d. Birdwatchers" by an OSU faculty member. Between 1970-1972 and they were joined in this elite group by Laimons Osis, Paul Reed and John Fortune of ODFW. Range joined in 1973 as a graduate student in Zoology and was the only one that formally studied birds. They communicated by word of mouth, since they saw each other in the halls of the HMSC when it was small enough to see each other regularly.

The members were serious about recording their bird observations, so someone (probably Peter Rothlisberg) established a Daily Checklist form for each month for birds seen within 15 miles of the HMSC. This form was used from January 1974 through November 1977. The informal group held monthly field trips, often meeting for breakfast beforehand. From February 1974 through April 1975, monthly field trips were made along the Yaquina Estuary, and from May 1975 through November 1977, Yaquina Head was added to the monthly trip.

In 1975-1976, the South Beach Marina was being planned. The original design was to fill the West Log Pond, south of the HMSC, and use it for a parking lot and for greater public access to Idaho Flats, the large embayment east of the HMSC. These plans resulted in five members of the informal group (Olson, Reed, Osis, Fortune and Bayer) deciding to acquire a formal group name and write a letter of protest as a group of individuals (not as HMSC or ODFW staff). They came up with the name "Yaquina Birders." The group still had no constitution, by-laws or elected officers.

In July 1977, a more polished "Birds of Lincoln County" checklist for Yaquina Birders was published and this roughly coincided with the demise of the informal group. This came about probably because several members either moved out of the area (Rothlisberg, Fortune and Burreson) or changed jobs and no longer worked at the HMSC (Reed and Bayer). Nevertheless, Paul Reed continued to be compiler for the Christmas Bird Count, which became the only formal group activity of HMSC and ODFW birders until late 1980.

In the summer of 1980, Anna Kircher of Lincoln City became very interested in starting a naturalist's organization for all of Lincoln County, not just the HMSC and ODFW. The new group was established in September 1980 and became the Yaquina Birders and Naturalists in 1981. Laimons Osis has been elected president and Bob Olson treasurer every year since 1985.

In 1973 Range began compiling Lincoln County records as an outgrowth of his contact with other birders at the HMSC. He started this project because there were many talented birders living in or visiting Lincoln County whose observations weren't being compiled and used to learn about the birds present. In 1995 Range remembered that "I thought this was a terrible waste of talent, especially since common knowledge or available lists were often based on what someone guessed was present, rather than on actual observations. When I started, I didn't plan or imagine that I would still be compiling records more than 20 years later." However, Kathy Merrifield of OSU Botany has stepped up to the plate and is

now compiling the field notes, leaving Range just the *Sandpiper* monthly newsletter.

After Range completed his master's degree in wildlife biology, he worked at Oregon Aqua-Foods for eight years. Except for a year and a half break, Range has been a custodian at the HMSC since 1990. For someone who originally came to the HMSC only because his graduate field work on great blue herons was flooded out at Finley Wildlife Refuge, he has added tremendously to the scientific value of the faithful Yaquina Birders and Naturalists. For more information on the group and their meetings and activities, please check the Lincoln County Bird Information page at www.orednet.org/~rbayer/lincoln/bird.htm or the Lincoln County Natural History page at www.orened.org/~rbayer/lincoln/nature.htm

Oysters and All that Jazz

Paul Lang is a new graduate student of Chris Langdon, coming to Oregon from sunny Louisiana. Paul earned his bachelor's in wetland ecology and his master's in aquaculture from Louisiana State University. He didn't start out in science, though, but made an about-face during his third year as a speech communication major. At a party he met a scientist who was working on cryopreservation and was so interested that he went to visit his research facility, stocked with huge, $5,000 (each) koi broodstock. That led to an offer of a job as a research assistant and he was hooked.

After he completed his master's, Paul attended a conference where he met Chris Langdon and was urged to apply to Oregon State. Traveling through schools in the East and the South, Paul flew to Oregon (his first time in Oregon) and knew this was where he wanted to be. Paul grew up next to a bayou outside of Baton Rouge, but finds the people in Oregon to be more ecologically minded. He also doesn't miss the heat, humidity, mosquitoes and oil rigs out at sea.

Next to his work, Paul gets a great deal of pleasure out of being a jazz and blues percussionist. That is one thing that he does miss about Louisiana—the wonderful music and access to jazz. His drum set was just too much to ship across country. He did find a good jazz club in Portland, so when he gets the craving, he goes north to soak up the sounds. Racquetball is one of his favorite ways to use up excess energy when he can't be outdoors.

V. embleyi nibbling at bacterial growth

Bob Embley Honored by New Species Namesake

Dr. Bob Embley, one of the original NOAA Hydrothermal Vents investigators, was recently honored by having a new genus and species of scale-worm (Polychaeta: Polynoidae), named after him. Jean Marcus, an associate of Verna Tunnicliffe at the University of Victoria, and Stephane Hourdez of Pennsylvania State University, are proposing a new subfamily, the Vampiropolynoinae.

Continued

How does it happen that a scale-worm is named after a geophysicist? In this case, these particular creatures have only been found at deep sea vents where recent activity has scoured the rocks clean of everything but bacteria. *Vampiopolynoinae embleyi* has specialized mouth parts for grazing on bacterial mats and appears to be a pioneer species adapted to living in this particular niche. Since 1984 when the Vents Program came to the HMSC, Bob has been studying these hydrothermal vents and seafloor spreading activity. Verna Tunnicliffe and her graduate students of the University of Victoria joined in these efforts, but as a biologist studying the unique life forms near these vents. Bob has especially enjoyed working with students and they wanted to honor him as well for his years of research and guidance.

Backhoe plucks out log

Pothole Mystery Solved

When faced with the sinkhole in the front parking lot, Randy Walker, Facilities Manager, figured that there was no use filling in the hole without finding out the reason for the subsidence. Work with the backhoe soon revealed the reason: a huge buried log had collapsed. The log had been there since before the Center was built because the front parking lot was paved in 1965. It held up for all these years until the construction of the Fisher building. That spot was where the heavy concrete roofing tiles had been stacked and evidently the great weight was too much for the old log to support.

As the photos show, the backhoe was able to pull out the culprit and replace it with more sand. The spot will be paved as soon as possible.

Mike Guthrie, Tim Terris, Steve Bemis

Catching Up with the Custodians

It's been a while since the night crew has been featured in the newsletter and there are several "new" faces keeping the HMSC clean and shining.

Mike Guthrie has been working at the Center for about one and a half years. He is responsible for the main building, other than the Visitor Center. Born and raised in Kalispell, Montana, Mike eventually got tired of shoveling snow and moved to sunny Oregon. He has played jazz and 50's rock guitar for 24 years, both in groups and as a solo act.

The second member of our potential duet is Tim Terris. Tim has been here for a year, coming here after ten years at the Oregon Coast Aquarium and is responsible for the Visitor Center. A native of San Francisco, Tim's claim to fame is that he played percussion (drums and congas) with Carlos Santana…before he became famous. Tim has two daughters, Elizabeth and Olivia. Elizabeth was a Loyalty Days Princess in 2001 and is now studying to be a psychologist at Western Oregon. Olivia is 15 and attends Newport High. Besides music, Tim also loves to bow hunt deer and elk.

The quiet one is Steve Bemis, who has only been here two months. Originally from Colorado, Steve has been in Newport for seven years. His responsibility is the new Barry Fisher building. A glutton for work, Steve has three jobs—at the hospital, the Newport Rec Center and the HMSC. However, in his free time, he is a rock hound, specializing in fossils and agates. He is a member of the Newport Agate Club.

Bookstore Holiday Sale
Monday, December 2, Thursday and Friday, December 5-6
10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

This is the annual holiday sale for the staff at the HMSC/OSU campus, and for Visitor Center volunteers. This year's sale features new hours and a bigger discount. Instead of the four-hour sale we had last year, we are opening it up to a three-day sale during regular operating hours to give you more time to shop. The discount is 25% (except for items already on sale). You must work at OSU or at the HMSC campus, and since we don't know all of you, we need you to bring some form of work identification to help expedite things. You must be present to receive the discount - no spouses or others may shop in your place. Also, since we are limited in quantities and space, we can't hold merchandise before or during the sale. Please come in, start your holiday shopping a little early, and save money in the process.

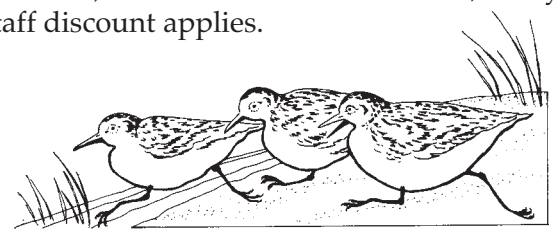
New Books:

•"Trout and Salmon of North America" by Robert Behnke ($40 hardcover). From troy brook trout in the mountain streams of the Northeast to king salmon in the Pacific, North America is home to the greatest variety of salmon and trout on earth. How this evolved, how these two fish are related, and what makes them so unique and so beautiful is the story line of this book. Profusely illustrated in color.

•"Rockfishes of the Northeast Pacific" by Love, Yokavich, and Thorsteinson ($24.95 paperback). From sleek shortbelly rockfish to heavy body cowcod, the rockfishes display a bewildering array of shapes, sizes and colors. This book is the most comprehensive ever written on this marvelously diverse group of fishes. The first part gives an overview of rockfish systematics, biology, ecology, and fisheries. The second part contains a key to identifying each species followed by detailed species accounts, including information on appearance, life history and fishery status. Written with humor and expertise, this book features more than 550 color illustrations.

A great gift idea anytime

Gift certificates are always available at the bookstore. They always fit, they're easy to mail, and they're redeemable at most independent bookstores across the nation (we have a list, by state, at the store). You determine the amount, and your staff discount applies.



Report from the International Association of Aquatic and Marine Science Libraries and Information Centers (IAMSLIC) Conference

Over 80 marine science librarians and data managers from 16 countries convened in Mazatlan, Mexico for the 28th annual IAMSLIC Conference in October. Home of one of UNAM's marine labs, Mazatlan is the port city of the state of Sinaloa and supports a thriving tourist business for Mexicans and foreigners. The conference focused on bridging the digital divide. Conference chair, Dennis Abbott of the CSIRO Lab in Tasmania orchestrated papers and discussions that presented various visions and models for addressing the divide. Here are descriptions of a few sessions.

Meryl Williams of the World Fish Center (formerly ICLARM) in Malaysia gave an impassioned and articulate keynote address on the need for the political empowerment of the poor through improved information and communications technology. Solutions needed include better-organized and managed information. More research investment into user friendly and useable hardware for poor

audiences, and greater economic and planning commitment from the "top." She encouraged librarians to address needs, organize information with multi-disciplinary and multi-cultural linkages, and disseminate information in creative ways. One the last point, Dr. Williams used the example of telecenters in India that are community focal points for artisanal fishing communities.

A very applied example of bridging the divide has been in the works for years by several IAMSLIC members. Barb Butler of the University of Oregon's OIMB has explored options for more efficient resources sharing among IAMSLIC members worldwide that does not burden the largest libraries with too many requests, gives those with the smallest collections a chance to reciprocate, and is usable by our far-flung members. Barb and Steve Watkins of the California State University at Monterey Bay detailed the newly developed Z39.50 IAMSLIC distributed library to enthusiastic members. Steve spent his recent sabbatical doing the system programming and testing it. The system allows IAMSLIC libraries to search across out catalogs and serial lists, and send electronic requests directly to the holding library. This sounds simple, but opens doors to better sharing across borders.

The International Center for Theoretical Physics in Trieste, Italy has the mandate to transfer information from North to South. Enrique Carissa described this program's innovative approach to improve access to scientific literature for scientists in developing countries. The program uses an email query and delivery system that accommodates limited bandwidth, unreliable power sources and slow equipment. It's a simple solution to current conditions. For more, see www.ictp.trieste.it/ejournals.

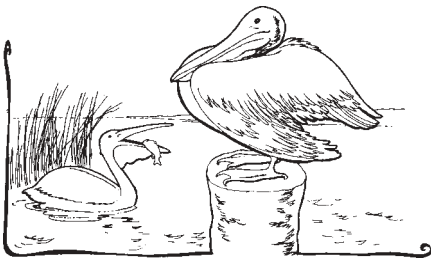
Dr. Armando Garcia Ortega illuminated the problems of doing science when the literature is not readily available. He studies the culturing techniques of Bullseye pufferfish at CIAD's lab outside of Mazatlan. While completing his graduate work at the University of the Netherlands, Dr. Garcia has desktop and lab access to a rich array of library resources. Now, his lab access is severely limited due to bandwidth given the lab's remote location. (His access at home in the city of Mazatlan, on the other hand, is excellent.) The physical problems are complicated by the lack of formal consortial agreements between CIAD and UNAM; the libraries involved agree to work together locally but sharing electronic resources is still limited. Fortunately for Dr. Garcia, members of the audience suggested solutions from using ASFA's alerting service to reaffirming agreements between branch libraries.

Several attendees described digital projects from their institutions. Here are a few of them.

- Pauline Simpson described the University of Southhampton's e-print archive that she has spearheaded and manages. She gave an articulate overview of the Open Archives Initiative and explained the obvious role of the librarian in developing e-print services.
- Peter Brueggeman from the Scripps Library is completing digitization of the California Fish and Game Bulletin. The scanning was done in California, and the OCR done offshore. A unique feature is the extraction of imbedded data into Excel with a searchable interface.
- Stephanie Haas explored the question of how to better integrate geo-spatial descriptors into MARC records. She described various efforts including the University of Florida's work to link museum records with location and names, the University of Hawaii project linking bibliographic information to a simple GIS interface for Pacific Islands fishers, and a USGS project to catalog projects and publications in the marine realm.
- Scientists from Ecuador demonstrated the Digital Museum of Aquatic Organisms of Ecuador. It's a means to document and perhaps preserve the ecological diversity of the country.

If I had to describe two themes or concepts that

emerged throughout the week, they would be that cooperation is a necessity, and collaboration produces results. In the marine science library community, the Mazatlan Conference provided a wonderful opportunity to establish the beginnings of new cooperative ventures among Latin American countries and new linkages with other regions. We share common issues and challenges that can be addressed internationally as well as locally.



Database of the Month: Environmental Science and Pollution Management (ESPM)

ESPM is a multidisciplinary database produced by Cambridge Scientific Abstracts (CSA), providing comprehensive coverage of the environmental sciences. Abstracts and citations are drawn from over 5,980 serials including scientific journals, conference proceedings, reports, monographs, books, environmental impact statements and government publications. Subject coverage includes Ecology, Energy Resources, Environmental Engineering, Hazardous Waste, Pollution (Land, Air, Water, Noise, Solid Waste, Radioactive), Risk Assessment, Toxicology & Toxic Emissions, Waste Management, and Water Resource Issues. Coverage is from 1981-present. Direct links to full-text are provided for a number of the electronic journals that OSU Libraries subscribes to (e.g., BioOne journals). The Locate Document link for each record also has links to Oasis and to an ILL form for journals not held at OSU.

What kind of questions can be answered through Environmental Science and Pollution Management (ESPM)?

- What affects does El Niño have on water pollution?
- Where can I find Environmental Impact Statements related to Klamath Falls?
- Where can I find articles & government reports related to Umatilla groundwater?
- Where can I find information on the effects of oil spills on marine bird species?
- Where can I find articles on using biological controls on introduced (non-native) species?
- Where can I find articles on techniques used for stream restoration projects?

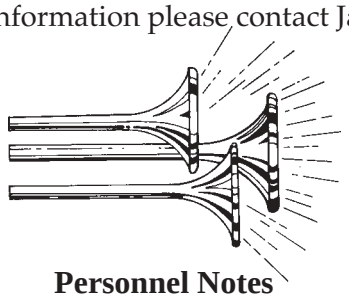
How do I get to Environmental Science and Pollution Management (ESPM)?

If you are using a computer on campus, go the Library's Research Gateway web page (<http://osulibrary.orst.edu/research/), click on the A-Z Database List button, and click on the link under E. To access this database from off-campus, see the instructions at <http://osulibrary.orst.edu/offcampus/remote.htm for using the library ' s proxy server.

Related resources:

See the list of Environmental Science databases available through OSU Libraries on the Article Databases by Subject page at <http://osulibrary.orst.edu/research/databases/dbsubject.htm#env.

For more information please contact Janet Webster.



Personnel Notes

Umur Onal presented his Ph.D. defense on Tuesday, November 26, entitled "Development of Artificial Diets for Delivery of Water-Soluble Nutrients to Altricial Fish Larvae."

Congratulations to **Jaime** and Cristina **Gomez** (CIMRS-NMFS) on the birth of their first child, a daughter namedAndrea. She was born October 10, weighed 7.3 pounds and was 20 inches long. Photos can be seen at http://www.geocities.com/jgomez64/andrea.html