



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE
Southwest Fisheries Center
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BACKGROUND INFORMATION ON THE NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE

HONOLULU LABORATORY LIBRARY

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BACKGROUND OF ORGANIZATION

The establishment of the Southwest Fisheries Center, Honolulu Laboratory of the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) in 1948 as the Pacific Oceanic Fishery Investigations (POFI) was authorized by the 80th Congress under Public Law 329. In 1958, with the passage of the Fish and Wildlife Act of 1956, POFI became the Hawaii Area of the Bureau of Commercial Fisheries (BCF) within the U.S. Department of the Interior. When the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) was created in the U.S. Department of Commerce in 1970, BCF became what it is today NMFS. The Honolulu Laboratory (HL) is one of four research laboratories in the Southwest Fisheries Center (SWFC). The other SWFC laboratories are the La Jolla Laboratory, which also serves as the center headquarters, and the Pacific Environmental Group in Monterey, and the Tiburon Laboratory. In addition to the SWFC, NMFS is composed of the Northwest and Alaska, the Northeast, and the Southeast Fisheries Centers, including 22 laboratories and facilities within the coastal borders of the United States.

ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE

With a few exceptions each of the major laboratories has special libraries with either a librarian or a library technician in charge. Each library operates independently to service the needs of the various laboratory staffs. Since many of the laboratories are located adjacent to a large university offering graduate programs in marine science, the NMFS libraries serve that segment of students and faculty. The libraries serve other researchers as well as fishermen and state and local agencies interested in marine-related information.

The HL is located on the University of Hawaii (UH) campus and is within walking distance to Hamilton Library, the UH graduate library, with which mutual interlibrary loans, reference assistance, and computerized information retrieval services such as MEDLINE and Online Computer Library Center (OCLC) are maintained. Drawing from the University's entire library collection and from the special libraries of the Hawaiian Sugar Planters Association, the Bishop Museum, Hawaii State Department of Planning and Economic Development, and the East-West Center, the HL Library is able to fulfill about 90% of the requests locally. Assistance is also sought from the librarian at the SWFC Laboratory in La Jolla who has access to the resources of the Scripps Institution of Oceanography and the University of California San Diego Library as well as the entire University of California library system. It is rarely necessary to search beyond California although the library network in the United States makes it possible to procure almost any publication on interlibrary loan through OCLC.

The HL Library is organized for easy use. Journals and serially published documents which were formerly classified are now alphabetically arranged by title. Documents issued by government agencies are cross-referenced in the serial record file and shelved under country (e.g., Japan. Fisheries Agency). Books and monographs are catalogued by Library of Congress (LC) classification using the CIP data given in the majority of the new books. However, the LC classification has been modified to allow

for expansion to fit our special interests and requirements. Reprints are filed alphabetically by author in vertical file cabinets. Analytic cards are typed and filed for reprints as well as for articles of interest published in journals received by the HL Library. Analytic cards are stamped reprint file or periodical to indicate the location of the article.

TYPES OF INFORMATION

The bulk of fishery information appears in serials and journals such as the Fishery Bulletin, Transactions of the American Fisheries Society, Bulletin of the Japanese Society of Scientific Fisheries, Fishing News International, etc.

With the influx of highly specialized new journals in recent years, including Marine Environmental Research, Fisheries Research, Biological Oceanography, Journal Crustacean Biology, North American Journal of Fisheries Management, etc., libraries faced with reduced budgets and escalating costs of upkeeping the serials have to become more selective in purchasing new titles and deleting those of limited value and interest to the staff.

Books and monographs which are the other mainstay of the library collection require similar selectivity, although the HL Library procures whatever is required and requested by the staff. The HL's book purchases are handled through the University of Hawaii Bookstore.

The Library has a growing file of data reports on microfiche, National Technical Information Service (NTIS) reports dissertations and other miscellaneous items. It may be just a matter of time before the serials will have to be placed on microfiche.

Charts and maps of the Pacific are also requested frequently by the scientific staff. These are no longer kept in supply as before, but ordered as needed because of the continuous chart revisions.

Reprints fall within the responsibility of the Library. Except for printed abstracts, reprints are ordered for each article published by the scientific staff. These are placed in storage to fulfill requests received from other interested scientists on a first come basis. Due to the increasing cost of reprints, the standard order currently is 100 reprints for the Library and 50 for the authors. One set of the HL's reprints are bound annually for reference use and another set is forwarded to the Southwest Fisheries Center in La Jolla where the HL reprints are incorporated and bound with the entire Center reprints. Since many of the early publications of the 1950's are now out of print and the supply of reprints completely exhausted, the bound set serves as an invaluable annual record of publications.

Similarly the Library receives reprints from other laboratories. Some of these are received as bound volumes such as contributions of the Scripps Institution of Oceanography, Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution, Texas A&M Department of Oceanography, etc. However, most of the reprints are

single articles. Only those of interest to the staff and those that are not published in journals on subscription are retained and filed by author in the reprint collection.

The Library also has a strong collection of Japanese fisheries serials, particularly reports of the early Japanese fisheries surveys conducted in the late 1930's and the early 1940's in the western Pacific prior to World War II. These are on microfilm reels taken of the original Japanese documents obtained during the American occupation of Japan. Many of these articles were translated and published in the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Special Scientific Report--Fisheries series in 1950.

LIBRARY SERVICES

The Library's primary function is providing information and responding to staff needs on the literature searches. When embarking on a project, the investigator usually begins a literature search focusing basically on the specialized indices such as the Oceanic Abstracts, Aquatic Sciences and Fisheries Abstracts, Zoological Record, Biological Abstracts, Science Citation Index, etc. Depending on the subject matter, either a manual search is initiated and continued on the computer terminal using DIALOG or ORBIT. The manual search often provides subject awareness and additional clues in selecting key identifiers and descriptors for improved retrieval. The references may be either typed online if only a few are listed. If a long list of references is needed, an offline print may be requested which is mailed out the same evening from DIALOG information retrieval service at Lockheed's Palo Alto headquarters and received within 2-3 days (appendix). Cost varies with time online and the data base searched. Online search service is available only to the staff. Other users are referred to Hamilton Library.

References which are not in the Library's collection are requested on interlibrary loan locally from other libraries. The small percentage of requests which require borrowing outside of Hawaii are usually fulfilled by the SWFC Library in La Jolla. Although the HL rarely utilizes OCLC interlibrary loan services, the system provides information on the existence and availability of the requested document in any library in the United States affiliated with the OCLC network. All libraries possessing a particular title within a region is displayed on the terminal screen. A user need only to key the requested item online to receive the information. Status of the loan request (date mailed, plus any additional instructions on the loan) can be checked online as long as the transaction is active.

In-depth service such as specialized bibliographies and comprehensive literature searches are not generally available because of the lack of personnel. Instead, the requester is given assistance and instruction in doing his own searches of the subject field. This not only serves as a learning tool, but also benefits the requester in providing related information useful for the project. The HL Library devotes considerable time and effort in assisting undergraduate and graduate students, who come to the library for help, and teaching them on the use of the various reference tools and sources.

Services and tasks requiring immediate attention such as assisting outside users and staff take precedence. The daily but necessary housekeeping requirements of library operations such as recording serials, cataloging, circulating and shelving of books, binding volumes, etc., are carried out as time permits. An equivalent of 1 day a week is normally spent by the HL librarian at Hamilton Library to utilize the larger and more comprehensive reference resources there especially in the areas of economics, technology, law, etc., which are the subject fields seriously lacking in the HL Library collection. Frequent use is made of the Government Documents Collection which houses the established documents published by the United States Government and the United Nations (including the FAO publications). This collection is ordinarily for reference use only in the section, but exceptions are made for interlibrary loan limited to 1 week. This arrangement is also maintained with the Asian, the Hawaiian, and the Pacific Collections at Hamilton Library.

The HL Library serves as a focal point of exchange for fisheries information in the Pacific because of our geographic location. One of the important services is to function as a referral center. If the requested information is not available, referrals for contacts to the proper agencies are provided. More often than not, in the case of a request from a foreign country, the request for the information is usually initiated and obtained by us, then forwarded to the original requester. Realizing that many entities in the Pacific, especially the newly independent Pacific nations, lack the library resources readily available to us, the HL places an even greater effort to assist and provide the requested information whenever possible. All mail from Honolulu is sent by air.

INFORMATION DISSEMINATION AND DISTRIBUTION POLICY

It is fortunate that over 70% of the fisheries and related journals are received on an exchange basis with research institutions publishing their own series. The NMFS publishes Fishery Bulletin, NOAA Technical Report NMFS SSRF, NOAA Technical Report NMFS Circular, and Marine Fisheries Review (appendix) which are considered the basic established series. Arrangements for mailing and distributing are handled centrally through the Scientific Publications Staff located in Seattle, Wash. (Almand, J. David. 1974. Publications and Services of the National Marine Fisheries Service. Marine Fisheries Review 36(3):1-9. Also as MFR Paper 1039).

The HL issues a monthly report on research activities (appendix). This information is incorporated with the La Jolla Laboratory, Pacific Environmental Group, and Tiburon Laboratory reports in the Southwest Fisheries Center Monthly Report (appendix). Research highlights of each of the laboratories including the status of SWFC publications provide information on ongoing activities. The SWFC Report is distributed by the Center headquarters in La Jolla. Anyone interested may request copies. Also available for the asking is the Tuna Newsletter (appendix). The HL maintains a translation series (appendix) which is available on request.

There are no restrictions on the distribution of HL publications. The mailing list for the translation series is maintained in Honolulu; the SWFC

Monthly Reports and the Tuna Newsletter are mailed from La Jolla. The established NMFS publications such as Fishery Bulletin, Marine Fisheries Review, etc., are restricted to exchanges between institutions and libraries through NMFS Scientific Publications Unit in Seattle. Sales and subscriptions of the NMFS publications at a nominal cost to individuals may be made through the U.S. Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. Other NMFS reports, including Administrative Reports and Contract and Grantee Reports, are available either as microfiche or paper copy from National Technical Information Service (NTIS) which, as an information service organization, is the central source for public sale of U.S. and foreign government-sponsored research, development and engineering reports (appendix). Cost is nominal, varying with the number of pages in the documents.

Individual copies, however, may be obtained without cost by writing to User Branch Services D822, Environmental Science Information Center, NOAA, Rockville, MD 20852. Authors are also quite willing to honor individual requests from their supply of reprints.

TRAINING PROGRAMS/FACILITIES OFFERED

The HL Library operates as a one-person library without any direct clerical assistance; the library facilities are available and open for use by anyone. No training programs are ordinarily provided; however, visitors passing through Honolulu are welcome to drop by for a visit.

APPENDIX

Publications listed in report:

1. DIALOG offline computer search on anchovy Engraulis mordax
2. Fishery Bulletin
3. NOAA Technial Report NMFS SSRF
4. NOAA Technial Report NMFS Circular
5. Marine Fisheries Review
6. HL Monthly Report
7. SWFC Monthly Report
8. Tuna Newsletter
9. HL Translation Series
10. Microfiche of Data Report from NTIS

Other NMFS publications:

1. Fishery Market News Reports (Terminal Island buff sheet)
2. Foreign Fishery Information Release
3. Southwest Fisheries Center Administrative Report
4. NOAA Technical Memorandum NMFS
5. Fish Meal and Oil Market Review
6. Shellfish Market Review
7. Food Fish Market Review
8. Fisheries of the United States
9. Fishery Statistics of the United States