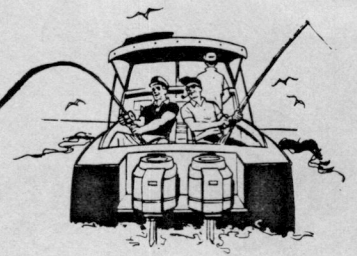




FEBRUARY 1991

Chum Line



Published by the Los Angeles Rod & Reel Club

Teddy Hammock is among the missing and we know he will not return from this battle. These terms seem especially appropriate because that's the kind of comrade he was. He was the kind you would want fighting next to you when the chips were down; the kind of man who would throw his body over yours. Nothing bravura about him but something very certain, very dependable, unshakeable.

To my certain knowledge he did not have a mean bone in his body. Under that tough exterior lay a tender core. The guy cultivated orchids, for crying out loud. While most of us brought hulking baloney sandwiches and joints of beef for lunch Teddy prepared dainty hors d'oeuvres; more than he and Brody could consume and knowing that his lunch would be raided. He pretended outrage but underneath that outrage was a Jewish mother saying, "Eat, eat."

Teddy enjoyed being mooched. He and Brody always had a well stocked liquor bar in their tackle boxes. Nightcaps before we left the dock. My drink is gin and they provided a supply of those little airline bottles of Beef-eaters. One night I kind of wandered over and asked if they had any hooch to go with the doughnuts. Teddy said sure and put together a mixture of Scotch and brandy over ice. It was God-awful and he waited for me to protest. I wouldn't give the s.o.b. the satisfaction and drank the whole thing with compliments to the chef. That stopped him and I got only gin after that.

Teddy was slowing down visibly last year. His time at the rail was cut into by his time in the sack. Brody brought him to and from the boat. But, he never complained. We could never drag a complaint out of him. He just bundled up and caught his fair share of bass.

We wish him well.

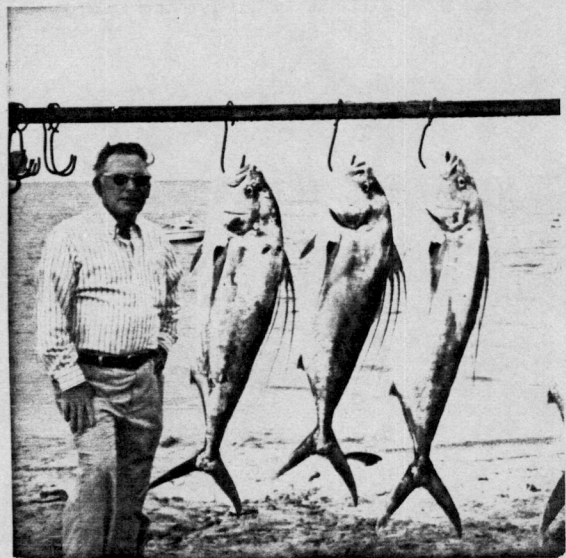
Harold Goodman

The Brunch at the Braemar Country Club on Sunday February 24 th will be our Dinner Meeting. We will not have our usual meeting at Andre's.

At the present time I am glad to say that I know of no other member of LARRC that is ill. Let's keep it that way.

At the present time I do not have a definite date for Teddy's memorial but I think it will be on the "First String" on Monday February 25 th.

Here is a picture of Teddy with three big Rooster fish he caught at Punto Colorado in 1978. Joe Wilder, Harry Jacobs, Maury Linsky, Dr. Manny Borsook and myself. I can't believe that I am the only one left of the group. WOW.





Los Angeles Rod & Reel Club

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

As I begin my first month of office as your new President, I wonder why, and how, I got hooked into this job.

Maybe it was Rubaum's sales pitch on how easy it would be since he "set up everything to run smoothly" during his term of office and it was no longer any work to be President. Look at Mindlin! He sailed through his year and hardly did anything. The Vice-President and other officers handled everything beautifully. And Mindlin told me it was a good way to meet all the guys, get invited on six packs and receive credit for the other officers' and directors' work.

But maybe it was my secret ego wanting power and status. So here I am, now President and ruler of this club.

I'm looking for ideas on how to make this a great year with lots of fun for all. There's a twilight fishing trip planned for the July meeting and I would like to hear from anyone with interesting ideas for other meetings this year. Plan on attending my kickoff meeting in March. It should be an eye opener!

Please support your club activities by coming to the Awards Banquet at Braemar Country Club this month and attending future meetings and fishing trips. Your attendance is needed to continue this Club's long history of great events.

AMM

N.B. The initials have hardly changed!

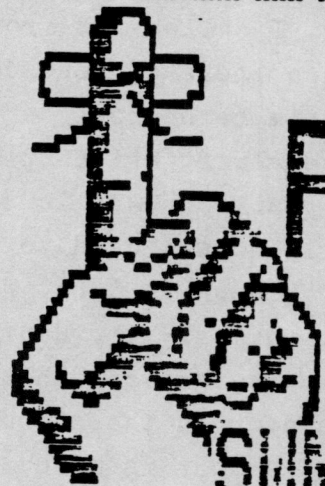
WHAT I REMEMBER OF TED HAMMOCK

Ted passed away at 12:25 A.M. on January 30 th. I had seen him 2 times in the hospital before I went to Palm Springs. I called him from P.S. and he said that he was comfortable as they had increased the dosage of morphine, but he did tell me the Doc told him he had only a few days to be with us. Now he is gone & the tears have almost dried up but we have such wonderful memories & times to fall back on. One in particular comes to my mind. Back in the late 70's & early 80's I used to arrange trips on the Tiburon, skippered by Larry Edwards down in Cabo. We were in the harbor fishing for bait. There was Julian Wolf, Dr. Henry Levy, Bob Brody, Gus Rich, Fred Rupp & myself. We had caught all the bait we needed & were getting as drunk as a fool. The door on the stern was open & I just said to Teddy "Watch yourself, the door is open". He said "Aw f--- you, I know what I'm doing" & with that he fell overboard & down he went. Bubbles were coming up & Julian Wolf dove in to save him and as he brought his head to the surface I would push his head under with my foot. When he went overboard he lost Larry Edwards rod & reel and Larry was screaming about the loss of the rig. He was only mad that the rod & reel was lost. Bob Brody put on a treble hook & yo yoed until he snagged the set up. Now Larry was happy & Teddy was all wet & gasping for air & another drink. This is just one of the funny times & wonderful memories we have. OH HOW WE WILL MISS HIM. Rest in peace my friend. I love you. As an after thought why do we have to wait until someone has passed on to tell them that we love them, why don't we tell them when they are alive, the world would be a better place.

Otto

Before Teddy left us he ask me to convey to all the members of LARRC his thanks for all the cards & telephone calls he received. He also asked me to have Julian wolf do the eulogy at his memorial. Teddy was very strong & matter of fact about all that was going on but I was being ripped apart. We said our goodbyes knowing that we would never see each other again. I cried all the way home & had no one to lean on as Henny was in Florida at the time. I have recently lost my very dear Brother & Teddy's leaving us hit me in the same way. Good Fishing old friend & may you put a big bass on my hook.

Otto



FEB 24

SUNDAY, NOON TO 4 PM

**41ST. ANNUAL LARRC
INSTALLATION AND AWARDS
LUNCHEON**

**AT THE
BRAEMAR COUNTRY CLUB**

SAVE DATE !!!

BIRTHDAY BOYS OF THE MONTH

This month, Valentine month, we celebrate the LARRC lovers listed below. We should not forget that February is short and hope that this is only symbolic where our friends are concerned.

Dave Wende
Larry Brucker
Steve Cohen
Jay Flanzig
Sal Forlenza
Ted Hammock *
Don Lee
Nate Merin
Bruce Meshwork
Alan Schiff
Joe Stern
Norm Weinstock

You will note that Dave Wende was placed at the top of the list, out of alphabetical order, as Dave is newly married and we're giving him the benefit of the doubt. The others are presented in descending alphabetical order so that there can be no question of our making a performance judgement. We wouldn't want to rate Merin and Flanzig, for instance.

Women tend to tell me things because I am a sympathetic listener and never violate a confidence. Mostly I meet them during cocktail hour at the Annual Awards Luncheon. They take me aside and you'd be surprised what I learn. Don't ask because I never reveal secrets even though I hear the damndest things.

Here is an idea which the board might want to consider. Fishing slows down in February. To perk things up next year we could have a King of the Lovers Tournament. We could run a Calcutta and have handicappers and judges just like in the King of the Calicos.

I'll open the bidding with \$50.00 on the team of Forlenza and Weinstock. Wende might still be a good bet by next year and it would depend on whom the handicappers give him as a partner. I'll be talking to some of the wives and try to get a feel for it.

Let's be gentlemen. No insulting remarks during the bidding.

B.B.O.T.M. Editor



"I'd love to be a part of the big show in the Gulf, but they tell me they need lawyers right here at home."

JOURNAL

EDITED BY LAURIE UNDERWOOD

Net Results

by Christopher Horton

WHEN SOUTHEAST ALASKA pink salmon harvests fell short some 32 million fish in 1988, biologists were mystified. The parents of those fish had passed upstream in record numbers two years earlier, but something had caused a staggering mortality rate in their offspring. While analysts predicted a harvest of 38 million pinks that year, Southeast Alaska fishermen were able to net only 6 million. Why the shortfall?

Scientists usually attribute poor salmon returns to changes in the ocean habitat, but fishermen and environmentalists suspected that high-seas driftnet fishing, which boomed through the 1980s, was the culprit. Drift-nets, known to environmentalists as "walls of death" because they ensnare virtually everything they encounter, have been used regularly in the Pacific by a fleet of 1,400 squid- and tuna-fishing boats from Japan, Taiwan, and South Korea since the late 1970s. Now, despite research showing the devastating effect of these "vacuums of the sea," environmental concerns must compete with the economics of a billion-dollar industry and the politics of international trade.

High-seas driftnetting is an adaptation of a traditional inshore fishing method—gillnetting—but with two major differences. First, driftnets are much bigger. Made of sheer plastic webbing, they hang 45 feet below the ocean surface and extend up to 40 miles. Second, driftnetters are relatively unregulated. While Puget Sound gillnetters operate within strict time and area parameters, high-seas squid driftnetters work throughout 2 million square miles of ocean during nine months of each year. And until 1989, there was virtually no documentation of their activities.

"Until the present, there was little known about what's really happening out there," says Dave Phillips, director of Earth Island Institute in San

Francisco, a nonprofit environmental organization. Concern over driftnetting grew at the end of the 1980s when coastal fishermen from Alaska to New Zealand began to complain of depleted stocks.

An estimated 20,000 to 30,000 miles of driftnet have been set throughout the Pacific Ocean every night for the past decade. In addition, scientists estimate that some 650 miles of net are lost or abandoned each year. These "ghost nets" entrap all that comes in their path until they wash ashore or "snowball" and sink, full of sea life.

CLEAN SWEEP:

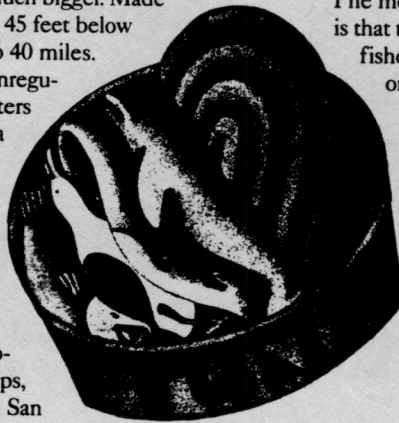
*To catch one kind of fish,
North Pacific driftnetters snare
30 or 40 other species as well*

The pink salmon mystery is just one of a number of claims of destruction leveled at driftnetting in recent years. Researchers are particularly worried about

the effects of driftnets on Pacific marine mammals. Each year, an estimated 50,000 northern fur seals from Alaska's Pribilof Islands die in abandoned fishing nets from high-seas driftnetting. Unless the trend is reversed, one federal regulatory agency, the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), predicts that these animal populations will be halved by the end of the 1990s.

"The most destructive thing about driftnetting is that the damage is so calculated. Every time fishermen put a net in the water to get one or two species, they know that 30 or 40 species are going to come up in the net," says Ben Deeble, a Greenpeace member who led a research expedition in the North Pacific last August. "It's like cutting down the orchard to harvest the apples. You're not going to be able to harvest apples next year."

Concern over the stability of North Pacific sea life and fish populations spurred recent negotiations



[CONTINUED FROM PAGE 9] between the United States and driftnet nations, especially after Northwest fishermen became convinced that high-seas driftnetters were illegally harvesting salmon. The biggest hurdle U.S. negotiators face are repeated claims by driftnet nations that no scientific data sufficiently documents driftnet fishing damage.

In fact, until 1989 only a handful of U.S. scientists had ever monitored foreign high-seas driftnetters. That year, a team of U.S., Canadian, and Japanese researchers observed 4 percent of Japan's high-seas driftnet vessels. Their results sent shockwaves around the globe: during one year of squid- and tuna-fishing, this small fraction of Japan's driftnet fleet killed 914 dolphins, 208 fur seals, 141 Dall's porpoises, 539 albatrosses, 58,100 blue sharks, 1.4 million pomfrets, and 11,700 other fish species. When multiplied to include the remaining 96 percent of the fleet, the numbers are mind boggling.

"The 1989 report shows that our concerns are justified," says Jim Coe, NMFS driftnet research coordinator in Seattle. The observers' data opened a Pandora's box of questions: if Japan's driftnets cause that much damage, how destructive are Taiwan's and South Korea's fleets?

Last October, at the International North Pacific Fisheries Commission (INPFC), amid mounting international pressure to ban driftnets, Japan agreed to release 1989 fishery data to U.S. scientists, who discovered that Japan's driftnet fleet deployed 1 million miles of driftnet in 1989—enough to reach to the moon and back, twice.

Armed with such data, plus new statistics promised from the expanded 1990 observer program, U.S. officials are preparing to meet with driftnet fishing nations at an INPFC conference this spring. But given the history of such negotiations, some conservationists are doubtful that the meeting will halt driftnetting. On December 22, 1989, the United Nations adopted a resolution to put a worldwide moratorium on driftnets by June 30, 1992. But the U.N. moratorium suffers several problems. One gaping loophole allows driftnetting to continue if an "adequate conservation and management program" exists in a driftnetting area. The Japanese have argued that the U.S. Driftnet Monitor and Control Act—which places observers aboard Japanese vessels—satisfies that exemption.

As negotiations plod along, some driftnetters are finding ways around the restrictions. Some have simply moved their boats to new waters. While driftnetting has traditionally been limited to the Pacific

Ocean, the U.S. State Department reported last year that 120 Taiwanese driftnet vessels fished in the Indian Ocean and in waters off West Africa and the Caribbean. Others are fishing under the flags of countries without diplomatic ties to the United States. Last May, the Soviet Union seized 12 "North Korean" vessels driftnetting near Alaska waters; the boats were actually financed, owned, and crewed by Japanese. The State Department has also received reports of six Taiwanese vessels fishing under Chinese flags. Analysts fear that more vessels could reflag.

Other driftnetters may not even bother reflagging or relocating. Since Taiwan and South Korea are not U.N. members, they are not bound by its moratorium. In fact, even U.N. members are not legally bound by league resolutions. As Phillips explains, "The U.N. is not a binding force—they don't have policing powers."

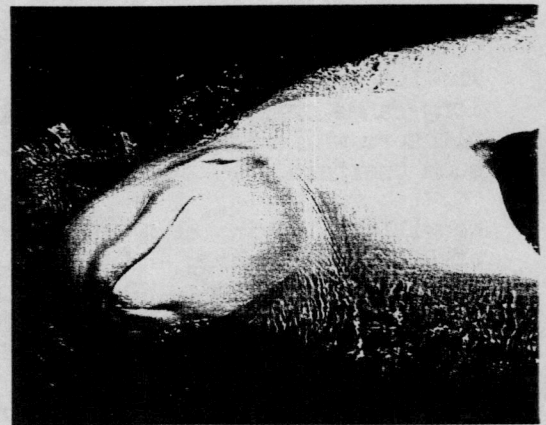
With this in mind, conservationists are fighting driftnetters on two other fronts: at the market and through diplomatic channels. On November 28, 1990, President Bush reauthorized the Magnuson Fishery Conservation and Management Act including an amendment spearheaded by Washington Representative Jolene Unsoeld that forbids imports of all driftnet-caught fish into the United States by 1992, and stipulates that only distributors of canned tuna *not* caught by driftnet or purse-seine nets can use a "dolphin safe" label.

In the end, public outcry may be the most effective tool against driftnetting. Deeble of Greenpeace points out that international condemnation of driftnetting elevated the issue to a diplomatic level in Japan. "Because Japan has been so roundly criticized internationally, driftnetting is becoming a political issue rather than a fisheries management issue."

The U.S. marketplace is also a powerful negotiating arena. As the world's largest consumer of canned tuna, U.S. demands are heeded by tuna fishermen, says Phillips. "Whether they care about dolphins or not, they care about \$400 million in exports to the United States."

"The demand side is where this thing is going to get solved," he says, adding that, in the end, consumer pressure will have a much greater impact than treaties and conventions. "It's going to get solved through the market, by saying, 'If you go out and [driftnet], no one's going to buy your fish.'" ♦

Christopher Horton is associate editor of Alaska Fisherman's Journal, based in Seattle.



THE CASE OF THE WHITE BELUGA

Of all the small cetaceans, the beluga whales of Canada's St. Lawrence River represent most accurately the hazards of sharing a habitat with human beings. The decline of this population of belugas began in the 1700s with the start of large commercial hunting, conducted first by Europeans and then by Canadians, who killed the whales for their blubber and oil. By the time this hunt ended in the 1950s, the population had been cut in half from a high of perhaps 5,000.

Later in that period, the gentle belugas were also accused of competing with the local fishing industry and "culled" under a misguided fisheries management scheme. Then, in the 1950s, the St. Lawrence underwent major industrial development with the establishment of international shipping ports and the construction of the St. Lawrence Seaway, which opened an unimpeded route for shipping from the Great Lakes to the Atlantic. This resulted in massive increases in boat traffic, disturbances and pollution. Dams were constructed on rivers that feed into the St. Lawrence, altering beluga habitat and reducing the population's range by as much as half.

Like all well-used North American waterways, the St. Lawrence became heavily polluted. The already beleaguered population now contains individuals with PCB levels as high as 576 ppm. The milk of some nursing females is contaminated with PCB levels up to 3,400 times higher than is considered safe for human drinking water.

The direct correlation cannot be proven, but these highly contaminated belugas have been found to suffer from a bewildering variety of ailments, including perforated gastric ulcers with peritonitis, bronchopneumonia, dermatitis associated with a herpes-like virus, chronic hepatitis and skin fibrosis. One was discovered with bladder cancer—the only recorded case in a marine mammal. Still another had profound immunosuppression similar to that found in human AIDS sufferers.

There are now thought to be fewer than 400 St. Lawrence belugas remaining. The latest evidence suggests that their birth rate is not keeping pace with their mortality rate. Still more disturbing is the discovery that some carcinogenic compounds have become attached to the belugas' DNA and altered their genetic structure, thus passing on the damage from generation to generation. As Dr. Joseph Cummins, a geneticist at the University of Western Ontario, has put it, "I don't see how [the St. Lawrence belugas] can possibly survive, bearing the gene damage that they do."

The Los Angeles Rod & Reel Club is again proud to announce a club sanctioned long-range charter in 1991. The trip has been designed to maximize our fishing pleasure while minimizing all the usual headaches and hassles associated with such charters.

We will be leaving at 2 PM on Thursday, August 15, 1991 on the Shogun 90, out of L.A. Sportfishing and will be returning on Tuesday, August 20, 1991. THIS IS THE PRIME SEASON. WE WILL PRIMARILY TARGET ALBACORE AND YELLOWFIN TUNA. In addition, we have the option to fish GUADALUPE ISLAND and/or San Benitor for BIG YELLOWTAIL, BLUEFIN TUNA, BLACK SEA BASS, Calico Bass, etc.

The trip will be limited to 20 anglers. This super light load will ensure our maximum angling pleasure fishing on the drift as well as on the anchor. We will be fighting the fish and not each other!

By leaving from San Pedro, we have eliminated the hassle of the 3-4 hour drive to San Diego and the endless fight to find a parking spot within 5 miles of the landing. At L.A. sportfishing the parking is unlimited and it is free. In addition, it's just a short 30-45 minute drive for most down the Harbor Fwy.

We have arranged the departure/return times in such a way that NO fishing time is lost compared to comparable charters out of San Diego!

The Shogun 90 is 90' x 29' and is steel hulled. The breadth of the stern makes it a pleasure to fish (lots of elbow room). The breadth, length and steel hull make for a very smooth riding boat. All staterooms are air conditioned and no stateroom will have more than two anglers in it. The skipper is Norm Kagawa and the crew is superb.

The cost of the trip is \$1,190 per angler, all inclusive. THIS INCLUDES BEER AND SODAS, PERMITS AND CREW TIP. We have even arranged for a canning truck to be made available for our albacore and tuna.

We invite all Los Angeles Rod & Reel Club members to join us on this exciting adventure.

1991 ALBACORE/LONG-RANGE FACTS SUMMARY

Boat & Landing: Shogun 90; L.A. Sportfishing

DATES: Thursday, August 15, 1991-Tuesday, August 20, 1991

COST: \$1,190/person-INCLUDING BEER AND SODAS, PERMITS AND CREW TIP

\$250 deposit to hold a spot

\$350 due by March 1, 1991 (total \$600 to date)

\$590 due by June 1, 1991

LIMITED LOAD-MAXIMUM OF 20 ANGLERS

For more information or make reservations contact the Charter Master:

Jim Marshall
5260 Atherton St., #152
Long Beach, CA 90815
Work: (213) 512-4898
Home: (213) 597-3868

1991 Wednesday Seahawk Charters

| | | | |
|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| | APR 3 | JUL 17 | OCT 9 |
| | APR 17 | JUL 31 | OCT 23 |
| FEB 13 | MAY 1 | AUG 14 | NOV 6 |
| FEB 27 | MAY 15 | AUG 28 | NOV 20 |
| MAR 13 | JUN 5 | SEP 11 | DEC 4 |
| MAR 27 | JUN 19 | SEP 25 | DEC 18 |

Charter Data and Policies

1. Departure Time will be 5:00 a.m. from Sea Landing, Santa Barbara. However, some trips may depart as early as 12:00 a.m. These earlier departures will be at the sole discretion of the CHARTER MASTER(S) after consultation with the skipper.
2. Generally speaking the trips will be planned for local surface calico bass. However, opportunities to fish for exotics, such as white sea bass and yellowtail, will take precedent. Also, several trips will be for light tackle rockfish and/or halibut at Santa Rosa or San Miguel Island. Other trips may be to Point Conception.
3. Return time will usually be 4:30 - 5:00 p.m., but could be earlier or later depending on fishing conditions and weather, and will be determined by skipper and CHARTER MASTER(S).
4. Bunks are on a first come basis and can not be reserved. During the summer months when the Seahawk has twilight trips the six (6) outside bunks and the double bunk will be assigned by the charter master(s) to those individuals who committed to the charter the earliest.
5. The boat will be available for boarding after 9:00 p.m., or after 11:00 p.m. when the Seahawk is on a twilight trip.
6. Reservations are restricted to club members and their guests up to 30 days prior to trip date. Then they will be open for nonmember participation.
7. Loads will be limited to 14 adults or 15 people if juniors are participating.
8. Cost: \$ 65.00 5:00 a.m. departure
 \$ 82.00 12:00 a.m. departure

Junior members pay 50% (up to 2 per trip). With the uncertainty of fuel costs there may be a fare adjustment.

9. Reservations should be made through Dan Felger at his business, 5530 Corbin Avenue, Suite 120, Tarzana, California 91356, (818) 708-3278. Your reservation, written or verbal, is your commitment to pay, even if you do not go, and your agreement to abide by club charter policies as established by the CHARTER MASTER(S).

Abe Zide
Dan Felger
Co - Charter Masters

Dispute Looms Over the Harvesting and Preservation of Kelp Beds

By GREG JOHNSON
TIMES STAFF WRITER

Thanks to Mother Nature, 1990 was a very good year for the handful of companies in California that harvest giant kelp from state-owned beds in the Pacific.

The state Department of Fish & Game predicts that the 1990 harvest will be significantly higher than the 133,000 ton-harvest in 1989. Through the end of September, harvesters had taken 122,000 tons of kelp from the state's 76 beds, which stretch from San Diego to Monterey. An additional 30,000 tons were probably taken during the rest of the year, the department estimates.

Marine biologists generally view the increasingly abundant harvests of recent years as proof that the kelp beds are recovering from widespread damage that occurred in 1983, when El Nino weather conditions produced warmer-than-average water temperatures and severe winter storms tore plants from the ocean bottom.

The beds, which thrive in cool, clear ocean water, generally have benefited from an increase in numbers of sea otters that are natural predators of sea urchins and abalone, which feed upon kelp. Similarly, the fledgling commercial sea urchin fishing industry also is believed to be reducing the number of predators that feed upon kelp.

But, although the state's kelp beds are in relatively good health, commercial and societal pressures could change how the state's 68 square miles of kelp beds are utilized.

State Proposition 132, approved in November by California voters, calls for the creation of four natural preserves along the state's coastline. Kelp harvesters, commercial fishermen, recreational divers and naturalists probably will be at odds over the location of the reserves.

And, some scientists want the federal government to create a reserve that would encompass all or part of exceptionally lush beds in the Channel Islands National Park. The proposal has generated strong opposition from the state's commercial fishing industry, which relies upon the Channel Island kelp beds for a hefty percentage of its annual catch.

The scientists, pointing to declining quantities of marine species that live in or near kelp beds, also are pressing the state to reconsider regulations that govern how much kelp can be harvested from the state-owned beds that sit within California's 3-mile territorial boundary.

The wave of interest in the kelp beds is a relatively recent development, said Rob Collins, marine resources supervisor for the state Department of Fish & Game. "There are now a lot of competing uses and views . . . and one thing about Proposition 132 is that it's going to intensify [that debate]," Collins said. "It's been relatively calm in the past."

Offshore kelp beds consist largely of brown kelp, which includes the more familiar giant kelp as well as bull kelp.

For most Californians, kelp is best known as the irritating stuff that washes up on ocean beaches after storms. But California companies have a long history of harvesting brown kelp, a seaweed that provides extracts used by a variety of industries.

During the early part of this century, kelp was used to produce potash for the production of fertilizer. Before World War I, kelp byproducts were used in the manufacture of munitions.

Those uses have fallen by the wayside, and San Diego-based Kelco is the only U.S. company still extracting algin, a chemical byproduct of giant kelp. Textile companies use algin to help stabilize printing pastes used to create printed designs on fabric. Algin also are used to stabilize foam in beer, to improve the consistency of salad dressings and in the manufacture of fine paper.

Although Kelco is the only U.S. company still harvesting giant kelp for industrial uses, a company in Maine harvests red seaweed. And other U.S. companies import giant kelp byproducts that are extracted by foreign seaweed harvesters in France, China, England, Canada, Norway and India.

"The Chinese probably have more plants than anyone," said Paul Ulrich, Kelco's manager of business development. "They probably use more kelp [extracts] than anyone else for their textile industry."

Kelco, a division of Rahway, N.J.-based Merck & Co., has been taking kelp from the Pacific since 1929. Kelco executives declined to discuss production figures, but 1990 "was our best harvest ever," said Ron McPeak, Kelco's manager of marine biology.

But Kelco executives bristle at suggestions that the company has been taking too much kelp from the state-owned beds.

"It's a renewable resource, but

we've very concerned about future harvests," said Ron McPeak, Kelco's manager of marine biology. "It's a renewable resource, and we obviously have to take care of it because we want to be in business for a while."

The company uses monthly aerial surveys to determine which beds are ready for harvest, McPeak said. "Unlike a fish population [which can be difficult to track], you can see kelp on the surface, whether it's growing or not. . . . You can also estimate how much we'd be able to harvest from one bed."

Some kelp beds, including those offshore from Santa Barbara, have been slow to recover from the 1983 storm and El Nino weather conditions, McPeak said. But kelp beds offshore from Kelco's San Diego plant "are in their best shape since, probably, the 1940s," McPeak said. "If there were problems from harvesting, we'd be sure to see it."

Although Kelco is the only company harvesting kelp for industrial purposes, a growing number of California-based aquaculture farms are using seaweed to feed commercially grown abalone. Last year, state regulators modified regulations governing the leasing of kelp beds to better accommodate the fledgling aquaculture farm industry.

Kelco operates a fleet of three massive ocean-going "mowers" that lop off the top 3 feet of kelp beds. Conveyor belts carry the kelp to the ship's hold. The kelp is off-loaded at Kelco's plant in San Diego.

Aquaculture farms utilize similar technology, "but it's just smaller in scale," said Hugh Staton, president of Abalone Unlimited in San Luis Obispo County.

"There are a whole plethora of uses for kelp, and there are going to be more and more demands as time goes on," Staton said. "But fortunately, kelp is the fastest-growing plant in the world and there's good evidence that a harvested bed is in better shape and produces more kelp."

Staton acknowledged that it will be difficult for "a rabid environmentalist to see kelp getting cut . . . their first impression is that it shouldn't be happening. It's difficult to get around that corner."

Commercial abalone farms use relatively little kelp. "Kelco still does over 90% of the harvesting, but there is increased interest from abalone farmers," Collins said.

The fish and game department charges \$1.91 per wet ton for kelp harvested in state-owned beds, and California collected \$231,000 from kelp harvesters during 1989, according to Collins.

HAROLD F. GOODMAN, M.D.

INTERNAL MEDICINE
745 THAYER AVENUE
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90024

(213) 279-2273

OPEN LETTER TO TONY MINDLIN

Your Highness,

I was much pleased to read the kind comments in your Farewell Address last month and was profoundly moved by the plea to get off your back. Believe me, Highness, it was my intention to do just that since President Lawyer Mannheim is a ripe candidate for analysis and advice. He will have to wait.

I was jolted by reading the very first paragraph of your missive in which you stated, parenthetically, "I sense my liver heaving a sigh of relief knowing it only has to endure one more dinner meeting." Dear boy, your liver has a good many other functions to perform, e.g., manufacturing bile, clearing nutrients from the portal circulation, compounding cholesterol and etc.. If I understand your intended meaning then the word order should have been, "...has to endure only ..." You see the difference? Put properly, your liver can heave and still leave room for it to manufacture bile, clear nutrients from the portal circulation, compound cholesterol and etc.. In other words, the "only" refers to the one remaining dinner meeting, not to the liver's other many activities.

Let me give you an example of this common error. Perhaps you are familiar with a popular ballad written many years ago by Harry Warren:

"Are the stars out tonight?
I don't know if it's cloudy or bright
'cause I only have eyes
for yooou, deeeear.
Tum de tum de de tum"
and so forth.

Now listen to how it should have been written:

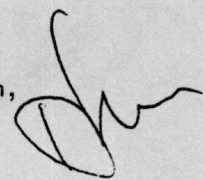
"Are the stars out tonight?
I don't know if it's cloudy or bright
'cause I have eyes only for yooou, deeeear."

Doesn't that sound better? Did Harry Warren mean that the guy had no other use for his eyes than looking at the girl? That would be ridiculous and unlikely. On the other hand, one could make the argument that, in the broader sense, he not only limits his eyes to eyeing the girl but he eliminates every other conceivable function, i.e., he doesn't eat, sleep, hear, smell, etc., etc.. He should be able to watch her but not at such great cost. Are you following me?

I believe Harry Warren has gone to the Great Fishing Grounds in the Sky and I hope he is not offended by my letter to ASCAP requesting a change in the title to, "I Have Eyes Only For You".

In every other regard you did a superb job as president.

With genuine admiration,



THE SNAG WITH DRIFT NETTING

WRITTEN BY TODD CAMPBELL

The map of the Pacific Ocean that dominates the wall of Wayne Lewis' office at the National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) headquarters on Lake Washington looks like something from a war room deep underground. As big as a billboard, the map is marked up with color-coded tape delineating legal and illegal zones; a red grease pen marks the locations of past high-seas confrontations. Flags indicate the presence of fleets from Japan, Taiwan and South Korea. A red sickle marks the position of Soviet naval cutters, while U.S. Navy ships are shown in blue.

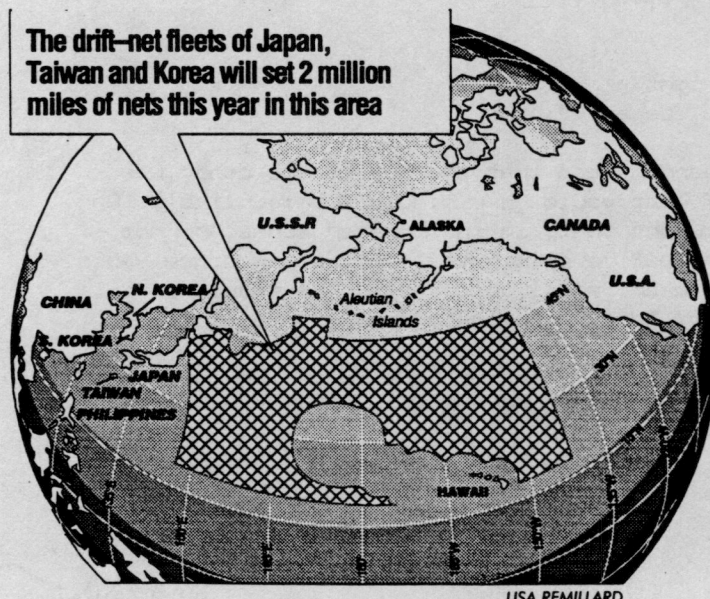
Lewis' map is not concerned with naval preparedness for some future showdown between the superpowers in the Pacific. Here, the Soviet Union is counted among the good guys, while the fleets of the three Asian countries are the enemy. Lewis, special agent in charge of Pacific operations for the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), directs the ongoing war against illegal salmon fishing by Japanese, Taiwanese and South Korean drift-net boats in the waters of the North Pacific. His map is a record of the current state of that war.

America's foes in this at-sea conflict are renegade vessels from a 750-boat fleet of Asian drift-net boats that fish legally for squid on the high seas of the

North Pacific. Under international agreement, salmon belong to the country in which they spawn, and only North American and Soviet vessels are entitled to catch them. (A limited number of Japanese ships — none of which are squid drift netters — are also permitted to harvest salmon under special agreement with the U.S. and the Soviet Union.) To prevent high-seas salmon piracy, drift-net vessels are required to stay in warmer waters to the south. But a substantial number of Asian boats use squid as cover to sneak north and steal North Pacific salmon.

'The money is comparable to the drug business. And the fish don't cost anything, so it is almost pure profit. The major difference is that in drugs, there are severe penalties if you get caught.'

**Wayne Lewis
of NOAA**



Within five years, the fishing effort had reached an estimated 2 million miles of net each year, and the fleet had expanded to the warmer waters of the Central and South Pacific, where it fished for tuna.

Today, more than 1,000 Japanese, Taiwanese and South Korean vessels crisscross the high seas, trailing nets that are 35 miles long. The catch includes huge quantities of tuna and squid and great numbers of dolphins, sea birds, salmon, sharks and other high-seas fish species.

CUT OUT THIS PAGE AND SAVE IT

LARRC
1991 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

DINNER MEETINGS

FEB. NONE
MAR. 25
APR. 29
MAY. 20
JUN. 17
JUL. 29 (FISHING)
AUG. 26
SEP. 30
OCT. 28
NOV. 25
DEC. NONE
JAN. 27 '92

BOARD MEETINGS

FEB. 11
MAR. 11
APR. 22
MAY. 13
JUN. 10
JUL. 22
AUG. 19
SEP. 23
OCT. 21
NOV. 18
DEC. 16
JAN. 13 '92
FEB. 12 '92

1991 AWARDS BANQUET/BRUNCH
FEBRUARY 24, 1991

Call Abe Zide
(818) 550-8331

1991 KIDS' FISHING TRIP
JUNE 24, 1991

WEDNESDAY CHARTERS

FEB. 13 & 27
MAR. 13 & 27
APR. 3 & 17
MAY. 1 & 15
JUN. 5 & 19
JUL. 17 & 31
AUG. 14 & 28
SEP. 11 & 25
OCT. 9 & 23
NOV. 6 & 20
DEC. 4 & 18

SATURDAY CHARTERS

Call Phil Bardack
(818) 990-1125

APR. 13
MAY. 11
JUN. 8
JUL. 13
AUG. 10
SEP. 14
OCT. 12
NOV. 9
DEC. 14

Call Dan Felger (818) 708-3278

1991 LONG-RANGE FISHING TRIP
AUGUST 15 - 20, 1991

RUBY & GEORGE MIO HAVE SENT \$50.00 to LARRC.
LARRY EDWARDS HAS SENT \$100.00 to the LARRC FOUNDATION.
We want to thank you & wish you the very best.



Sea Farm Canada's Brian Rogers and Sterling brand salmon
Some restaurants ask for it by name.

Good news for fish eaters: Efficient farming techniques have cut the wholesale price of salmon almost in half, to \$4 a pound.

Would you like some salmon with your Big Mac?

By Fleming Meeks

IT'S A CALM, SUNNY November afternoon on the Bay of Fundy, and in one of fourteen 50-foot-square cages anchored a mile off the coast of the Canadian province of New Brunswick some 5,000 Atlantic salmon undulate in a sinuous, almost hypnotic, circle. The spell is occasionally broken when a silvery 30-inch fish leaps a few feet out of the water, splashing back down just as suddenly to resume its mesmerizing rhythm.

It certainly is an idyllic scene—salmon gamboling playfully in the ocean. But soon, along will come a harvest barge with a diesel-driven vacuum pump to suck them out of the sea and spit them out onto a two-person production line where their gills will be slit and their blood drained. By the end of the day, this salmon, grown at six-year-old Sea

Farm Canada Inc., Canada's largest Atlantic salmon grower, will be gutted, packed in ice and on its way to distributors in Toronto, New York and points south. Sea Farm is a joint venture between two big food processors: Bergen, Norway-based Sea Farm A/S and the \$2.5 billion (revenues, U.S. dollars) Canada Packers Inc. unit of Britain's Hillsdown Holdings Plc.

Farms like this one are the main reason you can order fresh salmon in almost any restaurant in the country, all year round. Ten years ago the total worldwide catch of farmed and wild Atlantic salmon—the breed most highly prized among gourmets—was just over 10,000 metric tons. This year, farmed salmon from Norway, Scotland, Canada, Iceland and Chile will top 220,000 metric tons, or 484 million pounds. (Wild Atlantic salmon adds another 4,000 tons.) U.S. diners will consume about 25,000 tons.

This boom in farm-grown salmon has produced a glut of massive proportions, which has brought down the wholesale price of a gutted fish from \$7 a pound to \$4. So why does smoked salmon cost \$20 and up a pound? Once you filet and smoke an 8-pound fish it turns into 4 pounds of meat. Labor costs and up to a 100% markup at the deli counter bring the cost to \$20-plus—about half what it cost ten years ago, figuring in inflation.

The biggest salmon producers, the Norwegians, have put 40,000 metric tons of salmon in the deep freeze to take it off the market. The glut has also forced 30 salmon farms in the Canadian Northwest to call it quits. These operations raised the less-prized Pacific breeds of salmon, and some of them were financed by issues of penny stocks on the highly speculative Vancouver Stock Exchange.

Commercial salmon farming got started 15 years ago in Norway, with dozens of tiny, government-regulated mom-and-pop operations. The timing was fortuitous. In the late Fifties Greenland fishermen happened into the main feeding grounds of Atlantic salmon, off the west coast of Greenland. Over the next dozen years, the wild salmon stock from Europe and North America was decimated.

Salmon farmers accelerate nature. Free-swimming salmon return to their natal rivers to spawn in fresh water during the fall. Eggs mature into smolts, which can survive in salt water, and which then swim downriv-

er to the sea three to five springs later. But at the Sea Farm hatchery, pearl-size translucent orange eggs are grown into 1½-pound smolts in 18 months instead of the normal 30 or more. The hatchery fools the fish by manipulating light and water temperature to simulate changing seasons. Sea Farm, which produces 80% of the smolts in eastern Canada, has a highly profitable smolt business.

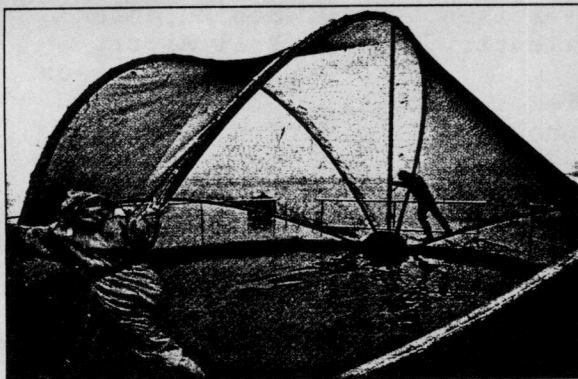
Farm-grown salmon have a cushier life. In the real world, perhaps only 3 of the 10,000 eggs laid by a single salmon will survive to become mature fish. Sea Farm's fertilization process nets 5,000 smolts, and 4,500 marketable fish, from a single spawning.

Once transferred into their sea cages, the salmon feed on fishmeal, consuming 12 pounds, and take another 18 months to grow to market size (8 to 10 pounds). But technology is speeding things up here, too. Brian Glebe, an aquaculture specialist at the Huntsman Marine Science Centre, in St. Andrews, N.B., has been experimenting with salmon farming since the late Seventies. He thinks that through selective breeding, farmers may be able to cut that growing period in half.

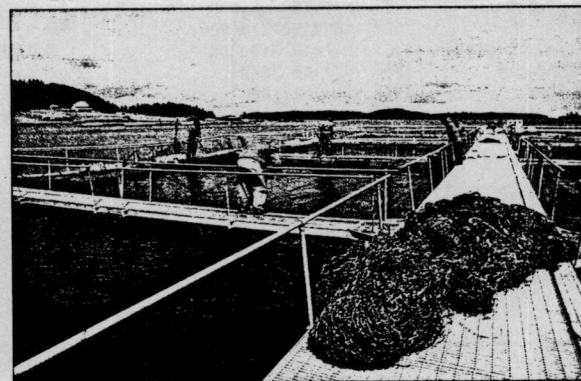
A glut doesn't kill the low-cost pro-



Harvest barge sucking mature fish through vacuum hose
A cushier, if shorter, life than their wild cousins.



Experimental salmon cage at the Huntsman Centre
Next: full-grown fish in half the time.



Sea Farm's Bay of Fundy cages
No more swimming upstream.

ducer, and Sea Farm (fiscal 1990 revenues, \$19 million) doesn't seem to be hurting. It has spent nearly \$35 million in the Bay of Fundy and in British Columbia over the last six years to expand operations.

The Bay of Fundy is a nearly ideal place for a salmon farm. Its funnel shape creates the largest tides in the world, which rise and fall 30 feet twice a day. Those enormous tides, in turn, create a year-round ocean temperature range which is optimal for salmon. In winter the tides churn up

warm water from the bottom, keeping the water above 30.7 degrees, a salmon's freezing point. Likewise, in summer, cold water churned up from the depths keeps temperatures from rising above 60 degrees, which could breed disease and rapid algae growth on the nets, smothering the fish. The tides also flush away uneaten food and fish excrement that would otherwise pollute the sea bottom.

Most of the salmon industry is in the dark ages as far as marketing is concerned, but Sea Farm is an innova-

tor here as well. Brian Rogers, 34, Sea Farm's general manager for the Fundy operation, says the company now sells under a brand name, Sterling, to build loyalty among the restaurant trade, which buys 70% of the salmon sold in the U.S. Fashionable New York restaurants like Polo, at the Westbury Hotel, and Mondrian now specifically order Sterling salmon.

A decade ago, a fish Malthusian might have predicted the end of salmon as a food. Human ingenuity seems to have beaten nature once again. ■

CHUM-LINE

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