

NOAA Honor Awards

Andrew Mellon Auditorium

Washington, D.C.

April 7, 2009

Program

National Anthem

Bob Schwartz

Office of Communications

Introduction

Eduardo J. Ribas

Director for Workforce Management

Address

Dr. Jane Lubchenco

Under Secretary for Oceans and Atmosphere

Administrator, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

Presentation of Awards

Dr. Lubchenco

Line and Staff Office Representatives

Closing

Eduardo J. Ribas

2008 Gold Medal Recipients

Scientific/Engineering Achievement

Peter D. R. Moeller, NOS

Felix Kogan, NESDIS

Richard D. Methot, NMFS

Leadership

David F. Reid, OAR

David Holst, NOS

Diane Wehner, NOS

Jason Rolfe, NOS

Kevin Kirsch, NOS

LT Briana Welton, NOS

David Elliott, NOS

LT Jake Yoos, OMAO

Rob Downs, NOS

Steve Brodet, NOS

Michael Annis, NOS

Personal and Professional Excellence

Patrick Flynn, NMFS

Michael Henry, NMFS

James Cassin, NMFS

Susan Williams, NMFS

David Bowsher, DOC GC

Jane Luxton, NOAA GC

Mary Beth Ward, NOAA GC

Jennifer Nist, DOC GC

Joel La Bissonniere, NOAA GC

Jeffrey Dillen, NOAA GC

Brett Grosko, NOAA GC

Pamela Lawrence, NOAA GC

James Lecky, NMFS

David Kaiser, NOS

WFO Dodge City, Kan.

Heroism

CAPT Mark P. Ablondi, OMAO

Michael C. Borries, OMAO

William Brandenburg, OMAO

John C. Hegre, OMAO

Steven A. Ralson, OMAO

James R. Schell, OMAO

LCDR Douglas R. Schleiger, OMAO

LT Daniel M. Simon, OMAO

CDR Frank A. Wood, OMAO

2008 Silver Medal Recipients

Personal and Professional Excellence

Lisa Taylor, NESDIS
Paula Dunbar, NESDIS
Robin Warnken, NESDIS
Kelly Stroker, NESDIS
John Campagnoli, NESDIS
Joy Ikelman, NESDIS
Susan McLean, NESDIS

NOAA's Open Rivers Initiative Team

Customer Service

David J. Hofmann, OAR
James H. Butler, OAR
Thomas J. Conway, OAR
Edward J. Dlugokencky, OAR
James W. Elkins, OAR
Kenneth Masarie, OAR
Steven A. Montzka, OAR
Russell C. Schnell, OAR
Pieter P. Tans, OAR

Edward O'Lenic, NWS
Dan Collins, NWS
Jon Hoopingarner, NWS
David Unger, NWS
Zoltan Toth, NWS
Yuejian Zhu, NWS

Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary
Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary

2008 Bronze Medal Recipients

National Environmental Satellite, Data and Information Service

David Strett
Mark Ruminski
John Simko
Jamie Kibler

For the successful development and transfer of a geographically-distributed fire and smoke detection system to multiple international institutions.

Chris Wheeler
John Tsui
Cynthia Hampton
Mike Settles
Bill Carter
Brian Hughes
Diane Robinson
Sam Patterson
Kevin Ludlum
Alita McKinley
Andre Dress, NASA

For resolving a potentially mission-ending satellite anomaly and ensuring continuity of environmental satellite data to NWS users and other users around the world.

Jeffrey Key
Andrew Heidinger
Ralph Ferraro
Thomas Smith
Mark Eakin
Kevin Gallo

For innovative uses of operational weather satellites to understand climate change and to quantify trends in the global climate system.

Sid-Ahmed Boukabara
Christopher Barnet
Mitchell Goldberg
Fuzhong Weng
Ralph Ferraro
Walter Wolf
Limin Zhao
Tom Schott
Awdhesh Sharma
Huan Meng

For implementing processing systems that create Metop products and make them available for assimilation into U.S. forecast systems in record time.

Alfred M. Powell, Jr.
Michael Crison
Robert Kuligowski
Dan Tarpley
John Pereira
Ingrid Guch
David K. Hermreck
Larry Flynn
Fuzhong Weng
Laury Miller
Vanessa Griffin
Steve Goodman
Jim Yoe
Timothy Schmit

For developing NOAA's Strategic Satellite Plan to balance requirements, observation capabilities, and resources.

Fairbanks Command and Data Acquisition Station
NWS Alaska Region
For developing a replacement DMSP data capture system that enables Alaskan NWS forecast offices to continue timely and accurate forecasts and warnings.

National Marine Fisheries Service

Christopher Boelke

Louis Chiarella

For protecting essential habitat for cod by persuading the Army Corps of Engineers not to permit dredging for the Winthrop Shores beach restoration.

Matthew Stratton

Bradley Vinish

Niel Moeller, OGC

For work that led to a precedent-setting court decision which will help curb illegal, unreported, and unregulated fishing and protect U.S. fisheries and seafood markets.

Kaja Brix

Elizabeth Kohl, OGC

Marta Nammack

Jonathan Pollard, OGC

Lewis Queirolo

Bradley Smith

For designating critical habitat under ESA for the highly endangered North Pacific right whale in the southeastern Bering Sea and Gulf of Alaska.

Rodney McInnis

Russell Strach

Penny Ruvelas

Sam Flanagan

Garwin Yip

Deanna Harwood, OGC

Pamela Lawrence, OGC

John Clancy

For developing the Green Diamond Habitat Conservation Plan to conserve listed salmon on 416,000 acres of commercial timberland in northern California.

Tammy Adams

Kathryn Swails

Amy Sloan

Ann Garrett

Thomas Gelatt

Brian Fadely

Rolf Ream

Lowell Fritz

Mary O'Brien, OGC

Karl Gleaves, OGC

For excellence and commitment in support of critical scientific research on endangered Steller sea lions in the Pacific Ocean off of Alaska.

Gregory Fairclough

Michael Clark

LCDR Scott Sandorf

Carolyn Sramek

Kathleen Michie

Russell Dunn

Margo Schulze-Haugen

For rapidly designing and providing training to protect endangered sea turtles and to improve shark catch data in the Atlantic Highly Migratory Species fishery.

Harold Mears

Peter Burns

Peter Christopher

Joyce Lacerda

Nicole MacDonald

Richard Maney

Allison McHale

Susan Olsen

Paul Perra

Ryan Silva

For developing a first-of-its-kind grant program to fund research needed for fisheries management by "setting aside" some of the catch for research.

Richard Pearson
Bradley McHale
Sari Kiraly
Joseph Desfosse
George Silva
Margo Schulze-Haugen
Russell Dunn
Carolyn Sramek
Wendy Skroskznik

For swiftly developing and implementing a multifaceted swordfish revitalization program to avert threats to commerce and promote sustainability.

Frank Cabacungan
Frederick Dowdell
Russell Ito
Pierre Kleiber
Keith Bigelow
Gerard DiNardo
Robert Humphreys
Ramon Conser
Paul Crone
Kevin Piner

For providing expertise to advance the first international measures for conserving yellowfin and bigeye tuna stocks in the western and central Pacific Ocean.

Thomas Hourigan
Andrew Bruckner
Robert Stone
S. A. Kalei Shotwell
Curt Whitmire
M. Elizabeth Clarke
Frank Parrish
David Packer
Vincent Guida
Martha Nizinski

For advancing conservation through spearheading the first peer-reviewed assessment of the state of deep coral ecosystems of the United States.

Bradley Hanson
Dawn Noren
Candice Emmons
Margaret Krahn
Jennifer Hempelmann-Halos
Donald Van Doornik
Richard Boyer
Douglas Burrows

For executing a biopsy and prey sampling program for endangered Southern Resident killer whales in the Puget Sound after attaining broad public support.

Rodney McInnis
Joseph Cordaro
James Milbury
P. Scott Hill
Brian Gorman, Office of Communications
Janiel Grinder
Jordan Stout, NOS
Trevor Spradlin
Sarah Wilkin
Teri Rowles

For leading a multi-agency effort to return two humpback whales to the Pacific Ocean and for contributing to the scientific understanding of whale rescues.

Coral Reef Ecosystem Division, Pacific Islands
Fisheries Science Center
For outstanding achievement providing integrated information products to support ecosystem approaches to the management of coral reefs in American Samoa.

NOAA Fisheries Service Southwest Region and
Science Center
NOAA Fisheries Service Headquarters Protected
Resources and International Affairs Offices
NOAA Office of General Counsel
For ongoing leadership in promoting international dolphin conservation in the tuna purse-seine fishery in the eastern tropical Pacific.

National Ocean Service

Stephen Lehmann

For conducting the Cosco Busan Incident Specific Preparedness Review for the commandant of the U.S. Coast Guard from November 2007 through May 2008.

Ralph Cantral

Joelle Gore

For implementing a national dialogue on the future of our nation's coasts, resulting in an innovative new direction for coastal zone management.

Russell Jackson

Adam Stein

David McKinnie, OAR

For the CCR Initiative which has provided an integrated approach to enhancing resilience and reducing risk in vulnerable communities across the globe.

Davida Remer

Emily Crum

Jerry Lau

Gini Kennedy

Lawrence Charters

For developing and implementing a website that effectively captures NOAA's rich history and will serve as a resource for years to come.

Reyhan Mehran

Nancy Beckvar

Branden Blum, OGC

Eric English

Jason Forman, OGC

Ben Shorr

Russell Yankwitt, DOJ

Pierre Armand, DOJ

Sarah Flanagan, EPA

Mark Barash, DOI

For displaying leadership, teamwork, and innovation to successfully settle the expedited Dana Corporation Bankruptcy natural resource damage claim.

Lisa Rosman

Carl Alderson, NMFS

Jay Field

Jason Forman, OGC

George Graettinger

Alison Hess, EPA

Michael Clemetson, EPA

Robert Foley, DOI

Chuck Merckel, FWS

Thomas Brosnan

For finding innovative solutions to reduce toxic threats to the public's natural resources and restore habitats at the Hudson River Superfund site.

Damage Assessment Restoration, and Remediation Program, NMFS

Office of Response and Restoration

Office of National Marine Sanctuaries

For the provision of outstanding scientific support, damage assessment and resource trustee responsibilities during the M/V Cosco Busan spill response.

National Weather Service

Albert E. Pietrycha

For integrating the Spotter Network into National Weather Service operations for use in tracking the location of mobile storm spotters during critical weather events.

Joe Rubel

For development of the software application program suite used for product composition and transmission by all Alaska Region Weather Service offices.

Yan Xue

For development and delivery of a state-of-the-art, monthly Ocean Climate Summary at the Climate Prediction Center.

Paul Huang

Alec Medbery

David Nyland

For independently taking the initiative to develop innovative processing methods which dramatically improve tsunami warning response capabilities.

Pingping Xie

Wei Shi

Mingyue Chen

For outstanding teamwork leading to a Unified Raingauge Database and a suite of daily precipitation analysis products at the Climate Prediction Center.

Mark Paese

Michelle Detommaso

Thomas Raffa

Olga Kebis

Thomas Altvater, CAO

For development and implementation of a new web-based system to collect accident and illness reports from all NOAA employees.

Mike J. Istok

Tim D. Crum

Steven D. Smith

Zhongqi Jing

Olen E. Boydston

Robert R. Lee

Walter D. Zittel

Cheryl A. Stephenson

Joe N. Chrisman

Michael Jain, OAR

For leadership and technical excellence in implementing a major, life-saving enhancement to the nation's Doppler weather radar network.

Terrell Ballard

Jimmy Roper

Matthew Lynch

Micheal E. Shattuck

Bobby Harp

Frank Hewins

Felicia Woolard

Jason Howard

MSgt James Bollinger, USAF

TSgt Chad Smith, USAF

For professional excellence in restoring weather radars in Mt. Holly, N.J. and Dover, Del. to full mission capability to support weather warning operations.

WFO Huntsville, Ala.

For partnering with NASA and the University of Alabama-Huntsville to transition unique research application tools into operational decision support systems and for transferring these capabilities to other NOAA/NWS offices.

WFO Melbourne, Fla.

For providing life-saving severe weather outlooks and accurate tornado warnings for east central Florida during the 2006-07 severe weather season.

WFO Atlanta, Ga.

For performance widely acknowledged to have saved many lives during a seven-hour tornado outbreak in central Georgia on March 1, 2007.

WFO Springfield, Mo.

For issuing life-saving tornado warnings with lead times exceeding the average by 11 minutes during an unprecedented tornado outbreak across southern Missouri on January 7 and 8, 2008.

WFO La Crosse, Wis.

For providing exceptional life-saving information prior to, during, and after the historic and unprecedented flash floods of August 18-19, 2007.

WFO Los Angeles at Oxnard, Calif.

WFO San Diego, Calif.

Storm Prediction Center, Norman, Okla.

For outstanding fire weather forecast and briefing support to fire agencies fighting the catastrophic Southern California fires of October-November 2007.

Office of the Chief Financial Officer

Christopher Cartwright, NESDIS

Maureen Pulver, NMFS

Mary Rieck, NWS

Marie Lovern, NWS

For improving NOAA's ability to support its mission goals and fiscal responsibilities by implementing the enterprise-wide Management Analysis and Reporting System.

Office of Oceanic and Atmospheric Research

LCDR Nancy L. Ash

For leadership, initiative and dedication in creating and implementing high-quality aviation safety training across NOAA and avoiding costs of nearly \$1.25 million.

Eric W. Uhlhorn

Alan S. Goldstein, OMAO

Peter G. Black

For operational transition of stepped frequency microwave radiometer data, providing accurate, extensive measurements of hurricane surface winds in real time.

Office of Marine and Aviation Operations

NOAA Ship *Delaware II*

For five consecutive years of outstanding safety achievement from January 1, 2003 to January 1, 2008, including the first time a crew has worked 1,826 days without incident.

NOAA Ship *John N. Cobb*

For five consecutive years of outstanding safety achievement from January 1, 2003 to January 1, 2008, including only three days of lost time.

Distinguished Career Awards

John P. Hughes

National Environmental Satellite, Data and
Information Service

For 32 years of NOAA service including precipitation expertise that improved NCDC's data processing, climatological leadership in NWS's Nuclear Support Office, and management of the U.S. Climate Reference Network project.

Carla J. Moore

National Environmental Satellite, Data and
Information Service

For scientific leadership in marine geology by creating and maintaining the Index to Marine and Lacustrine Geological Samples and Core Curators Group.

Jay Ginter

National Marine Fisheries Service

For dedication to enhancing the transparency and credibility of the federal management of fisheries under NOAA's jurisdiction in the Alaska Region.

Atilio (Al) Coan, Jr.

National Marine Fisheries Service

For innovation and leadership in managing critical fishery statistics in support of domestic and international management of highly migratory species.

William Fox, Jr.

National Marine Fisheries Service

For establishing a profound legacy of scientific and management achievement in marine resource conservation at NOAA's Fisheries Service.

David Potter

National Marine Fisheries Service

For contributions ranging from scientific research and instrument development to program leadership supporting the nation's living marine resources.

David B. Zilkoski

National Ocean Service

For sustained excellence in managing, executing, and advancing mapping and geodesy programs throughout 34 years of service to NOAA and the nation.

Carl Bower

National Weather Service

For a career of outstanding technical support to the upper air operational program leading to the success of the nation's Radiosonde Replacement System.

Samuel K. Beckman

National Weather Service

For 36 years of NOAA service including pioneering studies using satellite imagery, research on and authorship of mesoscale study findings, and leadership in developing crucial NWS training programs.

C. Scott Kiser

National Weather Service

For cutting-edge leadership in change management and for raising public awareness and preparation for hazardous weather over 33 years of NOAA service.

Michael H. Bancroft

Office of the General Counsel

For 30 years of NOAA service providing sound legal advice and judicious counsel, with a particular emphasis on NOAA Fisheries' listings of West Coast salmonids and applications of the ESA for their conservation.

Debra R. Wilson

Office of Oceanic and Atmospheric Research

For sustained excellence in administrative and budgetary leadership for the Aeronomy Lab and Chemical Sciences Division throughout 25 years of service to NOAA.

Henry F. Diaz
Office of Oceanic and Atmospheric Research
For numerous and diverse contributions in climate research and monitoring that have enhanced NOAA's national visibility and international reputation over 33 years of service.

Thomas E. Croley II
Office of Oceanic and Atmospheric Research
For continued research development of advanced Great Lakes hydrology models and predictions throughout 28 years of service to NOAA.

David B. Enfield
Office of Oceanic and Atmospheric Research
For consistent excellence in seminal research on ocean-atmosphere climate variability with emphasis on the tropical Atlantic.

Employees/Team Members of the Month

October

Bruce Servary, NOS
Stephen Elko, CFO

November

Robert Colton, NMFS
Praveen Kalva, OMAO

December

Stewart Carrera, OAR
Dan Arnold, NWS

January

Susan Mullinix, WFMO
Peter Romanov, NESDIS

February

Gregory Walker, OMAO
Krissy Rusello, NOS

March

Mark Albertelly, NWS
Karen Greene, NMFS

Many thanks to those individuals who contributed
so much to the success of today's program

Special thanks to:

NOAA Incentive Awards Officer

Jennifer L. Heyob, WFMO

Office of Communications

Jerry Slaff

Incentive Awards Program Line and Staff Office Representatives

Delores Frazier, NWS

Flanisha Barrett, NWS

Cheryl Alexander, NMFS

Carolyn McDonald, OAR

Christina Heyse, NESDIS

Marie Toussaint, WFMO

Nancy Jackson, OMAO

Debra Rodgers, CFO

Sloane Strother, NOS

Marilou Shanefelt, OGC

Denise M. Tyler-Littleford, AGO

Cynthia Burley, CAO