National Wildlife Federation
National Wildlife Week 1981, "We Care About Oceans"

WE CARE ABOUT OCEANS

Issues Excerpt

NARRATION FOR SLIDES

8. Today we know much more about oceans than our ancestors knew. We have modern boats and fishing gear with which to find and catch fish. Some fishing ships are as big and efficient as factories.

Photo by Earth Scenes/C.C. Lockwood.

9. We're also learning how to raise some kinds of fish and shellfish, just as ranchers raise sheep and cattle. By raising these lobsters, and other sea creatures, on underwater farms, we are increasing our food supply.

Photo by William E. Townsend, Jr./Photo Researchers.

10. Seaweed, too, can be grown as a crop, just as farmers grow wheat. This is a large coastal seaweed farm in Japan. In some countries seaweed is a common part of a meal. It's also used in the making of paints, shampoos, and even ice cream.

Photo by D. Novak/Photri.

22. . . .some very large animals feed directly on gobs of souplike plankton. This blue whale filters shrimp-like krill out of the plankton soup it gulps down. A blue whale the largest animal ever to live, can eat as much as three tons of krill in one day. The tiny krill are so plentiful that in the future they may provide lots of food for people as well as for sea creatures.

Photo by Russ Kinne/Photo Researchers.

33. While many sea animals spend their lives in a special place like a kelp forest, coral reef, sand beach or rocky coast, many others--such as these mackerel--may be found in the vast, open oceans. Ocean fish like mackerel, tuna, and cod help feed the world. We need seafood, but we must be careful not to take too much food from the sea. Overfishing is not wise ocean management.

Photo by Animals Animals/Steve Earley.

37. Like sea turtles, salmon are great long-distance travelers. They spend much of their lives cruising the sea, but they return to breed in the fresh water where they were born. To get back to their birthplace, salmon battle upstream against strong currents, leaping up waterfalls many feet high. Many salmon are caught by eagles, bears, or fishermen. Sometimes salmon are blocked by a dam.

Photo by Martin W. Grosnick/Bruce Coleman, Inc.

38. But many salmon do reach their breeding, or spawning, grounds. Here, among pebbles and sand, eggs are laid and fertilized. Soon after egg-laying the parents die, but many of their young will one day make the long trip back to the sea.

Photo by Paul Iwanaga/Tom Stack & Assoc.