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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF  
**COMMERCE**

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NATIONAL  
OCEANIC AND  
ATMOSPHERIC  
ADMINISTRATION

**MEDIA ADVISORY**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
May 12, 2004

**NOAA FISHERIES CONDUCTS SYMPOSIUM ON POTENTIAL IMPACTS OF  
SHIPPING NOISE ON MARINE MAMMALS**

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's National Marine Fisheries Service (NOAA Fisheries) and co-partners from government, industry, and academia are sponsoring a first of its kind international symposium on shipping noise and marine mammals. This forum represents the first formalized effort to discuss what is known about shipping noise impacts on marine mammals, current and future shipping technologies and practices as they relate to underwater noise levels, and future cooperative steps that can be taken to understand and minimize the effects of shipping noise on marine mammals. NOAA is an agency of the U.S. Department of Commerce.

**WHAT:** Symposium on Shipping Noise called, "*Shipping Noise and Marine Mammals: A Forum for Science, Management and Technology.*"

**WHEN:** May 18 and 19<sup>th</sup>  
8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

**WHERE:** Sheraton National Hotel in Arlington, Virginia

**WHO:** U.S. Rep. Wayne T. Gilchrest (R-MD)  
NOAA General Counsel James Walpole  
NOAA Fisheries Office of Protected Resources Director Laurie Allen

**Media Note:** NOAA speakers will be available for interviews. To arrange for interviews, contact NOAA Fisheries Public Affairs in Silver Spring, Maryland. For more detailed information about the symposium, visit the website at:  
<http://shippingnoiseandmarinemammals.com/>