



**NOAA Teacher at Sea
Marilyn Frydrych
Onboard NOAA Ship *Delaware II*
September 15 – 25, 2008**

NOAA Teacher at Sea: Marilyn Frydrych

NOAA Ship *Delaware II*

Mission: Atlantic Herring Hydroacoustic Survey

Geographical area of cruise: New England Coastal Waters

Date: Wednesday, September 24, 2008

Weather Data from the Bridge

41.27 degrees N, 70.19 degrees W

Partly Cloudy Wind out of the W at 19 knots

Dry Bulb Temperature: 26.0 degrees Celsius

Wet Bulb Temperature: 20.9 degrees Celsius

Waves: 2 feet

Visibility: 10 miles

Sea Surface Temperature: 21.6 degrees Celsius

Science and Technology Log

Marie Martin, the bird watcher, came rushing down from her perch on the flying bridge in the early afternoon announcing that she had just spotted a humpback whale close by. We all rushed here and there to get a view. I went up to the bow and looked for about 10 minutes. As I came back through the bridge LT(jg) Mark Frydrych, the OOD (Officer of the Deck), and Marie were talking about a right whale entangled in a net. Mark called the captain seeking his advice.

Whenever a situation like this is observed the captain is expected to report it. The captain told Mark to report it and let the trained people steam out to try to find it. I interjected that I never did spot the pilot whale. Everyone said, "What pilot whale?" Mark said he saw a right whale. Marie piped up that she had said it was a humpback whale. Then I remembered that indeed she had said humpback whale. At that point the whole thing was moot because the humpbacks are not endangered. Then we asked Mike, the chief scientist, what would happen if a right whale got caught in his net. He said he didn't want to think about it. When a sturgeon got caught he said he had two weeks of doing nothing but filling out forms. If a right whale got caught he would probably have 2 months of paperwork.