



DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
INFORMATION SERVICE

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

For Release JULY 12, 1948.

NEW PUBLICATION DISCUSSES
FLUCTUATIONS IN ABUNDANCE OF BLUE CRABS

A new publication examining the nature and causes of variations in the abundance of Chesapeake Bay's blue crabs has been released by the Fish and Wildlife Service.

Written by John C. Pearson, a Fish and Wildlife Service aquatic biologist, "Fluctuations in the abundance of the Blue Crab in Chesapeake Bay" discusses the natural factors which appear to regulate the annual survival rate of the crabs.

Fluctuations in the abundance of blue crabs have occurred over the past half-century in Chesapeake Bay, where the year-round crab fisheries have long been established. The fluctuations are detrimental to the stability of the industry.

Copies of Research Report 14, Fluctuations in the Abundance of the Blue Crab in Chesapeake Bay, may be purchased from the Superintendent of Documents, U. S. Government Printing Office, Washington 25, D. C., for 35 cents.

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