

**2015 Marine Fisheries Section (MFS) Business Meeting Notes**  
**August 16, 2015**  
**Portland, OR**

**Note taker: Ben Walther (for Deb Lambert, Secretary/Treasurer)**

President Benjamin Walther convened the business meeting at 5:00pm on Sunday, August 16<sup>th</sup>. A sign-in sheet was passed around (attached). Attendees were invited to give their names and affiliations. Several past presidents of the section were in attendance, including Doug Vaughan (current Past President), Roger Rulifson, Deb Murie, John Hoenig, Mary Fabrizio, and John Boreman. The current President Ben Walther and President Elect Cynthia Jones were also in attendance. Copies of the agenda were passed around including attachments (found at the end of this document). A quorum was verified and the meeting began.

**OLD BUSINESS**

The meeting began by accepting of the minutes as-is from the 2014 Business Meeting, which was unanimous. President Walther then made some opening remarks to summarize MFS activities of the previous year.

First, the Annual Report to the AFS Governing Board was discussed. Notable activities for the year include:

- Committee leadership changes. Dr. Syma Ebbin stepped down as the chair of the Student Travel Award committee, and Dr. Adrian Jordaan took over that role. Also, Dr. Emory Anderson stepped down as chair and member of the Oscar E. Sette Award committee; a search for a new chair is currently underway.

- A new website was designed and implemented by webmaster Deb Murie at [mfs.fisheries.org](http://mfs.fisheries.org). Members are invited to submit photos to be featured on the site.

- MFS sponsored or co-sponsored 6 symposia at the 2015 Portland meeting. MFS also co-sponsored the "Monsters of Stock Assessment" workshop, organized by Lee Benaka and colleagues. That workshop was held as a fundraiser for MFS and Estuarine sections' student travel awards, and Lee reported that the workshop was a great success raising funds for an additional 1-2 travel awards for each section. The MFS and Estuaries section will also hold a joint social hour on Monday after the trade hour at a local pub to facilitate more social interactions (in what will hopefully become a tradition). These MFS-related events were summarized in a "Guide to Events in Portland" handout distributed at the meeting (attached).

- President Walther presented a report on membership trends in the past year. Monthly trends were upward after dipping in the new year (probably due to delayed renewals), but membership in July 2015 (494 members) exceeded October 2014 numbers, so membership appears to be healthy and increasing. Members were primarily in the Regular category (48%) followed by Students (31%) and Young Professionals (11%). Members were primarily from the USA (93%) followed by Canada (4%) and other nations (3%).

- The Treasurer's Report was presented and accepted (attached). Of note was a budget surplus due to accumulated savings that allowed 3 student travel awards to be given this year.

## PRESENTATION OF AWARDS

Next were award presentations. The Steven Berkeley Marine Conservation Fellowship awardees were announced, with formal presentations to be made during the AFS Business Meeting. The award winner was Jacob Brownscombe (Carleton University), with runner ups Katherine Silliman (U. Chicago), Dustin Chen (UC San Diego) and Gayathiri Gnanalingam (Old Dominion U.)

The Student Travel Awards were announced by Dr. Adrian Jordaan. He presented certificates and copies of the Beverton Notes to winners Lisa Ailloud (VIMS) and Aharon Fleury (U. Victoria) in person, and awards will be mailed to the third winner Jennifer Marsh (U. Alaska Fairbanks, not in attendance).

Finally, President Walther presented the Oscar Elton Sette Award to Dr. David Conover. Dr. Conover was present to make acceptance remarks and receive the award.

## NEW BUSINESS

There was discussion of potential symposia for the 2016 Kansas City meeting. Ideas raised included a.) Hypoxia: cactchment to the sea, b.) joint symposia with Fish Passage & Bioengineering sections, c.) Lessons from Management Strategy Evaluation: what can marine systems teach freshwater systems and vice versa?

President Walther discussed his hopes to revitalize the MSF Newsletter and communication by other social media outlets for the MFS in the coming year. He welcomes input and help from everyone (especially student members).

The meeting was then adjourned at 6:00pm

Attendance sheet: Joint Marine Fisheries & Estuaries sections business meeting

	Name	Membership	
		Estuaries	Marine Fisheries
1	Ambrose Jearld		x
2	Sara Turner	x	x
3	Catherine Johnston	x	
4	Jesse Trushenski (guest)		
5	Mary Fabrizio	x	x
6	Carolyn Griswold	x	x
7	John Hoenig	x	x
8	Lisa Ailloud		x
9	Cynthia Jones		x
10	Konstantine Rountos	x	x
11	Karin Limburg	x	
12	Doug Vaughan	x	x
13	Debra Murie	x	x
14	Brad Brown		x
15	Rick Methot		x
16	Selina Heppell		x
17	Ron Essig	x	x
18	John Boreman	x	x
19	Lynn Waterhouse	x	x
20	Lee Benaka	x	x
21	Wilson Laney	x	x
22	Roger Rulifson	x	x
23	Jim Vasslides	x	
24	Churchill Grimes		x
25	Des Kahn	x	x
26	David Conover		x
27	Eric Schultz	x	
28	Francis Juanes (guest)		
29	Aharon Fleury		x
30	Abigail Archer	x	x
31	Ben Walther	x	x



### **ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING**

**Sunday, August 16<sup>th</sup> 4:00pm-6:00pm**  
**Hilton Portland in the Skyline II Room**

#### **SOCIAL**

##### **1<sup>ST</sup> ANNUAL MFS/ESTUARIES SOCIAL HOUR**

Come get to know members of the MFS and Estuaries sections!  
Monday Aug. 17<sup>th</sup> *after the Trade Show*  
Burnside Brewing Company, 701 E Burnside St.

#### **WORKSHOP**

##### **MONSTERS OF STOCK ASSESSMENT WORKSHOP**

Sunday Aug. 16<sup>th</sup> 12:00pm-3:00pm  
Portland Hilton, Broadway I-II-III rooms [LINK](#)

#### **SYMPOSIA**

##### **FRONTIERS IN OTOLITH CHEMISTRY: INSIGHTS, ADVANCES & FUTURE DIRECTIONS**

Monday Aug. 17<sup>th</sup> 1:20pm-5:20pm [LINK](#)  
Tuesday Aug. 18<sup>th</sup> 8:00am-5:20pm [LINK](#)  
Room E-141

##### **RESOLVING THE MULTIPLE IMPACTS OF ANTHROPOGENIC EUTROPHICATION ON COASTAL FISH AND FISHERIES**

Thursday Aug. 20<sup>th</sup> 8:00am-5:20pm [LINK](#)  
Room E-148

##### **INCORPORATING ECOSYSTEM DYNAMICS IN FISHERY STOCK ASSESSMENT AND MANAGEMENT: PROGRESS AND CHALLENGES**

Tuesday Aug. 18<sup>th</sup> 1:20pm-5:20pm [LINK](#)  
Wednesday Aug. 19<sup>th</sup> 8:00am-5:20pm [LINK](#)  
Room B-115

##### **SPACE ODDITY: RECENT ADVANCES INCORPORATING SPATIAL PROCESSES IN THE FISHERY STOCK ASSESSMENT AND MANAGEMENT INTERFACE**

Monday Aug. 17<sup>th</sup> 1:20pm-5:20pm [LINK](#)  
Tuesday Aug. 18<sup>th</sup> 8:00am-3:00pm [LINK](#)  
Room E-142

##### **EXPLORING THE BENEFITS OF COLLABORATIVE FISHERIES RESEARCH AND CONSERVATION ENGINEERING TO REDUCE BYCATCH AND BYCATCH MORTALITY**

Wednesday Aug. 19<sup>th</sup> 10:20am-4:00pm [LINK](#)  
Thursday Aug. 20<sup>th</sup> 8:00am-5:20pm [LINK](#)  
Room E-143

**SPONSORED EVENTS**

SPONSORED EVENTS

**SYMPOSIA CONT.**

**OBSERVER AND OBSERVER PROGRAM CONTRIBUTIONS TO FISHERY DATA COLLECTION, MONITORING, AND SAFETY**

Tuesday Aug. 18<sup>th</sup> 1:20pm-5:20pm [LINK](#)

Wednesday Aug. 19<sup>th</sup> 8:00am-12:00pm [LINK](#)

Room C-120

**AWARD WINNER TALKS**

**STUDENT TRAVEL AWARDS**

**Lisa Ailloud** (Virginia Institute of Marine Science)

*“Bootstrapping Cases Vs. Residuals: Which Is Better for Estimating Growth of Skipjack from Tagging Data?”*

Wednesday Aug. 19<sup>th</sup> 8:20am, Room A-108 [LINK](#)

**Aharon Fleury** (University of Victoria)

*“The Push for Sustainable Hagfisheries; Reproduction and Growth of Pacific and Black Hagfish off the West Coast of Vancouver Island, BC, Canada”*

Tuesday Aug. 18<sup>th</sup> 3:20pm, Room A-104 [LINK](#)

**Jennifer Marsh** (University of Alaska Fairbanks)

*“Ontogenetic and Spatial Variation in the Trophic Roles of Chukchi Sea Fishes”*

Tuesday Aug. 18<sup>th</sup> 10:40am, Room C-123 [LINK](#)

*“Population Dynamics of Arctic Cod in the US Chukchi Sea”*

Poster Session, Monday Aug. 17<sup>th</sup> [LINK](#)

# ATTACHMENT 1: 2015 MFS Governing Board Report

**To:** Donna L. Parrish, President

**From:** Benjamin Walther; Marine Fisheries Section

**Date:** 7/24/2015

## I. Motion Report

- A) **Recommended Motion:** none
- B) **Minority View:** n/a
- C) **Background for Motion:** n/a

## II. Activity Report

### A) Charge or Annual Program of Work

Below is a summary of activities conducted by the Marine Fisheries Section between January 2015 and July 2015.

#### *Area I: Networking & Conference Activities*

The MFS is sponsoring six symposia at the 2015 Annual AFS Meeting in Portland, OR.

- *“Frontiers in Otolith Chemistry: Insights, Advances and Future Directions.”* Organized by Benjamin Walther, Karin Limburg, Abigail Archer, Cynthia Jones, Jason Schaffler
- *“Resolving the Multiple Impacts of Anthropogenic Eutrophication on Coastal Fish and Fisheries.”* Organized by Konstantine Rountos, Abigail Franklin Archer and Howard M. Townsend
- *“Incorporating Ecosystem Dynamics in Fishery Stock Assessment and Management: Progress and Challenges.”* Organized by Patrick Lynch, Christopher M. Legault, Clay Porch, Sandra A. Lowe, Steven Teo, Brian Langseth and Vladlena Gertseva
- *“Space Oddity: Recent Advances Incorporating Spatial Processes in the Fishery Stock Assessment and Management Interface.”* Organized by Aaron Berger, Patrick Lynch, and Daniel Goethel
- *“Exploring the Benefits of Collaborative Fisheries Research and Conservation Engineering to Reduce Bycatch and Bycatch Mortality.”* Organized by Noëlle Yochum, Pinguo He, David Rudders, Lee Benaka and Derek Orner
- *“Observer and Observer Program Contributions to Fishery Data Collection, Monitoring, and Safety.”* Organized by Lee Benaka, Deb Lambert, and Dennis Hansford.

The MFS is also sponsoring a workshop associated with the 2015 Annual AFS Meeting in Portland, OR.

- *“Monsters of Stock Assessment.”* Organized by Lee Benaka, Patrick Lynch, and Lynn Waterhouse.

# ATTACHMENT 1: 2015 MFS Governing Board Report

This workshop brings together top professors from around the country to provide short lectures on critical aspects of stock assessment science. The workshop may serve to "de-mystify" stock assessment science, which should allow the workshop to appeal to scientists as well as a more general audience. The workshop also serves as a fundraiser for the MFS and Estuaries sections student travel awards.

## *Area 2: Awards*

The Marine Fisheries Section Leadership Awards committee was chaired by Dr. Emory Anderson. Dr. Adrian Jordaan chaired the MFS Student Travel Awards Committee. The MFS will present the following awards at the 2015 Portland meeting:

- The 2015 Oscar Elton Sette Award for an Outstanding Marine Fishery Biologist to Dr. David Conover, of Stony Brook University.
- The 2015 Steven Berkeley Conservation Award was given to one award winner and three runners-up: Jacob Brownscombe of Carleton University was selected as the 2015 winner of the \$10,000 Berkeley Fellowship. The runners-up were Katherine Silliman of the University of Chicago, Dustin Chen of University of California San Diego, and Gayathiri Gnanalingam of Old Dominion University and each received \$1,000.
- Student Travel Awards will be given to three students in 2015: Lisa Ailloud (Virginia Institute of Marine Science), Aharon Fleury (University of Victoria), and Jennifer Marsh (University of Alaska Fairbanks). Each student received \$500 to support their attendance at the annual meeting, one-year memberships in AFS and MFS, and a certificate.

## *Area 3: Membership & Communication*

A brand new website for the section was created and implemented by our webmaster, Deb Murie. This site is now hosted on the AFS servers at <http://mfs.fisheries.org/>

At the request of President Doug Austen, the section solicited and provided three names of nominees to the NOAA Marine Fisheries Advisory Committee task forces on aquaculture and climate and marine resources.

## *Area 4: Leadership*

Dr. Syma Ebbin stepped down from her role as Chair of the section Student Travel Award in August 2014. The new chair is Dr. Adrian Jordaan, University of Massachusetts Amherst (former recipient of a student travel award himself in 2005).

Dr. Emory Anderson stepped down from his role as Chair of the Oscar E. Sette Award committee. Ben Walther and the MFS EXCOM are in the process of identifying a replacement Chair.

# ATTACHMENT 1: 2015 MFS Governing Board Report

## B) Annual Financial Report

Below is the summary of our 2015-2016 expenditures. The left column provides the budget as approved at the 2015 annual business meeting. The right column shows a revised budget. The only revision was to reallocate the President's travel money (not needed this year) for use to support an additional Student Travel Award (a total of 3 awarded this year).

<b>MFS balance as of 6/25/15 =</b>	\$2,511.28	
<b>MFS Budget for January 1, 2015 - December 31, 2015</b>	<b>Approved</b>	<b>Revised</b>
Student Travel Awards (\$500 for travel, \$22 for membership, and \$5 for award certificate. Awardees also receive a free Beverton notes book.)	\$1,054	\$1,581
Food and drinks for joint MFS and Estuaries business meeting.	\$300	\$300
Travel reimbursement for MFS President to attend Mid-year and Annual Meeting.	\$651	\$0
Sette Award (certificate @ \$5, plaque @ \$15, and shipping \$5 each)	\$25	\$25
Charitable donations	\$0	\$0
expected remaining balance after August 2015 AFS meeting=	\$481.28	\$605.28

## C) Summary of Outcomes and Accomplishments *(fill in tables below as applicable to your unit; based on 2015-2019 Strategic Plan)*

**Strategy 1.** Organize and sponsor forums to present new findings and exchange ideas

Activity	Description	Number of Attendees
Meetings	2014 Annual Business meeting, Quebec City	28
Workshops	none	
Symposia	5 symposia sponsored at 2014 AFS meeting	n/a
Informal Gatherings	none	
Other	none	

**Strategy 2.** Provide continuing education opportunities with an emphasis on training and courses that are not commonly offered by academic institutions and/or that will be essential tools in the future.

Name of Course	Description	Number of Attendees (Students/Professionals)	Length of Course
n/a			



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**Strategy 3.** Develop communication products and publicly accessible information to promote the value of fisheries, aquatic habitat, and fisheries sciences.

Type and Method of Communication	Description	Target Audience	Number of People Reached
n/a			

**Strategy 4.** Develop relationships, partnerships, and collaborations with other professional societies, conservation organizations, decision makers, and stakeholders to establish and promote mutual goals of fisheries science, education, and stewardship. *[examples: Hosting kid fishing tournaments, Trout in the Classroom, bi/tri Society meetings; etc.]*

Type of Relationship	Description of Development	How Relationship Advances AFS Priorities?
Nominated members to NOAA Marine Fisheries Advisory Committee task forces on aquaculture and climate and marine resources.	Solicited and nominated 3 names of AFS/MFS members for committee; provided to President Doug Austen	Facilitates provision of expert advice to policymakers

**Strategy 5.** Publish high quality scientific journals, books, and proceedings that present recent advances, reviews and syntheses of fisheries and aquatic science and management.

Type of Publication (e.g., manuscript, book, symposia)	Number published	Summary	Impact factor/ Number Citations
n/a			

**Strategy 6.** Develop and disseminate scientifically-based communication materials that represent and reflect the mission of the Society to political leaders, decision makers, stakeholders, and the public.

Type and Method of Communication (e.g., letters, briefings, workshops)	Description	Target Audience	Number of People Reached
n/a			

**Strategy 7.** Provide online resources of value and interest to members and non-members to be the leading source of online fisheries science.

## ATTACHMENT 1: 2015 MFS Governing Board Report

Type of Online Resource (e.g., website, social media)	Number of Unique Visits	Time Spent per Visitor	Other
Section Website (completely new website launched this year)	n/a	n/a	Visitor Metric tracking will be implemented for the next report

**Strategy 8.** Support, manage, and promote a fisheries professional certification program that is recognized as a distinguished mark of scientific excellence and expertise within and outside the Society.

Type of Outreach to Promote Certification Among Members	Number of People Reached	Outcome	Comments
n/a			

*Note: Actual numbers of Certified members within a Unit can be provided by AFS staff; report should focus on the type of activity being conducted to promote certification among Unit members.*

**Strategy 9.** Use innovative techniques such as surveys, focus groups, social media, and other means, to determine and respond to the needs, interests, and opinions of Society members.

Technique Used (e.g., survey, focus group, social media)	Number of Entries	Outcome
Listserv (eMailDodo)	24	Notified members of news, and solicited feedback and responses to section business

**Strategy 10.** Embrace and adopt new technologies to enhance and expand the Society's education, communications, networking, and advocacy activities.

Type of Technology	Description of AFS Activities Enhanced or Expanded	Other
Website redesign	Section website updated and hosted on AFS servers. Freshens look and centralizes hosting.	Website redesign

## ATTACHMENT 1: 2015 MFS Governing Board Report

**Strategy 11.** Enhance participation of students and professionals at all levels of the Society to assure member recruitment, retention, and leadership development into the future.

Level of Participation	Type of Activity	Number of People reached	Comments
AFS Member			
Student AFS Member			
Young Professional			
Chapter Member			
Emerging Leader			

*Note: Actual numbers may be provided by AFS staff; report should focus on the type of activity being conducted to improve participation in Unit activities*

**Strategy 12.** Promote ethnic, socio-economic, generational, and disciplinary diversity within the Society and the fisheries profession.

Target Group	Level of Participation	Comments
n/a		

**Strategy 13.** Recognize and acknowledge the achievements and contributions of members and partners through awards, special conference sessions, and other activities.

Type of Award/Activity	Recipient(s)	Comments
Oscar Elton Sette Award, 2015	David Conover, Stony Brook University	
Steve Berkeley Conservation Awards, 2015	Jacob Brownscombe, Carleton University, and (winner) Katherine Silliman, University of Chicago (runner up) Dustin Chen, UC San Diego (runner up) Gayathiri Gnanalingam, Old Dominion University (runner up)	Winner received \$10,000; runners up received \$1,000 each
MFS Student Travel Awards	Lisa Ailloud, VIMS Aharon Fleury, University of Victoria Jennifer Marsh, University of Alaska Fairbanks	Winners receive \$500 each, one-year memberships in AFS and MFS, and certificate.

**Strategy 14.** Hold elections and convene regular meetings of elected officers to plan activities that advance the mission of the Society and provide sound financial management of assets, revenue, and expenses.

## ATTACHMENT 1: 2015 MFS Governing Board Report

Type of Activity (e.g., leadership meeting, financial status, elections)	Description and Status	Comments
Leadership discussions	Email discussions among elected officers to evaluate MFS strategy and business decisions	Periodic as needed

**Strategy 15.** Periodically review constitution, bylaws, and procedures manual and revise using appropriate procedures as necessary.

Type of Review	Frequency	Comments
n/a		

# ATTACHMENT 3

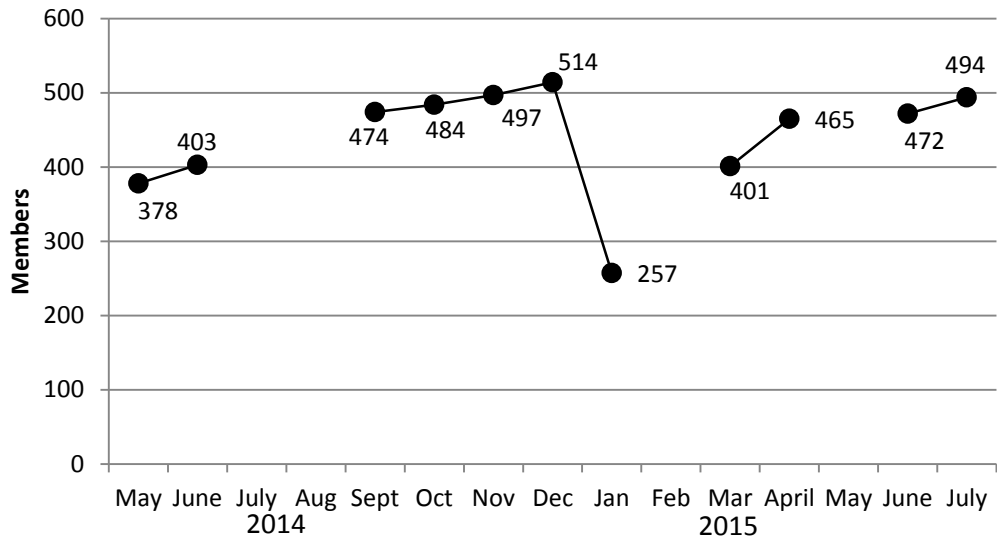
## AFS Marine Fisheries Section 2016 Budget Report

2015 MFS Budget and Actual Expenses				
Item	Original Budget	Actual expenses as of 7/30/15	Projected expenses by December 2015	Notes
Student Travel Awards [student travel awards at \$527 each (\$500 for travel, \$22 for memberships, and \$5 for award certificate). Awardees also receive a free Beverton notes book.]	\$1,054	\$1,522	\$1,581	Because travel reimbursement is not needed for the MFS president, we awarded 3 student travel awards.
Food and drinks for joint MFS and Estuaries business meeting.	\$300.00	\$629.46	\$314.50	Estuaries Section will reimburse MFS for 1/2 of the cost of food and drink.
Partial travel reimbursement for MFS President to attend Mid-year and Annual Meeting.	\$651	\$0	\$0	
Sette Award (certificate @ \$5, plaque @ \$15, and shipping \$5 each)	\$25	\$0	\$25	
Charitable donations	\$0	\$0	\$0	
<b>totals</b>	<b>\$2,030.00</b>	<b>\$2,151.46</b>	<b>\$1,920.50</b>	

<b>Balance in January 2015</b>	\$2,511.28
<b>Dues collected from 2014 (received check in July 2015)</b>	\$2,190.00
<b>MFS balance as of 7/30/15</b>	\$2,549.82
<b>expected balance by December 2015 ~</b>	\$2,780.78

Proposed Budget for 2016	
Item	Budget
Student Travel Awards [3 student travel awards at \$527 each (\$500 for travel, \$22 for memberships, and \$5 for award certificate). Awardees also receive a free Beverton notes book.]	\$1,581
Food and drinks for joint MFS and Estuaries business meeting.	\$300
Partial travel reimbursement for MFS President to attend Mid-year and Annual Meeting.	\$650
Sette Award (certificate @ \$5, plaque @ \$15, and shipping \$5 each)	\$25
Charitable donations	\$0
<b>total expenses</b>	<b>\$2,556</b>

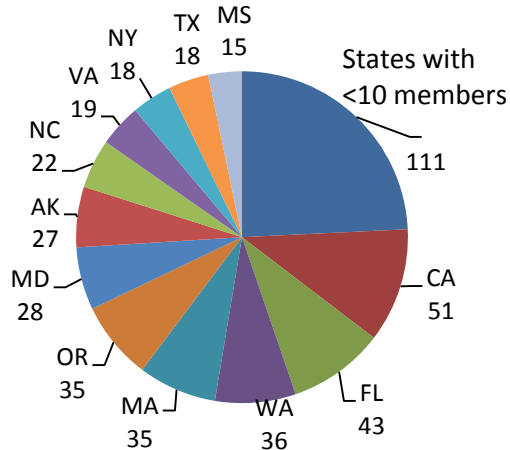
## Marine Fisheries Section 2015 Membership Report



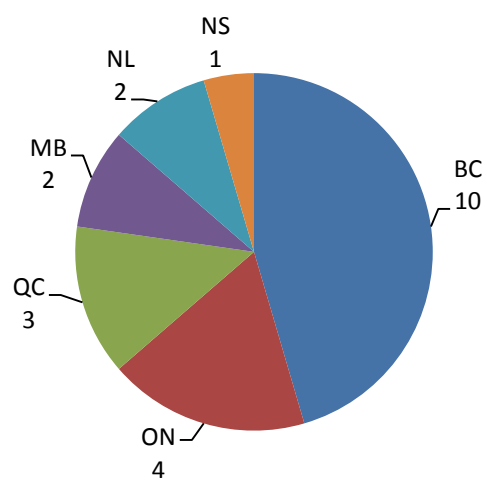
### July 2015 Summary

Total	Regular	Student	Young Professional	Retired	Life	Developing Country	NMY
<b>494</b>	236	151	55	30	18	3	1

#### US Members (n = 458)



#### Canadian Members (n = 22)



International members (12): UK (3), Mexico (2), Ireland (1), Brazil (1), Colombia (1), Malaysia (1), Taiwan (1), Russia (1), Sierra Leone (1)

Marine Fisheries & Estuaries Sections

# 1<sup>ST</sup> ANNUAL SOCIAL HOUR

WHEN

Monday Aug. 17<sup>th</sup>  
8:30pm  
*After Trade Show*

WHERE

Burnside Brewing Co.  
701 E. Burnside St.

All are welcome!

Come socialize with members of the Marine Fisheries and Estuaries Sections

Membership not required – just drop by and say hello!

[mfs.fisheries.org](http://mfs.fisheries.org)

[estuaries.fisheries.org](http://estuaries.fisheries.org)

