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President's Message

Undoubtedly you are also glancing more at the clock and calendar than at this newsletter as you dash madly about trying to stuff 40 pounds of science, meetings, field assignments, and data into a 10-pound bag. It's hard to believe or even think about September (and the annual meeting) being right around the corner - but it is! This year I've had the good fortune to chat face-to-face with many colleagues drawn from our membership (at least from Maine, New Hampshire and Vermont), and have had an opportunity to collect informal feedback and ideas from a cross-section of AIC members at a wide range of levels. Here are some admittedly qualitative impressions I've drawn from my straw poll:

- We have a good organization but we should strive to make it better
- We should diversify and enlarge our membership
- We are blessed with many members who are dedicated to the profession and their careers, who always go the extra mile to do the job right
- Our meetings are informative *and* fun

This has led me to some "vision" thoughts I'd like to share with you, and ask that you ponder. For those of you attending our annual meeting, I'd like to see some discussion (perhaps over beer, and at the business meeting) over these ideas for our organization. Improving any organization offers challenges and requires time, energy and sometimes money. Some things are easy "just do it" items, while others require a bigger commitment and should be discussed first. "Just do it" ways we are currently working on improving the organization are focused on it being a better clearinghouse for useful and timely technical information and communication exchanges on topics of direct interest to us - "by AIC biologists, for AIC biologists". Presently we are doing this two ways: (1) a top notch, living website, and by (2) developing opportunities for joint meetings with sister AFS chapters, and other parallel professional organizations.

Web site: Shawn Good has been pursuing the development of a really fun, interactive and "living" web site. We expect it to be on line before years end, but to ensure its evolution as a useful tool for us all, we'd like to form a web committee who's job would be to recruit information, modify and update the format and content, based on continuing input from the membership. I'd like to kick off such a committee at the upcoming business meeting. If you have ideas or suggestions, bring them. If you can't make the meeting, please drop Forrest Bonney, Shawn, or me a line, call, or e-mail with your thoughts. Don't hold back!!

Joint Meetings: We have been pursuing the goal of broadening the technical agenda and demographics of meetings by exploring opportunities to meet jointly with other professional societies with parallel interests, such as the Wildlife Society and the Southern New England Chapter of AFS. Other opportunities abound, but these are two we have seized on for now.

Continued on page 6

SECOND CALL FOR PAPERS

26th Annual Meeting Atlantic International Chapter *“New Methods of Collecting and Analyzing Data”*

September 24-26, 2000 * Pictou, Nova Scotia.**

Pictou Lodge, located five minutes from the town of Pictou, on Northumberland Strait.

FORMAT: PAPER, POSTER, VIDEO, COMPUTER DEMONSTRATION

You are invited to submit abstracts for review on any topic relating to **new methods of collecting and analyzing data**. There will be special chaired sessions devoted to: Riverine Habitat/Management, Coastal/Anadromous Topics, and Statistical Treatment of Data1, in addition to our traditional Open Session and Sunday night informal session, for which abstracts on any topic are invited. Deadline for second call – August 31, 2000.

Send abstract, title, or notice of interest to:

Riverine Habitat/Management:

Scott Decker
New Hampshire Fish & Game Department
2 Hazen Drive
Concord, NH 03301
Telephone: (603) 271-2744
Fax: (603) 271-1438
E-mail: sdecker@wildlife.state.nh.us

Statistical Treatment of Data:

Joan Trial
Maine Dept. Inland Fisheries & Wildlife
650 State St.
Bangor, ME 04401-5654
Telephone: (207) 941-4457
Fax: (207) 941-4443
E-mail: joan.trial@state.me.us

Coastal/Anadromous topics:

Sandra Lary
Stock Enhancement Division
Maine Department of Marine Resources
21 SHS
Augusta, ME 04333-0021
Telephone: (207) 624-6345
Fax: (207) 624-6024
E-mail: sandra.lary@state.me.us

Sunday Night Informal Session:

Peter Cronin
Natural Resources and Energy
Fish and Wildlife Branch
PO Box 6000
Fredericton, NB E3B-5H1 Canada
Telephone: (506) 453-2440
E-mail: peter.cronin@gnb.ca

Open Session:

Norm Dube
Atlantic Salmon Commission
650 State St.
Bangor, ME 04401-5654
Telephone: (207) 941-4449
E-mail: norm.dube@state.me.us

or

Gordon Russell
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
1033 South Main St.
Old Town, ME 04468
Telephone: (207) 827-5938
E-mail: gordon_russell@fws.gov

Preliminary Agenda - 26TH ANNUAL AIC MEETING

SUNDAY, September 24

- 15:00 - 19:00 **Registration**
 Dinner - on your own
- 19:00 - 21:00 **Informal Session & Mixer 'hosted' by Peter Cronin**

MONDAY, September 25

- 7:30 - 10:00 **Registration**
- 7:00 - 8:00 **Breakfast**
- 8:15 - 8:30 **Introduction & Welcome**
- 8:30 - 9:30 **Keynote Address: Dr. Gilles LaCroix, Department of Fisheries and Oceans**
- 9:30 - 10:10 **Session 1: Coastal and Anadromous Topics** Chair: **Sandra Lary**
- 10:10 - 10:30 **Coffee Break**
- 10:30 - 12:00 **Session 1 (continued)**
- 12:00 - 1:00 **LUNCH**
- 13:00 - 15:00 **Session 2: Riverine Habitat and Management** Chair: **Scott Decker**
- 15:00 - 15:20 **Coffee Break**
- 15:20 - 16:00 **Session 3: Statistical Treatment of Data** Chair: **Joan Trial**
- 16:30 - 17:30 **Posters, Videos, etc.**

Dinner: on your own

TUESDAY, September 26

- 7:30 - 9:00 **Breakfast**
- 8:00 - 9:00 **Business Meeting**
- 9:00 - 10:00 **Open Session** Chair: **Norm Dube and Gordon Russell**
- 10:00 - 10:20 **Coffee Break**
- 10:00 - 11:00 **Open Session (continued) or Panel Discussion**
- 11:00 - 12:00 **Raffle & Fishing Contest Awards, Wrap-up**
- 12:00 - 13:00 **Lunch**

Registration, Meals & Lodging Information

Pictou Lodge, Pictou, Nova Scotia

This years meeting will be held at the historic Pictou Lodge located on the warm waters of the Northumberland Strait just five minutes from the town of Pictou, Nova Scotia. We have reserved six beautiful three bedroom log cabins and five double motel rooms for Sunday and Monday nights at a preferred rate. For those interested in private accommodation or who may wish to stay off-site, there is abundant lodging close-by in the town of Pictou. Information about Pictou Lodge can be found at the Maritime Inns website: www.MaritimeInns.com and a comprehensive source of local information about Pictou and the surrounding area can be seen at:

www.pictou.nsis.com

Accomodations and Meals

For those deciding to go with shared accommodation in the three bedroom cottages or motel rooms, we have negotiated two different rates depending on the length of stay.

Sun. + Mon. lodging, breakfast + lunch Monday, breakfast Tuesday: \$Can 122.88 + tax

Monday night lodging, lunch Monday, Breakfast Tuesday \$Can 68.89 + tax

Since there are a variety of pubs and restaurants in Pictou, Monday night dinner will be on your own. We have arranged for a cruise of Pictou Harbour on Monday evening after supper. Two boats (one with 18 spots and one with 12 spots) have been reserved for a 1.5 hour trip leaving from the wharf downtown. There should be a few mackerel still around in late September, so bring your spinning rods - no licence required.

Registration

Meeting Registration cost will be \$Can 20.00 (\$25.00 after August 31), payable to the Atlantic International Chapter. A registration form is attached to this newsletter.

RESERVE EARLY!

Alan McNeill will be preparing a master list for reservations. To reserve a room or cabin, contact Alan McNeill or Debbie Langille at the following address:

Nova Scotia Department of Fisheries & Aquaculture
P.O. Box 700
Pictou, Nova Scotia
B0K 1H0

tel (902) 485-7024
fax (902) 485-4014

E-mail: mcneilla@gov.ns.ca



Directions to Pictou Lodge



From the Nova Scotia border, follow Highway 104 towards New Glasgow / Cape Breton (there is a \$3.00 toll about 45 min past the border). From the Trans-Canada Highway (104), take exit 22 onto Highway 106 (Pictou / PEI Ferry). Cross the Pictou causeway and take the first exit out of the rotary towards the town of Pictou. Bear left at the PetroCanada gas station and drive straight through the town of Pictou. Follow the signs six kilometers to Pictou Lodge. If you are coming from the PEI ferry, take the first left off the ramp (sign says "Nova Scotia Camp & Picnic Park") and follow the signs 3.5 km to Pictou Lodge.

Continued from page 1.

More demanding endeavors will need more consensus to succeed. I throw these out for your thought and discussion. Along the lines of the goal of increased and diverse membership, we are making early steps, but should attempt to put more focus and energy on it in the future. Of course, like most things, you get out of it what you put into it, and therefore as another business meeting agenda item, I would like to see a membership committee developed to formulate specific, do-able goals and implement them, so that the burden to achieve something doesn't fall too heavily on any one shoulder. Please mull this over as you make your way toward Nova Scotia and/or contact me.

Finally, with the goal of reaping the benefits of our talented and dedicated membership, I propose that at the business meeting we find time to discuss the merits of potentially developing a chapter mentoring program, so that those with an interest in sharing and/or obtaining special technical, professional skills and insights can be brought together. Again, the first stages of this might take the form of a small committee whose job would be to inventory individuals and skills, and research the demand and interest level.

I realize these may be ambitious goals to commit to for a volunteer organization. However, I believe we owe it to ourselves (and our organization) to find ways to grow - even if we only achieve some of them, we will all benefit. Your thoughts?

Brandon Kulik, President

MISCELLANEOUS MEETING NOTES



Statistical Treatment of Data

Opening remarks:

Fisheries and the art, religion, and science of statistics?

Joan G. Trial

*Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife
Bangor, ME*

1) WOW you should try this cool way to analyze your data. Papers about how you applied a statistical test or approach to

fisheries data. Explain why you chose the analysis. Don't dwell on the mathematics (formulae etc.), but on the practical uses of the test or approach and the assumptions about the data (ordinal, normal, etc.).

2) What's your problem?

Papers presenting a puzzling aspect of study design or data analysis. If you have a set of data that you just can't tease enough to get a meaningful analysis, tell us about it. What were the study objectives and design? How had you planned to analyze the data? Send along some data.

THEN - a small panel of innovative fisheries biologists will toss around some options for analysis.

HERE IS WHAT I NEED:

- 1) Papers for Subsession 1.
- 2) Problems for Subsession 2.
- 3) Volunteers for the panel.

If I don't get some volunteers I will be twisting arms!!

Request for Raffle Items

Raffle items are needed for the 2000 AIC Annual meeting in Nova Scotia. We hope to surpass all previous meeting's raffles and have a new program chair, Beth Reinhart from New Hampshire, guiding the way. If you know of any craftspeople or retailers with good stuff, please make an effort to round up items for our fundraiser.

Contact Beth at [breinhart@WILDLIFE.STATE.NH.US](mailto:breinhardt@WILDLIFE.STATE.NH.US) for more information.

AIC Contest



We had our first ever AIC fishing contest awards presented at the IAC meeting last year at Camp Bishopwoods. Many impressive photos were submitted for both the coveted Lunker Award as well as the Soggy Boot. Norm Dube acted as judge and chose Ginny Incerpi's lovely 2.25-pound lake trout as the Lunker winner. Al McNeill got the vote for the Soggy Boot Award for a blue shark of dubious origin.

CHAPTER NEWS



1999 "lunker" trophy winner, Ginny Incerpi – lake trout 19.2 inches; 2.25 pounds, Caspian Lake, caught on the AIC/NED "super lure".

For those of you lucky enough to have attended the 1997 NED/AIC Lake Trout Coldwater Workshop at Jay Peak--- or the 1998 AIC meeting in Quebec, AND lucky enough to still have in your possession the lure(s) provided in your registration package, these will be accepted for the 2000 contest, but we decided to open it up to any fish caught on any lure in order to increase participation. The fish may be retained or released (please don't bring it to the 2000 meeting), but you must provide a photograph of your catch. The prettiest fish will be considered for the AIC Lunker Award, while the Soggy Boot will go to the ugliest or strangest catch (fish, clam, boot, etc.) or outright lie - again, with photographic evidence required. Now, you still have two months to get out and catch something interesting so let's see what we can come up with. Prizes to be awarded at the 2000 Annual meeting in Pictou.



"Blue trout" – Soggy Boot winner.

MAINE

Kennebec River Alewife Restoration Progress

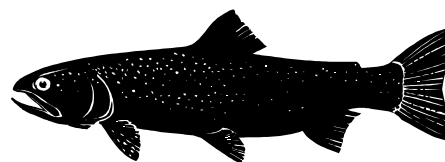


Brandon Kulik
Kleinschmidt Associates
Pittsfield, ME

Runs of anadromous Kennebec River alewives swimming inland to Waterville and Winslow, Maine are now collected for rapid trap and truck dispersal to spawning habitat throughout the river basin, as well as other out of basin destinations designated for alewife rearing. This spring, a total of 137,000 alewives were successfully captured by the pump and stocked by the Maine Department of Marine Resources (MDMR) into the Sebasticook, Kennebec, Androscoggin, and various other river systems in Maine. This is the largest number of alewives captured to date as part of the Kennebec River restoration program.

A unique vacuum jet pumping system is employed at the FPL Energy Maine LLC (FPLE) Fort Halifax Project tailwater in Winslow to handle the large run quickly and with minimal handling and mortality. The pump employs no impellers or other mechanical devices that cause physical injury; the overall system was designed by Spaulding Engineering of Waterville Maine and installed by Bancroft Construction of South Paris Maine. FPLE oversaw installation of the pumping system and operated the pumping system with assistance from EPRO Engineering and Environmental Consulting of Augusta Maine, assisted by students from Unity College in Unity Maine.

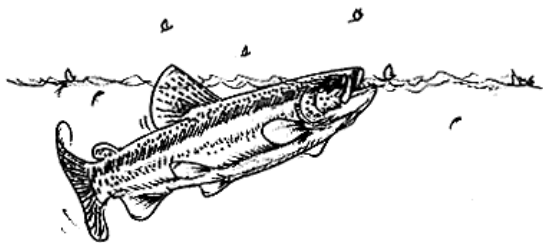
The capture and transport of alewives was a cooperative effort between FPLE and the MDMR, as part of an agreement signed in 1998 regarding anadromous fish restoration activities for the Kennebec River. For more information, contact Bob Richter (207-771-3536) at FPLE in Portland Maine.



NEW HAMPSHIRE**New Hampshire Welcomes New Biologist**

I would like to take this opportunity to introduce myself. My name is Dianne Emerson and I am the new Fisheries Biologist in the northern region of New Hampshire. I graduated from the University of Rhode Island in 1995 with a B.S. in Fisheries Science. My last semester took place in British Columbia where I was involved with sockeye salmon reproduction and habitat. When I returned home, I accepted an internship with the University of Massachusetts monitoring shortnose sturgeon at the Holyoke Dam. From there I moved to southern New Hampshire where I started my career with the New Hampshire Fish and Game Department as a temporary fisheries technician. After two seasons, I accepted a full-time position as a Biological Technician in New Hampshire's Lakes Region, where the majority of my work concentrated on salmonids and smelt. In December of 1999, I accepted my current position. I am eager to take on my new responsibilities and I feel that through my diverse work experiences I've been prepared for the challenges that it brings.

This summer my technician, Andrew Schafermeyer, and I have plans to survey Atlantic salmon habitat on two New Hampshire streams, the Mohawk River and Simms Streams. We also hope to complete the habitat surveys initiated by my predecessor, Scott Decker. In addition to the habitat work, we hope to initiate population assessments on bass and trout waters within the region. With an intense creel survey on the upper Connecticut River paralleling these responsibilities, we look forward to a productive summer.

NOVA SCOTIA**The Nova Scotia Federation of Anglers and Hunters gets Involved with a Province-Wide Initiative to Benefit Trout and Salmon**

John MacMillan, Biologist

Nova Scotia Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture

The Nova Scotia Federation of Anglers and Hunters, Nova Scotia Salmon Association, Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture, and the Atlantic Salmon Federation have sponsored and coordinated a province-wide project to benefit populations of salmon and trout. This year about thirty automatic VEMCO temperature loggers destined for various rivers systems were

distributed to groups and volunteers in the province. The loggers are small cigar-shaped devices that record temperatures every hour through the summer and early fall on each river system, and will provide a very detailed account of temperature at one site in a river. As a way of increasing the amount of temperature information, twenty-one environmental organizations and volunteers are monitoring temperatures at many different locations throughout their river systems (see Table). The information that is collected will be used to determine if temperature could be a factor that is important to salmon and trout on their river.

For many regions, 1999 was the warmest year on record, and predictions suggest that warming trends will continue. Scientists expect that our coldwater sportfish, salmon and trout, are going to be the ones that are most affected by warmer water and low flow conditions in summer. There are many factors that can limit the number of salmon and trout in a stream: acidity, overfishing, and poor land use are a few. However, warm water conditions could be a very important limiting factor in some areas. Global warming, land clearing, and impoundments have reduced the amount of suitable cool water habitat for salmon and trout in summer. Water temperature profiles on some systems indicate that warm water conditions were present for prolonged periods of time during 1999, and many individuals in the trout population could have been forced to use coldwater areas (see Figures). The 20°C line was highlighted on each graph because it is the temperature at which brook trout will swim to the cooler waters in a river or lake. Atlantic salmon will also seek out cooler areas; however, they may be able to withstand warmer temperature than brook trout. Small coldwater areas or refuges could be located in the small tributaries that flow into the main river channels but they may not provide enough food and space to support healthy salmonid populations. In some cases, the size of the juvenile fish populations could be directly related to the size and quality of the coldwater habitat in summertime.

Special management and enhancement strategies in some situations could benefit fish that are using cold water refuges. The temperature data collected will be used in the development of a temperature map that will indicate if coldwater habitat was limited in summertime, and identify important coldwater refuge sites. During warm periods, salmonids may be crowded into coldwater refuges, and these crowded conditions could lead to the trout population's susceptibility to increases in predation, exploitation, and disease.

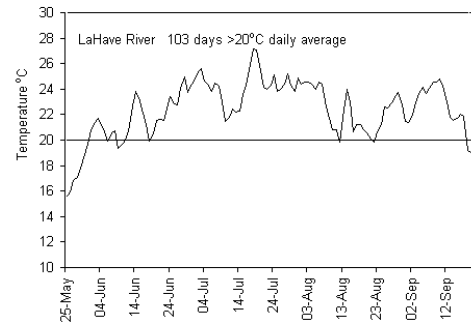
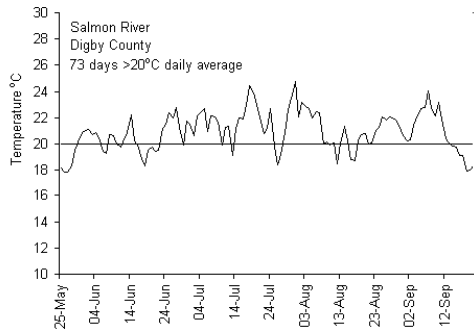
Temperature maps of the river could be used as a guide for future management and enhancement initiatives. Management options include reducing harvest of trout and protecting tree buffer zones around streams that provide shade and maintain cool water. Stream enhancement programs such as Adopt-A-Stream could be used to improve stream habitat in coldwater refuges, such as through the use of digger logs and cover logs. The knowledge of stream workers, river watchers, and others will be relied on to determine the most appropriate methods by which to improve

coldwater refuges. The role of non-government organizations and volunteers in the active participation in the assessment and management of Nova Scotia's recreational fishery is very

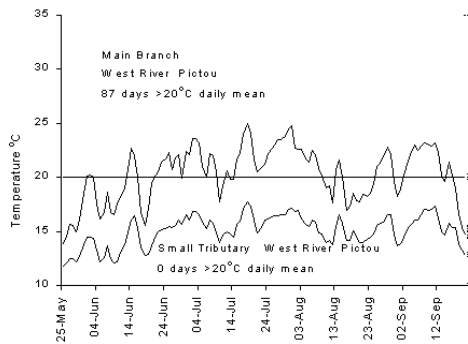
important. We hope that the interest in this project will continue to grow and the number of groups and volunteers involved will increase.

Individuals and groups involved in the temperature monitoring project.

Contact	Organization	River	County
Darren Hiltz	Sackville River Association	Sackville	Halifax
Carol Randall	LaHave Salmon Association	LaHave	Lunenburg
Garth Trider	Volunteer	LaHave	Lunenburg
Lorrie Roberts	Bluenose Atlantic Coastal Action Project	Mushamush	Lunenburg
Doug Bell	Petite Riviere Watershed Committee	Petite	Lunenburg
Dave Dagley	Nova Scotia Federation of Anglers and Hunters	Medway	Queens
Charles Trask	Tusket River Environmental Protection Association	Tusket	Yarmouth
Roland LeBlanc	Salmon River Salmon Association	Salmon & Meteghan	Digby
Jim Pelly	Annapolis Fly Fishers	Nictaux	Annapolis
Shelly Pitman	Clean Annapolis River Project	Annapolis	Annapolis
Beth Lenentine	Friends of Cornwallis River	Cornwallis	Kings
Mack Miles	Black River Environmental Committee	Black	Kings
Darrel Brown	Wildlife Habitat Advocates	Avon	Hants
Darria Langill	Cobequid Salmon Association	Salmon	Colchester
Danny Ripley	Cumberland County Rivers Environmental Committee	Wallace & Philip	Cumberland
Parker Wong	Pictou County Rivers Association	West Pictou	Pictou
Leonard Forsythe	Margaree Salmon Association	Margaree	Inverness
Marshall Kaiser	Cape Breton Sportfishing Advisory Council	Baddeck	Victoria
Chuck Thompson	Department of Fisheries and Oceans	Middle	Victoria
Dave Livingstone	Stewards of River Denys Watershed Association	River Denys	Inverness
Bob MacDonald	Mulgrave Fish and Game	St. Francis Harbour	Guysborough



Nova Scotia Figures.



VERMONT**Smith-Root Electrofishing Boat Clinic – Interested ?**

Shawn P. Good
Vermont Department of Fish and Wildlife
Pittsford, VT

The Pittsford District Office of the Vermont Department of Fish and Wildlife is interested in hosting a Smith-Root Electrofisher Boat Clinic. A Boat Clinic is when Smith-Root technicians come into the field to a site and inspect and repair electrofishing boats.

It's much easier than sending your boat back to the factory in Washington State! The primary function of Smith-Root's Boat Clinic is to inspect for safety problems and service equipment in order to put the boats in good operating condition. The Smith-Root technicians inspect the boat, pumps, electrical system, light systems, generator and steering system and any other items individuals point out in their registration form, except for the motor. When completed, the Smith-Root electrofishing boat will meet the standards of the manufacture year as set by the Coast Guard, OSHA and Smith-Root. However, in order to get Smith-Root technicians to the northeast, we need a minimum of 6 boats to participate in the clinic. I would like to know if there are any people in nearby States that would be interested in bringing their boat to Vermont for a day sometime this coming winter to be serviced.

In order for you to decide, here is what you need to know:

1. The total boat clinic registration fee is \$650.00 per boat. This includes a \$350.00 flat fee for the electrofisher control box (GPP), testing/repair, calibration, and certification at Smith-Root's factory and the re-installation of the GPP by the Smith-Root technicians at the boat clinic. (Once you register for the clinic, Smith-Root will send you instructions on how to remove the GPP from your boat and ship it to them at the factory). The remaining \$300.00 flat fee is for the field inspection, providing the repair estimate and the final testing, as well as the safety certification of the boat electrofishing system once the repairs have been completed.
2. Once your boat has been inspected at the clinic, the Smith-Root technicians will give you 2 lists: one is a list of

necessary repairs to make your boat operate well and safely; the second is a list of *suggested* repairs. You must decide then what to have done to your boat and be able to give them immediate authorization to go ahead with the repairs. The technicians carry with them most parts that could be needed.

If not, they may have to special order the parts from the factory and delay the completion of your boat by a day or two. The cost for field repairs is \$110 per man-hour plus parts.

Smith-Root usually schedules an entire week for the boat clinic, and each individual boat is given a particular day to be there for it's inspection and servicing. If we are able to get a commitment from 6 boats, the location will hopefully be here at the Pittsford District Office of the Vermont Department of Fish and Wildlife. If you are interested, or if you require more information, please contact Shawn P. Good, District Fisheries Biologist, at 802-483-2172 or shawn.good@anr.state.vt.us.

**Vermont Brings in "Wyomingite" as New Fishery Biologist**

Vermont Fish and Wildlife Department recently added Scott Covington to its fold of fishery biologists. Scott received his B.S. in Biology from the University of Arkansas, where he worked on the aquatic biota of small spring streams. He obtained his M.S. in Zoology and Physiology from the University of Wyoming. His research in Wyoming focused on evaluating trout habitat using remote sensing techniques and modeling trout population responses to flow manipulations.

Following completion of his master's work, he was employed as a Project Habitat Biologist with the Wyoming Game and Fish Department. Duties included habitat evaluations, restoration projects, development of "stream-compatible" BLM allotment management plans, as well as assisting terrestrial habitat biologists.

His work in Vermont will encompass a variety of duties from trout stream and bass pond management to review of development impacts on central Vermont waters.

Registration Form

**26th Annual Meeting
Atlantic International Chapter
Pictou, Nova Scotia**

Meeting Registration Instructions: Please complete the form (below). Include your name, agency and address. Make check payable to Atlantic International Chapter of AFS. Return the form with payment to Alan McNeill (address below). For room reservations, call Alan McNeill also.

Name:

Agency/Address

**Pre-registration \$20.00Can (before Aug. 31/2000) payable to Atlantic International Chapter
Registration after Aug. 31 = \$25.00Can**

Send to:

**Alan McNeill
Nova Scotia Department of Fisheries
P.O. Box 700
Pictou, Nova Scotia
B0K 1H0**

**tel (902) 485-7024
fax (902) 485-4014**

Atlantic International Chapter Newsletter

Scott Covington, Editor

VT Fish and Wildlife Department

State Wildlife Lab

Roxbury, VT 05669

(802) 485-7566

scott.covington@anr.state.vt.us



**26th Annual AIC Meeting – Program and
Registration Form
Pictou, Nova Scotia
September 24-26, 2000**