

University of Maine Student Subunit of the American Fisheries Society
Subunit Report to the AIC Ex-Com for the period Sept. 2006 – Aug. 2007

Compiled by Michael Bailey; Sept. 30, 2007.

Currently there are at least four groups at the University of Maine that are active with fisheries or aquatic based research including: The School of Biology and Ecology, Department of Wildlife Ecology, Department of Ecology and Environmental Sciences and The School of Marine Sciences. In order to provide students and faculty networking opportunity and professional outlets the University of Maine Student Subunit was formed. All activities during the 2006-2007 academic year were focused toward either 1) social, 2) professional, or 3) outreach activities. While most activities serve more than one purpose, they will only be listed under one category for sake of simplicity.

1) Social activities are critical for the establishment of a unified fisheries community on the University of Maine campus.

During the past year, the subunit hosted several well-attended social gatherings. These included socials with several seminar speakers and two ice fishing trips to aid in the capture of invasive Northern Pike.

2) Professional activities are designed to add to development of both undergraduates and graduate students who plan to follow careers in aquatic resources.

Several seminars were co-hosted with departments on campus. We worked closely with The Wildlife Society to help foster a closer working relationship with our society, largely dominated by graduate students, and the largely undergraduate Wildlife Society.

3) Outreach activities provide students with opportunities to aid in conservation and education of aquatic stewardship, while still full time students.

University of Maine Subunit acted as the Editors for the newsletter of Northeast Division of AFS (Fish Rapper). We also maintained a fish tank in a cooperative USFWS program called Salmon in Schools which provided information about salmon recovery. We also participated in the Craig Brook National Fish Hatchery's "Spawning Spectacular". In addition, we have worked with The Maine Department of Inland Fish and Wildlife on plans to create monitoring stations and curb the spread of Northern Pike recently released into Atlantic salmon waters.