



Dakota Chapter American Fisheries Society Newsletter

Issue 52
October 2014



President's Message

Fall is my favorite time of year; leaves change color and fall to ground, farmers are busy harvesting crops and many animals are out and about gathering food to prepare for the winter. Fall is a time of great change.

Two weekends ago, I was teaching international style target archery to more than 100 youth from the surrounding area. Many of these kids and several of their parents had never had the opportunity to shoot a bow. It made me think about my

role and responsibilities as a fish and wildlife professional.

In an age where smartphones and tablets replace fishing poles and shotguns, we, as fish and wildlife professionals, must take the time like our mentors did with us, to

- PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE
- DAKOTA AFS SEPTEMBER 2014 EXCOM MEETING MINUTES
- NORTH DAKOTA UPDATE
- DAKOTA CHAPTER ESOCID REPORT
- WALLEYE TECHNICAL COMMITTEE REPORT
- WEBSITE NEWS
- DR. JAMES C. SCHMULBACH MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP.....
- GFP FLOATING FISHING PIER COOPERATIVE PROJECTS – SUMMER 2014.....
- SDSU AFS STUDENT SUBUNIT UPDATE
- VCSU AFS STUDENT SUBUNIT UPDATE
- UPCOMING TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES.....
- RECENT VIDEOS.....
- ANNUAL MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT.....
- NOMINATIONS REQUESTED
- DAKOTA CHAPTER ANNUAL MEETING AWARDS
- REGIONAL AND NATIONAL MEETINGS.....
- NEW FISHERIES BOOKS.....
- RECENT LITERATURE PUBLISHED BY MEMBERS (2013-2014).....
- DAKOTA CHAPTER OFFICERS, 2015 – 2016.....

work with our youth to inspire future generations of fish and wildlife professionals. We can spend a ton of time and resources on habitat and population management, but if we don't take the time to inspire the next generation of conservationists, then we have nothing. With that in mind, I'd like to challenge our members to find creative ways, within your organizations, to inspire our youth to ensure that we not only have the resources, but the people too.

As many of you take time away from the office to wet-a-line or crawl into a blind, make an effort to take along someone who's never had the chance. You may find it life changing.

As I continue to talk about change, I would like to congratulate our president elect, Greg Simpson, for improving this newsletter to include a section that will list recent peer-reviewed publications authored by our members. Additionally, I'd like to formally welcome our new sub unit at Valley City State University to the chapter and congratulate Dr. Casey Williams and sub unit president Josue Hernandez for their work to help make that happen.

Please help me welcome them to the chapter at our annual meeting in February. **The annual meeting is scheduled for February 17th – 19th 2015 in Bismarck (at the Comfort Inn).**

I hope to see you all there!

Until then, take advantage of what the Dakotas have to offer and get outside!

Kurt Eversman,
President

Dakota AFS September 2014 ExCom Meeting Minutes 9/23/14

D. Dembkowski called the meeting to order at approximately 9:05 AM. Other members in attendance were Natalie Scheibel, Mike Olson, Greg Simpson, Todd Caspers, and Kurt Eversman. Zac Sandness and Mark Fincel were unable to join the call.

Officer Reports

President's Report (Dan Dembkowski):

D. Dembkowski mentioned that most of the duties during his term were associated with the annual meeting in Chamberlain. He thanked Vice President Natalie Scheibel for taking on a majority of planning responsibilities. He wrote chapter updates for the Dakota AFS and NCD Mainstreams newsletters. He also sent a thank-you note to Doug Austen on behalf of the Dakota Chapter for attending the annual meeting and serving as keynote speaker. He also worked with Vice President Natalie Scheibel on developing the new chapter website.

Vice President's Report (Natalie Scheibel):

N. Scheibel also stated that most of her duties were associated with planning the annual meeting. She also lead the effort to develop a new Dakota AFS website (url = dakota.fisheries.org). The new website is hosted through the Parent Society and is easier to access and manage. She also emailed the chapter asking for

suggestions on new website content and expressed the need for a 'permanent' website manager.

Secretary/Treasurer's Report (Mark Fincel):

M. Fincel was unable to attend but provided a treasurer's report to D. Dembkowski to give to the group. Current balances are as follows:

U.S. Bank = \$9,455.68
Edward Jones = \$6,400.58
Schmulbach = \$11,329.90
Klumb = \$4,866.19

President-Elect's Report (Kurt Eversman):

K. Eversman reported that he had begun planning the 2015 annual meeting in Bismarck. Tentatively, the meeting is scheduled for the 3rd week of February, which would minimize potential conflicts with the SD and ND TWS meetings. He also compiled contributions for the spring 2014 newsletter and thanked N. Scheibel and D. Dembkowski for their assistance. He also worked with students from Valley City State University to establish a Student Subunit.

SDSU Student Subunit Report (Laura Heironimus):

L. Heironimus reported that the subunit hosted several workshops (fish aging techniques, fly tying) and guest speakers from various state agencies and academic institutions. She also reported that the subunit participated in several education/outreach events with community organizations. Partial proceeds from the raffle during the annual meeting were donated to the Dave Willis Fisheries Science Endowment, the Robert A. Klumb Memorial Scholarship, and the Center for Biological Diversity in remembrance of Maegan Spindler.

Committee Reports

Environmental Concerns:

See comments below under "New Business."

Membership:

Various members noted that one of the keys to communication within the chapter is updated contact information from all members. The current email list-serv was updated based on contact information gathered during the annual meeting. N. Scheibel mentioned that the new website has a "Become a Member" link.

Technical Committees:

Todd Caspers provided a brief report on the joint Walleye, Centrarchid, and Esocid Technical Committee meetings held in La Crosse, WI. He mentioned that the next meeting would be held in Brookings, SD in during July 21-23, 2015.

Continuing Education:

Continuing Education Committee chair Steve Chipps maintains a list of potential CE opportunities as identified by the membership. There will be a future need for another member survey as topics are crossed off the list.

Old Business

No old business was brought to the floor.

New Business

Dave Willis Award:

D. Dembkowski raised the need for an award in honor of the late Dave

Willis – all members agreed. One option brought forth during the annual meeting was to re-name the Outstanding Young Professional Award the “David W. Willis Outstanding Young Professional Award.” Greg Simpson and Mike Olson mentioned that this would require a simple change to the bylaws and membership vote. Greg and others mentioned that he would contact Mike Barnes, who was president when the OYPA was developed. Re-naming will likely take place prior to the 2015 annual meeting.

Environmental Concerns

Committee Funding Request:

Mike Olson brought forth a funding request of \$1,000.00 in aid of a summer symposium to address contemporary scientific issues in the Dakotas. Specifically, the symposium would focus on effective communication between scientists and non-scientists. The symposium would correspond with the 50th ‘anniversaries’ of the TWS and AFS chapters and would feature environmental author and filmmaker Randy Olson. Mike mentioned that he would work with incoming officers to judge the interest of the Dakota Chapter membership in participating in the symposium, after which a decision would be made regarding the funding request.

Student Award Advertising:

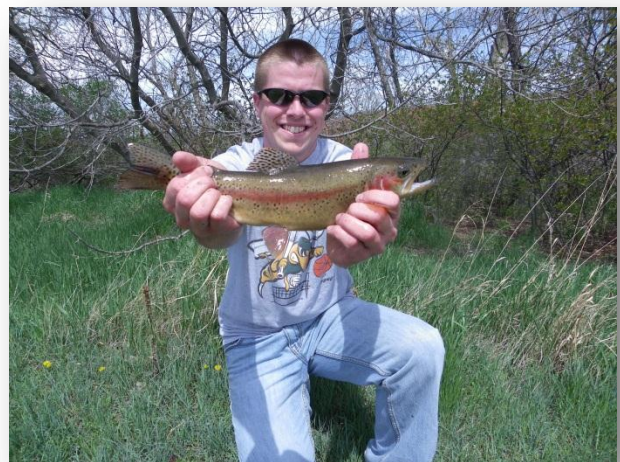
D. Dembkowski reported that the number of applicants for student awards such as the Schmulach and Sauger scholarships has been steadily declining over the past few

years. The floor was opened to suggestions on how to better-advertise for these awards to increase the applicant pool. N. Scheibel mentioned that the new website would likely help, being easier to find and navigate. L. Heironimus suggested that the student subunits should do more to advertise and encourage undergraduate students to apply.

Change of Officers:

D. Dembkowski thanked N. Scheibel, M. Olson, and M. Finsel for their continued service to the Dakota Chapter and welcomed K. Eversman as President, Greg Simpson as President-Elect, Todd Caspers as Vice President, and Zac Sandness as Secretary/Treasurer. M. Olson and others thanked D. Dembkowski for his service as President.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 10:15 AM.



South Dakota Game, Fish and Parks Staff Update

SDGFP Staff Changes

Tabor Martin (Resource Biologist, Cleghorn SFH)

Tabor Martin began work as a resource biologist at Cleghorn SFH in Rapid City in May. Tabor graduated from SDSU in May of 2014 with a B.S. in Wildlife and Fisheries Sciences and had been working for Prairie AquaTech, a research firm investigating experimental feed applications for aquaculture, since 2012. While working at this research based company Tabor was tasked with construction and maintenance of recirculating aquaculture systems (RAS), chemical treatments of fish, manufacturing of extruded experimental feed diets and on-call alarm trouble shooting of the RAS system to ensure the health of the fish. Tabor gained a strong understanding of aquaculture practices and fish husbandry while working for Prairie AquaTech as well as spending two seasons as an assistant fisheries biologist with Oswald Fisheries and working with Hickey Brothers Research in Yellowstone National Park as a research assistant.

Brian Beel

Brian Beel, a Conservation Technician working out of the Ft. Pierre office with the Missouri River fisheries crew, left Game, Fish and Parks on October 9, 2014 after accepting a position with SD Department of Environment and Natural Resources. Brian has been a part of the Missouri River team since 1998 as a seasonal and as a permanent part-time employee since 2001. He took an active role in the creel surveys on Lakes Oahe and Sharpe. The Missouri River staff wishes Brian well in all of his future endeavors and would like to thank him for his years of service with Game, Fish and Parks.

Submitted by John Lott.

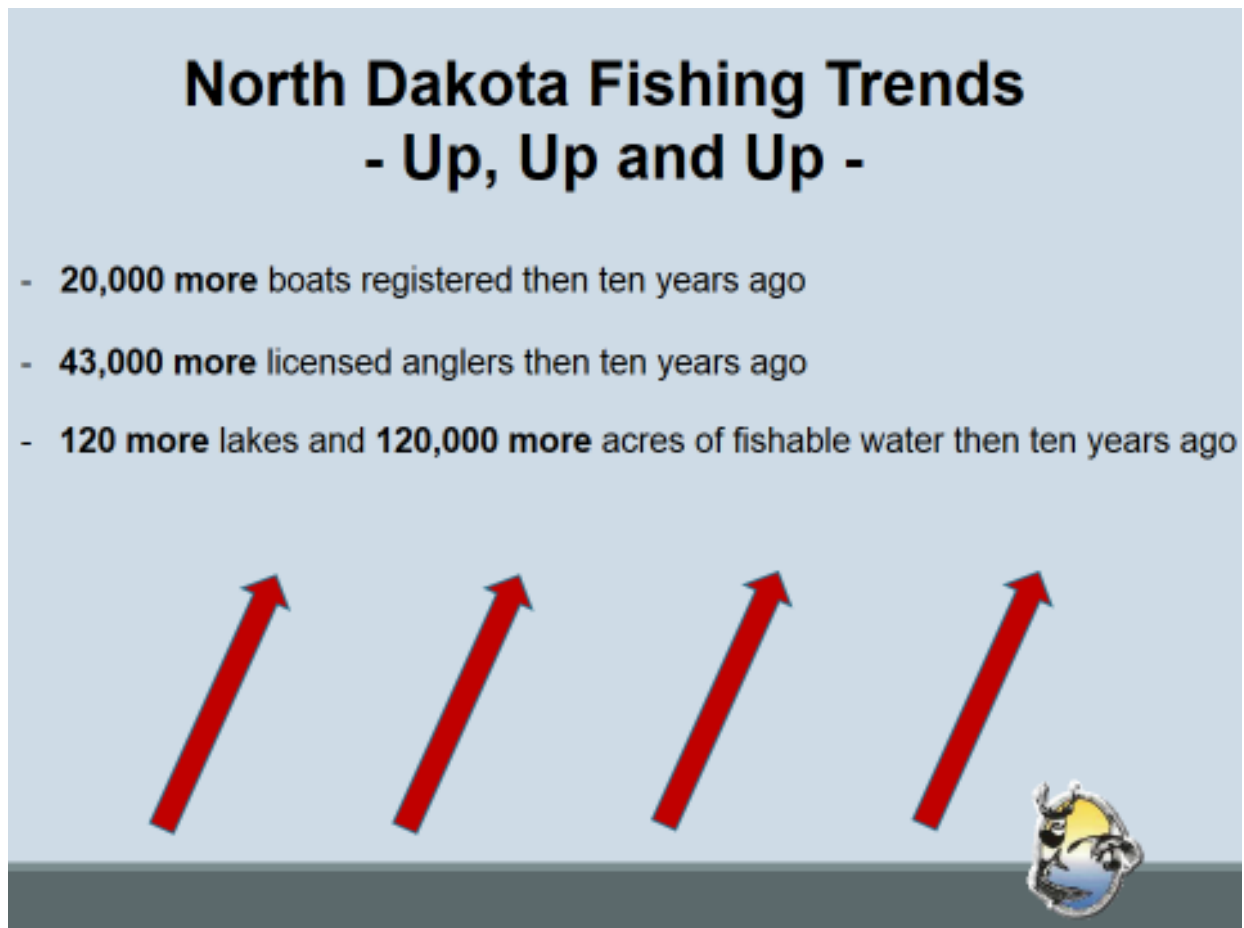


Upcoming Meeting in
Bismark, North Dakota
February 17-19, 2015

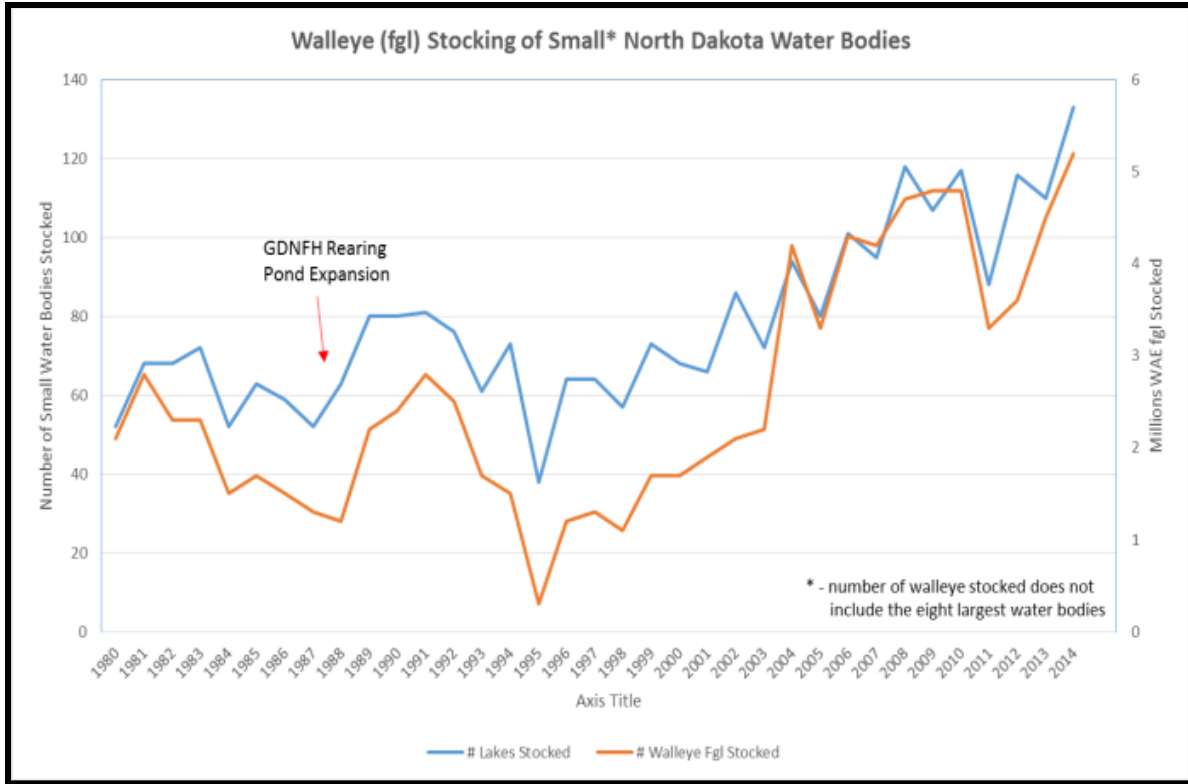
North Dakota Update

Dakota Chapter AFS Newsletter – Fall 2014

As the open water fishing season wraps up, fishing prospects remains bright as the North Dakota waterscape continues to grow. Fishing reports this past summer were generally very upbeat with likely another record number of anglers. The following chart displays the obvious trend that has been ongoing for some time.



Field biologists have developed some outstanding prairie lake walleye fishing opportunities. For example, just in the past two years, there are eleven more walleye lakes and 10,000 more acres of walleye waters in the state. All total there are about 40 new walleye fisheries that did not exist just a decade ago. These opportunities would not be possible without the fingerling production from Garrison and Valley City National Fish Hatcheries (see graph below).



In terms of staff, longtime District Supervisor and Chapter member, Gene Van Eeckhout retired this fall. Gene has been a great asset for the Game and Fish Department, the Dakota Chapter and for about anyone who has fished in a lake in southeast North Dakota. His 38 years of experience will be very difficult to replace.

Submitted by Greg Power



Dakota Chapter Esocid Report

Esocid Update

Northern Pike Bioenergetics in Lake Pactola, South Dakota, Natalie Scheibel

Bioenergetics models, along with temperature, diet, and growth data, were used to estimate the consumption of Northern Pike in Pactola Reservoir. Northern Pike under 600 mm acquired 71% of their total annual energy (% J/g/y)

from small Centrarchids. Northern Pike greater than 600 mm obtained 50% of their total annual energy from Rainbow Trout. Based on annual consumption estimates and the cost of stocked Rainbow Trout, a single Northern Pike living to an average-age culminates in a cost of about \$200 to \$300. One management approach to reduce Rainbow Trout consumption by Northern Pike is to stock larger Rainbow Trout (355 mm), which would be less vulnerable to Northern Pike predation because of gape limitations.

Muskellunge Sampling in Eastern South Dakota, Brian Blackwell

Muskellunge *Esox masquinongy* have proven difficult to sample with standard fish sampling gears in South Dakota. We compared muskellunge springtime catches in two trap net sizes [large trap nets (1.5 x 1.8-m frames, 1.5-m diameter hoops, double throated, single 1.5 x 30.5-m lead and 19-mm knotless mesh) and small trap nets (0.9 x 1.5-m frames, 0.9-m diameter hoops, single throat, single 0.9 x 15.2-m lead and 19-mm knotted mesh)] and we estimated the population abundance of adult muskellunge in three eastern South Dakota waters. Sampling with both large and small trap nets was completed during the spring of 2013 and 2014 soon after ice-out. More muskellunge were collected in large trap nets than small trap nets at all three lakes. Total length of collected

muskellunge was not significantly different between large trap nets and small trap nets. Low population abundance (i.e., < 0.5 fish/ha) limits catch per unit effort (CPUE) values in the waters we studied. As a result, the likelihood of collecting 75 to 125 individuals needed for robust analysis of length-structure indices is low and long-term monitoring is needed for population assessment. Sampling with large trap nets in spawning habitat during the spring combined with population estimates will improve the ability to monitor and manage muskellunge when compared to sampling with small trap nets.

Submitted by Brian Blackwell

Walleye Technical Committee Report

The Walleye Technical Committee met jointly with the Centrarchid and Esocid technical committees in LaCrosse, Wisconsin July 23rd and 24th. We had a total of 36 people attend, and 12 technical papers were presented. This year, papers were focused on walleye early life history. For complete business meeting minutes, please see our website:

<http://www.ncd-afs.org/Default.asp?mid=23&sid=33>. The

winter 2015 business meeting will be held in conjunction with the Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference in Indianapolis, Indiana in February, and the summer joint technical committee meeting will be held in July 2015 in Brookings, South Dakota. The summer meeting will be held at the South Brook Nature Park from July 21st-23rd, with a continuing education class scheduled for July 21st. The content of the continuing education class has yet to be determined. Randy Schultz of the Iowa DNR is the new chair-elect for 2015.

Submitted by Hilary Meier.

the content from the previous website can be found on the new website. The new web software, WordPress, is much easier to navigate and update. If anyone is interested in assisting with the website management please contact Natalie Scheibel for more information: Natalie.scheibel@sdstate.edu.

Website News

The Dakota Chapter website has been transferred over to the American Fisheries Society web server. The new web address is: <http://dakota.fisheries.org>. All

Dr. James C. Schmulbach Memorial Scholarship

Students! Now is the time to begin preparing your application for the Dakota Chapter's Schmulbach Scholarship. The chapter presents this award yearly at its annual meeting.

When Dr. James C. (Doc) Schmulbach passed away his family recognized that the Dakota Chapter and fisheries students were a big part of his life. They saw fit to endow a scholarship in his name to be administered by the Chapter. It is time for students to apply for this scholarship.

A brochure describing Doc's contributions to fisheries of the Dakotas and the scholarship can be found on the Chapter's website at <http://dakota.fisheries.org> and Dr. James C. Schmulbach Memorial Scholarship ([application PDF](#)) The application materials or questions should be submitted electronically to Will Saylor at will.saylor@state.sd.us. He can also be reached at 605-773-4501. The application deadline is **January 15, 2015**.

GFP Floating Fishing Pier Cooperative Projects – Summer 2014

Richmond Lake – Brook Brown Memorial Fishing Pier & Shoreline Demonstration Site:

This project was a cooperative project between Richmond Lake Association & SD GF&P as well as several private donors and contributions from local sports clubs. This project includes a handicap accessible floating fishing pier, single vault toilet and a bronze memorial to former GF&P Conservation Officer Brook Brown.

Eligibility: Any junior or senior undergraduate student who is studying fisheries science, or a related field, at an accredited college or university in North or South Dakota.

Applications will include: An essay of 200 words or less describing the student's interest in Fisheries science and their career goals, a resume, a letter of reference from a fisheries professional and a copy of the student's college transcripts.

If you are a fisheries professional, I urge you to encourage and facilitate a fisheries student's attendance of our annual meeting to give them a chance to meet people like Doc who can influence their whole career. If you have an interest in supporting the scholarship we are happy to accept donations to the fund.

Submitted by Will Saylor



This area is also being utilized as a shoreline restoration demonstration site. On September 20th several friends, family members and co-workers spent the morning planting 1600 native plants on this shoreline to help stabilize the construction site. After the planting project was complete a dedication was held at the site with the unveiling of a bronze memorial of Brook.

Elm Lake (Brown County) – On September 10th a crew from Game Fish & Parks Department installed a floating fishing pier at the Elm Lake Dam Lake Access site. The Frederick Sportsman's Club helped purchase this structure and

also helped provide equipment for the assembly and installation of the structure.

3rd Avenue Pond – Lions Park, Watertown SD – On October 8th Game, Fish & Parks and the City of Watertown installed a floating fishing pier on 3rd Avenue Pond. This pond is located within the city limits of Watertown and is stocked with Rainbow Trout a couple of times each year. The addition of the fishing pier to this busy urban fishery will help provide fishing opportunities to anglers of all ages and abilities. This project was a cooperative project between GFP, City of Watertown and several local businesses and families.

Submitted by Rhet Russell



SDSU AFS Student Subunit Update

The AFS Student Subunit at SDSU has had an event-filled year. We have hosted a number of events, workshops, speakers, and served as volunteers for various activities. Our primary objectives have been to increase undergraduate involvement and networking within the subunit and to provide our members with opportunities to enhance fisheries skills

and techniques that they may not otherwise learn in class.

To begin our spring semester with a ‘bang’, the Subunit hosted an ice-fishing derby on Lake Pactola in the Black Hills. Many students had never ice-fished at depths of more than 80 feet and everyone caught at least one Lake Trout. The first fish above the minimum size limit was eaten that night! A few weeks later we hosted an ice-fishing tournament on a pond close to the university to attract those students who were unable to make the Black Hills trip. Unfortunately, the pond had mostly winterkilled before our tournament began. Many anglers were persistent and sat out in the cold for hours hoping to catch a fish. The ONLY fish to be caught the whole tournament

was a European Rudd, caught by a wildlife professor, and it swam straight up the ice-hole gasping for air.

To help our undergraduate members find summer employment, the Subunit hosted a job fair that included employers from the South Dakota Game Fish and Parks, Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, US Fish and Wildlife Service, US Geological Survey, and many graduate students from the SDSU Natural Resources Department. This was a hugely successful event, netting more than 50 students and 22 prospective employers. We are hoping to host another job fair this December to advertise agency positions before the closing deadlines. To enhance career skills and techniques the subunit hosted four workshops, led by students for students. The topics included: (1) Aging Fish Using Various Hard Structures, (2) Intro to Fly Tying, (3) The Basics of Fish Photography, and (4) Stream Fisheries Skills. Unfortunately, our Lake Fisheries Skills workshop had to be put on hold for better weather.

This spring, our speakers included University of Nebraska Kearney (UNK) professor – Dr. Casey Schoenebeck and Nebraska Game and Parks employee and UNK adjunct-professor – Dr. Keith Koupal. After the speakers talks we treated them to dinner and fish jeopardy with the Subunit. This event allowed undergraduate students to network with the professors and snag graduate positions at UNK for the 2014-2015 academic year. This fall, Chelsea Pasbrig of South Dakota Game, Fish and Parks came to speak to the subunit about the Heritage Program and the Wildlife Diversity Program. After her presentation, the subunit treated Chelsea to a night at Prairie Lanes Bowling Alley where students were able to chat more about the programs in a comfortable atmosphere.

Finally, the subunit has volunteered for many AFS and community events. At the Dakota Chapter AFS Meeting, many students volunteered to help set-up posters, cater the

opening social, and sell raffle tickets. The money raised in last year's raffle was split four ways: the Dr. David Willis Memorial Scholarship Fund, the Dr. Robert Klumb Memorial Scholarship Fund, a donation to the Center of Biological Diversity in memory of Maegan Spindler, and to fund next year's Sauger Scholarship recipients (an undergraduate travel award to attend Dakota Chapter AFS). Additionally, students volunteered for many community events in 2014 including: the local Pinewood Derby, FFA Judging at SDSU, the Trout Extravaganza in Brookings, the Big Sioux Water Festival at SDSU, the Party for the Planet at the Great Plains Zoo in Sioux Falls, and the Cub Scout Fishing Derby at the Dakota Nature Park.

The members of SDSU AFS are excited for another great year to come. We hope to include many more workshops and host more speakers from a broad spectrum of fisheries professions. If you are interested in speaking at a Subunit meeting or hosting a fisheries skills workshop, please contact Subunit President, Laura Heironimus at Laura.Heironimus@sdstate.edu or (703) 964-7081. Thanks!

VCSU AFS Student Subunit Update

The VCSU AFS Student Subunit was founded in the spring 2013 by Josue Hernandez. It was approved as an official university club on March 10, 2013. Currently we are awaiting approval by the parent society. This process is in the final stages and will most likely be finalized by the end of October.

The subunit started with a six member base last spring and we now have 26 paid members. Club officers include: President – Josue Hernandez, Vice President – Ethen Preston, Secretary - Victoria Silva,

Treasurer – Thomas Dodson with Dr. Casey Williams and Dr. Andre DeLorme as the subunit's advisors.

In our short active history we have hosted several subunit outings including: a fishing competition and fish fry, a canoe race, two guest speakers, and an informational hands on experience on fish sampling equipment for freshmen. In addition, we hosted a successful gumbo feed to raise money for the subunit.



Upcoming Training Opportunities

Using Acoustic Tags to Track Fish

5-6 February 2015 - 9:00 am to 5:00 pm

Attend Online or On-Site at University of Washington School of Aquatic Fishery Sciences, Seattle, WA

http://www.HTIsonar.com/at_short_course.htm

This course addresses all aspects of tracking fish movement with acoustic tags, including three-

In the future we plan to bring more guest speakers to discuss student options for job opportunities both before and after graduation. We will also host a resume building seminar to help with job applications in the future. We look forward to attending and volunteering at the annual chapter meeting this upcoming spring.



dimensional tracking with sub-meter resolution. It includes hands-on-operation and a variety of fish monitoring applications are covered. Lunch is provided for on-site students. Reserve a seat or ask a question at support@HTIsonar.com. Tuition Rate Offer (50% discount) for university students, university staff, non-profit and tribal organizations.

http://www.htisonar.com/Training_Special_Offer.htm

Using Hydroacoustics for Fisheries Assessment

12-13 February 2015 - 9:00 am to 5:00 pm

Attend Online or On-Site at University of Washington School of Aquatic Fishery Sciences, Seattle, WA

http://www.HTIsonar.com/ha_short_course.htm

This course covers mobile and fixed-location hydroacoustic survey techniques, including basic hydroacoustic theory, deployment logistics, data collection and processing, as well as typical results. Split-beam, single-beam, and multi-beam frequency techniques are discussed in detail. Lunch provided for on-site students. Reserve a seat or ask a question at support@HTIsonar.com. Tuition Rate Offer (50% discount) for university students, university staff, non-profit and tribal organizations.

http://www.htisonar.com/Training_Special_Offer.htm

Program R

The Program R Workshop will be held at the Swiftel Center in Brookings, SD, **9-13 March 2015**. Format for the workshop will be a combination of lectures and exercises. The workshop will start on Monday morning, 8:30 AM and will end at noon on Friday. Dr. Darryl MacKenzie of Proteus Consulting Ltd will be teaching the course.

Program R offers a variety of statistical and graphical techniques and is available as free software (<http://www.r-project.org/>).

<http://www3.sdstate.edu/nrm/organizations/gpnss/program-r-workshp.cfm>. This workshop will cover many beginning and intermediate level topics and participants will be introduced to various statistical procedures through worked examples. Topics to be covered: Basic operators, Plotting, Functions, Arrays and Matrices, Descriptive analysis, Basic statistical tests, Linear Models, Generalized Linear Models, Simulatinon, Complex Plots. Registration cost for the 5-day workshop is \$650. This fee includes course materials, facilities for the workshop, and morning and afternoon refreshments. All other costs (i.e., travel, lodging, meals, etc.) will be the responsibility of the workshop participant.

Completed registration forms paying with credit card can be emailed to:

Dr. Troy Grovenburg
Department of Natural Resource Management
South Dakota State University
Box 2014B, NPS 138
Brookings, SD 57007

A block of rooms at state rates is available at the Fairfield Inn & Suites under SDSU Dept. of Natural Resources.

Fairfield Inn and Suites
3000 LeFevre Drive
Brookings, SD 57006
605-692-3500

Modeling Patterns and Dynamics of Species Occurrence

The Modeling Patterns and Dynamics of Species Occurrence Workshop will be held at the Swiftel Center in Brookings, SD, **16-20 March 2015**. Format for the workshop will be a combination of lectures and exercises. The workshop will start on Monday morning, 8:30 AM, and at 8:00 AM Tuesday-Friday. The workshop will end at noon on Friday. Dr. Darryl MacKenzie of Proteus Consulting Ltd will be teaching the course.

<http://www3.sdstate.edu/nrm/organizations/gpnss/occuancy-workshop.cfm>. The presence or absence of a species across a set of landscape units is a fundamental concept widely used in ecology (e.g., species range or distribution, epidemiology, habitat modeling, resource selection probability functions, as a monitoring metric, metapopulation studies, biodiversity, and species co-occurrence). An important sampling issue, however, is that a species may not always be detected when present at a landscape unit. This will result in "false absences" causing parameter estimates to be biased if unaccounted for, possibly leading to misleading results and conclusions, even with moderate levels of imperfect detection.

This workshop will cover many of the latest methods for modeling patterns of dynamics of species occurrence in a landscape while accounting for the imperfect detection of the species. Participants will be introduced to available software through worked examples, and there will be special emphasis on aspects of study design. While primarily aimed at the beginner and intermediate level, more experienced researchers will also benefit from attending. Topics to be covered include: single season occupancy models

for patterns in species occurrence, building predictive models for species occurrence, creating maps of species occurrence probabilities, e.g., species distribution maps, multiple-season occupancy models for dynamics of species occurrence and changes in distribution, important study design considerations, sample size determination.

South Dakota State University graduate students wishing to receive credit for the workshop also will need to register for WL792 Tp-Occupancy Modeling (3 credits) for the spring 2015 term. This is a written consent course, so students will need to obtain a signed Registration Authorization form from Dr. Grovenburg.

Registration cost for the 5-day workshop is \$850. This fee includes course materials, facilities for the workshop, and morning and afternoon refreshments. All other costs (i.e., travel, lodging, meals, etc.) will be the responsibility of the workshop participant.

Completed registration forms paying with credit card can be emailed to:
Dr. Troy Grovenburg
Department of Natural Resource Management
South Dakota State University
Box 2014B, NPS 138
Brookings, SD 57007

A block of rooms at state rates is available at the Fairfield Inn & Suites under SDSU Dept. of Natural Resources.
Fairfield Inn and Suites
3000 LeFevre Drive
Brookings, SD 57006
605-692-3500



Recent Videos

[Lake Sturgeon Stocking Video](#)

[Lake Yankton Project Video](#)



Annual Meeting Announcement

Dakota Chapter of the American Fisheries Society



February 17-19, 2015
Comfort Inn, Bismarck, ND

Tuesday, February 17 – registration and welcoming social

Wednesday, February 18 – registration, papers and business meeting –
awards banquet in the evening

Thursday, Feb. 19 - papers, adjourn by noon.

Make your reservations today!

**Call the Comfort Inn directly at 701-223-1911 (before February 2nd) to
make a reservation. Be sure to mention you are with Dakota Chapter
AFS to ensure maximum benefits for the Chapter.**

First Call for Papers

All Aquatic and Fisheries Papers are Welcome!

Abstract Submission Guidelines

Include the Following:

1. Title
2. Author's name, affiliation, and contact info (for multiple authors, indicate who will be the presenter)
3. Category (Professional, Graduate Student, Undergraduate Student)
4. Paper (oral) or Poster Presentation
5. Abstract - 250 words or less.

Submit Abstracts to Todd Caspers (tcaspers@nd.gov) or Kurt Eversman (kurt_eversman@fws.gov).

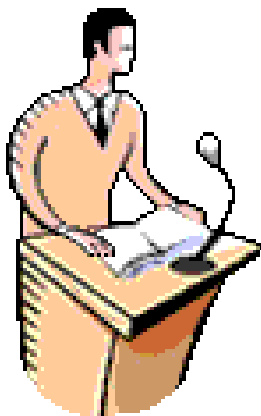
EMAIL Title Must Say "AFS DAKOTA CHAPTER"

Deadline: January 16, 2015

Paper and Poster Requirements

Papers – 15 minutes followed by 5 minutes of Q & A. Any version of PowerPoint should work.

Posters – Must fit 3' high x 4' wide poster board. Easels and poster boards will be provided.



Nominations Requested

It is time once again to nominate worthy fish folks or organizations for some of the numerous awards that the Chapter may bestow at the annual meeting. To nominate an individual or group for an award, please include:

1. Your name.
2. The names of other Chapter members supporting the nomination.
3. The name of the nominee.
4. The award category.
5. A narrative explaining how the nominee meets the award requirements.

Please send the nomination to Dan Dembkowski, Awards and Nominating Committee Chair (Dan Dembkowski, daniel.dembkowski@sdstate.edu; 605-688-6577) **by January 16, 2015.**

1. Robert L. Hanten Distinguished Professional Service Award

May be presented annually to no more than two individuals who have made an outstanding contribution within the field of fisheries. These contributions must have noteworthy significance within the two-state region and go beyond the requirements of a job description. Preferably all nominees should have been both Chapter and Parent Society members for at least eight years of their respective careers.

2. Aquatic Resource Conservation Award

May be presented annually to one individual or group that has made an outstanding effort in ensuring the future welfare of the Dakota's waters and/or fisheries. These efforts include but are not limited to: information, education, providing monetary or voluntary assistance, and legislative initiatives.

3. Outstanding Young Professional Award

May be presented annually to up to two individuals who have made outstanding contributions to the fisheries profession during the start of their fisheries careers. Nominees must not have completed five years of full-time fisheries employment. Contributions must be substantial and go beyond that required by their position. Nominees will have become established as contributors to the improvement of aquatic resources in North and South Dakota.

4. Sauger Scholarship

This scholarship provides room, conference fees, and will reimburse for other expenses (travel, food) for any amount up to \$100.00 for undergraduates attending the Dakota Chapter Meeting. Application form and instructions can be found at <http://www.sdstate.edu/wfs/DakotaAFS/chapter-awards.cfm>

5. Dr. James C. Schmulbach Memorial Scholarship

Fisheries Students! Now is the time to begin preparing your application for the Dakota Chapters Schmulbach Scholarship. The chapter presents this award yearly at its annual meeting.

When Dr. James C. (Doc) Schmulbach passed away his family recognized that the Dakota Chapter and fisheries students were a big part of his life. They saw fit to endow a scholarship in his name to be administered by the Chapter. It is time for students to apply for this scholarship. A brochure describing Doc's contributions to fisheries of the Dakotas and the scholarship can be found on the Chapter's website at <http://dakotaafs.sdstate.org/>.

If you are Junior or Senior, fisheries student at an accredited college or university in North or South Dakota, I urge you to submit an application. If you are a fisheries professional, I urge you to encourage and facilitate a fisheries student's attendance of our annual meeting to give them a chance to meet people like Doc who can influence their whole career. If you have an interest in supporting the scholarship we are happy to accept donations to the fund. For more information please contact Will Sayler at 605-394-4100 or electronically at will.sayler@state.sd.us.

Dakota Chapter Annual Meeting Awards

1. Best Student Paper Award

May be presented annually to recognize the best student paper delivered at the annual meeting.

2. Best Student Poster Award

May be presented annually to recognize the best student poster delivered at the annual meeting

3. Best Paper Award

May be presented annually to recognize the best paper delivered at the annual meeting by a working professional.

Regional and National Meetings



We hope you'll join us for the **75th Midwest Fish & Wildlife Conference** - Natural Resource Management in an Increasingly Connected World, **February 8-11, 2015** at the **Hyatt Regency Indianapolis, Indiana**. The annual conference attracts over 800 biologists and students from state, federal and tribal natural resource agencies across the 13 Midwestern states. Highlights include: over 400 technical talks, poster displays, plenary sessions, networking opportunities and social events.

Four specific symposia regarding fisheries are planned for the 2015 Midwest Conference.

Managing Midwestern Reservoirs: Connecting Watersheds and Anglers with their Fisheries

Overview: Despite the prevalence of natural lakes throughout many North Central Division states and provinces, reservoirs also provide numerous opportunities for Midwestern anglers while presenting unique challenges for Midwestern fisheries managers. Reservoir type (on-stream impoundment, urban ponds, municipal water supply), size, and accompanying watershed land use practices, among other characteristics, vary dramatically throughout the region, complicating management considerations and approaches. Here, we provide a forum to describe and discuss reservoir fisheries management writ large, ranging from upstream processes external to the reservoir itself, to ecosystem function within the system, to downstream effects occurring in tailwaters and beyond.

All reservoir-themed presentations are welcome; submissions pertaining to watershed effects on reservoir ecosystems, habitat restoration to improve sport fisheries, reservoir angler attitudes, preferences and opinions, and approaches to classifying reservoirs into functional groups to streamline management are particularly sought.

Confronting Centuries of Change: Restoration Challenges for Midwestern Rivers

Overview: Midwestern rivers have undergone centuries of degradation from a host of factors, including urbanization, agricultural and navigational practices, and invasive species. These disturbances have unequivocally changed the structure and function of rivers by introducing pollutants, disconnecting river channels from floodplains, fragmenting habitats, and altering biotic communities. Although social and political actions have improved water quality during the last 50 years, lasting changes to river infrastructure still persist; despite decades of restoration and mitigation efforts, most Midwestern Rivers still suffer the deleterious effects of humankind's conquering legacy.

The general objective of the symposium is to raise awareness of the plight of Midwestern Rivers, though we do not intend to focus solely on "gloom and doom". Specific objectives include sharing accounts of restoration success (and failure), describing current river restoration projects, discussing current (and future) challenges to restoration, and understanding the nuances of multi-jurisdictional restoration efforts. Although we anticipate a mostly fisheries-centric approach, we will be requesting input from other fauna-specific researchers, including aviologists, malacologists, and herpetologists, as well as political- or social-scientists. Potential presentation topics include shifting baselines, agricultural land use, invasive species, urbanization, navigation, societal perceptions, and climate effects on biotic organisms.

Bayesian Inference in Fisheries and Wildlife Ecology

Overview: Bayesian inference is an increasingly employed statistical method in fish and wildlife management. The flexibility of Bayesian inference permits modeling complex relationships that may not be solved using traditional frequentist's techniques. Although frequentist inference remains the dominant statistical method used, Bayesian inference is often more intuitive and outperforms frequentist's inference across a variety of situations. This session will provide an introduction to Bayesian inference and highlight novel applications relative to fish and wildlife management, emphasizing the benefits of being Bayesian.

Progress in Bigheaded Carp Research: Movement Toward Control

Overview: Bigheaded carps continue to move throughout the Mississippi River drainage towards the Great Lakes, disrupting aquatic communities and displacing native fishes as they spread. Preventing the expansion of both species, Bighead Carp and Silver Carp, is among the highest priority for resource managers in Canada and the United States. Advancements have been made in our understanding of their biology and in the development of tools to help in their control. In this symposium, speakers will present research on the ecology/impacts of bigheaded carps, their distribution and monitoring tools, new control tools, and how they are being integrated into an Integrated Pest Management strategy to

minimize their spread. Our objective is to share research results with other researchers while informing managers with the latest information on bigheaded carps and their control. This symposium will conclude with a discussion about current research efforts and the needs of resource managers.

For more information, please visit:

<http://www.midwestfw.org/>





AMERICAN FISHERIES SOCIETY
**PORTLAND
OREGON**
145TH ANNUAL MEETING
AUGUST 16-20, 2015

The **AFS 2015 Annual Meeting**, co-hosted by the Society, the Western Division, and the Oregon Chapter, is scheduled from **August 16-20, 2015**, in beautiful downtown Portland at the Portland Convention Center. Portland is known for its thriving downtown, outdoor activities, and broad array of restaurants and food carts that contribute unsurpassed opportunities to meet and engage with fisheries professionals from around the world. We look forward to seeing you in Portland, the City of Roses!

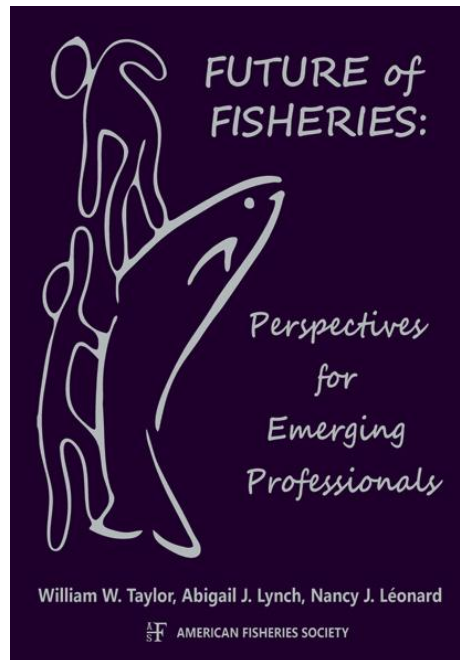
Aquatic resource professionals are now invited to submit symposia proposals. Later there will be a call to submit abstracts for the contributed papers (oral presentations) and posters sessions. These submissions should cover a wide range of pertinent topics and disciplines. The Pacific Northwest is the epicenter of many fisheries issues and activities, so we anticipate an increase in international participation and a balance of marine and freshwater-focused symposia. We encourage participation by all those involved in the broad range of disciplines working with fish and fisheries, including research, management, governance, propagation, enforcement, pathology, education, sociology, or economics, just to name a few. We encourage participants to propose multidisciplinary and interdisciplinary topics as well as those that address specific topics of interest to the range of attendees from regional to international. We particularly welcome student participation as they are the future of the profession and the Society.

For more information, please visit:

<http://fisheries.org/afs-2015-invitation-to-submit-proposals-for-symposia>



New Fisheries Books



Future of Fisheries: Perspectives for Emerging Professionals

William W. Taylor, Abigail J. Lynch, and Nancy J. Léonard, editors.
Published by the American Fisheries Society, July 2014

ISBN-13: 978-1-934874-38-7

Learn the “what I know now that I wish I knew then!” lessons now rather than later!

Future of Fisheries: Perspectives for Emerging Professionals contains more than 70 short mentoring vignettes on past experiences and visions for the future authored by many notable mentors from the fisheries field. The volume is intended to inspire and empower the next generation of fisheries professionals with advice from seasoned professionals by providing personal “lessons learned” and insights from the topics that most influenced their illustrious careers while also addressing the most urgent issues on the horizon for fisheries.

Like having a mentor on hand at the turn of a page, this book bridges a vital gap in our field by using the unique structure of mentoring vignettes to advise young fisheries professionals on how to achieve success as a fisheries professional and on what concepts will be relevant and important for the future of the fisheries profession

For more information, including the table of contents, visit the book's webpage:
<https://fisheries.org/shop/55073p>

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