

**AFS Estuaries Section Virtual Business Meeting**

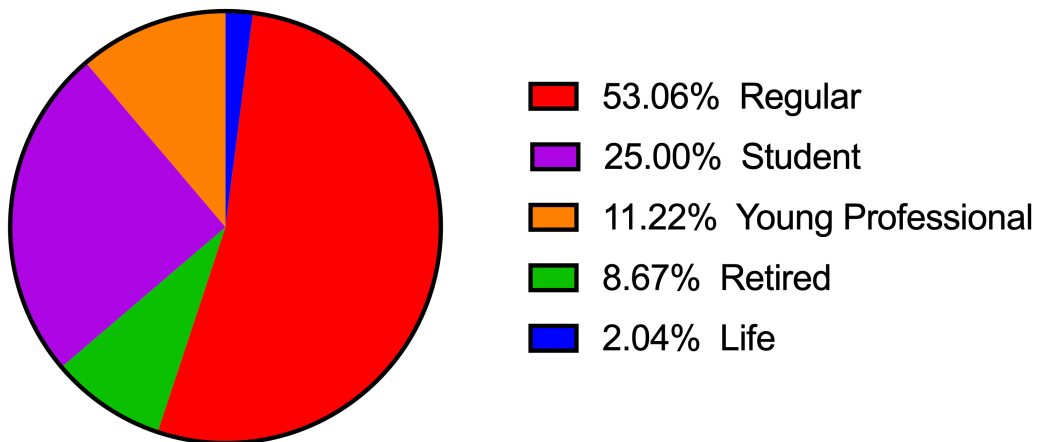
**Thursday, September 23, 2021**

**2-3pm Eastern Time (followed by Marine Fisheries 3-4pm)**

Participants: 29

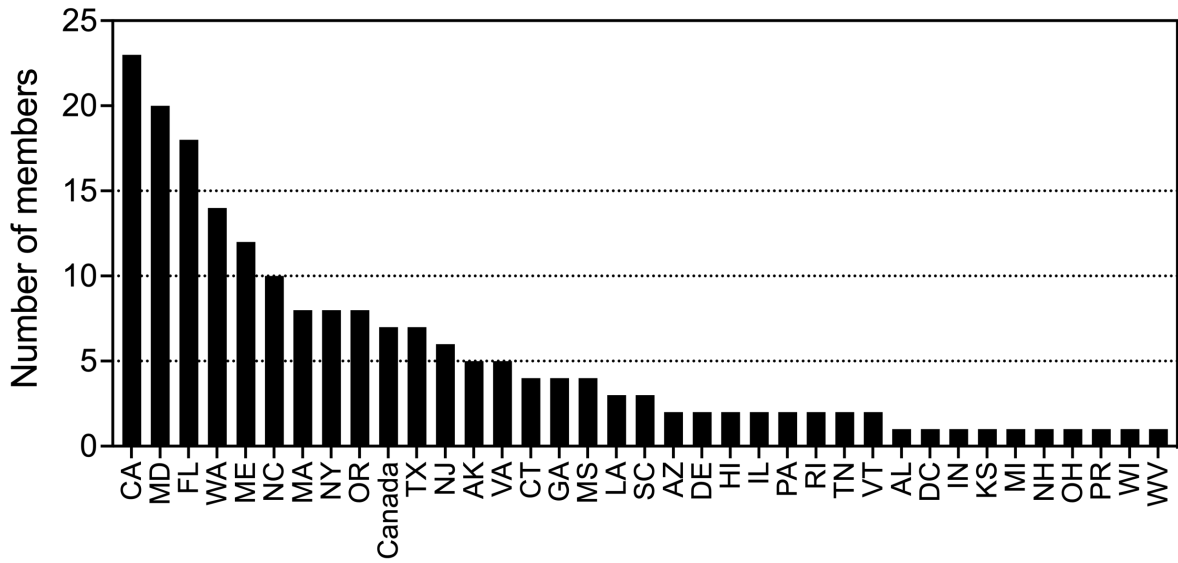
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1. Call to order, overview of virtual meeting guidelines and reminder of Code of Conduct
  - <https://fisheries.org/about/governance/afs-meetings-code-of-conduct/>
2. Review agenda and call for additional agenda items
3. Introduction of section officers and welcome to newly elected Executive Committee members:  
*name and location*
  - Past-President – Catherine Johnston, Maine
  - President – John Mohan, Maine
  - President-Elect – Justin Stevens, Maine
  - Treasurer – Konstantine Rountos, New York
  - Secretary – Amanda Croteau, Florida
  - Webmaster – Abigail Archer, Massachusetts
  - Newsletter – Geoffrey Smith, Florida
  - Monsters Chair – Lee Benaka, Washington D.C.
4. Membership update –
  - Estuaries membership makeup by AFS membership type



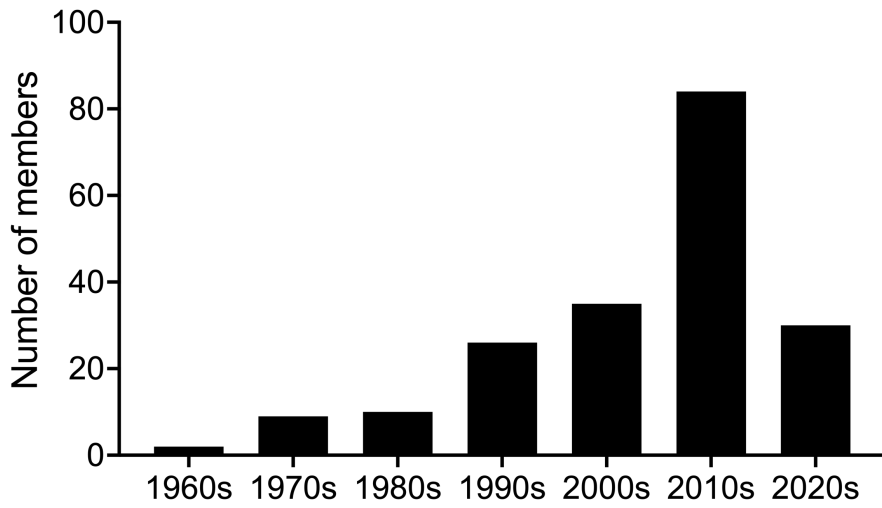
**Total=196**

- Estuaries membership by state/region



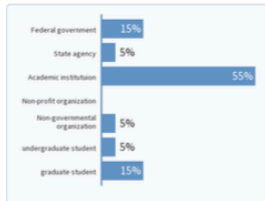
- Decade when Estuaries members joined

Decade when Estuaries member joined



5. Ice breaker - Poll Everywhere questions

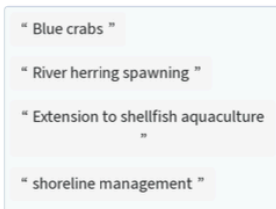
**What type of organization / agency do you work for?**



Response options	Count	Percentage
Federal government	3	15%
State agency	1	5%
<b>Academic instituion</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>55%</b>
Non-profit organization	0	0%
Non-governmental organization	1	5%
undergraduate student	1	5%
graduate student	3	15%

91%  
Engagement  
20  
Responses

**Estuaries are the focus area that bind us, but what specifically do you work on?**



Responses

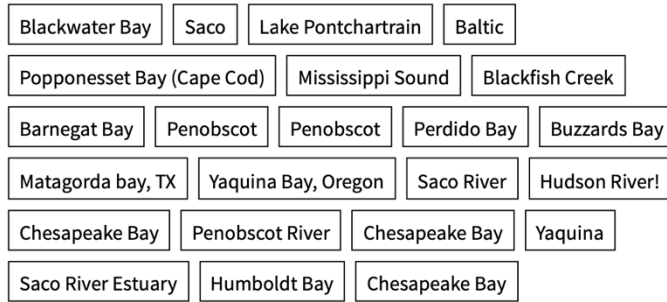
Blue crabs	River herring spawning	Extension to shellfish aquaculture
shoreline management	restoration	
Ecosystem modeling & crustaceans	Life history and biomineralization	
Coastal Fisheries	population monitoring (Blue Crab)	
Fish Ecology and Fisheries	collaborative management	MPAs
Fisheries Stock Assessments		
Hypoxia and other climate effects on estuarine, freshwater, and marine fishes		
diadromous fish	sandy beach surf zone fish and inverts	
Ecosystem modeling	Fishery-dependent bycatch data	
Environmental monitoring		
Fish-habitat interactions, fish community diversity		
Anadromous fish restoration	Fish passage	Atlantic salmon smolts
Ecosystem Modeling	Fish ecology	Fisheries
		coastal fisheries

91%  
Engagement  
27  
Responses

**What is the last estuary you visited or worked in?**



Responses



Engagement

23

Responses

6. President's remarks – *by John Mohan*

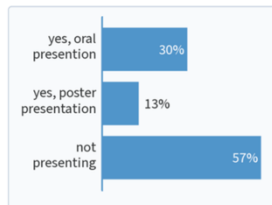
- AFS 2021, Baltimore, MD Nov 6-10
  - i. In-person meeting with a hybrid model allowing virtual registration. We encourage anyone to join us in Baltimore. There are over 1,000 abstracts and the 150th celebration will also take place.
- AFS 2022, Spokane, WA
  - i. Hosted by the WA/BC chapter and Western Division.
  - ii. The call for proposals will come out in the next month or so and we ask all AFS Sections to be developing symposium proposals.
- Joint Aquatic Sciences Meeting (JASM) May 14-20 2022, Grand Rapids, MI
  - i. Request for proposals due 9/24 by 11:59pm
  - ii. AFS is working as part of the CASS partnership on an NSF funded grant to develop DEI audit tools. This will be one of many workshops and symposia at the JASM meeting in Grand Rapids in March 2022. We're looking for more people to be engaged in diversity efforts and would appreciate help from Marine and Estuaries Section.
- Latin America and Caribbean Fisheries Congress, May 2023
  - i. AFS is facilitating a diverse group of members in Mexico, the Caribbean and various countries throughout Latin America to host the first "Latin America and Caribbean Fisheries Congress" to be held in May 2023. If there is any interest in helping out in planning this event, please have people contact Doug Austen (dausten@fisheries.org).
- AFS 2024, Honolulu HI
  - i. Looking far ahead and likely of great interest to your sections is the Honolulu meeting in 2024 and current work on developing a new chapter in Hawaii and the Pacific Islands. This will clearly have a strong marine focus and we'd greatly appreciate support from MFS and Estuaries Section on getting people excited about this new opportunity.

7. Presentation of 2021 Student Travel Award, since all applicants plan in-person conference attendance and research presentations, the ExCom decided to offer three in-person travel awards in the amount of \$400 each - *by Justin Stevens*
- Jeff Plumlee presentation is titled *“Identifying gillnet bias in the sampling of estuarine predators within a temperate estuary”*
  - Amanda Bevans presentation is titled *“Forecasting Blue Crab Commercial Landings in the Chesapeake Bay: Using the PEARL Blue Crab Survey as a Pre-Recruit Index”*
  - Abigail Hayne presentation is titled *“Exploring element patterns in shark vertebrae cartilage to enhance understanding of biomineralization”*
  - Amber Staples was awarded the AFS Potomac Chapter 2021 Richard H. Schaefer Student Travel Award

8. AFS Annual Meeting in Baltimore November – *by John Mohan*

- Poll Everywhere questions

**How many folks are giving a presentation?**



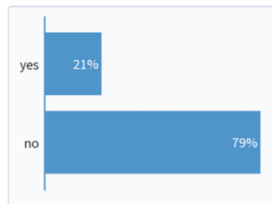
Response options	Count	Percentage
yes, oral presentation	7	30%
yes, poster presentation	3	13%
<b>not presenting</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>57%</b>

Count	Percentage
7	30%
3	13%
<b>13</b>	<b>57%</b>

96%  
Engagement

23  
Responses

**Did you participate in organizing any symposia or workshops?**



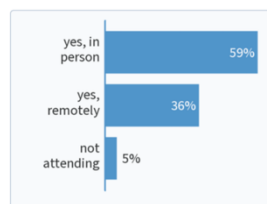
Response options	Count	Percentage
yes	5	21%
<b>no</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>79%</b>

Count	Percentage
5	21%
<b>19</b>	<b>79%</b>

100%  
Engagement

24  
Responses

**How many folks are attending the annual meeting?**



Response options	Count	Percentage
<b>yes, in person</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>59%</b>
yes, remotely	8	36%
not attending	1	5%

Count	Percentage
<b>13</b>	<b>59%</b>
8	36%
1	5%

92%  
Engagement

22  
Responses

- Symposium sponsored by Estuaries, Marine Fisheries, and International Fisheries Sections: *'Advances in life history and environmental reconstruction using biogenic structures from marine and aquatic organisms'* Organized by Jessica Lueders-Dumont, Ben Walther, Karin Limburg, and Matthew Ramirez
  - i. Description: This session aims to highlight recent advances in physiological, biogeochemical, and biomineralization effects on isotope and trace element incorporation into hard parts (e.g., otoliths, bones, shells, scales), semi-hard (eye lenses) and soft tissues (e.g., muscle tissue) to improve life history, environmental, and physiological reconstructions.
    - 1. Experimental or observational studies on the following are encouraged: Applications to environmental reconstruction, including climate change, hypoxia/deoxygenation, and acidification; Applications to aid in age determination and other "calendar-clock" phenomena; Physiological or metabolic effects on trace element incorporation or isotopic composition of biominerals, tissues, including diet quality effects, hypoxia effects, or contaminant effects; Biomineralization effects on isotopic composition or trace element incorporation into chronometric structures (otoliths, corals, shells); Compound-specific stable isotope approaches for understanding eco-physiology; Trace element incorporation into biominerals or tissues, viewed from a metabolic or physiological lens
  - ii. Comments
    - 1. Excited to see the field moving into other structures, taxa and applications
    - 2. From Karin and Ben - Still figuring out how to integrate the virtual and in-person presenters/attendees. May live stream via Facebook or use something like Whova
- Open discussion of Baltimore meeting and member activities to watch out for: *here we allow members to provide information on presentations*
  - i. We'd like to feature a list of Estuaries section member's presentations in our Newsletter. Please send your presentation information to Amanda [acroteau@uwf.edu](mailto:acroteau@uwf.edu)
  - ii. Monday Nov 8 is stakeholder engagement day, which will include a social event
  - iii. In the *'Advances in life history and environmental reconstruction using biogenic structures from marine and aquatic organisms'* symposium: presentations from Karin Limburg and her students (current and former) Boron in cod otoliths and relationships to ocean acidification, Calcium – the forgotten element, and eye lens chemistry of Baltic flounder and yellow perch in relation to hypoxia exposure
  - iv. Presentation by Dakus Geeslin on Southern Flounder declines in TX
  - v. Presentation by Matt Mesinger on tagging salmon smolts in Maine

9. Coastal Estuarine Research Federation (CERF) activities of interest to AFS – *by Benjamin Walther*
  - Session Highlights (from over 65 sessions)
    - i. Estuarine-dependency in coastal fishes: a 60-year dialogue; Conveners: David Secor & Bronwyn Gillanders
    - ii. Fish and shellfish: linking science, management, and society; Conveners: Pedro Morais & Ester Dias
    - iii. Transboundary Fishery Management; Convener: Own Temby
    - iv. Wonderous women of the coasts – bridging time, space, and disciplines; Conveners: Robinson Fulweiler & Jennifer Bowen
  - Workshops
    - i. Use R to manipulate and visualize environmental data
    - ii. Job/Fellowship application development for early career professionals
    - iii. Addressing implicit bias to promote equity in CERF science disciplines
  - Many social and networking events including a film festival and story corps
  - Special registration deal:
    - i. Receive \$75 off CERF conference registration if you already registered for AFS; Limited to the first 50 people; Discount code provided by AFS
    - ii. There is also a discount for AFS if you've registered for CERF first; Contact CERF for discount code
  
10. What do members suggest for:
  - Expanding Estuaries membership
    - i. Suggestions about ways to bring students and early careers professionals into the section: provide more mentoring opportunities (pre, during, post meeting); have meeting ambassadors
    - ii. Abigail Archer et al. working on a presentation to engage student subunits; Will be used to inform students about parent society, what the sections are, and specifically MFS and Estuaries section; Working on piloting the presentation with a few subunits, will expand the program/make presentation available to the section(s) after the pilot testing; several members offered to pilot the presentation with their student subunits; (see MFS section bullet for more information)
  
11. Treasurer's report – *by Konstantine Rountos (presented by Catherine Johnston)*

# Estuaries Section Treasurer's Report

respectfully submitted on 9/23/2021

by

Dr. Konstantine J. Rountos (Treasurer)

**Recent transactions:**

Date:	Balance	Credit	Debit	Note:
09/03/20	3,804.52			Treasurer's Report (Virtual AFS Meeting 2020)
09/08/20	3,704.52		100.00	Check#133 (Student Travel Award - Matthew Mensinger)
09/22/20	4,954.52	1245.00		Deposit of 2019 Estuaries Section dues
12/15/20	4,954.52			Winter 2020 Newsletter
05/04/21	4,954.52			Spring 2021 Newsletter
08/31/21	*4,954.52		*200.00	Check#134 Estuaries Section donation to Hutton Funding Challenge 2.0 <sup>a</sup> Check has not been deposited yet by AFS!
09/23/21	*4,954.52			Treasurer's Report (2021 Estuaries Section Business Meeting)
09/23/2021	*4,954.52			Current balance

\*Amount does not reflect the outstanding check (Check #134) that has not been deposited yet.

**Notes:** Here is a list of the major financial items in 2020 for the Estuaries Section:

- Effective June 5, 2020 the Estuaries Section has officially been reinstated by the IRS.
- The 2020 Estuaries Section Tax return, Form 990-N(e-Postcard), was submitted to the IRS on 04/21/2021 and it's Filing Status is "Accepted".
- We awarded one student "travel" award for the 2020 Virtual AFS meeting to help with AFS registration costs for the conference.
- In August 2021, the Executive Board also voted unanimously to donate \$200 to the Hutton Funding Challenge 2.0. This check has still not been deposited by AFS. Once this check is deposited, our account balance will be \$4,754.52.
- The Executive Board unanimously decided to award ~~two~~ three student travel awards for the 2021 AFS Annual Meeting, each in the amount of \$400. Checks will be sent out once I receive the final documents from the Award winners. Once all these checks are deposited, our account balance will be \$3,554.52.
- The check for 2020 membership dues should be arriving soon.

12. Conclusion

13. Marine Fisheries Section meeting 3-4 pm EST. The following are topics which may be of interest to Estuaries Section members:

- Promoted opportunities with the Living Marine Resources Cooperative Science Center: student support for research and education; 12-week internship with NOAA Fisheries Science Center; [www.umes.edu/LMRCSC/](http://www.umes.edu/LMRCSC/)
- AFS Baltimore Tues 9 "Investing in Habitat and Science, with People and for People" featuring presentations from:



- i. Jessica Black (University of Alaska) “Tamamta: Centering Indigenous Knowledge in Fisheries Governance”
  - ii. Lonnie Gonsalves (NOAA) “Building an Effective Talent Bridge to Drive Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, Accessibility (DEIA) in Natural Resource Management”
  - iii. Dionne Hoskins-Brown (NMFS) “The Gullah Geechee Cultural Heritage Corridor NHA as a Framework for Marine Ecological Research and Inclusion of African American Stakeholders”
- Discussion on recruitment
  - i. Solicited ideas from students and early career professionals about barriers to participation and ideas to broaden participation (Feb 2021); Ideas included meeting ambassadors’ program (indicated by name tag), additional mentor-mentee or professional networking opportunities, funds for student memberships, and sponsor activities focused on mentoring specific to marine fisheries
  - ii. “How to find a home within the American Fisheries Society: A Guide to the AFS Sections”
    1. This presentation was discussed in the Estuaries Section business meeting
    2. Pilot testing was delayed due to Covid
    3. Versions of this presentation could be adapted to combine MFS and Estuaries (current version) or focus on either section on their own
- Discussion on conference attendance and climate change; Karin Limburg brought this up and discussed possible meeting format changes (e.g., less in-person attendance combined with more hybrid options such as regional listening parties) and alternative transportation considerations for those who are attending in-person; She has an upcoming article in Fisheries about this topic