



## President's Message

RON ESSIG

I'd like to start this message with a sincere thanks to members of the Fisheries Management Section (FMS) for giving me the opportunity to serve as your President. It is indeed an honor because of the outstanding history of FMS accomplishments, particularly in spearheading fine AFS publications like *Inland Fisheries Management*. Book projects that greatly benefit the education of fisheries management professionals are continuing proof that the FMS is a very active Section within AFS. It has also been a pleasure as President Elect to be able to recognize many outstanding fisheries professionals through our FMS awards the past two years. I'm looking forward to representing the FMS as a member of the AFS Governing Board and Management Committee. There has already been a fair amount of dialogue at this level of AFS about the need for a web-based map of the distribution of North American fishes. A symposium to move this topic forward is planned for the AFS 2009 meeting in Nashville.

There are a couple immediate projects that the FMS is tackling in the short term. As you know by reading this, the FMS has re-

issued its newsletter after a brief hiatus. We plan to produce two issues each year. Many thanks are extended to Quinton Phelps at Southern Illinois University for agreeing to serve as Newsletter Editor. In conjunction with the Fisheries Administration Section, the FMS will be

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evaluating the AFS exchange program with the Institute of Fisheries Management in the United Kingdom. Through this program leaders of each organization attend each others meetings. I've

included a short article later in this newsletter about my travel this past October to Leeds, England to attend the IFM meeting. Any feedback on the value of continuing this program would be appreciated.

Over the next year, two new FMS efforts are envisioned. An ad-hoc Urban and Community Fishing Committee has been created with Tom Lang and Rick Eades as co-chairs. This committee will try to keep up the momentum after the recent publication of AFS Symposium 67 with the most recent information on this topic. Also, the FMS will offer any support or information possible to aid in the reauthorization of the Sport Fish Restoration Act by October 2009. As most fisheries professionals know, this legislation has been instrumental to successful State agency fisheries management work for over 50 years.

So the officers and Regional Representatives will try to keep you informed on these and other FMS activities through the coming year. We'll use the newsletter, website, and direct email as appropriate. Feel free to drop me a note at [ron\\_essig@fws.gov](mailto:ron_essig@fws.gov) if you have any ideas on these activities or others that the FMS could be involved in.

-Ron

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# World's Largest Dam Removal

## *Dam removal will restore 300 miles of ailing salmon and steelhead populations*

Alexandria, VA – November 17, 2008 – In a move lauded by the sportfishing industry, last week PacifiCorp, an energy provider in the northwestern United States, agreed to remove four dams on California's Klamath River opening up more than 300 miles of habitat for the Klamath's salmon and steelhead populations and eliminate water quality problems caused by the dams' reservoirs. The Klamath River was once the nation's third-largest salmon producer. In August 2006, the American Sportfishing Association (ASA) and 11 other conservation groups requested that PacifiCorp remove the dams. This initiative was sparked by the application filed by PacifiCorp for renewal of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission permits for the dams. The last time the permits were renewed occurred long before most environmental laws were enacted. The Agreement in Principle, released on November 13, is intended to guide the development of a final settlement agreement in June 2009, which includes provisions to remove PacifiCorp's four main dams in 2020, a century after the first dam was constructed. "We are very pleased with PacifiCorp's agreement to remove the dams from the Klamath River," said ASA Vice President Gordon Robertson. "This historic agreement will allow for salmon and steelhead populations to once again prosper benefiting fishing communities that depend on healthy fish populations as well as recreational anglers." Robertson further said, "In a February 2007 meeting with PacifiCorp's President Bill Furman, ASA and other conservation community leaders were impressed with the forthright and open manner of Mr. Furman as well as his commitment to work with us to find a solution. President Bush, Secretary of the Interior Kempthorne and California and Oregon along with Mr. Furman are to be commended for staying focused and forging this historic agreement." PacifiCorp's four dams produce a nominal amount of power, which can be replaced using alternate methods. A study by the California Energy Commission and the Department of the Interior found that removing the dams and replacing their power would save PacifiCorp customers up to \$285 million over 30 years. PacifiCorp also agreed to provide as much as \$200 million dollars to cover the cost of removal and to help restore the Klamath River. According to the initial agreement, PacifiCorp will transfer control of the dams to the federal government, although an independent third-party will be identified to actually remove the dams.



## Fisheries Management Section of the American Fisheries Society –Annual Business Meeting

Welcome and Announcements (Joe Larscheid)

**CALL TO ORDER** 3:00 p.m.; Quorum present. Acknowledgement of current and previous officers (several in attendance)

Mary Fabrizio- Summary of Governing Board Meeting.

- In-stream flow resolution- going to membership at business meeting
- Lead in fishing policy statement
- May issue of Fisheries
- Recognize that The Wildlife Society and other groups are developing their own statement (pushing for ban)
- AFS will recognize limited toxicity
- Increase education
- Annual meeting proceeds
- Organized by local Chapters (10% returned to Chapter)
- Change to 20% to increase incentives
- Retreat updates
- Changing demographics of AFS- younger and more diverse
- Bulletin Board focus group- select group of AFS members addressing open ended questions
- Guide Strategic planning
- Electronic forum for input on policy statements, etc.
- Increase participation
- Overcome travel restrictions
- More inclusive
- New initiatives procedure
- AFS budget surplus
- Increase unit services (e.g., seed money, repaid loans, membership services)

Approval of minutes from 2007 Annual Meeting (San Francisco)

- Dave Willis- Motion, Gary Whelan- Second
- No discussion, minutes approved

Review and Approval of Financial Report (Brian Graeb)

- Current balance of about \$26,000
- Mark Pegg- Motion, Ken Kurzawski- Second
- No discussion, motion passed

### OLD BUSINESS

FMS Awards (Ron Essig)

Hall of Excellence inductees (plaques will hang in the FMS Hall of Excellence at the Ak-sar-ben Aquarium in Gretna, NE).

**Thomas Gengerke, Dr. Howard Tanner, and Dr. Richard Whitney** were all inducted into the FMS Hall of Excellence.

Award of Excellence: **Dr. Ian Cowx and Dr. Robert Arlinghaus** in recognition of their many accomplishments and leadership in the field of recreational fisheries management at the international scale. Neither was present.

**Note:** There were no recipients this year for the Award of Merit or the Conservation Achievement Award.

FMS/Fisheries Administration Section Exchange program with the IFM

- Ron Essig will attend IFM meeting in 2008.
- This will conclude the “experimental cycle”
- Section needs to decide if the program should be continued.

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**FMS Web Page (Fred Janssen)**

Fred was not present, but everybody agreed that “Fred is awesome” and doing a “great job.”

**FMS Newsletter (Colombo)**

No report

**Committee Reports**

Fisheries Techniques Standardization Committee (Scott Bonar)  
47 authors involved, 9 agencies, international representation.  
Now *In press* with AFS. Available 2009.  
Inland Fisheries Management in North America, 3<sup>rd</sup> edition update (Quist).  
21 chapters, including several new chapters. First draft ready by Spring 2009

**Sponsored Symposia**

Enhancing the States’ lake Management Programs: Making the connections between lake water quality, fish, recreation, economics and the quality of life (Don Gablehouse)  
Idea started with Don Bonneau (IA DNR).  
Shift more money to lakes.  
Show “love to the water quality brothers”  
Requested that Sections write letter of support (FAS, FMS, Water Quality Section) to EPA and have Gus Rassam and officers sign letters.  
Officers will draft a letter.

**Installation of new officers**

President: Ron Essig  
President-Elect: Dirk Miller  
Secretary-Treasurer: Brian Graeb

**New Business**

Incoming president remarks:  
Ron was “honored” to lead the largest section in AFS (800-900 members).  
He identified many challenges in the upcoming year, including re-authorization of Federal Aid in Sportfish Restoration funding.

**Requests for funding**

Equal Opportunity Section student travel fund (\$500)  
Line item in budget

**Skinner challenge \$5,000 (Tom Kwak)**

Enhance this student travel endowment fund.  
Education section is donating \$25,000  
Requesting \$25,000 from other divisions and sections to match Education section donation of \$25,000  
Ultimate target is a total of \$75,000.  
Motion to donate \$5,000 to the Skinner fund- Dirk Miller, 2<sup>nd</sup> Jason Vokoun  
No discussion, motion passed.

**Catfish Symposium 2010 (Tom Lang)**

Already have 80 presenters.  
Lots of public involvement.  
Proceeds from symposium proceedings go to the Southern and North Central Divisions.  
Asked for \$5,000.  
Motion- Dave Willis, 2<sup>nd</sup> Joe Larscheid.  
Motion passed

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International Fisheries Section Joint Symposium on Wild Fish Disease \$500 (Doug Beard)

Sponsor AFS speaker (\$3,000 needed)

Motion- Scott Bonar, 2<sup>nd</sup> Steve Cooke

Motion passed.

**Other New Business**

Proposal to formalize and add “Urban and Community Fisheries Management Committee” (Tom Lang)

Tom Lang and Rick Eades would co-chair committee.

Dirk Miller pointed out that we need 2/3 vote to establish standing committee.

Steve Filipek suggested we form an *ad hoc* committee to allow them to organize.

*Ad hoc* committee formed.

**Resolutions to consider:**

Curtailling Illegal Stocking (Duane Chapman)

Resolution came out of the CO/WY chapter and they want to elevate to parent society level.

Seek volunteer.

Officers will continue discussion.

**Motion to adjourn**

Made by Joe Larscheid, Vaughn Paragamian 2<sup>nd</sup>, Motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 5:00 p.m.



## **AFS Fisheries Management Section 2008 Awards**

The AFS Fisheries Management Section (FMS) recognized five outstanding fisheries professionals with awards in 2008. However, only one presentation was actually made at the FMS business meeting in Ottawa, Canada. The other awards were presented at four different venues in three different countries, making 2008 truly a year of international recognition for the FMS.

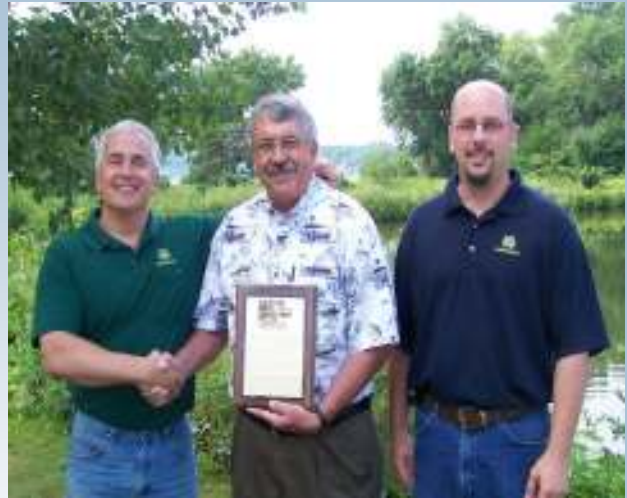
The highest honor given by the FMS is selection into the Fisheries Management Hall of Excellence (HOE). The Hall is located at the AK-SAR-BEN Aquarium in Gretna, Nebraska where plaques of inductees are prominently displayed. It was established in 1992 with the stated objectives: 1) to recognize fisheries management professionals who have made outstanding contributions to the advancement of fisheries management; 2) to provide a site where the contributions of those honored can be displayed and viewed by the public and other fisheries professionals; 3) to emphasize the accomplishment, dedication and principles of those honored in the HOE; and 4) to describe the fisheries management profession.

The Award of Excellence is given for inspirational leadership in the fishery profession and substantial achievements for AFS and the fisheries resource. The recipients must have effectively communicated their work at the national and/or international level. This award is given for cumulative accomplishments rather than a singular effort. Please see next two pages for award winners – Congratulations!!!



## Fish Management Hall of Excellence 2008 Awards

Tom Gengerke was recognized for his leadership in fisheries management both within the State of Iowa and regionally through his 35-year career. His work on the Mississippi and Missouri rivers was instrumental in the development of several fisheries and water management plans. In Iowa, he facilitated record high walleye harvests at Clear Lake and Storm Lake, initiated commercial fishing programs for rough fish, and most notably permanently protected three large land tracts with 13,900 feet of shoreline on three natural lakes. Past President Joe Larscheid presented Tom received his award at the DNR office at Spirit Lake, Iowa on August 28, 2008.



Howard Tanner was recognized for his distinguished fisheries accomplishments, most notably for his collaboration with Wayne Tody in conducting the predator-prey research that led to the decision to introduce coho and Chinook salmon into the Great Lakes. These stockings, combined with sea lamprey control, restocking of lake trout, and converting commercial fisheries from gill nets to more selective trapnets, led to the emergence of the Great Lakes as a leading recreational fishing center of North America with an estimated \$7.1 billion in economic output annually. Dr. Tanner received his award during a Lake Huron Citizens Fisheries Advisory Committee meeting in Roscommon, Michigan on November 5, 2008.



Richard Whitney was recognized for his exemplary, long-time accomplishments in West Coast fisheries management. He is perhaps best known for his role as Technical Advisor and Chairman of the Fisheries Advisory Board for the United States District Court and its "Boldt Decision" on treaty fishing rights for Pacific salmon in Washington State. His contributions toward developing methodologies for in-season run size updates moved salmon management into a fully quantitative system. Dr. Whitney received his award at the 2008 FMS business meeting in Ottawa, Canada on August 17, 2008.





## 2008 Award of Excellence Recipients

The 2008 Award of Excellence was made jointly to Robert Arlinghaus and Ian Cowx. Drs Arlinghaus and Cowx were recognized for their many accomplishments and leadership in the field of recreational fisheries management at the international scale. Their collaboration on disseminating research and knowledge to the masses through books, articles, short courses and symposia; thinking globally on such issues as a Global Code of Conduct for recreational fisheries; and crossing boundaries to incorporate human dimensions into the ecosystem approach to fisheries management demonstrate their excellence as fisheries scientists within the world community. Ron Essig presented the award to Dr Arlinghaus at the International Fisheries Section business meeting in Ottawa, Canada on August 19, 2008 and to Dr. Cowx at the Institute of Fisheries Management conference in Leeds, England on October 15, 2008.



Dr. Ian Cowx receiving the FMS Award of Excellence Award, Leeds, England October 15, 2008 (From left: Ron Essig, Dr. Ian Cowx)



Dr. Robert Arlinghaus receiving the FMS Award of Excellence, Ottawa, ON August 19, 2008 (From left: Dr. Robert Arlinghaus, Ron Essig)

## Several Northeastern States File Joint Action Requiring EPA to Make Fish Safe to Eat

Andrew Fisk [andrew.c.fisk@maine.gov](mailto:andrew.c.fisk@maine.gov)

With a never-before-used provision of the Clean Water Act, seven Northeast states have triggered a mandatory process for the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to control the atmospheric deposition of mercury that makes fish throughout the Northeast unsafe to eat. The states' petition is authorized by the Clean Water Act's Section 319(g), a little known section of law that requires the EPA to craft agreements to resolve multi-state pollution issues. "We've filed scientifically rigorous clean up plans that have been endorsed by EPA, but there is still no credible work to make our fish safe to eat. This petition is another avenue to keep dirty power plants' feet to the fire," noted Commissioner David Littell of the Maine Department of Environmental Protection (DEP). The seven states—Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New York, Rhode Island, and Vermont—collaborated with the New England Interstate Water Pollution Control Commission (NEIWPCC) to prepare the petition. Section 319(g) of the law requires the EPA Administrator to respond to the petition by convening a management conference including all states that are significant sources of the mercury in Northeast waters. Then the EPA has to develop an agreement among such states to reduce the level of pollution and improve the water quality of the New England states and New York State. This unprecedented multi-state action underscores the determination of the Northeast states to resolve the main cause of contaminated fish—mercury deposited in the Northeast from sources outside the region. In the Northeast there are more than 10,000 lakes, ponds, and reservoirs, and over 46,000 river miles in the region where the fish are not safe to eat because of atmospheric mercury contamination. Beginning in 1998 the Northeast states undertook an aggressive plan to eliminate their sources of mercury into the environment. As a result, multiple research studies have shown that the majority of mercury in the states' waters now comes from out-of-region sources such as coal-fired power plants, whose mercury emissions drift to the region on air currents and then fall directly into waterways or get carried by runoff into them. "Since 1998 the Northeast states have been working aggressively to control our sources of mercury to the environment. In the four years from 1998 to 2002 we have reduced our own mercury pollution by 74%, and more reductions have been made since then," said Andrew Fisk, director of the Bureau of Land and Water Quality for the Maine DEP. "All Northeast states have emissions controls on our utilities that meet our plan's requirements for out-of region sources. If it can be done in our states, it can be done in other states. We are asking for a stringent federal program that would require just that." The filing of the petition today is not the first time that the seven states have collaborated in a major move to address mercury contamination. In June 2006, they were among the 16 states that sued the federal government over the legality of EPA's Clean Air Mercury Rule, which would have limited mercury reductions to 70 percent and delayed those until 2018. In October 2007, the Northeast states submitted to EPA a clean up plan for mercury contaminated water called the Northeast Regional Mercury Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL). The TMDL states the precise amount of out-of-region mercury reductions to make fish safe to eat. Late last year, EPA approved the TMDL and endorsed the needed reductions, and earlier this year the states prevailed in federal appeals court when EPA's Clean Air Mercury Rule was declared invalid. "We look forward to sitting down at the table with EPA to develop an agreement," said Littell. "The goals are clear, and the technology needed to meet them is available. Let's get to work so that our fish are safe to eat." Information on mercury pollution and the Northeast states' reduction initiatives, the Northeast Regional Mercury Total Maximum Daily Load report and the §319 (g) petition are available online at [www.neiwpcc.org](http://www.neiwpcc.org).

## What's Happening Across the Pond: Observations of the Institute of Fisheries Management 2008 Conference in Leeds, England.—Ron Essig

“First-rate” is the description that comes to mind when summing up the 39<sup>th</sup> annual meeting of the Institute of Fisheries Management (IFM) that I attended October 14-16, 2008 in Leeds, England! I attended this meeting representing the American Fisheries Society (AFS) Fisheries Management Section (FMS) as part of an exchange arrangement with the IFM that the FMS and the Fisheries Administration Section (FAS) have had in place since 2005. Each of the two AFS Sections alternately sends a representative every two years, so I followed FMS Past President Joe Larscheid who attended the IFM meeting in Minehead, England in 2006. The 2008 meeting venue was the Royal Armouries Museum which was a special treat in its own right. This museum that is affiliated with the Tower of London houses four floors of displays of weapons, armor, and hunting implements going back hundreds of years in Europe and Asia.

The IFM ([www.ifm.org.uk](http://www.ifm.org.uk)) has a membership very similar to the FMS of about 900 professionals who deal with all aspects of fisheries management from fish passage to aquatic resources education. There are 10 established regional Branches of IFM within England, Wales, Scotland, Northern Ireland, and the Republic of Ireland that deal with localized issues. The IFM is an organization separate from the Fisheries Society of the British Isles whose membership mostly comes from academia. A President, Chairman, and Council govern the IFM. During the meeting, President John Solbe turned over the reins after a six-year term to Dr. Peter Bisset. Ian Dolben is the current Chairman, following Dr. Steve Axford who was Chairman for the previous five years and attended the 2007 AFS meeting in San Francisco. Several of these leaders asked me about Carlos Fetterolf who visited some years back as an AFS officer. I'm sure thankful that our FMS officer terms are not as long as those of the IFM.

There were more than 150 delegates (attendees) at the IFM meeting from throughout the British Isles. The largest group of delegates work for the Environment Agency which is a federal agency charged with managing inland and sea-run fisheries in England and Wales. (There is no equivalent of our State or Provincial fisheries agencies.) There was also strong representation by fisheries staff of other British Isles governmental agencies, environmental staff of regional water companies and consulting firms, with some universities represented. I was one of two international delegates. The other was Dr. Herman Wanningen from the Netherlands ([herman@wanningenwaterconsult.nl](mailto:herman@wanningenwaterconsult.nl)) who is an expert in fish passage and one of the editors of an excellent 2006 publication entitled “*From sea to source: Guidance for the restoration of fish migration in European rivers.*” This 120-page publication is a terrific synopsis of the state-of-the-art of fish passage in Europe with contributions from 18 countries.



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Since the theme of the conference was Breaking down Barriers, I provided a keynote address that focused on three barriers to fisheries in the United States – angling participation, habitat, and funding. I touched on some problems and recent efforts to combat them for each of the three barriers:

Angling participation – I mentioned the national declines in fishing license sales and estimated numbers of anglers since 1991, and how Richard Louv’s 2005 book entitled “*Last Child in the Woods: Saving our Children from Nature-Deficit Disorder*” helped catalyze initiatives to get people outside in nature. Recent efforts to increase angling participation that I touched on are the Recreational Boating and Fishing Foundation and the fact that there are many other Federal, State and local efforts to connect people with nature through fishing.

Habitat – I showed some examples of environmental assaults on fisheries habitat, then I cited the August 2008 AFS *Fisheries* article that documented how 39 percent of North American freshwater and diadromous fish species are now considered imperiled. I commented on recent efforts to improve aquatic habitat like the National Fish Habitat Action Plan, provision of fish passage and dam removal, and governmental recognition of climate change.

Funding – I explained how State fisheries agencies are heavily dependent on fishing license sales and dedicated Federal grant funding. I mentioned the State Wildlife grant program and closed with more detail on the Federal Aid in Sport Fish Restoration program and its critical importance to fisheries management in the United States.



The Royal Armouries, Leeds at night



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The remaining 2.5 days of the IFM conference were devoted to topical sessions on current legislation and barriers to: fish passage, habitat, understanding, participation, cooperation, and fish health. There was far too much information from these presentations than space here to review, but I'd like to share a few of the main themes that I carried away from the meeting:

- Water Framework Directive (WFD) – This major European Union (EU) legislation passed in 2000 with a 15-year target date for European waters to achieve “good ecological status,” or for heavily modified waters to achieve “good ecological potential.” There is disagreement still on what these terms mean and how to measure them, creating implementation problems. The WFD provides authority for many fisheries management activities like provision of fish passage for all species in inland waters.
- Fish passage - Most rivers in Europe are heavily modified, mostly with weirs and associated canals for navigation. For example, there are 2600 barriers just within the Netherlands. There is increasing government support for small scale hydropower development as a “green,” renewable energy source. So European fisheries biologists are devoting more and more time on the development of fish passes like the award winning Castleford pass on the River Aire that we visited one afternoon during the conference.
- European eel declines – Recruitment of this species has declined over much of Europe since the 1980's to about 10 percent of former levels. All countries in the EU are required to submit management plans for this species by the end of 2008. Provision of upstream passage of elvers and downstream passage of silver eels is now commonly provided with fish passage projects.
- Fish diseases – A new European Aquatic Animal Health Directive has effectively loosened current control practices so that fish can be moved more freely with the EU. There are current outbreaks of red vent syndrome in Atlantic salmon and Koi herpes virus. It is thought that climate change will increase fish disease risks.
- Trout stocking – England's new policy for recreational trout stocking is to use either triploid trout or brown trout from local broodstock. Annually, private growers raise 800,000 brown trout for streams and 2.6 million rainbow trout for stillwaters. A guide to the production of all female triploid brown trout was published in 2005.
- Aquatic resource education – England is moving from a “Trout in Tanks” program in schools to a “Sticklebacks in Schools” program. This is primarily to save the money previously needed to chill aquaria for salmonids. The IFM decided to provide a significant portion of the raffle proceeds from this meeting toward this effort.
- Angling participation – England has about 4 million anglers (8 percent of the age 12+ population) compared to 30 million anglers in the United States (13 percent of the age 16+ population). Rod license sales have increased in recent years, contrary to the recent US decline in fishing license sales. There are some free fishing areas, primarily in saltwater and along urban rivers, but most anglers either need to be members of angling clubs or pay a daily fee to fish on privately-held waters.
- Canoeing conflicts - There is much less boat-based angling in England than in the United States, however canoeing and kayaking is increasing 15 percent each year. So there are inevitable conflicts when these boaters use rivers where shore anglers have paid to fish. Time and space zoning may be needed.
- Atlantic salmon – Contaminant effects on smolt production is a contributor to depressed adult population levels in many rivers. However, in the 2000's salmon returned to and spawned in the Mersey River near Manchester after being gone for over 150 years. Elimination or severe restrictions imposed on commercial salmon fisheries off two rivers in England resulted in increases in recreational catch-per-unit-effort. However, recreational effort has decreased through time as the average age of salmon anglers has increased.
- Estuarine sampling – It has only been within the past decade that England has come to fully recognize the importance of estuaries to marine fisheries production. There has been standardized sampling, primarily with fyke nets and seines, in 27 estuaries nationwide during the past three years.

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I hope these observations have added to your knowledge of recreational fisheries in Europe, particularly England. You can see that in spite of our differences, there are many similarities of fisheries issues on both sides of the pond. There appears to be continuing benefit in this type of scientific dialogue, but this needs to be evaluated. When the FMS and the FAS agreed to this exchange arrangement, it was for a four-year trial where the host organization covers the cost of the meeting registration and accommodations. This is the fourth such visit to the IFM conference by AFS representatives, so there will be an evaluation conducted this winter. This will allow enough time before the fall 2009 IFM conference that will be in Stratford-upon-Avon, England (Shakespeare's birthplace and final resting place). Feel free to provide any thoughts on this exchange arrangement with the IFM to me at [ron\\_essig@fws.gov](mailto:ron_essig@fws.gov).

I anticipate that this article will also be published in *Fish*, the magazine of the IFM, as an American perspective on the 2008 conference. So any IFM member feedback on the value of this exchange arrangement would also be welcomed. And for the IFM delegates at the Leeds conference who I had the pleasure of meeting and who welcomed me so warmly, I extend my sincere appreciation. My congratulations to all for a superb conference!



The Institutes magazine FISH is a source of up to date news about all aspects of fisheries and their management, as well as other environmental issues.

## Urban and Community Fisheries Management Committee

During the Section business meeting in Ottawa, the *Urban and Community Fisheries Management Committee* (UCFM) was approved as an ad-hoc committee. Its purpose is “to serve as a means for urban and community fisheries managers to better communicate, learn from one another, and advance the effectiveness of urban and community fisheries management.” Nearly all state fisheries agencies have specific programs focusing on management of urban fisheries. Urban fisheries management is rooted in traditional fisheries management and many of the same techniques (e.g. fish stocking, creel limits, and habitat improvement) and strategies used on traditional waters are applicable in urban areas. However, urban fisheries

require more intensive management to maintain utility. Urban fisheries managers need to have a strong foundation in traditional fisheries management, but also in marketing, public relations, budgeting, planning, research, and aquatic education. Urban and community fisheries are a means for fisheries agencies to stay relevant to the public, increase political clout, and ultimately maintain a strong constituency. If urban and community fisheries fail, or are not fully established, agencies will become less relevant to society, license sales will continue to decline, and all other fisheries efforts will be hindered. Anyone interested in any aspect of urban and community fisheries management is welcome to join. This

will keep the conversation going on urban and community fisheries, provide a mechanism for coordinating future efforts, and increase the effectiveness of all our efforts. If you would like to be a part of this committee, please email your contact info to one of the committee co-chairs below.

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“Urban and Community Fisheries Programs: Development, Management, and Evaluation” is now available through the AFS Bookstore. This timely work contains 40 papers presented at the September 2007 AFS Urban Fishing Symposium. Chapter authors synthesize current research and provide real world examples through case study analysis, review new management techniques, and offer topic insights. The book will appeal to fisheries managers, administrators, park superintendents, academics, researchers, and students. This hardcover, 464 page proceedings is available for only \$69. For a full content listing or to purchase, please visit [www.AFSbooks.org](http://www.AFSbooks.org).

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Richard T. Eades, J. Wesley Neal, Thomas J. Lang,  
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