



**Marine Fisheries Section Report to the Governing Board
August 17, 2002**

To: Ken Beal, AFS President
From: Anne Richards, President, Marine Fisheries Section
Subject: 2002 Annual Report to the Governing Board

I. Action

Action requested: none
Recommended motion: none
Minority view: none
Background for motion: n/a

II. Outcome or Accomplishments in Relation to the Society's Strategic Plan

Charge or Annual Program of Work: The objectives of the Marine Fisheries Section are:
To further the attainment of knowledge about marine fisheries.
To provide a forum for identifying and bringing attention to bear on issues and problems relating to the management and development of marine resources.
To provide a forum for addressing biological, economic, social and environmental and other marine fisheries research needs.
To work for the furtherance of education in marine fishery science.
To provide advice to the Executive Director relative to marine fisheries matters.
To encourage communication among all fisheries scientists, administrators and others interested in marine fisheries.
To encourage publication of issues, policies and scientific papers dealing with marine fisheries.

Outcome and Accomplishments Organized by Major Goal and Subgoal:

Information Transfer and Outreach

ITO 1. **Electronic Information Network:** *The MFS web* site was officially launched in April 2002. Visit

us at <http://www.nefsc.nmfs.gov/mfs/> or follow the links from the AFS web site.

ITO 2. Public Policy: *Oceans Act of 2000*. An MFS committee chaired by past-president Steve Berkeley developed the basis for an AFS position statement to the Commission on Ocean Policy established by the Oceans Act of 2000. The AFS position statement was presented in November 2001 at the Commission's first public hearing, and is being presented at regional hearings around the country during 2002. The MFS Committee has also provided responses to requests for further information by the Oceans Commission.

ITO 3. Professional Stature: MFS awarded the *Oscar E. Sette Award* for 2002 to Dr. William Richards of the National Marine Fisheries Service in Miami, FL. The Sette Award is given to annually to an outstanding marine fishery biologist in recognition of sustained excellence in research, teaching, administration, or any combination of these.

ITO 4: Collaboration: The Marine Fisheries Section has agreed collaborate with the AFS Northeast Division in conducting a Marine Population Dynamics Workshop, to take place in October 2002.

Membership Services

MS 1. Professional Development: *Student Travel Grants*. Two student travel grants of \$500 each were awarded to students to present the results of their research at the 134th AFS Annual Meeting in Baltimore Maryland.

MS 2. Professional Development: *MFS-sponsored symposium* at the 132nd AFS annual meeting in Baltimore: Biology, Ecology, and Life History of Bluefish, organized by Jeff Buckel, Fred Scharf, and Francis Juanes.

MS 3. Professional Development: *Beverton lecture notes*. The MFS will be marketing a set of notes from lectures given by Ray Beverton at NMFS labs throughout the country during 1994. The notes have been transcribed and the volume assembled and edited by Emory Anderson. The book will be marketed primarily through the MFS web site, starting this fall. This is the second set of Beverton lecture notes to be sold by the MFS. The first set has sold well and is still available in limited quantities from the MFS web site.

Aquatic Stewardship

AS 1. The Marine Fisheries Section provided a grant (\$1,000) to support an international workshop to be held in New Zealand during December 2002: "Training Managers for 21st Century".

AS 2. MFS coordinated a peer review for the Atlantic Coastal Cooperative Statistics Program. This involved selecting a panel of experts from designated fields within fisheries science to review the ACCSP program, assess its successes and develop suggestions for improvement. The review was completed in January 2002.

AS 3. The Marine Fisheries Section provided \$1,000 to support the 4th World Fisheries Congress to be held in Vancouver, B.C. in May 2004.

AS 4. The Marine Fisheries Section provided \$400 support to the AFS International Fisheries Endowment Fund.

AS 5. MFS is contributing to the 2003 AFS-sponsored symposium "Propagated Organisms in and for Aquatic Resource Management" through participation in the steering committee for the symposium.