

## **ANNUAL REPORT TO THE GOVERNING BOARD**

**TO:** Jennifer Nielsen, President, AFS  
**FROM:** Debra Murie, President, Marine Fisheries Section  
**DATE:** August 13, 2007

### **I. Motion Report**

None.

### **II. Activity Report**

#### **(A) Summary of Outcomes and Accomplishments Organized by Focus Area in Strategic Plan:**

##### **Aquatic Stewardship**

- AS 2.3: The MFS is sponsoring two symposia for the 2007 Annual AFS meeting: 1) Performance of Alternative Harvest Policies (Bence, Deroba, Wilberg & Irwin); and 2) Developing Tools for Ecosystem-Based Fishery Management: Incentive Programs, Bycatch Quantification, and Gear Technology (Benaka & DeAlteris).
- AS 2.3: The MFS sponsored five symposia at the 2006 Annual Meeting in Lake Placid: 1) Death by a Thousand Cuts: Developing and Evaluating Indicators and Policies to Assess and Contain Cumulative Impacts of Human Activities in Estuarine Environments (co-sponsored with the Estuaries Section); 2) Spatial Statistical Methods in Fisheries; 3) Biology and Assessment of Protogynous Hermaphrodites; 4) Abundance, Estimation and Stock Assessment: Recent Quantitative Advances; and 5) Status and Trends of Fisheries in Chesapeake Bay.
- AS 3.1: The MFS sponsored the symposium “Challenges for Diadromous Fishes in a Dynamic Global Environment” for \$500 (general funds) as part of the Diadromous Fish Symposium II held in June 2007 in Halifax, Nova Scotia.

##### **Information Transfer and Outreach**

- ITO 4.2: The MFS website has been reloaded and Edgar Kleindinst (NOAA Fisheries) has been maintaining the website and updating sections on request. MFS President Murie is in the process of updating and reorganizing the website.

## Member Services

- MS 1.5: Des Kahn, Oscar Sette Award Chair, presented the 2006 Oscar Sette Award to Dr. Kenneth Sherman, NOAA Fisheries Service (Narragansett, RI).
- MS 1.7: Russ Brown, Chair of the MFS Student Travel Awards Committee, presented Morgan Bond (University of California at Santa Cruz), Benjamin Ciotti (University of Delaware), Belita Nguluwe (University of Maryland Eastern Shore), and Megan Fencil (University of Texas at Austin) with MFS 2006 Travel Awards during the 2006 MFS Business Meeting. Each award consisted of \$500 plus an annual AFS membership.
- MS 1.7: The MFS is currently working on an information pamphlet for distribution at the annual meeting to disseminate information about the section. This pamphlet will also be available on the MFS website for individual printing. MFS President Murie is the contact for this activity.
- MS 2.2: A new AFS journal focusing on marine and estuarine fisheries was approved by the Governing Board at the 2006 annual meeting in Lake Placid. Organization and start-up of the new journal is being supported by the POC, with a subcommittee to focus on the new journal. Steve Jordan (Past President of the Estuaries Section) and Debra Murie (President, MFS) are serving on the POC and the marine and coastal journal subcommittee. The POC subcommittee and the POC have held several conference calls in relation to the new journal. After solicitation of interest, applications, and phone interviews, Dr. Jim Cowan has been chosen as the “Developmental Editor” for the new journal. The POC subcommittee for the new journal will assist Dr. Cowan in launching the new journal.
- MS 2.4: Due to an increased request beyond the original twelve copies of the Beverton-Holt notes sent for distribution to agencies in support of the Katrina Disaster Relief, another ten copies were sent to restock libraries damaged in the Gulf Coast areas.
- MS 3.1: List-server for the MFS has been activated successfully and used to communicate section activity updates to all current members. Any mail sent through the list-server has to be approved by the list manager (D. Murie). This has been critical to avoid an excessive amount of junk and spam email being sent to the list-server.
- MS 3.3: Website for the MFS has been partially updated and will continue to be updated and reformatted for easier access by members.