

REPORT TO THE NORTH CAROLINA CHAPTER
OF THE AMERICAN FISHERIES SOCIETY

ACTIVITIES OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERNS COMMITTEE

JANUARY 1995

The Environmental Concerns Committee (ECC) has the following to report:

- 1) On 23 February 1994, President Wilson Laney presented comments drafted by the ECC during a public hearing held by the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission (NCWRC) expressing support of the proposed definition of critical habitat for endangered and threatened species. We indicated that protecting all components of an ecosystem is important, and that the designation of critical habitat where appropriate should be effective in limiting the habitat loss and degradation which jeopardize the existence of many listed species. President Laney reiterated these comments in a letter dated 9 September 1994 to Mr. John Lentz, Chairman of the NCWRC, in which commissioners were encouraged to vote in favor of the proposed definition.
- 2) On 25 May 1994, President Laney presented comments drafted by the ECC during a public hearing held by the North Carolina Division of Water Resources (DWR) expressing support of proposed rules for minimum flow to maintain aquatic habitat under the North Carolina Dam Safety Law. We supported both the protection of streams downstream of dams under the jurisdiction of this Law and the use of habitat-based procedures for setting adequate minimum flows. President Laney followed up his verbal comments to the DWR by signing a joint letter dated 8 June 1994 that was drafted by both The Wildlife Society and the ECC.
- 3) After attempting to resign as Chair of the ECC at the annual meeting in January 1994, Stephanie Goudreau served as acting chair throughout 1994 while working with President Laney to recruit a new chair. We are pleased to announce that Roger Bryant has agreed to chair the ECC in 1995.


Stephanie E. Goudreau, Chair