

AMERICAN FISHERIES SOCIETY

DECEMBER 1994

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE:

Serving as President for the last nine months has been an eye-opening experience. Federal agency paperwork is now a prerequisite for we "feds" to serve as Chapter officers. The memorandum of understanding which Past-President McBride, I, and Fish and Wildlife Service Ethics Officers had to sign is not a bad idea. It sets forth what is required of both parties, how both will benefit, and what contributions both will make. Appreciation is due to the Service for processing the paperwork rapidly, and for recognizing the career benefits to both the agency and the employee of service to the Chapter. It may not be a bad idea for future officers to consider similar arrangements between the Chapter and their employers. I was unprepared for the volume of Society and Southern Division paperwork that accompanies the Chapter Presidency. The annual schedule put together in response to requests will help Don keep on top of 1995 deadlines. Being a Chapter officer helped justify the Service sending me to the Society's Annual Meeting in Halifax. The opportunity to interact with other Chapter representatives at the "Stocks at Risk" session was appreciated, and was a wake-up call regarding what other chapters are doing to call awareness to fish stocks in jeopardy. We could be, and should be, doing more in North Carolina.

I want to challenge all Chapter members to do more for NC fish stocks and associated aquatic communities. We have significant issues facing us, and the Chapter can play a significant role in their resolution. We have approved an ambitious new Long Range Plan and we need to get busy implementing as much as possible. Volunteer to serve on chapter committees. The NC Legislature and the NC Marine Fisheries Commission are considering an NC saltwater fishing license. Should the Chapter take a position on this issue? The State has placed a moratorium on commercial fishing licenses for two years. Meanwhile, a committee has been established to evaluate commercial fishing in the state and to assess what, if any, additional actions should be taken. Can the Chapter play a role in setting the future agenda for NC coastal fisheries? The NC Marine Fisheries Commission has established an Advisory Committee system. Should the Chapter offer the expertise of its membership to the Commission through this avenue? Numerous environmental documents and proposed policies which affect aquatic resources are circulated for comment by both state and federal agencies. Should the Chapter become part of the formal review process and make a concerted effort to become more of an advocate for fishery resources?

No other professional society in the state has our collective fishery expertise. Many of us have the opportunity to comment on issues through our agencies, or as private citizens; however, I believe our collective opinion as professional fishery biologists will carry weight. We owe it to ourselves as professionals to conduct assessments of proposed activities and policies which will affect fishery resources and to voice our findings. If we fail to do so, we fail our own profession, our children, and all future citizens who may never know the resource as we know it. We can and must choose to make a difference.

Prepared by Wilson Laney, President

ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERNS COMMITTEE (ECC) 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 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.
- 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 on 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) On 17 August 1994, Acting Chair Stephanie Goudreau attended a meeting of Chapter Executive Board and restated her intention to resign as ECC Chair. Because employees of the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission have chaired the ECC for 5 consecutive years, President Laney plans to appoint a new chair from another sector of our Chapter membership.

Submitted by Stephanie Goudreau, Acting Chair

OPPORTUNITIES FOR CHAPTER SERVICE

Opportunities are available for members to serve on several Chapter committees. Stephanie Goudreau, Chair of the Environmental Concerns Committee, would like to relinquish that position to someone who has an interest in keeping the Chapter involved in current issues in NC. We also are seeking volunteers to staff the new Education Committee and Budget and Finance Committee, included in the Chapter's Long Range Plan passed by the membership in January. If you are interested in serving, please contact Stephanie (704-652-4257) or Wilson Laney (919-515-5019).

1993-1994

Chapter Annual Report Southern Division American Fisheries Society

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Committee Chairman
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Shari Bryant, Sedalia, NC
Franklin T. McBride, Nashville, NC
Robert J. Goldstein, Raleigh, NC
Stephanie E. Goudreau, Marion, NC
John T. Carmichael, Raleigh, NC

AMERICAN FISHERIES SOCIETY, NC CHAPTER - Schedule of Events for 1995

JANUARY	FEBRUARY
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ExCom Meeting Early January prior to Annual Meeting, TBA. • 17th-18th Annual Meeting - NCFS Corpening Center, Crossnore, NC. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 23rd-24th Society Mid-Year Excom, Virginia Beach, VA.
MARCH	APRIL
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1st Deadline for Chapter Newsletter articles. • 15th Newsletter Editor sends Annual Meeting summary to <i>Fisheries</i> Editor. • Newsletter mailed out. 	
MAY	JUNE
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Executive Committee meeting, TBA (Degan to convene). • Program Committee selects Annual Meeting topic and reports to ExCom. • Arrangements Committee begin scheduling work for Annual Meeting, report arrangements to ExCom. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1st Deadline for Chapter Newsletter articles. • Program Committee provides topic and Call for Papers to Newsletter Editor. • 21st Newsletter mailed out.
JULY	AUGUST
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 28th-31st American Fisheries Society Annual Meeting, Tampa, FL.
SEPTEMBER	OCTOBER
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1st Deadline for Chapter Newsletter articles. • Executive Committee meeting, TBA (Degan to convene). • Nominating Committee to select candidates, prepare qualifications and biographical summaries. • Program Committee provides second/last Call for Papers to Newsletter Editor; list of speakers to ExCom. • Student Chapter begin solicitation for raffle/auction materials. • Arrangements Committee make or confirm reservations, finalize schedule. • 21st Newsletter mailed out. 	
NOVEMBER	DECEMBER
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1st Deadline for Chapter Newsletter articles. • 1st President-Elect invites Southern Division and Society Presidents to Annual Meeting. • Nominating Committee submits candidate information to Newsletter Editor. • Arrangements Committee submits meeting details to Newsletter Editor. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Newsletter mailed out.

Highlights of Committee Activities October 1, 1993 through September 30, 1994:

Several members attended the Southern Division Business meeting held October 12, 1993, in Atlanta, Georgia.

Arrangements and Program Committees were active during the fall of 1993, planning the 1994 Annual Meeting. Calls for papers were published in the Chapter newsletter and program agendas prepared. The Executive Committee also drafted and distributed for review a long range plan for the Chapter.

The Arrangements and Program Committees orchestrated the Chapter's Annual Meeting of January 18-19, 1994, at the Duke University Marine Laboratory in Beaufort, NC, attended by 49 members and non-members. The meeting was accompanied by unusually cold weather in Beaufort, with the temperature plunging to 15 ° F, and ice and snow to the west which prevented the attendance of members from the North Carolina mountains. Meeting highlights included an address by former American Fisheries Society President Carlos Fetterolf, numerous technical presentations, by Chapter members, and a spirited business meeting. Extracurricular activities included a clam bake, raffle sponsored and conducted by the Student Subunit, and social at the North Carolina Maritime Museum.

Newly installed Chapter officers were Wilson Laney, President; Don Degan, President-Elect; and Shari Bryant, Secretary-Treasurer. Bob Goldstein agreed to serve as Editor of the Chapter newsletter.

The Chapter Business Meeting was held in conjunction with the Annual Meeting on January 19th. The Treasurer's report indicated a balance of \$ 1,056.82. The Arrangements and Program Committees provided vital statistics on the meeting. The Newsletter Editor solicited materials and suggestions for future issues. The Nominations Committee announced election results. Chapter membership voted to approve the Long Range Plan prepared by the Executive Committee. Meeting costs and Chapter membership were also discussed. Winner of the Best Student Paper Award was Steven Haeseker of N.C. State University for his presentation "Summer distribution and condition of striped bass within Albemarle Sound, North Carolina".

The Chapter Environmental Concerns Committee has been active during the past year. Letters were sent to: the N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission in February and again in September supporting their proposed definition of critical habitat for state-listed endangered and threatened species; the N.C. Division of Water Resources supporting proposed rules for minimum flows to maintain aquatic habitat through the North Carolina Dam Safety Law, both as a Chapter and jointly with the N.C. Chapter of the Wildlife Society; and to Governor James Hunt expressing concern over the premature "resignation" of the Director of the N.C. Division of Marine Fisheries and offering assistance in the search for a new Director.

Finally, a number of Chapter members attended the Annual Meeting of the Society in Halifax, Nova Scotia. Chapter President Wilson Laney presented a brief report on Chapter activities relative to stocks-at-risk during a special session convened by the Society's Endangered Species Committee. The North Carolina Chapter has focused on maintaining habitat for the entire aquatic community, rather than on particular species or stocks.

The Chapter Executive Committee met in August to review the status of the Long Range Plan and to plan for implementation of additional provisions. The Chapter is beginning to develop a firm agenda for promoting fishery resource concerns within North Carolina. Future directions will include coordination with Chapters in adjacent states. Informal discussions have been held with the Tidewater, Virginia and South Carolina Chapters regarding joint meetings and action on resource issues which overlap Chapter boundaries.

Concern Over The Promotion of Exotic Fishes to Control Zebra Mussels

The following is an excerpt from a letter sent to Joseph L. Janisch by Paul Brouha concerning the recent promotion of the exotic fishes black carp *Mylopharyngodon piceus* and the roach *Rutilus sp.* as control agents for the zebra mussel *Dreissena polymorpha*.

1. J.R.P. French (*FISHERIES* 18(6):13-19) has reviewed evidence that native species of fish may be effective biological control agents.

2. French also states that 'research has shown repeatedly that an introduced biological controller usually does not forage for unwanted pests or reside only in preferred habitats as pests.'

3. Roy Stein (Ohio State University) has presented written testimony that such an introduction is unwise. John Cassini (Lee County Hyacinth Control District, Ft. Meyers), an expert on biological control of aquatic pests and IFS member, believes that black carp are unlikely to effect biological control of zebra mussels and that potential undesirable side effects are likely.

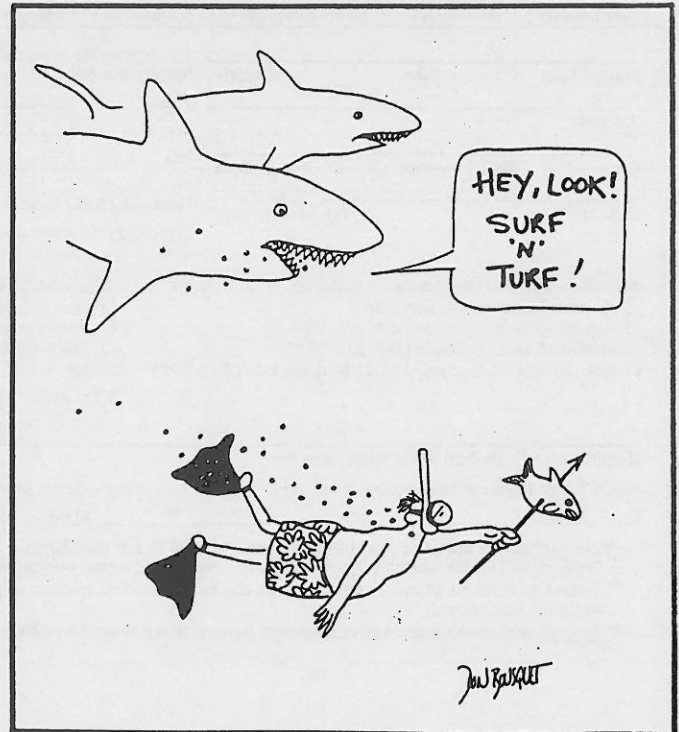
4. Richard Neves (Virginia Polytechnic Institute & State University), an expert on rare and endangered freshwater mollusks, suspects that introductions of exotic mollusk predators will increase extinction rates for our native mussels. Much of our endemic fauna are at risk (Williams et al. *FISHERIES* 18(9):6-22) and additional stress could drive species into extinction.

The Introduced Fish Section has formed a task force to examine the potential benefits and risks of introducing exotic predators to control zebra mussels. The chairman of the Task Force is John Stanley. Other task force members are John Cassini, Richard Neves, Donna Tuzia, Dennis Lassuy and Jimmie Pigg. This task force has been charged to gather, examine, and synthesize information pertaining to black carp and to form a position statement by the Introduced Fish Section concerning its use as a biological control agent."

The letter continues by suggesting that the protocol detailed in the AFS Position Statement on Introductions of Aquatic Species (*FISHERIES* 11(2):39-42) should be closely adhered to until the black carp position statement is approved. Look for a draft of the black carp position statement in upcoming issues of *FISHERIES*.

- excerpted from Fisheries Management Section Newsletter

DON BOUSQUET



Sturgeon Notes?

A group at Cornell University began a 3-year research project on Atlantic sturgeon of the Hudson River in 1993, with support from the Hudson River Foundation. One of the purposes of the project is to assist institutions and agencies involved with research and management of Hudson River sturgeon. A newsletter called *Sturgeon Notes* is being produced to share information, plans, and findings among the diverse parties interested in Hudson River sturgeon. Future issues will be produced and distributed as adequate information becomes available.

Anyone interested in contributing information or obtaining copies should contact Mark Bain, New York Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Research Unit, Department of Natural Resources, Fernow Hall, Cornell University, Ithaca, New York 14853-3001. Office: (607)255-2840; Fax: (607)255-1895.

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

APPLICANT INFORMATION (mail materials to personal or employer address)

Name: Last	First	Initial	Please provide phone numbers for directory and Society use only:	Name of Employer
Address			Home () _____	Address
City	State/Province	Zip/Postal Zone	Work () _____	City
Country	Membership year*	Employed by <input type="checkbox"/> federal gov't. <input type="checkbox"/> state/prov. gov't. <input type="checkbox"/> industry, <input type="checkbox"/> academia, or <input type="checkbox"/> self		Country
			Fax () _____	State/Province
				Zip/Postal Zone

MEMBERSHIP DUES (includes *Fisheries* and Membership Directory)

- Regular \$66.50 (outside USA \$70.50)
- Student \$33.25 (outside USA \$37.25)**
- Retired (age 65 or over) \$33.25 (outside USA \$37.25)***

JOURNAL SUBSCRIPTIONS (Optional)

- Transactions of the American Fisheries Society* (bimonthly) \$30 (outside USA \$35)†
- North American Journal of Fisheries Management* (quarterly) \$30 (outside USA \$35)†
- The Progressive Fish-Culturist* (quarterly) \$25 (outside USA \$28)††
- Journal of Aquatic Animal Health* (quarterly) \$25 (outside USA \$28)†

† Prices for AFS members only. †† Membership not required for subscription.

If applicant is a student the teacher signs here.

Name of institution where student is enrolled.

PROCLUB: If you were recruited by an AFS member please provide the following:

Member Name _____ Member Number (if known) _____

- * New members accepted Jan. 1–Aug. 31 are credited to full membership for that year. (Back issues of Journals are sent.) Members accepted Sept. 1–Dec. 31 credited to full membership as of next Jan. 1, unless requested otherwise. Membership on calendar year only.
- ** Bona fide students of fisheries subjects are eligible for Student membership (limited to 6 years). Persons employed full-time not eligible. Teacher endorsement required (see above).
- *** Retired membership for Active members upon retiring at age 65 or over.



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