

AMERICAN FISHERIES SOCIETY

DECEMBER 1995

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NC AFS 1996 Annual Meeting Plans

The 1996 Annual Meeting of the North Carolina Chapter of the American Fisheries Society will be held January 16-17, 1996 at White Lake, NC. Our meeting site is the North Carolina FFA Center, seven miles northeast of Elizabethtown off US 701, 1.5 miles east on NC 53. The Center has a lodge with 23 motel-style rooms, each with two beds and a private bath. The Kirkland Cottage has four additional rooms. There is also a Days Inn in Elizabethtown. Costs will be:

Room, meals, breaks, and registration:	\$55
Meals, breaks and registration:	\$40
Breaks and registration:	\$ 8

You must pre-register so that we can provide the White Lake staff a count for meals. To pre-register, contact Joe Hightower of the Local Arrangements Committee at (919) 515-8836, email jhightower@ncsu.edu, or fax (919) 515-4454. The deadline for pre-registration is January 10. Please indicate which of the above options you have selected.

Tentative Program for NC AFS 1996 meeting

Tuesday

- 11:00-13:00 Registration
- 12:00 Lunch at White Lake Facility
- 13:10-13:20 Welcome and Introductions
- 13:20-13:40 Spring electrofishing surveys of reservoir fish populations. *Hugh Barwick, Duke Power.*
- 13:40-14:00 Trophic dynamics of juvenile largemouth bass (*Micropterus salmoides*) in two tropical reservoirs. *Alexis Alicea*, NC State University.*
- 14:00-14:20 ECU's Field Station for Coastal Studies at Mattamuskeet:
Off-Campus Opportunities for Research and Environmental Education.
Roger A. Rulifson, East Carolina University.
- 14:20-14:40 The role of habitat complexity in mediating predator/prey interactions: experimental tests of eelgrass (*Zostera marina*) as a refuge from piscivory. *Braden McCollum*, NC State University.*
- 14:40-15:00 The North Carolina commercial fishing license moratorium - an opportunity for major change. *Michael W. Street, NC Division of Marine Fisheries.*
- 15:00-15:20 Break

- 15:20-15:40 The effects of a tertiary-treated sewage effluent on growth and mortality rates in the tellin clam, *Macoma mitchelli* in the Neuse River estuary, North Carolina. *Lynn M. Waller, J. E. Hightower, and W. J. Fleming, NC State University.*
- 15:40-16:00 Fish community sampling in North Carolina as part of the U.S. Geological Survey's National Water-Quality Assessment Program. *Peter Ruhl, U.S. Geological Survey.*
- 16:00-16:20 The 1995 Roanoke River fish kills. *James W. Kornegay and T. Wayne Jones, NC Wildlife Resources Commission.*
- 16:20-16:40 NC Rivers Assessment program. *Steve Reed, NC Division of Water Resources.*
- 16:40-17:00 Selected population characteristics of redbreast sunfish in the Black and Lumber rivers, North Carolina. *Keith Ashley, NC Wildlife Resources Commission.*
- 17:30-18:30 Dinner
- 18:30-??? Raffle by Student Subsection of NC Chapter.

*Student presenter eligible for paper competition

Wednesday

- 07:00-08:00 Breakfast
Special session: status of aquatic resources in the Cape Fear basin
- 08:00-08:20 Habitat use and movements of anadromous fishes in the lower Cape Fear River. *Mary L. Moser and Steve W. Ross, Center For Marine Science Research.*
- 08:20-08:40 Basinwide biological monitoring by NCDEM, with special emphasis on the Cape Fear River Basin. *Trish Finn MacPherson, NC Division of Environmental Management.*
- 08:40-09:00 Investigation of atmospheric mercury deposition in eastern North Carolina: an emerging source of mercury in the piscivorous fish. *Mark T. Hale, NC Division of Environmental Management Water Quality Section.*
- 09:00-09:20 Management of American shad in southeastern North Carolina. *Fred C. Rohde, NC Division of Marine Fisheries.*
- 09:20-09:40 Status of selected Cape Fear River basin endangered aquatic species. *John Alderman, NC Wildlife Resources Commission.*
- 09:40-10:00 A retrospective natural history of the lower Cape Fear River. *William F. Adams, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.*
- 10:00-10:20 Studies of hydropower facilities on the Deep River. *Steve Reed, NC Division of Water Resources.*
- 10:20-10:40 Break
- 10:40-11:50 Business Meeting
- 12:00-13:00 Lunch at White Lake facility

NOTE:

For those with Internet access to the World Wide Web, note that a current version of the program with abstracts is available online at address:

<http://www4.ncsu.edu/unity/users/j/jhncsu/public/NCAFSProgram.html>

A program such as Netscape is needed to view the material. Commercial services such as America Online also provide World Wide Web access.

NORTH CAROLINA CHAPTER - AMERICAN FISHERIES SOCIETY

Minutes of the EXCOM meeting on December 5, 1995

Randolph Community College, Asheboro, NC

The meeting was called to order at 10:10 AM by President Don Degan. Members in attendance were President-Elect Joe Hightower, Secretary-Treasurer Shari Bryant, Newsletter Editor Bob Goldstein, Environmental Concerns Committee Chair Roger Bryan and Student Representative Lynn Waller. The meeting was adjourned at 11:45 AM.

EXCOM MINUTES: Joe Hightower made one correction to the September 14, 1995 minutes. Under the section of the 1996 annual meeting, the charge for breaks only should be \$3.00, not \$8.00 as reported.

WORLD WIDE WEB: Joe reported the NC Chapter now has its own home page on the Internet to highlight chapter activities. The address is <http://www4.NCSU.edu/unity/users/j/jhncsu/public/NCAFSIntro.html>.

AFS 2000: The AFS is soliciting contributions from each Chapter for the AFS 2000 campaign. The EXCOM decided this issue should be voted on by the membership at the 1996 annual meeting.

SOUTHERN DIVISION AFS: Don reported proposed changes in the Southern Division by-laws. The biggest change is to have two meetings per year, one at the Southeastern and the other at the mid-term. These changes will be voted upon at the mid-term meeting.

EDUCATION COMMITTEE: Bob Curry has agreed to chair the Education Committee and will report at the 1996 annual meeting. It was decided that a representative of this Committee should attend the EXCOM meetings. It was suggested to have a student participate in this committee. Wes Neal from NC State University is a possible candidate. A continuing education program held in conjunction with the annual meetings or as a separate event was discussed. Joe will contact Bob Curry about putting together ideas to present to the chapter membership at the 1996 annual meeting.

ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERNS COMMITTEE: Roger has not received any information on environmental concerns from the committee or the membership. Roger did report on one issue in Western North Carolina. This was a request to pen raise trout in three reservoirs in the mountains. The Agriculture Department, NC State University and several political leaders have endorsed the request. The Wildlife Resources Commission has requested an EIS. There are several concerns including water quality, fish diseases and massive fish kills in the pens. Roger will put together some information about the project for the December newsletter.

1997 ANNUAL MEETING: It was suggested we have a joint meeting with the South Carolina Chapter near Charlotte in 1997. This will be brought before the membership for a vote at the 1996 annual meeting. The SC Chapter helped NC establish a Chapter by donating money raised by selling T-shirts at the 1987 AFS National Meeting. Bob suggested the NC Chapter make a donation to the South Carolina student scholarship fund in appreciation.

1999 AFS NATIONAL MEETING: The South Carolina Chapter and the South Carolina Department of Natural Resources have indicated they would be willing to help with the meeting, if they receive a formal request from the North Carolina Chapter and the NC Wildlife Resources Commission. Bob Carline has contacted several people about serving as program chair, including Joe Hightower and Bob Goldstein.

1996 ANNUAL MEETING: The program for the meeting is completed and will include 16 papers from several different agencies. Joe will get the program and abstracts on the North Carolina Chapter's home page. Don reported that the Nominating Committee has a slate of nominees for President-Elect and Secretary-Treasurer. This information will be sent to Bob for inclusion in the December newsletter.

STUDENT CHAPTER: Lynn reported that several items have been obtained for the raffle and that they are still seeking donations. Some of the funds raised from the raffle may be used to purchase books from AFS. Bob will send Lynn a couple of his books.

REPORT OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERNS COMMITTEE

Roger Bryan

A proposal to raise trout in net pens for commercial purposes within Fontana, Hiwassee, and Apalachia lakes has been submitted to the US Army Corps of Engineers and Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) by Carolina Trout Company in Andrews, NC. The proposal calls for a demonstration pen to be constructed within each reservoir. The company plans to grow fingerling rainbow trout to a marketable size with trout pellets. The company estimated they could raise 500 tons per year during the two year experimental period. Future plans include installation of up to 40 pens within the three reservoirs.

The project has received endorsements from Sens. Jesse Helms and Lauch Faircloth, Rep. Charles Taylor, the NC Department of Agriculture, and NC State University. Objections have been received by TVA from conservation groups and resource agencies. An Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) has been requested by the NC Wildlife Resources Commission prior to permit consideration. The issues of concern include nutrient inputs and disease. TVA has scheduled a public hearing for early next year.

Interested NCAFS members should provide comments or information on the proposal to Roger D. Bryan, Environmental Concerns Committee, PO Box 241, Whittier, NC 28789.

AFS E-Mail List

AFS-L is a listserv of the American Fisheries Society Computers Users Section (AFSCUS). Subscriptions are limited to members, and the list is moderated. The list will be used to communicate items of interest to members, i.e. job listings, calls for papers, and late-breaking news which may appear later in *Fisheries*. Hopefully it will evolve into a discussion forum for topics of interest, possibly Fisheries Action Network items and other information. The list is intended to complement the AFS World Wide Web page, updated monthly. The contact is Dirk Miller <dmiller@wyoming.com>, Fish Population Supervisor, Wyoming Game & Fish Department, AFSCUS president. To subscribe, address mail to: majordomo@wyoming.com with the following text in the body of the message: subscribe afs-l <Your e-mail.address> .

ATLANTIC BLUEFIN TUNA CONFERENCE

NC Sea Grant hosts an Atlantic Bluefin Tuna conference, Nags Head, Dec. 16, 1995. The program includes presentations on updated life history information (Brad Chase, Mass.DNR), stock assessment (Pamela Mace, NMFS), management (Dick Stone, NMFS), 1996 permits and regulations (NMFS), and recreational charter boat fishery (Bob Eakes, Red Drum Tackle Shop; Eric Prince, NMFS; and Walt Spruill, Hatteras Fever).

1996 HICKS AND BURPS

Make plans now to attend the 1996 annual meeting of the American Society of Ichthyologists and Herpetologists on June 15-19 in Edmonton, Alberta. Jointly meeting will be the American Elasmobranch Society and the Herpetologists' League. For further information, fax the University of Alberta Dept. of Biological Sciences at 403-492-9234.

OREGON CHAPTER IS AFS CHAPTER OF THE YEAR - AGAIN

This is the second year in a row this chapter has been top dogfish, both at the western division and national level. Congratulations are well-earned. But watch out! The NC chapter is coming up fast.

NC NONGAME & ENDANGERED WILDLIFE PROGRAM REPORT

Randall C. Wilson's quarterly report covers colonial waterbirds, bald eagles, sea turtles, aquatic surveys at state parks, aquatic surveys for listed species, northern flying squirrel, Virginia big-eared bat, and bog turtle. For a complete copy of the report, contact Randall at P.O. Box 118, Northside, N.C. 27564 or fax him at 919-528-9839.

NEWS OF THE ASMFC

Fisheries Focus, newsletter of the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission, conducts a workshop on *Atlantic Sturgeon* in New Jersey Dec 11-13, 1995. Special emphasis is on the Hudson River population, making up most of the east coast sturgeon biomass, and severely depressed. For a workshop summary, contact John Field, Anadromous Species Coordinator at 202-289-6400, ext. 301.

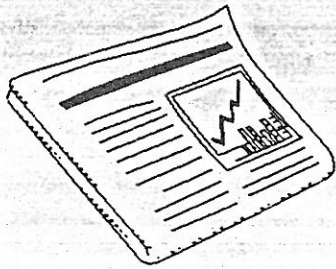
Reef fish and bycatch were the lead topics of the Nov 27-28, 1995 MARFIN conference in Tampa, Florida. Funding by NMFS for 1996 will drop significantly due to cuts in congress.

The commission has taken action against the State of Maryland for being out of compliance with Amendment 2 of the *Weakfish* Management Plan, and has begun work on Amendment 3. Action was also taken on *scup* (northern porgy), *American eel*, *Tautog*, *American lobster*, and *shad & river herring*.

The ASMFC also posthumously awarded David Deuel the David H. Hart award for his contributions to management and conservation. Deuel holds the IGFA world's record for his 94-pound red drum taken from the surf at Avon in 1994.

For more information, contact ASMFC, 1444 Eye Street, N.W., 6th floor, Washington, D.C. 20005.

NEWS OF THE VIRGINIA TECH CHAPTER



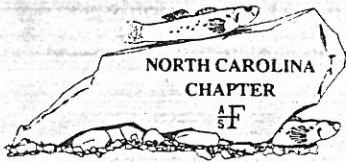
According to editor Heather Pert, The *Environmental Concerns* Committee wrote the governor objecting to the transfer of the state's protected species program from the Game and Fish agency to its Natural Heritage Program, which the committee thinks will reduce its enforcement. The committee also commented on a proposed sewage treatment plant discharge into a stream containing the federally endangered Roanoke logperch and state threatened orangefin madtom.

NEWS OF THE FLORIDA CHAPTER

The Florida Chapter of AFS will help national in forming a Caribbean Chapter. Grant Gilmore is off to P.R. to get the ball rolling. A sub-theme of the 1995 annual AFS meeting was a Bridge to Mexico. Consequently, the Florida chapter's efforts raised close to \$14,000 to assist Mexican fishery workers to attend the 1995 Tampa conference. Note that AFS International is at 73312.1155@compuserve.com.

NEWS OF THE HAWAII CHAPTER

Action by this group included an emergency response to a ballast-water laden barge headed for Hawaii from Subic Bay. Concern was for potential introduction of Phillipine species to Hawaiian waters. Second major issue was a stream restoration workshop. Third, a fisherman's forum. And finally, the group is concerned about gillnet use in Hawaii depleting many important species. *There is expected to be a groundswell of support at the NCAFS meeting in White Lake for sending Joe Hightower to Hawaii to investigate these reports.*



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