



AMERICAN FISHERIES SOCIETY

OCTOBER 1997

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1998 Annual Chapter Meeting

The 1998 annual chapter meeting will be held January 21-22 at Betsy-Jeff Penn 4H Facility near Reidsville. The program will include **two contributed paper sessions**, a **technical session on sedimentation**, and a **continuing education workshop on fish diseases**.

Call for contributed papers: we encourage all attendees to contribute papers on any fishery-related management or research topic. Completed projects or work in progress may be discussed. We especially welcome presentations by graduate students on the results of thesis research. We invite presentations on recent work involving new techniques for assessing or mitigating sedimentation impacts on aquatic habitats. The Program Committee will attempt to group additional papers by topic based on subject matter of contributions. We request that presenters provide name, affiliation, and project title to the Committee by **November 15, 1997**. Abstracts are encouraged but not required. After November 15 we may solicit additional speakers to fill any spaces left in the program. Please indicate if the presenter is eligible for the Best Student Paper Award. Mail or e-mail submissions to:

David L. Yow - NCAFS Program Committee
57 Hilltop Road
Asheville, NC 28803
e-mail: yowdl@mail.wildlife.state.nc.us

Artist Selected for NC AFS Poster

Duane Raver has agreed to do the artwork for the Chapter poster to advertise the 1999 AFS national meeting in North Carolina. The design and contents of the poster will be completed by February 1998.

NC AFS Chapter Display

Bob Curry (Education Committee) and Christian Waters (Student Subchapter) are working to design and construct a Chapter display. This display will highlight Chapter activities and will be used at the 1998 National AFS Meeting in Connecticut to promote the 1999 meeting in North Carolina and at other appropriate events.

NC AFS EXCOM Meeting September 12, 1997

September's EXCOM meeting was held at the office of Goldstein and Associates, Durant Road, Raleigh. EXCOM members in attendance included: Hugh Barwick (President), David Yow (President-Elect), Joe Hightower (Past-President), and Chad Thomas (Secretary/Treasurer). Others in attendance included Bob Curry (Education Committee Chairman), Bob Goldstein (Newsletter Editor) and Catherine Wannamaker (NCSU sub-unit President). The meeting was called to order by Hugh Barwick at 1005.

New Business:

1. 1998 NC Chapter AFS Annual Meeting. David Yow reported the 1998 meeting is scheduled for January 21 and 22 at the Penn 4-H Camp in Reidsville, Rockingham County. John Crutchfield has agreed to serve on the Program Committee, and Shari Bryant will serve on the Local Arrangements Committee. Cost to stay at the camp, based on an attendance of at least 75, will be \$34 and includes 2 lunches, 1 breakfast, 1 dinner, and one night's lodging. The first day's agenda will begin with lunch, and will include two 2-hour sessions (reservoir/large river fisheries at 1300 and stream fisheries at 1500). After the conclusion of the stream session, the meeting will adjourn until dinner. A social is planned, and will be held after dinner. Cost of the social will be added to the registration fee. Displays involving various tagging equipment, GPS/datalogger technologies, and internet information will be set up during the social. The second day will begin with breakfast, followed by a morning sedimentation session. President-Elect Yow is actively recruiting speakers for this session, and requested additional contacts from EXCOM. Following the sedimentation session, a business meeting will be held from 1000-1200. The meeting will adjourn after lunch. But don't leave just yet!

2. Continuing Education Committee. Dr. Edward J. Noga of the NC State University Veterinary School will provide a *Fish Disease Workshop* after lunch on the second meeting day. Dr. Noga is author of the recent textbook, *Fish Disease, Diagnosis and Treatment* (Mosby). A separate fee will be charged to attend the workshop, and attendees should be eligible to receive AFS continuing education credits. The Continuing Education Committee is still exploring the possibilities of having all future workshops accredited by the parent society. The committee has received materials from AFS, but has not had a chance to meet. The new certification process goes into effect July 1998.

3. 1999 AFS National Meeting Update. Bob Curry reported that a poster needed to be selected by 1 December. The committee will explore artwork alternatives with Duane Raver. Nick Parker will develop the poster once he has been sent the completed artwork. Bob reported assistance was still needed on some of the 1999 meeting subcommittees. A meeting of subcommittee chairmen will be scheduled sometime this winter at the Adams Mark Hotel. Local Arrangement Subcommittees and their chairmen are as follows: Accommodations (Tony Mullis), Audio Visual Aids (Dick Christie), Budget and Finance (Chad Thomas), Social Activities (Dave Coughlan), Spawning Run (Arnie Eversole), Raffle (Kim Baker), Hospitality (Val Nash), Printing (Shari Bryant), Publicity (Bob Curry), Exhibits & Displays (Don Degan), and Fund Raising (Hugh Barwick). Subcommittees currently vacant and their proposed chairmen are as follows: Registration (Frank McBride), Tours/Trans. & Inform (Duane Harrell), Students (Joe Hightower), Welcoming/Protocol (Joe Mickey), and Signs (Vacant). A news conference has been scheduled in Charlotte on October 31, 1997, to recognize the \$5,000 contribution given to the 1999 Annual Meeting by Duke Power Company. EXCOM agreed to transfer \$1,000 from the NC AFS Chapter account into the AFS Annual Meeting Account as a show of Chapter support for the 1999 meeting.

Treasurer's Report:

Current chapter balance as of September 12, 1997, was \$5608.26.

<http://muse.bio.cornell.edu/delta/>

- DELTA format (DEscription Language for TAXonomy) is a flexible method for encoding taxonomic descriptions for computer processing. It has been adopted by the International Taxonomic Databases Working Group (TDWG) as a standard for data exchange. DELTA-format data can be used to produce natural-language descriptions, keys, classifications (cladistic and phenetic), and systems for interactive identification and information retrieval.

<http://muse.bio.cornell.edu/cgi-bin/hl?fish>

<http://www.york.biosis.org/zrdocs/zoolinfo>

<http://www.biosis.org/>

<http://www.biology.ualberta.ca/jackson.hp/iwr/>

- Ichthyology Distributed Searches of MUSE based collections
- BIOSIS, Publisher of Biological Abstracts and Zoological Record
- BIOSIS document order from the web
- journals

The *DARTER*

The *Darter* is a bimonthly publication of the North American Native Fishes Association (NANFA). Topics reported in this newsletter include fish studies, rare or unusual occurrences, management and recovery programs, environmental issues, trivia, collecting trips, meetings, aquarium care, and breeding accounts. A Trading Post section is also provided for members to sell or trade fish, plants, books, and merchandise. Send news items, want ads, comments, changes in address, and membership dues (\$15/yr.: North American residents - \$17/yr.: other continents) to Konrad Schmidt, Darter Editor at the return address, phone: (612) 776-3468, or email: schmi144@tc.umn.edu.

WET WEBSITES

(1) The James Ford Bell Museum of Natural History at the University of Minnesota has begun development on a website which will eventually search the fish collection's database and also provide species checklists, distribution maps, and natural histories. However, at this time, a single natural history is available for the gilt darter (*Percina evides*) by Dr. Jay Hatch and includes a spectacular color photograph: http://www.gen.umn.edu/faculty_staff/hatch/fishes/gilt_darter.html.

(2) Search the fish collections of Cornell, Harvard, and University of Michigan from one website: <http://www.keil.ukans.edu/forms/fish-search-que.html/>.

(3) Fish database browser for surveys conducted from 1989 through 1995 in The Illinois River and Mississippi River Pools 4, 8, 13, and 26: http://www.emtc.nbs.gov/http_data/emtc_browser/fish/test_query.html.

(4) Fish photos, range maps, databases, and species lists for specific areas: <http://www.radix.net/%7Elss/lss/>.

NANFA Publication

Endangered, Threatened, and Special Status Fishes of North America (1996) is still available for \$10 including postage from Robert Rice, 2213 Prytania Circle, Navarre, Florida 32566.

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BOTTOM TRAWLING IS A DRAG

New Habitat Law Gives Fishery Managers More Control Over Destructive Gear

A new study suggests the heavy fishing trawls dragged over the sea bottom to net cod and other groundfish on Georges Bank may be as responsible for destroying New England's fisheries as years of unrestrained catches. Fortunately, 1996 amendments to the Magnuson Fishery Conservation and Management Act give fishery managers added clout to protect fish habitat from bottom trawling and other destructive activities.

The National Marine Fisheries Service has prepared guidelines to implement the new federal mandate to protect "essential" fish habitat, defined as "those waters and substrate necessary to fish for spawning, breeding, or growth to maturity." It also includes, according to the federal guidelines, the habitat of associated prey species as well as habitat not currently used, such as degraded areas in need of restoration (see Saving Essential Habitat, MB No. 77).

The Magnuson amendments clearly give NMFS and the eight Regional Fishery Management Councils a "louder voice" in preventing the pollution of coastal waters and destruction of physical habitat critical to the productivity of marine fisheries. Fishery managers must identify essential habitat for each fishery they manage, identify threats to the habitat, and develop conservation measures to protect it. NMFS and the councils may comment on any activity, proposed by federal or state agencies, e.g., permits to fill wetlands, but are required to comment whenever such activities may "substantially" affect essential habitat. Federal agencies receiving comments must respond in writing, outlining actions that will be taken to mitigate the damage or, if no actions are to be taken, explain why.

Although fishery managers still lack the power to veto harmful projects, they do have full authority to stop the adverse effects caused by fishing gear. In fact, they've always had this power - the South Atlantic Council successfully banned trawling over reefs and other live-bottom - but it has been used only rarely, primarily because of a lack of information to quantify the damage, and the influence of fishing interests on the councils. (Conservationists blocked an attempt to exempt fishing gear from Magnuson's habitat protections.) The new mandates should provide the former and help overcome the latter.

For fisheries which are the object of rebuilding plans, such as northeast cod and flounder, it'll be none too soon, according to a recent study published in *Reviews in Fisheries Science* entitled "The Impacts of Mobile Fishing Gear on Seafloor Habitats in the Gulf of Maine (Northwest Atlantic)." Trawling causes "significant alteration" to the sea floor, the authors conclude, exposing juvenile fish to greater predation and thus decreased populations. "The impacts of fishing gear have to be understood not simply in terms of removal of the targeted species," they write, "but also in terms of their impact on ecosystem productivity." With this understanding, managers will have to "balance (the need for) resource harvesting with maintaining habitat integrity."

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**MINUTES OF THE 1997 ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING
NORTH CAROLINA CHAPTER OF THE AMERICAN FISHERIES SOCIETY
CAMP THUNDERBIRD, LAKE WYLIE, SOUTH CAROLINA
FEBRUARY 26, 1997**

DETERMINATION OF QUORUM: President Joe Hightower called the meeting to order at 4:50 p.m. It was determined the membership present did not constitute a quorum. Hugh Barwick made a motion to suspend the rules, the motion was seconded by Bob Curry. By 5:00 p.m., enough members were in attendance to constitute a quorum.

SECRETARY-TREASURER'S REPORT: The minutes of the 1996 Annual Business Meeting were published in the July 1996 newsletter. Joe Hightower proposed the minutes be accepted as printed. A motion was made to accept the minutes as printed, the motion was seconded and passed. Chad Thomas reported there were 123 paid members of the NC AFS Chapter in 1996. To date, 102 members have paid 1997 dues. The treasurer's report was read, and is attached.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Newsletter Committee: Two newsletters were printed during 1996. Bob Goldstein was recognized by Joe Hightower for his service as newsletter editor.

Local Arrangements Committee: Joe Hightower recognized Hugh Barwick, Doug Cooke and Dick Christie for their work on the committee. This year's meeting was attended by 63 NC AFS Chapter members, and over 50 SC AFS and SCFWA members.

Program Committee: Joe Hightower recognized Hugh Barwick, Doug Cooke and Gerrit Jobsis for their work organizing this year's program. Hugh Barwick presented this year's Best Student Paper Award to Ken Hines for his presentation, "*Catch Comparisons Between Low Profile and High Profile Skimmer Trawl Nets in the North Carolina Inshore Shrimp Fishery*". Ken was presented with a plaque, a student membership to the American Fisheries Society, and a journal subscription of his choice.

Environmental Concerns Committee: Chair Roger Bryan reported the Environmental Concerns Committee (ECC) was inactive during 1996. Roger reported receiving only 2 inquiries involving environmental issues during 1996, and made a motion to dissolve the committee. Rich Noble seconded the motion. The floor was then opened up for discussion. Chad Thomas read the charge to the ECC as directed by the bylaws. It was pointed out that the ECC is a standing committee established to draft position statements or resolutions concerning environmental issues in North Carolina. The ECC works under the auspices of the Chapter President and addresses environmental concerns on an as needed basis. Rich Noble then pointed out the motion was out of order because it involved a change in Chapter bylaws. President Joe Hightower ruled the motion out of order, and suggested the ECC be revived when specific environmental concerns warrant Chapter attention.

Education Committee: Chair Bob Curry reported the Education Committee had established 4 major objectives for 1997. The first objective was to sponsor an education workshop held outside the annual meeting. The workshop would be similar in format to the GIS workshop held February 24-25, 1997, at Duke Power's computing facilities. Bob Curry thanked Tim Leonard for conducting this year's workshop, and reported 15 NC AFS members applied for the course. The Committee's second objective for 1997 will involve providing a demonstration of new technologies in conjunction with the annual meeting. Members were given a list of workshop/demonstration items and asked to rank their importance. Possible demonstrations include fish tagging and GPS. Hugh Barwick remarked that this year's workshop was successful and encouraged members to provide feedback to the Education Committee.

The Education Committee's third 1997 objective will be the development of a Chapter display to recruit new members and publicize our organization. The Committee has recruited the help of the student subunit to accomplish this task in time for the 1998 annual meeting. The Committee's fourth objective will be to sponsor at least one youth fishing clinic during 1997. Bob Curry reported Russell Wong has volunteered to help the student subunit conduct a youth fishing event.

Student Subunit Report: Rob Cheshire reported that students at N.C. State were interested in developing a subunit. This subunit would be an official club at N.C. State University, and could receive from the university \$200 in start-up costs, additional funds annually depending on group activity, and space for a web site. The subunit has elected officials and is in the process of fine-tuning a constitution. A separate N.C. State subunit was proposed due to the difficulty of maintaining an active "statewide" subunit. Jerry West of Western Carolina University indicated his support for the approach that NCSU students would have subunit meetings during the year, and students from all universities would continue to participate in the annual meeting. It was pointed out that feedback concerning the function of subunits is needed from AFS headquarters. Joe Hightower recommended action be delayed until clarification was received from Chuck Coutant (AFS President). Scott Van Horn made a motion that the NC Chapter authorize the N.C. State subunit to become a recognized club within the university's club system if the subunit's bylaws are consistent with AFS guidelines. The motion was seconded by Bob Curry. The floor was opened up for discussion. It was clarified that no written account of student subchapter activity existed in NC Chapter records. The motion passed unanimously.

Rob Cheshire also reported the subunit had participated in a hydroacoustic clinic sponsored by Don Degan, and was interested in attending an upcoming stream riparian workshop. Additionally, the subunit plans to participate in CATCH clinic training to prepare them for a youth fishing clinic to be held in the fall of 1997. The student subunit is also working to compile a statewide e-mail list to assist with the coordination of various meetings and activities.

Nominating Committee: Frank McBride reported that the candidates for President-Elect were David Yow, Keith Ashley and Brad Hammers. Although the election was extremely close, President-Elect for 1997 is David Yow.

Student Sub-unit:

Catherine Wannamaker (President, NCSU student sub-unit) reported that approximately 20 students were in attendance at their August meeting. 1997-1998 officers are as follows: Catherine Wannamaker (President), Brian Burke (Vice-President), Secretary (Chris Beasley) and Treasurer (Jim Armstrong). Sub-unit members decided they could offer support for a fall Catch Clinic, but did not have time to organize an event. The sub-unit has elected Christian Waters to chair the AFS Chapter Display Committee. EXCOM approved \$1000.00 to be spent on the NC AFS Chapter display. Development of the display will be a joint effort between the student sub-unit and the Education Committee. The objective of the display will be to advertise Chapter existence and involvement, and to provide information for the 1999 annual meeting. The display will be completed before the 1998 Connecticut annual meeting.

1998 NC River Symposium - postponed:

March 14, 1998 at the McKimmon Center in Raleigh was established for the NC State of the Rivers Symposium. However, the Chapter EXCOM voted to postpone this symposium and to concentrate our efforts on the 1999 AFS Meeting in Charlotte.

Newsletter Items:

Hugh Barwick requested all newsletter items be sent to Bob Goldstein by 1 October. This will include a first call for 1998 Chapter meeting papers. Other items of interest include the \$5,000 and \$1,000 donations to the 1999 meeting by Duke Power and the NC Chapter, the fish disease workshop to be held in conjunction with the annual meeting, and student sub-unit happenings.

Other Business:

Past-President Joe Hightower reported that a signed and numbered print was mounted and framed and then donated by the NC Chapter to the Cal-Nevada Chapter for the 1997 AFS meeting raffle in Monterey. Cost of the mounting and framing was \$142.57, and was paid with Chapter funds. The print was donated by Joe Hightower. EXCOM was informed that NC Chapter members were invited to attend a Marine Reserves Workshop sponsored by the SC Chapter on October 24 at Fort Johnson, Charleston, SC.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 1130. - Chad Thomas, NC AFS Secretary/Treasurer.

South Atlantic Fishery Management Council Workshop

A South Atlantic Fishery Management Council workshop of the habitat working groups will be held on November 17 and 18 at the Duke University Marine Laboratory in Beaufort during a week-long council meeting. Issues to be discussed include GIS mapping by the southeastern states of essential fish habitat, and how habitat protection planning shall be incorporated into federal fishery management plans. For more information, call Bob Goldstein at 919-872-1174.

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: Home () _____ Work () _____ Fax () _____	Name of Employer	
Address				Address	
City	State/Province	Zip/Postal Zone		City	State/Province
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	

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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