

Mainstream

VOLUME 25 (1)

APRIL 2008

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Committee Reports	2
Upcoming Events	5
Chapter Reports	7
News and Announcements	10

Editor's Message by Thomas Slawski

Dear Friends,

This issue of Mainstream has been structured very similar to past volumes and the four major categories include committee reports, upcoming events, chapter reports, & news and announcements. As usual, our committee and chapter members have been very busy and there are number of exciting events coming up this year, so check this section out and mark your calendars.

I know that the field season is upon us. Therefore, I want to thank all of the individuals who provided the various reports, announcements, issues, or other information to include in this newsletter. Although this is my first Mainstream issue as editor, this is our newsletter, not mine, so I encourage and appreciate any comments you may have to improve it.

Please keep the information coming!

In closing, I also wanted to note that this issue would not have been possible without substantial assistance from Sara Teske, environmental planner at the Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission.

Sincerely,

Tom Slawski, NCD newsletter editor
Tslawski@sewrpc.org



Committee Reports

Rivers and Streams Technical Committee by Steve Pescitelli

1. RSTC and Indiana Sea Grant co-sponsored a Fish Passage Workshop which was held November 7 & 8, 2007 in Wheaton, IL. The workshop was well attended with over 50 participants from all over the Midwest, including IN, IA, IL, MI, MN, MO, NE and WI. We also had presenters from Ontario, MS, MI, MN, IL, and IA covering a wide variety of topics including: modeling of downstream passage, culvert design for fish passage, ecologically based fish passage approaches, rock ramps, bypass channels, dam removal, and summaries of the effectiveness of various passages methods. Our lunch presentation was about the Asian carp electric barrier, designed to stop fish from passing. The first day of the workshops included lectures and discussion, and on second day we visited dam removal sites on a small stream and on a larger river, toured a rock ramp (damaged by high winter ice and flow), and a small bypass channel. There was much discussion and interaction and overall the workshop was very successful. As a bonus, attendees were able to get continuing education credits for the workshop. Illinois Institute of Technology hosted the event. Arrangements were handled by Leslie Dorworth of Indiana Sea Grant. Sea Grant has sponsored several of these workshops in the past. Involvement of the RSTC provided a much broader audience and may be the start of a long term partnership.
2. Our annual spring meeting was held at the Rock Island Conservation Club, Milan, IL March 14-15, 2007. There were about 30 attendees from throughout the Midwest and Canada. Paul Kanehl of WI DNR stepped down as the Secretary after 10 years of meritorious service. Kraig McPeck was elected as the new Secretary. Steve Pescitelli stayed on as Chairperson for his second year of the customary 2-year term. In addition to the usual business proceedings, the meeting included State and Provincial chapter reports, which highlight recent activities by chapter members and their associated agencies and institutions during the past year (see www.ncd-afs.org for summaries). The bulk of the 2-day meeting consisted of presentation of 13 technical papers. Topics included, fish passage, dam removal, culvert replacement, ecological modeling in restoration, artificial hummock construction, Federal Wildlife Action Plan summaries, Asian carp barrier monitoring, fish assemblage/IBI research, and aquatic monitoring. We also had a very good mixer featuring steak and green beer for St Patty's. Thanks especially to Dan Sallee, and Rick Anderson and for organization and execution of the meeting, and the Rock Island Conservation Club who graciously provides our meeting space and great hospitality every year.
3. The RSTC sponsored a Stream Monitoring Symposium at the 67th Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference, held in Omaha, December, 2006. The title of the symposium was "Statewide and Regional Stream and River Monitoring Programs: Overviews and Applications." Topics included: 1) Overview of state monitoring programs; 2) Overview of state database programs; 3) Interstate or regional programs; 4) Emerging or advanced techniques in monitoring; 5) Monitoring for biological diversity; 6) Case studies or project specific applications using state protocols. The symposium was a great success with 40 papers, filling the entire two and a half days. In fact, there were 3 additional papers presented Sunday afternoon, at the RSTC Winter Meeting, prior to the conference. We had representatives from almost all the Midwestern States and a few national summaries. There was a good crowd present throughout the symposium and much positive feedback was received. Thanks go out to Paul Kanehl who did all the heavy lifting for this successful event.
4. Our 2006 annual winter meeting was held on December 3, 2006 in Omaha, NE in conjunction with the 67th Annual Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference. In addition to normal business and chapter reports, we had three presentations which were submitted to the monitoring symposium, but the authors agreed to present at the RSTC Meeting due to lack of space in formal symposium schedule. Presenters were Stephen Pescitelli (IL), Debra Baker (KS), and Nicholas Ahrens (SD).

5. The 2007 Winter Meeting will be held at the 68th Midwest Fish and Wildlife Meeting in Madison, WI Dec 9, 2007, 3:00-5:00 PM in Room M at the Monona Terrace. In addition to our usual business, we will have one or 2 short presentations. We will also discuss future workshops and symposiums for 2008, including a possible topic of urbanization impact of stream ecosystem, with continued collaboration with IN Sea Grant.
6. An article entitled: "A survey of stream habitat assessment and remediation: Programs and practices in the AFS North Central Division" is still in hopper and we hope to finally complete that in the coming year for submission to Fisheries.
7. The date for the annual spring meeting is set for March 11 & 12, 2008. This year we will be having elections for Chairman of the Committee, which in the past has been a two year term. Topics for future workshops or symposia were discussed at length. One possible topic, effects of urbanization on stream ecosystems, received a rather cool reception (too many rural biologists present!). Don Roseboom suggested that the Committee begin developing formal recommendations to guide stream restoration practices in order to maximize fisheries/ecosystem benefits. With the large number of restoration projects happening each year, we should be prepared with detailed input for these efforts, which are often driven from structural or engineering perspective. A good portion of the spring meeting will be dedicated to this topic. Several speakers will be invited to kick off the discussions.

Please check out our new website at www.ncd-afs.org under NCD Committees for all of the latest information on the Symposium, state chapter reports, meeting minutes, our current projects, Chapter Representatives, Who's Who, and current Committee officers.

Ictalurid Committee Report by Randal Piette

National

Final Report on the Current Sampling Techniques and Information Needs of Catfish Researchers and Managers. Results from 2006 national survey of biologists and managers. Available online from SDAFS Ictalurid Committee.

Wisconsin - Flathead catfish Surveys

Wolf and Fox Rivers – WDNR Fisheries management comprehensive survey, annual index surveys conducted in 2007, Capture tag adult and juvenile flathead catfish using hoop nets and low pulse electrofishing. Late fall early winter scuba dive to capture and mark juvenile flatheads at winter locations.

Wolf River – WDNR Fish Research, 2007, Implant radio transmitters in 21 juvenile flathead catfish in early spring at wintering locations and follow fish for entire year to obtain movement patterns and habitat use.

WDNR Flathead catfish in winter video online through SDAFS catfish committee. 15 minute underwater video of flathead catfish at overwinter locations filmed in the Wolf River.

WDNR Rule change proposal – Flathead Catfish in the Winnebago System, reduce bag and possession, establish a season length, implement slot or one over size limits. Proposal up for vote at spring 2008 conservation hearings.

Channel Catfish, Mississippi River – WDNR fish management is assessing recruitment & monitoring the fluctuations in population size structure & abundance of channel catfish in Mississippi River Pools 4, 8, and 10. Monitoring these populations are essential for developing management plans & evaluating management success. Our methods employ a combination of bait and slat traps set in a similar manner & time each year which will allow for reasonable estimates of changes in stock density.

Esocid Technical Committee by Mark Boone

Aquatic Stewardship (Goals AS 1 through AS 3)

At our summer 2007 meeting, we began updating the 10-year-old ETC publication, *Introductory, Maintenance, and Restoration Stocking of Esocids*. This will provide fisheries managers with the most current information of esocid stocking practices in NCD states/province.

Information Transfer and Outreach (Goals ITO 1 through ITO 5)

We held our summer meeting on August 9-10, 2007 at Kemp Biological Station on Lake Tomahawk near Minocqua, WI. Chapter/state reports were presented and four excellent technical presentations were given.

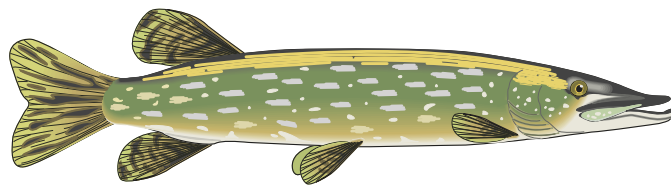
We discussed conducting a future workshop on assessment methods for esocids. More discussion will occur at our fall meeting.

The Esocid Technical Committee, along with Muskies, Inc., co-sponsored the second International Muskellunge Symposium at Indianapolis, IN, October 28-20, 2005 (*The Muskie Symposium: A Memorial Tribute to E. J. Crossman*). Symposium proceedings have been published as a special issue of *Environmental Biology of Fishes* and as a book. Jim Diana coordinated these efforts.

Member Services (Goals MS 1 through MS 6)

The History of the Esocid Technical Committee has been updated and submitted for posting of the NCD web page.

Our 2007/08 Chair will be Ed Braun from Indiana



Upcoming Events

69th Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference Foundation for the Future of Fish and Wildlife Management December 14-17, 2008 Columbus, Ohio



The theme for this year's conference is Foundation for the Future of Fish and Wildlife Management. Keynote speaker, Shane Mahoney, the Executive Director of Sustainable Development and Strategic Science at the Newfoundland & Labrador Department of Environment and Conservation, will share his vision on this topic.

Born and raised in Newfoundland, Shane Mahoney is a biologist, writer, and frequent lecturer on environmental and resource conservation issues. He has authored and co-authored over 120 scientific and popular articles and reports, and appeared in, or assisted with, films for the CBC, BBC, Turner Broadcasting, and National Geographic.

Shane has a unique combination of passion, skill and ability. He is a visionary who challenges not only himself but all to strive to do their best at all times, by continuing to set high standards for individual, community, organizations, and government.

Conference Workshops

This year at the Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference in Columbus, Ohio, there are two workshops that are being organized by the NCD Continuing Education Committee.

The first is an "Introduction to Spatial Modeling Using ArcGIS and Geostatistical Analyst." This course is an introduction to quantitative spatial modeling and geostatistics. An increasingly important task in the natural resources is to create spatially continuous models or maps from field data. Spatial models are essential to using such data in Geographic Information Systems for ecosystem modeling, risk analysis, and decision support. A wide range of statistical and geostatistical techniques are available to conduct mapping in an efficient, quantitative, and scientifically objective manner. This course gives an introduction to these techniques, with an emphasis on best practices rather than mathematical and statistical theory. The instructor for this course is Erik R. Venteris, Ph.D., a Senior Geologist with the Ohio Division of Geological Survey.

The second workshop is "Techniques for Powerful Presentations." Reaching your desired future as a professional requires an ability to be an effective communicator and a skilled presenter. A powerful public presence is an important dimension of your career and role as a leader. Only when you represent yourself with authority and conviction will people follow your lead. No one can afford to ignore the principles of developing and improving their public presence. The first impression you make on others is critical. The major challenge today in our society is to be able to speak so others hear you. Our over communicated world has led us to be poor listeners as well as poor communicators. This course will help you learn how to present your knowledge/information on a higher level. The course is designed to help the participant learn how to listen first, and then speak with clarity. The listening phase is focused around the acronym W.A.I.T.... "Why" "Am" "I" "Talking?" To speak with more clarity one must first answer this question. Once this is answered one speaks to the listener's need, not out of random ideas. Our challenge is to speak to our listener not just recite information we know. When we learn these techniques we move in the direction of making a presentation that our audiences can apply.

For more detailed information about these workshops, please email Angela Grier agrier@dnr.IN.gov.

North Central Division Esocid Technical Committee Meeting August 6-8, 2008 Kemp Station, Minoqua, WI

The 17th Summer Meeting will focus on "Assessment Methods for Esocids". We will be meeting in conjunction with the NCD Walleye Technical Committee, with a joint social on the evening of August 6. Anyone interested in attending is welcome. Please contact Ed Braun (EBraun@dnr.in.gov), Chair, for more information or to let him know you plan to attend. The ETC web page is <http://www.ncd-afs.org/Default.asp?mid=23&sid=32>.

Mid-Continent Warmwater Fish Culture Workshop Council Bluffs, Iowa, February 2-4, 2009

The workshop draws together state, federal, academic and industry personnel to discuss the latest in fish culture activities. The 2008 Workshop was held in Paris, Arkansas and attracted over 120 participants.

Please consider presenting at the 2009 meeting. For further information and to get on a mailing list, contact Mike Mason at mike.mason@dnr.iowa.gov or call 515-281-6072 for more information.

Conservation, Ecology, and Management of Catfishes Second International Symposium June 19-22, 2010 Millennium Hotel, St. Louis, MO

The symposium will be co-hosted by the Ictalurid Technical Committee of the North Central Division of the American Fisheries Society (AFS) and the Catfish Management Technical Committee of the Southern Division of the AFS. The meeting will provide a forum for the exchange of information about the biology, ecology, management, and conservation of worldwide catfish populations and their habitats. Presentation of research on both game and non-game species will be encouraged. To attract anglers and provide opportunities for input and interaction, the symposium will be held at the conclusion of a national catfish angling tournament. The tone of the meeting will be somewhat casual, combining the scientific aspects of a professional fisheries meeting with the relaxed atmosphere of a sports show. It is hoped that in this environment, anglers and scientists will be able to interact openly and progress the management of these important fishes. Symposium proceedings will again be published in a hard-bound book, this compilation of work should serve as a valuable reference for many years to come.

For more information on the symposium visit <http://www.sdafs.org/catfish/catfish2010.html> or contact: Greg Pitchford, Co-chair (660) 646-6122 or Dave Buckmeier, Co-chair (830) 866-3356 ext. 219.



Chapter Reports

Dakota Chapter by Randy Hiltner

The Dakota Chapter held its annual meeting jointly with the Iowa Chapter in chilly (-20 Fahrenheit) Sioux Falls, South Dakota on February 19-21, 2008. A Plenary Session concerning ANS research, management and education kicked off the first day's agenda. This session discussed the ever-expanding threat of ANS that may affect our fisheries. Speakers from North Dakota, South Dakota, Iowa and Nebraska presented and answered follow-up questions.

A total of 40 oral presentations covering a wide variety of interesting topics were held during the split-session. Paper categories included: Percid Management; Trout Management; Predator-Prey Interactions; Water Quality Management; Bioenergetics Modeling; Introduced Fishes; Riverine Fishes; Fish Habitat Management; and History of Exploitation and Fish Sampling.

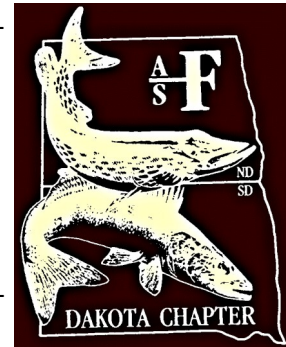
The Best Professional Paper award was given to Mike Barnes of the South Dakota Game, Fish and Parks for his presentation entitled "Dietary Supplement for Rainbow Trout." Best Student Paper was by Steve Ranney for his paper entitled "Model Corrections for Largemouth Bass." The Best Student Poster was awarded to Bryan Spindler for his poster entitled "Distribution and Habitat Use by Juvenile Pallid Sturgeon in the Fort Randall Reach of the Missouri River."

Mark Drobish, an Army Corps of Engineer biologist and Ron Koth, a habitat biologist with the South Dakota Game, Fish and Parks were the worthy recipients of the Distinguished Professional Service Award. The Aquatic Resources Conservation Award was presented to the Barnes County Conservation District from North Dakota.

This joint meeting with Iowa was well attended, educational and enjoyable as we certainly share similar experiences and issues.

Indiana Chapter

The Indiana Chapter of the American Fisheries Society held its spring technical meeting at Clifty Falls State Park in Madison, IN, on February 27 and 28, 2008. The meeting was attended by 20 students from 4 colleges or universities, and 58 professionals from 12 different affiliations. Scott Hale (Ohio DNR), Ray Valley (Minnesota DNR), and Andy Crozier (Indiana DNR) gave presentations on hydroacoustics at the plenary session. Students and professionals presented 12 papers and 4 posters. The Indiana Chapter gives awards to the best professional paper and poster, and the best student paper and poster that are presented at the spring technical meeting. The recipients for 2008 were: Jason Beugly, Ball State University for "Best Student Paper;" Jennifer Pritchett, Ball State University, for "Best Student Poster;" Dr. Tom Lauer, Ball State University, for "Best Professional Paper;" Michelle Cain, Indiana Department of Natural Resources, for "Best Professional Poster." Other awards that the Chapter presented were: "Distinguished Service Award" to Janel Palla for her work as the newsletter editor; "Outstanding Student Research" to Nate Thomas for his research at Ball State University; and "Most Active Organization in Indiana Fisheries" to the Lake Manitou Association. The minutes from the business meeting can be found in the April 2008 newsletter at <http://www.fisheries.org/units/indiana/Newsletter.php>.



Michigan Chapter by Carl Ruetz



The Michigan Chapter held its annual meeting at Lake Superior State University in Sault Ste. Marie on March 4-5, 2008. Over 75 people attended the meeting in Michigan's Upper Peninsula. The meeting began with a workshop on identification of nongame fishes conducted by Dr. Kevin Wehrly, Institute for Fisheries Research, Michigan Department of Natural Resources (MDNR). The workshop was held on March 3-4. Strong interest in the workshop forced us to cap attendance at 30. Participants learned many great techniques for identifying minnows, suckers, and darters along with several established and potential exotic fishes. A large variety of fish specimens were used for hands-on training.

Twenty-one oral presentations and eight posters were made at the annual meeting. For the first time in several years, the Chapter had concurrent sessions for oral presentations, which was well received by the membership. Our plenary speaker was Dr. Paul Seelbach, Institute for Fisheries Research, MDNR. He discussed Michigan's proposed water withdrawal assessment process and recent emergence of water management policy. Contributed presentations at the meeting included a wide breadth of topics. A full list of presentation titles and abstracts is listed on the Chapters website www.fisheries.org/units/miafs.

At the business meeting, members voted to increase the award for the best student presentation to \$150 and create an award for the best student poster display (\$125). The members also voted to donate \$400 to the Hutton Junior Fisheries Biologist Program. The minutes from the business meeting are posted on the Chapter's website.

Dr. Richard Clark of the Institute for Fisheries Research, MDNR was awarded the Chapter's Justin W. Leonard Award in recognition of his outstanding professional competence and achievements in the field of fisheries and aquatic biology in Michigan. The Albert S. Hazzard Award, which recognizes excellence in student research in fisheries or aquatic biology at a college or university in Michigan, was awarded to Dr. Heather Dawson for her dissertation "Recruitment dynamics of Great Lakes sea lamprey (*Petromyzon marinus*) populations and implications for integrated pest management," which was completed at Michigan State University. The awards for Best Student Paper and Best Student Poster Display at the 2008 Chapter meeting were given to Scott Collins and Ryan Namespetra, respectively. Both are students at Lake Superior State University.

Missouri Chapter

During 2007, the Missouri Chapter of the American Fisheries Society teamed up with the Missouri Department of Conservation to help sponsor a series of focus groups to find out more about Aquatic invasive species, in particular...zebra mussels. The focus groups were designed to help us understand how to better focus education efforts and understand boat use patterns in the state. To do this, 5 regional focus group discussions were held to get insight from registered boat owners on how to control the spread and develop an understanding of how boat use patterns might affect the spread. Focus group sessions revolved around 8 main questions and related probing questions. Most attendees were 31+ year old males that boated on a regular basis with >10 years of boating experience. As expected, most attendees frequented waterbodies near their home, but several indicated traveling both within and outside the state, including to zebra mussel infested areas. Most attendees knew the usual prescribed methods for inspecting watercraft, but there was still confusion about some of the methods and a great deal of confusion and misinformation about the effects of zebra mussels, the history of their spread in the U.S., and their biology. The findings from the focus groups will be used in the evaluation of MDC's information campaign to prevent further spread of zebra mussels.



Wisconsin Chapter by John Kubisiak



In December, 2007 Wisconsin hosted the 68th Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference. The meeting was well-attended with the exceptional quality presentations we've come to expect from the Midwest. Our two student sub-units earned some extra income selling T-shirts at the meeting.

Our annual chapter meeting was a joint conference with Wisconsin Chapter of The Wildlife Society, held February 5-7, 2008 in Wausau. Our conference theme, "Helping science to persevere in a political and social world," recognizes that in the policy arena, science often seems to take a back seat to political, economic and social considerations. Professional societies like AFS and TWS help keep science in the fore-front and provide support for our membership to persevere by reminding us to think large-scale and long-term. Forty-three talks and 10 posters were presented at the meeting. The 2008 Steve Serns best professional presentation award went to Ron Bruch (and co-

author Shannon Davis-Faust) for "*Validation of true age of lake sturgeon and implications for population and harvest management.*" The Steve Yeo best student presentation award was given to Luke Roffler (and co-author Brian Sloss) for "*Maintenance of genetic diversity in lake sturgeon restoration stocking.*" We presented the Bill Threinen Outstanding Service Award, Wisconsin Chapter's highest award, to Steve Gilbert for long commitment and many contributions. Steve has a lot of energy and commitment and he knows how to make things happen. Among other accomplishments, Steve has chaired a very successful raffle committee for over a decade, he helped set up two very large meetings, and last year he spearheaded an AFS project to reconstruct a historic stone footbridge at the Art Oehmcke State Fish Hatchery.

Wisconsin Chapter awards two student scholarships annually (currently \$1000 each). Other activities for 2008 include sponsorship of a conference on aquatic invasive species in Milwaukee, financial support for a poster "Rare and Unusual Fishes of the Lower Wisconsin Riverway", funding towards the restoration of the fish railcar "Badger No. 2" and contributions to support a variety of NCD and Parent Society awards. For February 2-4, 2009 we plan a joint annual meeting in Duluth, MN with Minnesota and Ontario Chapters.

News and Announcements

Project Leader Selected for D.C. Booth National Historic Fish Hatchery

Carlos Martinez has been selected as Project Leader for D.C. Booth National Historic Fish Hatchery in Spearfish, South Dakota. He will assume his duties on April 27.

Martinez is currently the Assistant Project Leader at the Leadville National Fish Hatchery in Leadville, Colorado, where he has served as a Fisheries Biologist and Acting Project Leader. He has extensive experience working with community groups on educational, environmental, and historical issues.

“We feel Carlos will be a great asset to the Spearfish community. He has been working with citizens in the Leadville community to develop a friends group, similar to the D.C. Booth Society,” said Mike Stempel, Assistant Regional Director for Fisheries and Ecological Services in Denver. “He has also worked extensively with high school and community college students and classes to provide environmental education and volunteer opportunities.”

“I greatly appreciate the opportunity to work at D.C. Booth,” said Martinez. “Established in 1896, D.C. Booth is one of the most unique and historic hatcheries in the nation.”

Martinez received a Bachelors of Science degree from the University of Wyoming and will soon complete a Masters of Science degree from West Virginia University.

Martinez replaces Steve Brimm who retired as Project Leader at D.C. Booth last September.

The mission of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is working with others to conserve, protect and enhance fish, wildlife, plants and their habitats for the continuing benefit of the American people. We are both a leader and trusted partner in fish and wildlife conservation, known for our scientific excellence, stewardship of lands and natural resources, dedicated professionals and commitment to public service. For more information on our work and the people who make it happen, visit www.fws.gov.



Missouri Department of Conservation Resource Science Division Leader

Ron Dent graduated from Southern Illinois University (SIU) with bachelor's and master's degrees in biology and zoology. His first resource-management job was as an aquatic biologist for Wapora, Inc., of Washington, D.C. He also worked as a research assistant at SIU.

He went to work for the Conservation Department in 1976 as a fisheries biologist evaluating the effects of a 15-inch minimum length limit on black bass at Pomme de Terre Lake and Lake of the Ozarks. Since then he has worked as a fisheries management biologist, fisheries regional supervisor, fisheries research chief and resource science field chief.

Dent's professional affiliations include The Wildlife Society, the Society for Conservation Biology and the American Fisheries Society (AFS), whose Missouri chapter he served as president. He has received the Missouri Lifetime Achievement Award from Muskies, Inc., the Fisheries Management Employee of the Year Award, the John L. Funk Award of Excellence, the AFS Meritorious Service Award and the Resource Science Achievement Award.

Dent noted that conservation challenges are more complex today than ever before and require collaboration across professional disciplines. He said the problems that wildlife and fisheries managers face today are interrelated with the problems of society at large. Solving those problems will require blending societal values and biological principles and cooperation with a wide range of public and private partners. He said he plans to meet with staff and other divisions to look for ways to meet this goal.

Dent's professional and personal interests blend well. He is an avid hunter, angler and canoeist and manages his cattle farm in Benton County to benefit wildlife.

"We can manage our wild resources for the benefit of Missourians and still sustain the ecological integrity of our grasslands, wetlands, streams, agricultural lands and forests," said Dent. "My goal is to provide a sound scientific basis for management decisions. With the incredible expertise of Resource Science Division employees, we are well prepared to support the Department of Conservation and Conservation Commission."

NCD Webmaster Needed!!

The Division is in need of a webmaster. The duties involve making regular content updates to the website and keeping a current list of Chapter officers within the Division. Page structures are set on the website, but you may use any software you like to make content updates. Please contact Joe Hennessy (joseph.hennessy@wisconsin.gov) if you're interested in volunteering for this duty!

ANS Regulations in Effect April 1—North Dakota

Effective April 1, anglers, boaters and personal watercraft users must abide by new regulations intended to prevent the introduction or spread of aquatic nuisance species into and within North Dakota.

ANS include aquatic animals, plants and diseases which are not native to North Dakota and have the likelihood to become well-established if introduced.

Greg Power, fisheries chief for the state Game and Fish Department, said North Dakota does have some problem areas, such as curly leaf pondweed in the Missouri River System, Eurasian water milfoil in parts of the Sheyenne River drainage and common carp in a number of waters.

“In the past, anglers and boaters were encouraged to practice ANS guidelines,” Power said. “Now, these guidelines are rules that must be followed. It is vital that water users understand these important requirements. If introduced, ANS can devastate a fishery and cause serious ecological and economic damage to our state.”

To comply with these regulations, water enthusiasts must:

- Inspect and remove all aquatic vegetation from boats, personal watercraft, trailers, and associated equipment such as fishing poles and lures before leaving a body of water.
- Remove all aquatic vegetation from bait containers when leaving the water.
- Drain all water from boats and other watercraft, including bilges, livewells and motors, at the ramp site before leaving a water body. The only exception is livewells used to transport game fish or baitfish, and potable water and sewage water which must be disposed of properly.
- Not transport live aquatic bait or aquatic vegetation into North Dakota. All water must be drained from watercraft upon entering the state.
- Not dump bait into any North Dakota water.
- Not introduce any fish into North Dakota water.
- Not transport nongame fish (other than legal live baitfish) in water away from the water body in which they were taken.

More ANS information can be found in the 2008-10 North Dakota Fishing Guide and by accessing the Game and Fish Department website at gf.nd.gov.

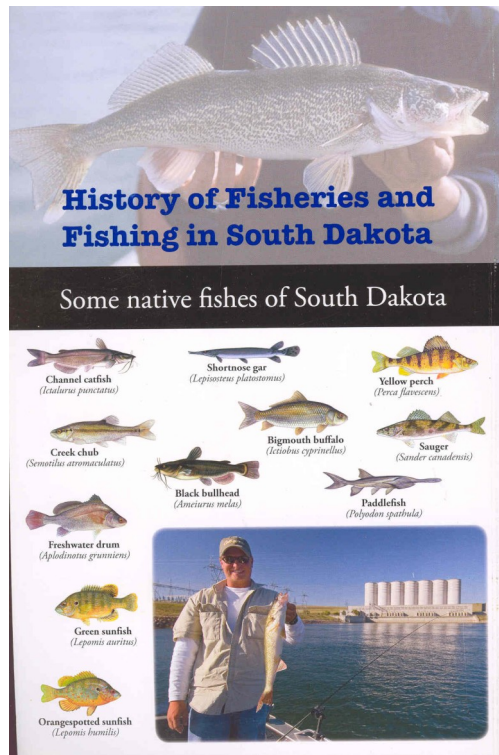
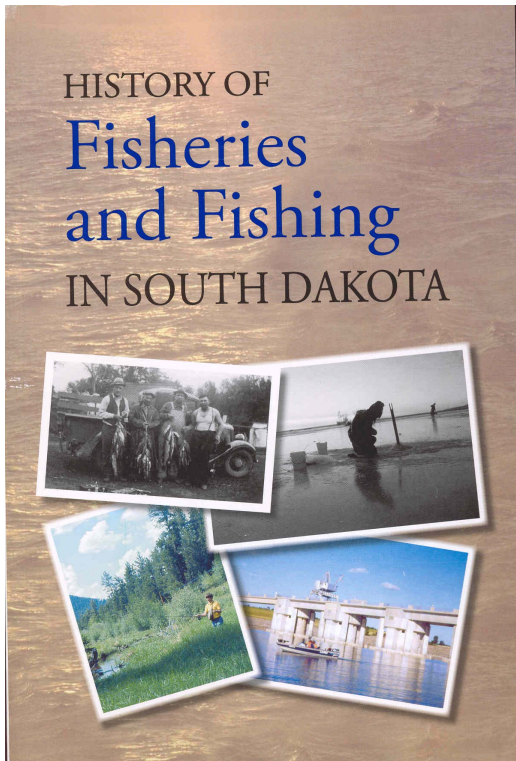
For information contact ANS coordinator Lynn Schlueter, Devils Lake, 701/662-3617.

History of Fisheries and Fishing in South Dakota

The book titled “History of Fisheries and Fishing in South Dakota” rolled off the presses in December. The book is intended for the general public, anglers, historians and students. Twenty-seven authors contributed to this 477-page book, which has 23 chapters that deal about equally with the fishes, the anglers, and the aquatic habitat in South Dakota. Habitat chapters cover the Missouri River, warm-water streams, cold-water habitats, natural lakes, small impoundments, and aquatic resources on tribal lands. Fish chapters are about warm-water and cold-water fishes, exotic fishes, and rare species. Also presented are chapters on the history of and current situation in fish hatcheries, commercial fisheries, law enforcement, and recreational fisheries management. Notable chapters cover prehistoric fishes, current fish species lists by watershed, and evolution of sport fishing, research, and education. The Editors offer their predictions for the next 20 years in the last chapter.

Editors are Dr. David Willis, new Department Head of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries Science, South Dakota State University, and the three scientists in the South Dakota Coop Unit – Drs Ken Higgins, Steven Chipps and Chuck Berry. The Publisher is the South Dakota Department of Game, Fish and Parks; printer is the SDSU Printing Laboratory. The SDSU Department offers the book as a free download pdf on their web site <http://wfs.sdstate.edu/>.

This indexed book is supported by a literature review of some 1,300 references to South Dakota fishes (available from the Coop Unit, SDSU, Box 2140B, Brookings, 57007 in hard copy and searchable database format), and by the many, many years of experiences of the authors. The text is augmented by 82 figures (mostly color), 24 call-out boxes with related subjects, and 34 tables. Limited numbers of the book will be available free from each of the GFP Regional offices. The book will be available for sale on the South Dakota Department of Game, Fish and Parks web site for \$10.



Third Annual “Beginning Your Professional Journey” Workshop was a Big Success

A record-breaking 60 students attended the third annual “Beginning your Professional Journey” workshop, hosted by the 68th Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference. Thank you to the Steering Committee of the 68th Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference for sponsoring the workshop. We also thank the Wisconsin and Ohio chapters of The Wildlife Society for their generous donations that enabled us to provide “A Guide to Fisheries Employment” for each conference participant: And thank you to the many professionals who volunteered their time and expertise during the workshop!

At the start of the day, in addition to a copy of the AFS “Guide to Fisheries Employment”, each student participant was presented with a binder full of resource materials for their use as they prepare for their first post-baccalaureate positions and a supply of “business cards” to be used while networking with professionals during the conference.

“Beginning your Professional Journey” consisted of four sessions. Mike Pagel, Natural Resources & Sciences Employment Specialist at University of Wisconsin, Stevens Point, kicked off the day with a presentation entitled, “10 Ways to Cut your Journey Short.” Students were given advice in an entertaining and memorable fashion on how *not* to land a position in graduate school or as an employee. Jim Schneider, Academic Advisor in the Department of Fisheries and Wildlife at Michigan State University, led a session that focused on professional correspondence, particularly resumes. After a mid-morning break, participants heard from academic and employer panels. The academic panel consisted of speakers from various academic institutions who presented information on the requirements for getting into graduate schools, and tips for developing a dialogue with a faculty member with whom a student would like to work. The employer panel consisted of four individuals from federal and state agencies. Panel members discussed the desired skill sets, variety of positions, and current and predicted opportunities within their organizations. An interactive question and answer period followed the panel presentations. Following the lunch break, Mike Pagel and Jim Schneider co-led a session on interviewing. The day’s final session, Networking, was presented by Rebecca Christofel, a former graduate student at Michigan State University. Kandi Schnurer, a recent graduate of Lake Superior State University and student participant at the 2005 workshop, gave a brief presentation to students on pulling everything together that they were presented with during the day to provide coherent guidance in career and/or graduate school preparation. Students were invited to meet with Mike Pagel during the conference to receive one-on-one consultation regarding their job or graduate school searches, and at least 36 elected to do so.

Students and professionals greatly appreciated their participation in the workshop. Fifty-four of 56 participants indicated that the workshop had been worth the time and money they spent in order to attend. The interviewing and business correspondence sessions seemed especially helpful to students based on their assessments. All but one student indicated that they would recommend participation in the workshop to others. Selected student comments in reply to the question, “Would you recommend this workshop to a friend? Why or why not?” included:

“Definitely, because all undergrads should go to this workshop, it helps a lot.”

“Absolutely. It was the most informative workshop I have attended. It is nice to not have anything else to worry about. The 1 hr, 30 minute workshops you get at school just don't cut it!”

Students were asked to use the backside of their evaluation forms to share any other comments that might be helpful in improving future workshops. These comments will be used by co-organizers in preparation for the 2008 “Beginning your Professional Journey” workshop.

Plans are underway for the next “Beginning your Professional Journey Workshop” to be held at the 2008 Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference in Columbus, Ohio. If you plan to attend the conference and would like to be involved in the workshop as a professional leader or potential session leader, please contact Jim Schneider (schne181@msu.edu) or Bob Gates (gates.77@osu.edu). We look forward to seeing you in Columbus!

AFS-NCD Student Colloquium

Nineteen students from the University of Missouri, Oklahoma State University, and Western Illinois University (WIU) attended the 1st Annual AFS-NCD Undergraduate Student Colloquium. It was held April 11th - 13th at the Alice L. Kibbe Life Science Research Station <http://www.wiu.edu/kibbe/index.htm> near Warsaw, Illinois along the banks of the upper Mississippi River. The area is managed by Western Illinois University (WIU), and has dorm, kitchen, classroom, and lab facilities that provided an excellent location for this event. The entire weekend was free (housing and food) for the students who attended, with WIU providing the facilities and the Missouri Chapter of AFS (MO-AFS) providing all the food.



AI Waters of WIU Career Services Center presented a workshop on resume building and interview skills. Professionals with the Missouri Department of Conservation and WIU provided insight into the interview process and tips on what to anticipate when applying for jobs. Illinois Natural History Survey biologist Greg Sass gave a presentation on a number of big river research projects that the Survey is conducting at their Havana Field Station. Topics included monitoring of fish populations in the Illinois River, asian carp, and efforts between the Survey and the Nature Conservancy to restore wetlands along the lower Illinois River. Greg also discussed trends in fisheries education at the undergraduate level and the role of ecosystem management in fisheries management.

Saturday afternoon, students participated in sampling of a Mississippi River tributary. Unfortunately, plans to sample the Mississippi River had to be modified due to high river levels. However, students used gill nets, trotlines, mini-fyke nets, electrofishing, and push trawls to collect several fish species. That evening, Dr. Timothy Spier from WIU led a workshop on fish age and growth. Students removed otoliths and determined the fish age using some of the fish collected during the afternoon field trip. Students also compared ages among otoliths and other structures, such as scales and spines.

Sunday morning, students participated in small-stream sampling using backpack electrofishing gear and an electric seine. Many students had never used these gears before, and learned their range of effectiveness. Fish collected during this activity included orangespotted sunfish, emerald shiners, gravel chubs, Johnny darters, and orangethroat darters.

Despite the weather, the event was a success, allowing undergraduate students to gain valuable experience as well as a greater appreciation of what fisheries research and management entails. Students who attended are looking forward to the colloquium next year, and encourage participation from undergraduates throughout the central United States. We would like to thank those who made this event possible, including Dr. Timothy Spier and Jim Lamer of WIU, Ryan Dirnberger and Marcus Miller with the Missouri Department of Conservation, Greg Sass of the Illinois Natural History Survey, MO-AFS, the University of Missouri MO-AFS Student Subunit. Finally, we would like to thank Vince Travnicek (MO-AFS) and his wife Becky for cooking all the meals and keeping snacks supplied during breaks and in the evenings.



Attention Chapter Officers:

The Student Affairs Committee of the NCD is seeking contact information for smaller colleges with biology or natural resource programs as part of an outreach project to get these schools involved in the society and inform their students of available scholarship and workshop opportunities through a brochure that we have created. Please, take a few minutes to share some schools within your state that might benefit. Information that would be helpful to us in order to contact these programs would be:

1. College name
2. Contact name
3. Contact email address
4. Contact mailing address

I have included a spreadsheet created by the Indiana Chapter as an example of what we are looking for. If this email has reached you in error, please forward it to the appropriate people within your chapter. Thank you in advance for your help with this project,

Casey W. Schoenebeck
 Graduate Research Assistant
 South Dakota State University
casey.schoenebeck@sdstate.edu
 605.688.6121

Janice Lee Fenske Memorial Award

The purpose of the Janice Lee Fenske Memorial Award is to annually recognize undergraduate and graduate students for their achievements in the fields of fisheries or wildlife management and encourage their participation in professional societies and conferences. The 2007 award ceremony was made possible through organizational and financial contributions from the Midwest Steering Committee, North Central Division of AFS, Wisconsin and Michigan chapters of AFS, and Wisconsin and Michigan chapters of The Wildlife Society. Held during the 68th Midwest Fish & Wildlife Conference, the award ceremony and breakfast provided the opportunity for 24 student finalists from 12 different universities and 9 states to network with 22 invited natural resource leaders. In addition, two students were individually recognized for their high level achievements with a \$500 scholarship award and plaque:

Melissa Wuellner- PhD student at South Dakota State University studying predator-prey interactions in large South Dakota reservoirs

Emilie Travis- MS student at the University of Wisconsin-Madison investigating the impact from FCC towers to avian migrants

More information on the award, including past award winners and finalists, may be found at http://www.fisheries.org/units/miafs/jfenske_award.html.



Melissa Wuellner accepts the fisheries award from Andy Nuhfer, Kelley Smith, and Tom Slawski.



Emilie Travis accepts the wildlife award from Kelley Smith, Jim Schneider, and Karl Martin

Award Recipients—Missouri Chapter AFS

The **John L. Funk Award of Excellence** is named in honor of Slim Funk, the founder of the Missouri Chapter of the American Fisheries Society. Receiving the award means that your professional peers recognize, appreciate and respect your long-term commitment to the aquatic resources of Missouri.

The recipient of this year's Award of Excellence has been described using words that include leader, mentor, dedicated, professional and friend. This year's recipient has been a member of the American Fisheries Society since 1973. Our recipient has served the Missouri Chapter as Awards Committee Chair and President and has served on a variety of committees at both the Chapter and national level.

Our recipient has demonstrated a career-long commitment to Missouri's aquatic resources. He has been instrumental in efforts to elevate the awareness of catfish fisheries and better manage catfish populations in both impoundments and large rivers. He has taken a lead role in efforts to limit the introduction and expansion of Asian carp and other invasive species in Missouri and has been a leader in efforts to better understand, protect, enhance and manage Missouri's sturgeon populations. Under his leadership, MDC Fisheries personnel have taken lead roles in the management and recovery of a full array of aquatic organisms across Missouri.

Our recipient is a graduate of Michigan State University and Colorado State University. He has worked for the Missouri Department of Conservation since 1974, serving as a biologist, management supervisor, field operations chief and, currently, Fisheries Division Chief ... the position from which he plans to retire later this year.

For his dedication and service to the American Fisheries Society and his career-long commitment to Missouri's aquatic resources, please join us in recognizing Steve Eder as the 2008 recipient of the John L. Funk Award of Excellence.



Award Recipients—Missouri Chapter AFS

The **Citizen's Award** is given by the Missouri Chapter of the American Fisheries Society to persons not directly employed in the aquatic field who make a substantial contribution on behalf of Missouri's aquatic resources.

The recipient of the 2008 Citizen's Award is a dedicated educator who goes beyond the classroom to reach her students. Believing that it is important for students to learn life skills that can be shared with friends and family, our recipient has invested her time and personal finances to reach a variety of young students and to help develop the next generation of Missouri anglers.

Regina Van Patten, the seventh grade Science and Math teacher at the South Callaway R-II Middle School in Mokane, Missouri, formed an after-school fly fishing program in 2002. The program is called Hooked on Fly Fishing (HOFF) and focuses on recruiting youth anglers at the seventh and eighth grade level. The program uses a mentoring concept. Over the six year period since its inception, more than 140 students have graduated from the program. Many continue to participate in fly fishing outside of the program and help to mentor others. The program continues to be one of the more popular activities available outside of the district's regular sports programs.

Regina uses science concepts in the program, exposing students to aquatic entomology and stream ecology and relating them to fly fishing. Students learn about the life cycles of insects and their relationship to water quality along with a comprehensive fly fishing curriculum. She also incorporates angling ethics and an appreciation for the outdoors into the program.

For her dedication to the recruitment of Missouri's next generation of anglers, please join me in recognizing Regina Van Patten as this year's recipient of the Citizen's Award.



Letter of Recognition Recipients—Missouri Chapter AFS

The Missouri Chapter of the American Fisheries Society, at its January 31, 2008 meeting, recognizes Terry Finger for his efforts on behalf of Missouri's aquatic resources.

Combining his understanding of the legislative process with a sound background in and solid understanding of science and stream management issues, Terry has become an integral part of the Chapter's advocacy efforts on behalf of Missouri streams. Our recent successes in advocacy, especially those related to instream gravel mining, have resulted largely from Terry's efforts and his ability to bring together like-minded sporting and environmental organizations for a common goal. Terry has brought renewed focus to the Chapter's advocacy efforts on behalf of streams, and the Chapter's Legislative and Environmental Concerns Committee has long found Terry an indispensable guide through the intricacies of the legislative process. Terry works behind-the-scenes, never seeking recognition for his efforts. Because of Terry's efforts, the Chapter is a better advocate and Missouri streams enjoy enhanced protection from undue disturbance and unnecessary impact.

The Missouri Chapter of the American Fisheries Society presents this Letter of Recognition to Terry Finger for his consistent, energetic and effective support of good stream management and for the protection of Missouri's aquatic resources.

Great River Engineering and its employees, led by Spencer Jones and Brian Orr, have provided engineering services on low-water crossing replacement projects on streams throughout the Ozarks. At times, they have donated their services, resulting in aquatic organism passage benefits where these issues might otherwise have gone unresolved. Their efforts have resulted in improved aquatic organism passage for projects on Crane Creek, Thomas Creek and the Little Niangua River. Working with a variety of partners, they have helped to identify effective and cost-conscious solutions to stream passage issues and have now begun incorporating similar design features into projects on other Missouri streams. Great River Engineering staff members have also become strong advocates for enhanced aquatic organism passage, promoting passage criteria and increasing awareness of passage issues related to stream crossings with county commissions and state and county road crews throughout Missouri. Most recently, Great River Engineering staff has begun working to develop new and innovative, passage-friendly inlet structure designs that have the potential for use throughout the Missouri.

The Missouri Chapter of the American Fisheries Society presents this Letter of Recognition to Great River Engineering and its employees for their efforts to enhance aquatic organism passage in Missouri streams.