

# Mainstream

## President's Message by Sandy Clark-Kolaks



I know for a lot of us in state employment it is unusual to have the opportunity to attend the National AFS meeting but with its Midwestern location this year I hope many of you had the ability to attend. A huge congratulation goes out to our friends in Missouri for putting on a great conference. I find these meetings have a tendency to recharge me professionally and remind me why I love fisheries management. I know I get bogged down with the paperwork requirements of my job and the real world situations that politics and money drive many decisions. These meetings remind me that science is what needs to drive management and there are a lot of good people out there fighting the fight with me. This type of rejuvenation is really important and I personally think that is one of the biggest benefits of AFS at any level.

I would also like to thank Melissa Wuellner for all the amazing work she did as president over the past year. I am a little nervous following her as she left some pretty big shoes to fill. Luckily, I have her for another year to coach me through my presidency and a great support group to help.

Looking towards the upcoming year I hope to continue the good work that Melissa has started with improving communication between the NCD and units with the President's Blog and quarterly calls. The website is continuing to evolve with new information about continuing education and job opportunities. Most of our content is member driven so please pass any information you have onto our standing committee chairs to update the website or email job postings directly to Brian Borkholder.

Speaking of communication did you know we have [a Facebook page](#)? This is a really easy way for members to post information about current projects, job postings, continuing education workshops, or just fishing pictures. I would really like to up our Facebook presence over the next year so be sure to like and post! It would be great if each state chapter could post some pictures from their annual meeting to Facebook so we can all feel connected.

This newsletter is published twice a year. Deadlines for submission are April and September 1st. The views and opinions expressed herein are not necessarily those of the NCD.

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## President's Message (continued)

I would really like to spend my time as president working to increase and promote the value of being an AFS member at any level. It is important to create awareness to prospective fisheries professionals beginning in those early college years. For me, participating in a student subunit gave me a better understanding of the profession, created contacts and networking opportunities, and surrounded me with people with similar interests that I am still friends with today. It also allowed me to participate in state chapter meetings which really opened my eyes to the professional side of fisheries management. At those state meetings I had an opportunity to meet prospective employers and eventually present my research as an undergraduate and graduate. Those state meetings really made me feel like I was part of something important

and special. Being a member of the parent society has allowed me to attend national meetings where you really get to experience the big show and see research and projects from all over the world.

I wish you all that feeling of inspiration that can occur when fisheries professionals congregate, possibly with some adult beverages, for you at your state chapter meetings. I also hope to see many of you at the 77th Annual Midwest Fish & Wildlife Conference in Lincoln!

Sandy Clark-Kolaks  
*Southern Fisheries Research Biologist  
Indiana Department of Natural Resources*

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

### Past-President/Governing Board Report

*by Melissa Wuellner, NCD Immediate Past President*

A hearty "Thank you" to MOAFS for hosting an excellent annual AFS meeting this year! The food, hospitality, atmosphere, and, above all, science, were second to none. If you missed KC, you missed a great event!

At the start of the KC meeting, I was still NCD President. So, I had the chance to arrive early for both the Management Committee and the Governing Board meetings. As you may know, the Management Committee typically meets on the Friday immediately before the annual meeting, and the Governing Board meeting is held the next day. In the AFS hierarchy, the Management Committee is sandwiched between the Executive Committee and the Governing Board. The Governing Board is composed of Division and Section presidents. Both the Management Committee and the Governing Board discuss and vote on many issues and topics related to the operations and functions of our Society. This year's agenda was relatively light in terms of nitty-gritty Society business. But there are a couple of highlights I'd like to share with you.

First, the North Central Division is represented an awesome graduate student who selected for the "Emerging Leaders" program for this year! A total of four candidates were selected by the Society to participate in a one-year program designed train future AFS leaders. These candidates are mentored by an active AFS member and participate in other governance activities throughout the year. Dan Nelson from South

Dakota State University and current president of their subunit is being mentored by me to learn all there is to know about AFS. I'm one very proud mentor!

Second, AFS staff and officers are working on unveiling a new "Membership Incentive Program." The goal of this program is to help chapter presidents become full Society members and vice versa. There will be monetary bonuses for chapters associated with various recruitment targets. The full details of the program are still being ironed out, but look for more details on the as website and newsletter as annual membership renewal time gets closer. Chapter presidents and membership chairs – start brainstorming some recruitment ideas now!

All in all, the Society continues to work on ways to improve membership services through the cooperation of AFS staff and officers. If you'd like to share any thoughts or ideas of how the Society can improve, please contact me or Sandy Clark-Kolaks. I will remain on the Management Committee for the next year, and Sandy will be serving on the Governing Board during her NCD presidency. The Management Committee holds monthly conference calls and the Governing Board meets in March for the mid-year meeting. We're happy to represent the Division in AFS governance.

Also, there is an update on NCD Strategic Plan for 2016 – 2019. After a 30-day public comment period and a 30-day online open vote, the NCD now has a new strategic plan! Thank you to everyone who participated in the vote (all 57 of you)! The plan goes into effect

immediately and will guide the Division through the end of the decade. The plan is posted on the [NCD website](#). Special thanks to Vince Travnichek and Joe Conroy for their assistance on the plan's development!

If you're looking to become more involved in the NCD, here's another opportunity. We're currently working on updating and revising our NCD bylaws, which hasn't been done in many years. I am leading an ad hoc committee that hopes to have a new version of our bylaws ready for previewing during our annual Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference meeting. If you are interested in serving on the committee, please email me ([melissa.wuellner@sdstate.edu](mailto:melissa.wuellner@sdstate.edu)) by 9/30. I anticipate that we'll have monthly 60 minute conference calls with some assigned work in between. If you have questions about this committee, please let me know. Thanks so much!

## Continuing Education Committee

by David Deslauriers

The continuing education committee has approached Dr. Daniel Iserman (USGS, Wisconsin Cooperative Fishery Research Unit, University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point) and Dr. Christopher Chizinski (University of Nebraska-Lincoln) to organize workshops at the upcoming Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference in Lincoln, NE. Proposed workshops include 1. A beginner's guide to estimating age and growth of fish, and 2. Introduction to fisheries data analysis with R. Workshop proposals were submitted August 1st and are awaiting approval by the Midwest organizing committee.

## Walleye Technical Committee

by John C. Bruner

*Report of the joint summer meeting* - The joint summer meeting of the Centrarchid Technical Committee, Esocid Technical Committee, and Walleye Technical Committee was held July 26-28, 2016 at the AkSarBen Aquarium, Gretna, Nebraska. The joint meeting was organized by Keith Koupal of the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission, Kearney, Nebraska. This was the 25th summer meeting of the Walleye Technical Committee. Also meeting with the three AFS NCD technical committees was the Upper Colorado River Endangered Fish Recovery Program. Fifty-six people registered for the meeting.

Tuesday, July 26, 2016, opened with a workshop on habitat enhancement of reservoirs. Steve Satra and Mark Porath

conducted a tour of the recently finished Prairie Queen Reservoir. Then, the tour proceeded to see preparations for Dam Site 15A, Dam and Improvements on the Pappo River, Douglas County, NE.



Steve Satra discussing improvements to Prairie Queen Reservoir



Steve Satra points to improvements being built at Pappo Dam Site 15A

A second workshop was conducted in the afternoon at AkSarBen Aquarium. The workshop was conducted by the Upper Colorado Endangered Fish Recovery Program. Seven seminars were given followed by a panel discussion. (Titles and abstracts of these talks are available on the [WTC website](#) under "Program and Abstracts July 26-28 2016"). A two-hour Kayak Float Trip was then held on the Platte River ending at the Tuesday Social at Louisville State Recreation Area, Louisville, NE, for a Walleye Fish Fry.



## **NORTH CENTRAL DIVISION OF THE AMERICAN FISHERIES SOCIETY**

Walleye Technical Committee

Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference Student Travel Grant

“Sander Award”

**Purpose:** To financially assist a student conducting research of interest to the Walleye Technical Committee.

**Description:** A travel grant of \$100 from the Walleye Technical Committee of the North Central Division of the American Fisheries Society for a student to attend the Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference.

**Eligibility Criteria:** The recipient of this award must be a student who is currently enrolled in a college or university for a degree program. Preference will be given to those involved in research of interest to the Walleye Technical Committee.

**Documentation required:** An application letter from the student that includes: student’s name, address, telephone number, educational institution, department, degree level, a short description of current research, reasons for wishing to attend the meeting (paper or poster presentation, pertinent paper session, sub-unit business and/or technical meetings), and reasons why financial assistance is needed.

**Selection Criteria:** The Operations Subcommittee of the Walleye Technical Committee will evaluate applicants based on the following criteria:

- a. AFS involvement (reasons for attending the meeting).
- b. Relevance of research to the goals of the Walleye Technical Committee.

**Frequency of Award:** The Walleye Technical Committee will select one recipient each year.

**Deadline:** The deadline for receipt of completed applications by the Chair of the Walleye Technical Committee is October 1st, 2016.

Please e-mail application materials to: John Bruner at [jbruner@ualberta.ca](mailto:jbruner@ualberta.ca)

\*The Chair of the WTC will request matching funds from the student’s AFS Chapter (total award up to \$200), however there is no formal arrangement that guarantees matching funds.

## Esocid Technical Committee

by Cory Kovacs

The Esocid Technical Committee (ETC) held their 2016 Summer Business Meeting in conjunction with the Walleye and Centrarchid Technical Committees Joint Meeting in Gretna, Nebraska on July 28. Special thanks to Keith Koupal for his work in planning and hosting this joint meeting and also to Dave Woods for facilitating the ETC business meeting in the Chair's absence. During the business meeting the members overviewed the ETC by-laws and the revisions currently ongoing to get these up-to-date. Also discussed were locations for the 2017 business meetings. The winter business meeting will be held in conjunction with the Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference located in Lincoln, Nebraska and the summer business meeting will be held at Mille Lacs Lake, Minnesota. Typically, committee members would bring a report and update from each of their respective state or province to each business meeting. To avoid having to produce two reports annually and avoid redundancy, committee members will begin only bringing their annual reports to the winter business meetings. To review the state reports and updates provided at this business meeting, please see the ETC webpage under Meetings. Lastly one note of importance, the Walleye and Centrarchid Committees decided that the proceeds from this meeting be given to the ETC budget in recognition of the ETC's Keith Koupal and his diligent efforts in assisting the organization of this joint summer meeting. The meeting was a success. Hope to see you all in Lincoln, Nebraska at the Midwest Conference!

## Reservoir Technical Committee

by Rebecca Krogman

The Reservoir Technical Committee will host a symposium again this year that the Midwest Fish & Wildlife Conference. This symposium, titled

“Leveraging What Works: Midwestern Reservoir Management and Assessment Strategies”, will promote communication between fisheries professionals in the Midwest regarding approaches to habitat restoration and fisheries assessment and provide a venue to disseminate information about “what works” when confronting reservoir habitat and fisheries issues. We especially seek presentations about in-reservoir habitat restoration and standard fisheries assessment methods, whether surveying sportfish, forage fish, abiotic variables, watershed processes, or other reservoir-related factors. Jeff Boxrucker, Coordinator of the Reservoir Fisheries Habitat Partnership, will present the keynote address for this symposium, speaking about the role of building partnerships in reservoir habitat restoration projects. More information can be found here: <http://midwestfw.org/html/call-for-presentations.shtml>.

In case you didn't have enough reasons to attend the 2017 Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference, the Reservoir Technical Committee is hosting a site visit to one of Nebraska's ongoing rehabilitation projects! Conestoga Reservoir is a 230-acre reservoir just 15 minutes outside of Lincoln. Jeff Jackson, the local fisheries management biologist, and others will escort you around the reservoir and surrounding park, demonstrating rehabilitation practices on-the-ground and sharing strategies for a successful renovation. Don't miss it!

Limited seats are available, so please RSVP to [Joe Conroy](#) or [Rebecca Krogman](#), Committee Chairs. The specific time and date will be determined closer to the meeting (weather-permitting), and we will work around other conference events as best possible. The site visit will take approximately 2 hours, from the conference center and back. Don't miss this great opportunity to see Nebraska's Aquatic Habitat Program in action!



## Membership Committee 2016 Report

by Doug Workman

The membership of the North Central Division (NCD) is comprised of members of good standing from the following states and provinces: Alberta, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Manitoba, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, Northwest Territories, Ohio, Ontario, Saskatchewan, South Dakota, and Wisconsin. The total membership of the North Central Division decreased by a total of two members from 2015 to 2016. Regular membership declined the most among membership types

Province/State	Honorary	Life	Regular	Retired	Student	Young Profes.	Total
Alberta		6	27	2	3	5	43
Iowa		13	25	3	7	8	56
Illinois		15	43	7	47	16	128
Indiana		9	28	4	6	15	62
Kansas	1	3	23	3	17	9	56
Manitoba		1	14		7	1	23
Michigan		25	96	17	71	27	236
Minnesota		23	66	6	42	21	158
Missouri		15	70	5	37	17	144
North Dakota		3	2		3	6	14
Nebraska		5	16	3	15	4	43
Northwest Territories						1	1
Ohio		12	26	6	26	15	85
Ontario		10	83	8	63	24	188
South Dakota		3	18	3	20	7	51
Saskatchewan		1	13		2		16
Wisconsin		22	43	9	18	20	112
Total by Type	1	166	593	76	384	196	1416

# CHAPTER & STUDENT SUBUNIT REPORTS

## Indiana Chapter

by Tom Bacula

To cap off the summer in mid-August, the Indiana Chapter volunteered at the State Fair fishing pond. We had students from both Ball State and Purdue University who were able to mingle with current and retired biologists. It is excellent networking for everyone that gets better while helping over 100 kids to fish. The scheduled shift started out a bit stormy where a severe line of thunderstorms sent everyone to shelter, following the storms it was beautiful and fish catching was exceptional. I think everyone who fished that afternoon was able to get their pond limit (three fish). It is an event that many of us look forward to annually seeing some new anglers touch fish for the first time and some that progress quickly to taking the hooks out and releasing. Many adults with the kids get a lesson in fish and fishing as well to hopefully give some ideas when they go home.

In late September, we will be having our fall business meeting and continuing educational workshop. This year the workshop will be on the Identification of Indiana Minnows. The EX-COM from both Indiana and Ohio has been diligently planning a joint meeting for February 15-17, 2017. Indiana is very excited about partnering with Ohio a state with similar resources but different perspectives. The planning committee is hoping to have a catfish and long-range data experts give plenary talks to start facilitating contributed talks. The meeting will be in Muncie, Indiana featuring Ball State University for talks and downtown Muncie for socials. Check out the Indiana AFS website for more details and to register. <http://www.indianaafs.org/pages/home>



## Missouri Chapter

*Editor's note* – Greg Pitchford and MO-AFS did an outstanding job at the National meeting. Congrats to Greg and the rest of the MO-AFS group! As Greg was unwinding from the National conference in Kansas City, he shared the most recent briefing document MO-AFS used for their ExCom meeting a few weeks ago. A few highlights of MO-AFS include hosting a workshop in KC entitled “Human Dimensions and Conflict Resolution in Fisheries” and establishing events with anglers with disabilities. Greg summed it up best by saying the most comprehensive briefing document MO-AFS has is through their newsletter. (See: <http://www.moafs.org/Documents/Newsletter/Summer2016.pdf>)

## Wisconsin Chapter Report

by Greg Sass

The Wisconsin Chapter held its summer executive committee meeting on August 1. Highlights included planning for the Wisconsin Chapter of the Wildlife Society and Wisconsin Chapter of the American Fisheries Society joint meeting to be held February 28 – March 2, 2017 in Milwaukee, a continuing education course involving fish tagging and surgical techniques, and revisions to our bylaws and procedures manual.

Wisconsin Chapter President, Greg Sass, attended the National AFS meeting in Kansas City and participated in the State Chapter's meeting on August 24.

Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference planning for the meeting to be held January 28 – February 1, 2018 in Milwaukee is ongoing. Our joint meeting with the Wisconsin Chapter of the Wildlife Society in 2017 will serve as a walk through to prepare for the 2018 Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference. Please see our Chapter website [www.wi-afs.org](http://www.wi-afs.org) for more information on our chapter and for instructions on how to be added to our email list.

## Michigan Chapter

by Ed Roseman

Greetings from the Great Lakes State and the membership of the Michigan Chapter. Michigan held its annual meeting in conjunction with the 76th Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference in Grand Rapids, MI during January 24 - 27. The Chapter featured a special session titled "Legends and Legacies of Michigan Fisheries" with 16 presenters representing state, federal, and tribal organizations as well as universities who presented on the history, goals, and future of their fisheries programs. The Lake Superior State University and Michigan State University student subchapters organized and ran a raffle in support of their chapter activities and also donated money to the state chapter travel award fund. Thanks to Chapter secretary Billy Keiper for organizing t-shirt sales at the conference with proceeds of those sales to go to travel awards, as well. Billy has some shirts left available at a discounted price. The Chapter hosted a larval fish identification continuing education workshop at the Conference, taught by Stacey Ireland (USGS GLSC), Amy George (USGS UMESC), and Jeremy Pritt (OH DNR). The course was sold out with over 30 participants.

Thank you to Jessica Mistak for the following summary of 2016 Chapter awards. Eight natural resources professionals and students from various Michigan universities were recognized with awards or grants from the state's chapter of the American Fisheries Society (MIAFS) at the 2016 Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference in Grand Rapids. The awards were given throughout the course of the conference, held January 24-27. The awards and their recipients included:

- Albert S. Hazzard Award -- Seth Herbst, Michigan State University (MSU)

This award recognizes excellence in student research in fisheries or aquatic biology at a college or university in Michigan. The award is named in honor of Dr. Albert S. Hazzard. Seth received the award for his Ph.D. dissertation entitled "Walleye (*Sander Vitreus*) dynamics in the Inland Waterway, Michigan". This research was done under the direction of Dr. Daniel Hayes at MSU's Department of Fisheries and Wildlife.

- Justin W. Leonard Award – Chuck Basset, U.S. Forest Service

This award recognizes outstanding professional competence and achievement of a professional employed in the field of fisheries or aquatic biology in Michigan. It is named after Dr. Justin W. Leonard. Chuck, now a retired fisheries biologist, demonstrated outstanding service during his 30 year-career in Michigan. During that time Chuck completed numerous projects involving lake habitat, bank stabilization, spawning riffles and road stream crossings.

- Best Student Paper – Eric Calabro, Central Michigan University

Eric's presentation, "Effectiveness of critical lake trout and coregonid reef spawning habitat restoration in northern Lake Michigan: Mitigating environmental and invasive egg predator impacts" was recognized.

- Best Student Poster – Austin Wenke, Lake Superior State University

Austin's poster, "Changes in stream biota and habitat following a perched culvert replacement in John's Creek, MI" was recognized.

- 2016 MIAFS Student Travel Grant – Joseph Krieger, University of Michigan

- 2016 Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference Travel Grant – Hailey Yondo, Michigan State University

- The Janice Lee Fenske Memorial Award

This award recognizes undergraduate and graduate students for achievements in fisheries and wildlife management and encourages their participation in professional societies and conferences.

- o Fisheries – Amanda Chambers, Central Michigan University (CMU)

Amanda received her B.S. from Lake State University is finishing her M.S. at CMU where she is studying freshwater mussel assemblages.

- o Wildlife – Tracy Swem, Michigan State University

Tracy received her B.S. from Western Michigan University and recently completed her M.S. from MSU where she studied the effects of prescribed fires on eastern box turtles. She is now embarking on her Ph.D. at MSU, studying climate change adaptation on the Kenai Peninsula in Alaska.



The awards and grants were selected by various industry professionals, including Michigan Department of Natural Resources employees and other MIAFS members.

Thank you to our continuing education committee chair, Dan Traynor, for your leadership and dedication to continuing education and for helping make these opportunities possible! Dan has had a busy year organizing several continuing education courses. A nongame fish identification course was held at Lake Superior State University on July 13-14, taught by Dr. Kevin Kapuscinski from LSSU. Eighteen participants received instruction on identification of suckers, shiners, and darters. On July 26-27, the Chapter sponsored a 2-day mussel sampling and identification workshop instructed by Drs. Daelyn Woolnough and Dave Zanatta from Central Michigan University. About 20 scientists participated. Day 1 was in-class at the Lansing Quality Inn and Suites and Day 2 was in the field on the Belle River in St. Clair County (arguably the most species rich mussel site in the state).

Coming up in October, the Chapter will sponsor an electrofishing course with Smith-Root to be held in Gaylord on October 18th and 19th. Please register with Dan Traynor at ([traynord@michigan.gov](mailto:traynord@michigan.gov)). The registration deadline is September 15th but please register as soon as possible. It's looking like the course will fill up but we'll try to accommodate more registrations if there's enough interest. Students! Up to five free seats will be held for students and this is an excellent opportunity to receive classroom and hands-on training in the use of electrofishing equipment (which is a great resume builder!).

President-elect Dr. Robin DeBruyne is organizing the 2017 Chapter meeting, to be held at the Mackinaw Beach and Bay Inn & Suites in Mackinaw City on March 14-16, 2017. The theme for our meeting will be "Bridging Opportunities Using Multi-Disciplinary Science." We hope to feature keynote addresses and contributed papers on human dimensions research, fisheries management, bridges between inland and Great Lakes fisheries, fostering multi-disciplinary partnerships, and student research. More information will be announced soon.

Please check out and like our Facebook page! (<https://www.facebook.com/MichiganAFS/>). The page is frequently updated by our communications committee, chaired by Heather Seites-Hettinger. Look to the Facebook page for job announcements, continuing education course announcements, upcoming meetings, and other interesting and entertaining fisheries news from around the Mitten & Yoop.

On behalf of the executive committee and membership of the Michigan Chapter, we look forward to seeing you at the Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference in Lincoln and at our Michigan AFS meeting in Mackinac City in early 2017!

## UPCOMING EVENTS



### **The 77th Midwest Fish & Wildlife Conference February 5 - 8, 2017**

#### **Cornhusker Hotel in Lincoln, Nebraska**

The theme of the meeting is “Private Landscapes, Public Responsibilities.”

The annual conference attracts over 800 biologists and students from state, federal and tribal natural resource agencies across the 13 Midwestern states. Highlights include: over 400 technical presentations, poster displays, plenary sessions, networking opportunities and social events.

Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference Abstract Deadline EXTENDED!

Thank you to everyone who has submitted a presentation proposal for the 77th Midwest Fish & Wildlife Conference. We’ve received very strong proposals so far but need to fill some gaps in the program. We have extended the submission deadline to Friday, September 30. Don’t miss out! This is your last chance to submit an abstract for oral and poster presentations. Please check out the conference website for more information. We hope to see you there!

<http://midwestfw.org/html/call-for-symposia.shtml>

### **Other aquatic meetings**

4th International Conference on Fisheries & Aquaculture - San Antonio, TX Nov 28-30, 2016  
Theme - Blue Revolution

See website for details: <http://fisheries.conferenceseries.com>

Freshwater Mollusk Conservation Society 2017 Symposium - Cleveland OH - March 26-30, 2017

Theme - *Ecosystems, Engineering, Valuation, & Practice – Roles of Freshwater Mollusks in a Changing Environment*

See FMCS for details: [http://molluskconservation.org/EVENTS/2017Symposium/2017\\_FMCS-Symposium.html](http://molluskconservation.org/EVENTS/2017Symposium/2017_FMCS-Symposium.html)

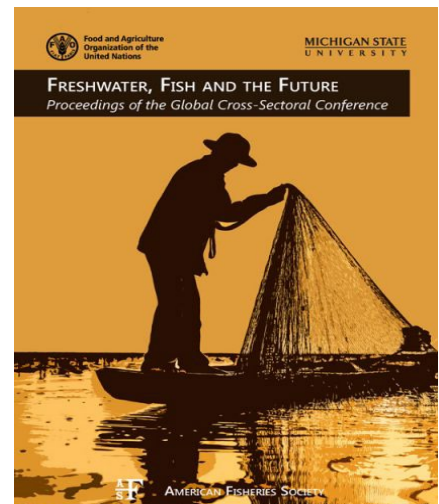
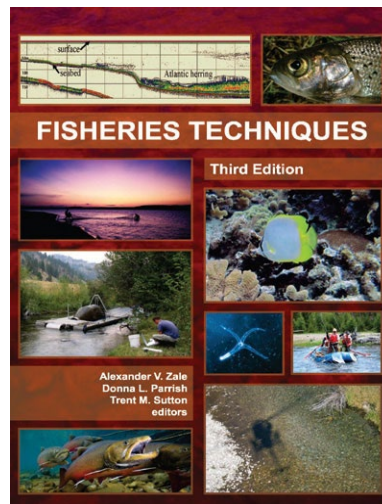
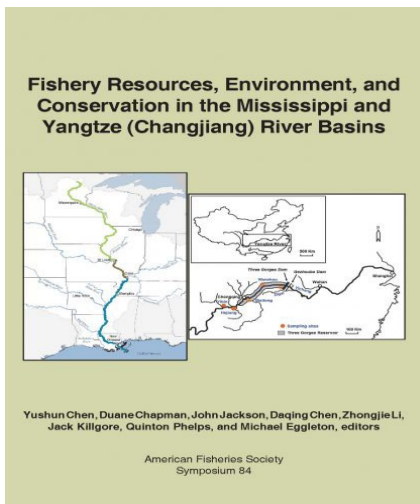
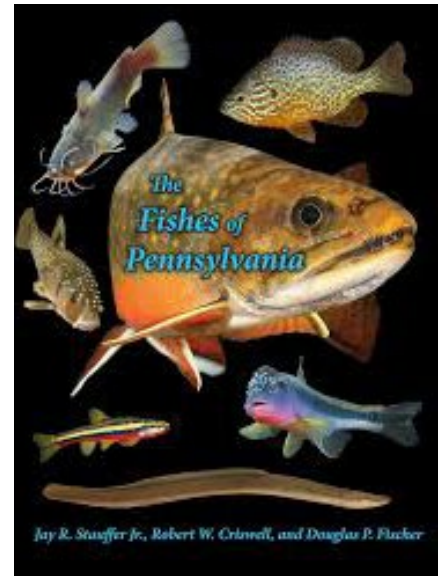
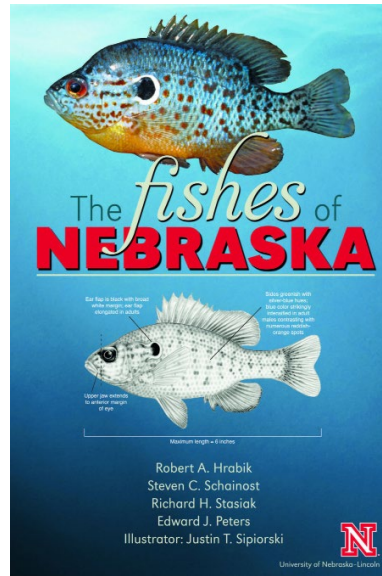
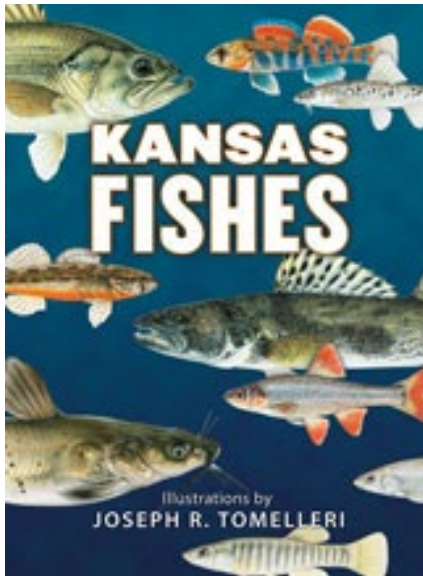
Society Freshwater Science (formerly “NABS”) 2017 Meeting - Raleigh NC - June 4-9, 2017

Theme - *Designing our Freshwater Futures*

See SFS for details: <http://freshwater-science.org/Annual-Meeting/Annual-Meeting.cfm>

# NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

New(ish) Fish Books (click on image to see ordering information)



Know of other new'ish books that colleagues should check out? Please email [Jeremy Tiemann](mailto:Jeremy.Tiemann).

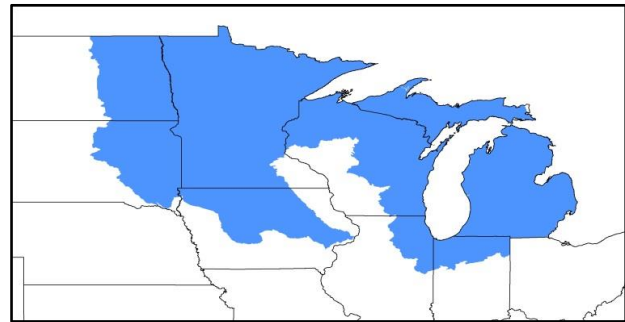


August 1, 2016

## Midwest Glacial Lakes Fish Habitat Partnership Request for 2017 Aquatic Conservation Projects

It's time again to request fish habitat project proposals for funding or support from the Midwest Glacial Lakes Partnership (MGLP). The MGLP is one of twenty partnerships that span the nation under the umbrella of the National Fish Habitat Partnership (NFHP). The MGLP area of focus is glacial lakes and their watersheds (see figure). Eight Midwestern states, federal agencies including the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, U.S. Geological Survey, and the U.S. Forest Service, and private natural resource entities including The Nature Conservancy and the Wisconsin Association of Lakes, have been integral partners in the development and operation of the MGLP.

This will be our eighth year of supporting conservation projects and working toward meeting the goals and objectives set forth in the MGLP Strategic Plan ([midwestglaciallakes.org](http://midwestglaciallakes.org)), and we have directed funding toward a wide range of aquatic conservation projects that benefit imperiled, endangered, and recreational aquatic species and their habitat. While direct partnership funding to date has been limited to only that provided by the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service (USFWS), we have been able to use both NFHP funds and USFWS Fish Passage funds on high priority projects to increase the overall contribution. Most projects have received between \$10,000 and \$25,000 from the MGLP. Projects have been successfully implemented because contributions and capabilities of many partners have been combined to accomplish project goals that none of the partnering entities could accomplish on their own. This has allowed the MGLP to focus conservation delivery on a wide variety of projects across the landscape and to provide funding assistance to 26 projects that ranged in total costs from \$3,000 to over \$680,000, through a wide variety of funding sources that represent over \$2.5 million dollars toward aquatic habitat conservation. This is one of the partnership's greatest strengths; providing additional focus and resources for projects that align with the goals and objectives of the partners.



*The Midwest Glacial Lakes Partnership works to protect, rehabilitate, and enhance sustainable fish habitats in glacial lakes of the Midwest (blue shaded area) for the use and enjoyment of current and future generations.*

If you have an aquatic conservation project aligned with the goals and objectives of the MGLP and need financial assistance, we encourage you to submit a proposal for project funding. An application for funding is included with this announcement and you can submit your application by emailing it to MGLP Coordinator Joe Nohner at [nohnerj@michigan.gov](mailto:nohnerj@michigan.gov). If you have any questions, please contact Joe Nohner at 517-284-6236 or John Lott, MGLP Steering Committee Chair, at [john.lott@state.sd.us](mailto:john.lott@state.sd.us) or 605-773-4508.