

American Fisheries Society, North Central Division
Rivers and Streams Technical Committee
Annual Spring Meeting Minutes, March 14-15th, 2017
Rock Island Conservation Club, Milan Illinois

We had 43 people in attendance from state and federal agencies, organizations, and private consulting firms. This year’s meeting theme was “Thinking outside the banks.” Presentation and discussion topics included riparian corridors, watersheds, groundwater, meaningful restoration, and connecting with others outside our profession. There was a business meeting, numerous presentations and discussion, a stream table, and chapter reports.

Committee Chair, Aleshia Kenney, welcomed the committee and officially opened the meeting. Secretary/Treasurer, Megan Thul, presented the financial report.

Treasurer’s report: On January 1, 2016 there was \$3,400.54 in the RSTC account. After the spring 2016 meeting was held, there was \$2,883.31 (-\$517.23). The group purchased a Bernie Schonhoff fish fryer (\$188) for a raffle item and provided three hotel rooms for students (\$335).

2016 RSTC	Description	Expenses	Deposits	Balance
1-Jan				\$3,400.54
31-Mar	meeting expenses	\$1,077.23	\$560.00	
		\$1,077.23	\$560.00	\$2,883.31

Old Business

Review of student participation: Student attendance is low despite efforts to encourage participation. Currently, registration is waived for students and lodging costs are covered on an as needed basis. In years when multiple student rooms are covered by RSTC, the committee can lose money. There was discussion if RSTC should continue to offer students free registration and lodging or limit the number of rooms RSTC provides to students each year.

Review of registration: Currently \$40 registration covers meals, conference center, and shuttle. Typically the group has little to no profit from registration. Professional attendance at this meeting is partly due to low cost relative to other meetings. The group doesn’t want to increase registration, if possible.

Matt Matheney gave an update on the Winter Meeting of the Rivers and Streams Technical Committee, held at the 77th Midwest Fish and Wildlife meeting in Lincoln, NE.

New Business

Matt Matheney has interest in forming a group of RSTC members to help organize a rivers and streams symposium for the 78th Midwest Fish and Wildlife meeting and/or the Upper Midwest Stream

Restoration Symposium (PRRSUM). This may be an opportunity for RSTC to gain membership and provide information about rivers and streams! If anyone is interested in helping Matt plan a rivers and streams symposium, contact him at matt.matheney@mdc.mo.gov . There is a mid-summer deadline to come up with symposium ideas so contact Matt soon! The 78th Midwest Fish and Wildlife meeting is Jan 28-31, 2018 in Milwaukee, WI.

Opening Keynote Talks

Green Infrastructure for Water Quality Improvements in Agricultural Landscapes - Keith Schilling, University of Iowa

The “Reach and Grasp” of Midwest River and Fish Managers and Scientists – Ken Lubinski, Retired USGS

Presentations in the Technical Session

Afternoon, March 14th, 2017

Supporting the Dynamic Nature of our Rivers: Various Aspects of Fluvial Geomorphic Processes to Support the Restoration and Preservation of Riverine Biodiversity – Frank Veraldi, USACE

Mississippi River Mudpuppy Study – Kevin Hanson, Iowa DNR and Jeff LeClere, Minnesota DNR

Landscape Approaches for Identifying and Evaluating Potential Restoration Sites for the Conservation of Topeka Shiners – Courtney Zambory, Iowa State University

Northeast Iowa Trout Fisheries Management: Past and Present – Dan Kirby, Iowa DNR

Freshwater Mussel Propagation in Illinois – Keeping Common Species Common in Urban Streams – Joe Limpers and Jim Intihar, Forest Preserve District of DuPage County

Morning, March 15th, 2017

State Chapter Reports – documents are posted on the committee website

Walker Branch Wetland Restoration – Preliminary Assessment Rathbun Lake Watershed, Iowa – Luis Leon, LT Leon Associates

Effects of the Blackberry Creek Dam Removal on Stream Fish Assemblages – Steve Pescitelli, Illinois DNR

Nebraska’s Spalding Fishway: First Year of Operation – Steve Schainost, Nebraska GPC

Sand to Soil for Beneficial Use of Dredged Material – Chuck Theiling, USACE

Methods for Rapid Stream Assessment – Chris Haring, USACE presented by Chuck Theiling, USACE

Iowa: A Red State in More Ways than One: Hybrid Swarm of Red and Spotfin Shiners in SE Iowa – John Olson, Iowa DNR

Status and Habitat Associations of the Endangered Topeka Shiner in Three Basins in Iowa and Minnesota
– Alexander Bybel, Iowa State University

America's Newest Invader? – Discovery of a Third Corbicula in Illinois – Jeremy Tiemann, Illinois Natural History Survey

Fishes of Champaign County: 100+ Years of Data – Josh Sherwood, Illinois Natural History Survey

Assessing the Distribution of the Iowa Darter in Illinois – Andy Stites, Illinois Natural History Survey