



**New York Chapter  
American Fisheries  
Society – Newsletter**

**Winter 2011**

New York Chapter Officers  
2011-2012  
President: Ed Woltmann  
President-elect: Frank Flack  
Past President: Matt Sanderson  
Secretary-Treasurer: Scott Jones

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Newsletter Editor: Emily Zollweg-Horan  
[eczollwe@gw.dec.state.ny.us](mailto:eczollwe@gw.dec.state.ny.us)

# AFS – New York Chapter Newsletter – Winter 2011

## Editors' Note

Welcome to the Winter 2011 newsletter! It's been a busy year, so I hope this newsletter finds you ready to recharge your batteries at the annual meeting! Candidate biographies are not included in this issue, in part due to lack of candidates, but also due to the ease of electronic distribution. The biographies will be available on the website prior to the meeting, and will be emailed when all are available. If you would care to submit something for the Spring newsletter, please email it to me at [eczollwe@gw.dec.state.ny.us](mailto:eczollwe@gw.dec.state.ny.us) by March 15, 2012. I'm especially looking for fish stories and student happenings... Also please make sure that Erik ([ejlatrem@gw.dec.state.ny.us](mailto:ejlatrem@gw.dec.state.ny.us)) has your correct email address in order to ensure uninterrupted delivery of the newsletter!

Emily Zollweg-Horan, Newsletter Editor

## President's Corner

Well, the year certainly has flown by. It was only yesterday that I recall becoming the Chapter President and here it is December already. It has been a busy year and I would like to thank all the members of the Chapter, particularly the members of the Executive Committee, who assisted me over the past year. We have made progress in many areas. Thanks to Erik Latremore, we now have a much improved website, including a first ever on-line mechanism for registering and paying for the annual meeting. We now have a Chapter Facebook page that we hope will see increasing use as a means of communication among chapter members as its existence becomes more well known. Our Fishtoberfest in October saw little cooperation from Mother Nature who provided rain, cold and many a wet tent, but the hardy dozen or so that attended had a great time and were acknowledged by the band who still have fond memories of the original Fishtoberfest they played at in 2006.

I guess the grand finale of my tenure as president will be the Annual Chapter Meeting to be held February 1-3 in Lake Placid. I am excited about the program we put together and our theme "Partnerships", which at least from the DEC perspective, are extremely important to managing and protecting our fisheries, based on our increasingly limited staff resources. Those of you who know me, know that I am partial to fish that don't have an adipose fin with a particular fondness of black bass. I am very excited about the special black bass management session that we have put together, which includes Dave Philipp and Mark Ridgway the editors of the groundbreaking Black Bass 2000 symposium. We have also organized two excellent workshops on Mussel Identification and Leadership. Additional meeting details, including instructions on how to register and reserve a room, can be found in this newsletter. I think that you will be very pleased with the meeting arrangements and hope that you all find the time to attend the meeting. As we are now pretty much completely reliant on the electronic world to get notice out about the meeting, please pass on this newsletter and meeting notice to all you feel might be interested.

Wishing all of you a Merry Christmas and a Happy Holiday Season!

Ed Woltmann, President

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## Chapter News

### Time for a new logo?

The New York Chapter is considering developing a new logo, or at least a modernization of our current logo. Our official logo is shown on the right below. Another version that you may have seen on chapter correspondence is on the bottom left. This version is much too complex to be embroidered on a shirt or hat. Unfortunately, these logos are hand drawn and the originals are long gone. We need your feedback. Should we develop a new logo, or just clean up the “official” logo and transform it into a graphic file? This will be an item discussion at the Chapter Business Meeting, but feel free to provide your feedback or logo options to Ed at [efwoltma@gw.dec.state.ny.us](mailto:efwoltma@gw.dec.state.ny.us). If you have any design capability or artistic inclinations and are interested in assisting with this endeavor, please let us know.



**Nominations** are being accepted for the positions of New York Chapter AFS President-elect and Secretary/Treasurer. If you have an interest in getting involved with your professional organization, please consider running for office. There are many reasons to throw your hat in the ring:

- The NY Chapter currently possesses a group of strong committee chairs to deliver chapter programs and provide assistance and institutional memory to incoming officers. Speaking as past president, I assure you that this made my job much easier.
- The NY Chapter is currently in good financial health, which is a good thing in these tough economic times.
- You would get to represent the chapter at the 2013 Northeast Fish and Wildlife Conference in April, and the Annual Meeting of the AFS on Sept. 8-12, in Little Rock, AR.
- It never hurts to build on your professional credentials.

I would be happy to speak more about the time commitment involved, the duties, and the benefits. Please email me at [mjsander@gw.dec.state.ny.us](mailto:mjsander@gw.dec.state.ny.us) or call me at 585-226-5341.

Matt Sanderson NY Chapter AFS past president and nominations chairperson.

### Website

Please feel free to email me at [ejlatrem@gw.dec.state.ny.us](mailto:ejlatrem@gw.dec.state.ny.us) with your questions or suggestions.  
Erik Latremore, NYSAFS Webmaster

The New York Chapter of the American Fisheries Society would like to formally invite you to join our new Facebook group to stay informed and communicate with other members. You will be able to view job announcements, current events, or even catch up with good 'ol friends. If you do not have a Facebook account, type [www.facebook.com](http://www.facebook.com) into your web browser and fill out the information under "Sign Up." We have a link from

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our new website as well under Social Network. Friend us soon to stay in the loop and help us help you help our fisheries resources ;-). If you have suggestions and ideas on how to manage or what to post on our Facebook site, we would like to hear them.

## Awards

Hello Fellow NYCAFS Members,

We are closing in on the annual conference in February in Lake Placid and I am pushing a final solicitation for award nominees. Please send a brief synopsis of why your candidate deserves the award you are nominating them for to [rabbett@usgs.gov](mailto:rabbett@usgs.gov). The final date for accepting nominations is January 7<sup>th</sup>, 2012.

## **New York Chapter Awards**

The New York Chapter has three award classifications for recognizing our fisheries professionals:

### *Honorary Member Award*

The Honorary Member Award is for significant involvement and accomplishments by an individual to the Chapter or official position (i.e. Guest Speakers). Nominations should include a brief biography and discussion of the significant involvement and contributions towards conservation of fisheries/aquatic resource within the Chapter. The only criterion for the award is that the nominee must be a member in good standing.

### *Professional Achievement Award*

The Professional of the Year Award is awarded to an individual employed in a field related to fisheries and aquatic resources. Nominations for individuals should include a brief biography along with information pertaining to service, impact on the resource and other professional, and significant accomplishments. Eligible accomplishments by the nominee can be in one of the following categories: Leadership and Development, Education, Aquaculture, Management, Research and Technical Support.

- Only members in good standing can make nominations
- The recipient must be a member in good standing
- The award is based on fisheries related work in New York

### *Conservationist of the Year Award*

The Conservationist of the Year Award is for significant involvement and accomplishments by an individual or group not employed in the fisheries or aquatic resources field (i.e. Conservation or Angler Groups). Nominations should include a brief biography and discussion of the significant involvement and contributions towards conservation of fisheries/aquatic resources. The only criterion for the award is that the award is based on fisheries/aquatic resource related work accomplished in New York.

It is never too late to nominate our peers for their outstanding work related to fisheries and aquatic resources. Please take some time and think about your peers who deserve recognition.

Nominations can be emailed to Ross at [rabbett@usgs.gov](mailto:rabbett@usgs.gov)

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## *Dave Bryson Memorial Award*

The New York Chapter of the American Fisheries Society established the Dave Bryson Memorial Fisheries Fund in memory of Dave Bryson, ex-chapter President and long-time member. Eligible recipients include any college-bound high school students, college student or young fisheries professional in a fisheries-related program of study or a recent college graduate that has received a degree from a fisheries-related program of study within the past two years. The award is intended to assist the recipient in furthering their education or fisheries-related career aspirations and may be used for travel expenses, equipment purchase, or educational costs (i.e. books).

Please take some time and think about a student or young professional who deserve recognition.

Nominations can be emailed to Ross at [rabbett@usgs.gov](mailto:rabbett@usgs.gov)

## Workshop

# Chapter Workshop Schedule

Feb 1 8 am -12 noon: Freshwater Mussel Identification (limited space)

Feb 1 1:00 pm – 3:00 pm: Leadership

See website for registration details: <http://www.newyorkafs.org/>

## Freshwater Pearly Mussel Course Outline

Instructors: Amy Mahar and Jenny Landry, NYSDEC BioDiversity Biologists

**Overview:** Freshwater pearly mussels are among the most imperiled groups of animals in North America and approximately  $\frac{2}{3}$  -  $\frac{3}{4}$  of the 300 freshwater mussel species native to North America are extinct, listed as endangered or threatened, or are in need of conservation status (Williams *et al.* 1993, Nature Serve Global Ranking, Stein *et al.* 2000). This course will provide an introduction to New York's freshwater bivalves and will focus on the ecological importance of pearly mussels and the unique host fish – mussel relationship. Hands on species identification will be provided.

### **Introduction to New York's freshwater bivalves - 15 minutes**

An introductory presentation will provide course participants with an overview of New York State's freshwater bivalves, including native pearly mussels and fingernail clams and nonnative zebra mussels, quagga mussels and Asian clams.

### **Ecological importance of pearly mussels and the fish-mussel connection - 1 hour, 15 minutes**

Instructors will present participants with information on the ecological importance and habitat requirements of pearly mussels. As most mussel species must parasitize a fish to complete their life cycle, special attention will be given to mussel life history and the unique fish host relationship. This discussion will touch upon mechanisms, such as fish mimic lures and suspended mucus nets, used by mussels to pass their young to fish, fish response, and the advantages of fish hosts for mussels. Instructors will also discuss past and present human uses for mussels and current threats, including aquatic habitat fragmentation, facing this group of species and their hosts.

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## **Overview of New York mussel survey work - 30 minutes**

Recent New York mussel survey work, including State Wildlife Grant funded surveys of the Alleghany, Southeast and Southwest Lake Ontario and Susquehanna Basins will be introduced. Common qualitative and quantitative survey methods will be briefly discussed.

## **Small Group “Midden” Sorting - 1 hour**

Participants will be introduced to mussel anatomy and key shell identification characteristics. The class will then divide into small groups containing no more than 6 people. Each group will receive a pile of shells containing multiple representatives of approximately 20 New York State mussel species. By examining morphological similarities and differences, groups will divide the piles into species groups. Instructors and assistants will be on hand to guide groups in this effort.

## **Shell Identification - 1 hour**

Common (and not-so-common) NY State pearly mussel species will be introduced. Individual species habitat preferences, life history factoids, conservation status, and identification hints will be discussed. Shells from the “midden” sorting exercise and from DEC R8 collection will be available for reference during this segment.

## **Leadership:**

Presented by Dr. Ernie Stretton

This presentation will reflect the most important factors of overall success and the effects that the qualities of leadership have on determining the ways we approach problems and challenges in the 21st Century. Leadership in this time and place in history has never been so important as our society in preserving our way of life and perhaps the future of us all. After all, everything rises and falls on the strength of great leadership. The presentation will identify the QUALITIES of great leadership and why great leaders are effective. The presentation will also include essential LAWS and LEVELS of leadership that are imperative for any leader or organization! Opportunity for questions will be an integral part of the session.

*Dr. Stretton is the retired Superintendent of the Lake Placid School District and currently serves as a Professor in the St. Lawrence University Graduate School Leadership Academy. He is the recipient of several leadership awards.*

## **Student News**

### **SUNY-ESF chapter of AFS Chapter Updates: Developing knowledge, skills and networking abilities**

A chapter goal this fall was to increase student exposure to fisheries techniques and skills. We sought to supplement student, hands-on opportunities in environments detached from grades and busy class schedules. During our Onondaga Fish Day in early October, members were familiarized with trap netting, gill netting, and boat electrofishing techniques. Numerous species were observed, ogled over, and scrutinized for education. Graduate students Lucas Kirby and Stephanie Johnson (Dr. Ringler’s lab)

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led the event. The chapter also sponsored an electrofishing demonstration and celebratory cook-out on Limestone creek, hosted by graduate student Chris Nack (Dr. Limburg's lab). Chapter president Natalie Scheibel led a visit to Carpenter's Brook fish hatchery, where the group transferred and counted yearling brown trout from pools set to be cleaned.

In addition to hands-on training, the ESF chapter hosted various events to increase student networking and knowledge opportunities. Highlights include Chapter Vice President Brian Henning's presentation on *Fishes of the St. Lawrence River* and ESF professor emeritus Dr. Bob Werner's discussion on *The Natural History of Skaneateles*. More recently, the Chapter celebrated the season and a successful semester, by co hosting a banquet with the ESF Trout Bums Club. Graduate and undergraduate students mingle with local fisheries professionals and Tom Hughes from NY State Parks supplied information on the NY AFS youth aquatic education committee. Dr. George Ketola from USGS, Cortland rounded out the evening by presenting his work on *Thiamine in Fish*. This spring we will continue to facilitate interactions between students and fisheries professionals.

The chapter is appreciative of the resources and generosity of all who donated their time and knowledge. Thank you!

### Undergraduate Research Update:

During summer and fall 2011, Cornell undergraduate, Alex Koeberle working with graduate student T.J. Ross, measured growth rates differences in hatchery-reared and wild brown trout in the upper Esopus Creek, NY. He found hatchery fish had significantly lower growth rates than wild fish and anthropogenic stream alteration also influenced growth rates. Alex will present his research at the 2012 NYAFS annual meeting in Lake Placid, NY.

### Northeast Division

#### East Coast Trout Management and Culture Workshop V

#### ***"Conservation and Management of East Coast Trout Resources in an Increasingly Crowded World"***

June 11 - 13, 2012, Frostburg State University, Frostburg, MD

#### **First Call for Papers**

The Southern Division AFS Trout Committee announces the 5th East Coast Trout Management and Culture Workshop June 11 - 13, 2012, at Frostburg State University in Frostburg, Maryland. This workshop is unique in providing a forum for both managers and trout culturists to share information, techniques and timely topics of concerns.

Coldwater conservation, management and trout production efforts are increasingly being impacted by the effects of human activities on water quality and habitat conditions, including the added challenges posed by invasive exotic organisms. This Fifth conference

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encourages presentations addressing human impacts on water quality and habitat, stream restoration projects, reestablishment of native brook trout populations, impacts and challenges of trout management with increasing oil and gas extraction activities, and challenges of trout propagation related to dealing with invasives, biosecurity, and native trout propagation. Presentations on all other topics associated with trout management and culture are also welcomed and will be considered for inclusion in the workshop program.

Fisheries managers, culturists, researchers, administrators, and sportsmen are encouraged to attend this workshop and to submit an abstract(s) for review and inclusion in the conference program. Presentations may include reviews of pertinent works and recently completed studies or preliminary results that are innovative solutions to the challenges we face in managing our coldwater resources. Those wishing to present at this workshop must send an abstract to Alan Heft ([aheft@dnr.state.md.us](mailto:aheft@dnr.state.md.us)) for management topics or George Duckwall ([george.duckwall@dgif.virginia.gov](mailto:george.duckwall@dgif.virginia.gov)) for culture topics by March 9, 2012. Abstracts or extended abstracts should be in MICROSOFT WORD and follow the instructions for authors in the Manuscript Format section for the North American Journal of Fisheries Management (<http://www.tandfonline.com/action/authorSubmission?journalCode=ujfm20&page=instructions>). Abstracts can be up to four, double spaced pages with additional tables and figures. All accepted abstracts will be published in the meeting proceedings, and should include a title, name and address of each author, and the telephone number and email address of the presenter.

Meeting registration (\$50), lodging (FSU air conditioned dormitory rooms with linens, single (\$38/night) or double (\$22/night), and meal package (FSU dining hall, \$35.00 per day, breakfast, lunch, and dinner) information will be available on the Southern Division AFS Trout Committee's website <http://www.sdafs.org/trout>, after January 23, 2012. The SDAFS annual Trout Committee meeting (June 11, 2012, 8:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.) and the EBTJV Steering Committee annual meeting (June 13 – 14, 2012) will be held in conjunction with this meeting also. Local lodging and restaurant information is available at <http://www.frostburg.edu/admin/ses/dininglodging.html>.

For additional meeting information contact Steve Moore ([Steve\\_E\\_Moore@nps.gov](mailto:Steve_E_Moore@nps.gov)) or Alan Heft ([aheft@dnr.state.md.us](mailto:aheft@dnr.state.md.us)).

## Announcements



## 2012 CALL FOR PRESENTATIONS

Northeast Fish and Wildlife Conference

Sunday, April 15 - Tuesday, April 17, 2012 ~ Charleston Marriott Town Center, Charleston, WV

### Save the Date

The 68th Annual Northeast Fish & Wildlife Conference will be held Sunday, April 15 - Tuesday, April 17, 2012 at the Charleston Marriott Town Center in Charleston, West Virginia.

### About the Conference

This annual event will attract over 500 natural resources professionals in the fields of wildlife biology, fisheries and fisheries management, information and education and law enforcement. The event provides opportunities for

### Quick Links

[NEAFWA Website](#)

[Call for Presentations Info](#)

[Submit Abstract Online](#)

[Meeting Room Request](#)

### Location & Lodging

The host hotel for the 68th Annual



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education, discussion, and exchanging of ideas. Highlights include: over 50 workshop sessions, keynote speakers, poster displays, and social networking events.

## Call for Presentations

You are invited! Share your projects and presentations with the audience at the 68th Annual Northeast Fish & Wildlife Conference!

Presentations will be made in the following subject areas:

- Marketing & Outreach
- Freshwater Fisheries
- Marine / Diadromous Fisheries
- Wildlife

You may submit one of the following formats:

- 20 minute presentation to be combined with other like topics
- Poster display

For additional information about abstracts, click [here](#).

To submit a poster or presentation abstract online, click [here](#).

Deadline for submission is **Monday, January 16th, 2012**.

NEAFWA Conference is the Charleston Marriott Town Center located in the heart of downtown Charleston, West Virginia.

Overnight accommodations are available for a **discounted group rate of \$124.00 / night** plus tax. Make your reservations by Thursday, **March, 22, 2012** in order to receive the discounted group rate.

Please call the hotel directly at 304-345-6500 and be sure to mention that you are with the **Northeast Fish & Wildlife Conference** to receive the group rate.

[www.charlestonmarriott.com](http://www.charlestonmarriott.com)

## Interested in Sponsoring?

Download the Exhibitor and Sponsor [Brochure](#).

## Small Group Meetings

Small Group Meeting Request Forms are now being accepted. This form should be used by Northeast Association of Fish & Wildlife Agencies committees and working groups, universities, organizations, agencies, and others interested in holding a meeting or social function in association with the conference. Space is limited.

Note: The Plenary Session is scheduled for Monday morning and concurrent sessions begin Monday afternoon and run through Tuesday. Associated meetings will not be scheduled during the Plenary Session or during full group social events.

Click [here](#) to download the Small Group Meeting Request Form.

Hosted by:



## Conference Theme

**Celebrating 75 Years of Success: A Partnership for America's Fish & Wildlife.**



The Plenary Session will focus on major accomplishments of the Wildlife and Sport Fishing Restoration Program from state, federal and industry perspectives.

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## AFS News

### **AFS End-of-Year Book Sale**

AFS is offering 89 publications at reduced prices. From now until January 13, 2012, take advantage of our End-of-Year Book Sale and save on selected titles. Complete your science library at dramatically reduced prices - all sale publications are priced from \$5.00 to \$20.00. No refunds or returns on this special offer. These sale books available through our online bookstore only.

Click on: [www.afsbooks.org](http://www.afsbooks.org)

### **Conservation, Ecology, and Management of Catfish: The Second International Symposium**

Paul H. Michaletz and Vincent H. Travnicek, editors

780 pages, hard cover

Published by the American Fisheries Society

Publication date: August 2011

ISBN: 978-1-934874-25-7

\$79.00 list price, \$55.30 AFS members

To order: [www.afsbooks.org/54077C](http://www.afsbooks.org/54077C)

### **Summary**

Catfish species occur worldwide and are of increasing interest to anglers, biologists, aquaculturists, aquarists, and conservationists. This book explores the incredible diversity of catfish in size, life history, and ecology.

Catfish provide important sport fisheries and many chapters provide new insights on sampling, population dynamics, and management of these sport fishes. Numerous non-game species of catfish have not been well-studied and this book supplies new information on several of these species, including some that are threatened by habitat degradation and other factors. Several chapters provide insights into the population dynamics and potential management strategies for nonnative catfish populations, some of which have devastated native fish fauna. Other chapters document the large variation in fish movements and habitat use in river systems both within and among catfish species. The last chapter summarizes the state of knowledge of catfish science, and identifies areas for future study.

This book will be a valuable reference for anyone interested in catfish, especially those charged with studying, managing, or conserving these important species.

Check out the latest books at [www.afsbooks.org](http://www.afsbooks.org)

Join AFS or renew for 2011 at [www.fisheries.org/afs/membership.html](http://www.fisheries.org/afs/membership.html)

**AFS Information on the Web** <http://www.fisheries.org>

AFS has a mailing list for postings regarding fish, announcements, job opportunities and requests for information. You can subscribe to receive these in normal email mode or in digest mode. To subscribe, e-mail to: [daemon@fisheries.org](mailto:daemon@fisheries.org) and enter SUBSCRIBE AFS in the body of the e-mail.

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AFS members: The [AFS Policy Statement on Need for an Immediate-Release Anesthetic/Sedative for Use in the Fisheries Disciplines](#) is now ready for an electronic vote by the membership. The draft policy statement was discussed and approved by the AFS Governing Board to be brought to the full AFS membership for comment and vote.

Please visit <http://www.fisheries.org/blog/groups/rpc-report-from-afs-annual-meeting/forum/topic/rpc-report-from-afs-annual-meeting/> to view comments regarding the policy statement.

**To vote, please follow the link below (The vote will be open till the end of the year):**

<http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/3RT9BLN>

AFS 2012: Links Open for Submission of Symposium Ideas and All Abstracts

Links for online submission of Symposium Ideas and ALL Abstracts are now open through the 2012 meeting web pages (<http://www.afs2012.org>). You will encounter some changes, as we follow suggestions to better link posters and papers with related symposia.

The AFS 2012 Program Committee invites you to submit symposium ideas for the annual meeting in Minneapolis-St. Paul, Minnesota, August 19-23, 2012. New this year, we are asking potential organizers to submit symposium ideas and contact information ASAP, with the full proposal deadline remaining January 6, 2012. We will consider a wide range of topics and are especially interested in those that address our theme “Fisheries Networks: Building Ecological, Social, and Professional Relationships.” Early symposium ideas are posted on the conference web site (<http://www.afs2012.org>). This will benefit organizers by helping them recruit speakers and identify others with similar topics. Members will benefit by getting earlier awareness of symposia so they can plan to attend the meeting or can request to participate in a symposium. Members should contact organizers directly and as soon as possible to be included on the list of presenters due with the full proposal. Organizers will still recruit the majority of presenters for their symposium, but will work with the Program Committee to add relevant contributed papers if space is available.

If you are thinking of organizing a symposium, please use the online links or e-mail the following information to Symposium Coordinator Loren Miller ([LMM@umn.edu](mailto:LMM@umn.edu)):

Organizer name(s) and contact information (e-mail, phone, institution)

Initial title

A brief (1-3 sentence) description of the symposium topic idea

Submitting a proposal idea does not commit you to later submitting a full proposal. Full proposals will be due January 6, 2012 using the abstract submission web site available soon. A full proposal requires organizer names and contact information, a 300 word max abstract and a list of speakers (see the Call for Papers for full details).

December 2011 issue of Fisheries is now online. Paper copies will mail soon.

[http://www.fisheries.org/afs/docs/fisheries\\_magazine\\_archive/fisheries\\_3612.pdf](http://www.fisheries.org/afs/docs/fisheries_magazine_archive/fisheries_3612.pdf)

Upcoming Events



New York Chapter of the American Fisheries Society

2012 Annual Meeting

***Partnerships – working collaboratively to effectively manage our fisheries.***

February 1-3, 2012, High Peaks Resort, Lake Placid, NY

Make plans to join us at the **2012 Annual Meeting of the New York Chapter of the American Fisheries Society, February 1-3 at the High Peaks Resort in Lake Placid, NY.** Our meeting theme is "**Partnerships - Working collaboratively to effectively manage our fisheries**" and our plenary session will investigate the various partnerships that are being utilized by State, Federal, Provincial and private fisheries professionals to protect and enhance our fisheries resources. We have gathered a group of noteworthy speakers including Commissioner Joe Martens (DEC), Marc Gaden (GLFC), Jim Johnson (USGS), Doug Stang (Eastern Brook Trout Joint Venture), Bill Fisher (AFS/Cornell University), Ron Essig (USFWS) and Rob Southwick (Southwick Associates) who will provide their insight on our theme.

The 2012 meeting will also feature a **special session on management of black bass in northern waters.** Already booked are some of the most prominent bass researchers in North America including Dave Phillip (Illinois Natural History Survey), Cory Suski (University of Illinois), Mark Ridgeway (Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources), Randy Jackson (Cornell University) and Tim Mihuc (SUNY Plattsburgh). These speakers will focus on the challenges we face in managing black bass in the northern U.S, including the impacts of early season fishing and tournaments on our bass resources. The session will end with a panel discussion.

Workshops on Mussel Identification and Leadership will also be held on day 1 of the meeting. The Mussel Workshop will be conducted by DEC Diversity Biologist's Amy Mahar and Jenny Landry. The Leadership Workshop will be conducted by Lake Placid's own Dr. Ernest Stretton a professor at the St. Lawrence University Graduate School Leadership Academy and a renowned speaker on the subject of leadership.

In consideration of the economy and shrinking agency budgets, the member rate has been reduced \$5 from last year. Just make sure that you preregister prior to January 15. **ON-LINE REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN ON THE CHAPTER WEBSITE [www.newyorkafs.org](http://www.newyorkafs.org).**

Reservations at the High Peaks Resort can be made by calling 518-289-4206 and indicating that you are part of the NY Chapter American Fisheries Society Conference. We have negotiated a very competitive rate of \$99 single or double occupancy at this luxury Lake Placid resort that is \$27 below the government rate for this time period.

**MEETING REGISTRATION FEES**

Full meeting registration includes all meeting sessions and breaks, as well as the buffet lunch and banquet on Thursday. One day registration covers all events except workshops on the day of registration. Workshop registration is separate from meeting registration.

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| Registration Category           | By 1/15  | After 1/15 |
|---------------------------------|----------|------------|
| Full Registration – Member      | \$90.00  | \$115.00   |
| Full Registration – Non-Member  | \$120.00 | \$135.00   |
| 1 Day Registration – Member     | \$50.00  | \$75.00    |
| 1 Day Registration – Non Member | \$80.00  | \$105.00   |
| Full Registration – Student     | \$45.00  | \$70.00    |
| 1 Day Registration – Student    | \$30.00  | \$55.00    |

## Workshop Registration Fees

|                                    |                  |
|------------------------------------|------------------|
| <i>Mussel Identification*</i>      | <b>\$10.00</b>   |
| <i>Leadership Workshop</i>         | <i>No Charge</i> |
| <i>*Limited to 30 participants</i> |                  |

## Tentative Meeting Schedule

### Wednesday, February 1, 2012

|                    |                                              |
|--------------------|----------------------------------------------|
| 8:00 am -12:00 pm  | Mussel Identification Workshop               |
| 1:00 pm – 3:00 pm  | Leadership Workshop                          |
| 3:00 pm – 5:00 pm  | Brook Trout Committee Meeting                |
| 5:00 pm – 7:00 pm  | New York Chapter Executive Committee Meeting |
| 7:00 pm – 8:00 pm  | Conference Registration                      |
| 7:00 pm – 10:00 pm | Welcome Social                               |

### Thursday, February 2, 2012

|                    |                                                  |
|--------------------|--------------------------------------------------|
| 7:00 am – 8:00 am  | Continental Breakfast/Conference Registration*   |
| 8:15 am – 12:00 pm | Plenary Session                                  |
| 12:00 pm -1:00 pm  | Buffet Lunch                                     |
| 1:00 pm – 5:00 pm  | Special Session – Northern Black Bass Management |
| 5:00 pm – 6:00 pm  | New York Chapter Business Meeting                |
| 6:00 pm – 7:00 pm  | Poster Social                                    |
| 7:00 pm – 10:00 pm | Banquet                                          |

*\* Registration will continue during breaks*

### Friday, February 3, 2012

|                     |                                       |
|---------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 7:00 am to 8:00 am  | Continental Breakfast                 |
| 8:20 am to 12:00 pm | Contributed Paper Session             |
| 12:00 pm            | Award Presentations/Conference Closes |

Be sure to check the Chapter website [www.newyorkafs.org](http://www.newyorkafs.org) for up to date information concerning the 2012 Annual Meeting.

## Call for Papers

The New York Chapter American Fisheries Society is looking for contributed papers or posters for the 2012 Annual Meeting being held February 1st to 3<sup>rd</sup> at the High Peaks Resort in Lake Placid. Please contact Don Einhouse (716-366-0228) with questions, or submit an abstract to [dweinhou@gw.dec.state.ny.us](mailto:dweinhou@gw.dec.state.ny.us) following the instructions below;

When submitting your abstract:

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- Use a brief, descriptive title and avoid acronyms or scientific names in the title unless the common name is not widely known;
- List all authors, their affiliations, addresses, telephone numbers, and e-mail addresses;
- Provide a summary of your findings and restrict your abstract to 200 words;
- Abstracts must be in Microsoft Word format.

Oral presentations are limited to 20 minutes (15 minutes for presentation plus 5 minutes for speaker introduction and questions). All oral presentations must use PowerPoint format (Office 2007 or earlier). Abstracts for oral presentations and posters must be received by January 11, 2012.

### First call to participate

This year, the scientific sessions for the International Association for Great Lakes Research' 55th Annual Conference will be held jointly with the St. Lawrence River Ecosystem Annual Conference at the Nav Centre in Cornwall, Ontario, May 13 - 17, 2012. More than 50 topics were proposed and among them a special session entitled:

#### **Revisiting yellow perch fishery collapses in the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence River; where are we after all these management actions?**

Yellow perch is an ecologically and economically important fish species in the Great Lakes and the St. Lawrence River. In the past 40 years, dramatic variation in yellow perch population abundance and distribution has been observed throughout their range in this large watershed. Many factors are thought to influence yellow perch dynamics, over short and long time scales, including water quality, physical habitat, predator-prey relationships (mainly involving walleye, northern pike and, more recently, double-crest cormorant), invasive species and, likely the most studied factor, fisheries. Recent observations on the influence of eutrophication-induced changes to the food web were also reported in some parts of the system, complicating assessment, management and recovery. The aims of this session are to synthesize our knowledge (1) on the status of the major yellow perch stocks, (2) the factors governing their dynamics, (3) the observed responses to the management measures implemented and (4) to stimulate discussion on the relationships between natural and anthropogenic stressors.

The conference abstract submission will open up in November (<http://www.iaqlr.org/>).

*Pierre Dumont and Yves Mailhot*, co-chairs  
Ministère des Ressources naturelles et de la Faune du Québec

[pierre.dumont2@mrfn.gouv.qc.ca](mailto:pierre.dumont2@mrfn.gouv.qc.ca)

Fish Passage 2012

The 2nd National Conference on Engineering & Ecohydrology for Fish Passage  
University of Massachusetts Amherst  
June 5-7, 2012

Abstracts for Oral Presentations due March 1, 2012

For more information see: [http:// www.fishpassageconference.com](http://www.fishpassageconference.com)

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The 2012 National Conference on Engineering & Ecohydrology for Fish Passage (Fish Passage 2012) promises to be an important national forum for researchers and practitioners to exchange findings and experiences on fish passage issues.

Fish Passage 2012 will be of interest to researchers, educators, practitioners, funders, and regulators who have an interest in advancements in technical fishways, nature-like fishways, stream restoration and stabilization, dam removal, road ecology, and the myriad of funding, safety, climate change, and other social issues surrounding connectivity projects.

This is a three-day conference with concurrent sessions in engineering, biology, and management and social issues. The conference will also feature plenary talks, professional networking opportunities, and a poster session.

Fish Passage 2012 follows the successful Fish Passage 2011 conference held at UMass Amherst in June 2011.

Topics of interest include the following:

- instream flows
- ecohydraulics
- stream restoration
- connectivity, fragmentation
- Denil, steep pass fishways
- pool-and-weir fishways
- fish locks, fish lifts
- nature-like fishways
- bypass channels
- stream simulation
- culvert passage
- eelways
- CFD, HEC-RAS, modeling
- racks, louvers, protection
- design methodologies
- migratory behavior
- aquatic organism passage
- life history
- watershed ecology
- fisheries management
- fish physiology
- population studies
- case studies
- cultural resources, SHPO
- project management
- IT & database management
- education and outreach
- hydropower relicensing
- permitting activities
- evaluation and monitoring
- dam removal
- irrigation screening
- connectivity and links to climate change
- use of social media and other tricks to raise public awareness and increase project support and funding
- fundraising and leveraging existing funding streams
- public consensus building
- dam safety implications
- education - what's needed inside the government and outside?

Organizing Committee:

David Ahlfeld, Univ. of Massachusetts, Civil & Environmental Engineering

John Catena, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

Brett Towler, US Fish and Wildlife Service

Kevin Moody, Federal Highway Administration/US Department of Transportation

Ted Castro-Santos, US Geologic Survey / University of Massachusetts,  
Environmental Conservation

Austin Polebitski, Univ. of Massachusetts, Civil & Environmental  
Engineering

Susan Wells, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service / National Fish Passage Program

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## [AFS-EDU Student Travel Award from the AFS FITS](#)

Announcement for the 2012 Best Student Poster Award from the Fisheries Information and Technology Section. Posters are judged on innovative use of technology in a fisheries research project, and submissions can be sent (title and abstract only) to the FITS President Jodi Whittier ([whittierj@missouri.edu](mailto:whittierj@missouri.edu)). Thanks!

Rebecca Krogman, FITS Newsletter Editor

### Jobs

AFS Job Center Online: <http://www.fisheries.org/jobs.shtml> <http://www.fisheries.org/jobs.shtml>

#### **Marine Scientist I Position**

#### **Department of Fisheries Science, Virginia Institute of Marine Science**

|                        |                  |
|------------------------|------------------|
| <b>Position Number</b> | 00306V           |
| <b>Job Title</b>       | Marine Scientist |
| <b>Role Title</b>      | Scientist I      |

#### **Position Summary:**

This is a restricted position and continued employment is dependent on funding. This position is located in Gloucester Point, VA with the Virginia Institute of Marine Science. The College of William and Mary invites applications for the position of Marine Scientist to provide scientific expertise to the study of blue catfish populations in tidal tributaries of Chesapeake Bay; plans, coordinates, and arranges schedules and logistical support for laboratory and field operations. Conducts work independently; periodic discussions with supervisor provide general guidance and clarify goals of study. Assures data quality, and proper and timely archiving of such data. Supervises full-time technician and hourly field personnel. Provides effective communication of results to partners and collaborators and other interested parties.

#### **Required Qualifications:**

Knowledge of general biology, fisheries, fisheries sampling techniques, and general scientific principles. Knowledge and experience collecting fish using a variety of sampling gear (such as electrofishing, bottom trawls, beach seines), preferably in estuarine systems. Knowledge of Chesapeake Bay fishery resources and ability to identify fish from freshwater and brackish environments. Ability to work and supervise personnel under physically demanding circumstances, in occasionally harsh conditions. Ability to work on small vessels and resist motion sickness; ability to swim. Ability to assemble laboratory aquarium systems for the maintenance of live fish and conduct of experiments. Must possess excellent oral and written communication skills, as well as computer skills (SAS, R) and ability to conduct statistical analyses, particularly with mark-recapture data. Ability to prepare progress reports and project completion reports in a detailed, accurate, and complete manner. Must possess effective time management, planning, and organizational skills. Ability to train and lead a field crew, work on a team, and work independently. Ability to obtain small-vessel operator's certification at VIMS (including trailering). Ability to prepare protocols for IACUC approval and to adhere to such protocols. Ability to lift up to 50 lbs. Required: M.S./M.A. degree in fisheries science, marine science, biology, or related



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field or equivalent combination of training and experience post bachelor's degree. Possession of or ability to obtain a VA driver's license. Previous years experience conducting aquatic field work (can include time spent in the field for M.S./M.A. if project was field related) using or aboard small boats or large vessels. Must have first-hand experience working with live fish, preferably in a laboratory setting. Experience operating and trailering small boats with outboard motors; experience with computers and statistical analyses using SAS, R, or similar.

### **Preferred Qualifications:**

Prefer familiarity with mark-recapture programs such as MARK and SURVIV, and with relational databases (ACCESS, SQL, etc.).

**Location:** VIMS - Gloucester Point, VA 23062  
**Pay Range:** \$30,553-\$40,000  
**University Salary Range:** U08  
**Job Open Date:** 10-20-2011  
**Job Close Date:** Open Until Filled  
**Job Category:** Operational FT

### **Documents which can be associated with this posting:**

Resume/Curriculum Vitae, Cover Letter, Other Doc

**Does this position accept online applications?** Yes; <https://jobs.wm.edu>

**Special Application Instructions:** None

### **Conditions of Employment:**

Satisfactory completion of a criminal history background check is required. This position will entail working long hours in the field (overtime); incumbent must be available to monitor and provide care for laboratory-held animals, including weekends, if necessary.

William and Mary is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action/Equal Access employer and actively encourages applications from minorities, women, disabled persons and veterans.

### [Graduate Fisheries Fellowship](#)

NOAA/Sea Grant Marine Fisheries Graduate Fellowship Applications Due Jan. 20

<http://www.ncseagrant.org/home/about-ncsg/news-events?task=showArticle>  
<<http://www.ncseagrant.org/home/about-ncsg/news-events?task=showArticle&id=1049&category=news&limitstart=>> &id=1049&category=news&limitstart=

### **Interesting Stuff**

Field Notes E-mail News

Check out DEC's new electronic newsletter, Field Notes. Produced by the Division of Fish, Wildlife and Marine Resources, the newsletter provides a variety of information regarding the state's fish and wildlife species, including recreational opportunities, regulation changes, wildlife viewing events, press releases, and other wildlife news stories. To learn more and subscribe, visit the Field Notes web page at [www.dec.ny.gov/about/63801.html](http://www.dec.ny.gov/about/63801.html) on the DEC website.

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### Great Lakes Workshop at the Cornell Biological Field Station

During the week before Thanksgiving, USGS – Lake Ontario Biological Station scientist Maureen Walsh and New York Sea Grant extension specialist Dave McNeill organized a workshop on trawling in the Great Lakes at DNR's field station at Shackleton Point (Cornell Biological Field Station). Over 30 scientists, managers, boat captains and technical personnel from all the Great Lakes and both side of the border were instructed on the science of trawling by experts from Memorial University in St John, Newfoundland. The Marine Institute at St John has the largest flume tank in the world to test fishing gear performance. Director Paul Winger and colleagues showed the group how different trawls performed using videos from the flume tank, including analyses of the survey trawl most used in the Great Lakes. A miniature of this trawl was made at St John to allow for direct observation of its performance in the flume tank. Understanding of gear performance is central to correct interpretation of the survey data collected by agencies on both side of the border. Possible standardization of gear and approaches around the Great Lakes was discussed. This workshop follows similar workshops spearheaded by DNR's Lars Rudstam and Patrick Sullivan on hydroacoustics that resulted in a standard operating procedure for Great Lakes acoustics now in used worldwide. Future challenges include improving the connections and comparability of different fish survey methods. Accurate fisheries assessment is necessary for allocating fisheries quotas and development of sustainable fisheries. For more information contact Lars Rudstam, Dave McNeill or Maureen Walsh.

### Assessing the state of Lake Ontario.

A workshop with over 30 participants from both the US and Canada was convened at the Department of Fisheries and Oceans in Burlington, Ontario on November 21-22. DNR's Lars Rudstam organized this meeting together with Drs. Mohi Munawar and Marten Koops from DFO Canada. DNR and the Cornell Biological Field Station (Rudstam, Sullivan, Holeck, Watkins) is the recipient of a Great Lakes Restoration Initiative grant to analyze and synthesize the data collected during the international field year in Lake Ontario in 2008, and compare the data from 2008 with time trends for lower trophic levels collected by Cornell University, New York DEC, USGS- Lake Ontario Biological Station, EPA, DFO-Canada, Environment Canada, and Ontario MNR. Lake Ontario is changing due in part to changes in nutrient input and distribution patterns, in part to increased water clarity, and in part to invasive species. The results of the workshop form the basis for the synthesis of the stat of the lake as well as planning for the international field year in Lake Ontario in 2013. For more information contact Lars Rudstam, Kristen Holeck or James Watkins.



Daniel Polniak, Jr., of Ogdensburg (St. Lawrence County) caught and released a 60-inch muskie that weighed an estimated 60-65 pounds while fishing with Capt. Rich Clarke of Sign Man Charters on the St. Lawrence River... See NY Outdoor News for a full report.

### Obituary

#### *Stephen Mooradian, Retired DEC Fish Manager*

Stephen “Moo” Mooradian passed away November 17, 2011 in Hawaii while celebrating his 40<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary with his wife Eunice. Steve leaves behind his wife Eunice, two sons (Stephen and Gregory) and a stepdaughter, Pamela. During his 43 year career with DEC, Steve was credited with pursuing a grassroots approach towards fisheries management, incorporating angler input into the early stages of the management process. Steve also assisted with the first stocking of Pacific salmonids in New York’s Great Lakes (photo attached), advanced the rearing process for fingerling muskellunge and was an active player in expanding boating access along the Great Lakes in western New York. Steve coauthored several publications with the American Fisheries Society regarding management of muskellunge in Chautauqua Lake. Prior to his retirement in 2003, Steve was presented the Niagara River Anglers President’s Award; Western New York Trout Unlimited’s Silver Trout Award, the Ken Berner Memorial Award and was inducted into the Niagara Musky Association Hall of Fame. In addition to his



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contributions to the fisheries profession, Steve was fondly remembered by his peers for his uncanny ability to select the best dining establishments, even when challenged by unfamiliar surroundings. Upon his retirement, Region 9 DEC established the Stephen R. Mooradian Fisheries Partnership Award in his honor. Steve will be sorely missed by his family and friends.

photo is from the first stocking of pacific salmon (coho) in New York's waters of the Great Lakes, 1968; left to right-Tony Veno, Bill Shepherd and Steve Mooradian (all DEC Region 9 Fisheries).

### New York Chapter of the AFS Officers and Executive Committee

President, Ed Woltmann

[efwoltma@gw.dec.state.ny.us](mailto:efwoltma@gw.dec.state.ny.us)

Past President, Matt Sanderson

[mjsander@gw.dec.state.ny.us](mailto:mjsander@gw.dec.state.ny.us)

President-Elect, Frank Flack

[fmflack@gw.dec.state.ny.us](mailto:fmflack@gw.dec.state.ny.us)

Secretary-Treasurer, Scott Jones

[Scott.Jones@hdrinc.com](mailto:Scott.Jones@hdrinc.com)

Newsletter Editor, Emily Zollweg-Horan

[eczollwe@gw.dec.state.ny.us](mailto:eczollwe@gw.dec.state.ny.us)

Website, Erik Latremore

[ejlatrem@gw.dec.state.ny.us](mailto:ejlatrem@gw.dec.state.ny.us)

Student Sub-Units, Brian Weidel

[bweidel@gmail.com](mailto:bweidel@gmail.com)

Professional Incentives, Ross Abbett

[rabbett@usgs.gov](mailto:rabbett@usgs.gov)

Resolutions/Envir. Concerns, Randy Vaas

[navypap@twcny.rr.com](mailto:navypap@twcny.rr.com)

By-Laws, Mike Flaherty

[mjflaher@gw.dec.state.ny.us](mailto:mjflaher@gw.dec.state.ny.us)

Native Fishes, Lisa Holst

[lkholst@gw.dec.state.ny.us](mailto:lkholst@gw.dec.state.ny.us)

Native American Affairs, Dawn Dittman

[ddittman@usgs.gov](mailto:ddittman@usgs.gov)

Youth Aquatic Education, Tom Hughes

[fishguy2000af@yahoo.com](mailto:fishguy2000af@yahoo.com)

Membership, Frank Flack

[fmflack@gw.dec.state.ny.us](mailto:fmflack@gw.dec.state.ny.us)

Nominating, Matt Sanderson

[mjsander@gw.dec.state.ny.us](mailto:mjsander@gw.dec.state.ny.us)

Audit/Finance, Alan Mack

[admack@gw.dec.state.ny.us](mailto:admack@gw.dec.state.ny.us)

Program, Jeffrey Loukmas and Don Einhouse

[jjloukma@gw.dec.state.ny.us](mailto:jjloukma@gw.dec.state.ny.us)

[dweinhou@gw.dec.state.ny.us](mailto:dweinhou@gw.dec.state.ny.us)

Annual Meeting, Joelle Ernst

[jernst@gw.dec.state.ny.us](mailto:jernst@gw.dec.state.ny.us)

Workshop, Chris VanMaaren

[cvanmaa@gw.dec.state.ny.us](mailto:cvanmaa@gw.dec.state.ny.us)