



MEETING MINUTES

March 8, 2018

Intercontinental Hotel, San Juan, Puerto Rico

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 am and a roll call of the SDAFS Catfish Management Technical Committee members was conducted by Jerry Brown (Chair). It was determined that a quorum was met; the meeting was called to order.

State representatives participating:

Jason Olive (AR), Tim Bonvechio (GA), Jason Herrala (KY), Joe McMullen (MO), Jerry Brown (MS), Ben Ricks (NC), Josh Johnston (OK-proxy), Scott Lamprecht (SC), Eric Ganus (TN), Kris Bodine (TX), Aaron Bunch (VA), Nate Taylor (WV).

Members and guests:

Charlie Jordan (ATU), Zach Moran (ATU), Justin Homan (AGFC), Nathan Lederman (IL-DNR/NCD-AFS) Dan Shoup (OSU), Dennis Riecke (MDWFP), Corbin Hilling (VTU).

Welcome:

Jerry Brown introduced himself and welcomed everyone to the Catfish Management Technical Committee meeting. Attendee introductions ensued. An agenda was distributed and finalized.

Old Business:

The 2017 meeting minutes were available for review on the website, no comments were received, and copies were made available to attendees. A motion to accept the meeting minutes was made and seconded. Motion passed with no objections.

Webmaster's Report:

Dan Shoup reminded the group of the old Catfish Committee website's issues. Due to security issues, the site is down. The site was housed on the SDAFS Page and hosted by HostGator.com, but had considerable stability issues due to persistent problems with people hacking the site. Dan indicated that SDAFS will pay for a Catfish Committee site hosted by AFS. A full backup of the original site is

available. All content was saved with the exception of Catfish 2010 information, however there are some videos from the conference saved. The new website is up and running, however there are many broken links. The old webpage defaults to a user name and password pop-up. A motion to accept the webmaster's report was made and seconded. The motion passed with no objections.

<https://units.fisheries.org/sdafscatfishcommittee/>

***Aaron Bunch will email the link out to the committee with a request to test it.**

***All - Visit and test the new website – let Dan Shoup know about any issues encountered.**

***Dan Shoup will set up a redirect from the old webpage.**

Catfish 2020:

Jason Olive (Catfish 2020 Co-Chair) updated the group on the 3rd International Catfish Symposium (Catfish 2020) to be held in conjunction with the SDAFS meeting in Little Rock, AR in 2020. Dates are set for 20-23 February 2020. Location is set at the Marriot in Little Rock, Arkansas. The website is live: <http://catfish2020.weebly.com/>. Fundraising has begun – letters have been sent to all state AFS chapters. The group discussed symposium publication options, primarily a book vs. a special journal section: book chapters are not searchable but AFS may be able to bring them into their Fish Database; books are very expensive to publish (~30 k) but a special section may be as well; a special section will have no return/profit; some authors may be turned away from the special section (12 paper maximum). Scheduling: half day on Tuesday with a welcome social; 1 ½ days of talks (Wed – Thurs); Wed night social may include a fish fry; workshops on Friday.

Chair Assignment:

Jerry Brown turned the chair and the meeting over to Aaron Bunch.

Catfish Management Scholarship Award:

Jason Olive presented Corbin Hilling from Virginia Tech University with the Catfish Management Scholarship Award. Zach presented his doctoral research to the group - *Development of a spatially explicit population dynamics model and evaluation of management strategy for a non-native catfish.*



Jason Olive (left) presented Corbin Hilling (right) with the Catfish Management Scholarship Award.

Treasurer's Report

Eric Ganus briefly discussed financial details from the BB&T Bank Account. There was an expense of \$300 for the second annual catfish award winner, Corbin Hilling. A motion to accept the treasurer's report was made and seconded. The motion passed with no objections. Eric turned over Secretary/Treasurer duties to Joe McMullen.

State Reports:

Written summaries of reports were sent to Jerry Brown via email prior to the meeting. State reports were given by all present state representatives.

***Dan Shoup will make state reports available on the committee website.**

Trophy Catfish Management:

The committee discussed trophy catfish management and the need to evaluate the effectiveness of regulations imposed to improve trophy catfish fisheries.

***Chris Bodine will provide details of a 'challenge' to the committee members to evaluate the effectiveness of trophy catfish regulations in their states.**

***Aaron Bunch will arrange a meeting during fall of 2018 to discuss the 'challenge'.**

Adjourn:

Aaron bunch adjourned the meeting.