

Warmwater Streams Committee (WWSC)
Southern Division, American Fisheries Society
Meeting Agenda – January 24th, 2019
Galveston, Texas

8:00 AM

- **Call meeting to order—Jim Burroughs, Chair**
- **Introduction of Committee Members & Guests:**
- **Determination of Quorum (10)— Robby Maxwell, Secretary-Treasure**
 - Quorum not initially met, but later reached with members or proxies from GA, TN, FL, MS, OK, TX, NC, VA, AR, and LA
 - In attendance: Jim Burroughs (OK), Robby Maxwell (LA), Trevor Starks (OK), Kyle Rachels (NC), Joseph Mruzec (TX), William Budnick (TX), Steve Magnelia (TX), Kevin Mayes (TX), Jeff Quinn (AR), Jeff Buckingham (AR), Jeff Williams (VA), Beau Gregory (LA), Hannah Burnett (LA), Dennis Riecke (MS), Matt Wegener (FL), Scott Robinson (GA)
- **Circulate attendance and e-mail list**
- **Approval of Agenda—Jim Burroughs:** R Maxwell moved to approve, K Mayes 2nd, unanimously passed by voice vote
- **Secretary's Report, Approval of 2018 Meeting Minutes from conference call February 28, 2018 — Robby Maxwell:** J Burroughs moved to accept, T Starks 2nd, unanimously passed by voice vote
- **Webmaster's Report--- Bart Carter Update on Website. (posts -12, likes-217, followers-215, views-152):** Bart was absent, but website stats were shared
- **Treasurer's Report (Attached)— Robby Maxwell:** W. Budnick moved to accept, J Mruzec 2nd, unanimously accepted by voice vote
- **Chair's Report—Jim Burroughs**
 - The Committee will at no cost sponsor an American Eel symposium at the 2019 SDAFS meeting.
 - The committee at no cost sponsored an Environmental Flow symposium in Puerto Rico and member helped moderate talks.
 - Bart Carter from TN has taken over management of the WWSC website which is now on the parent society's site. Has added the committees past videos, Values of Warmwater Streams, to the site.
 - Brian added a donate button to the website and Robby opened up a paypal account to accept donations. Donations have not been made via the button, and discussion was had regarding rebranding and advertising. We should highlight our work and the benefits, since it's a good way to encourage contributions and highlight streams

work. Requests were made to put more on website, i.e. pictures of pretty FW fish, etc.

- Dennis Riecke presented the drafted resolution entitled, Hydrologic alteration as an impairment in state water quality standards. Will be voted on during the SDAFS business meeting. This can be used to advocate to the EPA that flow should be listed as a source of impairment to water quality standards. EPA did not want congress to have power over the issue, so left it up to the states. We need to urge F&W and environmental agencies to consider flow in regulations.

The resolution is in the SDAFS newsletter, and out for comment on listserv. AR and TX have commented.

Low flow is not the only impairment, and high flows can also be considered. Fish response data is hard to obtain, so observational data is included in the resolution. It will be voted on by SDAFS ExComm tonight, and if passes, will be voted on at business meeting. After vote, passes, will go on to parent society.

- Send electronic copies of your State's "Roundtable Notes" to Secretary Robby Maxwell so we can put them on the website.

Old Business

- Jimmie Pigg Award Winner: (2018) **Matthew Acre** Nominator Tim Grabowski, Assessing the effects of flow regime variation on Blue Sucker spawning movements, habitat use, and recruitment in the lower Colorado River. Scored by three independent judges. Ten total applicants.
- List serve created and discussed at last meeting. We have 16 members. Listserv information is on the WWSC webpage.
 - To join sdafs_wwsc-request@freelist.org Send email to above with 'subscribe' in the subject field.
 - To post/send email, simple send email to sdafs_wwsc@freelists.org.
 - A request was made to members to sign on to wwsc listserv to cut down on redundancy

New Business

- Elect new chair for 2019-2020: No quorum originally, but later met. Unanimous voice votes for Kevin Mayes as Chairman, and Robby Maxwell will continue on as Sec/Treas
- New/Old Guidelines for the Jimmie Pigg Award
 - Must be present to win-- NO
 - Must be a member of AFS/SDAFS--NO
 - Must be nominated by an AFS member??? Do we care???
 - Not clear, but application needs to be.

It was unanimously agreed that presence should not be necessary to win since there are a number of extenuating circumstances that should not cost a worthy recipient the award. It was also agreed that AFS membership should not be

required of the students receiving the award, since they are just beginning their careers, and this can also be seen as a recruitment tool. It was also agreed upon that the application needs to clarify that the applicant must be a student at the time of application. ***Who can nominate?*** App says must be AFS member. Need to update the application with all the above.

- W Budnick opened the discussion by making a motion to open Jimmie Pigg award nomination to AFS members and non-members, alike. R Maxwell seconds the motion, no discussion, passes unanimously
- Application will be updated, and misspelling will be corrected
- Discuss possible scoring criteria adjustments. (handout)

One judge had issues with scoring in past, and we might need to change criteria. J Burroughs makes a call to tweak how the applicants are scored. J Quinn brought up that in the past, PhDs often got nominated while MS students got overlooked. Should we weight based on education? Weight everything differently? D Riecke mentioned that original intent of the award was to give award to someone researching to benefit stream fish populations. S Magnelia suggested rewriting the whole objective statement. Discussion was had about making clear that the award went beyond fishes to ecology and inverts. We need to post criteria online, and not just depend on word of mouth. D Riecke mentioned the travel awards given by the Reservoir and Catfish Committees using criteria we use. K Mayes mentioned drawing on the Clark Hubbs student research award for inspiration. It was decided to make it clear that a one page nomination letter is needed; don't make it too long.

Subcommittee consisting of J Burroughs, S Magnelia, J Quinn, and W Budnick will rewrite criteria, and clarify. Will have award for PhD and MS students.

- Website needs.... What's there, what needs to be there and how members can help? Member's papers and other AFS publications??
- Discussion: How can we become more relevant? Position statements? Involvement with other committees? Future Resolutions? Workshops? Last workshop was the Data Standardization workshop.

Ideas for future workshops or symposia: J Quinn mentioned that most states have water temp. monitoring, but not in the South. We need a data clearinghouse for temp data, and there are very few temp gauges in AR. Maybe expand to DO? There are no long term series in AR or other southern states, and there are issues with ag and industry. WWSC should push USGS for monitoring. K Mayes mentions the mussel tie-in to temps, and sees possibility for funding. Maybe we can make a workshop on the issue, and tie a resolution to it.

D Riecke mentions environmental tipping point as far as changing pervious to impervious surface, was thought to be 10%, now 3-4%. Maybe look at a workshop on human impacts to stream fishes; look at recruitment drop offs, etc. There is a lack of long term monitoring, and we should make a call for that.

J Quinn mentioned a workshop on algae, and related issues like DO. Think Climate issues.

W Budnick mentioned nutrients and land use change workshop.

J Quinn said USGS does not have good standardizations for measuring filamentous algae. Lots of decisions in SE are coming from USFWS.

Should we make it a goal to raise funds through workshop or symposium?
K Mayes mentions that if we charged for a workshop, we could pay people to come in.

D Riecke mentions that a committee (as in WWSC) exists to serve member states and members of SDAFS. In the 90's a group identified a lack of appreciation for warmwater streams, and formed the WWSC. They made a video, and we should continue along those lines with more projects.

J Quinn started a discussion on summer meetings, and eels, fish ramps, how-to workshops, and stream techniques all came up.

We could make a series of demonstrational videos,

D Riecke mentioned we could send a questionnaire to states about stream sampling: program? Intent? Wadeable? Non-Wadeable? Needs? Info gaps? What are we doing with the data?

K Mayes mentioned posting survey to get idea of what members think a relevant issue to pursue would be.

- Fundraising opportunities? Workshops. New books. Videos. Donations? Sent emails to State chapters. Donate button not working. Would make chapter donations easier??? Highlight work done and that financial support goes to scholarship but also to promote conservation through education. Embed donate button with videos of current projects?
- American Eel listserv...and afternoon meeting...Robby
- Jimmie Pigg award winner. This year's award winner is: Kyler Hecke. He attends the University of Tennessee and was nominated by his advisor, Brian Alford. Kyler's research is on the historical occupancy of fish and mussel fauna of greatest conservation need in the Clinch River drainage of Virginia and Tennessee and the spatial ecology of the rare Sickle Darter.
 - There were seven applicants and very tight scoring
- Other new business from Committee-at-large
- Roundtable discussion

Adjourn: 12:40 R Maxwell moves to adjourn, J Quinn seconds. Unanimous passage.