

**ESTUARIES SECTION  
MINUTES OF 1<sup>st</sup>  
ANNUAL BUSINESS  
MEETING  
HALIFAX, NOVA  
SCOTIA  
1994**

AFS Estuaries Section  
Minutes of 1st Annual Business Meeting  
Halifax, Nova Scotia, 1994

The first annual business meeting of the new Estuaries Section was held in September, 1994, in conjunction with the 124th Annual meeting of the American Fisheries Society in Halifax, Nova Scotia.

The meeting was called to order at 3:05 PM, and minutes were taken by volunteer Bill Herke.

The meeting opened with introductions of the ten members present: Donna Turgeon, Grant Gilmore, Bill Goldsborough, Dave Secor, Jim Clugston, Jeff Isely, Bill Herke, David Nelson, Ira Palmer, and Randy Edwards.

It was announced that the petition for section incorporation and the bylaws were approved by the membership at the AFS Annual Business Meeting in Portland, Oregon. As of 05/17/94, the section was comprised of 70 members. Discussion of the section name followed, with the question posed whether to modify the name. It was decided to keep the section name "Estuaries Section."

Potential modifications to the bylaws were discussed and it was agreed to delete "U.S. and Canada" from "Section 2. MEMBERSHIP." Section 6 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE and Section 10 AMENDMENT of BYLAWS were also discussed by the group. Grant Gilmore said that he would provide Donna Turgeon with a copy of the Early Life History Section bylaws.

The question was raised whether a newsletter editor would be needed and it was suggested this might be the job of the President-elect until the membership becomes greater. The need for a nominating committee was also discussed.

Twenty percent of the section membership was suggested as the number for a quorum. Nominating, advertising, bylaw, and membership committees were suggested. Jeff Isely volunteered to be Advertising Committee Chair and to get the first sample newsletter out. Bill Goldsborough also volunteered to help with one of the committees.

Discussion then occurred on agenda item four, "Comment on Implementing a Fisheries Action Agenda for the US," regarding (1) working with other subunits to sponsor a workshop on fish habitat inventories; and, (2) charging NMFS, FWS, and interstate fisheries commissions to develop a position paper to explain to Congress the scientific rationale for managing for marine mammals and predatory birds as functional elements of their ecosystems. Secor was opposed to section involvement. Herek said that his philosophy was that AFS should take an activist role, Secor disagreed. Donna Turgeon suggested adding the State Department's

Estuaries Section  
Page 2

Sample topics identified last year included: habitat restoration, eutrophication; biodiversity interactions; risk assessment; chemical contamination; and, subsistence fishing. This list is not meant to be exhaustive, but is simply provided to stimulate your thinking.

**Consider Volunteering for a Committee or Liaison Position**

I also ask that you give some thought as to how you might best make a contribution to the development of the Estuaries Section. Our work at the meeting will include the convocation of committees, and the appointment of section liaisons to implement the directive of the membership to meet and achieve our priorities. These positions will include a newsletter editor; a FAN outreach/media liaison; a Membership Committee; a Program Committee, and others that may be identified during the course of the business meeting.

**Please Participate and Bring a Friend!**

As usual, the AFS Annual Meeting will present many exciting opportunities for learning, sharing, and networking with new and old friends alike. Therefore, please make a point of planning to attend the Estuaries Section Business Meeting and try do some recruiting before hand. At present we are comprised of 89 members and must strive to reach the 200 mark in order to become a voting member of the AFS Executive Committee. For this reason it is important that we become engaged with estuarine issues in a manner that provides visibility to the section. So please round up your colleagues who you believe can make a contribution to the growth of the Estuaries Section and invite them to join us during the Second Annual business Meeting.

I look forward to meeting you in Tampa!

Sincerely

Stephen M. Waste

Coral Reef Initiative to agenda item 4. Clugston thought that the section was too young to take on agenda item 4. Goldsborough also thought it was premature to take on tasks under agenda item 4.

Randy Edwards suggested a title for a section sponsored symposium next year "Nearshore, Marine, and Estuarine Fisheries Habitat." Dave Secor volunteered to help with organization of the above symposium. David Nelson supported the idea of co-sponsoring some of the symposia next year. He agreed that there was a need for a newsletter and that he would like to be involved with it.

Gilmore suggested the section try to interest more Caribbean fisheries scientists.

Lee Redmond stopped in.

Donna Turgeon presented a wrap-up, noting that the section had only discussed a few of the many estuarine issues currently needing work.

The meeting adjourned.