



Secretary/Treasurer's Report

Submitted by Kayla Key

October 14, 2021

Finances

Attached is a statement summarizing the financial activities of the Fisheries Information and Technology Section (FITS) of the American Fisheries Society for the period January 1, 2020-December 31, 2020 as compared to the previous year. Additionally, an updated cash flow statement covering the current year (January 1, 2021 – July 31, 2021) is attached.

In summary, in 2020 we had a increase from our account balances of \$5,318. Much of this increase is due to software sales. Due to the shift to on-line software sales in August 2010 and concurrent shift to annual reimbursement for these sales, the 2020 income figure represents those sales occurring January 1-December 31, 2019. See software report (attached) for trends in software sales. So far in 2021 we have a net balance increase of \$2,824.

Because our section does not have average annual gross receipts of more than \$50,000 over the last 3 years we are no longer required to file IRS Form 990 (Return of Organization Exempt from Income Tax). Instead we were able to file the much simpler IRS Form 990-N which is an electronic postcard. This tax form only requires us to acknowledge that our gross receipts are normally \$50,000 or less. This form was filed in April 2021.

Software Distribution

FITS continues with the following agreements in place for software distribution:

- Ball State University – FishBC.
- Jeff Slipke – Slipke's Fishery Analysis Tools (aka, S-FAT, a suite of add-on tools for FAST).
- Jeff Slipke - Fishery Analysis and Modeling Simulator (FAMS) for 32 bit and 64 bit systems.
- Texas Parks and Wildlife – Age and Growth DVD.

Currently, FAMS (both 32 bit and 64 bit), S-FAT, and FishBC, are available exclusively through the AFS Bookstore. Only the Age & Growth DVD continues to be sold through the Secretary/Treasurer although no copies of this have been sold in the past five years.

On October 30, 2014, the Section began offering a FAMS version that runs on 64-bit operating systems and Windows 7, 2010, and 2013. Completion of this was made possible by a \$25,000 loan from the PEF loan. The Section has now repaid the loan in full (\$25,000 principle and \$214.12 interest). All sales occurring in the future will generate revenue for FITS. As a reminder, FITS members have affirmed at several points in the past that software sales should be close to "revenue neutral," providing a service to the profession rather than a profit center for FITS. We expect that to be the case for FAMS.

Membership

As of October 2021, AFS records indicate that FITS membership stands at 489 individuals. This is an increase of 45 from the 2020 membership, driven mostly by increase in student and young professional members and a slight decrease (~8) in regular/retired members.

Executive Committee Meetings

The Section Executive Committee has met via teleconference approximately every month. Summary notes of these calls are available to Section members on the website. A summary of the some of the major topics of discussion is below:

Registration Lottery- This year to help our members through these unprecedented times, FITS held a registration lottery to cover the (early bird rate) registration of 10 lucky student or early Career FITS members to the AFS annual meeting in Baltimore (or virtual). Winners were drawn at random and given a chance to accept the award. We are pleased to help 4 student/early career FITS members attend the AFS 2021 meeting whether in-person or virtual. Giveaways contribute to recruitment and retention, are a way to give back to members, and help us to remain revenue neutral.

Membership Drive- Last December, FITS held a FITS membership renewal giveaway for 20 lucky members. Winners were drawn at random and given a free FITS membership for the 2021 year. The ExCom plans to continue this annual giveaway. Look for the announcement in December!

By-Law Change- Over the past year, our membership voted in favor to update the by-laws to better outline the duties of the President-Elect and Past-President officer positions. These changes were accepted by the AFS management Committee. A copy of our updated by-laws can be found on our website: <https://units.fisheries.org/fits/about/history-and-bylaws/>

Center for Fisheries Technology and Collaboration (CFTC): FITS has been working with AFS to develop the CFTC online platform over the past year. This “Amazon-like” platform will allow vendors to connect with AFS members. AFS members benefit from being able to easily search for tech that they need. The platform also allows members to leave reviews of tech for other members to benefit. [Link to Center for Fisheries Technology and Collaboration \(CFTC\)](#)

Partnership Travel Award Program: The **Partnership Travel Award** is provided up to twice annually (once/six-month period) to deserving FITS members who wish to represent the section at another society’s meetings. The award is meant to encourage networking with groups associated with fisheries science and with AFS, to share knowledge and exchange ideas. The award covers up to \$1,000 in travel expenses and may be used to cover airfare/driving expenses, meals, registration, and lodging. The current award round will be open until February 28, 2022, with an award decision by March 31, for meetings held between May 1 and October 31, 2022. [Link to Partnership Travel Award Program](#)

AFS 2021:

Symposia- This year Tiffany, our president elect, has coordinated a FITS-sponsored symposium at the Baltimore meeting titled “Shifting angler dynamics in relation to the

COVID-19 Pandemic.” The symposium will have a hybrid format with both in-person and remote presenters and is currently scheduled to have 8 presentations covering a wide variety of geographic areas in the US and Canada. Talks will discuss data collected in a variety of ways about changes to angler behavior during the past 18 months along with ideas for retaining these anglers.

CE workshops- Due to popular demand, FITS was to sponsor a Data Management continuing education workshop at the 2021 meeting. Unfortunately, we had to postpone this workshop due to covid.

Future Efforts:

Volunteer Opportunities- The ExCom is continuously looking for and creating opportunities for our membership to get involved through numerous opportunities such as volunteering with CFTC. Keep a look out on our website and newsletter for more opportunities to get involved.

Housing for Fisheries-related R Code- We are excited to begin developing a partnership with Derek Ogle and Jason Doll to provide a home for the maintenance and development of fisheries-related R code.

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AFS Fisheries Information and Technology Section
Statement of Income and Expenses
January 1, 2021-October 1, 2021

1/1/21-7/1/19

Balance Forward 1/1/20 \$ 74,199

INFLOWS

Interest Income	\$ 11
Software Sales	\$ 2,717
Membership Dues	Not yet received
CFTC paypal transfer	\$ 96
 TOTAL INFLOWS	 \$ 2,824

OUTFLOWS

*Travel for R. Krogman to AFS 2021	\$ 595
*Registration Lottery	\$ 1,500

NET TOTAL \$ 729

****Expected Ending Balance 12/31/21** **\$ 76,294**

Current Bank Balance (10/14/2021)

Checking	\$ 20,802
Savings	\$ 56,221
TOTAL	\$ 77,023

*Expected expenses

**Balance including expected expenses

AFS Fisheries Information & Technology Section
Statement of Income and Expenses
As of January 1, 2020 and December 31, 2020

	1/1/2019- 12/31/2019	1/1/2020- 12/31/2020	Difference
Balance Forward	\$63,854	\$68,881	\$5,027
Income			
Dues Payment	\$1,040	\$1,035	\$(5)
Interest Income	\$56	\$40	\$(16)
Software Sales*	\$5,392	\$4,493	\$(899)
Total Income	\$6,498	\$5,568	\$(930)
Expense			
Award	\$50	\$0	\$(50)
Conference or Meeting expense	\$228	\$0	\$(228)
Travel	\$616	\$250	\$(366)
Total Expense	\$1,471	\$250	\$(1,221)
Net Total	\$5,027	\$5,318	\$291
Ending Balance	\$68,881	\$74,199	\$4,283

M&T Bank Account Balance 12/31/20

Checking	\$16,955
Savings	<u>\$56,209</u>
Total	\$73,164

**AFS Fisheries Information and Technology Section
Software Sales (Copies Sold) Through December 31, 2020**

<u>FAMS 64 bit</u>	
1/1/20-12/31/20	16
1/1/19-12/31/19	26
1/1/18-12/31/18	30
1/1/17-12/31/17	39
1/1/16-12/31/16	31
10/30/14 (initiation) – 12/31/15	83
Total Sold October 30, 2014 – December 31, 2020	<u>225</u>
<u>FAMS 32 bit</u>	
1/1/18 – 12/31/18	0
1/1/17 – 12/31/17	0
1/1/16 - 12/31/16	0
1/1/15 - 12/31/15	2
1/1/14 - 12/31/14	1
1/1/13 – 12/31/13	19
1/1/12 – 12/31/12	20
1/1/11 – 12/31/11	34
8/1/2010 (initiation)-12/31/2010	19 (partial year)
Total Sold August 1, 2010– December 31, 2019	<u>95</u>
<u>S-FAT</u>	
1/1/18 - 12/1/18	0
1/1/17 - 12/1/17	0
1/1/16 - 12/31/16	1
1/1/15 - 12/31/15	0
1/1/14 - 12/31/14	3
1/1/13 – 12/31/13	7
1/1/12 – 12/31/12	10
1/1/11 – 12/31/11	9
1/1/10-7/31/10	3
1/1/09-12/31/09	13
1/1/08-12/31/08	20
7/1/07 (initiation) – 12/31/07	2
Total Sold July 1, 2007 – December 31, 2019	<u>68</u>
<u>FishBC</u>	
1/1/18 - 12/31/18	0
1/1/17 - 12/31/17	0
1/1/16 - 12/31/16	3
1/1/15 - 12/31/15	0
1/1/14 - 12/31/14	1
1/1/13 -12/31/13	4
1/1/12 – 12/31/12	4
1/1/11 – 12/31/11	6
1/1/10-12/31/10	5
1/1/09 – 12/31/09	3

1/1/08-12/31/08	1
1/1/07-12/31/07	1
1/1/06-12/31/06	4
1/1/05-12/31/05	15
1/1/04 – 12/31/04	16
10/27/03 (inception) – 12/31/03	6
Total Sold October 27, 2003 – December 31, 2019	<u>69</u>
<u>Age and Growth DVD</u>	
Total Sold March 1, 2005 – December 31, 2019	<u>42</u>

AFS FITS Membership 2010-2021

	2010			2011			2012			2013			2014			2015		
Membership	S	R	T	S	R	T	S	R	T	S	R	T	S	R	T	S	R	T
U.S.	283	159	442	364	165	529	449	155	604	402	147	549	342	139	481	339	187	526
International	29	22	51	33	26	59	39	27	66	33	28	61	46	24	70	39	22	61
TOTAL	312	181	493	397	191	588	488	182	670	435	175	610	388	163	551	378	209	587
	2016			2017			2018			2019			2020			2021		
	S	R	T	S	R	T	S	R	T	S	R	T	S	R	T	S	R	T
U.S.	259	141	400	301	140	441	288	136	424	311	155	466	264	128	392	311	118	429
International	21	13	34	27	14	41	20	18	38	34	18	52	35	17	52	41	19	60
TOTAL	280	154	434	328	154	482	308	153	461	345	173	518	299	145	444	352	137	489

S=Student/young professional membership/Developing Country (free membership since 2010)

R=Regular/Lifetime/Retired membership

Black boxes indicate yearly totals

FITS Membership 2005-2021

