



## **Secretary/Treasurer's Report**

Submitted by Kayla Key

July 14, 2022

### 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, 2021-December 31, 2021 as compared to the previous year. Additionally, an updated cash flow statement covering the current year (January 1, 2022 – July 31, 2022) is attached.

In summary, in 2021 we had a increase from our account balances of \$2,310.42. Much of this increase is due to software sales and membership dues. FITS is in contact with AFS staff about not receiving membership dues for 2021, and staff has assured us they are working on fixing these issues. We have also had a delayed response from the AFS bookstore on providing a summary of FITS software sales for 2021; therefore, we have not been able to invoice them for those sales. See software report (attached) for past trends in software sales. So far in 2022 we have a net balance decrease of \$589.43.

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 2022.

### 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 July 2022, AFS records indicate that FITS membership stands at 414 individuals. This is an increase of 75 from the 2021 membership, driven mostly by decrease in student and young professional members and a slight decrease (~11) 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:

**FITS Rebranding Initiative-** After discussion the observation that many AFS members are unsure of what the section's focus is or whether they might "belong" as part of the section, the ExCom began considering whether the current section name "Fisheries Information and Technology Section (FITS)" should be rebranded. As part of this effort, the ExCom reached out to the parent society to better understand the steps involved in rebranding, which included changes to section bylaws, a section member vote, and approval by the AFS Management Committee. A member survey was also conducted to provide insights into whether members felt the current section name needed changes, what they felt was most important to convey in a section name, and suggestions for ideas a potential new section name should convey. This process is ongoing.

**Membership Drive-** This Spring, FITS held a section membership renewal giveaway for 20 lucky members. Winners were drawn at random and given a free FITS membership for the 2022 year. The ExCom plans to continue this annual giveaway. Look for the announcement in December!

**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.

**Partnership Travel Award Program:** The Partnership Travel Award is offered 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.

Two Open Application Periods:

1. Accepting application from March 1,2022-August 31, 2022  
Award Decision by September 30,2022  
For meetings held between November -April 2023.
2. Accepting application from September 1,2022- February 28, 2023  
Award Decision by March 31, 2023  
For meetings held between May -October 2023.

To apply for this award program, fill out the application at the link below!

[Link to Partnership Travel Award Program](#)

If you are interested in serving on the Awards Committee- Please contact Kayla at kayla.key@tn.gov

## AFS 2022:

### Symposia-

#### FITS organized 1 symposium:

“MacGyvering”: Innovative Problem Solving in Fisheries Science

Description: We want to hear from all you tinkerers, inventors, and repurposers...the “MacGyvers” of fish science. Fish scientists are often successful in “MacGyvering” innovative solutions to a question or problem. You do this by inventing, building, or repurposing technology or analytical tools, especially when resources or existing tools are limited or nonexistent. We want you to share successes and failures of your applications and processes, ideas for further exploration, and results of research where your innovative solution was utilized. We hope that by sharing, you spark further development, facilitate adoption of useful tools, and inspire others to explore innovative problem solving in fisheries science.

#### FITS sponsored 1 symposium:

Bringing it all together: data integration for fisheries research and management success

Description: The symposium will showcase successful data integration approaches used by a diversity of experts who integrate fisheries and aquatic data across different types of boundaries and geographic scales. The processes undertaken to achieve integration, lessons learned, unexpected benefits of the integration process, how to maintain integrated datasets, and use cases for these data products will be discussed. The session will end with a round table discussion to explore opportunities for coordinating data integration efforts and streamlining future integration efforts.

**CE workshops-** Due to popular demand, FITS was to sponsor a Data Management continuing education workshop at the 2022 meeting. Thank you to Keith Hurley who has agreed to be the instructor again this year!

### Future & On-going 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.

Current opportunities ([link](#)):

- FITS Awards committee members- Please contact Kayla at [kayla.key@tn.gov](mailto:kayla.key@tn.gov)
- Center for Fisheries Technology and Collaboration (CFTC)- Contact Rebecca Krogman ([Rebecca.Krogman@dnr.iowa.gov](mailto:Rebecca.Krogman@dnr.iowa.gov))

**Fish R Code-** We are excited to begin developing a partnership with Derek Ogle, Jason Doll, and a core team of R enthusiasts

**Bank Account Changes-** This year, the treasurer researched more nationwide banking options to provide for smoother transitions of power in the future.

**FITS procedural manuals for AFS repository-** AFS is building a repository of section procedural manuals. The secretary is working on compiling the required information.

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**AFS Fisheries Information and Technology Section**  
**Statement of Income and Expenses**  
*January 1, 2022-July 1, 2022*

1/1/22-7/1/22

Balance Forward 1/1/21 \$ 75,475.13

INFLOWS

Interest Income \$ 5.57

Software Sales Not yet received

Membership Dues Not yet received

TOTAL INFLOWS \$ 5.57

OUTFLOWS

Travel for R. Krogman to AFS 2021  
    \*Late reimbursement \$ 595

NET TOTAL \$ -589.43

Ending Balance 12/31/22 \$ 74,885.70

Current Bank Balance (7/14/2022)

Checking \$ 18,656.23

Savings \$ 56,229.47

TOTAL \$ 74,885.70

**AFS Fisheries Information & Technology Section**  
**Statement of Income and Expenses**  
**As of January 1, 2021 and December 31, 2021**

	1/1/2020-12/31/2020	1/1/2021-12/31/2021	Difference
<b>Balance Forward</b>	\$68,881	\$73,164.71	\$4,283.71
<u>Income</u>			
Dues Payment	\$0	\$1,035*	\$1,035
Interest Income	\$40	\$14.11	\$(25.89)
Software Sales*	\$4,493.5	\$2,717	\$(1,776.5)
<b>Total Income</b>	\$4,533.5	\$3,862.91	\$(670.59)
<u>Expenses</u>			
Conference or Meeting expense	\$0	\$29.26	\$29.26
Travel Assistance	\$250	\$443.23	\$193.23
Travel Awards	\$0	\$1,080	\$1,080
<b>Total Expense</b>	\$250	\$1,552.49	\$1,302.49
<u>Net Total</u>	\$4,283.5	\$2,310.42	\$(1,973.08)
<b>Ending Balance</b>	\$73,164.71	\$75,475.13	\$2,310.42

**M&T Bank Account Balance**

**12/31/21**

Checking	\$19,251.23
Savings	<u>\$56,223.9</u>
Total	\$75,475.13

**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
<b>Total Sold</b> October 30, 2014 – December 31, 2020	<b><u>225</u></b>
<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)
<b>Total Sold</b> August 1, 2010– December 31, 2019	<b><u>95</u></b>
<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
<b>Total Sold</b> July 1, 2007 – December 31, 2019	<b><u>68</u></b>
<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
<b>Total Sold</b> October 27, 2003 – December 31, 2019	<b><u>69</u></b>
<u>Age and Growth DVD</u>	
<b>Total Sold</b> March 1, 2005 – December 31, 2019	<b><u>42</u></b>



## AFS FITS Membership 2011-2022

	2011			2012			2013			2014			2015			2016		
Membership	S	R	T	S	R	T	S	R	T	S	R	T	S	R	T	S	R	T
<b>U.S.</b>	364	165	529	449	155	604	402	147	549	342	139	481	339	187	526	259	141	400
<b>International</b>	33	26	59	39	27	66	33	28	61	46	24	70	39	22	61	21	13	34
<b>TOTAL</b>	397	191	<b>588</b>	488	182	<b>670</b>	435	175	<b>610</b>	388	163	<b>551</b>	378	209	<b>587</b>	280	154	<b>434</b>
	2017			2018			2019			2020			2021			2022		
	S	R	T	S	R	T	S	R	T	S	R	T	S	R	T	S	R	T
<b>U.S.</b>	301	140	441	288	136	424	311	155	466	264	128	392	311	118	429	258	108	366
<b>International</b>	27	14	41	20	18	38	34	18	52	35	17	52	41	19	60	30	18	48
<b>TOTAL</b>	328	154	<b>482</b>	308	153	<b>461</b>	345	173	<b>518</b>	299	145	<b>444</b>	352	137	<b>489</b>	288	126	<b>414</b>

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

R=Regular/Lifetime/Retired membership

Black boxes indicate yearly totals

