

## State Aquaculture Plan

On August 11, 1982, individuals from all parts of Florida met at an all day conference on the University of Florida Gainesville campus to review the status of commercial aquaculture in Florida and to move forward in drafting a "State Aquacultural Plan" for the orderly development of aquaculture in the state. To follow up on suggestions and provide further leadership in the drafting, a "Commercial Aquacultural Committee" was established, with Mr. Timothy Hennesy (phone: 813-677-5475) selected as chairman. Dr. Clifton F. Savoy, who served as the conference coordinator, has been selected to continue working with the commercial committee through the development of a state plan and as liaison between the committee and resource individuals/groups (state/federal agencies, universities, etc.). Further information about the aquacultural plan can be obtained by contacting: Dr. Clifton F. Savoy Florida A&M University, Tallahassee, Florida 32307 (904-599-3996). Interested individuals also are encouraged by the commercial committee to contact their newly elected officials to express their concern that the state provide support and assistance in drafting and implementing the "State Aquacultural Plan".

## Research Completed on Deepwater Reef Fishes

Lourdes M. Bielsa and Christopher M. Moore were graduated with M.S. degrees in fisheries science from the School of Forest Resources and Conservation, University of Florida, in August 1982. Their Master's research, sponsored by Florida Sea Grant and the National Marine Fisheries Service (R. F. Labisky, P. I.) was conducted on unexploited deepwater reef fishes in the lower Florida Keys. Lourdes' research concerned the foodweb community of snowy grouper and blueline tilefish; Chris's research was directed at documenting population parameters of the snowy grouper. Chris has journeyed northward to pursue his doctorate in fisheries at Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University. Lourdes is employed at the University of Florida, where she and R. F. Labisky are developing a species profile on pink shrimp for the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

## Blue Crab Tags

FDNR Marine Research Laboratory biologists are tagging blue crabs in Tampa Bay. Approximately 12,000 crabs will be tagged to determine the relationship between migration patterns and seasonal population fluctuations.

The yellow tags have a telephone number where information on tag number, location and date of capture, and sex of the crab can be exchanged for a reward. For further information contact Phil Steele Marine Research Lab, 813/896-8626

## Ocala National Forest Lake Inventory

The U. S. Forest Service is conducting a resource inventory and classification of 60 lakes on the Ocala National Forest. Four sets of water samples (autumn, winter, spring, summer) will be collected from each lake.

Temperature and dissolved oxygen profiles will also be taken at each lake. Bathymetric maps and hypsographic curves will be drawn from transect data taken on each body of water. Completion date for this contract will be August, 1983.

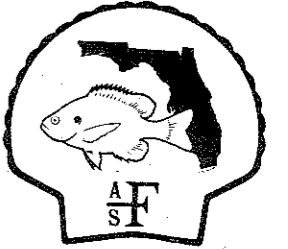
For additional information contact Gordon Sloane U.S. Forest Service, (904-357-3721).

## Reproductive Physiology Studies

Reproductive physiology studies at the FDNR Marine Research Lab currently involve experiments to profile and compare blood serum steroid levels with oocyte development during the reproductive cycle of red drum, *Sciaenops ocellatus*. Males and females are being sampled weekly during a 12 week photoperiod/temperature conditioning regime. Parameters considered are: serum sterol, testosterone, estrogen quantification, enumeration, identification of blood cell types, vitellogenesis, cytology, and ultrastructure of ovary and testis. Similar studies are planned for early 1983 with the gag, *Mycteroperca microlepis*. Three 5000 gallon wet lab environmental labs were recently completed for expansion of this research. For further information contact Dan Roberts, Marine Research Lab, 813/896-8626.

# the shell-cracker

FLORIDA CHAPTER OF THE AMERICAN FISHERIES SOCIETY



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## Where Are We Going?

The Florida Chapter has grown rapidly in both membership and professional expertise since its foundation in 1980. One of the greatest advantages our chapter is its ability to draw from a large and diverse assemblage of aquatic scientists who reside in Florida. From the beginning we chose to make professional diversity the hallmark of the organization. If we diligently maintain this philosophy I believe the chapter will quickly become a powerful force in Floridian aquatic biology. We will soon have a large, and hopefully wise, voice in matters affecting our fishery resources.

In three short years we have grown from a small group to a society with the capability to produce a statewide fishery symposium. The session scheduled for our third annual meeting in February 1983 may be just the launching pad for a long series of scientific endeavors sponsored by the chapter. With the wide variety of aquatic ecosystems available within the state and the large number of workers addressing these systems we have an almost unlimited professional arena in which to perform.

Our initial success as a chapter has evolved from two sources. The first has been the enthusiasm and imagination of early members whose efforts have carried us this far. Several individuals deserve credit for their labors. Among these are Rich Gregory, our founding father; Ron Labisky, first Secretary/Treasurer Mark Hudy, current Secretary/Treasurer and Bill Seaman, current President-Elect and engineer of the forthcoming symposium. Secondly, a gratifying number of our colleagues have now joined with us to expand the membership and to lend us their services and expertise.

We will attain recognition and respect within this state if we carefully maintain our current professional diversity and approach controversial matters with scientific skepticism. If we keep our public opinions conservative we can also make them forceful. It would be a tragedy should we become a one-sided voice for one agency, one university or one discipline.

There are two strong roles we can fill. The chapter can act as a showplace for science by providing expert symposia, papers and programs for both the public and fellow workers. We can also act as a public voice on environmental and policy matters where we have researched the issues and have obtained a consensus of opinion from the diverse group of biologists who make up our membership.

In the future I can see the chapter publishing a scientific journal, sponsoring timely symposia, distributing a widely read newsletter and providing educational materials to public schools. The public agency directors, legislators and conservation societies will come to view the Florida Chapter as an eminent authority on life in the waters.

Gray Bass  
President Florida Chapter

## Membership Doubles

The Florida Chapter of AFS has nearly doubled its membership in 1982. There are currently 102 members, 72 of which belong to the national society. However, membership could double again in 1983, as over 200 national AFS members reside in Florida who are not Florida Chapter members. Are all your colleagues members?

## Annual Meeting Reminder

The 1983 Annual Meeting will be held February 7-9, 1983 at the Withlacoochee Environmental Center near Brooksville, Florida. The third annual meeting of the Florida Chapter will feature a symposium of invited review papers on the status of major freshwater and marine habitats and fishery resources in Florida. There will also be a session of contributed papers dealing with fishery and aquatic resources research. The registration fee is \$60 and includes five meals, lodging for two nights, the conference publication and mailings, refreshments, abstracts of contributed papers, and 1983 membership dues. Accommodations at the Withlacoochee center are on a first-come, first serve basis to the first 100 registrants. Meeting registrants are housed in modern dormitories and meals are served in a dining hall. Overflow lodging will be available in the vicinity of Brooksville.



### 1983 CANDIDATES

#### PRESIDENT - ELECT

Vince Williams

Vince was a 1969 graduate of the University of Rhode Island, receiving a B.S. degree in Zoology, with major course work in fisheries and wildlife. He worked with the New York State Conservation Department for 2-years, and has been with the Florida Game and Fresh Water Fish Commission since 1971. His major work has been in lake restoration, and he served as assistant project leader and project leader for the Kissimmee River Basin Project from 1972 - to 1982. He is currently the Lake Restoration Section Leader. He has co-authored several publications, two of which have received awards from the Southern Division of the AFS. He became a life member of AFS in 1969, and received professional certification in 1973. Vince has also been a member of the AIFRB since 1976. He is currently representing Florida on the AFS Southern Division Pollution Committee.

James R. Zuboy

Jim received his B.S. in Fishery Biology from Colorado State University in 1972. While attending CSU he worked one summer for the Cooperative Fishery Research Unit, one summer for the Colorado Division of Wildlife, and one summer as project leader on a National Science Foundation Student Originated Studies (S.O.S.) project. Jim received his M.S. in Fisheries Science from Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University in 1974. His Master's research involved the development of a computer simulation model of a multispecies lake fishery.

Jim's first full time professional position was with the Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection. He worked on the Connecticut River shad fishery (tagging project) and also developed a computerized catch-effort reporting system for Long Island

Sound commercial fisheries. Jim took a position with NMFS in Miami in 1976. He was involved with stock assessment work for several years before taking his current position as Chief of the Southeast Fisheries Center's Office of Technical and Information Management Services.

Jim has been very active in AFS and AIFRB over the years. He has served as President, CSU CHAPTER, AFS; Founder, Virginia Tech Chapter, AFS; and District Director, Florida District, AIFRB. He has also served on numerous committees. Jim is a Certified Fisheries Scientist of the American Fisheries Society.

#### SECRETARY/TREASURER

Ally "Monty" Lopez

"Monty" is a Fishery Research Biologist with the National Marine Fisheries Service in Miami, Fla., and is presently responsible for conducting the Oceanic Gamefish Investigations billfish survey. Monty has been employed by NMFS since June 1974. He received his Bachelor's Degree in Marine Biology from the University of Corpus Christi in South Texas. He is a member of the American Institute of Fishery Research Biologists and the American Fisheries Society.

Edwin Moyer

Ed is a 1967 graduate of the University of Florida where he received a B.S. in Bacteriology. Professional employment began in 1975 with the Florida Game and Fish Commission as Assistant Project Leader on the Kissimmee River Basin Project. He served in that capacity until 1982, when he was promoted to project leader. Ed has been a member of AFS since 1978, and has published technical papers in the Journal of the Florida Academy of Sciences and the Proceedings of the S. E. Association Game and Fish Commission.

## 1983 Annual Meeting

Contributed Papers  
Wednesday, February 9  
9:30-12:30

### Salt Water Fishes

1. Early Life History of the Red Drum in the Tampa Bay Area  
K.M. Peters  
R.H. McMichael  
FDNR, St. Petersburg
2. Growth and Reproduction of Red Drum in Florida  
M.D. Murphy  
R.G. Taylor  
FDNR, St. Petersburg
3. A Report of *Hatshcekia sp.* from Yellow Tail Snapper in the Florida Keys  
M. Collins  
University of Florida,  
Gainesville
4. Review of an International Workshop on Age Determination of Oceanic Pelagic Fishes - Tunas, Billfishes, and Sharks  
E.D. Prince  
NMFS - Miami

### Fresh Water Fishes

5. Impacts of Water Level Fluctuations on Fishing Success in Rodman Reservoir, Florida  
K.W. Ashley  
J.V. Shireman  
W.T. Haller  
University of Florida,  
Gainesville
6. Estimation of Seasonal Relative Abundances of Blue Tilapia in Silver Glen Springs by the underwater transect method  
A.V. Zale  
University of Florida,  
Gainesville
7. Ecology of Limestone Excavation Lakes in South Florida  
M. Hudy  
R.W. Gregory  
University of Florida,  
Gainesville

### Salt Water - General

8. Sea Turtle Reproduction in Northwest Florida  
S. Shippee  
Mary Esther, Florida
9. The Apalachicola Bay Oyster Fishery: Future Management Considerations  
S. Andree  
Marine Advisory Program  
Perry, Florida
10. Survey Techniques for Identifying the economic Benefits of Artificial Reef Habitat  
J.W. Milton  
University of Florida,  
Gainesville
11. Use of Remote Sensing to Document Change of Loss in Coastal Habitat  
K.D. Haddad  
B.A. Harris  
K.A. Steidinger  
FDNR, St. Petersburg
12. Economic and Employment impacts of Recreational Boating in Lee County  
D.C. Sharama  
Planning and Environmental  
Consultant, Fort Myers

### Coral Reef Studies

DNR Marine Research Laboratory biologists participated in a five-year study of coral patch reefs in conjunction with the National Park Service. The study consisted of an ecological assessment of Biscayne National Park's coral reefs in relation to recreational use. Reef fish populations, macro-algal communities, non-coral macro-invertebrates, coral communities, incidence of coral damage and ambient environmental conditions of four bouyed patch reefs have been compared to that of four similar unmarked control reefs. Annual visitation was also monitored. Field work was completed in late 1982. A final report is nearing completion and will be available through the National Park Service. For further information contact Jenni Lowry, Marine Research Lab. 813/896-8626.