

President's Message

Hi everyone. It is privilege to address you as your current President since I have been active in AFS since I began graduate school at TTU (SE Division) in 1978. I know that may seem like the Pliocene era (first hominins) for many of you YOYs, Age 1, 2 or 3's that are just beginning your careers in Fisheries, but trust me, you will find that your careers will go by like the flick of a tail on a quick release. Enjoy what you do now since you are creating science that will influence future generations of fisheries professionals. I write this message after returning from a successful ice fishing trip and will soon be enjoying a fine dinner of panfish fillets with the family—one of the benefits of being a northeasterner.

I assumed the office of President at the conclusion of our annual meeting in September in Pittsburgh, PA. While we didn't break any attendance records for the meeting, I believe it was well attended by NED members and other AFSer's from around the continent. I not only had the unique pleasure to represent the host state, Pennsylvania, as Executive Director since I also assumed that position last March but also represented AFS as incoming NED President. I have found over the last year that doing double duty can be challenging but the rewards are well worth it. I encourage you to also reach for the stars and if you get the chance to serve your Chapter, Division or even the parent Society as President, please do. When I was recruited by Ron Essig and others to step up, I was unsure about whether I had the time to commit to two jobs as well as a variety of other volunteer work but am certainly glad that I did. I have had the opportunity to attend several Governing Board

meetings, conferences and NED conference calls and have thoroughly enjoyed the experience of meeting other fisheries professionals who are also dedicated to furthering the mission of our organization.

So what can we do in the short time I am President to make a difference in our profession? In preparation for this article I reviewed the mission of our Division which is to:

- *Advance the conservation, development and wise use of fishery resources for optimum use and enjoyment by all,*
- *Gather and disseminate information on fisheries science and management, and*
- *Promote and evaluate the educational, scientific and technical aspects of the fisheries profession.*

I also reviewed past editions of our newsletter from 2004 to present and re-read the messages of our Past Presidents Essig, Ferreri, Murphy, Miller, Decker, Kahn and Perra. I have decided to focus my message on an area that I believe we can improve upon to strengthen how we fulfill our mission. Our profession has diversified over the years and we now have more specialists than we have ever had before. These specialty areas cross the fresh and salt water divide but just like with our resources, the more diverse we are the more resilient we can be. We are no longer only the fish culturists that started the organization who gradually adopted the marine and freshwater fishery managers who published in our journals for decades. We now have conservation and habitat restoration

biologists in our ranks along with freshwater and marine ecologists that study plants and animals that live in aquatic systems which were not even thought of let alone included in our taxonomy as important and necessary components of functioning ecosystems.

I wear my Director's and President's hats proudly at all meetings that I attend throughout the Northeast and country. I have found that although we do our science very well, we need to communicate it better if we expect to completely fulfill our mission. Keep publishing your research findings in our journals so that we can learn from each other's work but my challenge to you is to get to know the staff of your state and federal fisheries agencies since they are the most effective tool that we have to implement the recommendations that we produce. I would like our Chapter Presidents to personally meet with the Fisheries Director of their respective state and put together a plan for how we can work together to meet our common goals. I am hopeful to report back in my next report about how we can move forward together to further the goals of the Society.

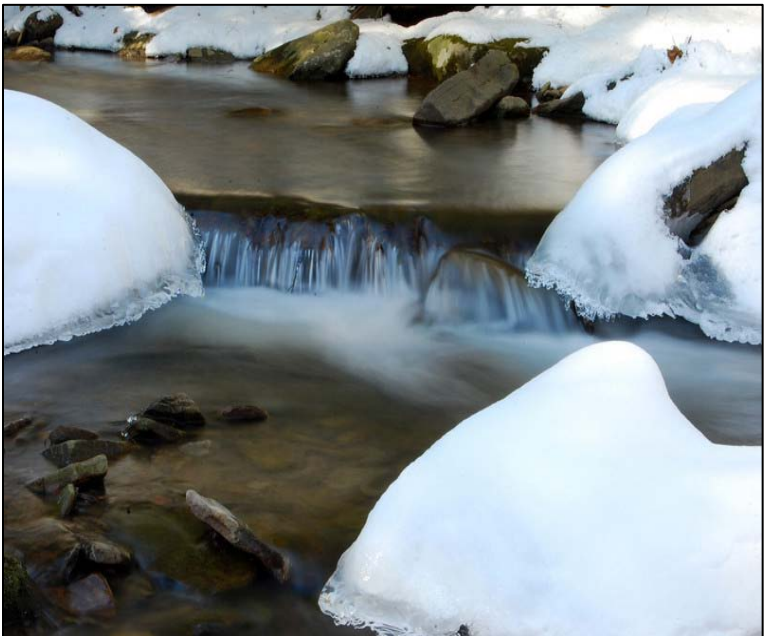
Finally don't forget to attend our 67th Annual Meeting on April 17 to 19 in Manchester, NH. Our own Past-President Scott Decker of New Hampshire's Fish and Game Department (scott.decker@wildlife.nh.gov) is our conference contact and the theme of this year's meeting is ***Fish & Wildlife 911... are we ready?*** Sounds like a question we all need to be able to answer. Hope to see you there.

John Arway
President, Northeastern Division, AFS
jarway@state.pa.us



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Bulls Creek, PA. Photo by David Kazyak.

****Upcoming Meetings****



67th Annual Northeast Fish and Wildlife Conference

Sunday, April 17 - Tuesday, April 19, 2011

Radisson Hotel, Manchester, New Hampshire

Hosted by the New Hampshire Fish and Game

Get ready to respond!

Fish and Wildlife agencies are taking action to prepare for organizational change and natural resource conservation crises. Join your peers in the Granite State this April to learn the latest approaches aimed at managing, adapting, and responding to rapid change. Experts from around the country will share their experiences and provide thought-provoking strategies for leading the way.



National Conference on Engineering & Ecohydrology for Fish Passage

June 27-29, 2011 • University of Massachusetts Amherst

The 2011 **National Conference on Engineering & Ecohydrology for Fish Passage** (Fish Passage 2011) promises to be an important national forum for researchers and practitioners to exchange findings and experiences on fish passage issues.

Fish Passage 2011 will be of interest to researchers, educators, practitioners, funders, and regulators who have an interest in advancements in technical fishways, nature-like fishways, stream restoration and stabilization, dam removal, road ecology, and the myriad of funding, safety, climate change, and other social issues surrounding connectivity projects.

This is a three-day conference with concurrent sessions in engineering, biology, and management and social issues. A poster session is also offered. The University of Massachusetts is hosting the conference in cooperation with sponsors including the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. We are currently accepting abstract submissions for oral and poster presentations (<http://www.umass.edu/tei/conferences/FishPassage/index.html>.) Deadline for oral presentation submissions is February 15, 2011.



American Chapter World Sturgeon Conservation Society

Presents: The 4th Annual Sturgeon and Paddlefishes Conference

at

**The International Center for Sturgeon Studies
Vancouver Island University Nanaimo, British
Columbia July 11 - 14, 2011**

**First Call for Papers: Conference Theme:
Sturgeon Recovery and Management.**

The North American Chapter of the World Sturgeon Conservation Society is pleased to announce that its 4th annual meeting will be held July 12-14, 2011 at the International Center for Sturgeon Studies, Vancouver Island University in beautiful Nanaimo, British Columbia, Canada. In addition to the conference, on July 11 there will be three pre-conference workshops on: 1) sturgeon telemetry techniques, 2) sturgeon telemetry data analysis, and 3) sturgeon osmoregulation. For more information, please refer to the conference website: <http://www.viu.ca/sturgeon/ConferencesandEvents.asp>.

Abstract Submission: Please submit your abstract (maximum 250 words) by **March 30, 2011** to Larry Hildebrand at lhildebrand@golder.com.



CALL FOR PAPERS AND POSTERS: AFS 141st Annual Meeting

Sunday, September 4, 2011 - Thursday, September 8, 2011

Seattle WA: <http://www.fisheries.org/afs2011/index.php>

The deadline for poster and contributed paper abstracts is February 25.

If you have questions about the program or submission process, please contact one of the program committee co-chairs:

Craig Busack
NOAA National Marine Fisheries Service
afs2011_cbusack.nwr@noaa.gov
503-230-5412

Dave Ward
Columbia Basin Fish and Wildlife Authority
dave.ward@cbfwa.org
503-274-7285

****Notices and Announcements****

AFS CALL FOR 2011 NORTHEASTERN DIVISION AWARDS

DIVISION PROFESSIONAL/EXCELLENCE AWARDS

The Division provides several awards recognizing excellence in professionalism/service. Four of these awards are administered by the Awards Committee: the Dwight A. Webster Memorial Award, the President's Award, the Meritorious Service Award, and the Special Achievement Award. The Dwight A. Webster Memorial Award has been presented annually since 1978. The President's Award was established at the 1993 annual business meeting. The Meritorious Service Award and the Special Achievement Award are the newest Division Professional/Excellence Awards, with the first awards given out at the 2000 annual meeting.

Division Professional/Excellence Awards will be presented at the 67th Northeast Fish and Wildlife Conference, April 17 – 19, 2011, in Manchester, NH.

The strongest nominations typically include a resume of the nominee, a letter of nomination, and letters of support from employers, fisheries professionals, and AFS members and officers.

DWIGHT A. WEBSTER MEMORIAL AWARD

This award is presented annually and is the most prestigious recognition given by the Northeastern Division. It may be awarded for any of the following achievements:

1. Lifelong contributions to fisheries science and the profession in the Northeast or while working in the Northeast;
2. Meritorious/prestigious service to the profession and fisheries;
3. Significant academic or technical accomplishments; and
4. Long-term service in the Northeastern Division as an AFS member.

PRESIDENTS' AWARD

This award is presented to an individual who is selected by Past Presidents and the incumbent President; it is not limited to Past Presidents. The recipient need not be a current AFS member, and the award need not be presented annually. The award may be presented for any or all the following achievements:

1. Promotion of fisheries management;
2. Upheld ideals of professionalism; and
3. Dedication to AFS and employer.

MERITORIOUS SERVICE AWARD

This award is presented to an individual who must be an AFS member for any or all of the following:

1. Leadership and service to the profession and/or AFS;
2. Substantial achievements for AFS and the fisheries resource; and
3. Significant long-term service to the NE Division within the Division.

SPECIAL ACHIEVEMENT AWARD:

This award recognizes an individual or group acting as a team or committee for any or all of the following special accomplishments:

1. Notable contribution(s) for conservation and/or the fisheries profession within the Northeastern Division; and
2. Administrative or project-related accomplishments.

The recipient(s) need not be an AFS member(s) and the award need not be presented annually.

To make a nomination for any of these awards, please send a resume of the nominee, a letter of nomination, and supporting letters by March 4, 2011 to:

Paul Perra
NOAA/NMFS
55 Great Republic Drive, Gloucester, MA 01930
Email: paul.perra@noaa.gov
Phone: 978-281-9153
Fax: 978-281-9135



The Mid-Atlantic Panel on Aquatic Invasive Species is pleased to announce its 2011 RFP. The mission of the Panel is to assist state and federal agencies and other stakeholders in developing and implementing strategic, coordinated, and action-oriented approaches for prevention and control of aquatic invasive species in the Mid-Atlantic region. Broad participation from groups and individuals concerned about aquatic invasive species issues is encouraged.

For more information please refer to:
http://www.midatlanticpanel.org/documents/MAPAIS_2011_RFP.pdf

The proposal deadline is **April 1, 2011**.
Please forward on to interested parties!

Lisa Moss, Fishery Biologist
Coordinator - Mid-Atlantic Panel on Aquatic Invasive Species
<http://www.midatlanticpanel.org>

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Virginia Fisheries Coordinator Office
11110 Kimages Road
Charles City, VA 23030

804.829.2421 ext 116 voice
804.829.5293 fax
Lisa_Moss@fws.gov



Win the honor of having
YOUR writing published
In Fisheries!

Student Writing Contest Now Accepting Submissions

Submission deadline
April 15, 2011

Submissions should be directed to:
Walt Duffy California Coop
Fish & Wildlife Unit,
Humboldt State University,
Arcata, CA 95521

Questions?
Call Walt Duffy at (707) 826
5644 or email
walter.duffy@humboldt.edu

The **American Fisheries Society Student Writing Contest** recognizes students for excellence in the communication of fisheries research to the general public.

Undergraduate and graduate students are encouraged to submit a 500-to 700-word article explaining their own research or a research project in their lab or school. The article must be written in language understandable to the general public (i.e., journalistic style). The winning article will be published in ***Fisheries***.

Students may write about research that has been completed, is in progress, or is in the planning stages. The papers will be judged according to their quality and their ability to turn a scientific research topic into a paper for the general public and will be scored based upon a grading rubric. Check the AFS Web site (www.fisheries.org) awards page for the grading rubric.

American Fisheries Society Fish Management Chemicals Subcommittee

PLANNING & EXECUTING SUCCESSFUL ROTENONE & ANTIMYCIN PROJECTS

Description – The 4 ½ day training course stresses public involvement, safety, planning, & application techniques from the recently released AFS *Rotenone SOP Manual*. Rotenone was recently approved for reregistration. As a result, there are a number new restrictions and changes in use conditions that will be highlighted in the course. The course was developed to meet the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency reregistration requirements that rely on the label and standard operating procedures for the piscicides, rotenone & antimycin. Topics include: soliciting and incorporating public involvement, fisheries management/conservation plans; piscicide uses and strategies; species sensitivities; safety; reading and following label and MSDS; public education; preliminary and intermediate planning; project implementation and management; crisis management strategies; and characteristics of successful projects. Also included are product chemistry and toxicology, use histories, application, monitoring & neutralization techniques, applicator safety, and proposed new label restrictions. Planning, toxicology, and application techniques are demonstrated in hands-on laboratory and field exercises. Participants receive a copy of the new *Rotenone SOP Manual* (written by the instructors), and successful completion of a final exam will give the participant a certificate of completion.

Course Objectives – Upon completion of the course, participants will be able to plan & execute a successful (i.e., effective, legal & safe) project with rotenone or antimycin by performing the following:

- Develop strategies for fish sampling/control/eradication that reflect sensitivities of target species, characteristics of the piscicides & important environmental conditions;
- Develop preliminary, intermediate, & implementation management plans including public involvement, application, neutralization, monitoring, & safety;
- Develop management & planning strategies that deal positively & effectively with unanticipated events before these occur & resulting crises that often involve the public & news media;
- Implement application & neutralization techniques that minimize impacts;
- Explain piscicide label and MSDS contents & requirements & how these affect use;
- Characterize effects on target & non-target organisms & environmental fate of piscicides;
- Understand need & techniques for involving & educating public during planning process; &
- Describe key environmental laws, regulations, & processes and how these affect piscicide use

When: October 18-22, 2010 **Where:** Huntington Wildlife Forest, Newcomb, NY

Length: 5 days **Tuition:** \$900 (\$800 AFS members)

For class information, please contact: Brian Finlayson, 530.957.0333, briankarefinlayson@att.net or Don Skaar, 406.444.7409, dskaar@mt.gov

Applications available at: American Fisheries Society Shawn Johnston, 301.897.8616 ext. 230, sjohnston@fisheries.org



2011 Fish-Related Seminars Offered by the Humboldt Institute

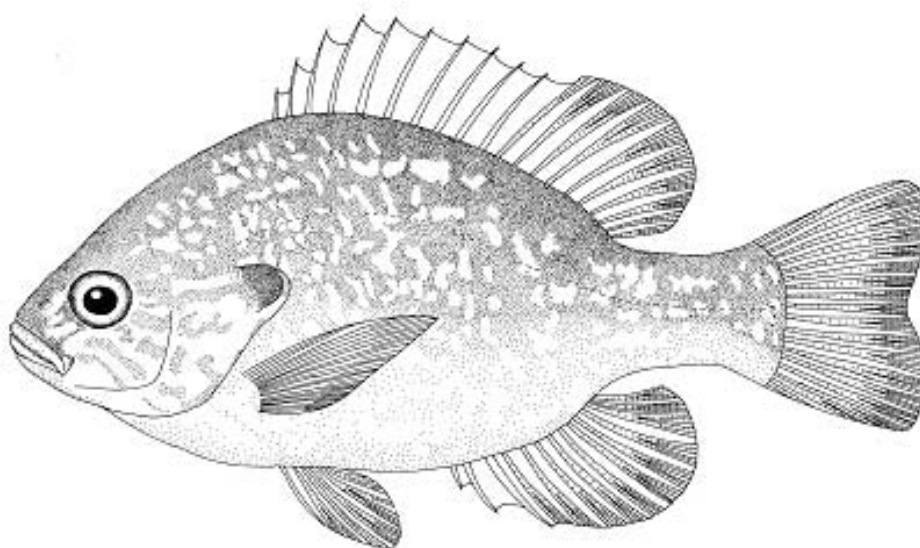
- Jun 12-18 Species ID and Assessment of Northeastern Freshwater Fish Assemblages
- Jun 19-25 Applied Aquatic Entomology: The EPT Taxa
- Jul 10-16 Ecology of Streams and Groundwater
- Jul 24-30 Integrated Ecological Restoration of Rivers and Streams

Descriptions of seminars may be found at <http://www.eaglehill.us/programs/nhs/nhs-calendar.shtml>. Syllabi are available for these and many other fine natural history training seminars on diverse topics.

Information on lodging options, meals, and costs may be found at <http://www.eaglehill.us/programs/general/application-info.shtml>

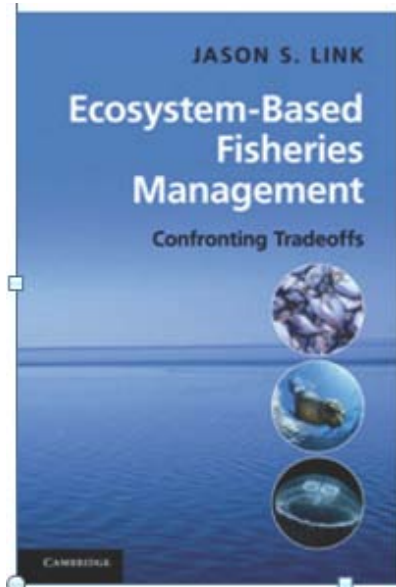
There is an online application form at:
<http://www.eaglehill.us/programs/general/application-web.shtml>

For more information, please contact the Humboldt Institute, PO Box 9, Steuben, ME 04680-0009. 207-546-2821. Fax 207-546-3042. office@eaglehill.us



Pumpkinseed sunfish. Artwork by John E. Cooper

****Recent Publications****



Ecosystem-Based Fisheries Management

Confronting Tradeoffs

Jason Link, *National Marine Fisheries Service, Woods Hole, MA*

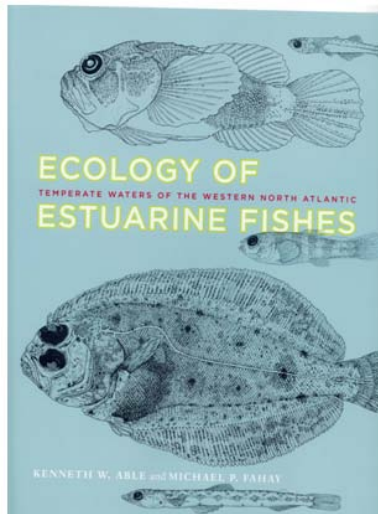
November 2010 224 pages 30 b/w illustrations / 17 tables Hardback
Discount Price: \$57.60

Responsible fisheries management is of increasing interest to the scientific community, resource managers, policy makers, stakeholders and the general public. Focusing solely on managing one species of fish stock at a time has become less of a viable option in addressing the problem. Incorporating more holistic considerations into fisheries management by addressing the tradeoffs among the range of issues involved, such as ecological principles, legal mandates and the interests of stakeholders, will hopefully challenge and shift the perception that doing ecosystem-based fisheries management is unfeasible. Demonstrating that EBFM is in fact feasible will have widespread impact, both in US and international waters. Using case studies, underlying philosophies and analytical approaches, this book brings together a range of interdisciplinary topics surrounding EBFM and considers these simultaneously, with an aim to provide tools for successful implementation and to further the debate on EBFM, ultimately hoping to foster enhanced living marine resource management.

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From the John Hopkins University Press

Ecology of Estuarine Fishes: Temperate Waters of the Western North Atlantic

Kenneth W. Able and Michael P. Fahay

"No one else could have written this book. I am amazed by the depth and range of knowledge demonstrated. This synthesis is a major contribution to estuarine fish studies."- David H. Secor, University of Maryland Center for Environmental Science

This comprehensive reference book details the life history and ecology of the fish species that occupy the estuarine and coastal habitats along much of the eastern United States.

The life history and ecology of fishes in estuaries is poorly known relative to the interest and needs of ichthyologists, estuarine ecologists, pollution biologists and resource managers at local, state and federal levels. Also, it is while they are in estuaries that they encounter several critical "bottlenecks" that can greatly affect survival rates and the resulting abundance of populations that we wish to harvest or are important components of these ecosystems. This book addresses missing information in a data-rich synthesis based on both historical and new information from a variety of sources embracing both temperate estuaries and the adjacent Atlantic Ocean where many of these species are spawned and spend the winter. This monograph comprehensively treats the how, when, and why of the dominant fishes in estuaries. Synthesis chapters summarizing the patterns of reproduction and development, larval supply, settlement, growth, mortality, habitat use and migrations are based on individual chapters for 94 species.



****Chapter and Subunit Updates****

Southern New England Chapter

Submitted by Don Danila

The winter Southern New England Chapter meeting was held on January 20 at the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institute. Seventy-seven people attended, including 27 students. By virtue of their registration, 25 attendees who were non-members became affiliate members of the Chapter. Dr. David Taylor of Roger Williams University put together a great program, with fifteen oral presentations and eleven posters. Ten of these presentations were given by students. Abstracts of all the papers and posters are available on the Chapter's website: www.snec-fisheries.org.

At the meeting, Dr. Jason Vokoun of the University of Connecticut presented Alicia Landi, also of UConn, with the AFS Fisheries Information and Technology Section Best Student Poster Award from the AFS 2010 Annual Meeting held in Pittsburgh. Alicia's poster was entitled "Estimation of wave energy using fetch and wind data at horseshoe crab

spawning beaches along the Connecticut coast". The Section's award of a certificate and \$100 cash prize recognizes the application of cutting edge computer or electronic technology in fisheries management and research.

Chapter President Tracy Maynard noted that student members may begin applying for the SNEC Student Travel Award. The \$500 award is to be used to defray the cost of traveling and attending the 2011 AFS Annual Meeting, which will be held in Seattle on September 4-8. This award is limited to a student presenting a paper or poster. A second award of \$200 may be presented to either a presenter or a student attendee who is not presenting. Applications are made through the Chapter website. She reminded Chapter members that nominations for Secretary-Treasurer are needed before the upcoming June summer Chapter meeting, which has been tentatively scheduled for June 9 at the Old Lyme, CT offices of the Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection.



Student presenters at the SNEC January meeting include (left to right) Alicia Landi, Nicole Ares, Amy Koske, Peter Chase, Owen Nichols, Victoria Price, Tim Jensen, Jessica Lajoie, Jon Carey, and Gloria Ha-young. Photo by Don Danila.

Atlantic International Chapter

Submitted by Christine Lipsky, AIC President

The Atlantic International Chapter held its 36th Annual Meeting at the scenic Stanhope Beach Resort in Prince Edward Island from September 19-21, 2010. We put together a very full schedule that was kicked off with a keynote lecture by Fred Whoriskey, currently the Executive Director of the Ocean Tracking Network (OTN) at Dalhousie University. Dr. Whoriskey spoke about "The past, present, and future of sonic telemetry networks." The technical program featured 19 presentations and several

posters, and we hosted a panel discussion on conducting angler surveys. Heather McCracken of the University of New Brunswick won Best Student Presentation Award for her presentation, "The influence of food energy from headwater lakes on downstream communities," and student travel awards were given to Heather as well as Dan Skall from the University of Maine. Our 2011 meeting will be held in Quebec, with an exact location to be determined in the very near future. A date has yet to be set, but we are aiming for either the end of September or early October.



University of Connecticut Student Subunit

Submitted by Kevin Job, UConn Subunit President

The fall 2010 semester was a busy one for the UConn Student Subunit, with many enthusiastic new individuals joining the group and participating in a semester full of events. In early September, recruitment of new members was our main focus to help bring notice to our subunit here at the University of Connecticut. Our efforts were met with great success; we more than doubled our number of attendees to bi-weekly meetings.

This influx of new faces brought a number of new ideas that we used during event planning. In early fall we ran a table at the UConn Cornucopia Festival put on by the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources. Our table included posters on fish sampling methods as well as the Fisheries Smith Root electrofishing boat. During this event members spoke with the public and answered questions about fish sampling. During this event a handful

of members also helped children paint fish pictures with the Connecticut Sea Grant at their table.

In late October we held our annual stream cleanup and barbeque along the Fenton River in the UConn Forest. Club members from the UConn Wildlife Society joined us in this effort, helping to remove a couple hundred pounds of trash from the river and surrounding woodlands.



UConn Student Subunit members stand with garbage they removed from the Fenton River and Uconn Forest during the October stream clean up. Photo by Kevin Job.

We finished up the semester with a guest lecture from Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection Inland Fisheries Biologist Neal Hagstrom, during which he covered the current crayfish project and the status of crayfish within the state. Attendance to this event was open to everyone at UConn and a good number of non-AFS members attended, thanking us for the invitation afterwards. Members continued to show support into the end of the semester, bringing forward many new ideas for events already in the works for the spring.

We would also like to take this time to acknowledge and congratulate a number of our members who received awards as well as those who moved forward with professional accomplishments:

Kevin Job: Kevin Job is the current acting President of the UConn Student Subunit, as well as a senior in the Fisheries Management program. Kevin received scholarships from the New England Outdoors Writers Association and the Connecticut BASS Federation.



Current UConn Student Subunit President and Fisheries Management Undergrad, Kevin Job, poses with a fall Striped Bass. Photo by Kevin Job.

Alicia Landi: Alicia Landi is the current acting Vice President for the UConn Student Subunit, the 2009-2010 Northeastern Student Subsection Rep., as well as a Fisheries graduate student. Alicia was awarded at the 2010 AFS annual meeting with the Best Student Poster Award from the Fisheries Technology and Information Section of AFS.



UConn Fisheries graduate student, 2009-2010 Northeastern Student Subsection Rep. and UConn Student Subunit Vice President Alicia Landi stands with a horseshoe crab during her summer field sampling. Photo by Alicia Landi.

Joseph Cassone: Joseph Cassone is a former President of the UConn Student Subunit who graduated from the Fisheries program last spring and was recently hired by the town of Greenwich Connecticut as their Conservation Assistant.



Joe Cassone, Former UConn Student Subunit President and current Conservation Asst. for the town of Greenwich CT, poses with a Largemouth Bass. Photo by Joe Cassone.

Dr. Yoichiro Kanno: Past president and five-year member, Yoichiro Kanno, graduated from UConn as a doctoral Fisheries student this past December. He will begin his post-doc as a Quantitative Aquatic Ecologist at Tennessee Technological University. Yoichiro also received numerous awards in 2010, including two best poster awards at the SNEC winter meeting and the 66th Northeast Fish and Wildlife Conference in Boston.

Congratulations to these individuals as we look forward to another busy semester here at the University of Connecticut.



Newly graduated UConn doctoral student, Dr. Yoichiro Kanno, weighs a brook trout during his fall sampling on Spruce Brook in Naugatuck CT. Photo by Yoichiro Kanno.



New Cornell University Student Subunit

Submitted by T.J. Ross, Cornell University Subunit President

In February 2010, the Cornell University Student Subunit of the American Fisheries Society was approved by the AFS Governing Board. Prior to the formation

of the new Subunit, there was a Cornell Chapter of AFS (chartered in 1980); however, after about 10 years the chapter became inactive and was dissolved. Under the leadership of faculty advisor, Dr. Bill Fisher, the Subunit officers, T. J. Ross (President), Carrie Simon (Vice-President) and Claire Stouthamer (Secretary-Treasurer) established the following objectives for the Subunit: 1) to

advance the knowledge of fisheries and aquatic science at Cornell, 2) promote the professional development of Cornell students and 3) facilitate collaboration among students and fisheries professionals. During its first year, the Subunit organized an “Undergraduate Professional Development” workshop that attracted over 50 students and faculty. The workshop provided undergraduate students with information on AFS, resume building, job interviewing, locating and applying for internships and graduate programs and much more. Currently, the Subunit, with financial aid

from the New York Chapter of AFS, is planning a “New York State Student Fisheries Colloquium” to occur at Cornell’s Biological Field Station during April 2011. The colloquium will provide students from across the state with the opportunity to present their research ideas and results, establish relationships with other students, and network with fisheries professionals. The Subunit envisions this colloquium becoming an annual event and hopes that it will ultimately evolve into a Northeast Division of AFS Student Colloquium.



UMaine Student Sub-Unit

Submitted by Ian Kiraly, UMaine Subunit President

The University of Maine Student Sub-Unit has held or participated in a variety of events since the summer newsletter. Last fall, members volunteered to work with the Friends of Green Lake National Fish Hatchery on the construction of the Ed Hastings Memorial Trail. Volunteer assistance was also provided for a variety of research projects, the most recent being a fishing trip devoted to capturing largemouth bass for a graduate student’s project in the Department of Ecology and Environmental Sciences. Educational activities included a fly casting seminar and a fishing rod building class. The sub-unit also hosted Dr. Ted Castro-Santos of

the Conte Anadromous Fish Research Center to dinner while he was visiting UMaine to present a seminar for the Department of Wildlife Ecology, and members discussed fisheries topics one-on-one with him over food and drink. For recreation, members participated in a variety of fishing trips, where extensive knowledge of fishing techniques was shared; those new to fishing learned much and were able to catch many fish. Soon after successful fishing trips, members gathered together for potluck-style dinners, which included fresh fish that was cooked in a variety of ways. Recreational events co-hosted with the UMaine Student Chapter of the Wildlife Society include the recent annual bowling competition and the upcoming ice fishing competition.

****Research Roundup****

The Ecological Effects of the Penobscot River Restoration Project

Submitted by Charlie Baeder



Gayle and Joe Zydlewski electrofishing to assess fish community structure on the Penobscot River. Photo by B. Beesaw.

The Penobscot River Restoration Project (PRRP) is a unique and innovative aquatic restoration project that aims to significantly improve access to historic river habitat by removing two mainstem dams and by decommissioning and bypassing a third tributary dam without losing hydro-electric generating capacity. Project objectives include: providing unobstructed access to the entire historic riverine range for lower river diadromous species such as shortnose sturgeon; improving access to upstream habitat for upper river species such as Atlantic salmon and alewife; reconnecting trophic linkages between headwater areas and the Gulf of Maine; restoring natural fluvial processes to the former impoundments; improving recreational (new and traditional) and Penobscot Nation cultural opportunities; and maintaining hydropower generation.

Investments from a number of partners including The Nature Conservancy, the Penobscot River Restoration Trust, NOAA's Northeast Salmon Team, and over \$1.3M in NOAA Restoration Center support through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 are now supporting rigorous ecosystem monitoring of physical, chemical, and biological parameters to document the effects of dam removal. Thus, the PRRP provides an enormous opportunity for fisheries agencies, academia, resource managers, funders and the public to better understand the ecological effects of large scale dam removals and to have accountability for the large public and private investments. These investments in monitoring and research will allow the public, funders and policy makers to make informed decisions regarding the costs and benefits of large scale restoration projects into the future.

Several parameters are currently being assessed to provide baseline monitoring data pre-dam removal. Baseline monitoring field work is expected to be completed in 2011, and post-removal monitoring is expected to begin in 2013-2014. The plan is to continue post-dam removal monitoring for several years to assess the long-term ecological benefits of dam removal projects. Current baseline monitoring studies that we are funding include:

- Fluvial Geomorphology: channel geometry, sediment characterization, photographic monitoring, bathymetry, and seismology.

- Fish passage: upstream and downstream diadromous fish passage, primarily Atlantic salmon, using PIT tags and telemetry. Fish presence, direction of travel, and abundance using hydroacoustics and DIDSON. Shortnose sturgeon habitat use and spawning.
- Fish community structure: species richness and abundance using electrofishing.
- Ecosystem function: marine-derived nutrients in marine and freshwater aquatic organisms, primarily fish, using stable isotope analysis.
- Water Quality: temperature, chemistry, and macroinvertebrates.
- Wetlands: impoundments, reference reaches, and invasives.

Additional Penobscot watershed science is being conducted by other researchers and funders. The Penobscot Science Exchange and other collaborative groups provide venues to share this information among the research and management

community. We are excited about the work and will be reporting additional information as the baseline monitoring is completed and analyses have been conducted.

Charles Baeder
River Monitoring Coordinator
Penobscot River Restoration Trust
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Water quality & biomonitoring: D. Kusneirz et al., Penobscot Nation. Photo by B. Beesaw.



Movement and Habitat Use of Striped Bass in a New England Estuary: Research Update

Submitted by Cristina Kennedy and Dr. Martha E. Mather

The Atlantic coast striped bass (*Morone saxatilis*) is an abundant migratory top predator in New England coastal ecosystems. Striped bass is a popular recreational and commercial fish species. Many striped bass visit Plum Island

Estuary (PIE) on the north shore of Massachusetts to feed during the spring through fall. We are focusing on striped bass seasonal movements and habitat use within PIE and annual migratory movements between PIE and overwintering grounds in the mid-Atlantic. Specifically, we want to know what role discontinuities in the estuarine environment- such as channel confluences, underwater structure and drop-offs- play in the distribution of striped bass within PIE and if there is

individual variation in what locations are utilized.

We used acoustic telemetry to monitor and track striped bass in PIE in 2009-2011. We tagged 50 striped bass (40-60 cm TL) in June 2009 with VEMCO acoustic tags. When the tag is within the range of a receiver the id, date and time of the detection are recorded. We deployed seven stationary receivers that continuously recorded fish detections from June through November, 2009 and 2010. In order to provide additional coverage of PIE, we also conducted a monthly survey of 40 locations throughout the estuary using a tracking receiver (see photo).



Cristina Kennedy surveying striped bass in Plum Island in June 2009 using a tracking receiver. Photo by Sarah Wells.

The stationary receivers detected individual tagged fish for an average of 50 days, ranging from a minimum of two days to a maximum of 113 days. Thirty-five fish (70%) were detected in PIE for more than 30 days. The monthly survey using the tracking receiver indicated a seasonal shift in use of PIE from the upper estuary in July and August, to the middle

and lower estuary in September, and a concentration of the remaining fish in the middle estuary in October (Figure 1). Forty-six fish (92%) were heard by acoustic receiver arrays outside of our study area, including the Merrimack River, Cape Ann, Cape Cod Canal, the outer Cape, Long Island Sound, the Hudson River estuary and Delaware Bay. Thirty-three striped bass tagged in 2009 (66%) returned to PIE in the summer of 2010 after being detected elsewhere along the coast.

Our initial results indicate that striped bass in PIE are heterogeneously distributed in relation to month (July-October), temperature, tidal stage, and physical characteristics of PIE. The seasonal residency of a majority of the tagged striped bass allowed us to collect a large amount of data that we hope will add to the information on New England coastal migratory striped bass and their importance to and dependence on coastal estuaries.

This research is supported by the School of Marine Sciences at the University of Massachusetts and the Plum Island Estuary Long Term Ecological Research network. We are highly indebted to the fishing efforts of Captain Barry Clemson and the long hours put in by several dedicated volunteers. Detection data outside of PIE was provided by the Atlantic Cooperative Telemetry (ACT) network.

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The Growth and Survival of Stocked Juvenile Atlantic salmon in Small Tributaries of the Machias River Watershed

Submitted by Wes Ashe and Dr. Stephen Coghlan

This graduate research project investigates the growth and survival of stocked juvenile Atlantic salmon in headwater streams of the Machias River watershed. The Machias River, located in downeast Maine, harbors one of the few remaining wild populations of endangered, anadromous Atlantic salmon in the U.S. Over the past century, anthropogenic disturbances have degraded the watershed. These activities, mainly the construction of roads for timber harvest and log driving, have disrupted the structure and function of the river and its tributaries. The extensive network of logging roads required the construction of dozens of culverts on many of these headwaters streams.

Currently, these poorly designed and malfunctioning culverts impede the movement of Atlantic salmon into a network of small tributaries that comprises upwards of 70% of the total stream area in the watershed, and that historically provided critical nursery and rearing habitat. These productive habitats are essential to the growth and survival of juvenile Atlantic salmon, as they provide thermal refuge, protection from predators, and abundant food supply. However, current management of Atlantic salmon in the Machias River involves stocking fry in larger tributaries because many of these smaller tributaries are

blocked by culverts and thus would be inaccessible.

This study examines the importance of these smaller tributaries to Atlantic salmon fry by meeting three specific objectives: to (1) quantify differences in growth and survival of juvenile Atlantic salmon among 1st and 2nd order stream reaches and across multiple environmental gradients, (2) determine the relative importance of measured habitat features to juvenile Atlantic salmon growth and survival, and (3) compare the production potential of headwater streams to the main stem and other already stocked tributaries.

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Atlantic salmon fry are hand-stocked into a tributary of the Machias River, Maine. Photo by Wes Ashe.

****Fisheries in the News****

U.S. Fish and Wildlife's D.C. Booth Preserves Fisheries History One Accession at a Time

Submitted by Leith Edgar



Overlooking some of D.C. Booth's active raceways, the Hector Von Bayer Museum contains exhibits chronicling the rich history of fisheries management. Photo by Lee Voorhis.

Deep in the catacombs of D.C. Booth lies treasure – not sparkling jewels, precious metals or fancy jewelry – but a veritable treasure trove of fisheries history. The D.C. Booth Historic National Fish Hatchery and Archives in Spearfish, S.D., houses one of the nation's most extensive collections of fisheries-related historic artifacts.

The Archives' primary mission is the preservation of fisheries history by collecting items of historic significance.

"Preserving this history is incredibly important for future generations, but it's imperative that people know it's here," said the Booth Society's executive director, Eric Davis.

While visitors enjoy the fruits of the Archives, behind the scenes the painstaking work of conserving fisheries' management history into the future is executed under the detail-oriented eye of its curator, Randi Smith. A rotating group of college interns and Booth Society volunteers assist her in the intake, cataloging and storage of each piece of incoming history.

Annually, the Booth Society contributes more than 14,000 volunteer hours to the facility. The effect is the equivalent of seven full-time employees, Davis said.

Some of the Archives' items might seem unimportant, but they may prove invaluable to researchers of the future.

"The D.C. Booth Historic National Fish Hatchery is the custodian of the rich and diverse history of fisheries. This Archive is much more than a collection and exhibits. Biologists and historians look toward D.C. Booth for vital knowledge and information," said Carlos Martinez, the director who oversees the multi-purpose facility.

The Archives are always looking for more conservation-agency related items, such as photos, log books, uniforms, field equipment, lab equipment, blueprints, and maps. Most often the Archives look to fisheries and conservation employees in the twilight of their careers for contributions.

"We'd like them to think about us when they're deciding what to do with the natural resource related stuff they've acquired over a full career," Smith said.

"The Archives is interested in anything fisheries related, regardless of the agency or time period," Martinez said. "It is important to keep in mind that items we use today may have some historical significance down the road."



Historic Service photos are prized by the D.C. Booth archives. After restoration and preservation, they are made available to researchers. USFWS.

The Archives largely depends on the generosity of fisheries employees, both past and present. Smith hopes retiring Service employees will strongly consider donating their collections to the Archives for prolonged safekeeping and use by future generations of fisheries' biologists, scientific researchers and historians.

"As the collection grows we can see where we need to fill in the gaps," Smith said. "We seriously consider all contributions, and we're more than happy

to answer questions about the process of donating to the Archives. We want people to know that the Archives are open and inclusive. We'll work with you to get your contribution here."

For additional information on the D.C. Booth Historic National Fish Hatchery and Archives contact Carlos Martinez, director (605) 642-7730, x223; carlos.martinez@fws.gov, or Randi Smith, curator, (605) 642-7730, x215; randi.smith@fws.gov.

Fishery Biologists Have Big Dreams for Susquehanna River Fish

Submitted by Larry Miller

The dreams are ambitious: 2 million American shad and 5 million river herring spawning in the Susquehanna River above York Haven Dam, and increased habitat access and production for other migratory fish species.

With stocks of American shad and river herring at historic lows, fishery biologists know that decisive action is needed to achieve the goals. Each year, fewer than 3,000 spawning American shad make it above the York Haven dam, just 55 miles from the mouth of the Susquehanna. Although these fish travel thousands miles along the Atlantic coast as juveniles, these 55 miles are the most challenging in their quest to spawn and sustain Susquehanna River fish, according to Larry Miller of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's Mid-Atlantic Fishery Resources Office.

Atlantic sturgeon, American eel and other coastal migratory fish are equally in trouble, Miller said. For the past four

years, the Service, in cooperation with the owner of the Conowingo Dam and the states of Maryland and Pennsylvania, has trapped up to tens of thousands of immature American eels below the dam at mile 10 and transported them above the Holtwood (mile 25), Safe Harbor (mile 32) and York Haven dams. Without this assistance, no eels make the journey from the ocean upriver to their freshwater nursery habitat. After these eels mature, they travel back downstream to the Atlantic Ocean to spawn and continue the cycle of life. Biologists are reinvigorating efforts to restore an abundance of migratory fish to the Susquehanna River Basin. Plans include restoring adequate access for fish to and from their historic river habitat by improving upstream and downstream fish passage at the four hydroelectric dams on the lower river and at more dams on the river and major tributary streams. Biologists will examine fish survival during downstream passage and ensure that it is safe and effective.

As part of an effort to increase the number of juvenile shad the Susquehanna produces, the Service and its partner agencies take eggs from fish returning to the Conowingo Dam or from other rivers. These eggs are transported to the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission Van Dyke Hatchery near Thompsettown, where they are hatched and nurtured until they grow to one-half inch long. Then biologists return the tiny

fish to the river system above the dams. The young fish will imprint on the river and attempt to return to the same site as adults to spawn and continue the cycle – if they can make it safely past the dams and all the other obstacles they will encounter.

In all, 43 newly defined tasks will be the steps biologists hope will lead to the dream of abundant, sustainable migratory fish in the Susquehanna. The Susquehanna River Anadromous Fish Restoration Cooperative approved the Migratory Fish Management and Restoration Plan for the Susquehanna River Basin on Nov. 15, 2010. The Cooperative includes the Service, National Marine Fisheries Service, Susquehanna River Basin Commission, Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission, Maryland Department of Natural Resources and New York State Department of Environmental Conservation. For more information and the new restoration and management plan, see <http://www.fws.gov/northeast/susquehannariver>

-FWS

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****NED Business Meeting Minutes****

Draft version May 5, 2010
Final version 13 May 2010

Minutes

2010 Northeastern Division Annual Business Meeting

66th NEFWC, Newton, Massachusetts, 26 April

John E. Cooper, Secretary-Treasurer

Call to order and determination of quorum

President Paul Perra called the meeting to order at 5:42 pm. Ron Essig served as Sergeant-at-arms and determined that a quorum was present.

Recognition of Past-Presidents and Guests

Paul recognized NED Past-Presidents Ron Essig, Ken Beal, Desmond Kahn, Margaret Murphy, Carolyn Griswold, Linda Bireley, Scott Decker, Rich Jacobson, and Donna Parrish. Distinguished guests were AFS President Don Jackson, First Vice President Bill Fisher, and Second Vice President John Boreman.

Guest remarks

AFS President Don Jackson: Don thanked the attendees of the business meeting for all that they do for AFS and for the fishery resource. He expressed his pleasure at being in the Northeast where AFS was started and thought that this would be an outstanding meeting. AFS had a successful Congressional briefing on fishery habitat in March and will hold another briefing in summer on fishery chemical tools. The Fish Culture Section is leading this effort. AFS is looking for new vendors for publications that will allow for more flexibility [Sec. note –the Wildlife Society is also searching new vendors]. AFS has suffered financially during the economic downturn but the outlook is positive. The Pittsburgh meeting will have many symposia and contributed papers. The President's column in *Fisheries* has reflected Don's views on the reason for having AFS and how science can make a difference. There are many challenges ahead, one of which is the number of new professionals that lack foreign language skills. This needs to be addressed, especially in academia. New students need to be able to relate to other cultures (*see Fisheries April 2010*). One step toward this would be to have abstracts of journal papers in Spanish, not just those in *Fisheries*.

Division President Paul Perra: Paul expressed his desire to keep his comments short and that his primary concern is for the fishery resource but that it also includes the people that can help to create sustainable fisheries through AFS.

Approval of the minutes of the 2008 business meeting

The 2008 minutes were not available at the 2009 meeting so we have those plus the minutes from the 2009 meeting to approve. Paul asked that we vote on both meeting minutes as one to save time. Ron Essig made a motion to accept the minutes, seconded by Linda Bireley. There was no discussion and the minutes were approved.

Secretary-Treasurer report

John Cooper presented the highlights for the Division in 2009 (details are available in the Secretary-Treasurer report):

1) The publication of the Diadromous Symposium was accomplished; NED spent approximately \$26,000 on the symposium meeting. Total cost of the meeting was approximately \$137,000 and total donations were \$140,000, including that from NED.

2) NED donated \$1000 for the AFS Pittsburgh meeting.

3) Income increased by 11% in 2009 and expenses declined by 55%; the decline in expenses was due primarily to favorable meeting locations and increased support from employers for travel funding.

4) If expenses and income remain similar in future years to that in 2009, the NED will be able to cover all expenses through income within three years.

Chapter Reports (Written reports provided by chapter presidents with any additional comments made at the business meeting added)

Atlantic International Chapter: Scott Craig said that the Atlantic International Chapter held its annual meeting in Shelburne, NH, September 20-22, 2009 with approximately 35 attendees. The meeting theme was "Watershed Processes". There were 17 formal presentations, not including Posters, and a Sunday evening social mixer with informal presentations. The next meeting will be on Prince Edward Island. Timing of the meeting is after the national AFS meeting, which makes attendance difficult for some. Atlantic International Chapter oversees the AFS Student Sub-unit at the University of Maine. The Chapter completed a recent survey of its members' views of AFS as a national organization.

SUNY-ESF: none. Karin Limburg noted that the Chapter is alive and functioning. Paul asked that the New York Chapter explore ways to get some participation from the ESF Chapter.

Mid-Atlantic Chapter: Jason Morson: The Mid-Atlantic Chapter held its annual fall meeting October 1-2, 2009, at The Richard Stockton College of New Jersey. The Chapter

had great success with a two-day meeting (rather than the usual one day) with an evening social featuring beer. There were 15 paper presentations; and attendees represented six colleges, and a NOAA career table was well used. The Mid-Atlantic Chapter has increased chapter outreach to local Mid-Atlantic Universities and Schools, and had attendees from six colleges at its fall meeting.

New York Chapter: Matt Sanderson: The New York Chapter held its annual meeting in Lake George, NY, February 10-12, 2010. The meeting focused on “New York’s Fisheries Heritage.” During the meeting the Chapter held a Fish ID Workshop. The course was designed to teach fish identification techniques for many of the non-game species of New York State, with emphasis placed on the more difficult taxonomic families. Over 120 people attended the meeting despite a difficult budgetary environment. We had received interest from the New York Chapters of the Society of American Foresters, and the Wildlife Society in holding a Tri-Society meeting in 2011. The three New York natural resources societies have done this in the past on an approximately 5-year basis. The New York Chapter of the Society of American Foresters will not be able to participate in 2011, so the Tri-Society meeting will be put on hold, and we are planning for our own 2011 annual meeting. Having successfully provided our first video-conference-enabled continuing education workshop to a participatory audience of over 90 persons in 2009, the New York Chapter is looking into using this technology to provide educational opportunities and increase annual meeting participation. Two awards were recognized at our annual meeting on February 11, 2010. The Conservationist of the Year award was given to Ronald Urban, of the New York State Chapter of Trout Unlimited. The Professional Achievement Award was given to Douglas Sheppard, of the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation. Doug was recognized for his more than 35 years of service to the conservation of New York State’s fisheries resources and his many years of service to the American Fisheries Society. The New York Chapter oversees the AFS Student Sub-units at Morrisville State College, SUNY Fredonia, Cornell University, and SUNY Cobleskill. Travel awards were provided to 6 students on a competitive basis to allow them to attend the annual meeting. The New York Chapter website was updated regularly over the last year and now features annual meeting information, archived newsletters and contact information for our various committees. Our newsletter is now distributed only through the website, with new issue notifications distributed to the membership via e-mail.

Pennsylvania Chapter: no report. John Arway reminded all that volunteers are still needed for the Pittsburgh meeting.

Southern New England Chapter: Ken Sprankle: The Southern New England Chapter held its Winter Meeting at the University of Connecticut’s Avery Point Campus in Groton, Connecticut on January 28, 2010. A total 104 people attended including 33 students that were admitted free of charge. A total of 14 platform presentations and 7 speed/poster presentations were given. The Chapter’s Summer Meeting is scheduled for June 23, 2010 at the University of Rhode Island. Abstracts are still being accepted at the time of this report. The Southern New England Chapter’s University of Connecticut Subunit continues to provide a forum for primarily undergraduates to learn more about the profession and the American Fisheries Society. The involvement of several professors who serve on our Board of Directors at Roger Williams University, University of Massachusetts

Dartmouth, and the University of Connecticut help to ensure that we are responsive and adaptive to engaging students and providing a variety of opportunities to help them advance on a career path. The Saul Saila Best Student Paper Award is given at each meeting. In addition, a Best Student Poster Award is also given for our Winter Meeting. Students are provided free admission to both winter and summer Chapter meetings and have comprised 30-50% of the total attendees in our most recent meetings. The Chapter supports student attendance to the Annual Meeting with two awards, one for a presenter and another for presenter or non-presenter on an annual basis. Students are also eligible for a one-year free paid membership to AFS. The Chapter typically pays for three to four of these memberships on an annual basis. The Chapter also provides for up to four other professional awards at the Summer Meeting for different purposes. The Southern New England Chapter website was updated on a regular basis and provides details on meetings, award applications, committees and other links. A list serve membership list (provided via AFS) is updated regularly for email updates to members on Chapter announcements and opportunities.

Carolyn Griswold added that there is information on meetings on the website.

Committee Reports : (Written reports provided by committee chairs with any additional comments made at the business meeting added)

Archives: Ernie Atkinson: Currently, all electronic correspondence is stored electronically. These include NED EXCOM monthly phone call minutes, annual business meeting minutes, and the updated NED Procedures Manual. Materials that were archived prior to my taking office are housed within the Maine Department of Marine Resources' offices located in Bangor, Maine with former NED archivist Norm Dube'.

Audit: Douglas Stang: The Audit Committee of the Northeastern Division of the American Fisheries Society met with John Cooper (NED Secretary-Treasurer) and Scott Decker (NED Past-President who has taken over treasurer responsibilities for the Diadromous Symposium) at the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation Central Office in Albany, NY on January 28, 2010. The Committee conducted separate audits of the income, expenditures, and associated finances for the Northeastern Division of the American Fisheries Society (NED) and the Diadromous Symposium (symposium) for the partial calendar year 1 March, 2009 through 31 December, 2009 (Note: the 2008 audit was conducted for the 1 January, 2008 through 28 February, 2009 time period). For both the NED and the symposium, the Committee found the records to be complete and accurate with acceptable evidence of authorization or justification of, and proper receipts/vouchers for, disbursements made. In all specific instances, audited expenditures were approved by a party other than the individual making the disbursements, and receipts for expenditures were maintained and provided. The records for the NED are kept using a Microsoft EXCEL spreadsheet.

Statement of Assets

	<u>January 1,</u> <u>2009</u>	<u>December</u> <u>31, 2009</u>	<u>Change/</u> <u>Comments</u>
<u>Investments - American Century</u> <u>Investors</u>			
One Choice Portfolio	\$39,671.62	\$0.00	(\$39,671.62)
Diversified Bond Fund	\$0.00	\$16,737.72	\$16,737.72
Prime Money Market Fund	\$0.00	\$4,896.77	\$4,896.77
Ginnie Mae Bond Fund	\$0.00	\$16,172.60	\$16,172.60
TOTAL			(\$1,864.53)
 <u>Cash and Equivalents – Bank of</u> <u>America</u>			
Checking Account	\$5185.15	\$5675.88	\$490.73
Symposium Account	\$12,406.75	\$0.00	(\$12,406.75)
		(Closed)	
Total Assets	\$57,263.52	\$43,482.97	(\$13,780.55)

Note: On March 10, 2009, the funds (balance at time of transfer was \$35,949.67) from *One Choice Portfolio (Conservative)* were distributed to *Diversified Bond Fund* (\$13,993.17), *Ginnie Mae Bond Fund* (\$13,933.17) and *Prime Money Market Fund* (\$8,023.33). On May 27, 2009, there was a subsequent transfer of funds from the *Prime Money Market Fund* to *Diversified Bond Fund* (\$2000.00) and *Ginnie Mae Bond Fund* (\$2000.00).

The current allocation (ratio among stocks: bonds: cash and equivalents) of NED funds is more conservative (0:87:13) than the stated (in 1999) Northeastern Division policy of 45:40:15 for allocation of its assets.

The Audit Committee notes that the total assets are dropping each year:

FY1998	\$142,651
FY1999	\$163,154
FY2000	\$144,056
FY2001	\$130,614
FY2002	\$110,353
FY2003	\$113,688
FY2004	\$107,337
FY2005	\$102,513 (-4.5%)
FY2006	\$91,165 (-9.0%)
FY2007	\$69,476 (-23.9%)
FY2008	\$57,264 (-17.6%)
FY2009	\$43,483 (-24.1%)

Primarily, the large reduction in total assets for FY2009 was due to the symposium publishing costs (\$10,355) and a slight reduction (\$1,864.53) in the value of investments.

Statement of Activity

Rebates from the Parent Society totaled \$5038.80. The final balance transferred from the symposium account to the NED checking account was \$2538.75. Major expenditures included: NED Officer travel (\$2,812.34), AFS Officer travel (\$527.80), and the NED annual meeting (\$2,330.66 – including student travel and best paper awards).

Cash and Equivalents

NED Checking Account: A beginning balance of \$5185.15, an income of \$7,629.24, and disbursements of \$7,138.55 resulted in an ending balance of \$5675.88. All disbursements had satisfactory written evidence of justification and authorization.

Diadromous Symposium Account: A beginning balance of \$12,406.75, an income of \$500.00 (from donations) and disbursements of \$12,906.75 (publishing costs - \$10,355; bank fee - \$13; balance transferred to NED checking account - \$2538.75) resulted in an ending balance of \$0.00. All disbursements had satisfactory written evidence of justification and authorization.

Summary

Records for all accounts were complete and accurate. John Cooper, NED Secretary-Treasurer for this audit period provided excellent summaries and records of transactions. The NED checking account is now being tracked by using a Microsoft EXCEL spreadsheet.

Finance: Desmond Kahn: In 2009, the Division changed its investment strategy. We had the problem of spending down our investments in the past. We decided to restrict spending with the goal of initially retaining our principal. Second, we hope to increase the principal as proceeds come in from the Diadromous symposium proceedings.

At the beginning of the year, the Division had its investments in the One Choice Portfolio: Conservative of the American Century Investments company, totaling \$39,671.62. This depreciated over the next three months in value by -\$3,721.95 due to the decline in value of the stock portion of the portfolio. To accomplish the first goal of retaining our principal, we moved our holdings into bond funds and used the monthly dividends as an income stream. On March 10, 2009, the Division moved its investment holdings out of the American Century Investments One Choice Portfolio: Conservative (total \$35,949.67) and into two bond mutual funds and a money market fund.

December 31, 2008 Total \$39,671.53

December 31, 2009 Total \$37,807.09

Holdings as of March 3, 2010:

Diversified Bond Fund \$16,737.72,

30-day yield 3.11%,

1 yr total return = 7.84%

Ginnie Mae Bond Fund \$16,172.60,

30-day yield 3.76%,

1 yr. total return = 5.12%

Prime Money Market Fund \$4,896.77

30-day yield 0.01%

1 yr. total return = 0.02%

2009 Portfolio Income Summary

Dividends	\$1,033.15
Short-term Capital gains	\$42.69
 Total Income	 \$1,075.84

Since purchase of these fund shares, then, we have retained the principal in the two bond funds, while using monthly dividends as an income stream by sending them to the money market account. During 2009, this amounted to about \$110 per month, with yields on each of the funds less than 4%. We may consider increasing this yield by diversifying some funds into a high-yield bond fund. We have moved our investments into a conservative position. This decision was partly influenced by the fact that our total holdings have declined well below \$50,000. Non-Treasury bonds have had a boom in value over the last year, as the total return of the two funds shows. The total return gives the sum of dividends paid (yield) and share price changes. An increase in interest rates could have a negative impact on the market value of these bond fund holdings. Basically, if new bonds come out offering higher interest rates, the existing bonds held by the mutual funds will decline in value. While the dividend payments will probably remain about the same, if the Division needs to sell some of its shares for some new expenditure, the shares would have lost some value. These share prices will gradually increase over time, however, as the bond funds purchase new, higher yielding bonds, so that the share prices of the funds will eventually regain their market value. If interest rates rise, the Division has the option of selling the bond fund shares and depositing the proceeds in the money market fund, which would retain the capital, but reduce the yield, since money markets are paying very little. Alternatively, we could retain the bond fund holdings, using the dividend stream and wait for the share prices to rebound.

Awards: Desmond Kahn sent out a call for nominations via the NED Listserver, and was assisted by the Division Webmaster who posted a call on the NED website. The deadline for nominations was March 6 and was subsequently extended to March 20. We received a nomination for the Dwight Webster Memorial Award of Merit, the President's Award, a Meritorious Service Award, and one for the Special Achievement Award. The NED past-presidents voted on the nominees and selected Victor Crecco as this year's recipient of the Dwight Webster Memorial Award of Merit (presented at banquet), Forrest Bonney as the recipient of the President's Award (will be presented by Scott Craig, AIC, at a later date), Roy Miller as the recipient of the Meritorious Service Award (accepted by Patrick Emory) and the Diadromous Conference Committee as the recipient of the Special Achievement Award. Alex Haro accepted the Special Achievement Award on behalf of the Conference Committee. Alex noted that Phil Downey (NED President-elect) was his boss in 1986 and allowed him to attend the first Anadromous-Catadromous Symposium. This year is the first year since 2004 in which all four awards of the Northeastern Division will be presented.

Membership: Phil Downey: Full-year membership was reviewed and analyzed for 2005 through February 2010. While membership in NED had showed an increasing trend from 2005 through 2008, the 2008 to 2009 NED membership declined (based on full year data) by approximately ten (10) percent (see table below). The ten (10) percent decline was relatively consistent across all active membership levels. However, both the student registrations and young professional registrations displayed a slightly higher percentage decline than the regular member category. Nearly eighteen (18) percent (175/984) of our 2009 membership have been AFS members for more than 25 years.

NED Membership

Year	Regular	Life	Retired	Young Professional	Student	Honor	Total
2010*	402	75	33	55	118	2	685
2009*	626	76	50	76	154	2	984
2008*	696	76	55	87	179	2	1095
2007**	649	70	44	83	169	1	1016
2006**	658	78	54	85	203	1	1079
2005**	475	73	50	55	128	0	781

* Membership figures from National (3/5/10).

** Historical Data from the NED Membership report 2008

The 2010 membership data, which is current through February 2010 (transmitted from the AFS National on March 5, 2010), had 695 members currently registered. Late registrations, more recent registrations in March-April and the remainder of the year registrations will undoubtedly affect the final registration numbers for 2010 and its' comparability to previous year's rolls. Currently, there are 359 (2009) members that have not registered as

of the end of February, 2010 (see attached table). These 'delinquent' members include 74 students and 24 young professionals. However, there were 60 'new' members, which were not registered in 2009. The majority of new registrants were students (38) while three new young professional members also registered thus far.

Current membership registration through March 5, 2010.

	State Province	Honorary	Life	Regular	Retired	Student	Young Profess.	TOTAL
UNITED STATES	CT		4	28	3	11	4	50
	DE		2	11		3		16
	MA		11	85	7	19	15	137
	ME		7	44	4	8	2	65
	NH		5	18	2	4	2	31
	NJ		4	30	2	8	2	46
	NY	1	22	82	6	36	9	156
	PA		14	37		12	14	77
	RI		1	14	4	4	2	25
	VT	1	4	16	1	3	1	26
CANADA	NB			13	1	3	1	18
	NF			5	1	1	1	8
	NS			16	2	3	1	22
	PE		1	1				2
	PQ			2		3	1	6
TOTAL		2	75	402	33	118	55	685

Existing and New Member status 2010 (current through March 5, 2010)

Type of Member	Honorary	Life	Regular	Retired	Student	Young Profess.	Total
Returning	2	75	383	33	80	52	625
New			19		38	3	60
Delinquent		1	243	17	74	24	359

Recommendations or Suggestions for Future Consideration:

The decline in NED membership in 2009 spotlights several membership concerns. The decline in newer members (students and young professionals) suggests lower growth in NED membership. Also, the Division's membership is made up of a high percentage (18%) of members that have been part of NED for 25 years suggesting increased attrition through retirements in future years. Both of these factors suggest that a higher emphasis be placed on attracting new members to maintain membership and the overall health of the Division/Society. One suggestion would be to place greater emphasis on encouraging existing members to be more pro-active in disseminating information on the benefits of being an AFS member and recruiting of new professionals to the Division/Society.

Newsletter: The newsletter is a project undertaken by the University of Maine Student Subunit and is currently edited by Phillip Dionne. Electronic copies of the newsletter are emailed to members and posted on the NED website. The Division produced two issues of the "Northeast Fish Rapper" in 2009 (January, June), and one issue in 2010 (January). Phillip is planning on producing another newsletter for July 2010, and will be collecting material to be included therein. Future requests for content may ask contributors to summarize longer articles to provide space for more articles in the newsletter without making the electronic file too large. A priority for this year will be to actively include Phillip Dionne's successor (not yet selected) in the production of the July 2010 newsletter. Thus, when Phillip graduates, there should be no transitional difficulties that delay the production of the newsletter and disrupt the distribution schedule.

Nominating: Ron Essig: As chair of the Nominating Committee this year, I brainstormed a list of potential candidates with the current President. We determined that this was the second year of the Secretary-Treasurer's second term, so no election was necessary for that position. Then we decided that the long-serving Division Representative to the AFS Nominating Committee should run unopposed since he was interested in continuing. So we developed a ranked list of members to contact to gauge their interest in running for First Vice President. The first two individuals contacted agreed to run. The ballot was put together and emailed to members via the NED ListServer on March 22, 2010 with a voting deadline of April 12, 2010. Ballots were received from 85 Division members. John Arway (PA) was elected President, Phil Downey (VT) was elected President-Elect, and Randy Jackson (NY) was elected First Vice President. Brian Murphy (CT) was elected Division Representative to the AFS Nominating Committee.

The Division should consider other methods to encourage members to vote, as only about 10 percent do so.

Program: no report as yet – The conference sessions seem to be running well.

Resolution Committee: Paul Perra, President; Kristen Ferry, Chair

Whereas, the Massachusetts Division of Fisheries and Wildlife, host of the 66th Annual Northeast Fish and Wildlife Conference (April 25-27, 2010), with the theme of "Climate Change and Wildlife Conservation – Adaptation and Mitigation" has invited fish and wildlife biologists, conservation law enforcers, restoration scientists, educators, engineers and others to convene to (a) advance the understanding of global climate change impacts to Northeast ecosystems, (b) develop adaptation strategies for fisheries and wildlife conservation, and (c) respond to the challenges and opportunities offered by mitigation measures; and

Whereas, members of the Northeastern Division of the American Fisheries Society convened to participate in technical sessions on marine, diadromous, and freshwater fisheries, as well as habitat management, conservation engineering, education and outreach, and conservation law enforcement. Members also participated in a timely workshop related to climate change and a special symposium on past, present, and future management of northeast Atlantic coast striped bass fisheries. Members presented and attended talks on other topics of importance to our profession such as tools and techniques we employ, general fisheries management, and fish health; and

Whereas, meeting participants experienced intellectual, professional, social, and recreational activities at this picturesque location along the well-known Charles River, minutes from downtown Boston and countless areas of historical and ecological significance; and

Whereas, the Commonwealth of Massachusetts has extended a warm welcome to the Northeastern Division of the AFS; and

Now Therefore, Be It Resolved, that the Northeastern Division of the American Fisheries Society declares the 66th Annual Northeast Fish and Wildlife Conference a resounding success, and extends its sincere appreciation to the Massachusetts Division of Fisheries and Wildlife, hosts extraordinaire; to the Northeastern Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies; to the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, Department of Fish and Game; to the Boston Marriott-Newton Hotel in Newton, Massachusetts; to the generous conference sponsors; to Conference Chair Mark Tisa; to Conference Manager Cindy Delaney; to Caleb Slater, Mike Armstrong, and Ken Simmons for coordinating the fisheries sessions; Tom O'Shea for wildlife, John O'Leary for habitat, Dave Szczebak for GIS, Terry Smith for conservation and engineering, Capt. George Agganis for law enforcement, Ellie Horwitz for information and education, Rick Kennedy for licensing and to Director Wayne MacCallum and the remainder of the meeting support team for their outstanding efforts in planning and coordinating this event; and finally, to the many conference exhibitors for making the meeting interesting and enjoyable.

The resolution was unanimously passed by those in attendance.

Rivers and Streams: Larry Miller: No activities took place this year. This committee has two co-chairs, one from AFS and one from the Fisheries Administrators. Some administrators wanted to have a joint committee to address technical issues. There was some discussion by the Fisheries Administrators to add two new committees (warmwater and coldwater) in addition to the rivers and streams committee. A discussion of name choices followed: Linda Bireley said that warmwater/coldwater had little meaning to marine scientists as far as fish categories; John Boreman asked about 'watersheds' as a name; John Arway suggested ponds and reservoirs. John Arway asked for a motion to suggest that the Fisheries Administrators consider 'rivers and streams' and 'lakes and ponds'. Linda Bireley made the motion, with the addition of 'estuaries' to rivers and streams, the motion was seconded by Margaret Murphy. More discussion ensued eventually resulting in a vote to approve the motion.

Student Presentation Awards: Martha Mather: Presentations are currently being judged at the NEFWC. Awards (\$200 award each) for best paper and poster will be given out after the conference, and awardees names will be posted in the NED Newsletter.

Student Travel: Deirdre Kimball: We received two applications for the John Moring Memorial Student Travel Award this year: Justin Davis, a Ph.D. candidate at the University of Connecticut (Storrs), Department of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology, and Sara M. Turner, Master of Science candidate at the State University of New York (Syracuse), College of Environmental Science and Forestry. Both were judged to qualify for the award and were awarded \$300, early student Northeast Fish and Wildlife Conference meeting registration, and a one-year AFS student membership. The recipients have indicated that they will attend the annual business meeting of the NED.

Website: Gregory Kozlowski: The Northeastern Division continues to operate our web site <http://www.fisheries.org/units/ned/> free of charge on the AFS server with the domain name nedafs.org obtained through GoDaddy.com for a nominal cost. The website provides information to our members on NED Officer and leadership assignments, includes links to NED chapters, and to registration forms and agendas for the Northeast Fish and Wildlife Conference. It also provides short descriptions for recent NED chapter activities, and makes available NED annual meeting minutes, the NED Procedures Manual and the AFS NED Charter. A special section was created to meet the needs of the Rivers and Streams Technical Committee at their request. New/updated information is added by request and generally is done within a few days. If it takes longer than a week, people making the requests are advised to send a follow up email

AFS Certification Board of Appeals Scott Decker, NED Representative said that no appeals came before the Certification Board.

Hutton Oversight Committee: Ron Essig, Division Representative: I attended the Hutton Oversight Committee meeting on August 31, 2010 held in conjunction with the AFS meeting in Nashville, TN. Hutton Program Coordinator Kathryn Winkler reported that a follow-up survey of Hutton scholars from 2001 to 2008 showed that 98 percent of respondents went to college. There was a program change in that students can only participate once in the Hutton program after either their junior or senior years. The current level of the Hutton endowment fund is \$87K. There was discussion and concern expressed on at least two AFS Management Committee conference calls and the mid-year AFS Governing Board meeting that pledged funds were not received from federal agencies prior to the 2009 program. This meant that other AFS funds needed to be used to backfill. It is desired that the number of students to be accepted into the program be determined after contributions are already in hand. To make up for the lack of funding, it was suggested that the number of students be reduced by about half for the next two years. Gus Rassam was charged to explore this. AFS President Don Jackson recently named a new chair to the AFS Hutton Junior Fishery Biologist Committee. Jeremy Pyatskowit is a former president of the AFS Native Peoples Fisheries Section.

Recommendations or Suggestions for Future Consideration:

If the Division budget is more stable in future years, the Division should consider a contribution to the Hutton endowment fund or sponsorship of a student.

AFS nominating committee: Brian D. Murphy, NED representative: The Nominating Committee prepared a slate of candidates for the Society Offices of Second Vice-President, First Vice-President, and President-Elect according to the procedures approved by the Governing Board. These procedures involved soliciting nominations of one or two candidates for Second Vice-President from each Committee member, obtaining biographic sketches for each candidate, and ranking each candidate based on voting conducted by all Committee members. The committee must name at least two candidates for Second Vice-President. The two higher-ranking candidates were recommended as the slate of candidates for the office of Second Vice-President, which were Robert L. Curry and Robert M. Hughes. Candidate statements were published in the March 2010 Fisheries Magazine. The candidates for the offices of First Vice-President and President-Elect were identified using the usual procedures. The results of the

Committee's deliberations were sent to Donald Jackson and Gus Rassam for audit.
Recommendations or Suggestions for Future Consideration: The candidate for Second Vice-President who ranked third was recommended for consideration for this office in 2010-2011. In addition, the members of the Committee identified a number of highly qualified individuals who could be considered as potential candidates for the office of Second Vice-President in 2010-2011. These recommendations were also forwarded to Donald Jackson and Gus Rassam.

Student Rep from AFS Student Subsection: no report

Continuing Education Committee: Stephen Coghlan, Tim Strakosh, NED representatives: Both representatives are taking part in the AFS Continuing Education Committee activities (commenting on and voting to approve course proposals).

Old Business: none

Installation of new officers:

Phil Downey (President-elect) was escorted by Linda Bireley and Carolyn Griswold.

John Arway (President) was escorted by Ken Beal and Rich Jacobson.

Paul Perra (Past-President) was escorted by Donna Parrish and Linda Bireley.

Officer remarks:

John Arway expressed his appreciation for the opportunity to represent NED and AFS and noted that the NED would now have a strong voice in the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission. He also thanked Don Jackson for attending the meeting despite severe weather in the southeast. John reminded all to renew their AFS membership and he will try to come up with a membership reward incentive.

New Business:

Ken Beal asked that NED consider suggesting to NEFWA to have a reduced rate for retired members. Desmond made a motion that NED present this to NEAFWA and the motion was seconded by Scott. The motion passed. John Arway will take this to the Fisheries Directors meeting.

Don Jackson said that USFWS has given funding to AFS to be used for minorities and Native Americans to support fisheries activities but it has been difficult to locate and identify potential recipients. Don asked for help from all in finding these students.

Adjournment

The assembled members moved to adjourn, seconded by Ron Essig, and passed without dissent. The meeting adjourned at 7 pm.

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(updated February 6, 2011)

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