

On Friday, August 29, 2014 2:44 PM, "Kuklinski, Kurt" <kurt.kuklinski@odwc.ok.gov> wrote:

Reservoir Committee and Friends:

I am sending this e-mail to provide all of you with a summary of our our recent summer meeting and to update you on our progress.

We met August 13-15 at Lake Texoma. I will spare you the boring details of striped bass fishing and a painful encounter with a catfish and get right to the good stuff.

A team of Dan Shoup, John Taylor, Jimmy White, and Rick Ott managed to locate an old archived copy of the original files used to create the old Habitat Manual. We plan to use these files as a backbone for the habitat manual update. The content to be added is pretty much ready to go, so I have contacted Gloria Schoenholtz at AFS for possible assistance with the web programming needed to get our content online.

Progress was also made on our angler survey. I have attached the version of this survey as edited by the attendees of our summer meeting. If we can agree on these edits, I will contact AFS to get this survey online using the AFS survey monkey license. Once posted on our website, I will contact state agency fish chiefs and appropriate others within SDAFS to ask them to link to the survey to get as many responses as possible. I am shooting for a January 1 start time for the survey and to run it for a full year if possible. If you have serious heartburn with the attached version of the survey, contact me.

Lastly, the summer meeting attendees discussed future ResCom plans and goals. We realize that a large-scale fundraising project (like a symposium) is probably not going to bring in money like the good old days, so we continue to discuss workshops at SDAFS meetings. In addition, there is a desire to do "something big" and produce more than just a habitat manual update as a product from ResCom. We started discussing something along the lines of the Shad-a-thon of years past. Several members have a desire to get together and collaborate on some large collective reservoir project and produce a publication or two of value to our peers. Potential ideas thrown out while brainstorming included: catchability and gear bias of blue catfish in reservoirs, or can we remove enough LM bass to correct a stunted reservoir population? Since then I have been thinking of additional ideas which an individual state might not have the resources to tackle like an extensive tag retention study (which could also become a population estimate for the target reservoir). I would like to continue this discussion at Savannah when we meet early in 2015, so please give this some thought and help us generate a realistic project to complete as a group.

Do not hesitate to contact me if you have questions, ideas, or want to know why my boaters caught fewer striped bass than anglers in our local hosts' boat at Texoma. I hope to see you all in Savannah!

Kurt Kuklinski

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