

MEMORANDUM

TO: Trout Committee Members
FROM: Larry O. Mohn, Chairman
SUBJECT: Minutes of Trout Committee Meeting, April 3, 1987
DATE: April 22, 1987

The spring meeting of the Trout Committee was held in Lakeview, Arkansas on the banks of the White River. On the day preceding the meeting, the Committee sponsored a one day workshop to discuss creel surveys, angler opinion polls and pressure surveys. The workshop was well attended. Ten committee members and three guests remained for the Committee meeting the following day. After approval of the minutes from the fall meeting, the committee discussed the following business:

Old Business

Brown Trout half-wild/domestic study: Jim Borawa (NC) reviewed the progress made on this study since the fall meeting. North Carolina, Tennessee and Virginia are the only states participating. Quarterly samples had been completed on all six NC streams, 1 of 2 VA streams and none of the three Tennessee streams. NC found better survival and condition of the domestics in 5 streams. Only in 1 stream did the half wilds show better survival. Virginia found better survival of half-wild but domestics were in poor condition when stocked. VA could not sample its second stream due to high water and will wait until the next quarter. Tennessee had not yet sampled its three streams but is scheduled to complete sampling in April. The next sampling period will be during early June.

Summary of strain evaluations: Mark Hudy (AR) reported that all information had been collected and he is currently matching strains described by individual states with what Kincaid and Berry had previously reported. Some of the information is very general but should be of some value. A final report will be available this summer.

In related business, Roger Schultz (USFWS) indicated that the USF & WS has several strains available and is interested in providing other strains if the states have such a need. Any state interested in obtaining different strains should contact Roger.

Jeff Durniak (GA) announced that Auburn has set up an electrophoretics lab to identify differences in strains. Any state or organization that is a member of Auburn Cooperative Program can have up to 80 fish per year analyzed at no cost.

The subject of using triploid trout for management purposes was briefly discussed. Spencer Turner (MO) stated that it is easy to triploid trout and that Missouri was presently raising some triploid brown trout. Advantages include possibly larger life span and faster growth.

The Committee agreed that looking for a trout that would have a longer life span was of major interest for the southeast. It was recommended by the Committee that Roger Schultz check into the possibility of raising triploid trout for experimental use by the states.

Regional trout disease problems: It was unanimously agreed that the Trout Committee should not pursue this subject any further. The Southern Appalachian Fish Health Council appears to be totally ineffective as an organization of private producers and the southeast has another committee specifically assigned to fish disease problems. It was agreed that any problems should be handled by the Fish Disease Committee rather than the Trout Committee.

Siltation study needs: Gordon Sloane reported that he has completed a review of available information concerning estimating the effects of siltation on trout streams. He will be sending each member a summary with a recommendation to use the Idaho model as a basis to develop a siltation model for this region. It is our goal to present a resolution, through the AFS at the Southeastern, supporting such a study. We will then request that each state and Forest Supervisor push for such a study at the Southeast Experimental Station at Virginia Tech.

New Business

Survey Workshop: Spencer Turner expressed the Committee's gratitude to Mark Hudy for the long hours he spent organizing this years meeting. It was a job well done!

TVA: Ed Scott is the new member of the Trout Committee representing TVA. He briefly reviewed the Norris Tailwater work and reported that the re-regulation dam will be made permanent. This structure has been highly successful and has resulted in significantly increased fishing pressure. Ed also reported that TVA has been using primacord for sampling larger streams with good success and that a small hydro unit has been added at Tims Ford to provide minimum flows. Tennessee Tech is evaluating the impact at Tims Ford.

Brown Trout Workshop: Jim Borawa reviewed the progress made by Wayne Jones on organizing next springs brown trout workshop. Wayne has set the meeting for April 28-30th in Asheville. The Committee expressed its concern that the workshop was getting far beyond the scope we had planned. Both Jim Borawa and Larry Mohn were directed to contact Wayne and express the Committees concerns. In addition, three members volunteered to assist Wayne with program development. Members assisting will be Jeff Durniak, Spencer Turner, and Monty Seehorn.

Committee on committees report: Some concern was expressed that the AFS Committee responsible for reviewing the workings of the committee system had made recommendations that may be harmful to this committee. Recommendations that annual turnover was mandatory and that our committees name and responsibilities might be changed were of primary concern. The chairman was directed to check on this recommendation and report his findings to the members.

[Note: I have talked with some of the EXCOM members. The Review Committee report apparently was not found to be fully acceptable. The idea of mandatory annual turnover of Committee members was specifically mentioned as undesirable. A full report will follow.]

New Chairman: The Committee unanimously voted to recommend Mark Hudy for chairman of the Committee for 1988/89. This recommendation will be forwarded to the incoming Southern Division President at the fall meeting. Congratulations Mark!

Meeting was adjourned to the river.

TROUT COMMITTEE MEETING ATTENDEES

April 3, 1987

Jim Borawa
Jeff Durniak
Mark Hudy
Larry Mohn
Ed Scott
Kerry Prather
Roger Schultz
Monte Seehorn
Gordon Sloane
Spencer Turner

North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission
Georgia Division of Natural Resources
Arkansas Game and Fish
Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries
Tennessee Valley Authority
Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources
Erwin National Fish Hatchery
U. S. Forest Service
U. S. Forest Service
Missouri Fish and Wildlife Resource Center