

Minutes of the AFS
Southern Division Trout Committee Meeting
March 26, 1996
Clemson, South Carolina

Andy Dolloff (USFWS), Chair, opened the meeting at 12:30 pm and asked for any pertinent items of burning interest. The big item was the progress of the National Habitat Meeting in 1998. No news back from the National Committee. John Stark, proposed host, will check on status.

After introductions were made, nominations for secretary/treasurer were requested. Jim Habera (TN) was "elected" as the new secretary/treasurer and entered the line of succession to the chair.

The minutes of the previous meeting were presented and discussed under old business. The balance of the Trout Committee checking account was \$4,080.98. Also discussed was the possibility of the Trout Committee meeting at the upcoming Southeastern and AFS Southern Division meetings. The Committee's consensus was neither meeting (Hot Springs or San Antonio) would have a quorum of the Trout Committee. Therefore, it was decided not to hold a meeting in conjunction with either of the parent meetings. By acclamation it was decided that the next meeting would be held in March, 1997 in the Blacksburg area of Virginia. Possible organizers were Larry Mohn (VA) and Mark Hudy (USFS).

Jim Borawa (N.C) asked if Trout Committee funds could be used for assisting technical experts and needy committee members with their travel to the Trout Committee meetings. It was decided that upon the vote of a majority of the three officers limited funds could be provided for such a purpose.

A motion to provide a donation of \$500.00 this year to the AFS 2,000 campaign was made by Larry Mohn (VA) and seconded by Jeff Durniak (GA). The Committee did not vote in favor of the donation but agreed to revisit the issue next year.

Another item of discussion was the status of the brook trout genetics issue. The committee was advised that we had previously (Virginia Beach) committed \$1,000.00 but if a matching donation could not be found the total figure would be approximately \$2,000.00. Sheryl Bryan (USFS) and others advised that Trout Unlimited Chapters in the affected areas might be willing to consider a \$1,000.00 donation with a suitable proposal. The committee voted to have the 3 member EXCOM authorize the original \$1,000.00 when the need arises and results can be tied in.

The status of the Riparian Forest Buffers Technical Brochure by Dave Welsh (USFS) was discussed. It is out of print. Should the committee assist with reprinting? Andy Dolloff (USFWS) will check on what is going on with this publication.

Andy also broached the issue of whether the Trout Committee should be involved in a home page on the WWW or a similar electronic format. The committee felt money and lack of relevant updates was thought to make this a moot issue. The discussion turned to whether

the committee might want to turn to an e-mail communication system between members to keep us informed of progress on various issues. (I don't believe this issue was ever resolved. Sounds like a good one for the incoming Chair!)

Jeff Durniak (GA) brought up an item of discussion. The question was what the committee's direction would be the next few years. After discussion it was once again decided that the 1998 Trout Committee Meeting would be held in conjunction with the National Habitat Workshop in Arkansas if that can be arranged.

Spencer Turner (MO) brought up the issue of whirling disease and the efforts of eastern states to prevent it or investigate the issue. Several states, Arkansas, Tennessee, West Virginia, and South Carolina are using disease free certification to try to head off the problem.

Those members who attended and spoke at the roundtable discussion were:

Spencer Turner (MO): Put and take to wild trout management is occurring in Missouri. The Montauk study has been completed and the evaluation is available. The 3 fish, 18 inch limit has been attacked by TU and a 1 fish, 18 limit has been passed. Missouri also has a new trout program brochure. Taneycomo status was updated by Mike Kruse. The upper 3 miles will be managed with a high slot limit and artificial baits only.

Steve Moore (GSNP): Abrams Creek study, and use in other streams of toxins to eradicate rainbow.

Jim Habera (UT): A study of electrofishing injury and mortality was published in N. American Journal of Fisheries Management. A brook trout distribution study is being completed.

Jim Borawa (NC): Efforts are continuing to document brook trout distribution and genetics in all state waters and as many private waters as possible. Fish are being sent to Gary McCracken for analysis. Distribution of other trout species were also noted on GIS. A trout feeding study involved an adopt-a-stream section and TU feeders. Delayed harvest will be expanded (Oct-June) both in time span and area.

Lee Keefer (GA): Georgia is also working on brook trout genetics survey and private streams leases.

Dan Rankin (SC): Walhalla Hatchery transfer and land easement transfer for a large proportion of wild streams. Also an experimental feeding program on a two mile reach of the Saluda River.

Mike Shingleton (WV): Federal Hatchery questions there also. Have gone from 10 catch and release areas a few years ago to 17 now. Acid rain work and treatment including limestone fines.

Frank Fiss (TWRA): Discussed the effects of trout stocking on Section 7 Environmental Impact (Threatened and Endangered Species), Clinch River Stock Assessment by Phil Bettolli (TTU) as a result of a quality management area controversy, and brook trout restoration efforts on at least one stream. Jeff Durniak (GA) stated that impacted states (not the committee) should work together to head off the problems in various areas.

Monte Seehorn (USFS Ret.): Discussed a voluntary creel survey design with over 800 inquiries/year and a significant number of questions; clear cutting resolutions. A 2-year telemetry study of brown trout spawning in tributaries revealed some diurnal patterns.

Sheryl Bryan (USFS): Salvage timber sales have them covered up, but they have reduced sediment inputs from road crossing. USFS has been concerned with horse riding and off road vehicle use, but the problem has been too large in scope to tackle yet. Also discussed GIS fish quality by streams and riparian vegetation management.

Stephen Reeser (KY): Cumberland River creel survey in 75 miles of coldwater habitat. 30,000 brown trout were microtagged as part of this effort. It was recommended that a 20 inch/1 fish creel in the entire river be implemented. Currently a 12-20 inch slot on browns and rainbows. Problems at the Wolf Creek NFH.

Hugh Barwick (Duke Power): Bad Creek Project completed. Determined sediment flushing rates. Transmission tower installations and crossings designed to minimize sediment.

Andy Dolloff (USFWS): Gravel size and trout spawn assessment; reported on the progress and status of several graduate students.

John Stark (AR): The 5 catch and release areas (totaling 5.5 miles) implemented January 1, 1995 are working well with much higher percentages of 16 inch plus rainbow in these areas versus outside. Also, significant numbers of 20 inch rainbow inside versus none outside. AGFC is currently working with TVA to collect data on Bull Shoals/Norfork tailwaters for the ADYN-RQUAL Minimum Flow and Temperature Model developed by TVA. The Beaver Tailwater Habitat Restoration Project is progressing well. An effort will be made to develop better instream flows in these two tailwaters by controlling timing and magnitude of releases. Darrell Bowman left for Virginia and the new assistant is Stan Todd.

AMERICAN FISHERIES SOCIETY'S SOUTHERN DIVISION
TROUT COMMITTEE MEETING - SPRING 1996
CLEMSON, SOUTH CAROLINA

March 26 1300-until Trout Committee Business Meeting (members and guests)

March 27 0800 Val Nash (SCDNR) - Welcome

Sedimentation Workshop

Session 1

0815 Dave Van Lear (Clemson University) - Sedimentation Impact
on Macroinvertebrates and Rainbow Trout in Howard Creek,
SC

0835 Tom Waters (University of Minnesota) - Special
Considerations In Stream Response to Sediment

0905 Chuck Newcombe (British Columbia Ministry of the
Environment) - Channel Sediment and Fisheries: A
Synthesis for Quantitative Assessment of Risk and Impact

0935 Dan Duffield (USFS) - Sediment Effects on Brook Trout in
the Monogahela National Forest, WV

0955 Break

Session 2

1015 Jack Holcomb (USFS) - The Southern Appalachian
Assessment: An Overview Of The Aquatic Resources
Technical Report

1035 Lloyd Swift (USFS) - Forestry BMP's to Reduce Sediment
Impacts on Trout Streams

1055 Dave Braatz (Duke Power) - Appropriate Technology for
Monitoring Nonpoint Source Sediments

1115 Betty Barton (EPA) - Restoration Funds For NPS Projects

1135 Dennis Lemly (USFS) - Effect of Silt On Macroinvertebrates
In Trout Streams

1155 Lunch

Session 3

1300 Renee Coward (Fairview School, Sylva, NC) - Students Can
Make A Difference

1320 Richard Burns (USFS) - Road Run-Off Control

1340 Joe Mickey (NCWRC) - Protecting The Thin Lines Of Green

1400 Monte Seehorn (USFS) - Streambed Restoration On Sarah's
Creek, Georgia

1420 Steve Moore (USPS) - Shoreline Stabilization of Abrams
Creek, GSMNP

1440 Break

Session 4

1500 Bill Hansen (USFS) - Sedimentation in the Chattooga River, SC

1520 Scott Banker (Scott Banker & Associates) - Fishery Habitat
Benefits from Bioengineering Systems

1540 Questions and Discussion

1700-until Social and Dinner

Brook Trout Genetics Workshop

March 28 0800 Rex Dunham - Auburn University

0900 Gary McCracken - University of Tennessee

1000 Break

1015 Ray Morgan - University of Maryland

1115 Roundtable on Using Genetics to Achieve Management
Objectives