

**Proceedings of the American Fisheries Society's  
Southern Division Trout Committee**

**1964-2023**



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Edited by Jim Habera

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Visit the Trout Committee's website at <https://units.fisheries.org/sdafstroutcommittee/>



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## **Introduction**

The Trout Committee's roots can be traced back to the Trout Stream Subcommittee of the Forest Game Committee in the Wildlife Society's Southeastern Section. This subcommittee was formed in 1964, but by 1966 concluded that it should be reappointed as a standing committee within the Southern Division of the American Fisheries Society (SDAFS). It also proposed that membership should be expanded to include South Carolina, Maryland, and Arkansas. The SDAFS agreed, making the Trout Committee one of its first technical committees. It remains one of ten SDAFS technical committees in place today.

The SDAFS Trout Committee currently comprises over 30 coldwater fishery specialists representing a variety of natural resource management agencies, academia, and the private sector. All members are appointed by the SDAFS president. A portion of these have traditionally been recommended by the chiefs of fisheries in SDAFS states, while the remaining members are at-large representatives. During its history—which now spans over 50 years—more than 150 people from 16 state and 9 federal agencies, 13 universities, and five private organizations have served on the Committee. Their efforts have enabled the Committee address a wide variety of timely issues. Consequently, the Committee has achieved a noteworthy set of accomplishments that have helped improve both our understanding and management of trout resources and the fisheries they provide throughout the Southeast—the Committee's basic purpose.

The following chronology of the Trout Committee's annual meetings (and those of its Wildlife Society predecessor) is based on archived meeting minutes and other correspondence dating back to 1964. Meeting locations and dates, presiding Committee chairs, synopses of the issues and topics discussed or acted on, and roundtable highlights are included. Complete meeting minutes, including all roundtable material, are available for each year as separate (.pdf) files on the Committee's website (<https://units.fisheries.org/sdafstroutcommittee/>). Membership directories and lists of Trout Committee officers, spring meeting locations, and Committee accomplishments are also provided in Appendixes. The meeting accounts and associated information included in this document provide a general history of the SDAFS Trout Committee.



## Meeting Accounts

**1964**

(as the Trout Stream Subcommittee of the Forest Game Committee, Southeastern Section of the Wildlife Society)

Meeting location: Field sites in Georgia, North Carolina, and Tennessee

Date: September 14-16, 1964

Chair: Charles “Tad” Lane, Jr. (U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service)

Attendees<sup>1</sup>: Tom Ripley, USFS; Claude Hastings, GA; Price Wilkins, TN; Charles Lane, USFWS (entire Subcommittee)

Topics and issues: The newly-formed Trout Streams Subcommittee was assigned five tasks:

1. Determine the status of trout streams as a natural resource in the southern Appalachians.
2. Explore means of improving stream quality.
3. Suggest criteria for judging stream quality.
4. Project the future potential of southern Appalachian Mountain streams in the overall recreational complex.

To obtain background information for completing these tasks, site visits were made to compare conditions in southern Appalachian trout streams located in disturbed and relatively undisturbed watersheds. The Subcommittee’s initial report was submitted at the Southeastern Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies (SEAFWA) conference in Clearwater, FL later in 1964. This report defined a trout stream and held that such streams in the southern Appalachians represent unique, tremendously valuable resources that are worthy of protection. Three problems threatening these resources were identified:

1. Physical (watershed disturbances such as agriculture, silviculture, development, etc.).
2. Biochemical (organic and inorganic pollution, intrusion of undesirable fish species).
3. Usage (fishing pressure, commercial interests, lack of an assessment of the amount and quality of recreation provided, etc.).

The report also recommended five categories for inventorying trout streams and six areas in need of attention to promote effective management of trout stream resources:

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<sup>1</sup> See Appendix A (Table A1) for definitions of abbreviations used to denote agency/organization affiliation



1. Development of methods to assess economic and aesthetic contributions of trout streams.
2. Determination of minimum standards for highways to satisfy scenic and other recreational travel requirements.
3. Development of methods for minimizing disturbances during logging operations related to cutting method, road placement, etc.
4. Review and re-evaluation of special interest (private) uses on public lands, particularly grazing, mining, and development.
5. Life history of trout and associated species.
6. Improved communication among resource managers through publications, symposia, and wider distribution of unpublished reports.

A region-wide trout stream classification project was implemented in response to the Subcommittee's third assigned task (suggest criteria for judging stream quality).



**1965**

Meeting location: Atlanta, GA

Date: September 17, 1965

Chair: Bob Webb (U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service)

Attendees: Not available

Topics and issues: Charles Lane resigned as Trout Streams Subcommittee Chair in January 1965 and was replaced by Bob Webb (USFWS). Mr. Lane recommended expansion of the Subcommittee by the appointments of James Henley (KY), Hayden Ratledge (NC), Jack Hoffman (VA), and Roger Barnhart (UGA). Howard Miller (Chair of the Forest Game Committee) agreed, given the stream classification project, and the Subcommittee was correspondingly enlarged (ultimately, representation from each state in the region with trout water was sought). The Subcommittee met in Atlanta to develop a set of standards for classifying trout streams, which proved to be somewhat difficult. However, a set of three categories based on preservation importance and five classifications based on biological quality were developed and presented in the Subcommittee's report at the SEAFWA conference in Tulsa, OK later in 1965.





## 1966

Meeting location: Asheville, NC (in conjunction with the annual SEAFWA conference)

Date: October 24, 1966

Chair: Tom Ripley (U.S. Forest Service)

Attendees: Not available

Topics and issues: The Trout Streams Subcommittee agreed at this meeting to seek reappointment to the SDAFS and the addition of representatives from SC, MD, and AR (the SDAFS recognizes 1966 as the establishment date for the Trout Committee). The three categories (based on preservation importance) for classifying trout streams recommended in 1965 were eliminated as they were considered administrative in nature and not suited for use as standards. However, each state was asked to compute total stream mileages using biological classifications (reduced to four). Another topic discussed was a study of the values of wild land and water resources in the form of southern Appalachian trout fisheries.

## 1967

There is no record of a Trout Stream Subcommittee meeting in 1967, possibly because of the transition from the Wildlife Society to the SDAFS.



**1968**

(as the Southern Division American Fisheries Society Trout Committee)

Meeting location: Tellico Plains, TN

Dates: September 4-5, 1968

Chair: Claude Hastings (Georgia DNR, Game and Fish Division)

Attendees: Price Wilkins, TN; Jack Sheridan, USFWS; Frank Richardson, USFWS; Don Archer, SC; Monte Seehorn, USFS; Robert Baker, AR; and Claude Hastings, GA (members); Dan Talhelm, NC State University and Rich Fatora, GA (guests).

Topics and issues: Further revision of trout stream classification standards (new system uses two classes for streams based on ability to support wild trout and two for tailwaters based on the ability to support trout throughout the year); subcommittee formed to reconsider the utility of the trout stream preservation-category system developed by the Committee in 1964 (Price Wilkins, chair); detrimental effects of impoundments on trout stream fisheries (PL 566 program); subcommittee formed to study potential standardization of trout stream survey methods (Monte Seehorn, chair); subcommittee formed to identify future research needs (Jack Sheridan, chair); economic values of sport fishing (Dan Talhelm); compilation of a list of trout biologists in the SDAFS; roundtable (including reclamation of Rock Creek, GA with antimycin, tailwater trout fisheries in TN and AR, and a trout stream watershed improvement research project in GA—Rich Fatora); tours of habitat improvement structure on North River and the Tellico trout rearing station.



**1969**

Spring meeting location: Franklin, NC

Dates: May 5-7, 1969

Chair: Frank Richardson (U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service)

Attendees: Some 33 trout workers from the SDAFS, including eight Trout Committee members.

Topics and issues: Needs of field biologists, hatchery biologists, and anglers; field tours of the USFS Coweeta Hydrologic Laboratory and the Rainbow Springs Company feeding operation (on a 6-mile reach of the Nantahala River).

.....

Business meeting location: Nashville, TN (new offices of the Tennessee Game and Fish Commission)

Date: September 5, 1969

Chair: Frank Richardson (U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service)

Attendees: Nine Trout Committee members (or representatives) and two guests.

Topics and issues: Sub-committee reports; membership; future meeting sites/agendas.

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Fall meeting location: Mobile, AL (in conjunction with the annual SEAFWA conference)

Date: October 20, 1969

Chair: Frank Richardson (U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service)

Attendees: Nine Trout Committee members (or representatives) and three guests.

Topics and issues: Final sub-committee reports were reviewed and approved—"The Trout Stream Preservation Category Classification System" (Price Wilkins, TN); "Standard Trout Stream Survey Methods" (Monte Seehorn, USFS); and "List of Trout Workers in the Southern Division" (Frank Richardson, USFWS).



**1970**

Spring meeting location: Lakeview, AR

Dates: April 20-23, 1970

Chair: Don Archer (South Carolina Wildlife Resources Department)

Attendees: Twenty trout biologists, including eight Trout Committee members.

Topics and issues: Two-story reservoir research/management (with Robert Jenkins, Director of the National Reservoir Research Program); further review of trout stream survey guidelines; compilation of a bibliography of technical and non-technical papers (unpublished) from the files of member agencies; tour of Norfolk National Trout Hatchery.

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Fall meeting location: Atlanta, GA (in conjunction with the annual SEAFWA conference)

Date: September, 1970

Chair: Don Archer (South Carolina Wildlife Resources Department)

No other information available.



**1971**

Spring meeting location: Vonore, TN

Dates: June 3-4, 1971

Chair: Price Wilkins (Tennessee Game and Fish Commission)

Attendees: Ten Trout Committee members and six guests.

Topics and issues: Tailwaters (including colonization by introduced invertebrates); brook trout *Salvelinus fontinalis* stream reclamation; feeding of wild trout; brown trout *Salmo trutta* management; logging and road location guidelines; economics (including trout propagation by private landowners; two-story reservoir trout fisheries; Ohrid trout *Salmo letnica*; coho salmon *Oncorhynchus kisutch*; Tasmanian-strain rainbows *Oncorhynchus mykiss*).

Fall meeting location: Charleston, SC (in conjunction with the annual SEAFWA conference)

No other information available.



**1972**

Spring meeting location: Clayton, GA

Dates: June 26-28, 1972

Chair: Rich Fatora (Georgia Game and Fish Division)

Attendees: Not available

Topics and issues: Development of design criteria for selective withdrawal outlets (Donald L. Robey, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers); Economics of trout catch-out facilities (Horace Hudson, Department of Economics, UGA); roundtable; review of proposals for future projects (evaluate a cold tailwater trout fishery instead of Ohrid trout), activities, and subcommittees; field trip to Hoods Creek-Walnut Fork research project (stream improvement devices and artificial spawning areas) and Waters Creek (trophy trout stream).

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Fall meeting location: Knoxville, TN (in conjunction with the annual SEAFWA conference)

No other information available.



**1973**

Spring meeting location: Saltville, VA

Dates: June 18-21, 1973

Chair: Dan Bumgarner (U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service)

Attendees: Not available

Topics and issues: Thermal branding (Dr. Bob Raleigh, VPI); effects of aeration on tailwaters (Dr. Bob Lackey, VPI); history of Clinch Mountain Game Management Area (Bob Wollitz); roundtable; biology and management of a cold tailwater fishery project.

Accomplishment: Eight-page bibliography entitled "Trout Management in the Southeast"



**1974**

Spring meeting location: Norris Dam State Park, Norris, TN

Dates: June 4-7, 1974

Chair: Donley Hill (Tennessee Valley Authority)

Attendees: Not available

Topics and issues: Re-aeration of reservoir tailwaters (Richard J. Ruane, TVA environmental engineer); trout management in Great Smoky Mountains National Park (Ron Jones, USFWS); Norris tailwater trout management (Hal Boles); roundtable; progress report on tailwater trout management project, discussion of new projects.





## 1975

Spring meeting location: Blue Ridge, GA

Dates: June 19-20, 1975

Chair: Hal Boles (U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service)

Attendees: Monroe Schmidt, AR; Russ England, GA; Tom Hill, UGA; Bonny Laflin, KY; Bill Bonner, NC; Randy Geddings, SC; Robert Bounds, TX; Brown Nevels, USSCS; Tommy Shedan, TVA; Monte Seehorn, USFS; Hal Boles, USFWS (members); Rich Fatora, GA; Hayden Ratledge, NC; and Doug Peterson, TN (guests).

Topics and issues: Blue Ridge tailwater (GA) assessment project (Rich Fatora); Ohrid trout in Watauga Lake, TN (Doug Peterson); AR's tailwater and reservoir trout fisheries (Monroe Schmidt); dual culture of rainbow trout and channel catfish *Ictalurus punctatus* in GA (Tom Hill); new two-story trout fishery in Lake Jocassee, SC (Randy Geddings); introduction of possum shrimp *Mysis relicta* in Nantahala Lake, NC (Bill Bonner); tailwater and other trout fisheries in TX (Bob

Bounds); potential projects (delineation of natural trout waters, limited availability and management of brown trout); subcommittee formed to draft resolution requesting USFWS to increase production of brown trout.

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Fall meeting location: St. Louis, MO (in conjunction with the annual SEAFWA conference)

Date: October 13, 1975

Chair: Hal Boles (U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service)

Attendees: Not available

Topics and issues: Plans discussed for in-stream comparisons of wild and domestic strains of all three trout species (wild brown trout spawners collected during fall 1975 in NC and GA, but few eggs obtained); brown and rainbow trout eggs from "wild" strains maintained in CA (Convict Lake browns, Junction Reservoir/Kamloops rainbows) were chosen for the project.

Accomplishment: Passed resolutions requesting the USFWS to place more emphasis on brown trout production (including wild strains) and to maintain wild strains of brook and rainbow trout for stocking special waters.



**1976**

Fall meeting location: Jackson, MS (in conjunction with the annual SEAFWA conference; no spring meeting was held)

Date: October 25, 1976

Chair: Hal Boles (U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service)

Attendees: Monroe Schmidt, AR; Russ England, GA; Tom Hill, University of GA; Randy Geddings, SC; Bob Wollitz, VA; Barry Smith, AL; Hal Boles, USFWS (members); Rich Fatora, GA; Lloyd Hess, WV; and Gary Henry, USFWS (guests).

Topics and issues: USFWS's consideration of nominating the "Appalachian strain" of brook trout for threatened status on the Federal Register (and opposition by TN, USFS); potential Trout Committee resolution opposing this nomination considered, but no action taken; streams in GA, NC, SC, TN, and AL identified for the wild vs. domestic strain comparison, brook trout omitted

from project because of uncertainty regarding the Appalachian strain; subcommittee formed (Randy Geddings, chair) to evaluate trout regulations in the Southeast.



**1977**

Spring meeting location: Mountain Home, AR

Dates: May 11-13, 1977

Chair: Monte Seehorn (U.S. Forest Service)

Attendees: Not available

Topics and issues: Review of trout introductions into non-trout waters resulting in successful fisheries (exclusive of tailwaters); evaluation of wild versus domestic strains of brown and rainbow trout in put, grow, and take fisheries (Russ England, subcommittee chair); evaluation of trout regulations in the southeast with the purpose of determining their basis, objectives, effectiveness, and need for modification (Randy Geddings, subcommittee chair; questionnaire sent to Committee members); TTU Cooperative Fishery Unit/NPS contract to evaluate the taxonomic status of southeastern brook trout using electrophoretic, meristic, and morphometric analyses.



1978

Spring meeting location: Oconee State Park near Walhalla, SC

Chair: Monte Seehorn (U.S. Forest Service)

Attendees: See photo

No other information available.



Attendees at the Trout Committee's 1978 spring meeting at Oconee State Park (left to right): John Boaze (USFWS), Hal Boles (USFWS), Gene Brashler (USFWS), Bill Bonner (NC), Donley Hill (TVA), Doug Peterson (TN), Tom Harshbarger (USFS), Dan Catchings (AL), Hayden Ratledge (NC), Randy Geddings (SC).

Fall meeting location: Asheville, NC (in conjunction with the Brook Trout Symposium)

Date: November 5, 1978

Chair: Monte Seehorn (U.S. Forest Service)

Attendees: Bill Bonner, NC; Doug Peterson, TN; Bob Wollitz, VA; Monte Seehorn, USFS; Hayden Ratledge; Don Archer, SC; Frank Richardson, USFWS; Tom Harshbarger, USFS; John Boaze, USFWS.

Topics and issues: State-by-state review of brook trout distribution status; brook trout distribution maps; genetic / meristic / morphometric analyses of Southeastern brook trout to determine status as



a subspecies (no evidence for a subspecies in the Southeast); “wild” vs. domestic trout stocking evaluation; documentation of unsuccessful stocking efforts; catchable trout production cutbacks by USFWS; re-evaluation of federal/state agreements on stocking policy (especially where threatened or endangered species might be present).



*Dr. David Neely*



**1979**

Spring meeting location: Crossnore, NC

Date: May 25, 1979

Chair: Bill Bonner (North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission)

Attendees: Monte Seehorn, USFS; Tom Harshbarger, USFS; John Boaze, USFWS; Dan Catchings, AL; Rich Fatora, GA; Randy Geddings, SC; Bill Bonner, NC; Kerry Prather, KY; Doug Harned, TVA; Hal Boles, USFWS; Bob Brown, NC; Hayden Ratledge, NC.

Topics and issues: Wild vs. domestic trout stocking project (reduce scope and focus on brown trout using larger fish); salamanders major predators on trout eggs; TVA consideration of minimum flows for tailwaters and making generation schedules available to anglers; renovated brook trout streams in GA; steelhead in Lake Jocassee, SC; trout stocking in AL.



**1980**

Spring meeting location: Unicoi, TN

Dates: May 22-23, 1980

Chair: Doug Peterson (Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency)

Attendees: Monte Seehorn, USFS; Hal Boles, USFWS; Pat Hutson, TX; Rich Fatora, GA; Ron Pasch, TVA; John Boaze, USFWS; Kerry Prather, KY; Tom Harshbarger, USFS; Doug Peterson, TN (members); Hayden Ratledge, NC; Dean Elsen, USFS; Price Wilkins, TN; Richard Eager, USFWS; Jane Fowler, USFWS; Karen Bayliss, USFWS (guests).

Topics and issues: Wild vs. domestic strain trout stocking evaluation (recommendation to use sub-adults); compilation of a North American brook trout bibliography (Ron Pasch); rainbow trout age and growth on Cherokee Reservation (few over age 2); instream flow studies of Clinch River below Norris Dam (TN); trout stocking history for Watauga reservoir (TN); comparison of trout egg planting methods (direct deposition better than Vibert boxes).

Roundtable highlights: Wild rainbow trout in a KY stream; reclassification of trout waters in GA and NC, introduction of brown trout in Norris tailwater—replacement for Little Tennessee River fishery; no success with steelhead in three NC reservoirs.



1981

Spring meeting location: Helen, GA

Dates: May 27-29, 1981

Chair: Randy Geddings (South Carolina Wildlife Resources Department)

Attendees: See photo; Hal Chestnutt, GA and Russ England, GA not shown.



Trout Committee members and guests at the 1981 spring meeting in Helen, GA (left to right): Kerry Prather (KY), Randy Geddings (SC), Pat Hutson (TX), Jack Wingate (NC), Tim Hess (GA), Bill Couch (GA), Hayden Ratledge (NC), Hal Boles (USFWS), Ron Pasch (TVA), Rich Fatora (GA), Steve Moore (NPS), Bob Wollitz (VA), John Boaze (USFWS), Mone Seehorn (USFS), Doug Watson (USFS), Tom Harshbarger (USFS).

Topics and issues: Wild vs. domestic trout stocking evaluation (continuation of half-wild and three-fourths-wild brown trout stocking); status of brook trout bibliography (434 titles); wild rainbow trout growth at Cherokee, NC; trout regulations (John Boaze, subcommittee chair); addition of coldwater stream sampling techniques to the Warmwater Stream Committee's Standardized Methods handbook; National Park Service added to Trout Committee membership; field trip to see trophy trout management (via supplemental feeding) at Waters Creek.





1982

Spring meeting location: Galax, VA

Dates: May 19-21, 1982

Chair: Randy Geddings (South Carolina Wildlife Resources Department)

Attendees: Monte Seehorn, USFS; John Boaze, USFWS; Tom Harshbarger, USFS; Bill Bonner, NC; Bob Wollitz, VA; Larry Mohn, VA; Hal Boles, USFWS; Ron Pasch, TVA; Rich Fatora, GA; Randy Geddings, SC; Garland Pardue, USFWS; Doug Peterson, TN; David Whitehurst, VA; Ron Dunlap, USFS; Hayden Ratledge, NC.

Topics and issues: Wild vs. domestic trout stocking evaluation (4"-6" half-wild browns to be stocked in November, SC and NC providing fish); brook trout bibliography status report (draft distributed); trout regulations (John Boaze compiling information); need to investigate effects of AC electrofishing (safety for fish); development of bibliography on trout stream siltation effects; Committee action relative to acid rain; selection of Trout Committee chair—Committee will nominate and vote on a new chair at spring meeting, then recommend the selection to the SDAFS president. The SDAFS president has the option of appointing the Trout Committee's recommendation, or someone of his own choosing (this apparently happened in 1982, as Tom Harshbarger was unanimously selected by the Committee as the 1983 chair, but John Boaze was chair at the 1983 spring meeting).



Trout Committee members and guests at the 1982 meeting (above, left to right): Dean Elsen, Doug Peterson, Darrell Martin, Dan Catchings, Larry Mohn, Bob Wollitz, Monte Seehorn, Garland Pardue, and Rich Fatora



**1983**

Spring meeting location: Cherokee, NC

Dates: May 25-27, 1983

Chair: John Boaze (Fish and Wildlife Associates, Inc.)

Attendees: Bill Bonner, NC; Monte Seehorn, USFS; Mark Davis, USFS; John Boaze, FWA, Inc.; Mark Hudy, UGA; Jerry West, WCU; Mark Oliver, AR; Al Brown, TVA; Don Estes, TTU (members); Ron Lewis, Duke Power; Larry Aggus, Aquatic Ecosystem Analysis; David W. Turner, NCSU; Bob Gasaway, USFWS; Smokie Holcomb, FL; Chris O'Bara, TTU (guests).

Topics and issues: Continuation of wild vs. domestic trout stocking evaluation (half-wild brown trout stocked in NC, SC, and GA); finalization and publication of brook trout bibliography; new trout regulations in NC, on the Cherokee Reservation, and in Great Smoky Mountains National Park; AC electrofishing investigation (no progress during past year—Mark Hudy to work with Randy Geddings on this project); roundtable; support for D-J expansion bill (chair to write letter of support for this legislation).

Accomplishment: A Brook Trout bibliography was completed and published.



**1984**

Spring meeting location: Cumberland Lake State Resort Park near Jamestown, KY

Dates: May 14-16, 1984

Chair: Kerry Prather (Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources)

Attendees: Mark Hudy, University of GA; Spence Turner, MO; Price Wilkins, TN; Don Estes, TTU; Randy Geddings, SC; Mark Oliver, AR; Bill Bonner, NC; Monte Seehorn, USFS; Larry Mohn, VA; John Boaze, FWA, Inc.; Roger Shultz, USFWS; Kerry Prather, KY (members); Gordon Sloane, USFS; Don Kenney, GA; Mike Cleary, Wolf Creek Dam Hatchery, KY; Dean Fowler, University of GA; Chris O'Bara, TTU; Ron Pasch, TVA (guests).

Topics and issues: Half-wild vs. domestic brown trout stocking evaluation (fish sources for 1984 experiment); brook trout bibliography (production of an annotated version and additional funding); status of TADS—the TN Aquatic Database System (Chris O'Bara and Don Estes); trout workshop in conjunction with 1985 spring Trout Committee meeting (Don Estes, Larry Mohn, Randy Geddings selected as subcommittee to request topics and make arrangements).

Roundtable highlights: Angling regulations in NC, MO, and AR; cutthroat trout *Oncorhynchus clarkii* stocking in AR; brook trout management in TN; statewide trout inventory in VA and KY; evaluation of AC electrofishing effects on trout at University of GA; TVA's tailwater weirs; USFS land management plan.



**1985**

Spring meeting location: Graves Mountain Lodge in Syria, VA

Date: April 30, 1985

Chair: Larry Mohn (Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries)

Attendees: John Boaze, FWA, Inc.; Don Degan, Duke Power Co., Jim Borawa, NC; Don Estes, TTU; Roger Schulz, USFWS; Randy Geddings, SC; Mark Hudy, AR; Mark Oliver, AR; Larry Mohn, VA; Monte Seehorn, USFS; Gordon Sloane, USFS; Tom Oldham, WV; Don Phares, WV; Russ England, GA; Wayne Jones, NC; Jeanne Harsson, NPS/GRSM; William Lindsay, USFWS; Larry Freeman, NC; Arnold Rakes, GA.

Topics and issues: Data from half-wild brown trout stocking evaluation presented (Monte Seehorn), Wayne Jones (NC) appointed chair of subcommittee to investigate additional work in other streams; location of funding (\$1,500) to publish an annotated brook trout bibliography. Trout workshop was held the following day.

Roundtable highlights: Snake River cutthroat trout stocking in AR; rainbow trout removal from brook trout streams in GRSM and Cherokee National Forest, TN; Lake Lanier (GA) trout fishery decline; development of fishery management plan for Blue Ridge Parkway (NPS); brown trout stocking in WV; evaluation of trout streams to be impacted by Duke Power's Bad Creek pump-storage project in SC.

Accomplishments: Brook Trout Management Workshop was held following the meeting (May 1) and abstracts were published.



**1986**

Spring meeting location: Tech Aqua Center on Center Hill Reservoir near Smithville, TN

Dates: April 29-30, 1986

Chair: Larry Mohn (Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries)

Attendees: John Boaze, FWA, Inc.; Al Brown, TVA; Jim Borawa, NC; Don Degan, Duke Power; Jeff Durniak, GA; Don Estes, TTU; Harry Hargis, TN; Mark Hudy, AR; Larry Mohn, VA; Steve Moore, NPS/GRSM; Kerry Prather, KY; Gordon Sloane, USFS; Spencer Turner, MO (members); Chris Martin, GA; Wayne Pollock, TN; Danny Scott, TN (guests).

Topics and issues: Reorganization of half-wild/domestic brown trout evaluation per proposal developed by Wayne Jones (NC)—KY, NC, TN, VA, and possibly GA to participate, stocking of marked fish planned for October; regional trout disease problems (Harry Hargis appointed subcommittee chair to investigate development of a regional policy statement and coordinate with the Southeastern Fish Health Committee); annotated brook trout bibliography draft completed (TU will pay for publication); TTU's otolith-based brook trout age and growth study (Don Estes); effects of siltation of fish and invertebrate biomass (Gordon Sloane appointed chair of subcommittee to investigate research needs); trout stream pressure/creel surveys; donation of surplus funds from 1985 trout symposium to SDAFS; development of a document stating the Committee's purpose, goals, and objectives per request by the SDAFS President; proposal of a brown trout workshop; development of a synopsis of various strains and exotics used in member-agency management efforts.

Editor's note: Some form of the half-wild/domestic trout stocking evaluation had been on the Committee's agenda since the 1975 fall meeting, prompting chairman Mohn to observe in the 1986 minutes that "this long-term project has spanned the careers of several noted Committee members". Chairman Mohn also observed in the minutes that the donation of surplus funds issue provided a historic moment—the first recorded use of the vote in Committee history.

Roundtable highlights: Tasmanian strain rainbows in Lake Jocassee, SC; brook trout restoration in GRSM; Norris tailwater in TN; trout production in AR, MO, and VA; closure of some brook trout streams in Shenandoah National Park.

Accomplishments: Tailwater Trout Management Workshop (led by Don Estes) was held following the meeting and an annotated Brook Trout Management Bibliography was published and distributed later in 1986.

Fall meeting location: Baltimore, MD (in conjunction with the annual SEAFWA conference)



Date: November 20, 1986

Chair: Larry Mohn (Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries)

Attendees: Larry Mohn, VA; Dave Woronecki, MD; Richard Standage, USFS; Mark Hudy, AR; John Boaze, FWA, Inc.; Mallory Martin, NC; Jim Borawa, NC; Bob Bachman, MD; Gordon Sloane, USFS; Harry Hargis, TN; Wayne Jones, NC; Jeff Durniak, GA (members); Frank Richardson, USFWS; John Stark, TTU; Larry Neilsen, VPI; Wayne Pollock, TN; Bob Martin, Sport Fishing Institute; Larry Owen, SC (guests).

Topics and issues: Half-wild brown trout study—stocking planned for December in NC (6 streams), VA (2 streams), and TN (3 streams); trout strain use evaluations; regional trout disease problems/recommendations; VA, TN, and NC angler surveys; small dams on trout streams; USFS Southeastern Forest Experiment Station move to VPI; brown trout workshop to be held in 1988 in conjunction with the Southeastern Trout Unlimited Council meeting in Asheville, NC.



**1987**

Spring meeting location: Gaston's Resort, Lakeview, AR

Date: April 3, 1987

Chair: Larry Mohn (Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries)

Attendees: Jim Borawa, NC; Jeff Durniak, GA; Mark Hudy, AR; Larry Mohn, VA; Ed Scott, TVA; Kerry Prather, KY; Roger Schulz, USFWS; Monte Seehorn, USFS; Gordon Sloane, USFS; Spencer Turner, MO.

Topics and issues: Review of half-wild brown trout stocking study (Jim Borawa); trout strain evaluation (Mark Hudy); management applications of triploid trout (longer life span/faster growth); regional trout disease problems (Southern Appalachian Fish Health Council deemed ineffective; decision made to defer to SDAFS Fish Disease Committee); siltation impacts on trout streams (G. Sloane suggested endorsement of "Idaho model"); organization of 1988 Brown Trout Workshop; mandatory committee turnover and other recommendations from AFS review of committee system.

Accomplishments: Creel Census and Survey Techniques Workshop was held on April 2 (prior to the Committee meeting) to discuss creel and pressure surveys and angler opinion polls. A trout strain summary was also distributed to the membership.



**1988**

Spring meeting location: Hilton Hotel, Asheville, NC (with the Brown Trout Workshop)

Dates: April 27-28, 1988

Chair: Mark Hudy (Arkansas Game and Fish Commission)

Attendees: John Boaze, FWA, Inc.; Andy Dolloff, Pat Flebbe, and Monte Seehorn, USFS; Jeff Durniak, GA; Randy Geddings, SC; Duane Harrell, Duke Power; Mark Hudy, AR; Larry Mohn, VA; Steve Moore, NPS/GRSM; Roger Schulz, USFWS; Ed Scott, TVA; Douglas Stephens, KY; Bennet Wynne, NC (members); Jim Borawa, NC; Bob Hunt, WI; Wayne Jones, NC (guests).

Topics and issues: Brown trout strain evaluation (half-wild/domestic) report (Jim Borawa); trout strain bibliography/broodstock availability list and need for performance evaluations in southeast (Mark Hudy); need for documentation of effects of siltation on fish and invertebrate biomass; brown trout and triploidy (in salmonids) bibliographies were distributed; SDAFS EXCOM (Executive Committee) recommendation to disband the Trout Committee and form a Coldwater Streams Committee (membership considered this inadequate and was overwhelmingly opposed); trout research and management in Wisconsin (Bob Hunt); roundtable.

Accomplishment: Brown Trout Biology and Management Workshop was held following the meeting; proceedings were published in 1990.





**1989**

Spring meeting location: Dillard, GA

Date: May 17, 1989

Chair: Mark Hudy (Arkansas Game and Fish Commission)

Attendees: Twelve Committee members including Jeff Durniak, GA; Doug Stevens, KY; Duane Harrell, Duke Power; Randy Geddings, SC; Roger Schulz, USFWS; Harry Hargis, TN; Larry Mohn, VA; Richard Standage, USFS; Mark Hudy, AR; and Monte Seehorn, USFS.

Topics and issues: Half-wild brown trout evaluation (VA data, Larry Mohn); new lightweight backpack electrofisher (Monte Seehorn); VI tags (Mark Hudy); disparity in protection guidelines for trout streams on southern National Forests; access/easements on private trout streams.

Roundtable highlights: Brown trout stocking rates in a GA tailwater; establishment of wild brown trout and brook trout regulations in KY; hydroacoustic work on forage base and Tasmanian strain rainbow trout in Lake Jocassee, SC; evaluation of trophy trout streams in TN.

Accomplishment: The Watershed Approach to Trout Management Workshop was held following the meeting on May 18. There were 60 attendees representing 8 states and 17 organizations.



**1990**

Spring meeting location: Gatlinburg, TN

Date: May 9, 1990

Chair: Mark Hudy (Arkansas Game and Fish Commission)

Attendees: Doug Stevens, KY; Rick Bivens (for TN); Steve Moore, NPS/GRSM; Jeff Durniak, GA; Monte Seehorn, USFS; Larry Mohn, VA; Randy Geddings, SC; Bob Bachman, MD; Chris Goudreau, NC; Duane Harrell, Duke Power; Barry Bolton, OK; Jim Spotts, AR; Richard Standage, USFS; Pat Flebbe, USFS; Donley Hill, USFS; John Boaze, FWA, Inc. (complete list not available).

Topics and issues: Update on 1988 Brown Trout Workshop Proceedings; participation in East Coast Trout Culture and Management Workshop planned for 1992 (Steve Moore to be Committee coordinator); formation of a Brook Trout Network to increase communication/ coordination of research and management in the southeast (Pat Flebbe).

Roundtable highlights: Trout regulations in KY, TN, MD; rainbow trout removal projects in GRSM and Cherokee National Forest; basin-wide survey techniques; delayed harvest program and Jackson River tailwater in VA; trout program activities and history in OK; minimum flows for AR tailwaters; acid rain impacts and mitigation projects in George Washington National Forest.

Accomplishment: Trout Management in Two-Story Reservoirs and Tailwaters Workshop (16 presentations) was held following the meeting on May 10. There were over 50 attendees representing 10 states and 17 organizations.

Editor's note: Chairman Hudy indicated that this meeting marked the first time the Committee had secretaries taking minutes (and the first time the minutes were temporarily misplaced).



**1991**

Spring meeting location: Will-O-Wisp Resort on Deep Creek Lake, MD

Date: May 7, 1991

Chair: Jeff Durniak (Georgia DNR, Game and Fish Division)

Attendees: Steve Moore, NPS/GRSM; Rick Bivens (for TN); Chris Goudreau, NC; Sue Perry, WVU Cooperative Fisheries Unit; Mark Hudy, USFS; Vicky Bishop, USFS; Don Phares, WV; Doug Stephens, KY; Spence Turner, MO; Bob Bachman, MD; Monte Seehorn, USFS; Andy Dolloff, USFS; Larry Mohn, VA; Jeff Durniak, GA (complete list not available).

Topics and issues: Sales of 1988 Brown Trout Workshop Proceedings (Jeff Durniak); proposed 1992 East Coast Trout Culture and Management Workshop status (Steve Moore); Committee support for USFS forest management practices (e.g., clear-cutting) – Monte Seehorn to develop a draft position statement; acidification trends in VA brook trout streams (Rick Webb, University of VA); standardized trout stream sampling (subcommittee chaired by Steve Moore to begin work on this issue).

Roundtable highlights: Genetic evidence from GRSM for a distinct brook trout strain, new emphasis on data from wild trout streams in TN; research on acid rain, gypsy moth impacts, and global warming in WV; liming to mitigate low pH in VA, WV, and MD; trout angling regulations in NC, KY, MO, MD, and VA; naturalized rainbow trout populations in MO; hooking mortality study in MD; angler access in VA and National Forests; Chattahoochee tailwater in GA.

Accomplishment: Trout and Timber Workshop (22 presentations) was held following the meeting on May 8 and 9. There were 29 participants representing 10 states and 12 organizations. A summary (prepared by Jeff Durniak) is available.



**1992**

Spring meeting location: Penn State University, State College, PA (in conjunction with the East Coast Trout Culture and Management Workshop)

Date: June 22, 1992

Chair: Jeff Durniak (Georgia DNR, Game and Fish Division)

Attendees: Sixteen Committee members, three proxies, and seven guests including Doug Stephens, KY; Vicki Bishop, USFS; Jeff Durniak and John Biagi, GA; Don Phares, WV; Sue Perry, WVU Cooperative Fisheries Unit; Jim Borawa, NC; John Stark, AR; Spence Turner, MO; Dan Wilson, USFWS; Dan Rankin, SC; John Boaze, FWA, Inc.; Ken Pavol, MD; Bob Hunt, WS; Duane Harrell, Duke Power; Steve Moore, NPS/GRSM; Jim Habera, UT; Rick Bivens, TN; Andy Dolloff, USFS; Mark Hudy, USFS; Larry Mohn, VA.

Topics and issues: Sales of 1988 Brown Trout Workshop proceedings (about 170 copies); standardized trout stream sampling guidelines draft (final edits); brook trout genetic analyses (presence of pure southern strain, northern strain, and hybrids in GRSM; GA populations being analyzed); draft resolution on USFS timber harvest alternatives (unanimous vote to support the resolution); strained relationship with SDAFS EXCOM due to lack of communication (need to coordinate Trout Committee and SDAFS meetings); Committee procedures document drafted by Jeff Durniak (including addition of chair-elect position and line of succession to the chair).

Roundtable highlights: Attempts to establish brown trout in KY, WV, and GA; delayed harvest regulations—successful in NC but not in WV; wild trout stream monitoring in GA, NC, TN, and GRSM; regulation changes in MO, SC, and WS; tailwaters in MD and AR; new USFS Forest Plans.

Accomplishments: East Coast Trout Culture and Management Workshop (jointly sponsored with the Northeastern Division AFS Trout Committee) was held June 23-25 (172 registrants); proceedings published. Also developed a standardized stream sampling document and passed a resolution supporting retention of all USFS forest management alternatives (including clearcutting).



**1993**

Meeting location: Chattanooga, TN (in conjunction with SDAFS Midyear meeting)

Date: February 27, 1993

Chair: Steve Moore (National Park Service, Great Smoky Mountains National Park)

Attendees: Jeff Durniak and John Biagi, GA; Sue Perry, WVU Cooperative Fisheries Unit; Jim Borawa, Mickey Clemmons, and Chris Goudreau, NC; Spencer Turner, MO; John Boaze, FWA, Inc.; Steve Moore, NPS/GRSM; Jim Habera, UT; Danny Scott, TN; Pat Flebbe, USFS; Jerry West, WCU; Cindy Williams and Jim Herrig, USFS; Bob Wallus, TVA; Nick Parker and Larry Olmsted, SDAFS.

Topics and issues: Meeting schedule (late winter vs. spring/summer), location and format of spring meeting (Cherokee, NC), and retention of a separate spring meeting; SDAFS endorsement of Monte Seehorn's resolution regarding USFS harvest options; brown trout workshop proceedings (lower price to move); organization of an East Coast Trout Culture and Management Workshop II; information exchange improvement (production of a summary similar to that of the Esocid Management Committee of the North Central Division AFS); delayed electrofishing mortality.

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Spring meeting location: Cherokee, NC

Dates: May 13-14, 1993

Chair: Steve Moore (National Park Service, Great Smoky Mountains National Park)

Attendees: Jeff Durniak, GA; Tom Oldham and Don Phares, WV; Jim Borawa, Mallory Martin, Chris Goudreau, and Mark Davis, NC; Larry Mohn, VA; Dan Wilson, KY; Randy Geddings and Dan Rankin, SC; Spencer Turner, MO; John Stark, AR; John Boaze and Roger Bryan, FWA, Inc.; Steve Moore and Bart Carter, NPS/GRSM; Jim Habera, UT; Danny Scott and Rick Bivens, TN; Hugh Barwick, Duke Power; Andy Dolloff, USFS; Jerry West, WCU; Monte Seehorn, Mark Hudy, Sheryl Bryan, Cindy Williams and Jim Herrig, USFS; Bruce Yeager and Gary Williams, TVA.

Topics and issues: Vote on size of a quorum; East Coast Trout Culture and Management Workshop II (co-host with the Northeastern Division AFS); 1994 spring meeting in MO; cooperation with the Warmwater Streams Committee on a symposium focusing on the value of southeastern streams; election of Secretary/Treasurer; roundtable.

Editor's note: No minutes were available for the Cherokee, NC meeting. The information provided is from an attendee list and the meeting agenda.



## 1994

Spring meeting location: Montauk State Park, Salem, MO

Dates: March 21-23, 1994

Chair: Jim Borawa (North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission)

Attendees: Twelve Committee members

Topics and issues: East Coast Trout Culture and Management Workshop II (rescheduling, first call for papers, theme is “Looking to the Future: How Can We Meet the Need”); Committee name change rejected in favor of a revision of Committee goals to reflect its expanded scope; electrofishing and the associated injury issue (Jim Habera to conduct a trout injury study later in 1994 and serve as liaison to the Electrofishing Injury Network); trout management and research document to be compiled as a reference for managers, administrators, and conservation organizations (modeled after the Esocid Management Committee’s document); development of a riparian management publication; fall meeting at the SEAFWA conference; roundtable.

Accomplishments: Trout Management in Southern Tailwaters workshop was held in conjunction with the spring meeting at Montauk State Park, MO. Twelve presentations were given that covered both technical and popular aspects of tailwater management.

Editor’s notes:

The electrofishing injury study mentioned above was later published as:

Habera, J. W., R. J. Strange, B. D. Carter, and S. E. Moore. 1996. Short-term mortality and injury of rainbow trout caused by three-pass AC electrofishing in a southern Appalachian stream. *North American Journal of Fisheries Management* 16:192-200.

No officer elections were held at this meeting. Jim Borawa presided at the subsequent meeting in Virginia Beach (February 1995), where a new Secretary/Treasurer was elected. Andy Dolloff (USFS) assumed Chair duties prior to the 1995 spring meeting (at Penn State) and remained as Chair for the 1996 spring meeting at Clemson, SC.



## 1995

Meeting location: Virginia Beach, VA (in conjunction with the SDAFS Midyear meeting)

Date: February 23, 1995

Chair: Jim Borawa (North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission)

Attendees: John Stark, AR; Pat Hutson, TX; Hugh Barwick, Duke Power; Mark Hudy, USFS; John Boaze, FWA, Inc.; Steve Moore, NPS/GRSM; Jim Borawa, NC; Andy Dolloff, USFS; Larry Mohn, VA; Jeff Durniak, GA (incomplete list).

Topics and issues: Development of a riparian ecology, protection, and management brochure (with input from Warmwater Streams Committee); East Coast Trout Culture and Management Workshop II (to be held in June 1995); development of a technical brochure for trout similar to the Esocid brochure (Jim Borawa received Committee approval to proceed); advocacy issues related to joining the Fisheries Action Network; sponsorship of the 1998 Trout Habitat Workshop (instead of the 1996 workshop) in AR with John Stark as primary host; electrofishing injury (Mark Hudy to develop response to anti-electrofishing articles in the popular literature, Committee officers to discuss the issue with the SDAFS EXCOM and emphasize the need for AFS support of proper electrofishing technique; disposition of remaining Brown Trout Workshop proceedings (distribute to libraries and at East Coast II); status of assessment of southern Appalachian brook trout "strain" (Committee authorized up to \$1,000 for completing analyses and producing a report); roundtable. John Stark (AR) was elected Secretary/Treasurer.

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Spring meeting location: Penn State University, State College, PA (in conjunction with the East Coast Trout Culture and Management Workshop II)

Date: May 30, 1995

Chair: Andy Dolloff (U.S. Forest Service)

Attendees: Not available

Topics and issues: Business meeting and roundtable were held but details are not available

Accomplishment: East Coast Trout Culture and Management Workshop II (co-sponsored with the Northeast Division AFS) was held May 31-June 2; proceedings published.



**1996**

Spring meeting location: Clemson, SC

Dates: March 26-28, 1996

Chair: Andy Dolloff (U.S. Forest Service)

Attendees: Spence Turner, MO; Steve Moore, GRSM; Jim Habera, UT; Jim Borawa, NC; Lee Keefer, GA; Dan Rankin, SC; Mike Shingleton, WV; Frank Fiss, TN; Monte Seehorn, USFS (retired); Sheryl Bryan, USFS; Steve Reeser, KY; Hugh Barwick, KY; Andy Dolloff, USFS; John Stark; AR.

Topics and issues: Approval of limited use of Trout Committee funds by guests and needy members for travel to Trout Committee meetings; vote on motion to donate \$500 to the AFS 2000 campaign deferred to 1997; Committee funding of brook trout genetics studies (\$1,000 approved for Dr. Gary McCracken); assistance with reprinting the Riparian Forest Buffers technical brochure (by Dave Welsh, USFS); Trout Committee home page on the internet and, alternatively, an e-mail communication system to keep members informed on various issues; 1998 Trout Committee meeting in conjunction with the International Trout Stream Habitat Improvement Workshop in AR; whirling disease and efforts of eastern states to prevent it. Jim Habera (UT) was elected Secretary/Treasurer.

Roundtable highlights: Trout management in MO; use of toxins to eradicate rainbow trout in GRSM streams; brook trout genetics inventories in NC and GA and distribution surveys in TN and NC; experimental feeding projects in NC and SC; acid rain mitigation in WV; tailwater trout fisheries in TN, KY, and AR; sedimentation in NC and SC streams).

Accomplishments: A Sedimentation Workshop was held on March 27 with 16 presentations focusing on impacts and control of sediment in trout streams. A Brook Trout Genetics Workshop was held on March 28 with Dr. Rex Dunham (Auburn University), Dr. Gary McCracken (UT) and Dr. Ray Morgan (UMCES) presenting results of their research. A roundtable discussion on using genetics to achieve management objectives followed these presentations.





**1997**

Spring meeting location: Hungry Mother State Park, Marion, VA

Dates: April 9-10, 1997

Chair: Sheryl Bryan (U.S. Forest Service)

Attendees: Stan Todd, AR; Lee Keefer, GA; Steve Reeser, KY; Mike Kruse, MO; Matt Kulp, NPS/GRSM; Jim Borawa, NC; Frank Fiss, TN; Jim Habera, UT; Sheryl Bryan, USFS; Pat Flebbe, USFS; Monte Seehorn, USFS (retired); Larry Mohn, VA; Tom Oldham, WV (incomplete list).

Topics and issues: Donation of \$100 to AFS 2000 campaign approved; Committee's entrance into cyberspace via a list server (Pat Flebbe); involvement with East Coast Trout Management and Culture Workshop III (follow up with Northeastern Division); meeting format and location of 1998 and 1999 meetings.

Presentations: Electrofishing injury to large brown trout (Jim Habera); implementation of EPA rapid bioassessment (Mark Hudy); results of a supplemental feeding project (Jim Borawa); Missouri's trout park survey (John Stanovick)—April 9. Tailwater trout fisheries in KY (Steve Reeser), VA (Larry Mohn), and TN (Frank Fiss; George Devlin, Mark Nemeth, and Steve Owens – TTU); the Southern Appalachian Assessment (Pat Flebbe); the Center for Aquatic Technology Transfer (Kevin Leftwich), and brook trout restoration in GRSM (Matt Kulp)—April 10.

Roundtable highlights: Minimum flow studies and habitat restoration in AR tailwaters; GA trout management plan; delayed harvest regulations in KY, MO, NC, TN, VA, and WV; the Southern Appalachian Assessment; sediment, temperature, and brown trout movement assessments in GA/SC; electrofishing injury rates for brown trout; brook trout genetics inventories in GA, NC, and TN; acid deposition monitoring and brook trout restoration efforts in GRSM; acid deposition and gypsy moth defoliation impacts in VA; flood impacts in VA and WV; whirling disease assessments in TN and VA.



**1998**

Spring meeting location: Fayetteville, AR

Date: April 23, 1998

Chair: John Stark (Arkansas Game and Fish Commission)

Attendees: Frank Fiss, TN; Jim Habera, UT; Jarrad Kosa, KY; John Stark, AR; Paul Balkenbush, OK; Kin Hodges, Scott Loftis, and Mickey Clemmons, NC; Ken Pavol, MD; Mike Kruse, MO; Lee Keefer, GA; Monte Seehorn, USFS (retired); Darrell Bowman, AR.

Topics and issues: East Coast Trout Culture and Management Workshop III in June 2000 (Larry Mohn, Program Chair; Bob Bachman and Ray Morgan, local arrangements in MD); angler concerns about electrofishing in AR and a potential article for *Trout* magazine documenting where electrofishing has facilitated better management; motion passed supporting a resolution to communicate Committee support for efforts to legislatively redress historical challenges (reservoir levels and tailwater flows) to the White River system in AR and MO; motion passed supporting a resolution requesting that the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers implement a comprehensive tailwater restoration program to address low dissolved oxygen levels and erratic flows in the Center Hill tailwater (Caney Fork) in TN. Frank Fiss (TN) was elected to fill the Chair-elect opening created by Steve Reeser's departure from the Committee; Jarrad Kosa (KY) was elected Secretary/Treasurer.

Roundtable highlights: Scale/otolith ages for wild brown trout in TN and brook trout in NC; tailwater trout studies in TN, KY, AR, MD; delayed harvest management in TN, KY, MD, GA, and NC; restriction of stocking rainbow trout where threatened and endangered species or native game fish populations occur in TN, GA, and OK; stream management plan for OK; angler surveys in KY and MD; tailwater quality/quantity negotiations in AR, MD, and GA; new trout fishing guides in MO and NC; use of USFS sensitive species lists to block timber sales on National Forests; brook trout genetics and distribution in NC; evaluation of bait fishing for wild trout in NC.

Accomplishments: The 11<sup>th</sup> International Trout Habitat Improvement Workshop, co-sponsored by the SDAFS Trout Committee, was held on April 20-22. The workshop included 20 presentations and a field tour of the Beaver Tailwater habitat restoration/enhancement project. Abstracts were printed and distributed. Resolutions were passed requesting improved water quality below U.S. Army Corps of Engineers projects in AR and TN.



## 1999

Meeting location: Chattanooga, TN (in conjunction with the SDAFS Midyear meeting)

Date: February 25, 1999

Chair: Jim Habera (Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency)

Attendees: Jim Habera, Frank Fiss, and Rick Bivens (guest) TN; Larry Mohn, VA; Lee Keefer, GA; Hugh Barwick, Duke Power; Jeanne Riley and Sheryl Bryan, USFS; John Stark, AR; Mike Shingleton, WV; Steve Moore and Matt Kulp, NPS/GRSM; Jarrad Kosa, KY; Jim Borawa, NC.

Topics and issues: Status of East Coast Trout Management and Culture Workshop III (June 2000 at Frostburg State University in MD); recent electrofishing articles in *Outdoors Unlimited* (by Spencer Turner) and *TroutSouth* (by Jim Habera) and need for additional articles; need for a rebuttal to the Nielsen article in December 1998 *Fisheries* questioning the electrofishing and advocating AFS-developed guidelines (motion made and passed tasking Jim Habera, Frank Fiss, and Steve Moore with crafting and submitting a rebuttal to *Fisheries*); request for papers for Wild Trout VII at Yellowstone National Park in 2000. Lee Keefer (GA) was elected Secretary/ Treasurer.

Roundtable highlights: Comparability of scales and otoliths for aging wild brown trout in TN; projects to evaluate stocking and management strategies on TN and KY tailwaters (substantial natural reproduction observed for brown trout in the South Holston tailwater and rainbow trout in the Cumberland tailwater); angler surveys in KY and NC; status/extension of delayed harvest management in TN, VA, GA, SC, AR, WV (not well received by anglers), KY, and NC; brook trout genetic analyses in VA; GA, NC; brook trout restorations in TN and GRSM (use of antimycin-A being evaluated); radio telemetry study of trout in Lake Jocassee, SC; aquatic ecosystem classification and off-road vehicle use on trails in National Forests; minimum flow negotiations and water quality issues in TN, AR, and KY; stream acidification issues/treatment in GRSM, VA, and WV.

Accomplishment: The Trout Committee sponsored a special technical session on Trout Biology and Management in Southeastern States at the 1999 SDAFS Midyear meeting. This session included 12 presentations and was held on February 28.



**2000**

Spring meeting location: Frostburg State University, Frostburg, MD (in conjunction with the East Coast Trout Management and Culture Workshop III)

Date: June 5, 2000

Chair: Frank Fiss (Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency)

Attendees: Jim Habera and Frank Fiss, TN; Larry Mohn, VA; Lee Keefer, GA; John Stark, AR; Mike Shingleton, WV; Steve Moore and Matt Kulp, NPS/GRSM; Jim Borawa, NC; Mike Kruse, MO (incomplete list; there were 13 attendees).

Topics and issues: Disposition of the Brown Trout Workshop proceedings (libraries, give aways, etc.); disposition of remainder of proceeds from Trout Habitat Improvement Workshop (1998); update of Committee procedures document; summary of brook trout genetics information from across the southeast (Jim Borawa) and discussion of the need to develop a “management plan” for southern brook trout; subcommittee formed (Jim Habera as chair) to compile and summarize data regarding southern Appalachian brook trout. Mike Kruse (MO) was elected Secretary/Treasurer.

Roundtable highlights: Minimum flow problems in the White River system, AR; FERC re-licensing of several hydropower projects with trout resources in NC; efforts to get dissolved oxygen and flow improvements below U.S. Army Corps of Engineers dams in TN; acid deposition studies in GRSM (release of Al due to low pH is a concern) and reclamation of acidified streams in WV; delayed harvest program growth in NC and special regulations in WV and TN (wild trout streams and tailwaters); brook trout restoration projects in TN and GRSM (using antimycin); re-opening of brook trout streams to angling in GRSM; genetic typing of brook trout populations in NC; flood impacts on wild trout streams and a fish kill in the Watauga River (TN).

Accomplishment: East Coast Trout Culture and Management Workshop III was held June 6-8; proceedings published.



**2001**

Spring meeting location: Canaan Valley State Park, WV

Dates: May 18-19, 2001

Chair: Jarrad Kosa (Federal Energy Regulatory Commission)

Attendees: Jarrad Kosa, FERC; Lee Keefer, GA; Frank Fiss, TN; Mike Shingleton and Tom Oldham, WV; Mike Kruse, MO; Jeff Ross, KY; Larry Mohn and Steve Reeser, VA.

Topics and issues: Disposition of numerous remaining copies of the Brown Trout Workshop in Lee Keefer's possession (distribute to libraries of colleges and universities with fisheries programs); status of development of management guidelines for southern brook trout, potential content, and venue for publication; term length and need for various Committee leadership positions (a motion was passed increasing the Treasurer's term to three years and transferring the Secretary's duties [recording meeting minutes] to the Chair-elect, while the list server Chair was elevated to an official Committee leadership position); SDAFS President's concern that technical committees are not communicating well with state agency directors and that this is reducing support for attendance at technical committee meetings (Committee agreed to send copies of meeting minutes and recent accomplishments to fisheries chiefs of all Southern Division states with trout fisheries). Matt Kulp (NPS/GRSM) was elected Treasurer.

Roundtable highlights: FERC re-licensing of hydropower projects in SC, NC, and GA; studies initiated by U.S. Army Corps of Engineers focusing on implementation of aquatic habitat improvements in their tailwaters in TN; mitigation of acidified streams in WV (about 200 miles being treated), KY, and VA (St. Mary's River brook trout abundance highest in 25 years); trout management plan completed and submitted for final approval in GA; delayed harvest programs in GA, SC, TN (first two streams), KY, and VA; drought impacts to hatcheries and streams in GA, TN, and MO; new or updated trout stream maps, brochures, and guides in GA, WV, MO, KY, and VA; controversy over wilderness designations on USFS lands in GA, tailwater management in TN (brook trout stocked in Watauga River), MO (minimum flows for White River system), KY (brown trout regulations and abundance in Cumberland River), and VA (Jackson River); wild trout management in MO; angler attitude/creel surveys in TN (tailwaters) and VA (wild trout streams).

Presentation/field trip: Charles Gauvin, President and Chief Executive Officer of TU, gave a presentation to the Committee on May 19 describing TU's efforts to educate anglers, the public, and politicians about acid precipitation and its involvement in monitoring water quality in acid-sensitive watersheds. A discussion of each state's efforts to monitor the effects of trout stream acidification followed (WV and GRSM have monitoring programs in place). Other issues discussed included stream channelization in NY, sediment impacts in GA, stream acquisition in MO, urban/suburban



development impacts in MO, VA, and GA, and management of southern Appalachian brook trout. Afterward, the group toured the Blackwater River limestone treatment facility, which helps raise the pH of the Blackwater River before an acidified tributary (Beaver Creek) enters about a half mile downstream.



*Dr. David Neely*



**2002**

Spring meeting location: Lake Cumberland State Resort Park, KY

Dates: May 13-14, 2002

Chair: Lee Keefer (Georgia DNR, Game and Fish Division)

Attendees: Lee Keefer, GA; Mike Kruse, MO; Matt Kulp, NPS/GRSM; Jim Borawa, NC; Jarrad Kosa, USFWS; Dave Dreves and Brett Billings, KY; Steve Reeser, VA; Frank Fiss and Jim Habera, TN; Darrell Bowman, AR.

Topics and issues: Need to revise Committee Summary of Procedures document to reflect addition of list server chair as an officer; insuring distribution of meeting minutes to all members; need for a Windows-based update to MicroFish 3.0 (a DOS-based program for analyzing electrofishing data from depletion samples that is rapidly becoming unusable); potential for a small symposium on data management and archiving; need for a Trout Committee for posting meeting minutes, project details, meeting information, etc; need to review/update standardized sampling guidelines developed by the Committee (1992). Steve Reeser (VA) was voted Chair-elect.

Roundtable highlights: Delayed harvest programs in GA, TN, KY, and NC (very popular in these states); brook trout genetics inventories in GA and NC; brook trout restoration in TN and GRSM (antimycin); opening of eight brook trout streams to angling in GRSM; analysis and reform of the National Fish Hatchery System and USFWS interest in involvement with the initiative to restore/enhance southern Appalachian brook trout; drought impacts to wild trout streams in GA, TN, VA and hatchery production in MO and GA; disease screening of wild trout populations in TN; study of wild rainbow trout otoliths in TN; reservoir trout management in GA and TN; stream acidification in GRSM and VA; angler surveys in TN, KY, VA, and NC; stream classification system in NC; development of statewide trout management plans in MO and AR; increase in the size to stocked trout in AR (to 11 inches); extensive trout angling regulation changes in AR.

Accomplishment: A Tailwater Workshop was held on May 14 and comprised presentations by Committee members on AR, KY, TN, MO, GA, and VA tailwaters.



2003

Spring meeting location: Unicoi State Park near Helen, GA

Dates: April 7-8, 2003

Chair: Mike Kruse (Missouri Department of Conservation)

Attendees: Doug Besler, NC; John Boaze, FWA, Inc.; Sheryl Bryan, USFS; Jeff Durniak and Lee Keefer, GA; Frank Fiss and Jim Habera, TN; Jarrad Kosa, USFWS; Mike Kruse, MO; Matt Kulp and Steve Moore, NPS/GRSM; Larry Mohn and Steve Reeser, VA; Monte Seehorn, USFS (retired); Kim Ryals, TU (members). Mallory Martin, NC; Tim King, USGS; Mitzi Cole, USFS; Wes Cornelison, Mike Skeakler, and Peter Galbreath, WCU (guests).

Topics and issues: Status, funding, publication (*Fisheries*) of southern Appalachian brook trout management position paper (Jim Habera and Steve Moore); upgrade of MicroFish 3.0 to Windows platform (Jack Van Deventer, an original developer of MicroFish, agreed to take on the project); sub-committee formed (Jim Habera, chair, with NC, VA, GA, and NPS/GSMNP representatives) to update the Committee's standardized sampling guidelines (from 1992), including an efficiency comparison of current AC and DC electrofishing gear; motion passed to abolish the list server Chair as it was deemed unnecessary given the size of the Committee and the ease of use of e-mail group lists (summary of procedures document to be updated by 2004 meeting); discussion of negative/positive aspects of the new Trout Unlimited seat on the Committee (the members present voted to retain the TU seat, then subsequently voted to place any TU affiliate's membership on a one-year trial basis pending an SDAFS review of and ruling on the Committee's summary of procedures section covering membership); East Coast Trout Culture and Management Workshop IV planned for June 2005 (Larry Mohn to be Committee's representative); Wild Trout VIII planned for September 2004 in Yellowstone National Park (Steve Moore is on the symposium's program committee); need for more university participation in the Trout Committee. Doug Besler (NC) was voted Chair-elect.

Roundtable highlights: Brown trout reproduction in a small private reservoir in NC, in the Lanier tailwater (Chattahoochee River) in GA, and the Jackson River in VA; tailwater brown trout management in TN and NC; angler/creel surveys in TN (wild trout streams), NC (hatchery-supported streams), GRSM (brook trout streams), and MO (Lake Taneycomo); drought effects on wild trout populations in TN and GA; status of statewide trout management plan development in MO and TN; national forest management plans in NC and GA; trout habitat evaluations in NC, MO; genetics inventories of brook trout in NC and GA and tailwater browns/rainbows in TN; development of procedures for using antimycin for brook trout restorations in GRSM; delayed harvest programs in GA and VA, urban trout programs in TN (expanded) and VA (eliminated); new USFWS emphasis on its fisheries program; budget cuts, workforce reductions, and proposed





hatchery closures in VA; otter depredations in MO; nationwide decline in the number of anglers and implications for trout programs in the future.

Presentation: Tim King (USGS) gave a presentation (April 7) on developing micro-satellite DNA markers for brook trout (data were presented from populations in GRSM and Shenandoah National Park).



**2004**

Spring meeting location: Roan Mountain State Park, Roan Mountain, TN

Dates: May 18-19, 2004

Chair: Steve Reeser (Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries)

Attendees: Steve Reeser and Larry Mohn, VA; Mike Kruse, MO; Dave Dreves, KY; Lee Keefer, GA; Jarrad Kosa, USFWS; Kim Ryals, TU; Doug Besler, NC; Frank Fiss and Jim Habera, TN; Monte Seehorn, USFS (retired); John Boaze, FWA, Inc.; Ray Morgan, UMCES; Matt Kulp, NPS/GRSM; Darrell Bowman, AR; Mike Shingleton, WV (members). Steve Filipek, AR (SDAFS past-president); Jack Van Deventer, WSU (guests).

Topics and issues: Southern Appalachian brook trout management position paper status (under review at *Fisheries*); status of wadeable-stream standardized sampling guidelines update (AC/DC electrofishing gear comparison to be designed and completed); tailwater sampling standardization (agenda item for 2005); technical committee membership (Steve Filipek); location and disposition of Committee archives (John Boaze agreed to serve as historian); motions were passed amending a quorum to 10 voting members, making the Committee Chair responsible for maintaining and circulating the membership list (and notifying the Committee of any new representative being recommended for appointment by the SDAFS President), setting Committee meeting frequency at one per year (to be held at the SDAFS Spring meeting or a separate location), and assigning the Chair-elect the duty of providing website update information to the webmaster; update on Eastern Brook Trout Initiative meeting to be held in June at Shepherdstown, WV; status of East Coast Trout Culture and Management Workshop IV (motion passed in favor of Committee support for East Coast IV; Larry Mohn to be Committee's representative); FDA ruling that clove oil (eugenol) is not an approved fish anesthetic (motion passed authorizing a letter to the USFWS director requesting approval of clove oil be a priority in the national investigational new animal drug (INAD) program. Matt Kulp was voted Chair-elect.

Roundtable highlights: Brook trout genetics inventory in NC and GA; brook trout restoration projects in GRSM and SC (using antimycin); development of a brook trout habitat improvement and restoration plan in GA; results of re-opening brook trout streams to angling in GRSM; TU's Back the Brookie campaign; distribution/inventory of wild trout streams in NC (including the Cherokee Indian Reservation); trout fisheries in small reservoirs in NC (some with wild trout); study to identify effects of off-highway vehicle (OHV) use on wild trout populations in Tellico River OHV area (NC); new statewide trout management plans approved in AR and MO; new trout map for GA; wild trout management in AR; results of wild rainbow trout otolith analyses in TN; minimum flow/water quality improvement in AR tailwaters; trout stream temperature monitoring in GA and MO; limestone treatment of acidified streams in WV; culvert removal projects in NC and



GA (through National Fish Passage Program); new trout management categories in MO (blue, red, and white ribbon, etc.); trout angler surveys in AR, MO, GRSM, and KY; tailwater management strategies in TN and KY; delayed harvest management in KY, GA, SC, and WV; bioenergetics and growth studies in AR, KY, and SC; new special regulations in AR, KY, and WV; USFWS Region 5/Northeast Fisheries Administrators Association development of a Northeast Coldwater Technical Committee (would be similar to SDAFS Trout Committee and would overlap Trout Committee some as VA, WV, and MD are in USFWS Region 5).

Presentations: Jack Van Deventer (WSU) gave an update on the development of MicroFish 3.0 for Windows (discussion followed regarding information needed to complete the software and financial support). Presentations were also given on wild trout creel surveys in TN (Jim Habera), VA (Steve Reeser), and GRSM (Matt Kulp), as well as angler opinion surveys in AR (Darrell Bowman).



**2005**

Meeting location: Virginia Beach, VA (in conjunction with the SDAFS Spring meeting)

Date: February 10, 2005

Chair: Doug Besler (North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission)

Attendees: Doug Besler, NC; Darrell Bowman, (AR); Allan Heft, MD; Kim Ryals, TU; Frank Fiss, TN; Ray Morgan, UMCES; Steve Reeser and Larry Mohn, VA; Mike Weimer, USFWS (members). Mallory Martin, NC; Marcy Anderson, VPI (guests).

Topics and issues: EXCOM report; Committee webpage update; Eastern Brook Trout Joint Venture status (several Committee members involved with this partnership); upcoming East Coast Trout Culture and Management Workshop IV; TU's Back the Brookie campaign; Committee participation in a reservoir symposium (to include tailwaters) sponsored by the SDAFS Reservoir Committee (members present supported this); MicroFish 3.0 for Windows update; roundtable (including invitation of AFS Parent Society leadership to East Coast IV).

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Spring meeting location: Lock Haven, PA (in conjunction with the East Coast Trout Culture and Management Workshop IV)

Date: June 6, 2005

Chair: Doug Besler (North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission)

Attendees: Doug Besler, NC; Darrell Bowman (AR); Mike Shingleton and Tom Oldham, WV; Alan Heft, MD; Mark Hudy, USFS; Dan Rankin, SC; Larry Mohn, VA; Frank Fiss and Jim Habera, TN; Lee Keefer, GA; Mike Kruse, MO; Matt Kulp, NPS/GRSM; Kim Ryals, TU (members). Mallory Martin, NC; Melissa Jones, AR; Bill Couch, GA; Jack Van Deventer, WSU (guests).

Topics and issues: Eastern Brook Trout Joint Venture (EBTJV) accomplishments (including range-wide status and threats assessment of 10,000+ subwatersheds), publicity, and upcoming meeting; location and disposition of Committee archives; Committee's southern Appalachian brook trout management position statement accepted for publication in *Fisheries*, will appear later in 2005 (.pdf files will be available of published version); status of MicroFish 3.0 for Windows upgrade (Jack Van Deventer) and plans for more powerful versions (4.0, 5.0); status of Committee's website (Ray Morgan, UMCES is contact); inclusion of tailwaters in SDAFS Reservoir Committee's next



reservoir symposium and Trout Committee participation; status of clove oil replacement (Aqui-S)—currently has a 21-day holding (withdrawal) period, but work is ongoing to get it registered for a zero-withdrawal period (Jim Bolicker, USFWS, is the contact for this effort). Mike Shingleton (WV) was voted Chair-elect and Darrell Bowman was elected treasurer for 2006-2008.

Roundtable highlights: Statewide trout management plan being developed for TN; wild brown trout management in the South Holston tailwater (TN), evaluation of brown trout fishery in Cumberland tailwater (KY); brook trout genetics inventory in NC (36% of 368 streams have southern Appalachian fish) GA, and VA; wild trout distribution survey in NC; brook trout restoration projects using antimycin in GRSM and SC; results of opening brook trout streams to angling in GRSM (82% of anglers practicing catch and release); impacts to brook trout of OHV trail work along streams and mercury in highland bogs in MD; outreach plan for the EBTJV (under TU's direction); backpack electrofishing gear efficiency study (NC); publication in the *North American Journal of Fisheries Management* of papers on the 70-year history of angling regulations in GRSM and summer habitat preferences of trophy trout in Lake Jocassee (SC); potential negative impacts of stocked trout on hellbenders in MO; expansion of urban trout stocking program in TN; delayed harvest management in MO, GA, VA, WV, and KY; statewide trout regulation changes in MO, other regulation changes in KY; hatchery needs/renovations in MO, VA, TN, SC, AR; minimum flow and water quality issues in AR tailwaters, including the presence of *Didymo* (*Didymosphenia geminata*), a stalked, colonial freshwater diatom that can become invasive and impact trout fisheries.

Editor's note:

The Committee's southern Appalachian brook trout management position statement mentioned above was subsequently published in 2005 as:

Southern Division of the American Fisheries Society Trout Committee. 2005. Management of Southern Appalachian Brook Trout: A Position Statement. *Fisheries* 30(7):10-20.



2006

Spring meeting location: Gaston's Resort, Lakeview, AR

Dates: May 23-24, 2006

Chair: Matt Kulp (National Park Service, Great Smoky Mountains National Park)

Attendees: See photo



Trout Committee members and guests at the 2006 meeting at Gaston's Resort, Lakeview AR. Members are: (1) Lee Keefer, GA; (2) Mike Kruse, MO; (3) Dave Dreeves, KY; (4) Doug Besler, NC; (5) Darrell Bowman, AR; (6) Matt Kulp, NPS/GSMNP; (7) Frank Fiss, TN; (8) Steve Reeser, VA; (9) Jim Habera, TN; (10) Mike Shingleton, WV; (11) Jeff Williams, AR.

Topics and issues: Electrofishing gear comparison (AC vs. DC); MicroFish 3.0 update (now available free online, upgrade potentially available in 2007); field data needed for development of Aqui-S (fish anesthetic currently with a three-day withdrawal period, target is 0-day withdrawal); Eastern Brook Trout Joint Venture update (each state will develop a conservation strategy by fall); Committee archives to be kept by Jim Habera; 2005 East Coast Trout Culture and Management Workshop IV review (>140 attendees, some copies of proceedings remain, \$2,000-3,000 profit, Committee thanked Larry Mohn and George Duckwall for their work organizing East Coast IV); need for a brook trout restoration project review (goals, what has worked, what hasn't, need for standardization, applicability among states, monitoring needs, etc.—Doug Besler to develop a review); *Didymo* update (Darrell Bowman attended recent conference in Montana and distributed presentation abstracts, no indication of impacts on southeastern tailwater trout fisheries yet, but much is still unknown). Dave Dreeves (KY) was voted Chair-elect.



Roundtable highlights: Program to document pH and acid neutralizing capacity (ANC) in GA brook trout streams; additional brook trout genetic characterization work in GA (79 streams completed) and NC; brook trout distribution surveys in NC; brook trout designated official state coldwater fish in GA; evaluation of the three-year study experimental brook trout fishery study in GRSM; fish restoration projects using antimycin conducted by (or assisted by) GRSM personnel (brook trout in GRSM and SC, barrens topminnows in central TN, rainbow trout in AK); statewide trout management plan completed in TN and under development in KY; implementation of anti-degradation and water quality standards for trout streams in WV; tailwater trout research in GA (wild browns in the Lanier tailwater) and KY (Cumberland tailwater brown trout fishery), expansion of urban trout fisheries in KY, TN, and MO; delayed harvest management and establishment of other special regulations in KY and MO; assessment of trout habitat and acquisition of trout streams in MO; study to examine loss of wild trout populations on private lands and an angler opinion survey in NC; research to produce triploid brown and brook trout (using hydraulic pressure) and a line of tetraploid brook trout in NC; hatchery renovations in WV, MO, and TN; evaluation of the efficiency of backpack electrofishing for estimating trout population abundance in NC; *Didymo* in east TN tailwaters (now occurs in four of five); results of a two-year study of wild rainbow trout otoliths from 10 TN streams (longevity about 6 years, agreement between transverse sectioning and grinding to the sagittal midplane preparation methods was 84-99% for ages 0-3, but 20-68% for ages 4-6).

Editor's note: Several members noted that the location of the 2006 meeting, along with the food, hospitality of the hosts (Darryl Bowman and other AGFC staff), and fishing quality were superb. Thanks to all the Arkansas folks for a memorable meeting.



Trout Committee Chair Matt Kulp (right) is assisted by Jim Habera in releasing a nice White River brown trout caught at night during the 2006 meeting at Gaston's Resort.



**2007**

Spring meeting location: Devil's Fork State Park, SC

Dates: May 8-9, 2007

Chair: Mike Shingleton (West Virginia Division of Natural Resources)

Attendees: See photo



Trout Committee members at the 2007 meeting at Devils' Fork State Park, SC (left to right): Ryan Hostetler (guest), Monte Seehorn, Lee Keefer (GA), Dan Rankin (SC), John Boaz (FWA), Doug Besler (NC), Mike Kruse (MO), Jeff Durniak (GA), Mike Shingleton (WV), Dave Dreves (KY), and Jim Habera (TN). Hugh Barwick, Dave Coughlan, and Bill Foris (Duke Energy) are not pictured but also attended.

Topics and issues: Update from SDAFS secretary treasurer Dave Coughlan, including AFS survey seeking information on how to respond to disasters such as Hurricane Katrina; AC/DC gear comparison study update (no significant differences in capture efficiencies); Eastern Brook Trout Joint Venture update (13 of 17 states have developed conservation strategies); Trout Committee "Distinguished Service Award" subcommittee created to identify deserving candidates and make awards (members: J. Habera, past Chair, and Chair-elect; \$300 annual budget); discussion of Aquis trials (suspended until at least spring of 2008) and possible SDAFS resolution supporting acceptance of this fish anesthetic; updating tailwater assessments for SARP (and SARP / National

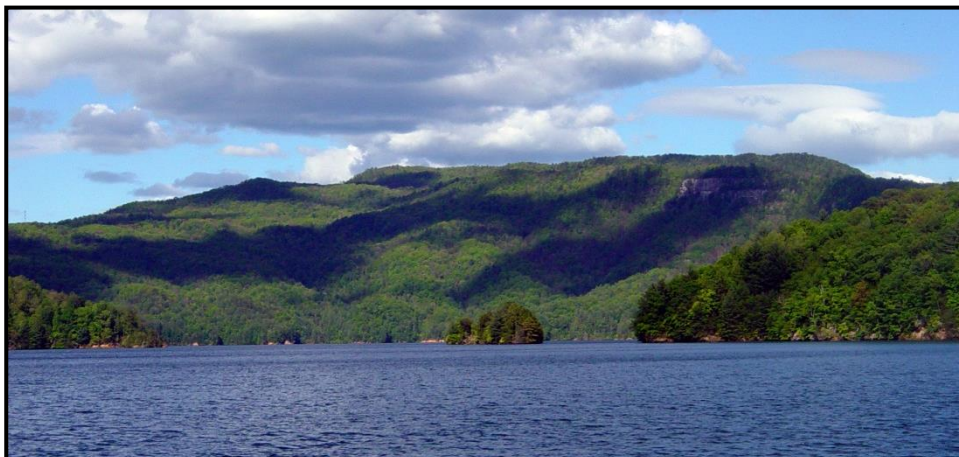




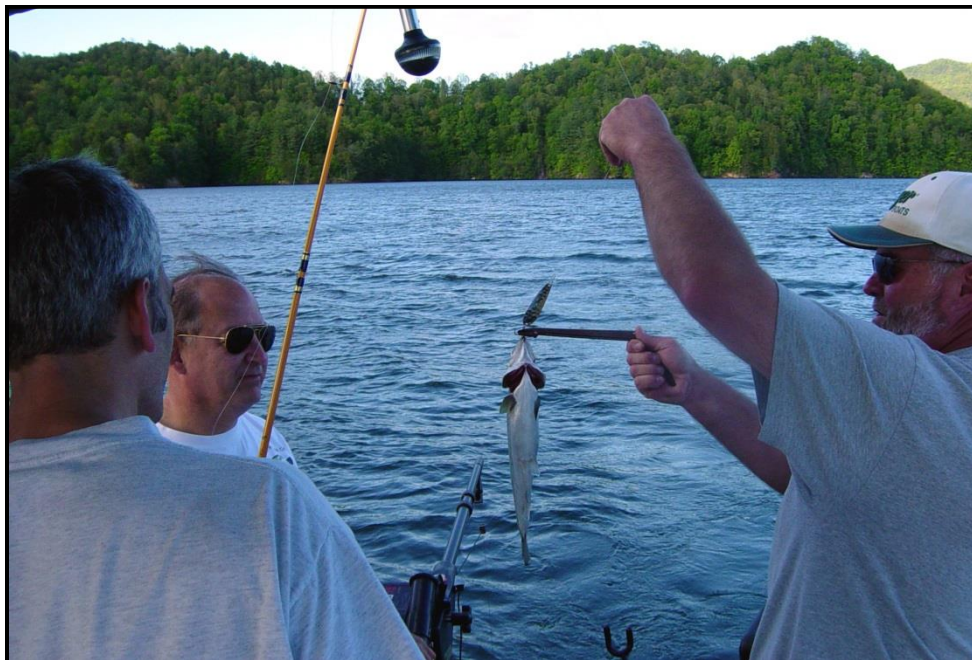
Fish Habitat Initiative relationship); propagation of southern Appalachian brook trout by the Tennessee Aquarium for restocking efforts by various agencies (consensus was that this is unnecessary); J. Williams (AR) elected treasurer and D. Rankin (SC) voted in as Chair-elect; 2008 Trout Committee meeting to be hosted by D. Besler in NC (Asheville vicinity).

Presentations: Hugh Barwick (Duke Energy) discussed Lake Jocassee and the Duke Energy / SC DNR's MOU. This is a formal agreement resulting from the need to study the reservoir and is part of the mitigation for entrainment caused by the Bad Creek Pumped Storage Project. The MOU includes an annual budget of ~\$250,000 provided to SC DNR for monitoring, research, modeling of fish populations and operating processes, and trout production. Bill Foris (Duke Energy) gave a presentation on Lake Jocassee's pelagic trout habitat during 1973-2006 and Dave Coughlan (Duke Energy) described forage fish population monitoring in Lake Jocassee. Monte Seehorn (USFS, retired) discussed steam buffer widths (what is adequate?) in relation to implications in a study of changes in riparian buffer protection for GA's trout streams. Ryan Hostetler (MO Department of Conservation) presented the visual trout habitat classification system used to classify MO streams.

Roundtable highlights: Statewide trout habitat inventory (MO); new delayed harvest trout fisheries in MO and GA; hatchery renovations in MO and WV; brook trout restorations, distribution, and genetic analyses in SC, GA, NC, and TN; habitat improvement projects in MO, SC, and WV; drought effects on hatchery operations in GA; creel survey and angler opinion surveys in NC; effects of stocked trout on native fish communities and loss of wild trout populations on private lands in NC; efficiency of depletion-sampling removal estimates in NC streams; triploid trout production in NC; *Didymo* update, new reservoir trout research focus, and tailwater updates for TN; leak at Wolf Creek Dam (KY) and associated management concerns/research projects; development of a statewide trout management plan in KY; expansion of stream mileage treated with limestone sand to mitigate for acidic deposition and contention over addition of wilderness areas to Monongahela National Forest in WV; encouraging renewed participation in the Trout Committee by agencies that have historically been involved but have not recently attended meetings (all).



Accommodations for the 2007 SDAFS Trout Committee meeting were located on picturesque Lake Jocassee.



Several members enjoyed an afternoon of trolling for trout on Lake Jocassee with an area guide.



2008

Spring meeting location: Pisgah Center for Wildlife Education, Brevard, NC

Dates: May 6-7, 2008

Chair: Dave Dreves (Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources)

Attendees: See photo



Trout Committee members and guests at the 2008 meeting held at the Pisgah Center for Wildlife Education in Brevard, NC (left to right): Mike Shingleton (WV), Dave Dreves (KY), John Boaz (FWA), Doug Besler (NC), Lori Stroup (USFS-NC), Dan Rankin (SC), Steve Moore (NPS), Jeanne Riley (USFS-SC), Alan Heft (MD), Larry Mohn (VA), Jim Habera (TN), Matt Kulp (NPS), Lee Keefer (GA), James Civiello (MO), Monte Seehorn, Jack Van Deventer (guest), Mike Kruse (MO), Jeff Williams (AR), and Jason Henegar (TN). Sheryl Bryan (USFS) and Mallory Martin (NC) are not pictured but also attended.

Topics and issues: AC/DC electrofishing gear comparison study update (manuscript has been accepted conditionally by the North American Journal of Fisheries Management pending revision; Committee approved up to \$750 to pay for publication costs anticipated in 2009); Eastern Brook Trout Joint Venture (EBTJV) update (members met in WV in April 2008 where regional work groups—North, mid-Atlantic, and South—were established to better focus on similar conservation needs within those areas); federal agency membership issues (waning attendance by USFS, USFWS, and TVA); presentation of Distinguished Service Awards to Larry Mohn (25 years), John



Boaze (30 years), and Monte Seehorn (40 years); *Didymo* survey conducted by Steve Moore (VA, KY, TN, AR, and MD currently have it in tailwaters), along with NPS efforts to educate anglers in Great Smoky Mountains National Park about how to minimize its spread (and that of other invasive aquatic nuisance species); updating the Trout Committee website (including a current membership roster and proceedings document, a list of officers, and Committee-related links); Aqwi-S update (FDA approval now very unlikely); Alan Heft (MD) nominated and voted in as Chair-elect; 2009 Trout Committee meeting to be hosted by L. Mohn and S. Reeser in VA.

Presentations: Alan Heft (MD DNR) discussed implications of catch-and-release regulations for brook trout in the Savage River watershed in western MD. The connectivity of the 16 streams there make this the state's only truly intact watershed for brook trout. Despite this, not all brook trout populations in the Savage watershed are at historic or optimum densities. Alan noted a positive correlation between brook trout density and distance from roads and access points, as well as an increase in density related to protection provided by a delayed harvest area. Consequently, after much consideration, the DNR changed from a 2-fish creel limit to catch-and-release and will monitor for five years. Preliminary data indicate some slight increases in brook trout densities in response to the regulation change. Other presentations included Development of Trout Management Plans for the Bull Shoals and Norfolk Tailwaters (J. Williams, AR); Wolf Creek Dam Repairs and the Drought of 2007 (D. Dreves, KY); and Giving the Hellbender a Helping Hand (MO captive propagation program, J. Civiello, MO).

Tour: The Committee enjoyed a tour of the Bobby Setzer Hatchery and the Pisgah Center for Wildlife Education following lunch in May 6.

Roundtable highlights: Drought impacts on trout streams and hatcheries in GA, TN, GRSM, and SC; brook trout restoration/introduction projects in GA, VA (small limestone streams), GRSM (8 miles of Lynn Camp Prong), NC, SC, and TN (Norris tailwater); brook trout genetics and distribution inventories in VA and NC, development impacts on trout streams in VA, NC, and AR; OHV impacts and conflicts between users and anglers in the Tellico River watershed (NC/TN); litigation related to removal of a hydroelectric dam on the Tuckasegee River; discovery of rusty crayfish in MD and resultant proposal to ban all bait fishing; eight GRSM streams on 303-D list of impaired waters because of low pH caused by atmospheric deposition; new slot limit regulations on Norris tailwater in TN and delayed harvest regulations in MO; slot limit evaluation in AR; acid mine drainage issues and mitigation projects (including limestone sand application) in WV; trout angler opinion surveys, economic impact of trout fishing; effects of stocked trout on native fish communities, and triploid trout production/use in NC; brown trout strain evaluation in the Cumberland Tailwater (KY); cooperative, quantitative sample of Slickrock Creek (TN, NC, USFS, NPS) development of new trout stocking rate guidelines in MO; impacts from high flows in AR tailwaters; and zebra mussels in MO and AR.



The Trout Committee's first Distinguished Service Awards were presented to (left to right) John Boaze (30 years), Larry Mohn (25 years), and Monte Seehorn (40 years) at the 2008 meeting. The Committee proudly acknowledges their outstanding service and the contributions each has made during their long tenures. Well done, John, Larry and Monte!



2009

Spring meeting location: Meadow Lane Lodge, Warm Springs, VA

Dates: April 27-29, 2009

Chair: Dan Rankin (South Carolina Department of Natural Resources)

Attendees: See photo



Trout Committee members and guests at the 2009 meeting held at Meadow Lane Lodge in Warm Springs, VA. Front row, left to right: Seth Coffman (TU), James Civiello (MO), Larry Mohn (VA), Dave Demarest (guest, Shenandoah NP), Pam Kirk (guest, USFS), Paul Bugas (guest, VA). Standing, left to right: Jeb Wofford (Shenandoah NP), Mark Hudy (USFS), Alan Heft (MD), Dave Dreves (KY), Jack Van Deventer (guest), Steve Moore (NPS), Dan Rankin (SC), Steve Reeser (VA), Jason Hallacher (VA, guest), Robert Humston (Washington & Lee Univ., guest), Jim Habera (TN), Steve Owens (VA, guest), Eric Wooding (VA, guest), Bud LaRoche (VA, guest), Aaron Coffman (VA, guest), Jeff Williams (AR).

Topics and issues: AC/DC electrofishing gear comparison study update – North American Journal of Fisheries Management (NAJFM) Associate Editor has requested revisions to the paper that will require it to focus on the three-pass depletion efficiency – and implications for updating the Trout Committee electrofishing protocol; Eastern Brook Trout Joint Venture (EBTJV) update (seven regional conservation strategy objectives to be achieved by 2012 and development of an annually updated master list to work from southern workgroup); time for East Coast Trout Management and Culture Workshop V, as East Coast IV was held at Lock Haven, PA, in 2005 (June of 2012 was



suggested, but no official action was taken); Jeff Williams (AR) was nominated for another term as treasurer and unanimously elected; Jeb Wofford (Shenandoah National Park) was unanimously voted in as Chair-Elect; location of the 2010 Committee meeting was confirmed for Bennett Spring State Park in Lebanon, MO on April 26-28; Alan Heft (MD) offered to host the 2011 meeting at the Savage River Lodge near Frostburg in western Maryland.

Editor's note:

The Committee later agreed to move its 2010 meeting to Asheville, NC in conjunction with the SDAFS Spring Meeting and EBTJV Southern Work Group meeting being held there during February 25-27 (with the location of the 2011 meeting to be determined in Asheville).

Presentations: Jack Van Deventer (MicroFish) reviewed the distribution and current worldwide use of MicroFish 3.0 (for Windows) and provided a preview of MicroFish 4.0 for Excel. Paul Bugas (VA) described a quantitative assessment of *Didymo* underway on the Jackson River. Some preliminary results were that peak abundance was in May/June, there is some relationship between *Didymo* density and water temperature/clarity, *Didymo* increases were independent of flow, and macroinvertebrate taxa richness and EPT taxa declined post-invasion. Mark Hudy (USFS) discussed the impacts of climate change on brook trout survival, pointing out that the biggest threat to brook trout continues to be human influence on their habitat (e.g., development). More brook trout habitat will be lost from human-caused habitat impacts than from what is predicted for climate change. Tim King (USFWS) gave a brook trout genetics update using case studies involving his microsatellite DNA work and suggested that the brook trout management paradigm is changing—we as managers may need to look at management from the perspective of individual streams. JoAnne Davis (VA Tech) provided an update of her genetics work on brook trout in Virginia, including the finding that past stocking of northern strain brook trout has “polluted” the native southern strain of brook trout in some systems.

Tour: A tour of the Coursey Springs Fish Culture Station under construction in Williamsville, VA was provided on April 28. This will be a state-of-the-art coldwater culture facility.

Roundtable highlights: Restoration of extirpated brook trout populations in spring creeks and evaluation of stocked trout survival (VA); development of trout stocking and statewide management plans, continued repairs to Wolf Creek Dam and declines in trout growth rates and catch rates for fish >15” due to warm water temperatures in lower half of tailwater (KY); fish health testing and hatchery bio-security plans/needs, preparation of draft trout stocking/ allocation plan, and high water effects on hatchery trout production (MO); wild trout biomass reduction (~50%) related to recent drought, elimination of rainbow trout upstream of new barrier on L. Prong Hampton Creek, establishment of brook trout fisheries in the Norris and Center Hill tailwaters, and new management plans for the Wilbur and South Holston tailwaters (TN); Lynn Camp Prong brook trout restoration update, preparation of a procedure manual for use of antimycin in restoration projects, and water quality evaluations to document Clean Water Act violations, especially low pH in brook trout streams (GSMNP); use of DNA markers to determine brook trout “family” status in first order VA



streams and development of a passive fish tag detector strip for placement on stream beds (USFS); Homeland Rivers Initiative and “Trout in the Classroom project (TU); assessment of existing coldwater fisheries database, reassessment of fish sampling protocol, and survey of all streams known to support fish (Shenandoah NP); reduction in angling pressure on tailwaters because of high flows and change to stocking of fingerling brook trout in tailwaters because of poor growth of stocked adult ( $\geq 11$ ”) rainbow trout (AR); controversy regarding wade angler access to navigable waters, proposed project to restore habitat in brook trout streams on Jocassee Forest, expansion of delayed harvest areas, and bioenergetics and triploid brown trout assessments in Lake Jocassee (SC); *Didymo* infestation in Gunpowder River and presence in Savage River, assessment of no-kill brook trout regulations in Savage River and efforts to address misguided opposition (MD).



The Trout Committee met in the restored granary at Meadow Lane Lodge along the Jackson River in Warm Springs, VA.



Steve Moore (NPS) enjoys an afternoon of trout fishing in the Jackson River at the 2009 SDAFS Trout Committee meeting.



The Jackson River at Meadow Lane Lodge offered meeting attendees some excellent fishing opportunities for rainbow and brook trout. Many thanks to our VA hosts for their outstanding hospitality and for providing such a fine venue for the 2009 meeting!





## 2010

Meeting location: Asheville, NC (in conjunction with the SDAFS Spring meeting)

Dates: February 25, 2010

Chair: Alan Heft (Maryland Department of Natural Resources)

Attendees: Alan Heft, MD; Jeb Wofford, NPS; Jason Henegar and Jim Habera, TN; Larry Mohn, VA; Doug Besler and Jake Rash, NC; Lorie Stroup and Sheryl Bryan, USFS; Steve Moore, NPS; Ron Brooks, KY (for Dave Dreves) (members). Michael Shepherd, Gary Grossman (Univ. of GA), Keith McGilvray (USFWS), Leigh McDougal, Callie McMunigal (USFWS), and Matt Sell (guests).

Topics and issues: Electrofishing gear/depletion sampling accuracy study update (publication in NAJFM expected in 2010); EBTJV update (goals and conservation strategy reviewed at November 2009 meeting at Cacapon State Park in WV, three regions identified in the conservation strategy compressed into two regions – no mid-Atlantic, still seeking to meet regional numerical objectives by 2012, 12 projects fully funded in 2010 but large number of new partnerships coming online will make future funding dependent upon documenting progress to date); updating Committee website; future meeting locations (tentatively MD in 2011, Great Smoky Mountains National Park in 2012, and the SDAFS Spring Meeting in Nashville in 2013); nomination/election of new Chair-Elect (Jake Rash – NCWRC – was unanimously elected); MicroFish update (Jack Van Deventer plans to provide a demonstration of the updated software at the 2011 meeting and his travel will be supported the Committee); East Coast Trout Management and Culture Workshop V (potentially in June of 2012 at Frostburg State campus in MD); Wild Trout X to be hosted in West Yellowstone on Sept. 28-30, 2010--abstract submissions due by April 1<sup>st</sup> (to Doug Besler or Kevin Meyer at ID Fish and Game).

Roundtable highlights: Continuing drought-related depression (~50%) of wild trout biomass in TN streams, with rainbow trout impacted more substantially than brook trout in sympatric populations, resumption of brook trout restoration project on Sycamore Creek (Tellico River tributary), brook trout genetic assessments (e.g., for positive assortative mating), and new reciprocal agreement between TN and VA to allow anglers from either state to fish South Holston Reservoir by purchasing a permit (TN); generally poor trout recruitment in VA related to poor groundwater recharge, Coursey Springs hatchery renovation nearly complete (will increase trout production from 250k lbs to about 350k lbs.), and performance evaluation of Chamber Creek strain steelhead stocked in Lake Moomaw (VA); trout distribution surveys projected to be complete in NC in 2010 (590 brook trout populations identified to date with 478 genetically typed—38% southern, 10% northern, 52% mixed), economic impact of trout management program in NC (estimated to be \$174 million), and revision of NC's trout management plan with implementation projected for 2011 (NC); seven habitat restoration projects implemented recently via wood additions and riparian



vegetation work, culvert removals for aquatic organism passage (AOP) and implementation of an EBTJV project to remove a barrier in the Tellico drainage, and closure of the Tellico OHV area (USFS); depression of trout populations across GRSM despite relatively good stream flows (high 2009 spring flows detrimental to reproduction), progress of Lynn Camp Prong brook trout restoration (some additional rainbow trout removal was needed, 2,000 brook trout from three source streams introduced, slight reduction in Northern strain alleles detected in some brook trout populations, and 11 streams listed as impaired by acid deposition (GRSM); completion of KY's trout stocking management plan now a priority (brook trout to be added in 2011), continued repairs to Wolf Creek Dam (KY), and relatively poor tailwater fishing below the dam in 2009 (trout size and numbers down from prior years); electrofishing surveys completed on numerous small streams at the Shenandoah National Park boundary with discovery of several "new" small brook trout populations (all perennial streams in the park have now been checked for fish), and Park staff to clean all gear used in aquatic surveys when moving between watersheds (spurring a discussion about which agencies are cleaning gear, what methods are used, which non-felt boots work, etc.); research at UGA (G. Grossman) to assess the effects of stocked RBT on nongame fish habitat use (water column fishes were most affected); *Didymo* now present in the Gunpowder and Savage rivers, devastation of the trout fishery in the lower Savage River related to a sediment pulse caused by drainage of the associated reservoir in 2009 for dam repairs, variable effects of relatively new "no kill" regulations on the trout fishery above the reservoir (a mortality and movement study via PIT and radio tags is being planned), continued presence of whirling disease *M. cerebralis* in the N. Branch Potomac – closure of the hatchery of origin, rehab of another infected hatchery at a tremendous cost, and success of alternative "open house" meetings (where biologists and information posters were spread around a room and the public could freely wander around to pick up information or discuss problem issues) for fish regulation changes and other contentious public meetings (MD).



2011

Meeting location: New Germany State Park. MD

Dates: April 5-6, 2011

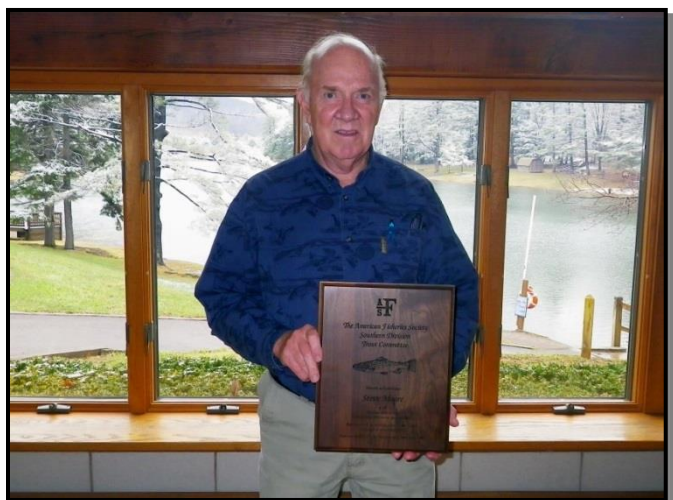
Chair: Jeb Wofford (NPS/Shenandoah National Park)

Attendees: See photo



Trout committee members attending the 2011 meeting held at New Germany State Park, MD (left to right): Alan Heft (MD), Matt Sell (MD), Tom Whelan (representing MO), Mark Hudy (USFS), Jim Habera (TN), Jeb Wofford (NPS/SHEN), Jeff Williams (AR), Steve Moore NPS/GRSM), Larry Mohn,(VA), and Mike Shingleton,(WV). Guests (not pictured) were Karen Knotts (MD) and Alan Klotz (MD). Thanks to our MD hosts for the great hospitality, food...and snow. Steve Moore (below) received the Committee's Distinguished Award for 25 years of service—congratulations Steve and well done!

Topics and issues: Publication of Committee-supported electrofishing gear/depletion sampling accuracy study in North American Journal of Fisheries Management in May 2010; need/direction for revision of Committee's standardized sampling procedures (J. Habera and S. Moore to survey membership regarding quantitative sampling objectives and methodologies used by their respective agencies); Committee website and MicroFish 4.0 updates; planning for East Coast





Trout Management and Culture Workshop V to be held in June 2012 at Frostburg State University in Frostburg, MD; review of policies (by state/agency) for controlling the spread or introduction of aquatic nuisance species (ANS)—felt soles on waders now banned in MD and a ban is under consideration in MO; Distinguished Service Awards were presented to Steve Moore and Jeff Durniak for their 25 years of service and contributions to the Committee—thanks and well done Steve and Jeff; Matt Sell (MD) was nominated and approved as Chair-elect; 2012 Committee meeting to be held in conjunction with East Coast V in Frostburg, MD in June 2012.

Presentations: Dr. Bob Hilderbrand (UMCES) summarized monitoring efforts in the upper Savage River watershed (MD) following establishment of catch-and-release, artificial lures only regulations to address declines in adult brook trout abundance. Low recruitment related to environmental factors made it difficult to identify any positive effects associated with the restrictive regulations. Matt Sell (MD) reviewed an ongoing study of brook trout seasonal movement patterns in Savage River watershed streams using PIT-tagged fish and radio telemetry. Steve Moore (NPS/GRSM) described work toward developing total maximum daily loads (TMDLs) for pH-impaired streams in the Park. The Smokies get some of the highest sulfate and nitrate loads of any National Park in the U.S. and in 2006, 12 streams (~42 miles) were included in TN's 303(d) list because of low pH. Alan Klotz (MD) gave an overview of the Savage River restoration project, which addressed impacts related to draining of Savage Reservoir for replacement of emergency spill gates at the dam. During drainage of the reservoir in January 2010, sediment deposits 2-3 feet deep accumulated in places in the tailwater (Savage River) and were flushed out with 4,500 cfs flow once the reservoir was refilled in March 2010. Post-project evaluation of the river in 2010 determined that all fish species were present, although adult brook trout abundance was 19% lower and few YOY brook trout were present.

Roundtable highlights: Revision of trout management plan for White River, assessment of growth and mortality of stocked trout using batch marks, and inception of minimum flows on North Fork of the White River (AR); *Didymo* discovered in lower Savage River / felt-soled wader ban, and study of woody debris in streams and rivers (MD); wild trout abundance remains below normal (and in some cases at lowest levels observed during past 20 years) because of recent drought conditions, Sycamore Creek brook trout restoration, results of PLRs (slot limits) on South Holston and Norris tailwaters, new one-day fishing licenses, and two new delayed harvest areas on Hiwassee River and Piney River (TN); new catch-and-release regulation (Shaver's Fork) and stream restoration program (WV); stream monitoring protocols and 2010 results, including brook trout year class failure (NPS/SHEN); consideration of felt-soled wader and other *Didymo* control measures, bio-security plans at hatcheries (including requirement that all live fish, eggs, and gametes from salmonids be certified as parasitic copepod-free), and evaluation of multiple strains of rainbow trout in the Eleven Point River (MO); *Didymo* now present in all tailwater trout fisheries, agency reorganization, attempts to produce triploid trout, and new regulations (including a 12"-16" slot limit) on the Jackson River (VA); re-treatment of Lynn Camp Prong to remove illegally reintroduced rainbow trout and otter predation on trout (NPS/GRSM); trout resource and brook trout genetics inventories



continue—>600 brook populations identified (38% southern Appalachian, 10% northern, 52% mixed), trout management plan revision, and investigation of persistence and movement of stocked trout—particularly in delayed harvest fisheries (NC).



*Dr. David Neely*



2012

Meeting location: Frostburg State University, Frostburg, MD (in conjunction with the East Coast Trout Culture and Management Workshop V)

Date: June 11, 2012

Chair: Jake Rash (North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission)

Attendees: Jeb Wofford (NPS), Matt Kulp (NPS), Steve Reeser (VA), Gary Grossman (UGA), John Damer (GA), Dan Rankin (SC), Steve Moore (NPS), Casey Weathers (PSU), Scott Cornett (NY), Jeff Williams (AR), Doug Besler (NC), Chris Wood (NC), Mike Shingleton (WV), Tom Whelan (MO), Tom Oldham (WV), Seth Coffman (TU), and Scott Sellers (USFWS)

Topics and issues: Results of survey of member agencies regarding quantitative stream sampling methods indicated no need to update the Committee's standardized sampling protocol document, but consider reduced spatial scales for cooperative monitoring efforts (e.g., adjacent agencies); MicroFish version 4 under development by Jack Van Deventer and may be ready by end of 2012 (for \$150 fee); alternative software (Program Capture) for calculating population estimates from electrofishing data has a steep learning curve, but is free.

Roundtable highlights: Suspension of trout and catfish stocking from Pot Shoals Net Pen Facility in Bull Shoals Reservoir due to potential zebra mussel veliger contamination, implementation of minimum flows for Bull Shoals (800 cfs) and Norfolk (300 cfs) tailwaters, evaluation of McConaughy strain rainbow trout and the Greers Ferry tailwater wild brown trout fishery (AR); workforce reductions and reorganization of fisheries management regions/responsibilities, elimination of brown trout stocking in Buford tailwater (Chattahoochee River), assessment of brown trout (Chattahoochee River) and rainbow trout (Toccoa River) population dynamics, and evaluation of 335 habitat enhancement structures in 32 streams brook (GA); contract with Syracuse University to determine historic ANC levels and reductions in sulfates and nitrates necessary for 41 miles of impaired streams to recover and meet Clean Water Act criteria, annual monitoring of population dynamics in 16 brook trout streams (NPS/GRSM); ban on felt-soled wading boots and reduced trout production because of low water levels (MO); continuing wild trout distribution and brook trout genetic inventories, development/implementation of new trout management plan, renewal of long-term monitoring efforts for wild trout, stocked trout evaluations in various waters (NC); analysis of long-term monitoring data, fishing guides required to have permits, brook trout genetics inventory (NPS/SHEN); FERC relicensing on lakes Murray and Jocassee, evaluation of triploid brown trout and chop-and-drop habitat improvement (SC); new brook trout distribution surveys (41 streams complete, loss of 18.4 km in 15 streams), completion of brook trout genetic inventory; Sycamore Creek brook trout restoration; success or Norris tailwater slot limit, proposal to revise special wild trout regulations (TN); hiring of stream habitat biologist, riparian buffer enhancement on spring creeks, St. Marys River liming project (TU); research on influence of



density-dependent mechanisms on brook trout populations and microhabitat use by fishes (UGA); temperature monitoring in coldwater streams, increased stocking of triploid trout, brook trout restoration projects (including those through EBTJV), steelhead stocking in Jackson River/Lake Moomaw, interactive GIS map for use by anglers to locate wild and stocked trout waters (VA); low stream flows, upper Shavers Fork brook trout restoration project, application of limestone sand to 344 miles of stream, new license for seniors—one-time fee of 15\$ (WV).



## 2013

Meeting location: Sheraton Hotel, Nashville, TN (in conjunction with the SDAFS Spring meeting)

Date: February 7, 2013

Chair: Matt Sell (Maryland Department of Natural Resources)

Attendees: Matt Sell (MD), Matt Kulp (NPS), Patrick O'Rourke (GA); Jim Burroughs (OK); Tom Whelan and Jeff Koppelman (MO); Jeff Williams, Paul Port, and Christy Graham (AR); Chris Wood (NC); Andy Dolloff (USFS SRS/VA Tech); Brian R. Murphy, SDAFS President; David Dreves (KY); Jim Habera, Rob Lindbom, Jason Henegar, and Travis Scott (TN). No quorum—only 8 of required 10 voting members present.

Topics and issues: An SDAFS update was provided by President Brian Murphy, including EXCOM's proposal to appoint technical committee members to two-year terms to reduce confusion regarding membership status; MicroFish update—Jack Van Deventer still hoping for a new release in 2013; S. Moore, J. Habera, and Tim King to update the genetics section(s) in the Committee's Southern Appalachian Brook Trout Position paper in *Fisheries*; discussion of need for long-term water quality monitoring (i.e. chemistry and temperature), including the new Southeast Monitoring Network (SEMN) led by Debbie Arnwine (TN Dept. of Environment and Conservation, 615-532-0703, [debbie.arnwine@tn.gov](mailto:debbie.arnwine@tn.gov)) with the goal of providing long term fish, benthos, water quality, hydrology and water temperature data at standardized sites in each state (sites already selected); possible uses for TC funds (treasury now at \$5,725.19), including financial support for Van Deventer to complete MicroFish update; use of hand-held computers in the field (most of group still using paper); J. Williams nominated to sixth term as treasurer and J. Habera nominated for Chair-elect (no vote due to lack of quorum); discussion on holding 2014 Trout Committee meeting in MO.

Presentations: J. Henegar provided an update on the production of southern Appalachian brook trout at Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency's Tellico Hatchery; M. Kulp gave an overview of current information regarding assortative mating by brook trout and proposed brook trout speciation.

Roundtable highlights: Brook trout life history project, Savage River brook trout movement study, creel survey, and genetic analysis, Big Run Large Woody Debris Project (MD); vital signs monitoring (water, inverts, and fish along elevational gradient matched up with lysimeter, soil, forest ecology, air and other metrics, biotic effects study (acute/chronic toxicity of inverts and fish to pH, ANC, Al and other metals, acid deposition/TMDL status (12 GRSM streams listed as





impaired due to mean pH <6.0 in 2006), brook trout metapopulation investigation, Lynn Camp Prong brook trout restoration (NPS/GSMNP); wild trout monitoring, brook trout habitat project, Chattahoochee River brown trout population dynamics study, Toccoa River trout fishery recovery from dam impacts (GA); brook trout distribution survey and genetic inventory, Trout Management Plan revision, long-term wild trout monitoring, persistence and movement of stocked trout, contribution of stocked trout in Apalachia Reservoir, evaluation of advanced fingerling brown trout stockings in Bridgewater Tailrace (NC); Cumberland Tailwater update (Wolf Creek Dam repairs nearing completion), 2013 trout angler survey, Hatchery Creek update—expect to break ground in late spring/early summer 2013, fishable in fall 2013, (KY); FINS (Fishing in Neighborhoods) program, Trout Management Plan—Phase I actions including a standardized re-allocation of trout stockings in all waters based on the parameters use, access, and size (KY); minimum flows on Bull Shoals and Norfolk Tailwaters—implementation nearing fruition, stocking restrictions on the lower 8 miles of the Greers Ferry Tailwater and the lower 30 miles of the Bull Shoals Tailwater in 2012 in response to water temperatures approaching 80° F (resulting from minimal releases coupled with a prolonged period of air temperatures in excess of 100° F, growth and survival study of Greers Ferry Tailwater trout (AR); brook trout distribution surveys and genetics inventory, Sycamore Creek brook trout restoration project, establishment of a native, southern Appalachian brook trout population in the Nolichucky watershed (none currently there), wild trout regulation changes, including elimination of statewide 6-inch minimum size limit for brook trout (TN); Eleven Point River (Blue Ribbon Trout Management Area) strain study, Maramec Spring Hatchery parasitic copepod study, *Didymo* control—the Missouri Department of Conservation has banned the use of porous-soled waders or footwear incorporating or having attached a porous sole of felted, matted, or woven fibrous material when fishing in trout parks and other specific trout waters, Zebra Mussel control (MO).

Follow-up Teleconference: Because a quorum was not present at the official meeting held in Nashville on February 7, 2013, Chairman Sell decided to hold a special teleconference on February 20, 2013 to formally approve business conducted at that meeting. Participants were Matt Sell, Alan Heft, Jeff Williams, Tom Whelan, Jim Habera, Patrick O'Rourke, Larry Mohn, Jake Rash, Andy Dolloff, Dave Dreves, Matt Kulp, and John Damer. During this teleconference, the 2012 meeting minutes were accepted and the nominations of Jim Habera for Chair-elect and Jeff Williams as treasurer during 2014 were approved. A short discussion of locations for the 2014 Trout Committee meeting was also held, with Roaring River and Bennett Springs State Parks in MO emerging as the primary options. Bennett Springs was ultimately chosen via a poll of the membership and a three-day meeting will be scheduled there in mid-May 2014.



2014

Meeting location: Bennett Spring State Park, Lebanon, MO

Date: May 13-14, 2014

Chair: Matt Kulp (National Park Service, Great Smoky Mountains National Park)

Attendees: See photo. Alan Heft (MD) joined the business meeting by conference call, providing a quorum of 10 members.





Trout committee members attending the 2014 meeting at Bennett Spring State Park, MO (left to right): John Damer (GA), Christy Graham (AR), Spence Turner, Jim Habera (TN), Jake Rash (NC), Mike Shingleton,(WV), Matt Kulp (NPS/GRSM), Tom Whelan (MO), Dave Dreves (KY), James Civiello (MO), and guest Mike Mitchell (MO). Other guests from MO (not pictured) were Bruce Drecktran and Craig Fuller. Thanks to our MDC and Bennett Spring State Park staff hosts for the great meeting.

Topics and issues: Update on the Committee’s new website and request for comments/suggestions for further improvement (e.g., additional photos or pages); Committee’s Proceedings document updated through 2013; Jack Van Deventer has a beta-version of the EXCEL MICROFISH package ready and wants the Committee to test it—can handle CPUE and mark-recapture data, as well as removal depletions (will cost \$50-100); update to the genetics portion of the Committee’s 2005 position paper on southern Appalachian brook trout management (*Fisheries*) needed given technological advancements/population genetics applications, along with more complete brook trout genetic inventories (Rash, Habera, T. King [USGS], Kulp, Heft, and R. Morgan [UMCES] to work on this); review of Southeast Monitoring Network efforts, which includes some sites in GSMNP, WV; recognition of Steve Moore’s retirement and many years of service to the Committee; recognition of Jeff Williams’ service to the Committee as Treasurer and Christy Graham (AR) for her service as interim Treasurer (Christy will replace Jeff on the Committee as AR’s representative); Mike Mitchell (MO) to replace Tom Whelan (MO) on the Committee next year; discussion about getting more participation at Committee meetings by academic members and other governmental agencies and NGOs (e.g., USFWS, USFS, Eastern Band of Cherokees, WVU, VA Tech., etc.); Christy Graham nominated as Treasurer and elected unanimously; John Damer (GA) nominated as the new Chair-elect approved unanimously; discussion on 2015 Committee meeting, with a tentative location in north GA in May agreed upon.

Roundtable highlights: Brook trout distribution survey results—net loss of 6% (14.1 km) since 1990s, including 10 populations (12.7 km) with distributional ebbs and flows over time, but no systematic loss of brook trout distribution (total of 228.9 km in 103 streams), brook trout restoration/propagation efforts at Sycamore Creek and Left Prong Hampton Creek, and success of 14” – 20” protected length range (PLR) on the Norris tailwater (Clinch River)—90 fish/h in the 2014 sample (TN); recovery of Blue Ridge Tailwater trout fishery following dam rehabilitation project, diet composition of wild brown and stocked rainbow trout in Lanier tailwater (2013



SEAFWA paper), high-flow impacts to catch rates in the Morgan Falls tailwater delayed harvest section, wild trout monitoring/ effects of weak 2012 year class on 2013 abundance, and technical assistance to TU initiative assessing thermal impacts of small impoundments on trout streams (GA); evaluation of stocked trout program/ development of management plan, evaluation of steelhead stocking program in the Jackson River/Lake Moomaw system (limited survival), production (pressure chambers) and use of triploid trout, determination of effective population size wild brook trout, long-term temperature monitoring for 50+ coldwater streams, and assessment of physical habitat changes from in-stream habitat improvement in a wild brook trout stream (VA); brook trout distribution (over 600 populations identified) and genetic inventories (400 populations being analyzed with microsatellite DNA), completion of trout management plan revision, long-term wild trout monitoring , persistence and movement of stocked trout, put-grow-and-take brown trout fishery in Bridgewater Tailrace (thermal bottlenecks), and assessment of angler use on wild trout streams via trail cameras (NC); brook trout morphometrics, assortative mating, and metapopulation studies, evaluation of physiological effects of low stream pH and source stock effective population size (brook trout), relating stream Al concentrations with accumulation of Al in fish otoliths, developing critical loads of nitrate and sulfate, didymo inventory and disinfection protocols, and online creel surveys (NPS/GSMNP); Cumberland tailwater update—repairs on dam nearing completion, dramatic impacts on trout fishery over past 5 years, stocked brook trout doing well (new state records), 2013 Trout Angler Attitude Survey (781 completed), evaluation of experimental seasonal rainbow trout fishery in Cedar Creek Lake, Hatchery Creek update—~6,000 linear feet of natural channel design, expect to break ground in summer 2014/fishable in 2015 (KY); Eleven Point River (Blue Ribbon Trout Management Area) strain study (Fish Lake strain seems to fare a little better than three others), Maramec Spring Hatchery parasitic copepod *Salmincola californiensis* study, didymo education/control (wader wash stations at five trout hatcheries), zebra mussels, and trout allocation and stocking plan (MO); trout management program personnel changes, minimum flows implemented on Bull Shoals (800 cfs) and Norfolk (300 cfs) tailwaters, growth/survival study and creel survey on Greers Ferry tailwater, ongoing creel surveys on Little Missouri River and Ouachita River, survey of Trout Permit holders for updating the statewide trout management in 2015 (AR);

#### Presentations:

- Current Brook Trout Distribution in Tennessee – Jim Habera (TN)
- Eleven Point River Rainbow Trout Strain Evaluation – Andy Turner (MO)
- North Carolina Brook Trout Genetics Summary—Comparison of Historic and Contemporary Molecular Methods to Assess North Carolina’s Brook Trout – Jake Rash (NC)
- Brook Trout Restoration Challenges – Matt Kulp (NPS)
- West Virginia Stream Restoration (Shaver’s Fork video) – Mike Shingleton (WV)



Bennett Spring State Park, MO site of the 2014 SDAFS Trout Committee meeting.



Bennett Spring State Park (one of MO's trout parks) offered meeting attendees some excellent fishing opportunities for rainbow trout, which Jim Habera (upper photo) and Matt Kulp enjoyed while there. Many thanks to the staff at Bennett Spring.



2015

Meeting location: Unicoi State Park, Helen, GA

Date: May 5-6, 2015

Chair: Jim Habera (Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency)

Attendees: See photo.



Trout committee members and guests attending the 2015 meeting at Unicoi State Park, GA (left to right): Front row: John Damer (GA), Christy Graham (AR), Jim Habera (TN), Amy Chastain (SC), and Gary Grossman (UGA). Second row: Yoichiro Kanno (Clemson), Steve Resser (VA), John Lee Thomson (GA), Jeff Durniak (GA), Patrick O'Rourke (GA), and Jake Rash (NC). Back row: Matt Kulp (NPS/GRSM), Mike Mitchell (MO), Tim King (USGS), Dave Kazyak (USGS), and Mike Joyce (USFS). Not pictured: Monte Seehorn. Thanks to the GA DNR and Unicoi State Park staff for hosting our meeting.

Topics and issues:

Committee website update and request suggested improvements/additions (e.g., photos);  
Committee's Proceedings document updated through 2014; MicroFish 4.0 update (expanded



features over 3.0; summer 2015 completion expected); outreach efforts to inactive\ potential new members; publication of current southern Appalachian brook trout population genetics information and update to 2005 position paper on management in *Fisheries*; Distinguished Service Awards were presented to Mark Hudy (30 years) and Mike Shingleton (18 years) for their notable contributions to the Committee—thanks and well done Mark and Mike; Mike Mitchell (MO) was nominated and approved as Chair-elect; 2016 Committee meeting to be held in conjunction with the SDAFS Spring Meeting in Wheeling, WV (February).

Editor's note:

Mike Mitchell was unable to complete his term as Chair-elect because of changing job duties; Tom Whelan (MO) agreed to replace Mike and this was approved by the membership in December 2015.

Roundtable highlights:

**Arkansas:** trout angling permit-holder survey (estimated expenditures ~\$180 million), tailwater creel surveys.

**Great Smoky Mountains National Park:** reopening of Lynn Camp Prong (following Brook Trout restoration), Brook Trout distribution assessment, Brook Trout assortative mating, metapopulation, and low stream pH studies, developing critical loads for nitrate and sulfate, *Didymo* inventory and disinfection protocols, online creel surveys.

**South Carolina:** SARP Grant projects, survival and reproduction of native Brook Trout in three restored streams, “Chop and Drop” habitat enhancement, genetic analysis of 18 Brook Trout populations, survival and growth comparison of diploid and triploid Brown Trout in Lake Jocassee.

**North Carolina:** Gill lice discovered on Brook Trout in several headwater streams of the Cullasaja River, statewide trout angler and landowner survey, movement and survival of trout in delayed harvest streams, use of trail cameras for assessing fishing pressure on small streams.

**Missouri:** wader wash stations at Trout Parks, biosecurity plans at hatcheries, parasitic copepod study at Maramec Hatchery, Eleven Point River Rainbow Trout strain evaluation; statewide trout report (average cost for each trout stocked in 2014 was \$1.86).

**Virginia:** development of a stocked trout management plan, triploid trout production (working toward 100% production of triploid and/or tetraploid trout in coldwater hatchery system), water temperature monitoring (~75 coldwater streams).

**Georgia:** change to a year-round trout season (deemed not biologically necessary to protect Georgia's trout resources), boom or bust cycle in young-of-year abundance and habitat enhancement in Brook Trout streams, new state record Brown Trout (20 lb. 14 oz., 31 ½”), stocking program (~1.1 million trout stocked annually, ~90% Rainbows).

**USFS (Chattahoochee-Oconee NF):** monitoring of trout streams that have received habitat improvements, climate change monitoring stations, experimental liming project.



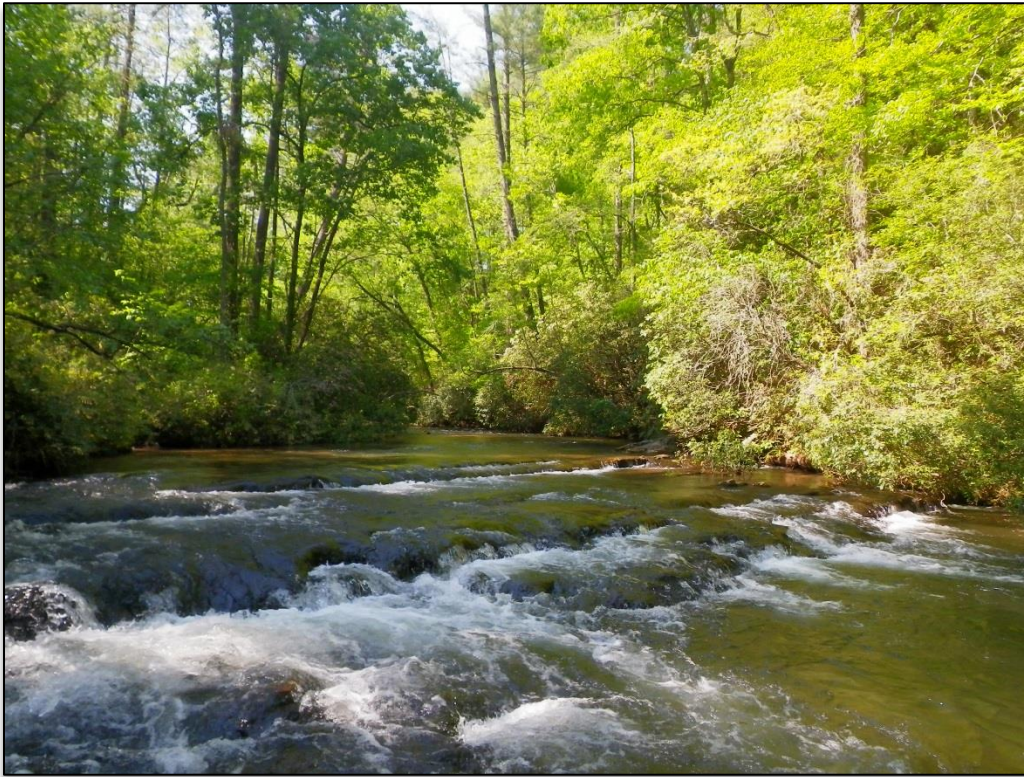


**Tennessee:** Little Stony Creek and future Brook Trout restorations, long-term Boone Lake drawdown and potential effects on downstream tailwater trout fishery, updated management plans for the Norris, South Holston, and Wilbur tailwaters, new license fee increases effective July 1 (guides now required to have a special license).

**Kentucky:** Cumberland tailwater (Wolf Creek Dam repairs completed in 2014), Hatchery Creek project update, Urban Fishing Program (40<sup>th</sup> lake added), new trout regulations.

Presentations (May 6):

- East Tennessee Tailwater Review – Jim Habera
- Emerging Patterns in Brook Trout Population Dynamics Across Sites – Yoichiro Kanno
- Southern Appalachian Brook Trout Genetics Summary – Dave Kazyak
- The Future of Brook Trout Genetics and Genomes – Tim King
- Brook Trout Density Dependence – Dr. Gary Grossman (Univ. of Georgia)



Dukes Creek special trout management area near Unicoi State Park (GA)..



**2016**

Meeting location: Oglebay Resort, Wheeling, WV (in conjunction with the SDAFS Spring meeting)

Date: February 18, 2016

Chair: John Damer (Georgia Dept. of Natural Resources)

Attendees: Members—J. Damer, GA; T. Whelan, MO; J. Habera and J. Henegar, TN; M. Kulp, NPS; M. Sell and A. Heft, MD; B. Kittrel, VA (for S. Reeser); J. Rash, NC; T. King and D. Kazyak, USGS; J. Spaulding, KY, D. Thorne, WV; C. Graham, AR (by phone). Guests—J. Williams and S. Owen, VA; C. Weathers, PSU; S. O'Donnell, OK; K. Hartman, WVU, M. Hudy; J. Van Deventer (MicroFish); C. Landress, USFS; D. Wichterman and S. Coffman, TU.

Topics and issues:

Committee website update and request suggested improvements/additions (e.g., photos); MicroFish 4.0 update and demo; outreach efforts to inactive\ potential new members; southern Appalachian brook trout population genetics project / publication (update to 2005 position paper on management it *Fisheries*); Justin Spaulding (KY) was nominated and approved as Chair-elect; 2017 Committee meeting to be held at Lake Cumberland State Park in Jamestown, KY (May); current biosecurity issues in each state followed by establishment of a biosecurity sub-committee to review what is in place in each state (Rash, Chair); potential East Coast Workshop in 2018. Southern Division President, Dennis Riecke spoke to the TC committee on attending the AFS business meeting and on the promotion of native trout stocks. Dennis mentioned the important work Trout Unlimited does for wild trout populations, as well as the benefits of using the parent society to benefit the TC committee in its operation.

Roundtable highlights:

**Georgia:** Brook Trout sampling and genetics, gill lice and whirling disease monitoring (no observed in 2015), change to a year-round trout season, license restructuring.

**Tennessee:** statewide trout management plan revision (2017-2027), native brook trout propagation and *Didymo* research, tailwater whirling disease screening.

**Missouri:** wader wash stations at Trout Parks, hatchery biosecurity plans, parasitic copepod study at Maramec hatchery, Eleven Point River Rainbow Trout strain evaluation.

**Kentucky:** Hatchery Creek project update, Brook Trout reintroduction (a handful of populations are established and naturally reproducing).

**Virginia:** Stocked Trout Management Plan (draft complete), gill lice screening (none observed in 2015); whirling disease detected in fish from a private hatchery providing fish to NC and VA (stocking authorizations suspended).



**North Carolina:** gill lice and whirling disease monitoring (wild trout populations in 2016), *Didymo* cells detected in Tuckasegee River (first documentation in NC), trout distribution assessment and long-term monitoring efforts, Brook Trout genetics assessment (DNA samples from ~400 populations and > 7,000 individuals being analyzed), persistence and movement of stocked trout research, use of trail cameras to assess angler use of two remote trout streams, evaluation of advanced fingerling brown trout stockings in Bridgewater tailrace.

**Great Smoky Mountains National Park (NPS):** Brook Trout restoration in Anthony Creek (electrofishing) and Little Cataloochee Creek (antimycin), Brook Trout distribution assessment (revisited), assortative mating and metapopulation structure studies (Brook Trout), development of critical loads for nitrate and sulfate, *Didymo* inventory and disinfection protocols (no cells found to date), online creel surveys.

Presentations:

- MicroFish 3.0 / 4.0 updates (Van Deventer)
- Southern Appalachian Brook Trout Genetics Project update (Kazyak and King)

Editor's note:

Justin Spaulding left his position in KY to take a new position in TN with TWRA; however, he maintained his office as Chair-elect of the Trout Committee.



2017

Meeting location: Lake Cumberland State Park / Wolf Creek Nat. Fish Hatchery, Jamestown, KY

Date: May 15-16, 2017

Chair: Tom Whelan (MO)

Attendees: See photo.





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, Jake Rash  
Thanks to the  
es Gray) for

### Topics and issues:

Trout Committee website status (motion approved to migrate the website to SDAFS and pay maintenance fee), new MICROFISH 4.0 update and associated cost (\$90 for TC members), joint TC / East Coast Trout Management and Culture Workshop in 2019; regional biosecurity issues discussion (particularly gill lice, whirling disease, *Didymo*) led by J. Rash (NC) with updates on current issues and monitoring activities provide for each state by corresponding representatives, definition of trout water, “chop and drop” and other instream habitat improvement techniques, and “Kids Only” fishing areas. Matt Sell (MD) was nominated as the new Chair-elect and approved unanimously. Christy Graham (AR) will remain as Treasurer. Christy offered to host the 2018 meeting in AR (Gaston’s).

### Roundtable highlights:

**Missouri:** April 2017 flooding (Montauk Hatchery), wader wash stations at trout parks (no confirmed cases of *Didymo* in MO), Eleven Point River Rainbow Trout strain evaluation (Fish Lake strain performed), “*Plan for Missouri Trout Fishing*” updated in 2016.

**South Carolina:** loss of 60,000 trout at Walhalla State Fish Hatchery (DO and *Columnaris*), Brook Trout genetics results (12 of 18 are native), Brook Trout restoration/ habitat enhancement (27 miles in 10 streams), statewide trout creel limit changed to five fish, seeking to increase the average size of trout stocked in hatchery-supported waters.

**Texas:** ~60 of 150 Community Fishing Lakes stocked with Rainbow Trout in winter, three tailrace fisheries (most popular is Canyon Reservoir Tailrace, Guadalupe River, trout in Canyon Reservoir Tailrace (~10 miles) survive over summer in most years and Brown Trout are being evaluated.

**North Carolina:** Recent Socioeconomic Evaluations (trout anglers), Brook Trout distribution (>700 Brook Trout populations identified), genetics (>7,000 fish from 46 populations), and restoration (three projects planned for 2018), long-term trout monitoring, persistence and movement of stocked trout, winter trout stocking in small impoundments.

**Virginia:** hatchery trout management plan completed in 2016 (Wild Trout plan on ‘back burner’), new youth-only trout waters (April-June) established, reconsidering Opening Day, Steelhead introduction in Lake Moomaw, reassessment of license structure for trout and nonresident anglers.



**Kentucky:** Brook Trout stocking in Parched Corn Creek, considering a statewide 16", 1 fish regulation for Brown Trout, urban fishing lakes (118,000 trout stocked annually in 43), Cumberland Tailwater trout stockings (adding 15" Rainbow Trout and 12" Brown Trout in fall 2017).

**Tennessee:** Brook trout DNA sampling (1,248 fish from 51 populations collected in 2016), Brook Trout restoration/enhancement projects, whirling disease screening, new delayed harvest areas(2), Statewide Trout Management Plan (2017-2027) Draft, Gatlinburg Hatchery destroyed in fire.

**West Virginia:** native Brook Trout distribution and genetics surveys, native Brook Trout hatching /rearing facility, acidified streams program, hatchery production at maximum capacity (\$20 million capital improvements project underway), process underway for a WV's first statewide Trout Management Plan.

**Georgia:** Brook Trout (2016 abundance and habitat improvements), assessment of fire impacts in Cohutta Wilderness streams, UGA Trout Angler Survey, license restructuring, drought impacts at hatcheries (~100,000 fewer fished stocked in 2016).

**Arkansas:** tailwater creel surveys, spring flooding (trout fisheries and hatcheries), Greer's Ferry Tailwater management plan (considering removal of the 16-24 inch protected slot limit), night fishing and chumming restrictions in trout waters.

**USGS:** finished genotyping 360 Brook Trout from 12 streams in SC southwestern VA (fills a major data gap), genotyping ~500 individuals from GSMNP and a potential metapopulation in North Carolina, sibship analysis, development of Brook Trout genetics manuscript.

Presentations:

- KY's FILO (fees in lieu of) program and use of funds for restoration projects (D. Dreves)
- Design of the Hatchery Creek Project(G. Athanasakes)
- The Hatchery Creek Project's technical construction/fish colonization aspects (B. Redmon)
- Biomonitoring of Hatchery Creek comparing the old and new channels (P. Vrablik)

Tours: Wolf Creek National Fish Hatchery and Hatchery Creek



Photos: A Hatchery Creek (KY) reach showing a variety of engineered instream habitats (above) and a Hatchery Creek Rainbow Trout (below).



**2018**

Meeting location: Gaston's White River Resort, Lakeview, AR

Date: May 15, 2018

Chair: Justin Spaulding (TN)

Attendees: See photo.



2018 Trout Committee members at Bull Shoals Dam on the White River, AR. Front row (left to right): Christy Graham (AR), Sally Petre (TN), Brandon Simcox (TN). Around the rail: Kris Nault (AR), Doug Zentner (U. of AR-Pine Bluff), Tom Whelan (MO), J. Casey (USFWS), Jim Habera (TN), Justin Spaulding (TN), David Thorne (WV), Steve Reeser (VA), Kyle Swallow (AR), Matt Kulp (NPS), Ben Batten (AR-Asst. Chief of Fisheries), Nathan Recktenwald (MO), Justin Heflin (KY), and Jake Rash (NC). Matt Sell (MD) participated by phone. Thanks to the AR Game and Fish Commission, Gaston's, and the James A. Gaston Visitor Center at Bull Shoals-White River State Park for hosting our meeting.

Topics and issues:

SDAFS is currently providing the Trout Committee's website at no fee and information on the site has been updated. There is no mechanism yet to pay Jack Van Deventer for the MicroFish 4.0 software; discussion followed regarding how other agencies enter fisheries data in the field or at hatcheries. The Committee agreed to go forward with (and financially support) East Coast Trout Management & Culture Workshop VI at Frostburg, MD, with Matt Sell and Alan Heft (MD) to coordinate with Frostburg State Univ. and Jake Rash, Steve Reeser, and David Thorne to assist. The





2019 TC meeting will be held in conjunction with East Coast VI, possibly with an EBTJV meeting as well. Committee discussions focused on the benefits of working with various non-profit groups, public outreach and associated new challenges (e.g., marketing, social media, and accomplishment of the ‘3 Rs’ of improving angler participation), as well as the trend toward low harvest levels in trout fisheries. David Thorne (WV) was nominated as Chair-elect and the Committee approved unanimously, with Christy Graham remaining as Treasurer. J. Habera announced that Dan Rankin (SC) had been selected to receive the TC’s Distinguished Service Award in recognition of his 25 years of service (including a term as Chair in 2009).

Presentations:

Jake Rash reviewed the impacts of nonnative and invasive fish pathogens to NC’s trout resources and its managers, as well as NC’s WD and gill lice monitoring efforts (movement of infected fish is the main vector for WD). He also suggested that the TC could recommend how wild trout screening could be standardized to ensure comparable results. Members then discussed what biosecurity measures are being taken to prevent the spread of aquatic nuisance species (ANS) in their respective states.

Tom Whelan gave a presentation on the epic April/May 2017 flood at Montauk Trout Park (MO) and its impact on the hatchery there.

Roundtable highlights:

**NPS/Great Smoky Mountains NP:** Anthony Creek and Little Cataloochee Creek Brook Trout restorations (13 streams now restored in GRSM totaling 30.25 miles); assortative mating study (mismatched spawning phenology among restoration founder stocks leading to introgression); mercury levels in fish (Smallmouth Bass may exceed EPA Consumption Criteria of 0.3 ug/g); Chimney Tops fire (no significant impacts to fish or water quality); potential for fishing permit at GRSM.

**North Carolina:** New *Salmincola* spp. (gill lice) threats; *Myxobolus cerebralis* and *Didymo* monitoring; website devoted to aquatic nuisance species (ANS): [www.ncwildlife.org/ANS](http://www.ncwildlife.org/ANS); Brook Trout genetics (406 collections from across NC); trout distribution (over 700 Brook Trout populations identified); long-term trout monitoring; Lake Nantahala Kokanee Salmon population; winter stockings of trout in selected small impoundments; NCWRC Trout Page ([www.ncwildlife.org/trout](http://www.ncwildlife.org/trout)); evaluation of advanced fingerling Brown Trout stockings in Bridgewater Tailrace; trout age and growth assessment; citizen science (with TU); trout habitat enhancement; contribution of stocked Brown Trout and Rainbow Trout in Apalachia Reservoir

**Missouri:** Fish production and stocking rates at trout parks have returned to normal for 2018 (following impacts of epic flooding in 2017); review of Missouri’s trout management program, including blue, red and white ribbon trout management areas recent additions to these, renovation projects at Shepherd of the Hills, Roaring River, Montauk, Maramec Spring, and Bennett Spring



Hatcheries; Private fish hatcheries are now responsible for their own fish health inspections; assistance from private conservation groups; Lake Taneycomo trout fishery.

**Virginia:** VDGIF's new logo and three word mission (Conserve, Connect, Protect); Development of first Wild Trout Management Plan (with key stakeholder committee); wild trout health survey (WD, gill lice, and other pathogens as part of the USFWS wild fish health survey); improvements at hatcheries; wild Brook Trout genetics evaluation (from populations established via re-location of wild fish); long-term stream temperature monitoring (hourly data from 50+ wild trout streams across Virginia); Upper Passage Creek Brook Trout restoration (partnership with USFS and TU).



**Kentucky:** Statewide Brown Trout regulation change (from 1 @ 12 inches to 1 @ 16 inches); enhanced size of Rainbow Trout stocked on 3 streams (increased ¼ of the stocked fish from 9 to 12 inches—positive feedback); new Brown Trout stockings on lakes with holdover capabilities; added a new lake added to the fins (Fishing in the Neighborhood) program (44th lake overall and first privately-owned lake in the program--all are stocked with trout and catfish seasonally); trail camera projects on both FINS lakes and streams to assess use.

**Maryland:** Brook Trout sampling (5-year synoptic assessment of all known historical brook trout populations—more than 400 individual samples); Brook Trout habitat enhancement (e.g., large woody debris project is slated to begin during the summer of 2018 on Big Run in the Savage River watershed); evaluation of thermal resilience in Brook Trout; angler preference surveys (61.5% of Maryland anglers fish for wild trout and stocked trout); socio-economic survey (angling for wild trout contributed \$27,000,000 annually to Maryland's economy); aquaculture/biosecurity issues (Maryland has lost one of its major trout suppliers due to biosecurity issues and more stringent disease control requirements, thus increasing demand on the state hatcheries); Community Outreach (3rd annual youth brook trout fishing clinic in 2018); Brook Trout Program website.

**Tennessee:** Statewide Trout Management Plan for 2017-2027 (finalized and available at [tnwildlife.org](http://tnwildlife.org); includes a native Brook Trout management plan); Brook Trout DNA sampling (collected fin clips from 2,329 fish during 2016-17 representing 91 populations and >75 stream km); gill lice screening (no infected fish were observed among 1,081 fish from 40 streams collected for DNA samples in 2017); Brook Trout restoration/enhancement projects (Stony Creek and Little Jacob Creek projects will add 4 km of allopatric distribution); Myxobolus screening (Myxobolus confirmed in the Wilbur (Watauga River) and South Holston tailwaters; public education campaign is underway); tailwater trout fishery management plans (plans for the remaining three tailwater trout fisheries in east TN are being developed); new delayed harvest (DH) areas (regulations on Buffalo Creek in Grainger Co. and Doe River in Carter Co. within Roan Mountain State Park will become effective fall 2018).

**West Virginia:** Acidic Waters Mitigation Program (limestone sand treatment in ~400 miles of native Brook Trout streams and 250 acres of small impoundments); native Brook Trout distribution assessment; updating of State Trout Waters (47CSR2 Appendix B-2) list; 200' buffer rule established on fishing near State personnel engaged in the act of stocking public waters; native Brook Trout Spawning and Rearing (a West Virginia University Research Aquaculture facility near Wardensville,



WV was made available to WV DNR for use); T&E Species Listings and trout stocking; Hatchery Production and Stockings (WV DNR stocked approximately 700,000 pounds of Trout in 2018, including some weekend stocking at selected locations); West Virginia Gold Rush (over 32,000 pounds of Golden Rainbow Trout were stocked into more than 50 locations during the first week of April 2018); special regulations areas (28 special trout management areas on 26 streams and rivers, new area under consideration); trout management plan (draft is anticipated in spring 2019); staff changes; online fishing and hunting tool; 2018 Trout Unlimited Southeast Regional Rendezvous (held at Canaan Valley State Park).



Trout Committee member Matt Kulp displays a nice White River Brown Trout caught at night during the 2018 meeting at Gaston's Resort.



2019

Meeting location: UMCES Appalachian Lab, Frostburg, MD (in conjunction with East Coast Trout Management and Culture Workshop VI)

Date: June 13, 2019

Chair: Matt Sell (MD)

Attendees: See photo.



Members and guests at the 2019 Trout Committee meeting held at the UMCES Appalachian Lab in Frostburg, MD. Front row (left to right): Alan Heft (MD), Sally Petre (TN), Christy Graham (AR). Second row: Roger Bitz (TN), Jack Van Deventer (Mr. MicroFish), Justin Spaulding (TN). Third row: David Thorne (WV), Jim Habera (TN), Nathan Recktenwald (MO). Fourth row: Tyler Hern (USFWS), Matt Kulp (NPS), Dave Kazyak (USGS). Back row: Steve Reeser (VA), Justin Heflin (KY), Corey Jones (TN). Jake Rash (NC) and John Damer (GA) were call-in participants. Thanks to the University of Maryland Center for Environmental Science for hosting our meeting.



### Topics and issues:

The meeting was led by Alan Heft (MD) on behalf of absent Chair Matt Sell (illness). Jim Habera agreed to work with Matt Sell to provide East Coast VI presentations (.pdf files) on the TC website. Dave Kazyak (USGS) and the Committee discussed Brook Trout genetics presentations earlier in the week during East Coast VI. Some of the more important points from these discussions were the need to update the Committee's Brook Trout Management Position Paper (Fisheries 30:7 pp 10-20) based on newer, more relevant genetics information and the need to consider finer scales for restoration of southern populations (via translocation, repatriation, or captive breeding) due to their genetic diversity. Another discussion followed regarding a range-wide translocation study to evaluate genetic characteristics of introduced populations. Potential funding sources to aid USGS-Leetown in pursuing the study included Eastern Brook Trout Joint Venture, National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, and perhaps the International Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies Research Fund. Jack Van Deventer is able now to proceed full-time with the development of MicroFish 4.0 (including a built-in reporting platform). There will be an annual license fee or a lifetime license fee (for a single user/machine). Minor issues purchasing some items for the East Coast VI led to a discussion acquisition of a TC credit/debit card, but the general consensus was against getting such a card. Purchase of a pre-paid debit card when the need arises was suggested as an alternative.

The Committee agreed to meet at Hungry Mother State Park in VA in 2020, with meeting dates of May 18-20 or May 11-13, 2020 with an "R-3 for Trout" theme. An effort will be made to get R3 specialists to attend to discuss fishing and trout-centric R3 initiatives. Justin Heflin was nominated for chair, agreed to serve, and was approved by acclamation. Christy Graham agreed to continue as Treasurer.

### Future East Coast Workshops:

The TC was overwhelmingly in favor of continuing to hold these workshops at five year intervals, putting East Coast VII on the calendar for 2024. The Committee should plan to discuss East Coast VII no later than the 2022 meeting (likely in South Carolina in conjunction with the SDAFS mid-year meeting).



2020

Meeting location: Online via Skype Business (Covid-19 restrictions)

Date: May 19, 2020

Chair: David Thorne (WV)

Attendees: David Thorne (WV), Christy Graham (AR), Jake Rash (NC), Justin Spalding, Sally Petre, Jim Habera, and Brandon Simcox (TN), Steve Reeser and Brad Fink (VA), Larry Mohn (Shenandoah StreamWorks), Matt Sell and Allan Heft (MD), Dan Rankin (SC), Matt Kulp (NPS, Great Smoky Mountains National Park), Sarah Baker (GA), Dave Dreves and Justin Heflin (KY)

Topics and issues:

The scheduled meeting at Hungry Mother State Park in VA was cancelled because of Covid-19 restrictions. East Coast VI was successful, with ~100 participants; Committee thanked Matt Sell and Alan Heft for organizing the meeting and considered finding a platform to host/provide access to the presentations. Also discussed use of funds generated by East Coast VI Trout, including offsetting travel costs for state meetings, sponsoring students travel to national meetings, and sponsoring the Committee's upcoming genetics paper) or other publications.

R3/COVID-19 updates:

- West Virginia is open to free fishing for all residents.
- Tennessee did not offer free licenses; sales are up ~\$2 million; . R3 efforts include emails to anglers informing them of stockings and fishing forecasts for tailwaters on website
- Maryland initially banned recreational fishing but has since reopened; have formed an R3 committee.
- Virginia is doing a trout slam marketing plan—anglers who catch all 3 trout species in the same day receive an award; also distributed several informative trout videos to Facebook and YouTube.
- North Carolina has hired a R3 angling specialist; license has been restructured by removing the trout stamp and applying a small price hike.
- South Carolina experienced a hike in license sales after a short closure.

Sarah Baker has been appointed as the new Georgia representative and Brad Fink will be the new representative for Virginia. Sally Petre (TN) was voted the Committee's new Chair-elect.

Roundtable highlights:

**North Carolina:** R3, AOP barrier identification, Brook Trout genetics and restoration, ANS, and trout fishery evaluations.

**Georgia:** DNR restructuring, hatchery renovations, Brook Trout stocking, and wild trout monitoring.



**Missouri:** Trout stocking, trout permit price increases, and the “Blue-Ribbon Trout Slam” program.

**Great Smoky Mountains National Park:** Brook Trout restorations, mercury study results, and Abrams Creek fish reintroductions.

**West Virginia:** Brook Trout restorations, stream habitat enhancements, and Trout Plan revision.

**Tennessee:** Brook Trout restorations, Myxobolus screening, tailwater trout fishery assessments, new angling regulations, and a gas infusion system for treating N<sub>2</sub> supersaturation at a hatchery.

**Kentucky:** Trout angling and stocking changes.



**2021**

Meeting location: Online via Zoom in conjunction with the virtual SDAFS Spring Meeting (hosted by the Virginia Chapter of AFS)

Date: April 6, 2021

Chair: Justin Heflin (KY)

Attendees: Justin Heflin and Dave Dreves (KY), Christy Graham (AR), Jake Rash (NC), Justin Spalding, Sally Petre, and Jim Habera (TN), Steve Reeser and Brad Fink (VA), Matt Sell and Allan Heft (MD), Matt Kulp (NPS, Great Smoky Mountains National Park), Sarah Baker (GA), Nathan, Recktenwald (MO), Patrick Ireland (TX), and several guests.

Topics and issues:

The re-scheduled (from 2020) meeting at Hungry Mother State Park in VA was cancelled because of Covid-19 restrictions and the Committee agreed to hold the 2021 meeting in conjunction with the SDFS virtual Spring Meeting.

The Committee received updates on MicroFish 4.0 (to be available near the end of the 2021 field season), the Eastern Brook Trout Joint Venture (Lori Maloney is the new coordinator), and the Chesapeake Bay Program Science and Technical Advisory Committee's Brook Trout Genetics Workshop (tentatively scheduled for September 2021). The population genetics of Brook Trout in the southern Appalachian Mountains paper (Kazyak et al.) is nearing publication, as is the rebuttal (White et al.) to the paper published last year regarding speciation of Brook Trout within the Great Smoky Mountains National Park. There was also discussion (and agreement) that the 2022 Committee meeting be R3 themed.

Sally Petre (TN) was voted the Committee's new Chair-elect. Alan Heft (MD, 15 years), Matt Kulp (NPS, 25 years), Steve Reeser (VA, 20 years), Jack Van Deventer (development of MicroFish 3.0 and 4.0), and Jim Habera (TN, 30 years) were each recognized with the Committee's Distinguished Service Award.

Roundtable highlights:

**Arkansas:** Greers Ferry, Bull Shoals, and Norfolk tailwater creel surveys, finalized management plan for Spring River trout fishery, Dry Run Creek (Norfolk tributary) sampling, Brown Trout spawning study in Greers Ferry tailwater, and Tiger Trout stocking in Bull Shoals tailwater.

**Georgia:** Trout management plan update, Lake Burton hatchery renovations, change to stocking of 10-in. fish, Brook Trout stocking, disease screening of private trout sellers, (using Auburn), gill lice in Noontootla Creek, and wild trout monitoring.

**Great Smoky Mountains National Park:** Brook Trout restorations (Anthony Creek and Little Cataloochee), Brook Trout distribution surveys, Antimycin re-registration, and volunteer service in the Park.





**Kentucky:** Cumberland tailwater trout surveys and stocking, updating the statewide trout management plan, stocking program changes (locations and species), and use of trail cameras to assess fishing pressure on streams.

**Maryland:** Statewide Brook Trout survey and declines in distribution, Brook Trout angling regulation changes, and North Branch Potomac River tailwater trout fishery assessment and creel survey.

**Missouri:** Reduction in Rainbow Trout stocking rates due to hatchery renovations and flood-related water quality issues, replacement of Sheep Creek strain of Brown Trout at Shepherd of the Hills hatchery with Crawford strain, low recruitment of naturalized Rainbow Trout in the North Fork White River and consideration of supplemental stocking.

**North Carolina:** Trout angling access working group, socioeconomic studies of Mountain Trout waters, identification of natural barriers for Brook Trout conservation, Brook Trout genetics surveys, restoration, and response to climate variation, whirling disease and gill lice screening, *Didymo* detected in the Tuckasegee River, winter trout stocking in small impoundments, wild trout distribution and monitoring, and Lake Nantahala Kokanee salmon.

**Tennessee:** R3 update (including statewide trout angler survey), native Brook Trout restoration and enhancement efforts, assessment of relative contributions of natural reproduction and stocked Rainbow Trout in Norris and Ft. Patrick Henry tailwaters, hatchery updates (including Dale Hollow and Erwin National Fish Hatcheries), and Cutthroat Trout to be stocked in three tailwaters in fall 2021, and spring-stocked trout stream surveys (Region 3).

**Texas:** Habitat improvement for Rainbow Trout and efforts to document natural reproduction in the Guadalupe River (Canyon tailwater).

**Virginia:** Tiger Trout stocking, eDNA sampling for Brook Trout, impacts of stocking hatchery Brook Trout on wild Brook Trout populations, monitoring of Brook/Brown Trout coexistence in streams, AOP training for staff and surveys during wild trout monitoring, and outreach efforts (including the VA Trout Slam campaign).



2022

Meeting location: Graves Mountain Lodge, Syria, VA

Date: May 17-18, 2022

Chair: Sally Petre (TN)

Attendees: See photo.



Members and guests at the 2022 Trout Committee meeting at Graves Mountain Lodge in Syria, VA (left to right around the table): Lucy Lu (Colorado State Univ.), Joe Kaiser (AR), Sarah Baker (GA), Sally Petre (TN), David Thorne (WV), Brad Fink (VA), Dan Rankin (SC), Steve Reeser (VA), Matt Lawrence (MD), Larry Mohn (Shenandoah StreamWorks and former VA representative), Jim Habera (TN), Jake Rash (NC), and Dr. Yoichiro Kanno (Colorado State Univ.). Virtual attendees during the business meeting and other portions of the agenda were Christy Graham (AR), Matt Kulp (NPS/GSMNP), Brandon Simcox (TN), Justin Heflin (former KY representative now with VA), Matt Sell (MD), and Danci Johnston (KY).



### Topics and issues:

The Committee tried to schedule the 2022 meeting at Hungry Mother State Park in VA again but this venue was unavailable during the preferred meeting time (mid-May). The meeting location was subsequently moved to Graves Mountain Lodge in Syria, VA.

The Committee discussed updating its procedural document, established a subcommittee to update the Committee's 2005 position statement (published in *Fisheries*) on managing southern Appalachian Brook Trout, and considered the need for or interest in future workshops or training. Presentations on R3 were given by Sally Petre/Brandon Simcox (TN), Joe Kaiser (AR) and Sarah Baker (GA) and were followed by group discussions. Dr. Kanno provided a regional synthesis of long-term Brook Trout population and environmental data from the southeastern US (are population trends synchronous at a region-wide scale?) and Lucy Lu presented Brook Trout population models, with emphasis on adults and age-0 fish from North Carolina.

Matt Lawrence (new MD representative) was voted the new Chair-elect and Christy Graham (AR) agreed to continue serving as the Committee's Treasurer. Matt Sell (MD) received the Committee's Distinguished Service award for his 10 years of outstanding service. The Committee agreed to hold the 2023 annual meeting at a location in Tennessee.

### Roundtable highlights:

**Arkansas:** Jim Hinkle Spring River State Fish Hatchery renovations, Greers Ferry / Bull Shoals / Norfolk tailwater creel surveys, Bull Shoals and Norfolk tailwaters Rainbow Trout hooking mortality study, Greers Ferry Tailwater Brown Trout spawning study, Cutthroat Trout stocking in the Bull Shoals and Norfolk tailwaters, forthcoming NAJFM article: Trout responses to stocking rates and river discharge within a southeast US hydropeaking tailwater'.

**Georgia:** Trout management plan update, Lake Burton hatchery renovations complete, *Myxobolus cerebralis* detected at Buford and Summerville hatcheries, angler communication (weekly blog post, Trout Stream interactive map), 'Trout Slam' introduction, wild trout monitoring, Toccoa Tailwater self-report creel survey, and stream restoration on Crayfish Creek.

**Great Smoky Mountains National Park:** Brook Trout restorations (Anthony Creek and Little Cataloochee), Antimycin re-registration, Brook Trout distribution surveys, study of genetics of restored Brook Trout populations, Park fishing permit "in lieu of" state license requirement, and AOP surveys with TU volunteers.

**Maryland:** New staff, eDNA, Brook Trout reintroductions, Savage River Springs flow project, strategic wood additions, dam removal policy development, and AMD mitigation.

**North Carolina:** Trout angling access working group, trout health research, wild trout distribution assessment and long-term monitoring, identification of natural barriers (Brook Trout conservation), Brook Trout genetics and restoration, general aquatic nuisance species website, Lake Nantahala Kokanee Salmon population, Bridgewater Tailrace Brown Trout fishery, coldwater habitat enhancement, NCWRC Trout Page (website), and R3.



**Tennessee:** Statewide trout angler survey results, native Brook Trout restoration and enhancement update, native Brook Trout Management plan accomplishments, tailwater trout fisheries research (recruitment of wild and stocked Rainbow Trout fingerlings), Cutthroat Trout stocking, Big Soddy Creek (Hamilton Co.) added to Delayed Harvest streams (now have seven), and creel survey on Tellico River trout fishery.

**Virginia:** Tiger Trout stocking, stocked trout angler creel survey, eDNA sampling for Brook Trout, Brook Trout reintroductions, impact of stocking hatchery trout over wild Brook Trout, wild fish health sampling, Gill Lice (*Salmincola californiensis*) discovery on Rainbow Trout (Blue Springs Creek), 2021 SEAFWA publication: “Trends in Biomass and Relative Weight of Brook Trout in Response to Introduction of Non-native Brown Trout in an Appalachian Mountain Stream”, AOP training / assessments, Virginia Trout Slam marketing campaign, and wild Brook Trout conservation outreach.

**West Virginia:** Bowden Hatchery improvements, regulation changes, Brook Trout surveys and restoration (Monongahela National Forest challenge cost-sharing project), electrofishing inventory of non-traditional trout waters in southern WV, First Fork (Shavers Fork major tributary) treatment for acid precipitation impacts, native Brook Trout rearing (Reymann Memorial Farm aquaculture facility), AOP projects, and completion of comprehensive trout management plan.



2023

Meeting location: Tailwaters Lodge on the South Holston, Bristol, TN

Date: April 3-5, 2023

Chair: Sarah Baker (GA)

Attendees: See photo.



Members and guests at the 2023 Trout Committee meeting at the Tailwaters Lodge on the South Holston (left to right): Brad Fink (VA), Steve Reeser (VA), Jim Habera (TN), Matt Kulp (NPS/GSMNP), Sarah Baker (GA), Kayla Boles (KY), Christy Graham (AR), Matt Lawrence (MD), Jason Farmer (USFS), Sally Petre (TN), David Thorne (WV), Tyler Hern (USFWS/ENFH), Justin Heflin (VA), Brandon Simcox (TN), Patrick Ireland (TX), Dan Rankin (SC), Justin Spaulding (TN), Jake Rash (NC), and Connor Ballard (TTU MS student). Not pictured: Corey Jones (TN).

#### Topics and issues:

Updates were provided on the Committee's website (Jim Habera), Brook Trout subcommittee progress on development of a new position statement (Jim Habera), MicroFish (Sally Petre), revision of the Committee Procedures Document (Sally Petre), workshops and training (Sarah Baker), and SDAFS review of the Trout Committee (Matt Lawrence). Recommended Procedures Document changes were submitted to Jason Olive and will be reviewed at the next SDAFS business meeting. SDAFS's review comments were generally positive and the Trout Committee was commended for its website. SDAFS recommended increased student participation on the Committee and the membership present discussed ideas to improve student involvement with the Committee, including funding for a student to travel the Committee's annual meeting to present research results.

Brad Fink (VA representative) volunteered and was voted the new Chair-elect; Christy Graham (AR) agreed to continue serving as the Committee's Treasurer. The Committee agreed to hold its 2025 meeting in Asheville, North Carolina in conjunction with the SDAFS annual meeting and that the Georgia and West Virginia representatives would investigate location options within their states for the 2024 meeting (Pipestem State Resort State Park in West Virginia was later selected). The committee briefly considered planning another East Coast Trout Meeting (in 2026) but agreed to table this item until its 2024 meeting.



The theme for the 2023 meeting was ‘Tailwaters’ and the following presentations were given:

- Jim Habera (TN)– *The South Holston Tailwater Trout Fishery*
- Christy Graham (AR) – *Arkansas Tailwater Projects and Research*
- Connor Ballard (TTU MS student)– *Contributions of Stocked and Wild RBT in Two TN Tailwater Fisheries*
- Tyler Hern (USFWS Erwin National Fish Hatchery) – *USFWS National Broodstock Program - Supporting Tailwaters*
- Matt Lawrence (MD)– *Fisheries Management Activities in the North Branch Potomac River*
- Patrick Ireland – *Overview of the Guadalupe River (Canyon Tailrace) Trout Fishery*

Brad Fink (VA representative) was voted the new Chair-elect. The Committee decided to hold the 2024 annual meeting at a location to be determined in either Georgia or West Virginia and will meet in conjunction with the SDAFS in Asheville, NC in 2025.

Roundtable highlights:

**Arkansas:** Renovations at the Jim Hinkle Spring River State Fish Hatchery, seasonal PIT tagging study on Dry Run Creek and Norfork Tailwater, Brown Trout spawning study on the Greers Ferry Tailwater, Tiger Trout (Brown Trout x Brook Trout) in Bull Shoals tailwater (now eligible for state record consideration), 2023 Arkansas Trout Permit holders survey, and review of the statewide Trout Management Plan.

**Georgia:** Trout Management Plan (finalized by headquarters staff but not currently publicly available), whirling disease (WD) and infectious hematopoietic necrosis virus not detected in hatchery-raised Rainbow Trout at the Buford and Summerville State Trout Hatcheries after decontamination, Trout Slam promotion (April 2023 rollout), WD monitoring of wild trout from stocked streams (negative results so far), eDNA sampling in streams that appear devoid of Brook Trout, identification of natural barriers (Brook Trout restoration projects), and Toccoa tailwater self-report creel survey.

**Great Smoky Mountains National Park:** Antimycin re-registration, Moore Springs Branch (NC) Brook Trout restoration (3.8 km), Pigpen Branch (Sumter National Forest, SC) Brook Trout restoration with SC DNR & NCWRC (fall 2023), trout distribution surveys (completed in 82% of Park to date), long-term trout population monitoring results, genetics of restored Brook Trout populations and mercury pathways studies (University of Tennessee), and aquatic organism passage (AOP) surveys.

**Kentucky:** Trout management plan update (particularly stream classification system, tailwaters/impoundments management, and angler use), 10-year trout angler survey due, Cumberland Tailwater now has Brook, Brown, Rainbow, and Cutthroat trout.



**Maryland:** Brook Trout Genetics sampling and monitoring, coldwater streams surveys and temperature monitoring (7 previously undocumented Brook Trout populations identified), nonnative trout removal policy, Brook Trout Translocation Projects (Green Spring Run), Coldwater Fisheries Advisory Committee, habitat enhancement projects Wolfden Run (North Branch Potomac River watershed) and Moores Run (Georges Creek watershed), and innovative stormwater management.

**North Carolina:** New socioeconomic survey, Brook Trout management (genetics sampling, restoration, and distribution surveys), trout health, resumption of winter stockings of trout in selected small impoundments, long-term wild trout monitoring, Brook Trout population responses to climate variation across the southeast USA, Lake Nantahala Kokanee Salmon population, and habitat enhancement.

**Tennessee:** Native Brook Trout restorations and enhancements, tailwater trout fisheries (no Cutthroat stocking in 2022; state record reset several time by fish stocked in 2021), consideration of new regulations to protect large Brown Trout in Boone Reservoir, culvert replacements (with bridges) on two native Brook Trout streams in Cherokee National Forest with bridges (one with EBTJV funding), eDNA sampling, Striped Bass in tailwaters, Tellico River creel survey, and marketing research (TWRA received 17\$ for every 1\$ spent on trout-oriented marketing).

**Virginia:** Tiger Trout, stocked trout angler creel survey, Brook Trout eDNA sampling and reintroduction (Passage Creek), wild fish health sampling, AOP training and assessments, social media posts, Trout Slam success, and saving private stocked trout waters cleanup events.

**West Virginia:** Trout Stream Surveys, summer stream temperature monitoring, stream habitat Improvements/AOP, native Brook Trout rearing facility, Bowden Hatchery back online, new trout fishing opportunities, special regulations, West Virginia University research (driven by Trout Management Plan objectives), and personnel & staffing changes.



## **Committee Milestones**

- 1964** – The Trout Streams Subcommittee of the Forest Game Committee, Southeastern Section of the Wildlife Society is formed. It consists of four members: Charles “Tad” Lane, USFWS (Chair); Tom Ripley, USFS; Claude Hastings, GA; and Price Wilkins, TN.
- 1966** – The Trout Streams Subcommittee moves to the Southern Division of the American Fisheries Society and becomes the Trout Committee; AR, MD, and SC representatives are added.
- 1968** – Monte Seehorn joins Trout Committee.
- 1969** – The Committee meets three times (Franklin, NC, Nashville, TN, Mobile, AL)—a long-standing record.
- 1975** – “Wild” vs. domestic strain trout evaluation project begins.
- 1981** – Strain evaluation project emphasis shifts to half-wild brown trout; National Park Service added to membership.
- 1982** – Committee chair selection procedure established.
- 1984** – Committee membership exceeds 20 for the first time.
- 1986** – First recorded Committee vote (disbursement of supplemental funds); purpose, goals, and objectives of the Committee are developed and submitted to SDAFS.
- 1988** – The Committee resists SDAFS EXCOM recommendation to disband in favor of a Coldwater Streams Committee.
- 1989** – Half-wild brown trout evaluation is discussed at the spring meeting for the last time.
- 1990** – Minutes at the spring meeting are recorded by a “secretary” for the first time (and misplaced for the first time).
- 1991** – The Committee turns 25 and membership reaches 30 for the first time.
- 1992** – A summary of procedures document was developed. This document updated the Committee’s purpose, goals, and objectives and included descriptions of typical membership and meeting agendas. It also established three offices and a line of succession to the chair (secretary/treasurer > chair-elect > chair), as well as the responsibilities and terms of each





office. Missing or incomplete meeting minutes for 1993-1995 make it unclear when the three officer format was adopted, but it was in place at the 1996 meeting in Clemson, SC.

- 1994** – A spring meeting is held in Missouri for the first time; changing the Committee’s name is considered and rejected. Monte Seehorn retires from the USFS, but remains on the Trout Committee (and continues to be its longest serving member).
- 1998** – The Trout Committee enters cyberspace with a list server.
- 2001** – Spring meeting held in West Virginia for the first time; the Committee’s summary of procedures document is updated (list server chair added).
- 2003** – A Trout Unlimited representative is added to the Committee; the summary of procedures document is updated (list server chair eliminated).
- 2004** – The Committee’s summary of procedures document is updated (definition of a quorum set at 10 voting members; chair given responsibility to maintain and circulate a membership list each year and notify the Committee of any new entities requesting membership).
- 2005** – The Committee’s summary of procedures document is officially approved and adopted by the SDAFS EXCOM.
- 2006** – The SDAFS Trout Committee turns 40; Jack Van Deventer releases *MicroFish 3.0*— developed in cooperation with the SDAFS Trout Committee.
- 2008** – The first Trout Committee Distinguished Service Awards are presented to Larry Mohn (25 years), John Boaz (30 years), and Monte Seehorn (40 years).
- 2009** – A Shenandoah National Park representative is added to the Committee.
- 2011** – Distinguished Service Awards are presented to Steve Moore and Jeff Durniak (25 years each).
- 2015** – Distinguished Service Awards are presented to Mark Hudy (30 years) and Mike Shingleton (18 years). Six new members were also added to the Committee: Mike Joyce (USFS); Yoichiro Kanno (Clemson University); Dave Kazyak (USGS); Tim King (USGS); Justin Spaulding (KY); and David Thorne (WV).
- 2016** – The SDAFS Trout Committee turns 50.



- 2017** – Jack Van Deventer releases MicroFish 4.0, developed in cooperation with the SDAFS Trout Committee.
- 2018** – Distinguished Service Award is presented to Dan Rankin (25 years).
- 2020** – The Committee holds its first online (‘virtual’) meeting via Skype Business because of restrictions related to the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic.
- 2021** – The Committee meets online again (via Zoom) in conjunction with the virtual SDAFS Spring Meeting hosted by the Virginia Chapter. Distinguished Service Awards are presented to Matt Kulp (25 years), Steve Reeser (20 years), Alan Heft (15 years), Jack Van Deventer (development of *MicroFish 3.0* and *4.0*), and Jim Habera (30 years).
- 2022** – The Committee meets in person (at Graves Mountain Lodge, Syria, VA) for the first time since 2019. The Distinguished Service Award is presented to Matt Sell (MD) for 10 years of outstanding service.



## **Acknowledgments**

The Trout Committee is indebted to Don Archer (SC), John Boaze (FWA, Inc.), and Price Wilkins (TN) for the use of their Committee archives. This information provided a particularly valuable look at the Committee's early years (prior to 1980). We also thank Dr. David Neely for the use of his artwork. Finally, we express our appreciation to all Trout Committee members, past and present, whose services have made our many accomplishments possible.



## **Appendix A**

### **Trout Committee Membership Directories**



Table A1. Definitions of abbreviations used to denote agency/organization affiliation.

Abbreviation	Agency / Organization
<b>State Agencies</b>	
AL	Alabama Division of Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries
AR	Arkansas Game and Fish Commission
FL	Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission
GA	Georgia Department of Natural Resources, Game and Fish Division
KY	Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources
MD	Maryland Dept. of Natural Resources, Inland Fisheries Management Division
MS	Mississippi Department of Wildlife, Fisheries, and Parks
MO	Missouri Department of Conservation
NC	North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission
OK	Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation
SC	South Carolina Wildlife Resources Dept. / Department of Natural Resources
TN	Tennessee Game and Fish Commission / Wildlife Resources Agency
TX	Texas Parks and Wildlife Department
VA	Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries
WI	Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
WV	West Virginia Division of Natural Resources
<b>Federal Agencies</b>	
BLM	U.S. Bureau of Land Management
ERA	Environmental Regulation Administration, Fisheries Management Branch
FERC	Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
GRSM	Great Smoky Mountains National Park
NPS	National Park Service
SHEN	Shenandoah National Park
TVA	Tennessee Valley Authority
USFS	U.S. Forest Service
USFWS	U.S. Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife / Fish and Wildlife Service
USGS	U.S. Geological Survey
USSCS	U.S. Soil Conservation Service
<b>Universities</b>	
CLEM	Clemson University
KSU	Kentucky State University
MSC	Mississippi State College
NCSU	North Carolina State University
TTU	Tennessee Tech University
TXTU	Texas Tech University
UGA	University of Georgia
UMCES	University of Maryland Center for Environmental Science
UT	University of Tennessee
VPI	Virginia Polytechnic Institute
WSU	Washington State University
WCU	Western Carolina University
WVU	West Virginia University



Table A1. Definitions of abbreviations used to denote agency/organization affiliation (cont.).

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Abbreviation	Agency / Organization
Private Sector	
FWA, Inc.	Fish and Wildlife Associates, Inc.
TU	Trout Unlimited
QRP	Quail Ridge Publishing
SSW	Shenandoah StreamWorks

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Table A2. SDAFS Trout Committee members<sup>a</sup>, 1966-current.

Name	Affiliation <sup>b</sup>	Years of service <sup>c</sup>	Chair <sup>d</sup>
Anderson, William	MO	1986	
Archer, Don	SC	1968-73	1970
Axon, James	KY	1970-73	
Bachman, Bob	MD, unaffiliated	1989-2015	
Baker, Bob	AR	1968, 70, 73, 79	
Baker, Sarah	GA	2020-current	2022
Barnhart, Roger	UGA	1966	
Barwick, Hugh	Duke Power	1993-2003	
Baxter, Dennis	TVA	1996-2015	
Besler, Doug	NC	2002-current	2005
Bivens, Rick	TN	1997	
Boaze, John	USFWS, FWA, Inc.	1978-2015; DSA (08)	1983
Boles, Hal	USFWS	1971-82	1975-76
Boles, Kayla	KY	2023-current	
Bolton, Barry	OK	1990, 92, 96, 97	
Bonner, Bill	NC	1969, 1973-84	1979
Borawa, Jim	NC	1986, 1993-2015	1994
Bounds, Bob	TX	1971-77	
Bowman, Darrell	AR	2002-07	
Broadbent, Tim	NPS/GRSM	1983-84	
Brown, Al	TVA	1984-86	
Bryan, Roger	FWA, Inc.	1996-2003	
Bryan, Sheryl	USFS	1996-2022	1997
Bumgarner, Dan	USFWS	1970, 73	1973
Camenisch, Gary	MO	1984-85	
Carter, Bart	TN	1996-97	
Catchings, Dan	AL	1979-82	
Civiello, James	MO	2008-15	
Clemmons, Mickey	NC	1996-98	
Collins, Jim	AR	1969, 71	
Damer, John	GA	2009-2020	2016
Davis, Mark	USFS	1983-84	
Degan, Don	Duke Power	1984-86	
Devlin, George	VA	1998-2003	
Dolloff, Andy	USFS	1988-current	1995-96
Dreves, Dave	KY	2002-2015	2008
Durniak, Jeff	GA	1986-2020; DSA (11)	1991-92
Elsen, Dean	USFS	1983-84	
England, Russ	GA	1975-79	
Erickson, Kim	OK	1991, 93, 1998-2003	
Estes, Don	TTU	1983-91	
Falls, Bill	FL	1992-93	
Fatora, Rich	GA	1970-72, 1980-84	1972
Fessler, Floyd	USSCS	1970-71	
Fink, Brad	VA	2022-current	
Fiss, Frank	TN	1996-2008	2000
Flebbe, Pat	USFS	1988-2015	



Table A2. SDAFS Trout Committee members<sup>a</sup>, 1966-current (cont.).

Name	Affiliation <sup>b</sup>	Years of service <sup>c</sup>	Chair <sup>d</sup>
Forshage, Allen	TX	1992	
Gasper, Don	WV	1992-93	
Geddings, Randy	SC	1975-2003	1981-82
Goudreau, Chris	NC	1990-2003	
Graham, Christy	AR	2014-current	
Grossman, Gary	UGA	2015-current	
Habera, Jim	UT, TN	1991-current; DSA (21)	1999, 2015
Hargis, Harry	TN	1986-90	
Harrell, Duane	Duke Power	1988-92	
Harshbarger, Tom	USFS	1980-82	
Hartman, Kyle	WVU	2017-current	
Hartman, Richard	WV	1991	
Hastings, Claude	GA	1966-69	1968
Heflin, Justin	KY	2016-2021	2021
Heft, Alan	MD	2005-2020; DSA (21)	2010
Henegar, Jason	TN	2008-current	
Henley, Jim	KY	1966-69	
Hicks, Don	OK	1971	
Hill, Donley	TVA, USFS	1973-74, 90-92	1974
Hill, Tom	UGA, UT	1975, 77, 92	
Hinshaw, Jeff	NCSU	1991-92	
Hoffman, Jack	VA	1966	
Hudy, Mark	UGA, AR, USFS	1984, 86-cur.; DSA (15)	1988-90
Hutson, Pat	TX	1980-82, 85, 94-98	
Ireland, Patrick	TX	2021-current	
Johnston, Danci	KY	2022-current	
Jones, Ron	USFWS	1976-77	
Joyce, Mike	USFS	2015-current	
Kaiser, Joe	AR	2022-current	
Kanno, Yoichiro	CLEM	2015-2017	
Kazyak, Dave	USGS	2015-current	
Keefer, Lee	GA	1996-2008	2002
King, Tim	USGS	2015-2017	
Kosa, Jarrad	KY, FERC, USFWS, BLM	1998-current	2001
Kruse, Mike	MO	1996-2015	2003
Kulp, Matt	NPS/GRSM	1996-current; DSA (21)	2006, 2014
Laflin, Bonny	KY	1975-76	
Lane, Jr., Charles	USFWS	1966	
Lawrence, Matt	MD	2022-current	
Lorio, Wendell	MSC	1975	
Louder, Darrell	NC	1968, 70-71	
Maloy, Charles	USFWS	1969	
Martin, Mallory	NC	1986	
Mauck, Paul	OK	1973	
Mayer, John	TN	1996-97	
McBay, L. Glenn	USFWS	1975	
Meyer, Edward	MS	1991-92	





Table A2. SDAFS Trout Committee members <sup>a</sup>, 1966-current (continued).

Name	Affiliation <sup>b</sup>	Years of service <sup>c</sup>	Chair <sup>d</sup>
Mickey, Joe	NC	1996-2015	
Mitchell, Mike	MO	2014-2015	
Mohn, Larry	VA, SSW	1983-current; DSA (08)	1985-87
Moore, Steve	NPS/GRSM	1986-2014; DSA (15)	1993
Morgan, Ray	UMCES	2002-current	
Nevels, Brown	USSCS	1975-77	
Odom, Michael	VA	1993	
Oldham, Tom	WV	1996-97, 2005-15	
Oliver, Mark	AR	1984-85	
Parker, Nick	TXTU	1992	
Pasch, Ron	TVA	1980-82	
Paulk, Cindy	FERC	1991	
Perry, Sue	WVU	1991-93	
Peterson, Doug	TN	1976-84	1980
Petre, Sally	TN	2018-current	2021
Phares, Don	WV	1979, 85-86, 90-93	
Prather, Kerry	KY	1979-86	1984
Rankin, Dan	SC	1993-current DSA (18)	2009
Rash, Jacob	NC	2009-current	2012
Ratledge, Hayden	NC	1966	
Recktenwald, Nathan	MO	2020-current	
Reeser, Steve	KY, VA	1996-97, 2001-current; DSA (21)	2004
Regan, Danny	USFWS	1971	
Richardson, Frank	USFWS	1966-69	1969
Riley, Jeanne	USFS	1996-2014	
Ripley, Tom	USFS	1966-67	1966-67
Ross, Jeff	KY	2001	
Ryals, Kim	TU	2003-05	
Schmidt, Monroe	AR	1975-77	
Schulz, Roger	USFWS	1985-91	
Scott, Danny	TN	1991-93	
Scott, Ed	TVA	1987-88	
Seehorn, Monte	USFS, unaffiliated	1968-current; DSA (08)	1977-78
Sell, Matt	MD	2011-2021; DSA (22)	2013, 2019
Sheddan, Tommy	TVA	1975-77	
Sheridan, Jack	USFWS	1968, 70	
Shingleton, Mike	WV	1996-2014; DSA (15)	2007
Shumate, Dixie	VA	1968-70	
Simcox, Brandon	TN	2017-current	
Sloane, Gordon	USFS	1986	
Smith, Barry	AL	1977	
Smith, Jim	OK	1970, 75	
Spaulding, Justin	KY	2015-current	
Spotts, Jim	AR	1991, 93	
Standage, Richard	USFS	1986-91	
Stark, John	AR	1992-2001	1998
Stearns, Church	USFWS	1976-77	



Table A2. SDAFS Trout Committee members<sup>a</sup>, 1966-current (continued).

Name	Affiliation <sup>b</sup>	Years of service <sup>c</sup>	Chair <sup>d</sup>
Stephens, Douglas	KY	1988-92	
Stinefelt, Howard	MD	1993, 1998-2004	
Stroup, Lorie	USFS	2009-current	
Thorne, David	WV	2015-current	2020
Tidwell, James	KSU	1991-92	
Tilak, Raj	ERA	1992	
Tucker, Bill	AL	1973	
Turner, Spence	MO, QRP	1984-2017	
Van Deventer, Jack	MicroFish	2017-current; DSA (21)	
Vincent, James	OK	2005-current	
Wallis, Orthello	NPS	1970	
Weimer, Mike	USFWS	2005-15	
Wells, Steve	AL	1975-76	
West, Jerry	WCU	1983-86, 91-92	
Whelan, Tom	MO	2014-current	2017
White, Richard	TX	1970	
Whitworth, Sylvia	USFS	1989	
Wilkins, Price	TN	1966-75	1971
Williams, Cindy	USFS	1992-93	
Williams, Jeff	AR	2007-14	
Wilson, Dan	USFWS, KY	1992-93	
Wingate, Jack	NC	1982	
Wofford, Jeb	SHEN	2009-12	2011
Wollitz, Bob	VA	1971-83	
Woronecki, Dave	MD	1968-86	
Wynne, Bennet	NC	1988-89	
Yeager, Bruce	TVA	1992	

<sup>a</sup>The SDAFS does not maintain annual committee membership rosters and Trout Committee archives available for compiling this list were incomplete for some years prior to 2002; therefore, service dates shown for some members may be incomplete and some former members may not have been identified.

<sup>b</sup> See Table A1 for definitions of abbreviations used to denote agency/organization affiliation.

<sup>c</sup> DSA = Distinguished Service Award recipient (year).

<sup>d</sup> Years indicated represent the annual meeting(s), typically spring, at which the Chair presided.



Table A3. SDAFS Trout Committee membership (by affiliation, with years of service).

**State Agencies**

Alabama Division of Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries

Tucker, Bill	1973
Wells, Steve	1975-76
Smith, Barry	1977
Catchings, Dan	1979-82

Arkansas Game and Fish Commission

Baker, Bob	1968, 70, 73, 79
Collins, Jim	1969, 71
Schmidt, Monroe	1975-77
Oliver, Mark	1984-85
Hudy, Mark	1986-90
Spotts, Jim	1991, 93
Stark, John	1992-2001
Bowman, Darrell	2002-07
Williams, Jeff	2007-14
Graham, Christy	2014-current
Kaiser, Joe	2022-current

Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission

Falls, Bill	1992-93
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Georgia Department of Natural Resources, Wildlife Resources Division

Hastings, Claude	1966-69
Fatora, Rich	1970-72, 80-84
England, Russ	1975-79
Durniak, Jeff	1986-2020
Keefer, Lee	1996-2008
Damer, John	2009-2020
Sarah Baker	2020-current

Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources

Henley, Jim	1966-69
Axon, James	1970-73
Laflin, Bonny	1975-76
Prather, Kerry	1979-86
Stephens, Douglas	1988-92
Wilson, Dan	1993
Reeser, Steve	1996-97
Kosa, Jarrad	1998-2000
Ross, Jeff	2001
Dreves, Dave	2002-2021
Spaulding, Justin	2015-2016
Heflin, Justin	2016-2021
Johnston, Danci	2022
Kayla Boles	2023-current



Table A3. SDAFS Trout Committee membership by affiliation (cont.).

Maryland Department of Natural Resources, Inland Fisheries Management Division

Woronecki, Dave	1968-86
Bachman, Bob	1989-2001

Maryland Department of Natural Resources, Inland Fisheries Management Division (cont.)

Stinefelt, Howard	1993, 98-2004
Heft, Alan	2005-2020
Sell, Matt	2011-2021
Lawrence, Matt	2022-current

Mississippi Department of Wildlife, Fisheries, and Parks

Meyer, Edward	1991-92
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Missouri Department of Conservation

Camenisch, Gary	1984-85
Anderson, William	1986
Turner, Spence	1984-2001
Kruse, Mike	1996-2015
Mitchell, Mike	2014-15
Whelan, Tom	2014-current
Nathan Recktenwald	2020-curent

North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission

Ratledge, Hayden	1966
Louder, Darrell	1968, 70-71
Bonner, Bill	1969, 73-84
Wingate, Jack	1982
Martin, Mallory	1986
Wynne, Bennet	1988-89
Goudreau, Chris	1990-2003
Clemmons, Mickey	1996-98
Borawa, Jim	1986, 93-2015
Mickey, Joe	1996-2015
Besler, Doug	2002-current
Rash, Jacob	2009-current

Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation

Smith, Jim	1970, 75
Hicks, Don	1971
Mauck, Paul	1973
Bolton, Barry	1990, 92, 96-97
Erickson, Kim	1991, 93, 98-2003
Vincent, James	2005-15

South Carolina Wildlife Resources Department / Department of Natural Resources

Archer, Don	1968-73
Geddings, Randy	1975-2003



Table A3. SDAFS Trout Committee membership by affiliation (cont.)

South Carolina Wildlife Resources Department / Department of Natural Resources (cont.)

Rankin, Dan 1993-current

Tennessee Game and Fish Commission / Wildlife Resources Agency

Wilkins, Price 1966-75  
Peterson, Doug 1976-84  
Hargis, Harry 1986-90  
Scott, Danny 1991-93  
Carter, Bart 1996-97  
Mayer, John 1996-97  
Bivens, Rick 1997  
Fiss, Frank 1996-2008  
Habera, Jim 1999-current  
Henegar, Jason 2008-current  
Spaulding, Justin 2016-current  
Simcox, Brandon 2017-current  
Petre, Sally 2018-current

Texas Parks and Wildlife Department

White, Richard 1970  
Bounds, Bob 1971-77  
Forshage, Allen 1992  
Hutson, Pat 1980-82, 85, 94-98  
Cummings, Greg 2017-2020  
Patrick Ireland 2021-current

Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries

Hoffman, Jack 1966  
Shumate, Dixie 1968-70  
Wollitz, Bob 1971-83  
Odom, Michael 1993  
Devlin, George 1998-2003  
Mohn, Larry 1983-2011  
Reeser, Steve 2001-current  
Brad Fink 2020-current

West Virginia Division of Natural Resources

Phares, Don 1979, 85-86, 90-93  
Hartman, Richard 1991  
Gasper, Don 1992-93  
Oldham, Tom 1996-97, 2005-2015  
Shingleton, Mike 1996-2015  
Thorne, David 2015-current



Table A3. SDAFS Trout Committee membership by affiliation (cont.).

**Federal Agencies**

Environmental Regulation Administration, Fisheries Management Branch

Tilak, Raj 1992

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

Paulk, Cindy 1991

Kosa, Jarrad 2001

National Park Service

Wallis, Orthello 1970

National Park Service, Great Smoky Mountains National Park,

Broadbent, Tim 1983-84

Moore, Steve 1986-2014

Kulp, Matt 1996-current

National Park Service, Shenandoah National Park

Jeb Wofford 2009-2012

Tennessee Valley Authority

Hill, Donley 1973-74

Sheddan, Tommy 1975-77

Pasch, Ron 1980-82

Brown, Al 1984-86

Scott, Ed 1987-88

Yeager, Bruce 1992

Baxter, Dennis 1996-2015

U.S. Bureau of Land Management

Kosa, Jarrad 2005-current

U.S. Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife / Fish and Wildlife Service

Lane, Jr., Charles 1966

Richardson, Frank 1966-69

Sheridan, Jack 1968, 70

Maloy, Charles 1969

Bumgarner, Dan 1970, 73

Boles, Hal 1971-82

Regan, Danny 1971

McBay, L. Glenn 1975

Jones, Ron 1976-77

Stearns, Church 1976-77

Boaze, John 1978-82

Schulz, Roger 1985-91

Wilson, Dan 1992

Kosa, Jarrad 2002-04



Table A3. SDAFS Trout Committee membership by affiliation (cont.).

U.S. Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife / Fish and Wildlife Service (cont.)

Weimer, Mike 2005-15

U.S. Forest Service

Ripley, Tom 1966-67  
Seehorn, Monte 1968-94  
Harshbarger, Tom 1980-82  
Davis, Mark 1983-84  
Elsen, Dean 1983-84  
Sloane, Gordon 1986  
Standage, Richard 1986-91  
Whitworth, Sylvia 1989  
Hill, Donley 1990-92  
Williams, Cindy 1992-93  
Dolloff, Andy 1988-current  
Flebbe, Pat 1988-2011  
Hudy, Mark 1991-current (retired)  
Bryan, Sheryl 1996-2022  
Riley, Jeanne 1996-2015  
Stroup, Lorie 2009-current  
Joyce, Mike 2015-current

U.S. Geological Survey

King, Tim 2015-2017  
Kazyak, Dave 2015-current

U.S. Soil Conservation Service

Fessler, Floyd 1970-71  
Nevels, Brown 1975-77

**Universities**

Clemson University

Kanno, Yoichiro 2015-2017

Kentucky State University

Tidwell, James 1991-92

Mississippi State College

Lorio, Wendell 1975

North Carolina State University

Hinshaw, Jeff 1991-92

Tennessee Tech University

Estes, Don 1983-91



Table A3. SDAFS Trout Committee membership by affiliation (cont.).

Texas Tech University

Parker, Nick 1992

University of Georgia

Barnhart, Roger 1966

Hill, Tom 1975, 77

Hudy, Mark 1984

Grossman, Gary 2015-current

University of Maryland Center for Environmental Science

Morgan, Ray 2002-current

University of Tennessee

Hill, Tom 1992

Habera, Jim 1991-1998

Western Carolina University

West, Jerry 1983-86, 91-92

West Virginia University

Perry, Sue 1991-93

Hartman, Kyle 2017-current

**Private Sector**

Duke Power

Degan, Don 1984-86

Harrell, Duane 1988-92

Barwick, Hugh 1993-2003

Fish and Wildlife Associates, Inc.

Bryan, Roger 1996-2003

Boaze, John 1983-2015

MicroFish

Van Deventer, Jack 2017-current

Quail Ridge Publishing

Turner, Spence 2002-2017

Shenandoah Stream Works

Larry Mohn 2012-current

Trout Unlimited

Ryals, Kim 2003-05

Coffman, Seth 2017-current





Unaffiliated

Seehorn, Monte

1995-current

Bachman, Bob

2002-15

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## **Appendix B**

### **Officers**



Table B1. SDAFS Trout Committee Chairs.

	Term <sup>a</sup>	Chair	Agency
1.	1966-67	Tom Ripley	U.S. Forest Service
2.	1968	Claude Hastings	Georgia Game and Fish Division
3.	1969	Frank Richardson	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
4.	1970	Don Archer	South Carolina Wildlife Resources Department
5.	1971	Price Wilkins	Tennessee Game and Fish Commission
6.	1972	Rich Fatora	Georgia DNR, Game and Fish Division
7.	1973	Dan Bumgarner	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
8.	1974	Donley Hill	Tennessee Valley Authority
9.	1975-76	Hal Boles	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
10.	1977-78	Monte Seehorn	U.S. Forest Service
11.	1979	Bill Bonner	North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission
12.	1980	Doug Peterson	Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency
13.	1981-82	Randy Geddings	South Carolina Wildlife Resources Department
14.	1983	John Boaze	Fish and Wildlife Associates
15.	1984	Kerry Prather	Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources
16.	1985-87	Larry Mohn	Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries
17.	1988-90	Mark Hudy	Arkansas Game and Fish Commission
18.	1991-92	Jeff Durniak	Georgia DNR, Game and Fish Division
19.	1993	Steve Moore	National Park Service, Great Smoky Mountains National Park
20.	1994	Jim Borawa	North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission
21.	1995-96	Andy Dolloff	U.S. Forest Service
22.	1997	Sheryl Bryan	U.S. Forest Service
23.	1998	John Stark	Arkansas Game and Fish Commission
24.	1999	Jim Habera	Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency
25.	2000	Frank Fiss	Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency
26.	2001	Jarrad Kosa	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
27.	2002	Lee Keefer	Georgia DNR, Game and Fish Division
28.	2003	Mike Kruse	Missouri Department of Conservation
29.	2004	Steve Reeser	Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries
30.	2005	Doug Besler	North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission
31.	2006	Matt Kulp	National Park Service, Great Smoky Mountains National Park
32.	2007	Mike Shingleton	West Virginia Division of Natural Resources
33.	2008	Dave Dreves	Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources
34.	2009	Dan Rankin	South Carolina Department of Natural Resources
35.	2010	Alan Heft	Maryland Department of Natural Resources
36.	2011	Jeb Wofford	National Park Service, Shenandoah National Park
37.	2012	Jake Rash	North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission
38.	2013	Matt Sell	Maryland Department of Natural Resources
39.	2014	Matt Kulp	National Park Service, Great Smoky Mountains National Park
40.	2015	Jim Habera	Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency
41.	2016	John Damer	Georgia DNR, Game and Fish Division
42.	2017	Tom Whelan	Missouri Department of Conservation
43.	2018	Justin Spaulding	Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency
44.	2019	Matt Sell	Maryland Department of Natural Resources
45.	2020	David Thorne	West Virginia Division of Natural Resources
46.	2021	Justin Heflin	Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources
47.	2022	Sally Petre	Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency
48.	2023	Sarah Baker	Georgia DNR, Game and Fish Division
49.	2024	Matt Lawrence	Maryland Department of Natural Resources

<sup>a</sup>Years indicated represent the annual meeting(s), typically spring, at which the Chair presided/will preside.



Table B2. SDAFS Trout Committee Treasurers.

Term	Treasurer <sup>a</sup>	Agency
1995-96	John Stark	Arkansas Game and Fish Commission
1996-97	Jim Habera	Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency
1997-98	John Stark	Arkansas Game and Fish Commission
1998-99	Jarrad Kosa	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
1999-01	Lee Keefer	Georgia DNR, Game and Fish Division
2001-05	Matt Kulp	National Park Service/Great Smoky Mountains National Park
2005-06	Darrell Bowman	Arkansas Game and Fish Commission
2007-14	Jeff Williams	Arkansas Game and Fish Commission
2014-current	Christy Graham	Arkansas Game and Fish Commission

<sup>a</sup>There was no office of treasurer prior to development of the Committee's summary of procedures in 1992 and it is unclear who served in this office during 1992-1995. Meeting minutes were recorded beginning in 1990, but there is no clear record of who served as secretary during 1990-1995. The treasurer also acted as secretary during the 1996-2000 meetings. John Stark served as treasurer in 1998 for Steve Reeser (VA), who had been elected treasurer in 1997 but left the Trout Committee that year.



Table B3. Recent SDAFS Trout Committee Chair-elects.

Term	Chair-elect <sup>a</sup>	Agency
1995-96	Sheryl Bryan	U.S. Forest Service
1996-97	John Stark	Arkansas Game and Fish Commission
1997-98	Jim Habera	Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency
1998-99	Frank Fiss	Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency
1999-00	Jarrad Kosa	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
2000-01	Lee Keefer	Georgia DNR, Game and Fish Division
2001-02	Mike Kruse	Missouri Department of Conservation
2002-03	Steve Reeser	Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries
2003-04	Doug Besler	North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission
2004-05	Matt Kulp	National Park Service/Great Smoky Mountains National Park
2005-06	Mike Shingleton	West Virginia Division of Natural Resources
2006-07	Dave Dreves	Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources
2007-08	Dan Rankin	South Carolina Department of Natural Resources
2008-09	Alan Heft	Maryland Department of Natural Resources
2009-10	Jeb Wofford	Shenandoah National Park
2010-11	Jacob Rash	North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission
2011-12	Matt Sell	Maryland Department of Natural Resources
2012-13	Matt Kulp	National Park Service/Great Smoky Mountains National Park
2013-14	Jim Habera	Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency
2014-15	John Damer	Georgia DNR, Game and Fish Division
2015	Mike Mitchell	Missouri Department of Conservation (replaced by Ton Whelan)
2015-16	Tom Whelan	Missouri Department of Conservation
2016-17	Justin Spaulding	Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency
2017-18	Matt Sell	Maryland Department of Natural Resources
2018-19	David Thorne	West Virginia Division of Natural Resources
2019-20	Justin Heflin	Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources
2020-21	Sally Petre	Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency
2021-22	Sarah Baker	Georgia DNR, Wildlife Resources Division
2022-23	Matt Lawrence	Maryland Department of Natural Resources
2023-24	Brad Fink	Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries

<sup>a</sup>The Chair-elect assumed the duties of secretary beginning with the 2001 meeting.



## **Appendix C**

### **Spring Meeting Locations**



Table C1. SDAFS Trout Committee spring<sup>a</sup> meeting locations.

Year	Dates	Location	State
1966	October 24	Asheville	NC
1967	--	No meeting	--
1968	September 4-5	Tellico Plains	TN
1969 <sup>b</sup>	May 5-7	Franklin	NC
1970 <sup>b</sup>	April 20-23	Lakeview	AR
1971 <sup>b</sup>	June 3-4	Vonore	TN
1972 <sup>b</sup>	June 26-28	Clayton	GA
1973	June 18-21	Saltville	VA
1974	June 4-7	Norris Dam State Park, Norris	TN
1975 <sup>b</sup>	June 19-20	Blue Ridge	GA
1976 <sup>b</sup>	--	No spring meeting	--
1977	May 11-13	Mountain Home	AR
1978	Not available	Oconee State Park, Walhalla	SC
1979	May 25	Crossnore	NC
1980	May 22-23	Unicoi	TN
1981	May 27-29	Helen	GA
1982	May 19-21	Galax	VA
1983	May 25-27	Cherokee	NC
1984	May 14-16	Cumberland Lake State Resort Park	KY
1985	April 30	Graves Mountain Lodge	VA
1986 <sup>b</sup>	April 29-30	Tech Aqua Center, Smithville	TN
1987	April 3	Gaston's Resort, Lakeview	AR
1988	April 27-28	Asheville	NC
1989	May 17	Dillard	GA
1990	May 9	Gatlinburg	TN
1991	May 7	Deep Creek Lake	MD
1992 <sup>c</sup>	June 22	Penn State University, State College	PA
1993	May 13-14	Cherokee	NC
1994	March 21-23	Montauk State Park, Salem	MO
1995 <sup>c</sup>	May 30	Penn State University, State College	PA
1996	March 26-28	Clemson	SC
1997	April 9-10	Hungry Mother State Park, Marion	VA
1998	April 23	Fayetteville	AR
1999 <sup>d</sup>	February 25	Chattanooga	TN
2000 <sup>c</sup>	June 5	Frostburg State University, Frostburg	MD
2001	May 18-19	Canaan Valley State Park	WV
2002	May 13-14	Cumberland Lake State Resort Park	KY
2003	April 7-8	Unicoi State Park, Helen	GA
2004	May 18-19	Roan Mountain State Park, Roan Mountain	TN
2005 <sup>c</sup>	June 6	Lock Haven University, Lock Haven	PA
2006	May 23-24	Gaston's Resort, Lakeview	AR
2007	May 8-9	Devil's Fork State Park	SC
2008	May 6-7	Pisgah Center for Wildlife Ed., Brevard	NC
2009	April 27-29	Meadow Lane Lodge, Warm Springs	VA
2010 <sup>d</sup>	February 25	Renaissance Hotel, Asheville	NC



Table C1. SDAFS Trout Committee spring<sup>a</sup> meeting locations (cont.).

Year	Dates	Location	State
2011	April 4-6	New Germany State Park, Grantsville	MD
2012 <sup>c</sup>	June 11	Frostburg State University, Frostburg	MD
2013 <sup>d</sup>	February 7	Sheraton Hotel, Nashville	TN
2014	May 13-14	Bennett Spring State Park	MO
2015	May 5-6	Unicoi State Park, Helen	GA
2016 <sup>d</sup>	February 18	Oglebay Resort, Wheeling	WV
2017	May 16-17	Lake Cumberland State Park, Jamestown	KY
2018	May 15-16	Gaston's Resort, Lakeview	AR
2019 <sup>c</sup>	June 13	UMCES, Appalachian Lab, Frostburg	MD
2020	May 19	Virtual via Skype Business (Covid-19 considerations)	
2021 <sup>d</sup>	April 6	Virtual via SDAFS Spring Meeting	
2022	May 16-18	Graves Mountain Lodge, Syria	VA
2023	April 3-5	Tailwaters Lodge on the S. Holston, Bristol	TN
2024	May 6-8	Pipestem Resort State Park, Pipestem	WV

<sup>a</sup> The spring meeting format was established in 1969.

<sup>b</sup> A fall meeting was also held in conjunction with the annual SEAFWA conference.

<sup>c</sup> Meeting held in conjunction with the East Coast Trout Management and Culture Workshop; no regular spring meeting held.

<sup>d</sup> Meeting held in conjunction with the SDAFS Midyear/Spring meeting; no regular spring meeting held.





**Appendix D**

**Accomplishments**



## SDAFS Trout Committee Accomplishments

### **2022 – Publications:**

*Kazyak, D. C. and 16 coauthors. 2022. Population Genetics of Brook Trout in the Southern Appalachian Mountains. Transactions of the American Fisheries Society 151:127-149.*

*Hargrove, J. S., D. C. Kazyak, B. A. Lubinski, K. M. Rogers, O. K. Bowers, K. A. Fesenmyer, J. W. Habera, and J. Henegar. 2022. Landscape and stocking effects on population genetics of Tennessee Brook Trout. Conservation Genetics 23:341-357.*

**2019 – Workshop:** East Coast Trout Management and Culture VI, Frostburg State University, Frostburg, Maryland.

**2017 –** Jack Van Deventer releases MicroFish 4.0, developed in cooperation with the SDAFS Trout Committee.

**2012 – Workshop:** East Coast Trout Management and Culture V, Frostburg State University, Frostburg, Maryland.

### **2010 – Publication:**

*Habera, J. W., M. A. Kulp, S. E. Moore, and T. B. Henry. 2010. Three-pass depletion sampling accuracy of two electric fields for estimating trout abundance in a low-conductivity stream with limited habitat complexity. North American Journal of Fisheries Management 30:757-766.*

**2007 –** Trout Committee Proceedings document developed.

**2006 –** Software upgrade: Worked jointly with Jack Van Deventer (Washington State University) and a team from Microsoft to upgrade DOS-based Microfish 3.0 (analysis package for electrofishing depletion data) to run on a Windows platform. MicroFish 3.0 for Windows is now available free of charge at:

**<http://microfish.org>**

**2005 –** Workshop: East Coast Trout Management and Culture IV, Lock Haven University, Lock Haven, Pennsylvania; proceedings published:

*Southern Division of the American Fisheries Society Trout Committee. 2005. Proceedings of the East Coast Trout Management and Culture Workshop IV. L. Mohn and G. Duckwall, eds. 6-8 June 2005. Lock Haven State University, Lock Haven, PA. 94 pp.*



SDAFS Trout Committee Accomplishments (cont.)

Publication:

*Southern Division of the American Fisheries Society Trout Committee. 2005. Management of Southern Appalachian Brook Trout: A Position Statement. Fisheries 30(7):10-20.*

**2002** – Workshop: Tailwater management (presentations by Committee members on AR, KY, TN, MO, GA, and VA tailwaters).

**2000** – Workshop: East Coast Trout Culture and Management III, Frostburg State University, Frostburg, Maryland; proceedings published:

*Southern Division of the American Fisheries Society Trout Committee. 2000. Proceedings of the Third East Coast Trout Culture and Management Workshop. L. Mohn and R. Morgan, eds. 6-8 June 2000. Frostburg State University, Frostburg, MD. 94 pp.*

**1999** – Sponsored special technical session at 1999 SDAFS Midyear Meeting in Chattanooga, TN (Trout Biology and Management in Southeastern States).

Publication:

*Southern Division of the American Fisheries Society Trout Committee. 1999. AFS should not develop electrofishing guidelines. Fisheries 24(7):37.*

This was a letter to the editor in response to a feature article on electrofishing in December 1998 (Neilsen, J.L. 1998. Scientific sampling effects: electrofishing California's endangered fish populations. Fisheries 23[12]:6-12).

**1998** – Workshop: 11<sup>th</sup> International Trout Habitat Improvement Workshop (co-sponsored by the SDAFS Trout Committee), Fayetteville, AR; abstracts published. Resolutions were passed requesting improved water quality below U.S. Army Corps of Engineers projects in AR and TN.

**1996** – Workshops: Sedimentation in Trout Streams and Brook Trout Genetics (with Dr. Rex Dunham, Auburn University; Dr. Gary McCracken, University of Tennessee; and Dr. Ray Morgan, University of Maryland Center for Environmental Science).



SDAFS Trout Committee Accomplishments (cont.)

Publication:

*Habera, J. W., R. J. Strange, B. D. Carter, and S. E. Moore. 1996. Short-term mortality and injury of rainbow trout caused by three-pass AC electrofishing in a southern Appalachian stream. North American Journal of Fisheries Management 16:192-200.*

**1995** – Workshop: East Coast Trout Culture and Management II (co-sponsored with the Northeast Division AFS), Penn State University, State College, PA; proceedings published:

*Northeastern and Southern Divisions of the American Fisheries Society Trout Committees. 1995. Proceedings of the East Coast Trout Culture and Management Workshop II. M. Marcinko and S. Moore, eds. 31 May-2 June 1995. Penn State University, University Park, PA. 147 pp.*

**1994** – Workshop: Trout Management in Southern Tailwaters.

**1992** – Workshop: East Coast Trout Culture and Management (co-sponsored with the Northeastern Division AFS Trout Committee), Penn State University, State College, PA; proceedings published:

*Northeastern and Southern Divisions of the American Fisheries Society Trout Committees. 1992. Proceedings of the East Coast Trout Culture and Management Workshop. M. Marcinko and D. Graff, eds. 23-25 June 1992. Penn State University, University Park, PA. 152 pp.*

Developed a standardized stream sampling document and passed a resolution supporting retention of all USFS forest management alternatives.

**1991** – Workshop: Trout and Timber; summary prepared.

**1990** – Workshop: Trout Management in Two-Story Reservoirs and Tailwaters.

**1989** – Workshop: The Watershed Approach to Trout Management.

**1988** – Workshop: Brown Trout Biology and Management, Asheville, NC; proceedings published:



SDAFS Trout Committee Accomplishments (cont.)

*Southern Division of the American Fisheries Society Trout Committee. 1990. Brown Trout Workshop: Biology and Management. J. C. Borawa, ed. 28-30 April 1988. Asheville, NC. 140 pp.*

**1987** – Workshop: Creel Census and Survey Techniques; trout strain summary distributed to membership.

**1986** – Workshop: Tailwater Trout Management; annotated Brook Trout Management bibliography published and distributed.

**1985** – Workshop: Brook Trout Management; abstracts published.

Publication: *Hudy, M. 1985. Rainbow and brook trout mortality from high voltage AC electrofishing in a controlled environment. North American Journal of Fisheries Management 5:475-479.*

**1983** – Brook Trout bibliography published.

**1975** – Resolutions passed requesting the USFWS to place more emphasis on brown trout production (including wild strains) and to maintain wild strains of brook and rainbow trout for stocking special waters.

**1973** – Trout Management in the Southeast bibliography produced.



## **Archive Photos**



Trout Committee members and guests at the 1982 meeting (left to right): Dean Elsen, Doug Peterson, Darrell Martin, Dan Catchings, Larry Mohn, Monte Seehorn, Garland Pardue, and Bob Wollitz.



Trout Committee members Hayden Ratledge (center), and John Boaze (right), along with future member Steve Moore (c. 1980).



Trout Committee members during the early 1980s (left to right): Randy Geddings, Hayden Ratledge, Larry Mohn, Tom Harshbarger, Bill Bonner, John Boaze, Ron Pasch, Doug Peterson, Monte Seehorn, Rich Fatora, Hal Boles, and Bob Wollitz.