

The Newsletter of the Texas Chapter of the American Fisheries Society

2022 Fall Newsletter
Volume 48, Issue 2

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

BY TIM BIRDSONG



Tim Birdsong, TCAFS President, wade-fishing for Guadalupe Bass on the Pedernales River
(Photo credit: Tim Birdsong)

The Texas Chapter of the American Fisheries Society (TCAFS) is committed to the conservation, development, and wise utilization of recreational and commercial fisheries, the promotion of all branches of fisheries science and practice, and the exchange and dissemination of knowledge about fish, fisheries, and related subjects. For 2022, TCAFS established the following goals in support of this mission, which align with the priorities of the AFS Southern Division and parent society:

1) Organize and sponsor forums to present new findings

- and exchange ideas,
- 2) Provide continuing education opportunities with an emphasis on training and courses that are not commonly offered by academic institutions and/or that will be essential tools in the future,
 - 3) Develop communication materials and publicly accessible information to promote the value of fisheries, aquatic habitat, and fisheries science,
 - 4) Develop relationships, partnerships, and collaborations with other professional societies, conservation organizations, decision makers, and stakeholders to establish and



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ITEM OF NOTE

- TCAFS memberships can be completed online now! Click [here](#) to start or renew a membership today!

TCAFS 2022

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

(CONTINUED)

- promote mutual goals of fisheries science, education, and stewardship,
- 5) Develop and disseminate scientifically based communication materials that represent and reflect the mission of the Society to political leaders, decision makers, stakeholders, and the public,
 - 6) Provide online resources of value and interest to members and non-members,
 - 7) Use innovative techniques to determine and respond to the needs and opinions of Society members,
 - 8) Improve participation of students and professionals at all levels to assure recruitment, retention and leadership development, and
 - 9) Promote demographic and disciplinary diversity within the Society and fisheries profession.

Many of these goals were achieved through program offerings at our 2022 TCAFS Annual Meeting, which included a plenary and panel discussion themed around "angling for conservation" (Goal #4). Panelists representing TCAFS, Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, angling tournament organizations (Bass Anglers Sportsman Society, Major League Fishing), angler-based conservation non-profits (Coastal Conservation Association, Trout Unlimited), and the fishing industry (Living Waters Fly Fishing) discussed partnership opportunities to advance fisheries science and conservation. TCAFS also hosted three continuing education workshops focused on watershed and ecosystem-management strate-

gies, application of side-scan sonar in aquatic conservation, and careers in applied fisheries research (Goals #2 and #8). The technical session (Goal #1) included 48 poster presentations, 32 oral presentations, an evening seminar and short film on "Fly Fishing the Republic of Texas," and an inaugural 5k spawning run. Of the 202 registrants, 144 were professionals and 58 were students, with 41 of those students participating in the student-mentor luncheon (Goals #8 and #9). A virtual meeting option allowed for remote participation by 20 members (18 professionals, 2 students; Goal #6). Student participation in TCAFS was encouraged by awarding 19 student travel awards (Goals #8 and #9), which covered lodging costs at the meeting. TCAFS also continued to financially support student scholarships and participation by high school students in the Texas Bass Brigades (Goals #8 and #9), a week-long, intensive, hands-on training experience in fisheries management; prepared materials spotlighting and advocating for passage of the Recovering America's Wildlife Act (Goals #3 and #5); actively managed our social media pages (Goal #6), and conducted multiple Google-based surveys to obtain input from members on key decisions regarding scheduling and planning of the 2022 and 2023 annual meetings (Goal #7).

As I reflect on these and other accomplishments from 2022, it is apparent that TCAFS has remained incredibly active, productive, and relevant. On behalf of the TCAFS Executive Committee, we offer our sincere appreciation to all of you

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

(CONTINUED)

who so graciously gave of your time and talents to make this year's annual meeting and other TCAFS activities a success. Thank you for all you do for Texas fish and fisheries. Collectively, we are making a real difference, and I'm incredibly excited to reconnect in Corpus Christi in early 2023 to learn, be encouraged, and be inspired. It will be an event to remember and I look forward to spending time together on the Texas coast!



Corpus Christi Hotels and marina.

PRESIDENT-ELECT'S MESSAGE

BY DR. CHRISTOPHER MACE

Fall is here, our weather has cooled, and many of our fisheries teams are winding down the busy field sampling period. Students and professors are prepping for exams and folks in general are starting to look towards the holiday season for a break from the daily grind of our hectic schedules. With travel restrictions due to COVID currently in the rearview mirror, November marks the start of what is forecasted to be a busy travel season. As you plan the next couple of months, please save the date for the next Texas Chapter AFS meeting, scheduled for February 23-25th in Corpus Christi.



The Chapter officers are working to finalize plans for the upcoming 2023 TC-AFS meeting, which will be held at the Holiday Inn Corpus Christi Downtown Marina.

TCAFS 2022 PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

TCAFS 2022

PRESIDENT-ELECT'S MESSAGE

PRESIDENT-ELECT'S MESSAGE

(CONTINUED)

Adjacent to the Corpus Christi T-heads, the venue's location is on prime waterfront property, boasting stunning views of Corpus Christi Bay, an indoor/outdoor heated pool, fine dining, and convenient location near popular Corpus Christi attractions such as the Texas State Aquarium, the USS Lexington aircraft carrier, the Corpus Christi Marina, and Arad Urban Park. A room block is being held at the state rate of \$104/night single occupancy (King Bed), or \$114.00/n for double occupancy (two double beds). Be sure to make your reservation early in order to ensure you capitalize on this discounted rate!

Analyzing the results of the recent Member's survey, we've noted there is strong support to continue to engage our members and provide valuable activities during the meeting. A majority (68.4%) of members that responded to the survey preferred the traditional January/February meeting time period. Over 91% responded that 2-3 days was the best length of event. And not surprisingly, the top three most valuable parts of the meeting were oral presentations, the networking socials, and the poster session. Other noteworthy mentions were the student / mentor luncheon and continuing education courses. Also, based on the survey results and given the increasing number of quality abstract submissions, we're planning two rooms of talks, running concurrently.

This meeting's events kick off on Thursday February 23rd, with two continuing education courses starting in the afternoon, and a field trip out to the CCA Marine Development Center marine fish hatchery and research center. Space for these events may be limited, so please sign up early. Thursday evening, we'll have the poster presentations and a student/professional mixer to meet and greet in the main Ballroom. Friday we'll start the day with a plenary talk, followed by presentations and the student/mentor luncheon. The presentations will continue through the afternoon, and the banquet dinner will be Friday night. The event will conclude on Saturday with presentations and the business meeting.

I'm excited about the next meeting, but I'd be remis if I didn't mention that none of this would be possible without the support of our members, sponsors, and all of the committee chairs and volunteers that provide behind the scenes support and volunteer their time. There is still plenty to do, so if you'd like to get involved at any level, please feel encouraged to reach out to me or to any of the planning committee members, and we'll get you plugged in.

See you in Corpus Christi!

<https://HolidayInn.com/Corpuscdtwntx>



CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

NEXT YEAR'S PRESIDENT ELECT AND SECRETARY/ TREASURER

BY GREG CUMMINGS

The Texas Chapter of the American Fisheries Society is seeking nominations for next year's President-Elect and Secretary/Treasurer positions. The President-Elect will serve in 2023 and become President in 2024. The Secretary/Treasurer position is a two-year term.

If you have someone you would like to nominate, please provide their name, affiliation, and contact information to Greg Cummings at greg.cummings@tpwd.texas.gov.

Please have your nominations sent by **December 31, 2022**. Voting will begin in January 2023, and winners will be announced at the TCAFS Chapter Business Meeting.

Thank you!

Greg Cummings
Chair
Nominating Committee

RECRUITING INTERNET COMMITTEE MEMBERS

BY MICHELE NATIONS

Above, Greg Cummings asked for nominations for President-Elect and Secretary/Treasurer. The people who volunteer to serve in those positions are truly great leaders. To perform their jobs, these people require support. This support is provided by committees, which are the backbone of TCAFS. Take a look at Behind the Scenes on page 14. The thirteen committees are listed with their respective chairs and co-chairs.

TCAFS has seen several people leave, and volunteers have been found to fill those slots. We are currently looking for a couple of people to help with the Internet Committee. This position involves working with Word Press to create the TCAFS webpages and with Camtasia to record the video presentations at our annual meetings. In other words, we need a Webmaster and helper to perform web page maintenance to help us stay connected with our members.

If you are interested in helping us out, please email me at michnat.tcafs@gmail.com so we can start preparing for the 2023 meeting. **A quick response would be appreciated!**

Michele Nations
Internet Committee Member

TCAFS 2022

COMMITTEES

◇ NOMINATING

◇ INTERNET



TCAFS 2022
COMMITTEES
◇ EDITORIAL

CALL FOR ABSTRACTS BY ALICE BEST

Hello, TCAFS Members!

We are excited to announce that a venue and date for the 2023 TCAFS Annual Meeting has been secured. The annual meeting will be held February 23-25, 2023, at the Holiday Inn Downtown Marina in Corpus Christi, TX, and promises to be a great meeting. We are looking forward to again having a bite of salt in the air as we present the best fisheries science in Texas, support talented students with scholarships, and honor fellow members for their achievements at our annual banquet.

The 2021 and 2022 meetings saw a record number of abstract submissions; an admirable representation of how productive the Texas Chapter is in promoting fisheries science. In an effort to maximize the number of oral presentations that may be presented and following the popular opinion in the 2022 TCAFS membership poll, we will be running two, concurrent oral sessions. This will also allow oral presentations to be expanded to 15 minutes for the talk, 3 for questions, and 2 for movement between rooms.

We are still working on getting the meeting webpage up and running; however, abstract submission is now open through the link below. Abstracts for oral and poster presentations will be **Due January 11, 2023**. Deadlines this year will be firm, and no extensions will be given. Authors will be notified of abstract acceptance by January 20, 2023.

Don't wait for the winter to slip by! Start you abstracts now! As a reminder, abstracts should be less than 300 words, and you will need the names and affiliations of each author on the paper. With the concurrent format, we will also give you the option of requesting that your presentation be given in the same room and time block as related research. Please be prepared to provide the speaker and title of other presentations when you submit your abstract. We will do our best to accommodate such requests when possible.

Submission URL: [Submit Abstract HERE](#)

Please email Alice Best (alice.best@tpwd.texas.gov) for additional questions.

We're looking forward to seeing everyone in Corpus Christi!

Alice Best
Co-Chair
Editorial Committee



STUDENT CONTRIBUTIONS

MICHAEL CURTIS

I am a PhD student at the University of North Texas (UNT) working in Dr. David Hoeinghaus' lab. Our project is funded by the Texas Comptroller, and we are working with biologists from Texas Parks and Wildlife (TPWD) and the labs of Dr. Zacchaeus Compson at UNT and Dr. Carmen Montaña at Stephen F. Austin University.



My research centers on meta-population dynamics and habitat use of two federally endangered Cyprinids, Small-eye Shiner (*Notropis buccula*) and Sharpnose Shiner (*Notropis oxyrhynchus*), both of which have seen a drastic reduction in their range due to construction of dams and the continued effects of climate change and are currently extant in the upper reaches of the Brazos River. I will be surveying 22 sites along the Upper Brazos for the next 3 years using multiple traditional and novel sampling methods to assess

factors, including cooccurring species and habitat variables, that may impact the presence, abundance, and distribution of the focal species. The primary objectives of this project are to better understand factors influencing the species' distributions and population dynamics, make conservation recommendations for the species at appropriate spatial and temporal scales, and contribute to a 'best practices' long-term monitoring program for the focal species.

I am passionate about the conservation of imperiled fishes and being a conduit to share knowledge. This passion has led me to help create the University of North Texas' Student Subunit of the American Fisheries Society, of which I am currently serving as the organization's inaugural president. I have a fervent desire to share knowledge of fish ecology and conservation with other individuals at UNT as well as interact and educate the general public at our events. I hope to continue as a post-doctoral researcher upon completion of my PhD and ultimately become a research professor at the university level. I look forward to reciprocating the opportunities and experiences I have had and to inspire future fish ecologists.



TCAFS 2022

STUDENT
CONTRIBUTIONS

◇ MICHAEL CURTIS



TCAFS 2022

STUDENT CONTRIBUTIONS

◇ STORY LESHER

STUDENT CONTRIBUTIONS

STORY LESHER

I recently graduated with my Master of Science degree in environmental science at the University of Houston – Clear Lake. Growing up in South Dakota and completing my undergraduate studies at Grinnell College in Iowa, deciding to move to Houston to attend graduate school was an intimidating but exciting decision. From a young age, I knew I wanted to be a marine biologist when I grew up. I always had a hunch that I was



passionate about marine science but was never able to get the opportunity to confirm it. While looking for post-undergraduate opportunities, I saw an opening to study Dwarf Seahorse (*Hippocampus zosterae*) along the Texas coast at the Environmental Institute of Houston (EIH) with Dr. George Guillen and Dr. Jenny Oakley. I jumped on the opportunity, which would give me my first chance to do research in the marine realm, even though it meant moving across the country.



Joining this project gave me the opportunity to participate in the study design, all field sampling, data management, analysis, and report compilation for Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, who was the contracting agency. The goal of the project was a preliminary density, distribution, and habitat assessment on the understudied Dwarf Seahorse in Texas. We began sampling in the summer of 2020 during the height of the pandemic, traveling to sample bay systems all the way from Galveston Bay to the Lower Laguna

STUDENT CONTRIBUTIONS (STORY LESHER CONTINUED)

Madre. We collected data on water quality, seagrass bed canopy, percent cover, and biomass, as well as nekton community data. Using a pushnet, we caught 79 Dwarf Seahorse that summer, from Matagorda Bay to the Lower Laguna. It was amazing to spend the entire summer on the water, collecting information on these tiny marine animals. I was able to use the data collected to write my master's thesis, "Habitat Use, Distribution, and Density of Dwarf Seahorse (*Hippocampus zosterae*) along the Texas Gulf Coast".

I was lucky enough to be able to participate in a second summer of sampling, examining the effectiveness of different gear types to catch Dwarf Seahorse. At EIH, I was also able to take part in sampling for many other projects, not just along the coast, but all over Texas. This opportunity confirmed my love for field work and the study of marine life. Now, post graduate school, I am looking for opportunities that will allow me to continue to study what I am passionate about. I hope to make a career in coastal fisheries, participating in research that supports a balance between what is best for our coastal environment and the needs of our communities.



Story Lesher graduated from UHCL with a master's degree in environmental science in 2022. Her thesis project was "[Habitat use, distribution, and density of dwarf seahorse \(*Hippocampus zosterae*\) populations along the Texas gulf coast.](#)" While completing her degree at UHCL, Lesher worked as a graduate research assistant at EIH. She also served as a team lead for the [2022 National Lakes Assessment.](#)

TCAFS 2022

STUDENT
CONTRIBUTIONS

◇ STORY LESHER



TCAFS 2022

AUGUST 8, 2022

EXECUTIVE
COMMITTEE
MEETING
MINUTES

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

AUGUST 8, 2022

Call to Order: 1:02 pm by Timothy Birdsong

Members Present: Timothy Birdsong, Christopher Mace, Dakus Geeslin, Sarah Robertson, Steven Bardin, Alice Best, Greg Binion, Jennifer Butler, David Buzan, Brittany Chesser, Greg Cummings, Mukhtar Farooqi, Haley Kokel, Michele Nations, John Taylor

Determination of a quorum: Yes, by Sarah Robertson

Society, Division, and Chapter Updates (Tim)

Action Item (Christopher Mace) Membership survey out by Aug 31st, survey items to include

- Timing of meeting
- What is the most valuable component of an in-person meeting (*i.e.* continuing ed, panel discussions, student mentor lunch, networking event, field trips, virtual option, etc.)
- Barriers to participation (*i.e.*, price, days of the week, etc.)
- Concurrent sessions
- What sponsorship activities (*i.e.*, Live auction, silent auction, etc.)
- Formal meeting rotation between coastal and inland locations?

Action item (Sarah Robertson) Compile attendance stats over past meetings and send out with meeting notes.

Parent Society: Proposed San Antonio for August 2025 meeting, decision later this month

Texas Comptroller Funding Opportunities: Comptroller is requesting TCAFS to advertise grant funding opportunities to membership.

Updates from the Secretary-Treasurer (Sarah)

Still waiting to be invoice by Mo Ranch and receive final sponsorship payment. Plan on preparing updated budget summary for next ExComm meeting.

Roundtable committee updates

Awards (Brittany)

- Presenting awards at the banquet or business meeting for that year?
- We were short on judges this year.

Continuing Education (Tim for Lynn)

- Call for CE courses, poll membership. Tim will follow up with Lynn

Editorial (Alice, Dave)

- **Action Item (Alice)** Send abstracts to Dave to develop proceedings
- First 10-12 pgs of proceedings are historical information. Propose to remove that from the proceedings and put it on the webpage or move it to the back of the proceedings.
- Suggestion of interactive proceedings with webcasts of presentations

Endowments (Sarah for Brian)

- Endowment balance \$435,280.67

- **Action Item (Sarah)** Send out financial update and discuss contributions to the endowment at next ExComm meeting

History (Michele)

- Haley can post on TCAFS social media pages and jobs page

Internet (Audio/Visual) (John)

- **Action Item (Tim)** Send officer webpage update to John
- **Action Item (John)** See if Sarah Haas is still interested in serving as chair
- Michele will help take on webpage duties, looking for one more volun-

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING (AUGUST 8, 2002 CONTINUED)

teer

Issues (Mukhtar)

-Need additional committee members

Membership (Michele)

-196 members (113 professional, 83 students)

Newsletter (Tim for Matt)

-Newsletter coming out soon

Nominating (Greg)

-**Action Item (all)** Need secretary/treasurer and president elect nominees for next year

Pond Management (Greg)

-Sections 1 and 2 complete and under internal review.

-Sections 3 and 4 are in progress

-Next meeting is end of September

Publicity/Exhibits (Steven)

-No update

Scholarship (Jennifer)

- **Action Item (all)** Send names of new professors who would like to receive scholarship solicitation

-**Action Item (all)** Send names of volunteers for judging to Jennifer

Student Outreach (Josh)

-Student volunteer willing to serve on the meeting planning team

Planning/preparations for 2023 TCAFS Annual Meeting (Chris)

-Exploring Omni Corpus Christi

-Other suggestions Harte Research Center, Texas A&M Corpus Christi

-Having a university co-host to leverage cheaper rates

-Meeting timeline:

- Finalize survey by Aug 31st
- Survey Sept 1-16th
- Ex Comm Meeting: Sept 25th
- Location decided by October 7th
- Call for abstracts Oct 9-Nov 30th

Old business:

-Dave Terre Scholarship (Sarah): Tabled until Sept ExComm meeting when Brian can be in attendance.

-RAWA (Tim): **Send SGCN-related social media content to Haley and use #RAWA to show support for RAWA passage.**

Adjourn: 2:51 pm

TCAFS 2022

AUGUST 8, 2022
EXECUTIVE
COMMITTEE
MEETING
MINUTES



TCAFS 2022

SEPTEMBER 9,
2022

EXECUTIVE
COMMITTEE
MEETING
MINUTES

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING SEPTEMBER 9, 2022

Call to Order: 9:05am by Timothy Birdsong

Members Present: Timothy Birdsong, Christopher Mace, Dakus Geeslin, Sarah Robertson, Alice Best, Greg Binion, Haley Kokel, John Taylor, Greg Cummings, Brian VanZee Lynn Wright

Determination of a quorum: Yes, by Sarah Robertson

Member Survey: 118 responses

-Potential Barriers to attending (112 responses): None (47%); Weekday scheduling (28%); January timing (18%); Cost (11%); Transportation (8%); Length of meeting (5%)

-Timing of Meeting (114 responses): January-February (68%)

-Length of Meeting (116 responses): Three days (57%); Two days (35%)

-Most valuable meeting components (118 responses): Oral presentations (86%); Networking events (78%); Poster session (40%); Continuing Education (33%); Student-Mentor Lunch (25%); Panel discussion (21%); Field trips (11%); Vendor exhibits (5%)

-Are there other ways to recognize vendors as opposed to giving them a table? Recognition at banquet or spotlight between sessions including raffling off items.

-Continuing education: student-centered professional development training every other year to reach new students.

-Oral presentations: Add additional presentation slots on Thursday during or before CE courses. Would that compete with CE attendance? Would additional travel/time be a burden on students?

-Least valuable meeting component (110 responses): Vendor exhibits (75%); Field trips (56%); Panel discussions (53%); Continuing education (43%); Poster session (27%); Student-Mentor lunch (22%); Networking event (7%); Oral presentation (5%)

-Student-Mentor lunch: most that ranked it least valuable were fisheries professionals

-Need to be more intentional to provide a diverse set of speakers for panels, CE, plenaries. Targeted CE for women in fisheries.

-Oral presentations (115 responses): Concurrent sessions (59%); One session (41%)

-Consideration for venue choice to accommodate concurrent sessions

-Most members willingly switch to poster sessions if asked as opposed to withdrawing, professionals are prioritized to switch to allow students to give oral presentations

-Other Comments:

-Student lightning talk contest: 3-minute talks with time for group Q&A

-Student posters/presentations awards announced on banquet night. Could ap/Google Form be used to collate scores immediately. Include comment box on form to allow for constructive feedback for students. **Action item:** Alice will reach out to Brittany to explore use of Google form.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING (SEPTEMBER 9, 2022, CONTINUED)

- Meeting Location** (117 responses): Yearly rotation between inland and coastal (55%); Let president-elect choose (30%)
 - Be intentional in tracking meeting locations over time
- Fundraising** (118 responses): Raffle (82%); Silent auction (78%); Live Auction (51%)
 - Historically the live auction brought in more money.

Action item: Tim to get Chris Waco hotel/conference details and meeting templates.

Conference timing:

- Texas academic start dates: January 11-17th, avoid first week of class
- TPW Commission: January 25-26th
- SDAFS: February 1-5th
- Potential options TCAFS: February 9-11; 16-18; 23-25

Timeline:

- Call for abstracts out the first week of October.

Parent Society:

- San Antonio selected as venue for 2025 parent society venue. AFS will handle all conference planning. Assemble chapter committee to support planning.
- Actions to help ensure professional treatment of students in the field (i.e., TCAFS branded gear).

Endowment:

- Action item:** Sarah will shore up financial obligations next week and send out summary to Tim and Brian next week to develop financial proposal for discussion at next ExComm meeting.
- Edward Jones recommends putting scholarship money for 2023 in a CD short term for a better return on investment. Typically, chapter keeps 15-20k on hand in checking account.
- Set aside additional money for 2023 student travel awards.

Old business:

- Dave Terre Scholarship: Tabled until next ExComm meeting to be presented with financial proposal.

Adjourn: 11:05 am

TCAFS 2022

SEPTEMBER 9,
2022

EXECUTIVE
COMMITTEE
MEETING
MINUTES



**TCAFS
BEHIND THE
SCENES:**

**EXECUTIVE
COMMITTEE**

**COMMITTEE
CHAIRS AND
MEMBERS**

BEHIND THE SCENES

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

PRESIDENT Tim Birdsong
PRESIDENT-ELECT Christopher Mace
PAST PRESIDENT Dakus Geeslin
SECRETARY-TREASURER Sarah Robertson

COMMITTEE CHAIRS AND MEMBERS

AWARDS Brittany Chesser
CONTINUING EDUCATION Lynn Wright
EDITORIAL Alice Best & Dave Buzan
ENDOWMENTS Brian VanZee
HISTORY Michele Nations
INTERNET John Taylor
ISSUES Mukhtar Farooqi
MEMBERSHIP Michele Nations & Haley
Kokel
NEWSLETTER Matt Troia
NOMINATING Greg Cummings
POND MANAGEMENT Greg Binion
PUBLICITY/EXHIBITS Steve Bardin
SCHOLARSHIP Jennifer Butler
STUDENT OUTREACH Josh Perkin

TEXAS CHAPTER AMERICAN FISHERIES SOCIETY PURPOSE AND GOALS

The general purposes and responsibilities of the Texas Chapter are as follows:

1. Support AFS Parent Society objectives. Specifically:
 - A. Promote the conservation, development, and wise use of the fisheries;
 - B. Promote and evaluate the development and advancement of all branches of fisheries science and practice;
 - C. Gather and disseminate to Society members and the general public scientific, technical, and other information about fisheries science and practice through publications, meetings, and other forms of communication; and
 - D. Encourage the teaching of fisheries science and practice in colleges and universities and the continuing education and development of fisheries professionals.
2. As the smallest geographically defined unit recognized as being operationally independent in the Society's Constitution, a Chapter shares the purposes of the Society but is intended to advance the Society's objectives over a more localized area than the Divisions, in this case, within the state of Texas.
3. The Texas Chapter generally provides for interaction among professionals within Texas. The Texas Chapter is a unit of the Southern Division.
4. Facilitate communication among members (by newsletters and other means) regarding fisheries science issues and the conduct of the fisheries profession within the Chapter's region.
5. Hold meetings, publish works, and perform other activities on a technical and semi-technical level that advance the status and performance of the fisheries profession within the Chapter's region.
6. Determine the views of members relative to professional topics affecting their performance, for example, by conducting surveys and considering resolutions.
7. Present the views of Chapter members to the Division membership, the AFS membership, and to the general public and government agencies within the Chapter's boundaries.
8. Hold annual meetings at which all Bylaw responsibilities are carried out.
9. Serve as technical and professional advisors to government agencies within the Chapter's region.
10. Promote the fisheries profession within the Chapter's boundaries through active and positive relations with journalists, government officials, special interest groups, other professional organizations, and the general public.
11. Promote proper use of aquatic resources by initiating and participating in special projects that increase public awareness, expand participation, improve habitat, and protect fragile resources.

A message from the newsletter team:

If you have ideas for stories or photographs from the field you would like to share please email Matt Troia (troiamj@gmail.com). We can help develop and write stories, so please reach out, even if the idea is not completed yet.

TCAFS

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TCAFS NEWSLETTER

Newsletter Editor—Matt Troia
troiamj@gmail.com

