

Mainstream

President's Message by Sandy Clark-Kolaks



Change and uncertainty, those are the words that seem to be on my mind constantly these days. We have all experienced them at some point in our lives. However, I think few could say they have experienced it on such an overt and large scale. I personally have been struggling to find my “happy” place and with each day it seems that what I hold dear, both professionally and socially, are being eroded.

I chose this profession because I have a passion for environmental protection and wise resource management. Within our profession, I would say all of us, to varying degrees, fall under that description to some extent. Some may lean more on the solar panel/granola side than others but we all have a drive and desire to protect and enhance aquatic habitats. So, I am guessing, like me, many of

you may be in panic mode with the current national budget proposal that threatens all that we and others have worked for.

The proposed budget would cripple many federal agencies and have a negative impact on many state and NGO programs. The proposed budget will mandate a 12 percent (\$1.5 billion) cut for the Department of the Interior, 21 percent (\$4.7 billion) for the U.S. Department of Agriculture and 31 percent (\$2.6 billion) for the Environmental Protection Agency. Restoration programs for the Chesapeake Bay watershed and invasive species removal efforts in the Great Lakes would be eliminated entirely.

The attack on science and facts has been slowly building and I feel like it is tied to a perceived lack of value for the science of conservation by some. I think this is reflected in the proposed budget...that science and research are expendable. I for one do not agree with that and I hope many of you agree.

Even if these numbers are decreased, what is being proposed is easily the greatest threat to conservation in my lifetime. This feels like my Silent Spring. So, I reflect on those who paved the way for us; Aldo Leopold, Rachel Carson, John Muir, and others, how did they find the courage

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President's Message (continued)

and strength to stand up and fight for the cause? How did they persevere when they felt discouraged and the odds were unsurmountable? My thoughts are that they stayed connected to the resource and found solace there. I have several friends who have been activists for many years and one of the key things they talk about is self-health. We must be healthy and strong because this is going to be a long fight. Secondly, strength is in numbers. Build a group of people that inspire you and motivate you. I participated in my first rally with the Women's March earlier this year. This was easily one of the greatest things I have ever done. To be surrounded by people who are passionate, creative, and motivated is amazing and uplifting. I encourage everyone to participate in the March for Science on April 22. There are marches

planned across the US that will demonstrate that science and research are valuable and not expendable. And finally, be present and participate. That may mean signing a petition, calling your legislators, or attending a rally. Find what you feel comfortable with but please don't assume someone else is going to do the work. Imagine if Rachel Carson had decided she was too busy to write *Silent Spring* or Aldo Leopold had decided to keep his thoughts and ideas to himself. We owe it to all those who came before us to do our part to protect their legacy and everything we hold dear.

Sandy Clark-Kolaks
Southern Fisheries Research Biologist
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COMMITTEE REPORTS

Past-President/Governing Board Report

by Melissa Wuellner, NCD Immediate Past President

It's time for a couple of important votes for the NCD! First, we have two excellent candidates for the office of Vice President: [Heather Hettinger](#) (Michigan Chapter) and [Jeff Koch](#) (Kansas Chapter). Candidate biographies were previously distributed through the NCD listserv at the beginning of March but can be found by clicking on their names (above) and are currently posted on the NCD webpage (<http://ncd.fisheries.org>). The winner of the election will ascend the ranks and become the Division president beginning at the AFS Reno meeting in 2018. Thank you to both Heather and Jeff for running for this important office in our Division!

The second vote is to approve changes to the NCD bylaws. The Bylaws Ad-hoc Committee of Melissa Wuellner, Sandy Clark-Kolaks, Mark Pyron, John Bruner, Joe Conroy, Patrick Hanchin, Kristen Patterson, Gary Whelan, and Jodi Whittier worked to update and clean the document, which hadn't been updated since 2010. The edits reflect changes in Society governance and are in line with other AFS Divisions. John Boreman, AFS Constitutional Consultant, was consulted throughout and the NCD Governing Board approved a motion to pass the revised document on for a 30-day public comment period and vote of the membership in late February 2017. The proposed revisions were sent out through the NCD listserv on March 1 for public comment, and only two minor comments were received. A huge thanks to the Bylaws Committee for their hard work to get this

important document revised!

Votes on both the Vice President and the acceptance of the bylaws revisions will be conducted online in accordance to NCD procedures. NCD members can access the survey at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/CSK3NTN> or through the link that was sent through the NCD listserv on 3/31/17. Voting will end on 4/14/17. Don't forget to vote! The NCD wants to hear from you!

Secretary/Treasurer's report

by Tony Barada

2017 Business Meeting Minutes
77th Midwest Fish & Wildlife Conference
Cornhusker Marriott Hotel, Arbor Room
Lincoln, NE, February 6, 2017

President Clark-Kolaks called the meeting to order at 5:00PM. Forty-six members were in attendance, therefore the requirement for a quorum was met.

Introduction of Special Guests

President Clark-Kolaks introduced special guests in the crowd including Doug Austen (AFS Executive Director) and Joe Margraf (AFS President).

Approval of the 2016 Business Meeting Minutes

The 2016 business meeting minutes were posted on the NCD website and in the spring newsletter (Mainstream). No comments or changes to the business meeting minutes

were received. A motion to approve the business meeting minutes as written was made by Mark Pegg, seconded by John Bruner, and motion approved by membership.

AFS Report

Joe Margraf: Good to be back in the North Central Division. Retired in August 2016 so that has helped me focus on AFS duties. There is a lot of travel involved with AFS. We have a large international presence, which is very exciting! Recently we have been involved with meetings in China, Brazil, now Japan coming up in July. There are a couple things I'd like to bring to the forefront during my time as president. 1) Elevate the importance of the fisheries profession – help people understand what we do, and 2) Elevate the quality of AFS publications – what can we do in this regard while remaining relevant to our members?

Doug Austen: Excited to be here. AFS international presence and relationships continue to grow. We have members in 60 countries and have six partnership agreements with other countries/societies. Turning to things closer to home, during 2016 AFS held numerous meetings to collect input and develop a set of topic areas and recommendations for the new Presidential administration. These recommendations are detailed in the 'Future of the Nations Fisheries and Aquatic Resources' publication and can be viewed and/or downloaded on our website <http://fisheries.org>. As far as AFS publications, there are plans to have a focused workshop to rethink and revamp AFS journals. Additionally, there have been discussions about a new journal format, possibly focusing on technical issues/reports that a lot of state agencies haven't had the funding to continue to print. Stay tuned. Annual Meeting in Tampa Bay is coming up and will be a great meeting. A lot of good AFS meetings and locations being planned: Atlantic City, NJ (2018), Reno, NV (2019, TWS/AFS joint meeting), Columbus, OH (2020, AFS 150th Anniversary). Worth noting that the Southern Division will be having their annual meeting in San Juan, Puerto Rico in March of 2018. The value of AFS membership is something that we're trying to promote, especially to state chapters. AFS has a traveling display board, a PowerPoint presentation, website features and a membership brochure that highlight the many benefits AFS can provide to members.

Treasurer's Report

The North Central Division of the American Fisheries Society has \$86,227.94 in two accounts (checking and AFS investments) as of December 31, 2016. Consult Tony (tony.barada@nebraska.gov) about specific questions about these accounts.

NCD-AFS total funds:

Joe Conroy made a motion to approve the treasurer's report as written, seconded by Jeff Kopaska, and motion approved by membership.

President-Elect Report

President-Elect Mark Pyron presented his plan of work for 2017-2018:

Theme 1: Review current NCD Strategic Plan

- a) Review progress
- b) Consult with NCD officers and past-officers to determine emerging needs and concerns
- c) Develop work plan to meet goals and objectives

Theme 2: Membership Value

- a) Create free job board through the NCD website
- b) Investigate remote continuing education possibilities
- c) Financial support for travel for young and established professionals

Theme 3: Maintain communications with the NCD

- a) Regular calls with state chapters, student subunits, standing committees and technical committees

Motion to approve President-Elect Mark Pyron's Plan of Work by Melissa Wuellner, seconded by John Bruner, and approved unanimously.

President Report

President Sandy Clark-Kolaks presented her plan of work for 2016-2017:

Theme 1: Membership Value

- a) Create a free job board on the NCD website
- b) Investigate remote continuing education possibilities
- c) Financial support for travel for young and established professionals

Theme 2: Maintain communications with the NCD

- a) Regular conference calls with EXCOM members and chapters
- b) Development of electronic reporting tools for mid- and end-of-year reports
- c) Up-to-date information disseminated from the Society to NCD members

President Clark-Kolaks reviewed the proposed 2017 budget:

Income	AFS Dues Rebate	\$6,500
	AFS Invest Interest	\$1,200
Expenses	NCD Officer Travel	\$5000
	AFS Officer Midwest Expenses	\$2000
	Duffy Awards	\$1000
	Award Plaques	\$150
	Sponsorships	\$2,000
	General Funding request	\$1,000

Motion to approve President Clark-Kolaks's Plan of Work and proposed budget by Melissa Wuellner, seconded by Mark Pyron, and approved unanimously.

Immediate Past-President Report

Immediate Past-President Wuellner announced elections for Vice President will be occurring soon. At the time of the meeting, only one candidate had been identified. Another candidate is needed. This position is a great opportunity to get involved in AFS and really see how the society functions (opportunity to be a part of the Governing Board and Management Committee during your term). When a second candidate is found, an e-mail with candidate biographies will be sent out for a 30-day viewing period followed by a 14-day voting period.

A lot of great volunteers were involved in the NCD Bylaws revision. The Bylaws hadn't been revised in a while and it was time to clean them up and streamline them with AFS. The NCD governing board will review the revisions. If approved, the NCD Bylaws revisions will be sent out to the NCD membership (hopefully at the same time as the Vice President nominations) and a 30-day viewing period followed by a 14-day voting period will take place to determine if the revisions will be accepted.

Communications Committee (Jeremy Tiemann): Looking for additional moderators for Facebook account. This would help with keeping a timely and relevant flow of content posted for our members. Elisa Baebler, graduate research assistant at the Missouri Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Research Unit, volunteered to be another moderator.

Continuing Education Committee (Melissa Wuellner reporting for David Deslauriers): The CE committee hosted 'Introduction to Fisheries Data Analysis with R' workshop at this conference with 22 individuals participating. At the workshop, Nathaniel Lederman

was presented the inaugural NCD Continuing Education Young Professional Workshop Award. Don't forget to check out the Continuing Education page on the NCD website. It is an excellent place to learn about upcoming CE events and even watch or link to past CE webinars.

Membership Committee: No Report

Nominating Committee (Craig Paukert): Currently gathering nominations for AFS Second Vice President. Several individuals have been identified (including a few NCD members). The committee will select the top candidates, biographies will be published, and a vote will be held later this year.

Resolutions Committee: No report.

Student Affairs Committee: Looking for a chair. Contact any NCD officer if you are interested or know someone that would be good for the position.

Technical Committee Reports

Centrarchid Technical Committee: No report.

Esocid Technical Committee (Cory Kovacs): Janice Kerns was installed as the new chair. A Southern Division representative was added to the committee. There are now 13 voting members. The Musky Symposium held last spring was well attended. The committee is now making preparations for the next step, publishing the proceedings. The costs to publish in book format will be around \$25K.

Ictalurid Technical Committee (Ben Neely): Formal planning for Catfish 2020 is underway. The symposium will be held in conjunction with the SDAFS meeting in Little Rock, Arkansas during early-spring 2020. Exact dates have not been set, but the current thought is to have the symposium the Wednesday and Thursday prior to the SDAFS meeting allowing for individuals the option to register for Catfish 2020 only, or register for the entire conference.

Reservoir Technical Committee (Rebecca Krogman and Joe Conroy): Minnesota representative added to the committee. Still searching for reps from KS, MI, MO, and WI. This was the 3rd consecutive year the committee has hosted a symposium at the MFWFC. Very well attended again this year! Currently looking for a focused project that the committee can work on together.

Rivers & Streams Technical Committee (Matt Matheney): Held winter business meeting earlier during the conference. Aleshia Kenney was installed as the new chair. Spring meeting is planned for March 14-15 in Rock Island, IL. Again, offering free lodging to students interested in attending the meeting. Contact Aleshia or Matt for more information.

Salmonid Technical Committee: No report.

Walleye Technical Committee (John Bruner): Updated the purpose of the WTC of the Bylaws of the NCD AFS Article VII. 4.c) vii) to include *Perca flavescens*. The joint summer meeting of the Centrarchid Technical Committee (CTC), Esocid Technical Committee (ETC), and Walleye Technical Committee (WTC) was held during July in Nebraska where 56 people registered for the meeting. The joint winter business meeting of the CTC, ETC, and WTC was held February 5, 2014 where 22 people attended the 95-minute meeting. The 60-page pdf of the WTC winter meeting reports are posted on the WTC website. WTC 9th Annual Sander Travel Award was awarded to Andrew P. Bade, M.Sc. student in the Department of Evolution, Ecology, and Organismal Biology at The Ohio State University. The 2017 Joint Summer Meeting of the WTC, CTC, & ETC will be July 18-20, 2017 in Isle, Minnesota.

New Business:

Wisconsin formally asked NCD for sponsorship (\$1000) of the 78th Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference that will be held January 28 – 31 in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. President Clark-Kolaks mentioned that this type of sponsorship is factored in to the budget and the NCD would be happy to provide sponsorship of the conference.

There was discussion about the uncertainty of how the planning of future Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conferences is conducted. Currently there is only one conference listed as a ‘future meeting’. That is next year’s conference in Wisconsin. What’s happening during 2019? If tradition follows, Ohio would be the next state to host. No official comment from Ohio was provided. Ohio is already slated to host the 150th Annual AFS Meeting in 2020. Would they want to, or be approved to host the Midwest conference the year prior? Further discussion between NCD officers, TWS counterparts,

and the possible future host state’s representatives was recommended.

Upcoming Meetings & Locations

2018 Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference in Wisconsin (Location TBD)

Motion to adjourn at 6:32pm

Esocid Technical Committee

by Cory Kovacs

The Esocid Technical Committee (ETC) held their 2016 The Esocid Technical Committee met jointly with the Centrarchid and Walleye Technical committees in Lincoln, Nebraska at the Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference on Feb. 5, 2017. The Esocid Technical Committee had a total of 5 attendees and 7 states from the North Central Division (Indiana, Iowa, Michigan, Missouri, Nebraska, Ohio, and Wisconsin) submitted state updates. In addition, we received our first updates from our new members in the Southern Division. These new updates were submitted by Jeff Hansbarger, Michael Kashiwagi and Matt Sell and consisted of reports from West Virginia and Maryland. During the business meeting topics discussed included technical committee budget, By-laws updates, and ideas for the Esocid Symposia for 2020 AFS Meeting in Columbus, Ohio. Cory Kovacs suggested that the ETC may present two symposia (Muskellunge and Northern Pike) at the 2020 annual meeting. The committee will not be developing a new book from the symposia as the Muskie Symposium book should be completed in either 2018 or 2019. During the meeting, Cory Kovacs was also recognized with a Certificate of Appreciation plaque for his past hard work serving two years as Chair of the Committee and Janice Kerns was installed as the new Chair. The 2017 ETC business meeting will be held in conjunction again with the joint Centrarchid and Walleye Technical Committee Meetings and will be in Mille Lacs Lake, Minnesota - July 18-20, 2017. Meeting minutes from the 2017 Winter Business meeting along with detailed state updates can be found at: <http://ncd.fisheries.org/esocid/>.

Walleye Technical Committee

by Jeff Koch

The NCD Walleye Technical Committee (WTC) conducted their annual winter meeting at the Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference in Lincoln, NE on February 5. The meeting was held in concert with the Esocid (ETC) and Centrarchid (CTC) Technical Committees. A total of 22 members representing 10 states or provinces attended. Highlights of the business meeting included the presentation of the Sander travel award to Andrew Bade of Ohio State University, as well as certificates of appreciation to WTC past-chair John Bruner and ETC past-chair Cory Kovacs. State update summaries were given by those in attendance regarding percid, centrarchid, and esocid management and research. An invitation was made to attend the joint summer meeting of the WTC, ETC, and CTC in Isle, MN. The summer meeting is scheduled for July 18-20, 2017 at McQuoid's Inn on the shores of Mille Lacs Lake. The meeting will include a one-day continuing education workshop regarding emerging challenges in walleye management, using Mille Lacs Lake as a focal example. Please contact [Jeff Koch](#), [Hilary Meyer](#), or [Dale Logsdon](#) with questions regarding the summer meeting. We hope to see you all at Mille Lacs in July!



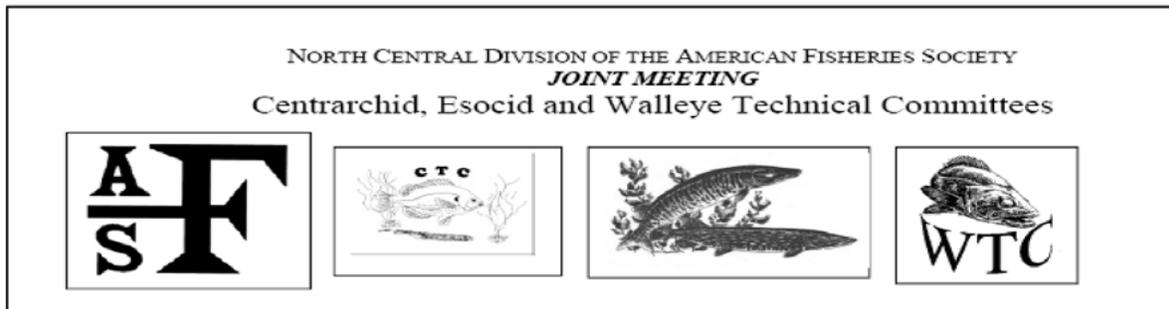
Figure 1. Jeff Koch (right), 2017 WTC Chair, presented Andrew P. Bade, from Ohio State University, a \$100 check and the walleye book as part of the WTC 9th Annual Sander Travel Award.



Figure 4. Jonathan Meerbeek (left), Esocid Technical Committee member, presented Dr. Cory Kovacs (right), Past-Chair of the ETC, a plaque in appreciation of his service to the ETC.



Figure 2. Joseph Conroy (right), AFS Ohio Chapter representative, presented a \$100 check from the Ohio Chapter, matching the WTC Sander Travel award to Andrew P. Bade.



2017 Joint Meeting of the Centrarchid, Esocid, and Walleye Technical Committees – North Central Division of the American Fisheries Society

ANNOUNCEMENT AND CALL FOR PAPERS

Dates: July 18-20, 2017

**Location: McQuoids Inn, Isle, Minnesota
(800) 862-3535 or www.mcquoids.com**

Meeting

The Joint Meeting will include a BBQ social Tuesday evening, a full day of presentations on Wednesday, a dinner social Wednesday evening, and a half day of presentations/business meetings on Thursday. Registration cost is anticipated at \$60 and will include both socials, coffee breaks, and lunch on Wednesday. Continental breakfast is included with lodging. Students are half price.

Continuing Education

A workshop entitled “Managing Walleye fisheries under adversity and change: A case history of Mille Lacs” will be held Tuesday, July 18th. The workshop will include a launch trip (party fishing) on Mille Lacs in the morning followed by lunch, an afternoon of presentations about the Mille Lacs fishery, and a group discussion about challenges to managing Walleye fisheries across the Midwest. Cost is anticipated at \$50 per person.

Lodging

A block of double occupancy rooms have been held at a rate of \$64.95 + tax under the name American Fisheries Society until **June 18th**. Various sized cabins are also available for group lodging. Contact McQuoids Inn for reservations and additional information.

Registration and Presentation Submittal

Contact Hilary Meyer at Hilary.Meyer@state.sd.us for registration and submission of paper abstracts. Payment will be accepted as cash or check at the door (sorry, we are unable to process credit cards or other forms of electronic payment). Deadline for registration is **June 18th**.

Reservoir Technical Committee

by Rebecca Krogman



An excavator sits atop a built road filling truckload after truckload of sediment as it digs one of the deepest areas out.

Habitat Work at Conestoga Reservoir Inspires...

Conestoga Reservoir, just outside of Lincoln, is a hotbed of activity as construction workers excavate and reshape the lake basin, following a carefully laid out rehabilitation plan designed by fisheries biologists of Nebraska Game and Parks' Aquatic Habitat Program. Led by Mark Porath, the Aquatic Habitat Program invests in renewing the life of aging reservoirs across the state, as well as guiding the development of fish habitat and angler access at new reservoirs being constructed (four are in progress). This is no easy task, but a careful science-guided approach that has proven itself through Nebraska's program. Established in 1997, the program has rehabilitated aquatic habitats and improved angler access at 110 locations, spending \$68,000,000 with 71 different funding partners.



Our gracious Nebraskan hosts provided a personal tour of Conestoga Reservoir to an avid group of fisheries professionals on Wednesday, February 8. The afternoon was chilly after a storm front had passed through, turning the drawn-down reservoir into a broad, shallow puddle. Modifying the existing outlet structure to install a low

level gate allowed for a more extensive drawdown than ever before, a useful addition to facilitate future reservoir repairs, manage aquatic vegetation, maintain the new sediment/nutrient retention and wetland water quality cells. Amazingly, the crews continued to work in the muddy conditions.



A massive amount of dirt work is being done to create holes, ledges, ridges, and bumps across the lake bottom, as well as to create several breakwaters for shoreline protection and fishing access. Construction equipment is guided by GPS to ensure the final product aligns with the plan; this fascinating technology is similar to that which guides precision farming equipment. Excavated sediment will be used to enhance surrounding upland prairie and grassland, which will then serve as public hunting area. A multi-tiered sediment retention system at the top of the reservoir was perhaps one of the most important additions, reducing future negative impacts of sediment and nutrient inflow to the main lake.





Along with numerous habitat additions, including stake beds, rip rap, and brush piles, Conestoga Reservoir will also install a great deal of large woody debris resembling “as-built” conditions. Many existing trees which have been uprooted during the construction process will be placed back in the reservoir before filling, instead of being burned or buried as is typical in earthwork construction.

The Conestoga tour was a great experience and deeply appreciated by the Reservoir Technical Committee and its guests. Thank you, Nebraska friends!



If you missed the habitat tour, reservoir symposium, committee meeting, or simply want to be more connected with the Reservoir Technical Committee, please join our mailing list at <http://eepurl.com/bOTrO1>.



Finally a new three-lane concrete boat ramp will provide launch access and has been relocated into a protected bay on the north side of the reservoir. The breakwater protecting the bay also provides shoreline fishing access near the main entrance and parking areas. Numerous other improvements are being made throughout the reservoir and following the installation of BMPs for improved soil management on surrounding land. The project is truly inspiring and demonstrative of how proper planning can succeed in rejuvenating an older system.



CHAPTER & STUDENT SUBUNIT REPORTS

Minnesota Chapter

Patrick Schmalz

On February 21-23, 2017, the Minnesota Chapter of the American Fisheries Society held its 50th annual meeting in St. Cloud. The meeting theme was “Fisheries Management”: Where Science Meets Society.” Approximately 130 students and professionals attended the meeting which was kicked off by a welcome gathering, with liquid refreshments generously provided by Bent Paddle brewery (thanks again to our Ad-Hops Committee Chair, Brian Borkholder). At the annual business meeting, Patrick Schmalz (MNDNR Fisheries Research) was installed as President and Paul Glander (US Fish and Wildlife Service) was selected as President-Elect. New executive committee members elected were Neal Mundahl (Winona State University) and Craig Kelling (US Fish and Wildlife Service). Calub Shavik (MNDNR Fisheries) was elected to his 6th term as Secretary-Treasurer). The plenary session began with past-president Dr. Joel Hofmann discussing the benefits of American Fisheries Society membership. He was followed by Dr. Paul Venturelli, “almost Associate” Professor in the Department of Fisheries, Wildlife, and Conservation Biology at the University of Minnesota whose presentation was titled, “Helping the invisible hand: three innovative techniques and their potential to transform recreational fisheries”. Closing out the plenary was Dr. Melissa Wuellner, assistant professor in the Department of Natural Resource Management at South Dakota State University, and NCD past-president. Her presentation was titled, “Millennials, millennials everywhere”. Over the following day, more than 40 oral presentations and 15 poster presentations were given. To cap it off, the evening featured an awards banquet and impressive raffle organized by the University of Minnesota student sub-unit, aided by Kristan Maccaroni. Special thanks to Eric Altena, Owen Baird, Mandy Erickson, Gretchen Hansen, Jon Hansen, Michelle Krecklau, Christy Meredith, Keith Reeves, and Calub Shavlik for their time and energy to organize a fantastic meeting! Conference information and presentations can be found at <http://mnafs.org>.



Minnesota Chapter Past-President Joel Hoffman (left) receives recognition for his service to the chapter from President Patrick Schmalz



Calub Shavlik (right) is presented with a Special Recognition Award for his 10 years serving as Minnesota Chapter Secretary-Treasurer.



Keith Reeves (left) presenting the MN Sea Grant Best Student Paper award to Joshua Poole.



Keith Reeves (right) presenting the Best Student Poster award to Steven Hauschildt.

Wisconsin Chapter

Daniel Isermann

On February 28-March 1, 2017, the Wisconsin Chapter of the American Fisheries Society held their annual meeting in Milwaukee. The meeting was held jointly with the Wisconsin Chapter of the Wildlife Society. Over 200 students and professionals attended the meeting, which included 37 platform presentations and 16 poster presentations with a good proportion of the presentations being provided by students. Our WIAFS student sub-units (Northland College, UW-Green Bay, UW-Stevens Point, UW-Stout) were well represented at this year's meeting and provided outstanding updates about their activities during the business meeting. The Great WIAFS Photo Fishing Challenge that was initiated by Max Wolter (WDNR, Fisheries Biologist, Hayward) was a great success and will occur again in 2017. Additionally, the first installment of "Fisheries Bootcamp", which provided additional field experience to sub-unit students at the Escanaba Lake Research Station in Boulder Junction was a success and will occur again this year. Dan Isermann (USGS/UWSP Cooperative Fishery Research Unit) was installed as president and Derek Ogle (Northland College) was selected to be President-Elect. Ted Treska (USFWS, Green Bay) remains as Secretary/Treasurer.

At the end of the meeting, the Steve Serns Best Professional Paper was awarded to Ryan Koenigs (WDNR, Fisheries Biologist, Oshkosh) for his presentation "Downstream Passage Survival of Lake Sturgeon at the Shawano Paper Mill and Balsam Row Dams, Wolf River, Wisconsin". The Steve Yeo Best Student Paper award was presented to Douglas Zentner (UW-Stevens Point) for his talk "Using GIS to Predict Nearshore Substrate Composition in Lakes". The Best Poster award was given to Benjamin Schleppenbach (UW-Stevens Point) for his poster entitled "Genetic Origin of Walleye Stocked in the Manitowish Chain of Lakes, Vilas County, WI".

The Wisconsin Chapter is well into planning for the Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference that will be held in Milwaukee during January 2018. Please see our Chapter website www.wi-afs.org for more information on our chapter and for instructions on how to be added to our email list.



North Central Division

of the American Fisheries Society

NCD-AFS Job Board!

The [NCD-AFS website has a jobs board](#). Be sure to check it out if you are looking for temporary or permanent fisheries positions. If you have a posting to share, please email [Brian Borkholder](#) and he will post to the site.

Announcing - Catfish 2020

The North Central Division and the South Central Division are in the planning stages of Catfish 2020. Organizers are hoping this early announcement will motivate those interested in addressing ictalurid questions to conduct research projects like catfish population dynamics in wadable streams, life history of various *Noturus* species, or ecological effects of introduced catfishes outside their native ranges. Catfish 2020 will be a great venue to present and publish those data. Bookmark the [Catfish 2020 site](#) and make sure to periodically check the site for more information.



Photo courtesy USFWS/Duane Raver



Photo courtesy USFWS/Duane Raver

UPCOMING EVENTS

Society Freshwater Science (formerly "NABS") 2017 Meeting - Raleigh NC - June 4-9, 2017

Theme - *Designing our Freshwater Futures*

See SFS for details: <http://freshwater-science.org/Annual-Meeting/Annual-Meeting.cfm>

American Society of Ichthyologists and Herpetologists 2017 meeting - Austin, TX - July 12-16

<http://conferences.k-state.edu/JMIH-Austin-2017/>

American Fisheries Society 2017 annual meeting - Tampa, FL - August 20-24

https://secure.fisheries.org/MemberResponsive/Events/Conference_List.aspx