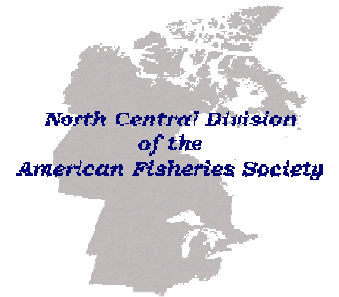


Mainstream

Fall 2004, Volume 21(2)

Dakota - Illinois - Indiana - Iowa - Kansas - Michigan - Mid-Canada -
Minnesota - Missouri - Nebraska - Ohio - Ontario - Wisconsin



President's Message

By Mike Brown

Greetings and welcome to a new Division year – one that I anticipate will bring both challenges and opportunity to the NCD! I suspect that that NCD members who had the opportunity to attend the recent Madison meeting would agree with me in that the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, AFS Wisconsin Chapter, and the University of Wisconsin Sea Grant hosted a splendid meeting – kudos to those folks! In that vein, there was considerable activity at the parent society meeting that warrants a brief overview, especially for those folks that did not have the opportunity to attend. The reduced list of business activities that should be highlighted are as follows (in no particular order):

- Sustaining membership dues increased to \$350 starting in 2005.
- Two new membership categories for members in developing countries were created: \$5 without a print subscription to Fisheries and \$25 with a print subscription to Fisheries.
- Draft study report and AFS policy statement on dam removal was approved.
- Policy guidelines for the Investment Advisory Committee adopted.
- 2005-2009 AFS Strategic Plan approved.
- Incoming President Barb Knuth's Plan of Work approved.
- Registration fees for 2005 Annual Meeting (Anchorage, yea!) set at \$295 early/\$450 late.
- Officially endorsed National Fish Habitat Initiative.
- Approved Ottawa, Canada, as the site of the 2008 Annual Meeting.
- Suspended rule that Chapters must request their dues rebates.
- Renamed a publication award to "Mercer Patriarche Best Paper Award in the North American Journal of Fisheries Management."

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This is newsletter is published twice a year. Deadlines for submission are April and September 1st. The views and opinions expressed herein are not necessarily those of the NCD. From the website:

<http://www.fw.umn.edu/ncdafs>

Editor: Rich Zweifel



From the above list I would like to point out that the 2005 – 2009 AFS Strategic Plan was extremely well done – Linda Bireley and the Strategic Plan Review Committee are to be commended for their efforts. The plan, similar in structure to the previous plan, focuses on

aquatic stewardship, information transfer and outreach, and member services. However, the new document goes beyond our previous plan by providing more definitive information on “where we are” and “where we want to be” in relation to focus areas, goals, and strategies. Also, examples are provided to simplify the planning process and identify success benchmarks. A summary list of the major differences between the new and old plans include:

- Major goals have been renamed focus areas
- Subgoals have been renamed goals
- Focus areas, goals and strategies have been presented in order of descending priority, as determined by the 2003-2004 AFS Governing Board
- Where we are, where we want to be and examples of success have been expanded and updated to 2005 – 2009
- One or more entities have been listed as having logical responsibility for either completing a strategy/target or reporting results achieved.
- 10 strategies and 21 targets have been deleted
- 15 strategies and 43 targets have been added
- Appendices that provided work sheets have been replaced with appendices that provide correspondence between numbering system used for strategies and targets in the two plans

As described in the new plan, “the mission of Divisions within the American Fisheries Society is to advance Society goals by coordinating and complementing Chapter activities related to information exchange, outreach, aquatic stewardship, and governance at a regional level and to maintain a liaison role with regional resource stakeholders. Divisions serve member needs in large geographic areas by coordinating with provincial, state, and tribal agencies and organizations as well as among AFS Units and by representing Chapter needs to the AFS leadership.”

We are in the transition year between the first plan (1999 - 2004) and the new plan (2005 - 2009). Therefore, in preparation for the NCD to meet our obligations as defined above, I have structured the work plan for 2004 - 2005 within the framework of the new plan. The NCD five-year strategic plan is in development and we anticipate having a draft for review by the end of the Midwest meeting. The following draft work plan provides key focal elements and targets for the year.

NCD Plan of Work, 2004 – 2005

Focus Areas: Aquatic Stewardship (AS), Information Transfer and Outreach (ITO), and Member Services (MS)

- ✓ The NCD will be active in providing scientifically-based information to assist policy makers and other publics in developing sound natural resource policies. NCD members are recognized as important sources of science-based information, but to be more effective in achieving this objective the NCD will assist Chapters in developing workshops to train members in dealing with media and policy groups. The NCD also will support the implementation of the National Fish Habitat Initiative and continued development of the North American Fisheries Action Plan. (*Goal AS 1, Local and Global Leadership: Strategy AS 1.5, Targets 1.5a – 1.5b; Goal MS 2, Science-based Information: Strategy MS 2.1, Target MS 2.1b & c; Strategy MS 2.4, Target 2.4b*)

- ✓ The NCD will support programs and activities produced by Division units to educate various publics on aquatic resource issues. The NCD also will disseminate and support use of FCF-derived materials to facilitate information transfer to general audiences. The NCD will promote conferences and symposia that focus on sustainability and sound stewardship. (*Goal AS 2, Stewardship Education: Strategy AS 2.1, Target 2.1b; AS 2.3, Target 2.3a; Strategy AS 2.10, Targets 2.10 a & b*)
- ✓ The NCD will promote the use of sound science in the stewardship and conservation of aquatic ecosystems. The NCD will increase the number of aquatic stewardship activities of the Division by partnering, as appropriate, with other organizations. The NCD will actively support member/unit applications for grants/contracts that will result in resources to be used in aquatic stewardship policy and management decisions. (*Goal AS 3, Promotion of Stewardship: Strategy AS 3.1, Target AS 3.1.1; Strategy AS 3.3, Target AS 3.3.a*)
- ✓ The NCD will promote the visibility and image of AFS by supporting an increase in the number of member fisheries articles produced for popular press print and online distribution. The NCD will assist its' technical committees with publishing articles in scientific journals and developing posters promoting aquatic stewardship. The NCD will assist individual members or Division groups interested in developing an FCF project. (*Goal ITO 1, Visibility: Strategy ITO 1.2, Target ITO 1.2a & b; Goal ITO 1, Visibility: Strategy ITO 1.3, Target ITO 1.3a*)
- ✓ The NCD will participate, as appropriate, with other scientific organizations to produce joint meetings and other collaborations. The NCD will participate in the Midwest Fish & Wildlife Conference to be held December 12 – 15, 2004 in Indianapolis, IN. (*Goal ITO 2, Collaboration: Strategy ITO 2.1, Target ITO 2.1a; Goal MS 2, Science-based Information: Strategy MS 2.1, Target MS 2.1b & c; Strategy MS 2.4, Target 2.4b*)
- ✓ The NCD will promote activities that focus on professional standards and foster recognition of fisheries professionals. (*Goal ITO 3, Professional Stature: Strategy ITO 3.5, Target ITO 3.5a*)
- ✓ The NCD will update and expand its' web site to include strategic elements and maintain a current information network. The NCD will continue the electronic publication of the Mainstream and notify members electronically when a new edition has been published. The NCD will encourage Chapters to keep their web sites and other information resources up-to-date. (*Goal ITO 4, Information Network: Strategy ITO 4.2, Target ITO 4.2a; Goal MS 3, Online and Web Services: Strategy MS 3.1, Target 3.1d; Strategy 3.3, Target 3.3 a & b*)
- ✓ The NCD will provide quality continuing education experiences to Division members by offering professional courses taught by qualified individuals or groups. (*Goal MS 1, Professional Development and Recognition: Strategy MS 1.1, Target MS 1.1a-c & f*)
- ✓ The NCD will provide awards that recognize individuals, groups and Chapters who have provided distinguished service in the stewardship of aquatic resources in the geographic region. (*Goal MS 1, Professional Development and Recognition: Strategy MS 1.5, Target MS 1.5a & b*)
- ✓ The NCD will actively recruit new members and focus attention to the recruitment of under-represented groups. The NCD will continue to support the Hutton Junior Fisheries Program in its' effort to recruit under-represented groups to the fisheries profession. The NCD will contribute to the international membership fund to support fisheries students and

professionals from developing countries. (*Goal MS 4, Diversity: Strategy MS 4.1, Target 4.1a*)

- ✓ The NCD will routinely assess membership needs and satisfaction using AFS and Division surveys. (*Goal MS 1, Professional Development and Recognition: Strategy MS 1.6, Target MS 1.6a*)
- ✓ The NCD will continue to support student travel to the Midwest Fish & Wildlife Conference with matching travel grants to each Chapter. The NCD will investigate strategies to expand student membership and involvement in Division activities. (*Goal MS 1, Professional Development and Recognition: Strategy MS 1.7, Target MS 1.7a & b*)

In summary, we need to continue working towards to optimizing communication within the Division to facilitate information transfer among Chapters, agencies, and stakeholder groups in our region – particularly science-based information items that promote resource stewardship and enhance the visibility of the NCD and the Society. Electronic-based methods of conveying information work well within the Division, but the information must be kept up to date. To that end we are planning an overhaul of the NCD web site. Further, we will investigate other methods (e.g., listservs) to facilitate communication within the Division. An associated aspect of information transfer is the development of productive outreach programs that promote conservation and sustainability of fishery resources. The NCD should actively work with Chapters in developing and implementing projects that provide information to the general public and further enhance our visibility and recruitment efforts. From experience I know that Student Subunits are active in providing grassroot programs and activities to K-12 students and other groups. Similarly, Chapter members participate in science fairs, Project Aquatic programs, etc. These connections with general audiences provide a great opportunity to spread the stewardship message and raise awareness of the AFS. The NCD will support units and members involved in those activities.

The Division must remain responsive to the needs of the members by providing tangible support and services. Membership surveys are but one tool used to sample the collective thoughts to determine needs in an organization. Thus, we will rely on the results of the forthcoming general survey to examine potential recruitment and retention strategies pertinent to our region. We need to expand our membership base, which can be done with some innovative thinking. Nine of the 32 AFS student subunits are within the NCD. The NCD should have a closer relationship with these subunits and promote development of other subunits, where appropriate, to increase student membership and participation. Continuing education – lifelong learning – is another area where the NCD should play an instrumental role. We need to provide and/or support continuing education opportunities (technological and otherwise) that are crucial to our profession. I believe that CE workshops that are successful are those that stem from a broad need. Chapters are successful in their CE efforts – the Division should follow that lead and produce workshops that build on those topics. Furthermore, in the education vein, the NCD should expand its support of the technical committees, particularly in publishing special publications and symposia proceedings.

I encourage comments and suggestions on this proposed plan, but I would like to receive them in advance of the Midwest Conference (email or phone is fine) so that I have time to integrate the topic. Further, it is my sincere hope that Chapters and Student Subunits use the new plan to coordinate member activities in the focus areas of information exchange, outreach, and aquatic stewardship in their respective states, provinces, and institutions. The NCD Executive Committee is here to assist the Division units in those endeavors.

Planning activities for the upcoming Midwest Fish and Wildlife conference in Indianapolis are well underway or completed by the time you receive this newsletter. You will find some of the conference information on following pages, but visit the website at <http://www.in.gov/dnr/midwest2004/fish.htm> for the full agenda. If at all possible I strongly encourage all members to attend and enjoy this meeting with friends and colleagues.

Lastly, a note to Chapter presidents and committee chairs (standing and technical) -- please remember that reports are due by November 15. You can email your reports directly to me at michael.brown@sdstate.edu. The NCD Executive Committee will convene at the Westin Hotel from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. on Sunday, December 12th. Remember Chapter presidents and committee chairs (*ex officio*) that you are members of this committee. The NCD business meeting will be held from 4:00 to 5:30 p.m. on Monday, December 13th.

See you in Indianapolis!

Upcoming Events

65th Annual Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference December 12-15, 2004. Westin Hotel, Indianapolis, IN

Fish and Wildlife at the Crossroads: Preparing for Future Challenges

Information regarding registration, accommodations, and a list of scheduled sessions can be obtained at: www.in.gov/dnr/midwest2004.

Student/Mentor Social

This years Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference in Indianapolis will once again be hosting a student/mentor social. This provides students with an excellent opportunity to meet with potential employers and allows professionals seeking employees to meet with interested students while enjoying snacks and beverages. Those interested should contact Rod Williams at: (765) 494-3568 or rodw@purdue.edu or visit the Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference webpage at <http://www.in.gov/dnr/midwest2004/career.htm> and complete the posted form. Information provided when completing the form online will be used to pair students and mentors. Please take advantage of this unique opportunity to meet with prospective employers/employees.

Workshops Scheduled for the 2004 Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference

Leadership for Wildlife Professionals

Instructor: David Case (phone: 574-258-0100; email: dave@djcase.com)

Day & Time: Sunday, December 12; 1:00 to 5:00 p.m.

Minimum and maximum number of attendees: 15 to 35 individuals

Cost: \$25

Agency biologists and consultants are becoming more involved with private landowners through the Farm Bill and other programs to enhance wildlife habitat, restore wetlands, and protect forest production. However, biologists may not have received direct training in techniques for motivating participation and explaining the benefits of conservation programs. This workshop provides an overview of effective communications strategies and marketing skills for working with landowners as Technical Service Providers and in other private lands management programs. Panelists will describe what they have learned from field experience, followed by facilitated discussion. This workshop is sponsored by the North Central Section of The Wildlife Society.

Aquatic Invasive Species Regulation and Enforcement

Instructor: Phil Seng (phone: 574-258-0100; email: dave@djcase.com)

Day & Time: Sunday, December 12; 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Minimum and maximum number of attendees: 10 to 40 individuals

Cost: \$25

The International Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies (IAFWA) Fisheries and Water Resources Policy Committee has initiated a multi-state grant project to develop recommendations and implement actions that will: (1) identify policies or actions that would enhance coordinated and effective aquatic invasive species regulations and enforcement in each regional association; and (2) increase capabilities in addressing aquatic invasive species regulatory and enforcement policy for the states and at the national level. Initial development of these strategies will be guided by participation in workshops held in each of the four IAFWA Regional Association fish and wildlife agencies conferences. This workshop is sponsored by the International Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies.

The Gap Analysis Program: A Course for Natural Resource Professionals

Instructor: Andrew Rosenberger (phone: 540-231-3527; email: anrosenb@vt.edu) and Scott Klopfer

Day & Time: Sunday, December 12; 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Minimum and maximum number of attendees: 12 to 20 individuals

Cost: \$25

The gap concept has been widely accepted as a sound scientific method for rapidly assessing biodiversity conservation protection status. This course will provide detailed information on the gap methodology, the products created, and appropriate applications. In addition, it will also direct potential users to where data and documentation can be found. This basic information will provide a large body of potential users with what they need to utilize gap data correctly to better manage biodiversity on their respective lands. This workshop is sponsored by the National Gap Analysis Program.

Statistical Aspects of Sampling Freshwater Fish Populations and Habitats

Instructor: Daniel Hayes (phone: 517-432-3781; email: hayesdan@msu.edu)

Day & Time: Saturday, December 11; 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Sunday, December 12; 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Minimum and maximum number of attendees: 6 to 20 individuals

Cost: \$150

Fishery professionals regularly use statistical sampling designs, but are often lacking in theory and practical knowledge of how to appropriately analyze these data. The intent of this course then is to serve as a refresher or introduction to statistical aspects of fisheries sampling. The principle topics to be covered will include: (1) sampling designs; (2) statistical estimators associated with each sampling design; (3) advantages and disadvantages of sampling designs; and (4) case studies and applications of each sampling design. Note that each workshop attendee will need to bring along a laptop computer that has Microsoft Excel.

Other Fisheries Events:

To learn more about upcoming events go to: <http://www.fisheries.org/Calendar.shtml>

Committee Reports

Awards Nominations Needed!!!

Contact Brad Parsons

Please remember to take the initiative and time to nominate an active and important NCD contributing member or chapter. Peer and professional society recognition is an excellent way to show how much a person's work is respected and appreciated.

Excellence in Fisheries Science

This award will be given to a North Central Division member who has made an outstanding contribution to the fisheries profession. This contribution may be a single activity or a collection of achievements over the individual's career. Former Division members may be nominated if most of their work occurred while they were NCD members. Nominations should include the names and signatures of at least 2 nominators, a brief (1 page) biographical sketch of the nominee, a brief (1 page) narrative of significant contributions made by the nominee, and copies of any additional materials to support the application.

Meritorious Service

This award will recognize extraordinary service to the AFS by a NCD member. Nominations may be based on a single outstanding achievement or a variety of service activities, and may include the Chapter, Division, Section or Parent Society level. In the nomination, evidence must be presented that this service has gone beyond the routine and that it has made a genuine and lasting contribution to the betterment of the Society. Nominations should include the names and signatures of at least 2 nominators, a brief (1 page) biographical sketch, a brief (1 page) narrative of significant contributions made by the nominee, and copies of any additional materials to support the application.

Most Active Chapter

This award will be given to the North Central Division Chapter that has carried out the most active program of enhancing professionalism and fisheries science, relative to its size and the geographic distribution of its membership. Most often, members will nominate their own chapter. Nomination materials should include the number of members, names of officers, number and type of meetings, special activities, recruitment activities, and a brief (1 page) description of what makes this chapter an active and important contributor to the NCD, AFS, and fisheries profession. Additional materials of support may also be included. Don't forget, there are large and small (<100 members) Chapter categories for the Society. All our Chapters have great activities and programs, take the time to nominate yours!

Forms are available at <http://www.fw.umn.edu/ncdafs/awards.html>. Contact me for additional information (brad.parsons@dnr.state.mn.us). In order to have things ready for Indianapolis, please have the nomination to me by **19 November**.

Also, Chapters, don't forget to nominate that outstanding student to receive a ***Joan Duffy Student Travel Awards*** for the Midwest this year in Indianapolis. Each year, the Division sets aside money to award \$100 to a student from EACH Chapter. Several Chapters failed to take advantage of this last year, so don't miss this opportunity. I know many Chapters give their own travel awards, so this can act as a match for that. Again, let me know if you have any questions or need some help.

What follows is a listing from our archives that our Division Historian, Mark Flamming, was able to find. It is entirely possible that these lists are incomplete, since we are in the process of organizing the archives. If you notice an error or omission, PLEASE contact me as soon as possible!

Past Award Winners**Excellence in Fisheries Science**

2000 Pat Hudson
 1998 David Willis
 1997 Robert Strand
 1995 Roy Heidinger
 1994 Dennis Schupp
 1993 Thomas F. Waters
 Richard A. Ryder
 1991 R. Weldon Larimore
 1990 Kenneth Carlander

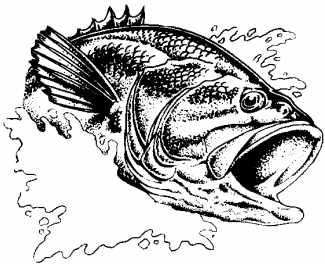
Meritorious Service

2000 Jack Wingate
 Doug Austin
 1998 Ron Dent
 1997 Richard Frie
 1995 Dave Philipp
 1994 Robert Hanten
 1993 Dale P. Burkett
 1991 Harold Klaassen
 1990 William Turner
 Don Roseboom

Most Active Chapter

2002 Minnesota
 2001 Minnesota
 2000 Minnesota
 1998 Ohio
 1997 Missouri
 1995 Kansas
 1994 Dakota
 1993 Minnesota
 1991 Illinois
 1990 Missouri

It is never too early! Please remember to take the initiative and time to nominate an active and important NCD contributing member or chapter. Forms are available at <http://www.fw.umn.edu/ncdafs/awards.html>. Contact Brad Parsons for additional information (brad.parsons@dnr.state.mn.us).

**Centrarchid Technical Committee**

By Eric Weimer (SD)

The CTC continues to serve the NCD in several ways. We are currently placing an order for more largemouth bass and luegill posters for distribution to many state agencies for use in outreach and education programs. We are updating the Centrarchid Grey Literature for the Division. A nation-wide survey of black bass regulations is being prepared for publication, and the Lepomis Symposium is nearing completion. Our Winter Business meeting will be held Sunday, December 12th, at 2:00pm, during the Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference in Indianapolis, IN. All are invited to attend.

**Genetics and Biodiversity Technical Committee**

By Brian Sloss (WI)

Interested persons should contact Brian Sloss, brian.sloss@uwsp.edu.



Ictalurid Technical Committee

By Lynn Schlueter (ND)

The committee is moving on a number of projects. The annual meeting will be held in conjunction with the 2005 Midwest Fish and Wildlife conference. The location and date of the meeting will be listed in the Midwest's agenda. Items for discussion at the meeting will include: developing a mission statement, begin discussion on long range goals, and begin planning for a Cat-a-Thon in upcoming years. The NCD Ictalurid Committee has extended an offer the Southern Division, and to an interested individual to become part of this committee to further the efforts in catfish management. The summer e-mail meeting allowed fisheries biologists to share information on projects, ask questions of other professionals, and to report their findings.



Rivers and Streams Technical Committee

By Rob Pulliam (MO)

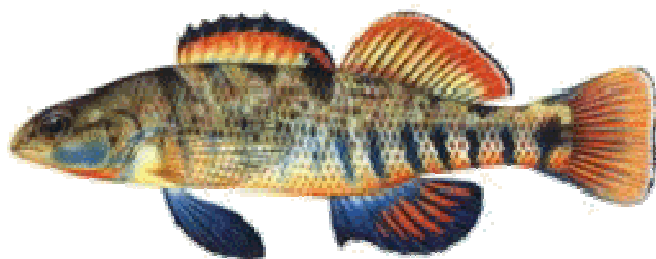
Interested persons should contact Rob Pulliam, pullir@mdc.state.mo.us.



Salmonid Technical Committee

By Mark Ebbers (MN)

Interested persons should contact Mark, mark.ebbers@dnr.state.mn.us



Chapter Reports

Dakota Chapter

By Mike Barnes

In 2005, the Dakota Chapter Annual Meeting will be held on February 28, March 1 and 2 at the Comfort Inn in Bismarck, North Dakota. Room reservations must be made **by February 1, 2005 and are available at North Dakota state rates (\$45 single or \$53 double + tax)**. Reservations can be made by calling the Comfort Inn directly at (701) 223-1911 or e-mail at hotelhelp@choicehotels.com. Be sure and state that you are coming in with the Dakota Chapter American Fisheries Society to receive the reduced rate. Current Chapter officers are: Scott Elstat (President), Ryan Krapp (Vice President), John Lott (President elect), and B.J. Krantz (Secretary/treasurer).



South Dakota State University Student Subunit

By Jeremy Duehr

Before the summer began we had the opportunity to organize and activate the SDSU American Fisheries Society (AFS) Student Subunit. Officer elections were held with graduate and undergraduate students elected for the fall semester: Jeremy Duehr - President, Kristen Berg - Vice President/The Wildlife Society Liaison, Eric Weimer - Treasurer, and Ryan Sylvester - Secretary. Faculty advisors for the Subunit are Dr.'s Mike Brown and Steve Chipps. Although April elections did not allow much time for activities; Subunit members assisted the Brookings Wildlife Federation with their annual Trout Extravaganza - Kid's Fishing Day during May. Those who attended enjoyed working with youngsters as they explored eastern South Dakota trout fishing. We are currently preparing more activities for the fall as new faces join the Subunit to learn and grow as fisheries professionals. If anyone has activities requiring student volunteers (e.g. fish spawning, habitat work) or would like to give a seminar on your work please contact sdsuafs@yahoo.com with your ideas.

Illinois Chapter

By Bruce Lippincott

The Illinois Chapter has joined the debate within the state concerning a petition before the Illinois Pollution Control Board that requests revising the dissolved oxygen standard in streams from the current 5.0 mg/l year-round to 4.0 mg/l with a 24 hr minimum of 3.5 mg/l within a 24 hour period from July 1 through February and maintaining the current standard between March 1 and June 30. This is a draft standard that has gone through two formal hearings held by the Pollution Control Board. Presently, there is an additional fact finding period that is seeking information on potential effects of lower dissolved oxygen levels on early life



stages of late season spawning species. We are currently in the process of preparing information on the early life stages question.

The chapter submitted a letter to the Pollution Control Board expressing our concern regarding the lack of data to support this change. We also suggested that a single standard that covers the entire state may not be in the best interests of all parties and that regional standards may be a more appropriate approach to revising the dissolved oxygen standard.

Our chapter will be holding its annual meeting as part of a combined meeting with the Illinois Lake Managers Association March 3-5, 2005 in Moline, IL. The two organizations have been working for several years to schedule this meeting to share information concerning fisheries management in lakes within the state. In addition to the technical sessions, a banquet and a Mississippi River fish fry are scheduled.

Indiana Chapter

By Kent Hanauer

Many Indiana AFS members have been involved in various levels of planning the upcoming Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference scheduled for December 12-15 in Indianapolis. We would like to invite all NCD members that can attend to try and make it to this meeting. There are 15 hours of fisheries papers scheduled, 2 full day symposia dealing with aquatic species, and 2 workshops of interest to fisheries students and professionals. Please visit the web site <http://www.in.gov/dnr/midwest2004/> for more details and registration information. The Indiana Chapter will hold a fall business meeting at the Midwest on Monday, December 13, from 5:30 - 7:00 PM.



Michigan Chapter

By Jessica Mistak

The Michigan Chapter is busy planning the 2005 Annual Meeting to be held February 8 and 9 at the Ralph A. MacMullan (RAM) Conference Center located on Higgins Lake near Roscommon, Michigan. The theme for the 2005 meeting will be "Connections: The Link between Michigan's Land and Water". Prior to the meeting, on February 7 and 8, the Chapter will be hosting a Fish Population Estimation Workshop instructed by Dr. Daniel B. Hayes of Michigan State University.

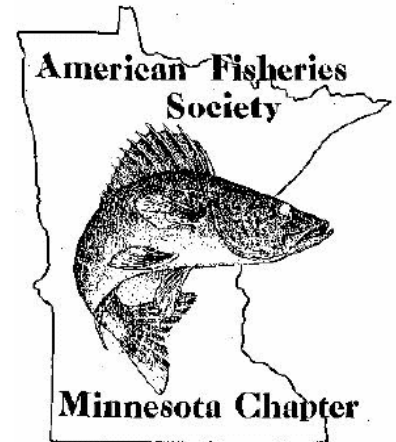


Don't miss this opportunity to interact with fisheries professionals and enthusiasts. This upcoming meeting is going to be loaded with great fisheries information and fun- including a social, raffle, and ice fishing on Higgins Lake! For more information about the meeting, please contact Doug Workman, President-Elect at dworkman@king-macgregor.com or 231-832-1000.

Minnesota Chapter

By Loren Miller

The Minnesota Chapter is planning an annual meeting for March, at a resort in Grand Rapids, MN. Our meeting location changes each year, but attendance is consistently strong. It's a great chance for us to exchange ideas and maintain ties with our peers. For many of our members, this is the extent of their involvement in Chapter activities. One attempt we're making to promote more involvement throughout the year is through an on-line discussion forum. We intend for this group to be used primarily to update members on legislative news, but members can also post messages on current issues of concern to the Chapter. Members can read postings on-line, or receive daily or weekly digests. Other popular activities outside of our annual meeting are week-long stream habitat workshops, co-sponsored by the Minnesota AFS Chapter and the Department of Natural Resources. A course was just held in late September, with nearly 40 people attending.



Ohio Chapter

By Mike Wilkerson



The Ohio Chapter has been active this year with numerous activities from technical meetings to fishing trips. In February of this year, OCAFS co-sponsored the 44th Annual Ohio Fish and Wildlife Conference. This conference featured a keynote address on linking land use to fish production and biodiversity in Lake Erie. There were a total of 12 technical presentations, of which half were fisheries related. In early April, we held our first annual Undergraduate Student Forum. Our Forum featured technical presentations from nine Undergraduate and two Graduate students. Our goal is to acquaint undergraduate students with the Chapter and provide an avenue for these students to gain valuable experience presenting technical material in a low-key atmosphere. Early feedback indicated we successfully met our goal. OCAFS awarded our annual Milt Austin Aquatic Science Awards totaling \$450 to several High School Students at The Ohio Academy of Science competition. Our summer meeting was held at the Columbus Zoo, and featured a tour of the Mussel Research and Propagation Facility as well as a behind the scenes tour of the Manatee and Living Reef exhibits. In October, OCAFS members met with the purpose of testing our individual sampling techniques on Lake Erie perch. Twenty-five members and guests set out on a charter in the Central Basin of Lake Erie. Our results were significant with all participants having a good time and taking home perch dinners. Next year we look forward to sponsoring a Cool Water Fish Culture Workshop along with our regular activities.

Wisconsin Chapter

By Joe Hennessy

Members of the Wisconsin Chapter hope that our NCD colleagues who were able to join us in Madison for the AFS Annual Meeting enjoyed your stay and found the week's events both entertaining and enlightening. As the Chapter slowly recovers from the festivities, we are wrapping up loose ends



such as submitting our meeting report early enough to be of value to the Anchorage planning committee and making sure all of the bills are paid.

Our fall and winter activities will include drafting a plan for wise use of the revenue generated by the Annual Meeting. Still in infancy, our plan will focus on raising the visibility of the Chapter, Division, and Society in Wisconsin, increasing the services provided by the Chapter to its members, and playing a larger role in educating the public about water resources. More details will be provided as they're decided. Ideas for collaborative projects with other Chapters are welcome.

The 2005 Wisconsin Chapter Meeting will be January 11-13, at the Stony Creek Inn in LaCrosse. All are welcome- we promise another great raffle to go with a full schedule of regionally relevant presentations. Please see the Wisconsin Chapter website for details: www.fisheries.org/wiafs

Candidates for NCD – AFS Office

First Vice-President:

Candidates:

Stu Shipman
Scott Hale

Stu Shipman

When Steve Fischer first asked me to run for President I actually, for the first time in a long while, had to say let me think about it. Not that I have lost interest in working with the Society but rather, should I step back for a breather before accepting a new challenge. Quite honestly I didn't think about it for very long because since attending my first Midwest in Indianapolis in 1974, I have been actively involved with the Society and the NCD and have always enjoyed our fantastic meetings, the dynamics of our active and engaged Technical Committees, but mostly I've enjoyed the opportunity to continue life long relationships with lots of great professionals.

As President of the Computer User Section, I have had the opportunity to get more involved in the Society and its governance. With that background, it shouldn't take me long to work with AFS leadership to help serve NCD's membership. Toward that end, AFS is preparing a new membership survey to identify issues, concerns and direction. I'd like to sub-sample that information and develop unique programs geared toward our membership.

I'll go on supporting and encouraging the Technical Committees to continue their efforts. In my opinion these committees have greatly moved fishery science forward and given opportunities to folks working on unique problems to share their experiences and expertise. I'll also encourage those committees to continually look for opportunities to host symposium and conduct other projects like assisting with the 2005 Muskie Symposium to be held next fall in Indianapolis.

As program chair for this year's Midwest, I see some communications issues between the Division and each state or provinces organizing committees. I'd like to build on my experience as a committee chair for both the NCD and the Midwest to strengthen that relationship.

I bring a life long commitment to the Society and 30 years of experience working in the NCD ranging for paper presenter, moderator, program chair, continued education chair, and even one time auditor. I'd like to continue to support the Society and the NCD and am ready for both the challenges and opportunities this leadership position offers.

Scott Hale

AFS strategic planning has provided an excellent framework for clarifying the direction of the Society, its Divisions, Sections, and Chapters. I see this framework as the starting point for contributions that all members make as stewards of our communities, the resource, and our profession. As NCD President, I would work with Society and NCD members to stay our strategic course and focus, in particular, on improving the capacity of NCD committees. I am convinced that standing, special, and technical committees have the greatest potential to provide our membership with opportunities to address all major Society goals. Clearly, benefits of committee participation often extend far beyond those derived by individuals directly serving on them. Therefore, I am particularly interested in re-evaluating the purpose, function, and organizational structure of standing, special, and technical committees. How do we see committees changing in the future to meet NCD needs? Can members and their employers identify with the benefits of committee participation? Are committees most effectively serving as a means to achieve the goals of information transfer and outreach, member services, and aquatic stewardship?

My educational background includes a BS from The Ohio State University in 1984, a MS from Murray State University in 1987, and a MBA from Capital University in 2001. I am currently a Fisheries Biologist at the Inland Fisheries Research Unit, Ohio Department of Natural Resources, Division of Wildlife. I have worked for the ODNR since 1995, and prior to that time served as a Fisheries Biologist with the Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources. As a fisheries manager, my primary interests have been oriented toward reservoir ecology and the capacity of reservoirs for sportfish production.

I became a Certified Fisheries Scientist in 1997 and my certification was renewed in 2003. In 2003, I served as President of the Ohio Chapter of AFS and gained a new appreciation for the Society's planning process while our Chapter struggled to develop a 2005-2009 Strategic Plan. During 1990, I co-founded and served as the first President of the Kentucky Chapter and during 1990-1995 participated on the Reservoir Committee, SDAFS. I was fortunate to have worked as an Associate Editor for the NAJFM during 1996-1999, and to have reviewed a number of manuscripts for the NAJFM and TAFS during the past 15 years.

AFS provides members with a variety of opportunities to contribute to our Society, and certainly one of the most challenging is serving as a division president. I welcome this challenge and appreciate the opportunity to place my name on this year's ballot.

Secretary – Treasurer

Candidate: Randy Schultz

Randy Schultz currently works as a fisheries research biologist for the Iowa DNR. He held a similar position with the Kansas Department of Wildlife & Parks (KDWP) for eight years. Prior to that, he spent two years as a district/urban biologist with KDWP. His current research efforts relate mostly to fisheries management and watershed issues in both large and small impoundments, and he has remained active in urban fisheries.

The American Fisheries Society has figured prominently in Randy's education and career since 1988. He received the AFS' Distinguished Service Award for his assistance with the North Central Division's 2002 Midwest Fisheries Conference held at Bettendorf, Iowa, and has served the Division as a Centrarchid Technical Committee Representative since 1996. He was Chair of the CTC during 2000 - 2001. He has belonged to the Minnesota, Tennessee, Kansas, and Iowa Chapters of the AFS. Randy has held many Chapter executive positions including President, and has served on the Continuing Education, Nominating, and Arrangement Committees, and as newsletter editor. He has been a member of the Fisheries Management Section since 1995, serving on the Nominating Committee and as the NCD Representative. Randy has served the Parent Society as a member of the Publications Award Committee, AFS2000 Committee Representative, and as co-organizer for the White Bass Ecology & Management Symposium, 130th AFS Annual Meeting.

I welcome the opportunity to serve the North Central Division as secretary/treasurer and would strive to maintain the influential voice that the NCD has within our Society.



2004 Election Ballot

North Central Division – AFS

Please vote for one candidate for each office. Ballots must be received no later than November 19, 2004. You may vote either electronically or mail. Thanks in advance for taking time to vote on your future leadership!

Send ballot to:

Steve Fischer
1012 Coho Ct
Columbia, MO 65203
sfischer@hach.com

First Vice-President:

Stu Shipman _____

Scott Hale _____

Secretary – Treasurer:

Randy Schultz _____

Write-in candidates (please indicate name & office):

Contributions

You are invited to submit articles, editorial replies, notes, pictures, etc. for this space.

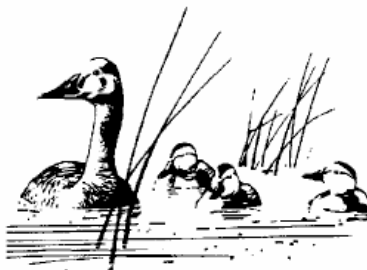
Sauger Symposium 2006 – Advance Warning

The Fisheries Management Section has agreed to sponsor a sauger symposium at the 2006 AFS Parent Society Meeting. Interest in sauger has been growing in recent years because they are both an important sport fish, as well as a native species of concern in many areas. As such, timing seems appropriate for a sauger symposium. Initial conversations show that interest is high among several people currently working or initiating work with sauger. We are already anticipating a range of talks including: sauger genetics, sauger early life history, sauger recruitment dynamics, and sauger management. We would like to include presentations covering both biology and management. Thus, we encourage anyone with current or past sauger research projects to participate in the 2006 Sauger Symposium. If you have any questions, contact Brian Graeb.

Brian Graeb
Chair, FMS Section Sauger Symposium Committee
Department of Wildlife and Fisheries Sciences
South Dakota State University
Brookings, SD
Brian_Graeb@sdsu.edu

Against the Current (Editorial)

Since I just recently became the *Mainstream* editor I did not have time to prepare an editorial for this issue. Most of my spare time over the last few weeks has been spent trying to get the material together for this issue, but I do have a couple of ideas in the hopper that I'll work on for the spring issue.



Division Business

Proposed Changes to the NCD-AFS Procedure Manual

By Steve Fischer

At the Annual Meeting of the North Central Division – AFS to be held December 2004 in Indianapolis, IN, our membership will be asked to approve the following proposed NCD-AFS Procedure Manual (n = 7) and By-laws (n=4) changes. These changes have been proposed by either the NCD Governing Board or through recommendations of the AFS Constitutional Consultant. These may look very familiar to some of you, as we attempted to vote on these this past winter. Unfortunately, we had no provision within our Procedural Manual to vote electronically. So, we are asking you to once again consider these changes and come prepared to vote in December!

Thanks for your consideration!

1) Replacement of Executive Committee or EXCOM with Governing Board

2) Section added to Awards Committee

Joan Duffy Student Travel Award

One award is given to a student from each NCD chapter for travel to the Midwest Fish & Wildlife Conference. Each chapter is responsible for selecting their respective recipient and forwarding such information to NCD Award Committee chair prior to annual meeting. The NCD matches Chapter student travel awards up to \$100. Students will be honored and checks presented during the NCD business meeting.

3) Best Paper Awards Ad-hoc Committee moved to sub-committee under Awards Committee

Best Paper Awards Sub-Committee

4) Removal of Publications Committee

5) Addition of Communications Committee

Communications Committee

Charge:

To communicate AFS and NCD news to members and facilitate communication among members by preparing a NCD newsletter to be posted on the NCD website. In addition, the committee is charged with maintaining the NCD website.

Makeup:

The newsletter editor and webmaster will Co-chair the committee. The Co-chairs may also appoint additional people to the committee as needed.

Duties of Co-chairs:

1. Communicates with committee members and members of the Governing Board.
2. Gathers information pertinent to NCD members.
3. Compiles information and produces a newsletter on a schedule agreed upon with the Governing Board and posts the newsletter on the website.
4. Maintains and updates website as needed and in consultation with the Governing Board.
5. Manages a budget for updating website.
6. Coordinates judging with the President-Elect for the Best Chapter Newsletter each year. Judging criteria are in Appendix C.
7. Keeps NCD officers informed of committee activities and progress.
8. Provides an annual report of committee activities to the President for the Annual Meeting of the NCD. The report is due to the President in reproducible format by November 1.

Duties of Committee:

Provide pertinent information to the chairperson including chapter activities, aquatic resource issues and other topics.

6) Addition of Ictalurid Technical Committee**Ictalurid Technical Committee****Charge:**

To provide a forum in which pertinent data and technologies can be exchanged within the scientific community and among user groups. To promote conservation of ictalurid diversity and the restoration of habitats that support threatened species. To improve culture techniques and encourage coordinated research and management of ictalurid species.

Makeup:

NCD members interested in ictalurid fish species. The President of each Chapter in the NCD shall approve one representative. The Chapter representative will serve as a voting member of the Ictalurid Technical Committee. The Chapter members and elected officers will serve as the Executive Committee. Voting members will

nominate and elect a Chair, Chair-elect and Secretary. Any member can be elected to an office. The NCD Treasurer serves as Treasurer for the Technical Committee. AFS members from other Divisions may participate in Technical Committee activities as associate (non-voting) members.

Duties of the Chair:

1. Presides over committee meetings.
2. Handles communications and coordinates meetings.
3. Ensures that the activities of the committee follow the mission statement and meet the needs of the membership and the Division.
4. Keeps NCD officers and committee members informed of committee activities.
5. Provides an annual report of committee activities to the President for the Annual Meeting of the NCD. The report is due to the President in reproducible format by November 1.

Duties of the Chair-elect:

1. Works closely with and learns the duties of the Chair to ensure smooth transitions at the end of the year or in the event that the Chair cannot complete his/her term.
2. Presides over the Committee meetings in the absence of the Chair.
3. Keeps a current database containing the addresses of Committee members.

Duties of Secretary:

1. Keeps minutes and makes a report of the Committee's meetings.
2. Keeps other records as necessary.

Duties of Committee:

1. Keeps other members and user groups informed of developments in ictalurid management and research within the NCD.
2. Encourages and initiate new technologies for improving ictalurid resources.
3. Assists the chair with administrative duties as needed. Helps develop periodic symposia in this topic area at the Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference.

7) Renaming of Ad hoc to Special Committees**SPECIAL COMMITTEES**

Special committees are formed by the President to meet specific needs of the Division. If deemed useful, a Special committee may become a Standing Committee or a Technical Committee by amendment to the NCD Bylaws.

Proposed Changes to the NCD-AFS By-laws

i. Renaming of Ad hoc to Special Committees

C. Special Committees:

Special Committees address topics that do not fall under the responsibilities of Standing Committees. Special Committees are formed when the Division President or Governing Board decides that a formalized Division action or position is needed on some issue. The Division President creates special Committees, with no additional authorization needed. They exist for one year, but may be re-appointed for subsequent years, on a year-by-year basis by succeeding Presidents. These committees are dismissed if not reappointed by the president.

2) Refining the language for by-laws.

Section IV. Officers. Updating language to include electronic voting to elect NCD officers. Although an accepted method according to Roberts Rules of Order, it was not specifically described in the NCD By-laws: The officers shall be elected by mail ballot or electronic ballot prior to the Division annual meeting. The president, president-elect, and the secretary-treasurer shall assume office immediately after the conclusion of the next Society annual meeting, and shall serve for one year.

Section VII. Voting and Quorum. Adding verbage on voting approval Decisions at a meeting of the Division shall be in accordance with the Constitution of the Society. A quorum at the annual meeting of the Division for the transactions of official business shall be at least 20 members in good standing. Voting approval is by simple majority, except as listed below for Bylaws.

Section X. By-Laws. The By-laws are the defining document for the Division. It takes precedence over all other rules and procedures of the Division.

Proposed amendments to the Division Bylaws and Rules must be reviewed by the Division Governing Board prior to consideration at the Division annual meeting. Such proposed changes are to be provided to the general membership, via either the newsletter, website or email, for a review period of 30 days. Passage of an amendment requires a 2/3 majority of those voting at either the annual meeting or during a 30 d electronic voting period. In accordance with the Society Constitution, an adopted amendment shall be reviewed by the Society's Constitutional Consultant for conformity with the Constitution, Rules and Procedures of the Society. The Constitutional Consultant presents the adopted amendment to the Society Governing Board for approval. Amendments do not take effect until the Executive Director has sent written notice of their approval by the Governing Board.

Amendments may be proposed and considered in the following ways:

i. They may be presented at the annual meeting if they have been provided to the membership at least 30 days before that meeting and if they have been proposed either by 3/4 vote of the Governing Board or a validated petition signed by at least 50 Active Members.

3) Addition of language regarding existence of Procedural manual.

Section XI. Procedural manual. The procedural manual consists of formal policy voted upon and approved during the Divisions annual business meeting. The manual describes the general structure and operation of the NCD. Changes to the procedural manual are amended by a simple majority vote during either the annual business meeting or during an electronic voting period. Changes to the manual follow identical processes as listed in the by-law section.

4) Addition of language regarding order of business.

Section XII. Order of business. Business conducted during Division Governing Board and Annual Business meetings should follow this order: determination of quorum, approval of old minutes, treasurers report, old business, and new business.

Business Meeting 2003 Minutes North Central Division of American Fisheries Society Kansas City, MO

President Steve Fischer brought the 47th Business meeting of the North Central Division of the American Fisheries Society to order at 4:06 PM on December 08, 2003 in Kansas City, Missouri.

President Fischer introduced Michael Brown – President Elect and Don Kline Secretary/Treasurer. Chris Guy – Past President was not in attendance.

It was determined that a quorum was present with 32 members.

Ira Adelman – President American Fisheries Society and Gus Rassam – Executive Director AFS were introduced as honored guests. Past Presidents Jack Wingate; Dale Burkett; and Don Pereira were recognized.

President Adelman spoke about his Plan of Work for the coming year and highlighted some of the things the parent society is doing. Mr. Adelman's theme for his Plan of Work is titled Science to Influence Outcomes.

He explained that much of our work as scientists is to produce scientific information and promote it in words that lead to it's application in solving natural resource management problems. The Society will be working to bring the message of our American Fisheries Society to the general public and policy makers so that we can have some impact through our science on sound fisheries management. A centerpiece of this year's activities to promote science to influence outcomes is the establishment of the Fisheries Conservation Foundation. The Foundation has been established as a science based conservation organization. It is a separate entity from AFS but directly affiliated with AFS. The mission of the Foundation is to bring

fisheries science to the public and policy makers with the goal of encouraging the enlightened conservation of fisheries resources and aquatic ecosystems. The Foundation will be funding projects designed by the AFS Executive Board and establishing partnerships with other organizations. We have been very good at producing scientific information but need to work with other organizations that are good at getting the word out to the public. The Foundation is now accepting project proposals due by December 31 2004, and hopes to fund the first projects by April 2004. Some major themes the Foundation wants to work on are: Documenting serious, current and emerging issues facing freshwater and marine aquatic ecosystems; Assembling issue oriented task forces; Coordinate problem solving activities; and development of educational material that define issues, explain what is being done to address them, and informing individuals as to how they can make a difference. Members are encouraged to make donations to the Fisheries Conservation Foundation.

Mr. Adelman highlighted several other things along the line of Science to Influence Outcomes. A committee has been formed to see how we can be more effective on influencing outcomes on Capital Hill. AFS staff continues to meet with congressional staff, congressmen and senators, and hold briefing sessions. The endangered species committee will be updating the AFS list of imperiled species that was last done in 1989. The resources policies committee is preparing a final draft of AFS policy on dam removal. Another committee is working to revise and implement the North American Fisheries Action Plan. The Names of Fishes Committee is ready to produce the 6th Edition of Common and Scientific Names of Fishes from United States, Canada and Mexico. The Names of Aquatic Invertebrates Committee is finalizing the 2nd Edition of the Common and Scientific Names of Aquatic Invertebrates for United States and Canada. The World Fisheries Congress will be held in May. The AFS Strategic Plan is being updated from the 1999 Plan and will serve to direct our activities. The AFS annual meeting will be held in Madison, Wisconsin in August with the theme – The Gathering, Leopold's Legacy for Fisheries. The land ethic extends to the water and fish.

Gus Rassam wanted to highlight some activities of the American Fisheries Society will be involved in during the coming year. The 4th World Fisheries Congress will be coming up in Vancouver in May 2004 and will be hosted by AFS. This will be the first Congress that will be taking place in North America so many of our members will be able to attend. There will be people from over one hundred countries at the meeting with one thousand one hundred papers. The World Council of Fisheries Societies has been formed and now has membership for Britain, Japan, Australia, China, Bangladesh, India, and Pakistan. The fisheries Infobase has been established to digitize already published information and make it available to individuals and libraries. The AFS Journals are now back to 1988 and now the scientific article that have been published in "Fisheries" are available. The plan is to keep going back through the AFS Journals to the beginning and do some books. AFS has an intern position to coordinate public policy work and visits to the Congress. AFS continues to do well financially, as well as, providing services to members.

Secretary's Report

A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes of the 2002 meeting as reported. Motion carried by voice vote.

Treasurer's Report

Don Kline gave the Treasurers' report. The NCD has a balance on hand of \$61,823.01 as of December 31, 2003. The Technical Committees combined funds are \$31,088.20 consisting of

Walleye - \$8,819.62, Esocid - \$734.02, Centrachid - \$464.10, Rivers & Streams - \$2,089.82, Salmonid - \$7,539.46, and Ictaluid - \$11,441.18. Most of the money is in a money market fund and interest is earned each month and applied to the NCD account or Technical Committees.

The proposed budget that was adopted at the last meeting projected income of \$20,600.00 and expenditures of \$26,300.00. The actual 2003 income was \$24,425.03 as of December 31, 2003. Income items were: The Midwest meeting income was \$14,340.00. The AFS dues rebate was \$7.60 per member (1,114) for a total of \$7,706.40. Interest attributed to NCD was \$507.07. We have taken in \$1,329.00 in book sales. The actual 2003 expenses were \$31,342.74. Expense items were: The Governing Board travel expense has been \$1,370.32. Awards cost \$267.00. We made contributions to the Hutton Jr. Fisheries program - \$3,000.00, AFS Annual Meeting - \$1,000.00, 4th World Fisheries Congress - \$5,000.00, and AFS Membership recruitment - \$2,500.00. The 2002 Midwest expenses were \$17,079.45. The Joan Duffy student travel awards were \$700.00. Special Initiative expenses were \$394.52. Miscellaneous expenses were \$31.45.

NCD Plan of Work 2003-2004

President Steve Fischer presented the NCD Plan of Work for the upcoming year. The details of the Plan can be found on the NCD web page at www.fw.umn.edu/ncdafs/.

A new recruitment plan is proposed. It is designed to increase AFS and NCD membership. NCD would give both the new member and the recruiter a 50% rebate on their dues. The new member and recruiter should contact the Treasurer and present proof of membership. Each would be eligible for \$38.00. The plan will apply only to regular membership, only one rebate per recruiter, and there will be a \$2,000.00 maximum limit. This plan could bring in 26 new members.

Students have always been a big part of the NCD's programs. This year we have a student mentoring program at the Mid-West. Members have been matched with students. Our plans continue to put together a Student Conclave somewhere in the Midwest. At next year's Mid-West we plan to arrange a "meeting within a meeting" for students. We hope to stimulate a little more involvement from the students, so they can make plans for upcoming meetings and develop a list of their needs within NCD.

Advocacy is one of the major themes of AFS. If Chapters are working on something that needs NCD attention please let President Fischer know and he will be glad to work on it with you.

The Hutton Junior Fisheries program continues to grow both in the NCD and throughout AFS. Last year there were 52 participants and 10 were within the NCD. This year we will try to double the number of participants. The Chapters are encouraged to develop a contact person to facilitate the program within their area. Students are reimbursed \$3,000.00 during the summer. More details about the program are available online at the AFS web page www.fisheries.org. Please fill out an application, so we have a pool of mentors to match up with local students. AFS will be making a push this year to alert schools about the program.

NCD will be conducting a membership survey this year. Mark Pegg has volunteered to Chair this committee. The NCD Strategic Plan is being revised. The membership survey will be part of the overall analysis and help match the plan with member needs.

Motion was made and seconded to accept the Plan of Work for 2004-2005. Motion carried by voice vote.

NCD Budget 2003-2004

President Fischer presented the proposed budget for 2003-2004.

Income

AFS dues	\$8,000.00
Interest	\$1,000.00
Paddlefish books	\$50.00
Tech Committee	\$1,000.00
Total	\$9,050.00

Expenses

Governing Board travel	\$2,000.00
Awards	\$150.00
Joan Duffy Student Travel	\$1,400.00
Tech Committee	
2003 Action Items:	
AFS recruitment	\$2,000.00
Hutton Program	\$3,000.00
Midwest student	\$1,000.00
Total	\$9,550.00

Motion was made and seconded to approve the budget as presented. Motion carried on voice vote.

Procedural Manual

The Procedural Manual is in the process of being updated. The vote to approve the Manual will be held electronically to give people a better chance to review it and help save time at this meeting. The vote will be conducted on the AFS list serve. Many of the changes are updates of wording and corrections.

It is proposed to dissolve the Newsletter Committee and combine all NCD communication both the Newsletter and Web site into a single Communications Committee. The charge of this Committee is to communicate AFS and NCD news to members and facilitate communication among members by preparing the NCD Newsletter – The Mainstream- and maintaining the NCD web site. The Committee will be co chaired by the Newsletter Editor and Web Master. The co chairs may appoint additional members as needed. The duties of the co chairs are to communicate with committee members, Governing Board, gather information pertinent to NCD members, compile information and produce the NCD Newsletter on schedule agreed upon with Governing Board, post the Newsletter on the web site, maintain and update the web site, and in consultation with the Governing Board manages the budget for updating the web site, coordinates judging with the President Elect for the Best Chapter Newsletter.

Motion was made and seconded to approve the creation of a Communications Committee as proposed. Motion carried on a voice vote.

It is proposed to eliminate the Publication Committee. This Committee is charged with evaluating symposium publication proposals and to coordinate planning of such activities according to guidelines in the publication procedural manual for NCD symposia. This procedure has not been used recently, because other methods have been developed to take care of symposia publications.

Motion was made and seconded to remove the Publication Committee as a Standing Committee. Motion carried on voice vote.

Awards

There were no nominations for the Fisheries Excellence and Meritorious Service awards. Mark Flamnang has gone back through the archives and made a list of past awards. We plan to post the list on the web page. Suggestions were made to look at past years nominees as well as new nominees and to look at Chapter awards for deserving nominees.

The most Active Chapter awards is presented to the Minnesota Chapter. They were also the AFS most active chapter.

The Joan Duffy Student Travel recipients for this year are: Matt Mangan, Katie Bertrand, James Bales, Dan Daugherty, and Walt Neisler.

Election of Officers

The results of the recent election of officers are:

Secretary/Treasurer – Don Kline
First Vice President – Brad Parsons

Committee Reports

Committee reports are due from Chapter Presidents and Committee Chairpersons. The reports will be posted on the web page.

A reminder was made for everyone to sign up for the AFS listserve. It is a great way to stay informed and contains many notes about AFS activities.

Unfinished Business

The membership incentive challenge is presented to the Kansas Chapter for the largest percentage increase in AFS membership. They increase membership by 25%. The award is \$2,500.00.

The NCD Strategic Plan is being revised and anyone willing to serve on the committee should contact President Fischer.

New Business

The NCD membership survey will be coming out so please take time to fill it out and return it.

Motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting at 5:10 pm. Motion was approved by voice vote.

Minutes submitted by Don Kline Secretary - NCD

Governing Board Minutes North Central Division of American Fisheries Society

President Steve Fischer called the ExCom/Governing Board meeting of the North Central Division of The American Fisheries Society to order at 9:50 am. The meeting was held in the Brookside room of The Westin Crown Center, Kansas City, Missouri on December 06, 2003.

Six NCD members were in attendance.

No ExCom/Governing Board meeting was held in 2002.

The Treasurer's Report was reviewed and approved.

President Fischer noted that the full text of the 2003-2004 work plan could be found in the Fall Mainstream newsletter. He reviewed the following items.

New members initiative

The NCD will set aside \$2,000.00 for this program to encourage present members to sponsor new members. NCD will pay for ½ the membership fee for the current/sponsoring member and the new member. The sponsoring member will be reimbursed only once, but is encouraged to sponsor more than one new member. This offer does not apply to new Student or Young member status. A check will be sent by NCD after the new member is registered. Members should contact the NCD President to start the process of reimbursement.

Communications

President Fischer wants to continue to develop the channels of communication between NCD officers, Chapter officers, and Technical Committee members. There have been few resolutions presented in the last few years and none this year.

Student Conclave

President Fischer is continuing to look for ways to set up a student conclave at the Midwest. He has been getting some favorable responses from the contacts he has made. The Southern Division has set up a conclave driven by students from West Virginia. Our hope is to be able to offer students help and advise on subjects directly related to their needs for entering the fisheries profession. Such things as resume preparation, presentation skills, mentoring, job openings, interviewing skills, and networking, have been mentioned as possible topics. Ball State has held a successful conclave with representatives from throughout the Midwest. Indiana will be trying to set up a conclave for the next Midwest Conference. A spring or fall student

conclave might be better for getting students to come. Maybe a Chapter would like to sponsor such an event as part of their outreach program. The Fish & Wildlife Clubs at the Universities used to sponsor student conclaves. Maybe a "College Bowl" could be developed for the Midwest involving both NCD and The Wildlife Society.

Canadian Membership

President Fischer would like to extend a hand to the Canadian members so they will become more active in NCD programs and projects. He noted that the Southern Ontario Chapter now has a President. Steve will be making overtures to those Canadians he sees at the Annual meeting. We all recognized that the travel budget restriction of the past few years has made it difficult. However the potential for exchange of scientific ideas is a strong incentive to keep trying to make connections.

Hutton Jr. Scientist Program

Ohio will be working hard this year to set up several mentors. The Fish & Wildlife Service and the Forest Service are very interested in the program. There were 52 Jr. Scientists located in ten NCD Chapters during 2003. There were 80 applicants for 2003. We would like to double the number from the NCD. Perhaps we need to set up Chapter representatives to facilitate the application and mentor process. Contact needs to be made with teachers and counselors so they know about the program. We need to track the past students to see how the program is working.

Strategic Plan

President Fischer has sent the NCD draft strategic plan to Dirk Miller so he can look it over and see how it fits with the NCD bylaws. Although the plan will not be available for the Business Meeting it will be posted on the web page for member review. Ohio has a draft strategic plan for the next five years. They are trying to keep it within bounds and operational.

Motion was made, seconded to approve the Plan of Work for 2003-2004. Motion carried.

President Fischer submitted a proposed budget for the upcoming year 2003-2004. Income will come from four sources. They are AFS dues rebate (\$8,000.00), Interest on savings (\$1,000.00), Book sales (\$50.00), and Technical Committees (\$1,000.00). Expenses are grouped into five categories. They are Governing Board (\$2,000.00), Awards (\$150.00), Joan Duffy Student Travel (\$1,400.00), and Action Items. The Action Items category is further divided in three units. They are AFS member recruitment (\$2,000.00), Hutton Junior Biologist Program (\$3,000.00), and Midwest Student conclave (\$1,000.00). The Income totals \$9,050.00 and the Expense totals \$9,550.00. The extra \$500.00 to balance the budget would come out of the NCD saving account.

Motion was made and seconded to approve the President's budget. Motion carried.

The rest of the meeting was spent on the revision of the NCD Procedural Manual. The Executive Committee has reviewed the current manual and they have recommended several changes to bring it up-to-date and correct errors. After the review at this meeting, the proposed manual will be posted on the NCD web page as a PDF document so members will have a chance to look it over and suggest changes. Then an email will be sent through the list serve to have members vote on the revised Procedural Manual.

Those present at the meeting went through the manual page by page and line by line to look for corrections and review the marked changes. A few of the changes noted were – A Communications Committee would include the old Publications and Newsletter Committees, as well as, the web page editor. The new Ictalurid Technical Committee will be added. The Reservoir Technical Committee will be deleted. All references to “Ad Hoc” Committee will be changed to Special Committee. The term Executive Committee will be changed to Governing Board. The make up of the Governing Board may be changed to add the Standing Committee Chairs, Technical Committee Chairs and Special Committee Chairs as voting members.

The ExCom/Governing Board meeting was adjourned at 12:10 pm.

Contacts

Division Officers (end of term is August 2005)

President	Michael Brown	605-688-6121	michael_brown@sdstate.edu
President-Elect	Brad Parsons	320-634-4573	brad.parsons@dnr.state.mn.us
First Vice-President	<i>to be determined</i>		
Sec.-Treasurer	Don Kline	319-694-2430	don.kline@dnr.state.ia.us
Past President	Steven Fischer	573-447-1163	SFischer@hach.com

Standing Committees Chairs

Archives	Mark Flammang	mark.flammang@dnr.state.ia.us
Auditing	John Lott	john.lott@state.sd.us
Awards	Brad Parsons	brad.parsons@dnr.state.mn.us
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Websites:

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Ontario's Life History Database	http://www.afs-soc.org/fishdb/home.htm

