



# ESOCID TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

North Central Division / American Fisheries Society

TO: Esocid Technical Committee Members

FROM: Dave Clapp

SUBJECT: Minutes; Winter meeting of the ETC

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57th Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference  
AFS-NCD Esocid Technical Committee Meeting  
December 3, 1995  
Detroit, Michigan

Attendance: Jim Diana (MI), Ed Crossman (ONT), Jim Wahl (IA), John Lott (SD), Jack Wingate (MN), Tom Coon (MI), Ed Braun (IN), Dave Clapp (IL)

1) Muskellunge Symposium - A decision was made to attempt to hold a series of symposia in conjunction with Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conferences in Wisconsin (1997) and Minnesota (2000). Symposia themes may include esocid culture, stocking evaluation, early life history, angler surveys, biology and life history, genetics, and management considerations. The theme for each could be decided based on Terry Margenau's survey for potential papers. Between now and the mid-year meeting in LaCrosse, I'll be in touch with organizers of the Wisconsin meeting, as well as the North American Journal of Fisheries Management editor to determine costs and schedules for publication of symposia proceedings.

2) Age Interpretation Program - All participants in the esocid scale exchange program have probably already received a memo from John Casselman detailing funding problems that have prevented us from getting this program up and running. During the coming months, we will seek funding from several MUSKIES, Inc. chapters to hire a technician in Ontario to oversee this project. Hopefully, a funding source can be secured sometime this spring and we can begin work on the project during summer 1996.

3) Fundraising Issues - Tom Coon, North Central Division President, dropped in on the ETC meeting to discuss with us potential fundraising options. The ETC currently has a negative balance of \$787.86 in our NCD account, resulting from loans provided to us to fund our summer meetings. This is not a major problem, but we do need to repay these loans at some point, and it would be nice to have some small amount of money on hand to fund programs such as the scale exchange, student travel, etc. Some things that other committees are doing to raise and/or save

funds include choosing less expensive meeting locations, submitting articles to popular magazines, and producing continuing education workshops. This last item may work well with the workshop we have planned for the summer meeting (#4, below); I'm currently investigating options for advertising this workshop to a slightly wider audience. We've also talked about having a raffle at the summer meeting, using member-donated items. This seems like a good idea - plan to bring some homemade lures, woodworking, photographs, recycled raffle prizes, etc. to LaCrosse this summer!

Finally, if anyone from the Wisconsin DNR knows anything about Wally Walleye, or producing chocolate northern pike for profit, and they are interested in becoming Chairperson of Candy Sales - the job is yours!

4) Esocid Enhancement/Restoration Workshop - Plans are proceeding for a esocid stocking and restoration workshop, to be conducted at the next summer meeting of the committee in LaCrosse, WI in July 1996. Topics covered during this workshop will include major goals/objectives of esocid management, strategies employed by state and provincial agencies to meet these goals, constraints on implementing these strategies, and additional topics including fish production, genetics, and spawning marsh restoration. Dave Neuswanger distributed a memo in November to solicit assistance in presenting some of these topics, and we should have a tentative agenda for the workshop by March 1. As indicated above, I'm currently investigating options for advertising this workshop, possibly in Mainstream and Fisheries.

The workshop was discussed briefly at the winter meeting. Jim Diana indicated that some work was currently being done in stocking western reservoirs, and that a paper describing this work was currently in press in Fisheries. This work might make a nice addition to the summer workshop.

5) Gray Literature Library - Jim Diana indicated that he still has a list of papers, as well as some copies of articles, that he collected initially. The Institute for Fisheries Research (IFR) on the University of Michigan campus will probably still be able to store articles and handle copying requests on a limited basis. A list of literature could also be distributed from IFR, or made available at the mid-year and winter ETC meetings.

Jim will send out another letter soliciting contributions sometime during the coming year. In addition, Wayne Stancill has forwarded letters to state fisheries research departments. Persons with relevant literature are encouraged to contribute. Other potential sources of gray literature include the Fisheries Information Service (CO), and European managers and researchers. In addition, we should try to find out whether or not there is a way to retrieve commonly-cited gray literature using one of the many electronic search services available.

6) Other Items of Discussion - The Ontario Muskellunge Workshop, Esocid Regulations and Other Topics, Operating Manuals, Chapter Representatives, Membership, and Chain Pickerel were all discussed briefly.

- Proceedings of the Ontario Muskellunge Workshop should be available from Steve Kerr (ONT) sometime in spring 1996.
- Steve AveLallemant has distributed a letter requesting information on esocid regulations from 35 sources across North America. He is working with Rod Pierce, Jerry Younk, and Paul Cunningham to summarize some of this information for the summer meeting. Anyone with relevant information is encouraged to contact Steve.
- The procedural manual for the NCD is currently being revised; upon completion, our "operating manual" should be incorporated into this document.
- I surveyed members and chapter presidents to produce a current list of chapter representatives (or contacts) to the ETC. This list is attached; please let me know if you're aware of changes.
- Discussions of ways to increase membership included increasing student participation by developing a travel grant program. Additionally, we might think about meeting at the same location in Wisconsin as the Centrarchid Committee? However, we would first need to consider how a change of location would influence our "usual" attendees. Specifically, would this create problems for people from Minnesota currently able to travel "in-state"?

The ETC will hold a mid-year meeting in LaCrosse, Wisconsin, July 24-25. This meeting will include an Esocid Enhancement / Restoration Workshop (see above); additional details will be distributed as available (probably in April).

(Note: Due to low attendance at the winter meeting, we felt that only "discussion" was appropriate. Any "decisions" referred to in this memo are subject to additional discussion and approval of the full ETC membership.)

## Chapter Representatives and Contacts

Canada - Mid Canada - Alberta: Dwayne Radford  
- Manitoba: Ed Dean  
- Saskatchewan: Art Derksen  
  
- Northwest Ontario: Rob Grabowski, Walter Momot  
  
- Southern Ontario: John Casselman, Paul MacMahon  
  
Illinois: Dave Clapp  
  
Indiana: Vacant  
  
Iowa: Jim Christianson  
  
Kansas: Tom Mosher, Randy Schultz  
  
Michigan: Joan Duffy  
  
Minnesota: Rod Pierce  
  
Missouri: Rich Meade, Dave Neuswanger  
  
Nebraska: Joel Klammer  
  
North Dakota: Emil Berard  
  
Ohio: Richard Day  
  
South Dakota: John Lott  
  
Wisconsin: Steve AveLallemant