

Esocid Technical Committee
Winter meeting - December 7, 1997
Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference, Milwaukee WI

Following is a summary of items discussed at the annual winter meeting of the Esocid Technical Committee.

Appreciation Plaques - Terry Margenau (ETC Chair, WI) presented Dave Clapp (ETC past chair, MI) with a plaque of appreciation for serving as ETC chair during 1996. Wayne Stancill (ETC past chair 1995, SD) was not in attendance. Wayne's plaque will be presented to him by Dennis Unkenholtz (SD).

Symposium paper judges - Jim Christianson (IA), Rod Pierce (MN), and Richard Day (OH) volunteered to judge papers during the muskellunge symposium.

Muskellunge Symposium proceedings - Terry Margenau received word from Sally Kendall (AFS Managing Editor) that everything was looking good for publication of the symposium proceedings in the North American Journal of Fisheries Management. Mike Hansen (UW-Stevens Point) has agreed to be co-editor, and ETC past and current chairs Dave Clapp, Terry Margenau, and Rod Pierce will serve as associate editors. Muskies, Inc has offered to cover additional page charges for "fast-track" publication. Draft manuscripts are expected to be sent to reviewers by the end of the year (1997).

1998 Summer Meeting - The 1998 summer meeting is scheduled for July 21 and 22 at the Radisson in LaCrosse, WI. Rod Pierce has possibly acquired some funds from the Fish and Wildlife Service (approx. \$3,000) to cover expenses for speakers for the meeting. Final approval of these funds is expected by January, 1998. Members were asked to be thinking about potential speakers and agenda items of interest.

Muskellunge Regulations/Stocking publications - Status of these two ETC publications was discussed. Steve Budnik (Muskie, Inc) noted that Muskie, Inc International respectfully declined an ETC offer to cover printing costs. Getting financial support from a local musky club was an option considered. Jeff Reed (MN) mentioned that Al Skarr (Muskie, Inc) may be interested. Al did the printing for the original ETC Synopsis (1991). In addition, we considered putting the two publications together into one package. Publication number for the original ETC Synopsis was about 250. It was felt that this number would be adequate for distribution to those interested. This project should be considered a priority for 1998, as the material included is dated.

Scale Exchange program - John Casselman (ONT) mentioned that samples will be mailed out to those participating after Christmas. Anyone still interested in being involved should contact John. A digitizing pad is required to utilize John's software.

Midwest 2000 - Some discussion was initiated regarding a follow-up symposium at the Midwest Fish and Wildlife conference in the year 2000, to be held in Minneapolis, MN. While topic/species is not certain at this time, some preliminary discussions are a good idea.
