Welcome and call to order by Jeremy Tiemann.

**Review and approval of agenda**: Motion made (Pitchford), motion approved.

**Chair Report – Jeremy Tiemann**: Report to the NCD-AFS regarding Ictalurid Technical Committee’s annual activities was presented. Reviews and comments requested.

**Review and approval of 2010 NCD-ITC business meeting minutes**: No motion to approve 2010 minutes because meeting was cancelled (Minnesota snow storm).

**Treasurer’s report (from NCD files)**: We have $23,389.75. However, one more check ($3,900.42) still needs to be cut for the Southern Division for its share of the Catfish 2010 profits. Motion made to approve report (Pegg). Motion approved.

**Old Business**:
- Greg Pitchford – closing comments on Catfish 2010
  - Blown away about how well it was received!
  - All proceedings have been mailed, now for sale on AFS website
  - Professionally successful with great information exchange
  - Profitable
- ‘Catfish College’ workshop idea has been multiple times in the past
  - Flamang – originally was being planned to be held at Rathburn
    - Diversity of sampling opportunities nearby
    - Plenty of room at hatchery
  - Tiemann – another option would be to hold it at W. Illinois
    - Further discussion with Kirk Hansen is needed

**New Business**:
- Southern Division will be hosting a Catfish Sampling Workshop on January 27, 2012 in Biloxi, MS (contact Jason Olive with questions).
- Discussion on hand fishing
  - Do we need to look at this and take a stance as a committee?
  - TX has had major issues due to individuals going above TDWP straight to legislature – hand fishing was legalized without input from biologists
  - Should we put together a comprehensive bibliography/paper/fact sheet about hand fishing?
    - What we know, what we don’t know
    - Each states regs, available data, etc.
    - Educate legislators and administrators and guide future research
State Reports

Dakotas

- Investigating channel catfish populations and food habits in SD reservoirs

Illinois – Get from Jeremy. Fish kill stuff...

Indiana

- Indiana DNR is in the process of rewriting strategic plans and an updated catfish workplan is under development.
- DNR proposed regulation change: increase minimum size limit from 10 to 15 inches on channel, flathead and blue catfish including only one channel catfish ≥ 28 inches and one flathead and one blue catfish ≥ 35 inches (recreational and commercial fishing). The proposed change has been tabled citing the need to identify and collect additional information that resulted from public comment.

Iowa

- Flathead catfish projects on interior rivers and the Mississippi River
  - Evaluating sampling methods, seasons, population parameters
- Southwest Iowa small impoundments
  - Stocking density and population density vs. other variables

Kansas

- Followed Missouri in experimental handfishing regulations
  - Evaluating human dimensions, catch rates, etc.
  - # permit holders decreasing (50 was maximum), broadening list of water bodies
- Legalized jug (float line) fishing
  - Select locations, special creel
- New coop unit leader will be conducting research on blue catfish
  - movements, stockings to utilize zebra mussels

Michigan

- Nothing new on gamefish
- Northern madtoms statewide assessment

Minnesota

- Statewide – a group has been assembled to discuss statewide catfish issues
  - Capture and transport of live bait and inconsistent regulations between WI and MN on the Mississippi River are hot topics
- St Croix and Mississippi River catfish assessment continues (started in 2009)
Proposal of a telemetry study to determine catfish movement between the rivers

- Minnesota River – Telemetry project published in Catfish 2010
  - New project evaluating the usefulness of large un-baited hoop nets for sampling adult flathead catfish

Missouri

- Catfish harvest evaluation project being conducted on multiple rivers and reservoirs
  - Seeing high harvest rates of blues and flatheads (using $ return tags)
  - Jug fishing evaluation on Truman Reservoir
- Hand fishing still an issue

Nebraska

- River systems (Missouri, Platte, Niobrara) have been and continue to be a priority for research for the University of Nebraska and the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission
- Reservoir fisheries are also being assessed through UNL-NGPC collaborations
  - Statewide channel catfish evaluation
  - Branched Oak Lake flathead catfish trophy fishery population assessment and telemetry study
  - Channel catfish exploitation in SE Nebraska reservoirs

Attendees:

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