

## **RSTC News – Spring 2012**

### **March 27-28, 2012**

Our spring meeting was held on March 27-28, 2012 at the Rock Island Conservation Club in Milan Illinois. We had over 30 people attend from state and federal agencies and private consulting firms. The theme of the meeting was “*SMALL STREAM AND NON-GAME FISHES ACROSS THE NORTH CENTRAL DIVISION AND SMALL STREAM ASSOCIATED RESEARCH.*” The meeting consisted of state chapter reports, which outline various projects and studies being conducted by state and federal agencies, and twelve technical presentations were given (see attached agenda).

#### RSTC Business Items:

1. A summary of the December 2011 symposium at the Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference was provided by the organizer, Kraig McPeck. The symposium, titled, “Altered Landscape Hydrology: Impacts to Rivers and Streams and Associated Biota.” The symposium was well attended by both researchers as well as producers. In particular, the sit down forum at the end of the session with farmers and stream managers was particularly candid and productive. The specifics of rented land vs. family land as well as the economics associated with conservation practices and maximizing production were particularly candid and informative.
2. Discussions led by Jeremy Tiemann on a symposium for the 2012 Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference in Wichita. The consensus focused on a non-game fishes theme. The RSTC committed to helping with funding as necessary for travel and organization.
3. An update on the RSTC Communication was given. A Facebook page as well as a LinkedIN page has been set up. Challenges with the website and integrating an email input for users to subscribe to the mailing continue to be worked through.
5. Continuing a 2011 meeting discussion, it was moved and seconded that the RSTC would pay for 3 rooms for the attendance of student chapter representatives. Space would be accommodated for student presentations at each meeting, considered a requisite for attendance.
6. A discussion related to topics for upcoming meetings included several strong ideas. Tapping into the NFHP within the area and featuring work within these programs; Changes in Historic Fish Assemblages within each NCD state was mentioned as well. The fact that next year is the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the group was mentioned as an opportunity to look at lessons learned and changes through time on a number of topics.

Please check out our website at [www.ncd-afs.org](http://www.ncd-afs.org) under NCD Committees for all of the latest information.