2005 Winter Meeting Minutes

Past-chair Jeff Reed called the meeting to order at 2:02 p.m. December 12, 2005 at the North Central Division Meeting of the American Fisheries Society in Grand Rapids, Michigan, and welcomed members to the business meeting. Introductions were made, after which a review of the 2004 minutes was made. Past-chair Reed reviewed the 2004/2005 Action Agenda. Items covered included:

1. **Summer 2005 meeting.** Cloquet, Minnesota. Good attendance by approximately 35 people from 12 states/provinces.

2. **Synopsis update.** Much discussion centered on picking authors and editors for various sections of the synopsis. It was agreed that the synopsis along with authors who have agreed to write various chapters be placed on the WTC website. It is hoped this will provide greater vision for the synopsis and generate more interest for authors or potential authors of chapters and sub-chapters.

3. **Student involvement.** The summer meeting provided half price registration for students who were presenting at the summer meeting. Several students and a professor at this business meeting all stated the half price registration was very helpful for getting students to the summer meeting and presenting.

4. **Projects.** Some discussion on Dan Isermann’s proposed project from summer’s meeting ensued. Dan’s study proposed a region-wide walleye mortality study. The project would involve tagging and creel surveys. Members in attendance were encouraged to contact Dan for more information. Casey Schoenebeck presented a potential yellow perch project to the members. Casey and Dr. Mike Brown propose a large scale yellow perch population dynamics study with the purpose of modeling recruitment, growth, and mortality over the yellow perch native range. Casey asked that anyone with age-0 yellow perch C/f, gender, length, weight, and age data please provide such to him. Casey plans to quantify and model yellow perch recruitment, density dependent and density independent factors, growth, and mortality over a large geographic scale. Anyone wishing to participate in this project should contact Casey.

5. **Symposium.** An upcoming symposium on walleye Great Lakes issues is in the works for the either the 2007 (Wisconsin) or 2008 (Ohio) Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference. Anyone wishing to assist with or take the lead on organizing the project should contact Jeff Reed.

**New Business**

The 2006 summer meeting is being planned for Ottawa or eastern Ontario by chair Tim Haxton. Some discussion ensued on loss of attendees, and, especially students at a meeting such a distance away. Jeff Reed encouraged members with strong feelings, either for or against this site to contact Tim Haxton.

Jeff Reed asked that anyone interested in being the WTC website coordinator contact him. This position would not require the person develop or maintain the website, simply be the contact person for WTC information and ensure that information be sent to Joe Hennessy or Keith Hurley, NCD Communication Committees members.

Jeff Reed proposed initiating a WTC travel award for students (one or two) to attend the Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference. This award would be for $100, require matching funds from the student’s AFS Chapter, and be for students who are presenting at the Midwest on some area of interest to the WTC. This award would be available for the 2006 Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference (Omaha, Nebraska), and Jeff encouraged members in attendance to get the word out to the respective chapters.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:01.

Minutes submitted by Randy Schultz