

# Mainstream

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## President's Message

by Jessica Mistak

I vividly remember when summer seemed to last forever. Now, it seems that summer is just a blip on the radar and my vivid reality oscillates between months of cutting firewood and months of stoking the wood stove. I am still trying to decide if my reality is a function of getting older, living in Michigan's Upper Peninsula, or a more likely combination of both.

Now that you all know how I spend my free time, I want to give you some insight into how I've represented the North Central Division over the past year. As many of you know, the President and President-Elect of the North Central Division serve on the AFS Governing Board and fulfill a two-year term on the AFS Management Committee. Our role in this process is notable since the Governing Board is charged with deciding Society policies, approving the annual budget, and transacting other necessary business. Equally important, the Management Committee functions as an executive committee of the Governing Board, monitors Society activities to ensure that policies and plans are implemented appropriately, and guides the Executive Director in these endeavors. The Management Committee also reviews the Executive Director's proposed budget and makes recommendations for Governing Board approval.

During the past year, I found my participation in Governing Board and Management Committee meetings to be both productive and rewarding. For example, while in Ottawa, I was able to provide recommendations to guide future Society direction and activities as part of the strategic planning retreat. Being in the thick of things has also given me a deeper appreciation for the services provided by our Bethesda office staff and our Executive Director, Gus Rassam.

In the next few months, I'll work with the North Central Division officers to finalize our Plan of Work for 2009. In particular, I am looking forward to our continued involvement with and recognition of students and underrepresented groups. If you would like to contribute to the discussion of our priorities, please plan to attend the Governing Board and Business meetings which will be held in December at the Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference in Columbus, Ohio.

As always, feel free to contact me if you have questions or suggestions. Stay warm!

### INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Committee Reports	2
Upcoming Events	5
Chapter Reports	10
News and Announcements	11
2008 NCD Officer Ballot	20
Candidate Biographies	21

This newsletter is published twice a year. Deadlines for submission are April and September 1st. The views and opinions expressed herein are not necessarily those of the NCD.

**Editor:** Tom Slawski  
Sara Teske



## Committee Reports

### Rivers and Streams Technical Committee by Lucas Borgstrom

Our annual winter meeting will be held on December 14, 2008 in Columbus, Ohio in conjunction with the 69<sup>th</sup> Annual Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference from 3:00 – 5:00 PM. Anybody may attend this meeting. We will open the floor for any state reports. And hopefully have a couple presenters, although none of this is firm set plans yet. In light of the conversations and content in our recent meetings, I want to hear information about how dams, dam removals, and stream restorations affect non-fish species such as mussels, insects, or mammals. Is anybody interesting in presenting some information on this or does anybody know of people knowledgeable in this topic that we may have present a 10–15 minute talk on this topic at the meeting. Please let me know. If there are any topics people would like brought up at this meeting or put on the agenda, please contact me at [lucas.borgstrom@sdstate.edu](mailto:lucas.borgstrom@sdstate.edu).

The Rivers and Streams Technical Committee (RSTC) held its annual spring meeting at Rock Island Conservation Club in Milan, Illinois on March 11 and 12, 2008. We had nearly 50 people attend this meeting and heard chapter reports from Iowa, Indiana, Illinois, Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North and South Dakota, and Wisconsin. Our first order of business was to nominate and elect a chairperson as Steve Pescitelli (Illinois) was stepping down after fulfilling the customary two-year term. I accepted the nomination by Kraig McPeck (Illinois) and was the only person nominated. So, I say greetings from the new chairperson of the RSTC.

The meeting facilitated much information sharing and was highlighted by the special working session in which Luther Aadland from the Minnesota DNR had two presentations concerning fishery response to stream restoration. In the first talk, he stressed that any river restoration project needs to focus on five areas: 1. energy pathways/connectivity, 2. biology, 3. water quality, 4. hydrology, and 5. geomorphology. The importance of pre-data was emphasized although many restoration projects do not contain any. This talk highlighted the importance of having a floodplain. A case in point was a section of the Whitewater River that was restored in 1998 and 1999. This section was tested by a 100-year flood in August 2007 (more information is available at:

[http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/volunteer/marapr08/restoration\\_success.html](http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/volunteer/marapr08/restoration_success.html) and pictures at: [http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/areas/fisheries/lanesboro/flood\\_2007.html](http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/areas/fisheries/lanesboro/flood_2007.html)). Some other key talking points were to start up in the watershed and work your way down, but at the same time to address the problems where they are, be opportunistic (if a project comes available down in the watershed, take it).

The second presentation of Luther's was focused on restoring connectivity of rivers by dam removal projects. Some key points from this talk were to: 1. consider the broader system health and goals, 2. obtain good, high-quality pre-data, 3. set up upstream and downstream controls, and 4. monitor, monitor, monitor. One key issue in dam removals is to get the community involved and on board. To do this, you need to plant a new vision of the area. Do this by getting the communities to talk to other communities where dam removal has taken place. Finally, do not get scared off at the first public meeting where you may face a great deal of resistance. Plant the seed and let it grow.

Other presenters at this meeting included city, state, federal, and private sector representatives from Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Minnesota, Wisconsin, and Ontario. It was announced that the Sheepnose (*Plethobasus cyphus*) and Spectacle-case mussels (*Cumberlandia monodonta*) are moving forward as being listed as either threatened or endangered under the Endangered Species Act. Please contact Kraig McPeck ([Kraig\\_McPeck@fws.gov](mailto:Kraig_McPeck@fws.gov)) if you have information on these species that could assist in the process.

## Continuing Education Committee by Angela Grier

This year at the Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference in Columbus, Ohio, the NCD Continuing Education Committee is hosting “Introduction to Spatial Modeling Using ArcGIS and Geostatistical Analyst.” This course is an introduction to quantitative spatial modeling and geostatistics. An increasingly important task in natural resources is to create spatially continuous models or maps from field data. Spatial models are essential to using such data in Geographic Information Systems for ecosystem modeling, risk analysis, and decision support. A wide range of statistical and geostatistical techniques are available to conduct mapping in an efficient, quantitative, and scientifically objective manner. This course gives an introduction to these techniques, with an emphasis on best practices rather than mathematical and statistical theory. The instructor for this course is Erik R. Venteris, Ph.D., a Senior Geologist with the Ohio Division of Geological Survey.

The agenda for the course is as follows:

### 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. OVERVIEW

Lecture- Introduction to spatial interpolation algorithms and overview of modeling methodology using tools in ArcGIS.

Hands on exercise- Make a basic map using ArcGIS, Spatial Analyst, and Geostatistical Analyst.

### 10:00 a.m. to -12:00 EXPLORATORY DATA ANALYSIS

Lecture-Matching data to the appropriate spatial modeling technique- variable types, exploratory data analysis, and variography

Hands on- Use Geostatistical Analyst to inspect the sample distribution, conduct tests for normality, look for trends in the data, and calculate model and experimental variograms.

### 12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m.-Lunch

### 1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. MAKING SPATIAL MODELS

Lecture- discussion of geostatistical (simple and ordinary kriging, indicator kriging) and non geostatistical interpolation methods (inverse distance weighting, linear and polynomial fitting). When to use what?

Hands on- Use Geostatistical Analyst to make spatial models for data sets of contrasting statistical character.

### 3:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. EVALUATING SPATIAL MODELS

Lecture- External and cross validation techniques

Hands on- Conduct model validation using Geostatistical Analyst

### 4:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. COURSE WRAP UP

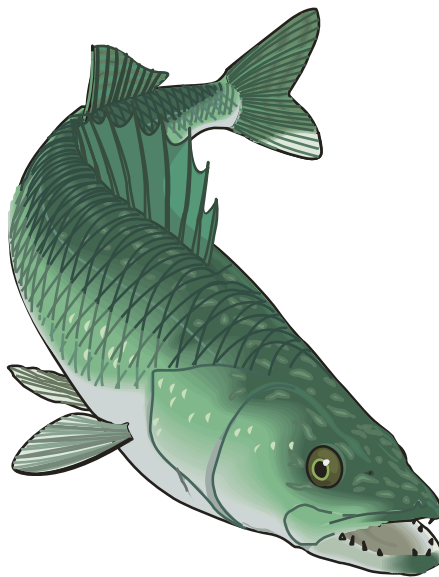
Lecture- Very brief introduction to the issue of spatial sampling, and summary of course objectives with emphasis on best practices.

The cost of this workshop is \$75. Register for this course when you register for the conference by visiting [69th Midwest Fish & Wildlife Conference](#). For more detailed information about this workshop, please email Angela Grier [agrier@dnr.IN.gov](mailto:agrier@dnr.IN.gov).

## Walleye Technical Committee by Patrick Hanchin

The Walleye Technical Committee is producing a book entitled "The Biology and Management of Walleye and Sauger in North America" that will be published by the American Fisheries Society Books Department. Our timeline for submitting the completed manuscript to the Books Department is December of 2009. We have contracted Dr. Bruce Barton to oversee completion of the manuscript, who has been working diligently over the past 9 months to solicit authors and develop chapter outlines. Thus far, we have identified authors for all chapters, outlines have been accepted, and writing has begun. We are currently soliciting editors for chapters, as well as making additional funding requests to cover the remaining balance of our funding goal. If you are interested in assisting in any way, please contact:

Patrick Hanchin  
MDNR Charlevoix Fisheries Station  
96 Grant Street  
Charlevoix, MI 49720  
231-547-2914 x227  
hanchinp@michigan.gov



## Upcoming Events

### **Trout Unlimited's 3rd Annual Driftless Area Symposium October 3-4, 2008 Eagle Bluff Environmental Learning Center**

We hope you will join us at the Eagle Bluff Environmental Learning Center for our third annual Driftless Symposium. This year we are planning three concurrent sessions:

☐ **In-Stream Ecology, management, research & monitoring**

- o Physical habitat, water quality or biological interactions
- o Community structure and relationships
- o Fish and invertebrate populations
- o Habitat enhancement and restoration
- o Dam removal
- o Management for Threatened and Endangered Species

☐ **Riparian corridor restoration and management**

- o Invasive species
- o Riparian and in-stream interactions
- o Establishment & management of warm season grasses
- o Creating habitat for nongame species
- o Monitoring nongame species

☐ **Watershed**

- o Land use changes and best management practices
- o Community relationships
- o Ground water movement
- o Climate change
- o Land use planning

## Aquatic Resources Education Association

On behalf of the Aquatic Resources Education Association, I would like to invite you to attend the 2008 AREA conference in Corpus Christi, Texas from October 17 – 21. I also encourage you to send personnel involved in aquatic education to attend this professional development opportunity. Conference details will be posted at [www.AREANet.org/conference2008/](http://www.AREANet.org/conference2008/).

The Aquatic Resources Education Association (AREA) was established by the Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies to respond to a growing national need for a more fluid, organized approach to aquatic education. We have members working in local, regional, state and national arenas. The AREA incorporated in 1994 to launch an unprecedented national effort to join the forces of all levels of experts, scientists, technicians, aquatic professionals, and organizations dedicated to responsible aquatic educational practices.

Topics being addressed at this year's conference are a direct result of what state agencies, resource providers, federal liaisons, national partner organizations, and industry, are requesting. Major sessions being highlighted this year include "Marketing for Education Programs;" "Integrating Stewardship into Aquatic Education Programs;" "Notifying the Public through Print, Web, and Airwaves;" and "Managing Volunteers & Federal Dollars." All sessions are geared towards preparing for the future of sound education about aquatic resources.

The Aquatic Resources Education Association 2008 Conference will be held after the Southeastern Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies in Corpus Christi. We hope that you and your staff will be able to take advantage of the professional growth opportunities being offered at the 2008 AREA conference, and look forward to seeing you and your staff.

Marc A Sommer, Chairman  
Aquatic Resources Education Association



## **Minnesota Invasive Species Conference**

### **October 26-29, 2008**

### **Duluth, Minnesota**



The first-ever Minnesota Invasive Species Conference 2008 will be held October 26-29, in Duluth, Minn., to encourage information exchange on topics relating to both aquatic and terrestrial invasive species.

"Our theme is acting locally to protect our legendary lands and waters," said Doug Jensen, conference co-chair with the University of Minnesota Duluth's Sea Grant Program. "The conference is designed to strengthen awareness of invasive species issues, as well as promote local prevention and management activities."

Researchers, land managers, natural resource professionals, educators, students, landscapers, lake association members, agency employees, and others are invited to attend the conference at the Duluth Entertainment Convention Center. Before the two-day technical program, a day of workshops for the public and landowners will feature terrestrial topics such as earthworms and gypsy moths, and aquatic topics such as lake vegetation management. A day of tours of attractions and research facilities follows the conference.

"Besides the technical program, we'll be having something for everyone -- youth programs, a special symposium to discuss ship design and ballast water discharge standards for maritime transportation, and field trips," said Shannon Bengtson, conference co-chair with the Minnesota Chapter of the Soil and Water Conservation Society.

Congressman James Oberstar has been invited as a lunch keynote speaker and to appear at the ballast water symposium. The conference is hosted by the Minnesota Invasive Species Advisory Council.

Registration by September 15 costs \$125, but varies depending on workshop and field trip attendance. Single-day rates and reduced rates for students are available. For information and registration forms, visit

<http://www.minnesotaswcs.org/Invasives.htm> or contact conference administrator Nancy Herselius at [info@mnisc.org](mailto:info@mnisc.org) or (515) 480-2420.

## Upcoming Events

### **69th Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference Foundation for the Future of Fish and Wildlife Management December 14-17, 2008 Columbus, Ohio—Register by December 8!**



The theme for this year's conference is Foundation for the Future of Fish and Wildlife Management. Keynote speaker, Shane Mahoney, the Executive Director of Sustainable Development and Strategic Science at the Newfoundland & Labrador Department of Environment and Conservation, will share his vision on this topic.

Born and raised in Newfoundland, Shane Mahoney is a biologist, writer, and frequent lecturer on environmental and resource conservation issues. He has authored and co-authored over 120 scientific and popular articles and reports, and appeared in, or assisted with, films for the CBC, BBC, Turner Broadcasting, and National Geographic.

Shane has a unique combination of passion, skill and ability. He is a visionary who challenges not only himself but all to strive to do their best at all times, by continuing to set high standards for individual, community, organizations, and government.

Visit our website at: [www.2008mwfwc.com](http://www.2008mwfwc.com) today!

### **Mid-Continent Warmwater Fish Culture Workshop Council Bluffs, Iowa, February 2-4, 2009**

The workshop draws together state, federal, academic and industry personnel to discuss the latest in fish culture activities. The 2008 Workshop was held in Paris, Arkansas and attracted over 120 participants.

Please consider presenting at the 2009 meeting. For further information and to get on a mailing list, contact Mike Mason at [mike.mason@dnr.iowa.gov](mailto:mike.mason@dnr.iowa.gov) or call 515-281-6072 for more information.

**Conservation, Ecology, and Management of Catfishes**  
**Second International Symposium**  
**June 19-22, 2010**  
**Millennium Hotel, St. Louis, MO**

The symposium will be co-hosted by the Ictalurid Technical Committee of the North Central Division of the American Fisheries Society (AFS) and the Catfish Management Technical Committee of the Southern Division of the AFS. The meeting will provide a forum for the exchange of information about the biology, ecology, management, and conservation of worldwide catfish populations and their habitats. Presentation of research on both game and non-game species will be encouraged. To attract anglers and provide opportunities for input and interaction, the symposium will be held at the conclusion of a national catfish angling tournament. The tone of the meeting will be somewhat casual, combining the scientific aspects of a professional fisheries meeting with the relaxed atmosphere of a sports show. It is hoped that in this environment, anglers and scientists will be able to interact openly and progress the management of these important fishes. Symposium proceedings will again be published in a hard-bound book, this compilation of work should serve as a valuable reference for many years to come.

For more information on the symposium visit <http://www.sdafs.org/catfish/catfish2010.html> or contact: Greg Pitchford, Co-chair (660) 646-6122 or Dave Buckmeier, Co-chair (830) 866-3356 ext. 219.



**International Congress on the Biology of Fish**  
**Madison, Wisconsin, July 15-20, 2012**  
**Monona Terrace Convention Center**

The meeting is sponsored by the Physiology Section of the American Fisheries Society. The local organizer is Dr. Terence Barry, Dept. of Animal Sciences, UW-Madison.

## Chapter Reports

### Michigan Chapter by Carl Ruetz



Plans are underway for the upcoming Chapter meeting tentatively scheduled for March 2009. The meeting is being planned to be held at Cabela's in Dundee, Michigan with plans for a special session on water quality and fisheries management. Details on the annual meeting will be forthcoming later this fall. Troy Zorn (906-249-1611, ext. 331; [ZORNT@michigan.gov](mailto:ZORNT@michigan.gov)) is serving as chair of the Program committee and local arrangements for the upcoming annual meeting. Additionally, the Chapter's Rivers and Streams committee is planning to hold a backpack electrofishing workshop at Grand Valley State University on September 29-30, 2008. Topics for the course will include electrical theory, equipment, fish injury, and personal safety. For more information on the workshop, contact Doug Bradley (734-332-1200, ext.

120; [dbradley@limno.com](mailto:dbradley@limno.com)).

Brett M. Alger received the Chapter's Student Annual Meeting Travel Grant to attend the 138<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the American Fisheries Society in Ottawa, Ontario. Brett is a graduate student at Michigan State University. Applications are also being accepted for the Chapter's Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference Student Travel Grant. The application deadline is 30 September 2008. Contact Ralph W. Tingley III ([tingleyr@msu.edu](mailto:tingleyr@msu.edu)) for more information.

To learn more about the Chapter's activities, please visit our website at [www.fisheries.org/units/miafs](http://www.fisheries.org/units/miafs).

### Wisconsin Chapter by John Kubisiak



In August, Wisconsin hosted a joint summer meeting of NCD walleye and Esocid technical committees. Attendance was lower than recent years; a common theme for many agencies and organizations this year is lack of money for travel. The combined group allowed for a full agenda of talks and discussion. Planning is well-underway for a tri-chapter meeting between Minnesota, Ontario and Wisconsin Chapters. It will be held February 2-4 in Duluth MN.

Wisconsin Chapter currently has 246 members, a 22% increase over 2007. Much of this is due to very active student subunits at Northland College in Ashland and University of Wisconsin, Stevens Point. We've also updated our website and moved it to a new host; you can now find us at <http://www.wi-afs.org/>

## News and Announcements

### **\$1 million College-led initiative unites area agencies, groups in Eel River clean-up cont'd**

A coalition of Manchester College, Wabash and Miami county conservation agencies, and at least 17 other groups will embark on a \$1 million initiative to improve the water quality of a 30-mile stretch of the Eel River.

The Middle Eel River Watershed Initiative this month received nearly \$600,000 in "Section 319" Clean Water Act funds designated by the Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM). An additional \$400,000 in contributions will come from agencies, schools, organizations, businesses and individuals who are stakeholders in the quality of the Eel River.

"Our goal is to make the Eel River a better place for aquatic life and people," declared Manchester College scientist Jerry Sweeten, who wrote the grant request and has done considerable research on nonpoint source pollution and flow of the Eel River, particularly as it affects smallmouth bass. "It's a tremendous natural resource that's been neglected for many years." The Eel was once one of the outstanding fishing streams in the Midwest. Today, water quality and numerous dams impair fish and aquatic life, as well as recreational opportunities. The river is on the Environmental Protection Agency's "impaired" list for its excessive levels of e-coli, PCBs, mercury and other pollution.

"We'll work on this together, to find solutions together, with money to do it," said Sweeten of the Initiative, which brings together many agencies and organizations that traditionally function independently. The grant will fund a watershed management plan; identification and remediation of high priority nonpoint source pollution sites; scientific monitoring of flow, pollutants, and aquatic organisms; and public outreach, said Sweeten.

College scientists and student researchers will do the monitoring, with county agricultural agencies fostering rapport with farmers, agri-businesses and others in the watershed. Area environmental groups, schools, clubs and organizations will provide scores of volunteers. "We all live in a watershed," said Jan Stout, program director for the Miami County Soil and Water Conservation District. "What we do in the watershed affects not only ourselves, but others who live downstream. The Miami County Soil and Water Conservation District is pleased and eager to begin to assist in this effort."

Manchester College sought the funding with substantial early partnership commitments of Soil and Water Conservation Districts in Wabash and Miami counties, Waterborne Environmental Inc., Friends of Miami County's Bridges, Stockdale Mill Foundation and the North Manchester Historical Society. At least a dozen other organizations and agencies also have pledged cash, volunteers, equipment and technical assistance.

While these organizations will contribute almost \$400,000 in matching funds, labor, research and equipment, the initiative expects, through wide-reaching education and outreach, to ignite commitment from scores of area residents – boaters, youth groups, anglers, farmers, businesses, environmental and conservation groups, and others. Sweeten already is seeking additional grants and partnerships to extend the life and scope of the Initiative.

"The dedication of local watershed groups (like the Initiative) is admirable," said Bruno Pigott, assistant commissioner of the IDEM Office of Water Quality. "The work these organizations do is vital, and their call for change is inspirational." The first step is forming a steering committee of scientists, area agency officials, farmers and key environmentalists – stakeholders in the quality of the Eel River. The committee will hire a watershed coordinator (a scientist) this fall. Stream monitoring will begin in January, as will public meetings on the four-year Initiative.

## Eel River clean-up cont'd

The 110-mile Eel River traverses northern Indiana cornfields, woods and small communities in six counties, from western Allen County, through Whitley, Kosciusko, Wabash, Miami and Cass counties, feeding into the Wabash River at Logansport. Old grist mill dams along the watershed are in various stages of disrepair, inhibiting fish migration, fishing and boating, and collecting sediment.

The project focuses on the middle third of the Eel River, about 30 miles between North Manchester, home of the College, southwest to Mexico, Ind. That watershed encompasses about 300 square miles. A major education component is a touring display of the project by the North Manchester Historical Society.

For more about the Middle Eel River Watershed Initiative, contact Jerry Sweeten, associate professor of biology at Manchester College, at [jesweeten@manchester.edu](mailto:jesweeten@manchester.edu) or 260-982-5307.

## 2008 Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference Janice Lee Fenske Memorial Award for Outstanding Students Monday, December 15, 7:00-8:00 a.m.

The North Central Division, Ohio Chapter, and Michigan Chapter of the American Fisheries Society and the Ohio and Michigan chapters of The Wildlife Society, in cooperation with the Steering Committee for the 2008 Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference, are pleased to accept applications from students for the **Janice Lee Fenske Memorial Award**. Up to 25 outstanding students majoring in fisheries or wildlife management will be selected, formally recognized for their achievements, and invited to attend an exclusive breakfast held during the Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference in honor of the late Jan Fenske. The breakfast will provide a unique opportunity for students to meet and closely network with many fish and wildlife leaders from around the region.

Undergraduate and graduate students who plan to attend the Conference are encouraged to apply. Student finalists will be selected based on academic ability and scholarly achievements. Two of the student finalists, one majoring in fisheries management and one majoring in wildlife management, will be presented with a Fenske Memorial Award that includes a scholarship of \$500. The two winners of the Fenske Memorial Award will be selected based on the characteristics that made Jan a remarkable fisheries biologist, including enthusiasm to protect fisheries and wildlife resources through management activities, selflessness and motivation to teach others, interest in professional involvement, and integrity, positive attitude, and compassion. For more information, please visit [http://www.fisheries.org/units/miafs/jfenske\\_award.html](http://www.fisheries.org/units/miafs/jfenske_award.html).

To apply, please submit a resume including your GPA, two letters of recommendation from academic advisors or professionals in fisheries or wildlife management, and a cover letter including future career goals and reasons for attending the Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference to:

Jessica Mistak  
[mistakjl@michigan.gov](mailto:mistakjl@michigan.gov)

**Deadline for submission is October 30, 2008.** E-mail submissions are preferred, although mail or fax submittals will be accepted. Please have the recommendation letters sent directly from the academic advisor or resource professional.

Student applicants selected as finalists will be notified by November 20.

## North Central Division Awards

The North Central Division of the American Fisheries Society is soliciting nominees for four awards given annually: Most Active Large Chapter; Most Active Small Chapter; Most Active Student Subunit; and Best Communications awards. Submissions for the Meritorious Service, and Fisheries Excellence awards are also considered each year. Each award is fully described below.

### **Most Active Chapter Awards**

Two awards will be given to the North Central Division Chapters that have carried out the most active programs of enhancing professionalism and fisheries science, relative to its size and the geographic distribution of its membership. Most often, members will nominate their own chapter. Nomination materials should include the number of members, names of officers, number and type of meetings, special activities, recruitment activities, and a brief (1 page) description of what makes this chapter an active and important contributor to the NCD, AFS, and fisheries profession. Additional materials of support may also be included.

### **Most Active Student Subunit Award**

This award will be given to the North Central Division student subunit that has carried out the most active program in developing interest among undergraduate and graduate students in fisheries science and fulfilling the mission of the American Fisheries Society. Most often members will nominate their own subunit.

### **Best Communications Award**

This award will be given to the North Central Division Chapter that has developed the most efficient, useful, and attractive newsletter and website to disseminate information to its members. Both printed and electronic newsletters will be considered. Submissions should include copies of two or three of the Chapter's most recent newsletters and a brief description of the newsletter, including frequency of publication, readership, and primary means of distribution. Most often members will nominate their own subunit by sending these materials and a cover letter.

### **Fisheries Excellence Award**

This award will be given to a North Central Division member who has made an outstanding contribution to the fisheries profession. This contribution may be a single activity or a collection of achievements over the individual's career. Former Division members may be nominated if most of their work occurred while they were NCD members. Nominations should include the names and signatures of at least 2 nominators, a brief (1 page) biographical sketch of the nominee, a brief (1 page) narrative of significant contributions made by the nominee, and copies of any additional materials to support the application.

### **Meritorious Service Award**

This award will recognize extraordinary service to the AFS by a NCD member. Nominations may be based on a single outstanding achievement or a variety of service activities, and may include the Chapter, Division, Section or Parent Society level. In the nomination, evidence must be presented that this service has gone beyond the routine and that it has made a genuine and lasting contribution to the betterment of the Society. Nominations should include the names and signatures of at least 2 nominators, a brief (1 page) biographical sketch, a brief (1 page) narrative of significant contributions made by the nominee, and copies of any additional materials to support the application.

Nomination forms for each award are available by going to the NCD's homepage [www.ncd-afs.org](http://www.ncd-afs.org) and clicking on the "Awards" button in the left hand banner.

Nomination materials should be submitted by **OCTOBER 3, 2008** to:

Mark Porath, NCD Awards Committee Chair

Nebraska Game and Parks Commission

2200 N 33<sup>rd</sup> Street

Lincoln, NE 68503

Call 402-471-7651 or email [Mark.Porath@nebraska.gov](mailto:Mark.Porath@nebraska.gov) with any questions.

## **Fish Sampling Workshop at Lake Erie's Stone Lab October 4-5, 2008**

Are fish your thing? Thinking of applying for an internship with the Ohio EPA, ODNR or another state agency? Perhaps you may want to work as a fisheries technician. Build your resume and get a leg up on the competition with Stone Laboratory's Workshop on Fish-Sampling Techniques of Ohio's State Agencies, to be held October 4-5, 2008 at Stone Laboratory, Ohio State's Island Campus on Lake Erie. The workshop will highlight techniques used by the Ohio Department of Natural Resources, Division of Wildlife and the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency, and will offer students hands-on, practical experience with specialized collecting equipment, including trawls, gill nets, fyke nets, and electrofishing gear.

The weekend's instructors will include: Eric Weimer, ODNR, Division of Wildlife; Marc Smith, OEPA; Ben Rich, OEPA; and Eugene Braig, Ohio Sea Grant and Stone Laboratory.

The cost of \$150 includes room and board. Space is limited to 10 students. Registration must be received by September 24, 2008, and will be accepted on a first-come, first-served basis, with preference going to undergraduate college students from any university. The Ohio Chapter of the American Fisheries Society is generously donating two full scholarships (one each for one male and one female student). For more, please information contact Eugene Braig at 614.292.8949 or [braig.1@osu.edu](mailto:braig.1@osu.edu).

## **NCD Annual Meeting December 14, 2008 Columbus, Ohio**

Our annual winter meeting will be held on December 14, 2008 in Columbus, Ohio in conjunction with the 69<sup>th</sup> Annual Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference from 3:00 – 5:00 PM.

Anybody may attend this meeting. We will open the floor for any state reports. And hopefully have a couple presenters, although none of this is firm set plans. In light of the conversations and content in our recent meetings, I want to hear information about how dams, dam removals, and stream restorations affect non-fish species such as mussels, insects, or mammals.

Is anybody interesting in presenting some information on this or does anybody know of people knowledgeable in this topic that we may have present a 10–15 minute talk on this topic at the meeting. Please let me know. If there are any topics people would like brought up at this meeting or put on the agenda, please contact me at:

[lucas.borgstrom@sdstate.edu](mailto:lucas.borgstrom@sdstate.edu).

## Student Affairs Committee Announcement

Greetings,

The Student Affairs Committee of the NCD is seeking contact information for smaller colleges with biology or natural resource programs as part of an outreach project to get these schools involved in the society and inform their students of available scholarship and workshop opportunities through a brochure that we have created. Please, take a few minutes to share some schools within your state that might benefit. Information that would be helpful to us in order to contact these programs would be:

College name

Contact name

Contact email address

We thank the Indiana, Minnesota, Missouri, and Dakota Chapters for their submissions and would encourage others to follow suit! Thank you in advance for your help with this project,

Casey W. Schoenebeck  
Graduate Research Assistant  
South Dakota State University  
casey.schoenebeck@sdstate.edu  
605.688.6121

## Hydroacoustic User's Group Note

There will be a Hydroacoustic User's Group meeting at the 2008 Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference in Columbus, OH. Please look for the specific meeting location and time information in the Midwest program. At this meeting, we will discuss plans for the next hydroacoustic symposium and provide updates of each user's hydroacoustic research activities and/or interests.

\*\*Please note that the Hydroacoustic User's Forum at <http://hydroacoustics-users.org/index.php> is no longer in use. Instead, we will be using the Computer User's Section website to host this forum <http://fishdata.org/cs/forums/>. Please post your tips, tricks, and questions to this site. If you have any questions or comments, please contact Angie Grier [agrier@dnr.IN.gov](mailto:agrier@dnr.IN.gov).

## Mississippi River Basin Regional Panel in search of expertise

The Mississippi River Basin Regional Panel on aquatic nuisance species is in search of expertise relative to: 1) the size, scope and operation of pay lakes, 2) how state regulations affect pay lake operation, or 3) prominent pay lake operations within their 32 state region (see <http://wwwaux.cerc.cr.usgs.gov/micra/MRB%20Panel%20on%20ANS.htm> for Panel information). Anyone who can comment on this topic is requested to please contact Duane Chapman at [dchapman@usgs.gov](mailto:dchapman@usgs.gov).

## The Janice Lee Fenske Excellence in Fisheries Management Fellowship

The Department of Fisheries and Wildlife (Department) at Michigan State University is currently accepting applications for the Janice Lee Fenske Excellence in Fisheries Management Fellowship. Jan Fenske was the first female biologist for the Fisheries Division of the Michigan Department of Natural Resources. During her 27 years of service, her love of the environment compelled her to work untiringly for the long-term protection and sustainable use of the State's aquatic resources. The intent of this award is to honor Jan's attitude, deep commitment to the resource, integrity, and memory by providing graduate students from the under-served community in the Department with additional financial and mentoring opportunities to assist them in developing successful careers in fisheries management. For more information about Jan Fenske, refer to the [Biography of Janice L. Fenske](#) in the Michigan Chapter of the American Fisheries Society website.

### Financial Award and Mentoring Experience

For the 2009-2010 academic year, a single recipient will receive a financial award of \$10,000. The recipient is expected to work closely with a university mentor and with a mentor from a state or federal fisheries management agency to address a practical issue facing the agency. Through these mentoring relationships, it is expected that the award recipient will benefit greatly from collaborations with university and agency mentors, from interactions with others in the agency, and from their focused consideration of a high priority, real-world issue that challenges the management agency.

### Application Requirements

To apply for this fellowship, applicants must be graduate students of the Department of Fisheries and Wildlife at Michigan State University. Applicants may be Master's or Doctoral students in the initial stages of their research program. Applications will be evaluated based on requirements listed below, and application materials shall include:

1. A cover letter that clearly articulates the applicant's career goals and demonstrates evidence of leadership potential in the field of fisheries management.
2. A resume or CV that includes the following information (along with other relevant information):
  - a. Educational history including:
    - i. Overall grade point average and grade point average in the major field of study for each degree earned.
    - ii. Overall grade point average and grade point average in the major field of study for completed semesters in the current program of study.
    - iii. Relevant courses taken for each degree earned.
    - iv. Relevant courses completed or enrolled in as part of the current program of study.
    - v. Graduate Record Exam (GRE) scores.
  - b. Employment or volunteer activities in the field of fisheries management.
  - c. Employment or volunteer activities and leadership roles in academic or civic communities.
  - d. Affiliation with a State or Student Chapter of the American Fisheries Society, including the initial year of membership, meeting attendance and participation, committee involvement, and presentations made at chapter meetings.
  - e. Affiliation with the American Fisheries Society Parent Organization, including the initial year of membership, meeting attendance and participation, committee involvement, and presentations made at annual meetings of the Society.
3. Identification of specific mentors within the Department and within an approved mentoring agency.
4. Identification of a specific project that is of high priority to the mentoring agency and that addresses a practical application of fisheries management, as opposed to more theoretical research. This project may be a component of the applicant's graduate research project; however, it must be accomplished within one year.
5. A clear project proposal written by the applicant with guidance from the mentors. The project proposal should include the need, goals, objectives, methodology, expected outcomes, and time frame.

6. Identification of time constraints for accomplishing the project, including a description of how the management agency project fits with the applicant's class schedule, research requirements, and other responsibilities.

7. A separate letter of recommendation from each of the applicant's mentors in the Department of Fisheries and Wildlife and the mentoring agency. In this letter, the mentors should describe their commitment to meet with the applicant for feedback and planning over a one year period. The mentors are expected to file quarterly reports on the fellowship experience and attend the final meeting with the Fellowship Review Committee. The mentors should also describe their ability to guide the applicant in the following areas:

- Act as a source of information on the mission and goals of the Department and mentoring agency
- Give feedback on observed performance
- Provide recommendations on activities that will add to experience and skill development
- Provide encouragement
- Provide opportunities and resources
- Provide increased exposure and visibility through attendance at various meetings both within and outside the mentoring agency
- Assist in planning a career path

8. Unless the applicant is being sponsored by the Michigan Department of Natural Resources, Fisheries Division, a letter of recommendation from the head of the mentoring agency.

### **Beginning the Application Process**

Interested applicants are encouraged to contact the Review Committee via e-mail prior to formal application. Upon request, a committee member will advise prospective students on the application process and will provide guidance on connecting with mentors and mentoring agencies. Applicants are also encouraged to invite their academic advisors to contact the Review Committee.

2009-2010 Review Committee Members:

Kelley Smith, Michigan Department of Natural Resources	<a href="mailto:smithk@michigan.gov">smithk@michigan.gov</a>
William W. Taylor, Michigan State University	<a href="mailto:taylorw@msu.edu">taylorw@msu.edu</a>
Jessica Mistak, Michigan Department of Natural Resources	<a href="mailto:mistakjl@michigan.gov">mistakjl@michigan.gov</a>
Gary Whelan, Michigan Department of Natural Resources	<a href="mailto:whelang@michigan.gov">whelang@michigan.gov</a>
Dana Infante, Michigan State University	<a href="mailto:infanted@msu.edu">infanted@msu.edu</a>

### **Submission**

Application materials should be sent to:

Janice Lee Fenske Excellence in Fisheries Management Fellowship Committee  
c/o Dr. William W. Taylor  
Department of Fisheries and Wildlife  
13 Natural Resources Building  
East Lansing, Michigan 48824-1222

[taylorw@msu.edu](mailto:taylorw@msu.edu)

Electronic submissions are preferred. The deadline for the 2009-2010 academic year is January 5, 2009.

### **Acceptance**

Applicants will be notified of their acceptance status no later than February 16, 2009.

Once accepted, the applicant will be responsible for reporting requirements that include quarterly progress reports, publications, and formal presentations.

## Got Carp?? June Flooding in Wisconsin

Well, we "got carp" pretty much everywhere as a result of record flooding in June. To high-light just one of our projects (low-light is probably more accurate); via an over-topped dike, Big Muskego received a big dose of carp. Now we will have to wait and see if the dose of carp was big enough to "flip the switch"; turning the lake from it's current clear water state into an algae-bowl. Hyper-eutrophic Big Muskego has been steady in a clear water state ever since we did the 1996 fish restoration project/rotenone treatment.

In the clear water state, because there were so many fish to prey on, Eagles and Ospreys set up home on Big Muskego. It would be a darn shame to lose all that productivity and diversity! Our management plan has certain action thresholds that we will be watching very carefully as we monitor the fishery.

The attached photo from up in Sheboygan County pretty much sums up how bold the carp got around here; literally migrating across folks' back yards right in the middle of the day!

Edward R. (Randy) Schumacher  
Regional Fisheries Coordinator  
Wisconsin DNR



## [Ncdlist] List Server Reminder/Announcement

We now have a new list server that should do a better job of intercepting unwanted spam emails. Prior to hosting our list on a new service, I was deleting at least 30 unsolicited messages throughout each day.

If you wish to post a message on the list server, please send your message to the following address. [ncdlist@lists.fisheries.org](mailto:ncdlist@lists.fisheries.org)

I will get a notice from the server once you post your message and will be able to review and approve. As always, you are also welcome to send your messages to me and I will post for you if you'd prefer. If you have any questions or concerns about the list server, please contact me and I will do my best to answer your questions.

Best regards,

Doug Workman

[dworkman@advancedecological.com](mailto:dworkman@advancedecological.com)

## New NCD Webmaster

We would like to give a special thanks to Andy Fowler who took on the website coordination and has done an excellent job!

## 2008 NCD Election

Think the presidential election is the only one left to cast your vote on? Think again. There is one more ballot left to cast. It's time to decide on the NCD officer positions. Below are the ballot and candidate bio's.

Please vote for one candidate for each office of NCD First Vice President, Secretary/Treasurer, and NCD Representative to the Parent Society AFS Nominating Committee. Ballots must be received no later than October 24, 2008.

Thanks in advance for taking the time to cast your vote!

Email Jessica Mistak at: [mistakjl@michigan.gov](mailto:mistakjl@michigan.gov)

### **First Vice-President:**

Randy Shultz \_\_\_\_\_

Patrick Schmalz \_\_\_\_\_

Write-in candidate (name) \_\_\_\_\_

### **Secretary/Treasurer:**

Jason Goeckler \_\_\_\_\_

Write-in candidate (name) \_\_\_\_\_

### **AFS Nominating Committee:**

Stuart Shipman \_\_\_\_\_

Write-in candidate (name) \_\_\_\_\_

## Randall D. Schultz

Randy is a research biologist with the Iowa Department of Natural Resources, where he has been in charge of reservoir research issues since 2003. Much of Randy's current work revolves around watershed and water quality issues affecting reservoir fisheries, walleye recruitment dynamics and exploitation, urban fisheries, and editing Iowa's Standard Sampling Manual. Prior to coming to Iowa, Randy spent 11 years working for the Kansas Department of Wildlife & Parks, first as an urban/management biologist then a research biologist. Randy received his B.S. (1990) from St. Cloud State University (Minnesota) and his M.S. (1992) from Tennessee Tech.

Randy has been actively involved in a variety of Society activities as a member of AFS since 1988. He recognizes that the backbone of our work in the Society stems from the input and ideals of our local Chapters. Randy's active involvement with AFS has developed from mentoring he received while a member of the Minnesota, Tennessee, Kansas, and Iowa Chapters. He has held many leadership roles within these Chapters, including President, Secretary/treasurer, Program Chair, and Newsletter Editor, and has always been an active supporter of our students while serving on Student Scholarship and Continuing Education Committees. Randy has served the North Central Division the last four years as NCD's Secretary/treasurer. He has been active in the Ictalurid Technical Committee, serving as Finance Chair for the Second International Catfish Symposium. He is also Iowa's current Walleye Technical Committee Representative, and has served as Chair of the Centrarchid Technical Committee. Randy provided leadership as Program Chair for the 2002 Midwest Fisheries Conference, for which he received the NCD's Award of Merit and AFS' Distinguished Service Award. Randy has served the Fisheries Management Section as the North Central Division Representative for four years, twice-serving on the Nominating Committee, and is a member of the Fisheries Administration Section. Randy has served at the Parent Society level as a journal reviewer, member of the Publications Award Committee, and AFS2000 Committee Representative.

"Throughout my career I have strived to build close working partnerships with agency personnel and other cooperators. All of my projects are built around working with others to solve problems. I have developed this experience through cooperative projects with management biologists, hatchery managers, NGO's, and cooperative projects with several universities, their professors and students. I have served as adjunct professor at Emporia State University (Kansas), serving on student committees and as a guest lecturer for fisheries courses. Such collaborations and success does not succeed without a commitment to communication and cooperation."

"Likewise, communication, cooperation, and, I'll add service, apply to promoting a successful, active Division. I have agreed to be nominated as First Vice-President of our Division because I want to support our Chapters, Tech Committees, and all members with promoting public awareness of fisheries issues. I will use my Excom experience developed over the past four years as NCD Secretary/treasurer to achieve the major goals of AFS: member services, information transfer and outreach, and aquatic stewardship. There are several issues related to our strategic plan I would like to address during my tenure. I would incorporate members' views as outlined by the newly appointed Strategic Planning Committee using results from the 2008 AFS Membership Survey; I would work to facilitate information transfer between Chapters, Tech Committees, and all members through improved communication between the Division and its membership; continue to actively support our students and encourage their participation in AFS and the NCD by working with our Student Affairs Committee, student subunits and organizations, student colloquiums, the Hutton Junior Fisheries Biologist Program and student awards; and actively support and promote continuing education to foster life-long learning for our members. I will work diligently to provide support for NCD members and maintain the Division's high standards".

## Patrick Schmalz

I am honored to be nominated to run for President of the North Central Division of the American Fisheries Society. I am excited about the opportunity to serve the Society, its membership, and ultimately the aquatic resources, in such a position.

### Background

I am currently a Fisheries Research Scientist for the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources in Aitkin (March 2007-present); a position that focuses on applied research related to management of shared fisheries in the Minnesota 1837 Ceded Territory – primarily Mille Lacs Lake. I have also worked as Treaty Fisheries Coordinator (August 2004-March 2007) and Warmwater Lakes and Regulations Specialist (November 2001-August 2004) for the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources in Madison. Prior to that I held a project position at Wisconsin DNR in Madison (December 2000-November 2001). I am a Certified Fisheries Professional (2006). I have a B.S. (1997) and M.S. (1999) in Fisheries from the University of Wisconsin at Stevens Point.

### AFS Involvement

Immediately upon my arrival at UWSP in 1994 I became a member of the student fisheries society. My active participation in the student society that first year led to being elected vice president for the 1995-96 academic year. In 1996-97 I was president of the UWSP student fisheries society, the year in which the society became officially recognized as a student subunit of the Wisconsin Chapter of AFS. So early in my involvement with AFS I gained valuable experience working across organizations (i.e. with the state chapter to form the subunit), one of the central roles of NCD. I have been a member of the Parent Society since 1996. I was Wisconsin's representative to the NCD Centrarchid Technical Committee from 2003-2005 and participated, though not as an official state representative, in the NCD Walleye Technical Committee in both Wisconsin and Minnesota. I served on the 2004 Parent Society Meeting planning committee. I served as the Secretary/Treasurer of the Wisconsin Chapter of AFS during 2005-March 2007. Since January of 2008 I have been an associate editor for the North American Journal of Fisheries Management.

I believe very strongly in professional service. That was instilled in me very early in my educational career by my major advisor at UWSP, Michael Hansen. I was the vice president of the UWSP student subunit (before it was a subunit) when Mike interviewed for the faculty position that he currently holds. Part of his interview was to spend time with the student subunit, since that position would serve as faculty advisor to the subunit. Although one might think spending time with a bunch of students was not high priority, Mike sure made it high priority, and spent a lot of time talking about the importance of AFS, and the importance of our involvement and service. He continued that as message while I worked with Mike at UWSP through my graduate studies and it has stayed with me throughout my professional career.

### Vision

In part, I view this as a chance to serve a society that has provided me with many wonderful opportunities, experiences, professional relationships, and friendships.

I feel that the Division leadership has been doing great things for its membership and I welcome the challenge of continuing to move the NCD positively forward.

As NCD President during this tenure of service a new Strategic Plan will be in place for the Division, providing exciting opportunities to charge ahead with new goals and initiatives.

The strength of the NCD as a coordinator and liaison for member chapters needs to be continued. The Division needs to ensure that it stays informed on what is going on with the member state Chapters, facilitate the exchange of information among the Chapters, and provide assistance and coordination where appropriate.

## Patrick Schmalz (*continued*)

I believe that the technical committees are a vital part of the NCD and I will continue to support and seek to enhance member involvement in those committees. With budget constraints hindering the ability of many members to attend meetings, new ideas may need to be explored to ensure that at least the exchange of information takes place via the committees.

Additional opportunities exist for the NCD to facilitate continuing education for its membership, both traditionally at the Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference, and perhaps via new technologies utilizing the Internet.

I would strongly encourage any role that the NCD can play in developing future fisheries professionals. In addition to traditional support for travel to meetings, I believe that the NCD can draw on students for their expertise, perhaps in the technological realm. One way to increase student involvement is to include students more directly in our activities.

In closing, I appreciate this opportunity and welcome the challenge. Thank you for your consideration.

## Stuart Shipmann

NCD members, I'd like you to consider my election to the 2009 nominating committee as a unique opportunity for me to continue serving the Society. Over the last 10 years I have had the opportunity to participate as President of both the NCD and former Computer User Section as well as Secretary/Treasurer of the CUS (now the Fisheries Information and Technology Section). As President I had the opportunity to not only serve on the Societies governing board but also served two terms on the management committee. Along with my experience with the Society I bring 35 years of practical experience initially as a research biologist and presently as a program manager for the Indiana Department of Natural Resources. As such I think I have good insight into what characteristics are required to run the business that is AFS. Please allow me to continue my service by selecting me as your nominating committee representative.

## Contacts

Websites:

Parent Society	<a href="http://www.fisheries.org">http://www.fisheries.org</a>
North Central Division	<a href="http://www.ncd-afs.org/">http://www.ncd-afs.org/</a>