



*From the Desk of the NCD President
Ramblings by Sandy
June 2017*

Hello all,

Hope your field seasons are going smoothly and you have not had too many mechanical issues.

We have finally gotten the gold star from AFS on our Bylaws revisions. Past President Melissa Wuellner has been persistent and got us smoothly through the process. Thanks Melissa for all your hard work!

I also want to thank Drew Holloway for getting our Facebook Fieldwork Friday up and going. We are on our fourth week and the responses have been great. It is really neat to see the diversity of work our members are doing across the Midwest. I know many biologists are out of hours by Friday and not in the office but please if possible post pictures of what you are working on.

This past week I got to explore some different aquatic ecosystems than I typically work with. I took my oldest nephew on a mini vacation to the Shedd Aquarium in Chicago. My nephew is 10 and this was his first exposure to an extensive aquarium. It was a great opportunity to spend time educating him on what I do as a profession and talk with him about the issues that marine and freshwater ecosystems face. Please remember during this busy time of year to take a little time for yourself and your family. Whether going to a local aquarium, the local lake to fish, or down to the creek to catch minnows or crawfish, this time spent of educating and encouraging the curiosity of our natural world is the best investment we can make in our future and the future of the planet.

I know like me, many of you are probably disappointed in the President removing the United States from the Paris Climate Agreement. I want to leave you with a quote that really speaks to how I feel about the situation. "Even in the absence of American leadership...I'm confident that our states, cities, and businesses will step up and do even more to lead the way, and help protect for future generations the one planet we've got." Former President Barack Obama.

Stay safe,

Sandy