



# Mainstream

## President's Message

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

What is your knowledge of benefits with your AFS membership?

1. Are you aware that AFS changed publishers this year? Wiley is the new publisher and the negotiated contract included online access for all members to all seven journals. Online access to these journals provides you a value worth more than your annual membership fee – please join AFS if you have not yet.

2. Put the annual AFS conference on your calendar for August 19-23, 2018. The venue is Atlantic City, NJ and the conference hotel is on the beach, for under \$100 / night. This is a bargain! Bring your family.

3. Current legislative agendas the AFS is promoting: reauthorization of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act. EPA and Army Corps of Engineers waters definitions. Recovering America's Wildlife Act is legislation worth a potential \$1.3 billion to increase State Wildlife Grants. Please contact your legislators to voice your interest in this conservation funding initiative.

#### 4. Newer AFS initiatives:

If you have not yet observed the webinars that AFS is creating on their website, check them out. A recent webinar was titled "Fish Bioenergetics 4.0" and presented by David Deslauriers on March 5 (you can see them anytime).

If your chapter or subunit need access to conference calls or webinar capabilities, AFS has software for you.

5. Check out the AFS website frequently to learn what AFS is doing for you! If you have needs or ideas for things that AFS can supply you, email Executive Director Doug Austin or President Steve McMullin. They need to know what we need and they are interested in helping us with issues.



Field work in Mongolia Fall 2017



## Strengthening Natural Resources through Collaboration

### 78th Annual Midwest Fish & Wildlife Conference

A big thank you goes out to everyone who helped execute a great meeting in Milwaukee! Four full days were filled with thought provoking presentations, student networking activities, committee meetings and engaging workshops.



## 2018 Business Meeting Minutes

78<sup>th</sup> Midwest Fish & Wildlife Conference, Hilton City Center, 101B, Milwaukee, WI, January 29, 2018



Mark Pyron, President Elect, [mpyron@bsu.edu](mailto:mpyron@bsu.edu)  
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President Pyron called the meeting to order at 5:05 PM. Thirty-two members were in attendance.

### Introduction of Special Guests

President Pyron introduced special guests in the crowd including Doug Austen (AFS Executive Director) and Steve McMullin (AFS President).

### Approval of the 2017 Business Meeting Minutes

The 2017 business meeting minutes were posted on the NCD website and in the spring newsletter ([Mainstream](#)). No comments or changes to the business meeting minutes were received.

A motion to approve the business meeting minutes as written was made by Mark Porath, seconded by Melissa Wuellner

The motion was approved by membership.

### AFS Report

Steve McMullin: Emphasizing diversity and a more inclusive AFS (a special committee will be formed to address this); Communication is always an emphasis (especially to non-technical audiences, policy makers); Atlantic City is going to be a great meeting and hotels are very affordable. Exciting news for the membership as all members will now receive free online access to all AFS journals!

Doug Austen: Went over a PowerPoint presentation highlighting the value of AFS membership. This presentation and additional AFS pamphlets are available for members to present at chapter meetings. Big change this yr is members receive on-line access to all AFS journals. A lot going on in DC with policy issues AFS is involved in (Magnussen-Stevens Act, Waters of the US, Recovering America's Wildlife), reaching out to chapters to be advocates and influence local politicians. Working on a gray literature clearing-house with WAFWA and AFWA to provide a web-based tool. Emphasis on webinars and providing pertinent information to the membership. Remember that AFS can be leaned on for unit (division, chapter, committees, etc) support, including meeting arrangements and website hosting. 2017 was a good year for AFS investment accounts, up approximately 20%. Really excited for Atlantic City!



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### Treasurer's Report

The North Central Division of the American Fisheries Society has \$97,847.70 in two accounts (checking and AFS investments) as of December 31, 2017. The finances are detailed below.

**NCD-AFS total funds: \$97,847.70**

Checking **\$57,622.70**

NCD: \$10,983.44

starting balance: \$5,896.45

major income

AFS dues rebate \$4,760.00

KC AFS donation to NCD \$6,542.00

major expenses

Award plaques \$150.00

NCD officer travel \$458.76

2017 MWFWC expenses \$751.89

Joan Duffy travel award \$1,000.00

AFS Tampa bay donation \$500.00

Paddlefish book donation \$500.00

Donation to EO Section \$500.00

Donation to CE Committee \$1,000.00

2018 MWFWC sponsorship \$1,000.00

2018 MWFWC expenses \$295.00

Technical Committees: \$37,366.12

Centrarchid \$1,032.19

Esocid \$5,000.28

Ictalurid \$5,586.79

Rivers and Streams \$3,372.21

Salmonid \$8,563.41

Walleye \$13,811.24

Fenske: \$6,527.26

Continuing Education: \$2,745.88

AFS Investments Funds \*as of October 2017 AXA update **\$40,225.00**

NCD: \$22,986.00

Ictalurid Tech Committee: \$17,239.00

(Prepared by: Tony Barada)

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### **President-Elect Report**

President-Elect Heather Hettinger introduced herself and expressed her gratitude to the membership for electing her as the next president of the NCD. She's excited for the opportunity to lead the division and welcomes any comments or correspondence following the meeting.

### **Standing Committee Reports**

Archives Committee: All hard copies have been scanned at D.C. Booth National Fish Hatchery, Spearfish, SD.

Audit Committee: No report

Awards Committee (Pyron): Awards were presented during the plenary session.

Summary of the awards:

*Communications*: Indiana Chapter

*Most Active Large Chapter*: Wisconsin Chapter

*Most Active Small Chapter*: Indiana Chapter

*Most Active Student Subunit*: Ball State University

*Fisheries Excellence Award*: Dr. Steven Cooke

*Joan Duffy Travel Awards*: Michael Moore (Missouri Chapter)

Henry Hansen (Nebraska Chapter)

Rebecca Dillon (Ohio Chapter)

Charmayne Anderson (Illinois Chapter)

Lydia Doer (Wisconsin Chapter)

No application for the Meritorious Service Award was received this year.

Mark Pyron presented Sandy Clark-Kolaks with an award of appreciation for her duties as the NCD president the past year.

Communications Committee (Holloway): The NCD Facebook page was active during 2017. There were 51 topic posts made. 'Fieldwork Friday' provided an opportunity for the NCD community to share fieldwork experiences (74 photos and 6 videos were shared as part of this effort. The page had 1,200 visits, a total reach of 19,722, engaged 1,361 and total likes jumped from 158 to 337.

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Continuing Education Committee (Wuellner reporting for Deslauriers): The CE committee hosted the 'Introductory Fisheries Analysis with R' workshop on Sunday. The Knowledge Seeker Award (\$180 travel assistance) was given to Marty Simonson.

Membership Committee: No report. Doug Austen chimed in and wanted all to know that AFS is there for support and they are looking for new ways to demonstrate the value of AFS membership to state chapters.

Newsletter (Tiemann): An announcement soliciting material for the spring newsletter will be coming out shortly

Nominating Committee (Clark-Kolaks): Will be seeking nominations for NCD president elect and secretary/treasurer soon. If you would like to volunteer yourself, nominate someone or know someone who might be interested, please pass that information along.

Resolutions Committee: No report.

Student Affairs Committee: Currently vacant. Looking for someone to step up.

### **Technical Committee Reports**

Centrarchid Technical Committee: No report.

Esocid Technical Committee: No report

Ictalurid Technical Committee (Neely): Mark February 18-20, 2020 on your calendars for the 3<sup>rd</sup> international Catfish Symposium ([catfish2020.com](http://catfish2020.com)). The symposium will be held in conjunction with the SDAFS meeting in Little Rock, Arkansas.

Jim Lamer (chair of the Catfish 2020 fundraising committee) commented that donations are being solicited to help offset costs associated with the symposium, including publishing costs of the proceedings.

A motion was made by Sandy Clark-Kolaks for "the NCD to donate \$1,000 to Catfish 2020", seconded by Jessica Mistak. Discussion occurred following the motion regarding the suggested donations, what the money would be used for, etc.

A new motion was made by Mark Porath to "strike the main motion and substitute that the NCD donate \$5,000 to Catfish 2020", seconded by Mark Pegg. More discussion occurred on the symposium and previous symposium fundraising efforts

The motion passed with majority vote.

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Reservoir Technical Committee (Conroy): 4<sup>th</sup> consecutive year the committee has hosted a symposium at the MWFWC. This year focused on standard methods in fisheries management and research.

Rivers & Streams Technical Committee: No report.

Salmonid Technical Committee: No report.

Walleye Technical Committee (Logsdon): The joint summer meeting of the Centrarchid Technical Committee (CTC), Esocid Technical Committee (ETC), and Walleye Technical Committee (WTC) was held during July in Isle, MN. The meeting featured a workshop entitled 'Managing walleye fisheries under adversity and change: A case history of Mille Lacs.' The joint winter business meeting of the CTC, ETC, and WTC was held January 28, 2018. Winter meeting reports are posted on the [WTC website](#). The annual Sander Travel Award was awarded to Jason Fischer. The 2018 Joint Summer Meeting of the WTC, CTC, & ETC will be July 24-26, 2018 at Lakeside Laboratory, Spirit Lake, Iowa.

### **New Business:**

Jessica Mistak made a motion to "pay down the Fenske Award budget line item to zero by annually contributing \$500 per year towards the Fenske Award winners (\$250 towards fisheries winner and \$250 towards wildlife winner). This contribution would begin in 2019." Motion seconded by Sandy Clark-Kolaks.

Jessica provided some background for discussion. This money was initially donated in honor of Jan Fenske to allow the NCD to subsidize the Fenske Award Breakfast. The award ceremony no longer takes place as a breakfast, but instead as part of the plenary; as a result there is no longer a cost associated with the ceremony and the remaining funds do not have a defined purpose. There is currently \$6,527.26 remaining in the account.

The motion was passed by unanimous vote.

John Bruner made a suggestion that any information about the upcoming Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conferences be posted to the NCD website. Even if the exact dates aren't known, it would be beneficial to know where the next meetings will be taking place.

### **Upcoming Meetings & Locations**

2019 Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference in Ohio (Date and Location TBD)

Motion to adjourn at 6:00 pm

*Respectfully submitted by Tony Barada, NCD AFS Secretary-Treasurer.*

## Committee Reports

### Walleye Technical Committee:

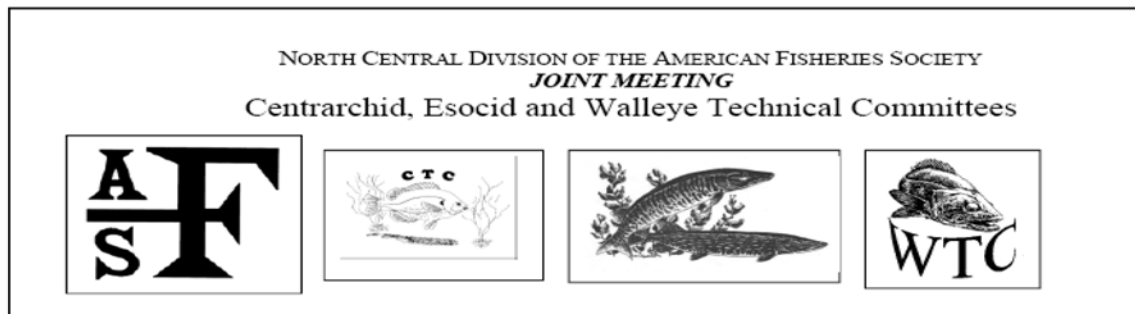
The joint summer meeting of the Centrarchid Technical Committee (CTC), Esocid Technical Committee (ETC), and Walleye Technical Committees (WTC) was held in July on the shore of Mille Lacs Lake at McQuoid's Inn in Isle Minnesota. The meeting was well attended (64 registrations) and included 16 technical presentations plus a half-day symposium on "Managing Walleye fisheries under adversity and change" that was kicked off with an in-depth case history of Mille Lacs. Nineteen people attended our winter joint meeting that was held in conjunction with the Midwest Fish and Wildlife conference in Milwaukee. The WTC awarded the Sander Travel Award in the form of a \$200 check and a copy of the book "Biology, Management, and Culture of Walleye and Sauger" to Jason Fischer of the University of Toledo. As has been recent tradition, his local AFS chapter (Ohio) also matched the WTC award with another \$200 check. The state reports presented at the winter meeting are posted under the Walleye Committee tab on the NCD website. This summer's joint meeting will be held July 25-26 at Iowa Lakeside Laboratory on the shore of West Okoboji Lake in Milford Iowa. The WTC has recently amended the committee by-laws to include Yellow Perch and welcome technical presentations and attendance by those working with or interested in Yellow Perch.



Photo: Drew Holloway



## Committee Reports



### 2018 Joint Meeting of the Centrarchid, Esocid, and Walleye Technical Committees – North Central Division of the American Fisheries Society

#### ANNOUNCEMENT AND CALL FOR PAPERS

**Dates: July 24-26, 2018**

**Location: Iowa Lakeside Laboratory, Milford, Iowa**

<http://www.continuetolearn.uiowa.edu/lakesidelab/about/index.html>

#### **Meeting**

The Joint Meeting will include a welcome dinner social Tuesday evening, a full day of presentations on Wednesday, a dinner social Wednesday evening, and a half day of presentations/business meetings on Thursday. Registration cost is anticipated at \$60 and will include both socials, coffee breaks, breakfast on Wednesday and Thursday, and lunch on Wednesday. Students are half price.

#### **Yellow Perch Symposium**

In response to recent amendment of the WTC bylaws to include Yellow Perch, a Yellow Perch symposium will be held on the afternoon preceding the Joint Meeting (July 24<sup>th</sup>). The symposium will begin with lunch, followed by afternoon of presentations on any subjects regarding Yellow Perch. Cost is anticipated at \$20 per person.

#### **Lodging**

Cabins (shared bathhouse and no AC) are available for \$20 per night and Motel-style rooms (private bathrooms and AC) are available for \$65 per night. Contact Lakeside Laboratory at [Lakesidelab@uiowa.edu](mailto:Lakesidelab@uiowa.edu) or (712) 337-3669 for reservations and additional information.

#### **Registration and Presentation Submittal**

Contact Hilary Meyer at [Hilary.Meyer@state.sd.us](mailto:Hilary.Meyer@state.sd.us) for registration and submission of paper abstracts. Payment will be accepted as cash or check at the door (sorry, we are unable to process credit cards or other forms of electronic payment). Deadline for registration is **June 24<sup>th</sup>**.

## Committee Reports

### Reservoir Technical Committee:



Another year, another successful symposium!

On January 30 at the 2018 Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference, Scott Bonar opened a day-long symposium sponsored by the Reservoir Technical Committee with an overview of the progress made in standardization in fisheries. The symposium, entitled [“Development, Validation, and Application of Standardized Population Assessments in Inland Waters,”](#) featured a wide array of presentations representing almost every North Central Division state/province. Throughout the day, it attracted up to 40 attendees.

Scott and his co-authors have been leaders in fisheries standardization, an essential component of moving the science forward. Standardization allows for better comparison of data among waterbodies and over time, reduces variability from confounding factors, and lends credibility to the practice of science. This becomes increasingly important given potential for data to be used in litigation. Standardization also improves communication, allowing for sharing across borders with clear expectations of gear deployment and specifications used. These ideas should be familiar with many fisheries scientists, but Scott shared some exciting new updates as well. Eight states/provinces are currently conducting work to validate the methods recommended in the most recent standard sampling book; validation ensures that we are using the best standard possible and what the data derived from it mean. Over 200 biologists from over 100 agencies and organizations have adopted the AFS standards, and additional work is being done to convert historical data to standardized data which enhances its value. Finally, the second edition of the [AFS Standard Methods](#) book has been approved and will incorporate improvements and additions which have been realized over the past decade, including addition of ecosystem types and expansion of the standard data references.

Next, Martha Mather discussed improvement of the design and planning of gear standardization studies as part of the broader advancement of fisheries science. Gear studies can provide an essential link between research, management, and monitoring if carried out correctly, and Martha presented an 8-step action plan for doing so. This presentation was appropriately followed by a number of gear investigations which had implications for standardization in various states.

## Committee Reports

### Reservoir Technical Committee:

A [three-year investigation of gear precision](#) indicated that the number of sites necessary to sample a lake was higher than traditional protocol dictated, especially for Bluegill in trap nets. Differences in size of fish caught were also found between the AFS standard and traditional gears. Later, Brian Blackwell discussed the conversion to AFS standards in South Dakota which, like Kansas, involved several years of evaluation of affirm (or refute) the effectiveness of the change. Importantly, trap nets were drastically improved by addition of a restricted throat. These findings were corroborated by research in Iowa, presented by Rebecca Krogman. A comparison of four modified fyke net designs which differed in number and restriction of throats revealed that throat restriction was essential for increasing fish retention. The importance of seasonality and lake zone in standard gill net deployment was discussed by B. J. Schall, who studied Walleye and Channel Catfish catch in Lake McConaughy. Significant seasonal differences in fish distribution occurred, yielding differences in mortality estimates up to 30%, different sex ratios, and generally inconsistent population dynamics. This presentation emphasized the importance of appropriate stratification in sampling. Likewise, a Minnesota study of unbaited hoop netting for Channel Catfish and Flathead Catfish, presented by Tony Sindt, found that seasonal timing affected catch rate and variability for both species. Sampling in August best optimized catch rate and precision for both species in the Minnesota River. Electrofishing standardization may be one of the most challenging aspects of gear standardization. Work in Missouri, presented by Jake Allman, focused on the process required to standardize power output, including measurement of the electrical field size and shape, examination of the waveform, and validation of control box metering. These important steps are outlined, along with safety concerns and operation guidelines, in Missouri's new electrofishing equipment and safety manual. Zach Morris later presented immobilization thresholds for Smallmouth Bass; specific combinations of pulse frequency, duty cycle, pulse width, and waveform were tested and recommended. Future work will focus on Channel Catfish and Blue Catfish.



## Committee Reports

### Reservoir Technical Committee:

In Indiana, standard gear and sampling plan adoption resulted in a substantial reduction of necessary sampling effort, according to Sandy Clark-Kolaks. Beginning in 2016, standard sampling should result in at least one visit to each lake every 5 year cycle, resulting in comparable and updated fishery metrics statewide by 2022. Because these data are standardized, an angler-friendly data storage and reporting solution could be developed to convey the data easily. Joe Conroy discussed a similar, longer-running program in Ohio, which has provided extensive standard data for conducting powerful statewide evaluations. Joe and colleagues Steve Tyszko and Jeremy Pritt discussed the use of Ohio's standardized statewide data for developing a low-frequency electrofishing method for Blue Catfish, evaluation of crappie population response to length regulation dependent on environmental factors, validation of shoreline electrofishing catch rates for indexing Largemouth Bass density, validation of baited tandem hoop nets for indexing Channel Catfish density, and application of shoreline electrofishing indices of *Sander* spp. to management decision-making. Such standardized databases can support powerful public-facing tools which show trends in fish abundance, population dynamics, and habitat conditions, as demonstrated for Michigan trout streams by Troy Zorn. Troy discussed Michigan's fish population "Trend Viewer" and the newly released "Stream Evaluator," which provide annually updated data to the public and decision-makers.

Discussion of long-term, standardized monitoring datasets and their application continued throughout the afternoon. David Rowe presented an analysis of Brown Trout reproduction Wisconsin, made possible by standard stream sampling which began in 2007. Statewide and regional comparisons of natural reproduction, natural recruitment, and adult trout abundance allowed for statewide stream classification based on trout reproduction. Kristopher Maxson then presented the application of the Upper Mississippi River Restoration Program's Long Term Resource Monitoring dataset to Smallmouth Buffalo population assessment. Although commercial harvest in Illinois has remained relatively stable since the 1950s, catch rates from monitoring showed a downward trend since 1993. Data from the same program were used to evaluate restoration of a backwater floodplain in the Illinois River Valley; Olivea Mendenhall discussed the detection of increased Largemouth Bass size distribution, increased size and abundance of bluegill, and altered size distribution of Black Crappie using Long Term Resource Monitoring data. Looking at an even longer dataset of species presence in the Illinois River, Jason DeBoer discussed the river's complex response to major abiotic and biotic modifications including pollution control legislation and Asian Carp invasion. Overall species diversity has increased since the 1950s, and changes seem to match major changes given a lag period. Robert Hunter presented an intensive study of Lake Sturgeon which involved a variety of egg and larval fish collection methods; sampling in the St. Clair-Detroit River system was difficult and resource intensive as in other large rivers. Data collected can be used to inform future standard sampling to maximize effectiveness in assessment spawning areas for Lake Sturgeon. Another recently developed standard protocol, discussed by Rebecca Dillon, was hydroacoustics processing, which can be used to estimate prey fish density. Rebecca compared the output of two processing protocols and found that one produced estimates 13-24% higher than the other. Periodic evaluation of data processing protocols was essential, much like it is for data collection.



## **Committee Reports**

### **Reservoir Technical Committee:**

At the end of the day, presentations were complete, but the work continues across the North Central Division. Excellent chapter representation in the symposium reflects the broad participation and interest garnered by fisheries standardized sampling and analysis. Look forward to continued work in this area, and expect updates and future symposia sponsored by the Reservoir Technical Committee of the North Central Division!

To keep up-to-date with the committee, [subscribe here](#).

## Chapter Updates

### Dakota Chapter American Fisheries Society

2018 Annual Meeting – Brookings, SD

The Dakota Chapter of the American Fisheries Society held its annual meeting in Brookings, SD from February 26<sup>th</sup> – 28<sup>th</sup>, 2018. Meeting attendees included 73 professionals, 12 graduate students, and 26 undergraduate students for a total of 111 registrants from 13 agencies/institutions. We kicked off our annual meeting with a half-day workshop entitled “*What level of public participation is right? It depends!*” that was presented by Dr. Cindy Longmire (SD GFP). Participants discussed various tools and techniques such as creel surveys, public meetings, and opinion surveys used in the public participation process. Dr. Charles Fritz (*International Water Institute*), Kurt Forman (*U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service*), and Dr. Carter Johnson (*Distinguished Professor Emeritus, SDSU*) were guest speakers for our plenary session on tiling in the Dakotas. Plenary speakers discussed issues such as subsurface drainage and downstream flow, trends in grassland and wetland conservation, and how to tile without draining wetlands. Our awards banquet this year featured a theatrical performance by the ‘Fingerlings’ that was followed by dinner, raffles and group games (telestrations) sponsored by our student subunits –South Dakota State University Student subunit, and Valley City State University Student subunit. This year’s *Aquatic Resource Conservation Award* was presented to Dakota Trout Unlimited for their work with cold-water fish conservation in the Dakotas. Dr. Casey Williams (Assistant Professor, Valley City State University) was presented with this year’s *Robert L. Hanten Distinguished Professional Service Award*. The *David Willis Outstanding Young Professional Award* went to Landon Pierce with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in Pierre, SD. The *Best Student Paper Award* was presented to Nick Kludt (SDSU) for his work with hydroacoustics in the Missouri River. *Best Student Poster Award* went to Allison Shorter for her work examining competition between Rainbow Smelt and Cisco populations. In the professional categories, Dr. Brian Blackwell won the *Best Professional Paper Award* for his presentation comparing day and night electrofishing for Smallmouth Bass. *Best Professional Poster Awards* went to Brandon Maahs and Dylan Gravenhof for their work with Chinook Salmon in Lake Oahe.



## Chapter Updates

### Dakota Chapter American Fisheries Society Photos 2018 Annual Meeting – Brookings, SD



The "Fingerlings" performing to Kung Fu Fighting.



Dakota Chapter Student Sauger Scholarships  
Second from left – Calvin Rezac, Macy Jo Murren, and  
Jared Hintz.



Dakota Chapter Northern Pike Scholarships.  
Second from left – Morgan Berquist, Yari  
Villanueva, Cooper Folmer, and Ethan Rasset.



Dr. James C. Schmulbach Memorial Scholarship  
Second from left – Calvin Rezac



Dr. Robert A. Klumb Memorial Scholarship  
Second from left – Joe Mrnak and Michaela Halvorson



Dr. Michael Barnes  
(center) received the Walter White Excellence in Laboratory  
Science Award – for his ruthless devotion to improving fish  
culture practices.

## Chapter Updates

### Wisconsin Chapter American Fisheries Society

The Wisconsin Chapter of the American Fisheries Society, along with the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources and the Wisconsin Chapter of The Wildlife Society, successfully hosted the 78<sup>th</sup> Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference in Milwaukee, WI on January 28-31, 2018. The conference, organized around the theme of “Strengthening Natural Resources through Collaboration” was attended by nearly 1100 professionals, students, and retirees, and had seven pre-conference workshops, three plenary and six lightning talk speakers, 15 symposia, and nearly 400 contributed talks and 130 posters. Chapter members were very involved in organizing the conference with Steve Gilbert and Justine Hasz serving on the Steering Committee; Hadley Boehm, Brad Eggold, Ben Heussner, Dan Isermann, Cheryl Masterson, Derek Ogle, Tammie Paoli, Dave Rowe, Greg Sass, Mike Seider, Lori Tate, Ted Treska, Justin VanDeHey, Jordan Weeks, and Max Wolter all serving on program committees or involved in local arrangements; and numerous others helping with various duties.

Our chapter was presented with the Most Active Chapter (Large) award at the Midwest Conference. This award, which we last received in 2008 (and in 2005 before that), acknowledges the good work of our members and our efforts to build a more engaged membership, including providing specific resources and opportunities for students. We thank the North Central Division for this honor.

Our annual Business meeting was held at the Midwest Conference. Highlights of committee reports were the successful organization of two continuing education courses (Telemetry Surgery and Fish Health), three student awards (congratulations to Lydia Doerr [University of Wisconsin – Green Bay] for being awarded both the Norden and Duffy Scholarships and Alex Catalano [University of Wisconsin – Stevens Point] for being awarded the Frie Scholarship), substantial funds raised through the raffle, another successful “Fisheries Bootcamp” (which provides field experiences at the Escanaba Lake Research Station for student members), how active our student sub-units we, and the amazing diversity and quality of fish caught by members for our Great WIAFS Photo Fishing Challenge. Generosity was also on display as our membership voted to provide \$1000 for the National AFS fund to help our fisheries colleagues attend the Southern Division meeting in Puerto Rico and member Tim Kroeff (WDNR, Sturgeon Bay) made a generous donation to initiate a scholarship for student members. Greg Sass’s (WDNR, Boulder Junction) term as Past-President came to an end (Thanks Greg!) and Dan Isermann (USGS/UWSP Cooperative Fishery Research Unit) became Past-President as Derek Ogle (Northland College) was installed as President. Dan Dembkowski (USGS/UWSP Cooperative Fishery Research Unit) was selected as President-Elect and Lori Tate (WDNR, Madison) took over for Ted Treska (USFWS, Green Bay) as Secretary-Treasurer (Thanks Ted!). We are also pleased to have Tony Rieth (USFWS, Green Bay) assume leadership of the Membership Committee and Luke Roffler (WDNR, Kansasville) take over administering the Great Photo Fishing Challenge. Plans for the upcoming year are to recruit more members, invigorate relationships with students in our student sub-units, examine the best way to deploy our web presence, consider a social media presence, update our by-laws, recruit new volunteers to serve on committees and leadership positions in the chapter, and prepare for a successful annual meeting next winter. Please see our Chapter website ([www.wi-afs.org](http://www.wi-afs.org)) for more information and instructions on how to be added to our chapter e-mail list.



## Chapter Updates

### Minnesota Chapter American Fisheries Society

The Minnesota Chapter held their 2018 annual meeting in St. Cloud, February 6 to 8. Attendance totaled 125 persons with 37 being students. Plenary session speakers were Julie Deflippi Simpson, AFS Communication Committee Chairperson, and Dr. Katie Steiger-Meister of the US Fish & Wildlife Service. They both spoke on different aspects of communications in the fisheries profession. We had 41 spoken presentations and 25 poster presentations.

Our Chapter is revitalizing our communications efforts. Craig Kelling has assumed the role of newsletter editor, producing the first Chapter newsletter in several years. It is called Lota-Fisk Gazette. Hanna Kruckman, Chapter Communications Committee Chair, is re-establishing the Chapter website which is now being hosted through the Parent Society. Chapter Historian Brian Borkholder has collected and scanned in many old documents related to past Chapter meetings and activities.

Our 2019 annual meeting will be a joint meeting with the Dakota Chapter to be held in Fargo, ND February 25-27, 2019.

### Indiana Chapter of the American Fisheries Society

The Indiana Chapter of The American Fisheries Society enjoyed a successful and well attended conference held jointly with the Indiana Chapter of The Wildlife Society, February 12-13 in Lafayette, IN. The theme of the conference was "Restoration through Collaboration" featuring keynote speaker, Mary McConnell, Director of The Nature Conservancy of Indiana, as well as many other great talks by our fellow researchers and biologists. 140 people attended the conference and we were lucky to have three great conference sponsorships from Duke Energy, Aquatic Control, and Commonwealth Biomonitoring.

Our latest edition of our IN AFS membership newsletter "Lateral Lines" was published in January 2018 and can be found on our website at [IndianaAFS.org](http://IndianaAFS.org). Our newsletters are a great way to catch up on chapter news as well as quick updates from our membership in the field and the great fisheries work they are doing across Indiana. Our next newsletter is in production and will be released later this spring.

As field season begins to ramp up, the majority of our membership is busy getting back to work outdoors and doing what we all love. Before we know it, we will be gathering at the Indiana State Fair for our annual "Fish with a Fishhead" day at the DNR Fishing Pond in August, teaching kids of all ages how to fish. Not long after that we will meet again for our chapter business meeting and continuing education activity in the fall. I wish everyone an enjoyable and productive field season. Please feel free to follow our chapter on Facebook (IN AFS) for regular updates!

## NCD President Elect Biographies

On the following two pages you will find the biographies for the two candidates for our future president of the NCD! The NCD listserv will be notified when voting begins. Thank you to both candidates for your service and interest in the NCD.



Not interested in being the President of NCD? Please consider helping with any of the other NCD committees listed below!

### Standing Committees

Archives Committee

Auditing Committee

Continuing Education Committee

Membership Committee

Newsletter Committee

NCD Nominating Committee

Resolution Committee

Student Affairs Committee

Communications Committee

Communications Committee

AFS Nominating Committee

AFS Meritorious Service Award

Special Committees

Strategic Plan Update

### Technical Committees

Centrarchid

Esocid

Ictalurid

Rivers and Streams

Salmonid

Walleye



**Jeff Kopaska**

I am a graduate of Iowa State University, and I am currently a biometrician in fisheries research for the Iowa Department of Natural Resources. I have been very involved in the American Fisheries Society (AFS); I am the immediate past-president of the Iowa Chapter, a past President of AFS-Fisheries Information and Technology Section, I previously served as the Chair of AFS-Electronic Services Advisory Board, and I served on the AFS Nominating Committee in 2017. I serve on the Science and Data Committee of the National Fish Habitat Partnership, and have been involved in numerous regional and national fisheries data initiatives. As an employee of Iowa DNR Fisheries, my areas of responsibility include overseeing most technology-related efforts we undertake; I feel the most accurate way to describe my job is “works to utilize and implement technology solutions to make field staff and administrators more effective and efficient”. I am an ardent supporter of AFS, and the services it provides for the field of fisheries. However, I believe that AFS has moved away from providing relevant services to the most populous component of the fisheries profession – field staff. If elected as Division President, I would challenge AFS leadership to consider how their activities benefit field staff at every opportunity. I think this is a mindset that has been underrepresented within AFS in recent years. I would be honored to serve you as President of the North Central Division of the American Fisheries Society.

## John Clay Bruner



I completed a B.Sc. degree in Zoology from the University of Illinois, Champaign-Urbana in 1972, and a M.Sc. in Biology from Northern Illinois University, DeKalb in 1979. I worked as a volunteer in the Fish Division, Zoology Department, Field Museum of Natural History (FMNH), Chicago, the summers of 1970 to 1976. I worked as a paid employee from 1976 to 1979 in the Fish Division, FMNH. In 1979, I transferred to the Geology Department, FMNH where I was the collection manager of vertebrate paleontology until 1986. I also worked identifying fishes for environmental consultant firms for the Northwest Tollway extension in Illinois and the Shell Refinery in Lockport, Illinois. I also served two years as a deer checker for the state of Illinois' gun season. I have

collected freshwater fishes from British Columbia, Alberta, North Dakota, Minnesota, Wisconsin, Iowa, Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Kentucky, Tennessee, Mississippi, and Florida. I have trawled for fishes on Lake Michigan on board the *R/V Rachel Carson*, and on the Gulf of Mexico on a shrimp trawler out of Ocean Springs, Mississippi. I have collected marine fishes from St. Croix and St. Thomas, U.S. Virgin Islands. I have collected fossil fishes from British Columbia, Wyoming, Illinois, and Indiana. Since 1986, I have worked as a research assistant in the University of Alberta Laboratory for Vertebrate Paleontology. I am a Life Member of the American Fisheries Society, American Society of Ichthyologists and Herpetologists, and the Illinois Academy of Sciences. I am a regular member of the American Elasmobranch Society, the Society of Vertebrate Paleontology, and the Paleontological Society.

I have attended five AFS annual meetings and presented at four. At the 2011 meeting in Seattle, I was a co-organizer with Bruce Barton of the 2 day Walleye Symposium based on the 2011 AFS book: Biology, Management, and Culture of Walleye and Sauger. And, I organized the Seattle *Sauger Social* at Ivar's Restaurant. I have served three times as a judge for the best student paper presentation for the AFS Education Committee at annual meetings. I have attended three Midwest Fish & Wildlife Conferences and presented papers at two of them. As Chair of the Walleye Technical Committee, I was able to get approval to have the Sander Travel Award doubled from \$200 to \$400 (half of the matching funds comes from the student's state or provincial AFS chapter).

As an American living in Alberta, Canada, I am keenly aware of a schism between American and Canadian fisheries professionals. The AFS NCD Mid Canada Chapter (MCC = Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba, Nunavut, and the Northwest Territories) has a geographic area twice the size of the rest of the chapters of the North Central Division combined, yet it has not met in 7 years. It does not supply representatives to the NCD technical committees and its students are missing out on chances for travel awards to attend the Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference. I would like to see the MCC resuscitated and brought back into the fold of the NCD. I would like to see Canada brought back into a thirteen-year rotation for meeting places of the Midwest Fish & Wildlife Conference. Right now, it seems to be a ten-year rotation for the MFWC: Ohio, Illinois, Minnesota, Iowa, Kansas, Missouri, Indiana, Michigan, Nebraska, and Wisconsin. Since 2006, the Dakotas, Ontario, and the MCC have not been included in the rotation of sites for the Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference.

I would like to do everything possible to encourage more student and young professional involvement at all levels of the AFS. I would encourage the use of more teleconferences for communication between the NCD governance and AFS Chapter officers, and NCD Technical Committee chairs. As active billboards for the AFS, I want to encourage the NCD chapters to keep their websites up to date. In the eyes of students, a website promoting a future fisheries meeting that happened one or two years ago does not speak well for a chapter.



## NCD News

### Newly released Fish Bioenergetics 4.0 is now available as open-source software!

David Deslauriers, Steve R. Chipps, James E. Breck, James A. Rice, and Charles P. Madenjian

Recently released Fish Bioenergetics 4.0 (FB4) is the latest generation of the Wisconsin Model that provides a user-friendly, menu-driven environment for bioenergetics modeling. FB4 uses an R-based analytical approach linked to a graphical user interface, making simulations easy even for users with little or no experience in R programming. The R programming approach enables timely updates and bug fixes, and can rely on feedback from users to continuously improve the application. Users can add new or modified parameter sets for additional species and incorporate modifications such as habitat-dependent functions (e.g., dissolved oxygen, salinity) that are not part of the default package. Because the core model code is accessible to users it can be incorporated as a module in larger ecological models if desired.

During development of FB4, we conserved many aspects of the previous version of Fish Bioenergetics 3.0 while adding features that improved efficiency and ease of working from the user-interface. Fish Bioenergetics 4.0 contains 105 bioenergetics models representing 72 aquatic species. It is our hope that advances in the new modeling platform will attract a broad range of users while facilitating continued use of bioenergetics modeling to address ecological and management questions.

For more information about FB4 or to download the application, please visit our website at: <http://fishbioenergetics.org/>



### Join us for the River Restoration 2018 Conference.

Dive into the field of restoration and assessment October 28 – 30<sup>th</sup>, 2018 in Two Harbors, MN. We will: learn from diverse national, statewide, and regional speakers; explore watershed based methods for restoring and assessing river systems; take part in in-depth discussions with fellow practitioners; network and engage with others committed to improving river restoration; and attend educational workshops taught by recognized leaders in the field.

Registration opens in July.

Find more information at our website: <https://www.riverrestoration2018.com/>

## NCD News

### Knowledge Seeker Award

The North Central Division of the American Fisheries Society has developed the Knowledge Seeker Award to provide funding support to undergraduate or graduate students seeking the opportunity to attend fisheries related trainings, workshops, or continuing education courses. Awards are granted three times a year for the purposes of helping students attend fisheries related courses at the Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference (MFWC), courses held online, or for other relevant trainings or workshops that require the student to travel or pay a registration fee that may preclude them from attendance. Applications for the 3<sup>rd</sup> award (\$180) of the year are due on the 16th of April. More details can be found at: <https://ncd.fisheries.org/continuing-education/>

**The NCD is currently seeking nominations for the secretary/treasurer position.**

**This is a minimum year-long term.**

**If interested please email Sandy Clark-Kolaks [sclark-kolaks@dnr.in.gov](mailto:sclark-kolaks@dnr.in.gov).**

### Missing Copies of Mainstream Newsletters

The NCD archives at the Booth Hatchery in South Dakota does not have any hard copies of these newsletters.

**Spring 2007—Fall 2006—Spring 2006—Fall 2005—Spring 2005—Fall 2004—Spring 2004—Fall 2003—Spring 2003—Fall 2002—Spring 2002—Fall 2001**

There are no digital copies saved of these newsletters. The files for these newsletters were lost when the AFS changed its website provider without bothering to backup the files. All *Mainstream* files older than Spring 2007 were lost. There is a chance that some of the *Mainstream* readership might still have hard copies of these newsletters that could be digitized and mounted back onto the NCD website.

## NCD Announcements



North Central Division of the  
American Fisheries Society

Be on the look out for #FieldworkFriday !  
Returning May 2018

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Registration is now open for the American Fisheries Society  
Annual Meeting!



August 19th –23rd

### Upcoming NCD Meetings

2019  
Ohio, Cleveland

2020  
Illinois, TBD

2021  
Minnesota, TBD

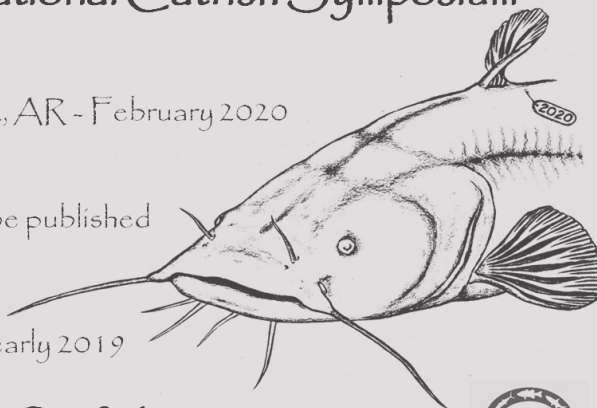
## CATFISH 2020

~3<sup>rd</sup> International Catfish Symposium~

Little Rock, AR - February 2020

Proceedings to be published

First call for papers early 2019



Catfish2020.com

