

## Dr. Jeffrey A. Stein



I am currently an Assistant Research Scientist at the Illinois Natural History Survey where I am the lead investigator in the Sport Fish Ecology Lab on the campus of the University of Illinois. My research team studies the basic and applied ecology of freshwater fisheries across a variety of fish species and environments, including largemouth bass in midwestern impoundments, gars in large river ecosystems, lake trout in the Great lakes, and (coming soon) walleye and sauger in midwestern lakes and streams. We use a variety of approaches to our research, from genetics to acoustic telemetry to physiology and behavior. The variety in our work provides me a foundation of diverse perspectives that share a common thread – a keen focus on conducting applied research that has relevance to the management of freshwater fisheries.

With this in mind, I am humbled and honored to be nominated as a candidate for President-Elect of the NCD. If elected to serve as an NCD officer, I intend to leverage my leadership experience to focus on services the Division can provide its chapters and members – services that will bridge the connection between research, management, and policy. I am particularly interested in fostering a close working relationship with leaders at our state agencies and tribal organizations to seek ways to connect the grand expertise of our NCD membership to the policy and management challenges facing our state, provincial, and tribal resource management agencies. Additionally, I embrace the opportunity to contribute to the development and implementation of the next NCD Strategic Plan. While many eyes roll at the thought of strategic planning, I'm admittedly enjoy the challenge of visioning the near future for our organization and seeing through on the vigorous implementation of strategic goals and objectives.

From the earliest stages of my career, I have had a passion for service to AFS. I first became a member in 1993, and made the first of dozens conference presentations at the 1997 meeting on Monterey CA. Over the last 25 years I have served the Society as Student Subunit President, Treasurer and Webmaster; as the Illinois Chapter Time and Place chair, Environmental Concerns committee chair, Raffle chair and member of the Executive Committee. Recently, my service to AFS has shifted as I have served for the last two years as an Associate Editor of the North American Journal of Fisheries Management, co-organized the “Angling for Dinosaurs” symposium at the 2016 AFS parent society meeting in Kansas City and co-edited the resulting special section issue of Transactions of the American Fisheries Society. I also serve or have served in a multitude leadership roles outside of AFS, including my current service as a member of the Board of Directors of the Fisheries Conservation Foundation, and former member of the Board of Directors of the Illinois Environmental Council.

If elected, I will combine my focus on service to AFS members and NCD constituencies with broad and deep AFS experience and a knack for organizational planning to enhance the benefits NCD members enjoy as they pursue their careers in fisheries with professionalism, expertise, and passion. My hope is that you will support me in my efforts to shine a light on the excellence that is AFS-NCD.