

Centrarchid Technical Committee Update

The North Central Division's Centrarchid Technical Committee met on December 3, 2000, from 1-3 p.m. in Minneapolis, Minnesota at the 62nd Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference. The meeting was called to order by incoming Chair Randy Schultz. Randy recapped the Mid-year meeting held July 18-19 at Wyalusing State Park, Prairie du Chien, Wisconsin, and provided a Treasurer's Report.

Attendees were updated on the Black Bass and Crappie Symposia held at the 130th Annual AFS Meeting in St. Louis, where approximately 12 CTC members presented as first authors. Steve Fischer updated the group on progress of the Lepomis Symposium to be held in Des Moines at the 63rd Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference, December 9-12 2001. Twenty presentations have been confirmed, with four more tentative presentations planned. Discussion continued on other topics, species, and potential presenters to contact.

The Chair asked if any members knew of whether the NCD is still offering matching grants of \$25 to students to attend CTC meetings, and whether any students had taken advantage of the offer. Members present were unaware of whether any students had been supported to attend the Mid-year meeting in the past, and the Chair mentioned he would check into the offer and encourage students to apply.

Much discussion surrounded problems associated with creation of the largemouth bass and bluegill posters, and how to avoid distribution problems if the white and black crappie posters are produced. Currently, no members are willing to spearhead production of the crappie posters.

Members present were updated on the CTC web page and CTC directory. The web page is current, and Steve Fischer discussed the option of posting CTC information directly on the NCD Technical Committee web page. Steve will contact Don Pereira, webmaster, about posting all CTC information there, and dissolving the link to the CTC web page that we must maintain. The CTC directory is constantly in a state of flux, especially due to address changes. The Chair discussed two versions, one on ACCESS, and one on EXCEL that would soon be available to interested members.

The Chair led a discussion on meeting locations for the Mid-year meeting, and also low turnout experienced at the last Mid-year. In hopes of increasing attendance, the meeting location and dates for the 2001 Mid-year meeting have been set. Members were encouraged to plan to attend and inform other interested members on the next Mid-year meeting, August 7-8, 2001, Wyalusing State park, Prairie du Chien, Wisconsin. The Chair mentioned potential speakers at the Lepomis Symposium will be encouraged to present their information at the 2001 Mid-year meeting, before the symposium.

The Chair led a discussion of potential new projects with the CTC, beginning by describing a CTC member's interest in creating a Black Bass Section, based on interest in this species exemplified at the Black Bass Symposium in St. Louis. Dr. Chris Guy

voiced concern that it may be difficult to get a species section under AFS, and perhaps a better alternative would be a Black Bass Committee under the FMS.

Don Gabelhouse presented a survey draft he would like state delegates to complete in order to provide Lepomis information throughout the NCD that Don could use as his introduction to the Lepomis Symposium. It was agreed delegates present would critique the draft, and provide comments to Don in January 2001. Don also thanked the Lepomis Symposium organizers for asking him to present the introductory talk at the symposium.

Finally, the Chair led a discussion initiated by Bill Bradshaw at the FMS Annual Business Meeting, St. Louis. Bill is organizing a symposium entitled "Special Regulations and Sport Fishing: The Promise of Science Lost?" which will deal with the evaluation (especially lack of) of special regulations. The Chair mentioned the CTC has a wealth of experience dealing with special regulations, and he would contact Bill to see how the CTC could contribute to the symposium, and provide delegates with more information later. The Chair thanked members for attending and participating, and adjourned the meeting.