



Mainstream

President's Message

Mark Fincel

This is my last Mainstream writing as the President of the North Central Division. The last couple years have been eye opening to the inner workings of AFS. I have enjoyed my time interacting with AFS leadership and serving on the Management Committee and Governing Board. Surprisingly, I also enjoyed my time working on the Membership Committee over the last year. This appointment is something required of the NCD president in the odd-year terms (even year presidents serve on Management Committee). Most of the individuals on the membership committee are not within the NCD, and thus won't read this newsletter, but I still wanted to recognize this group as they were energetic, passionate, and just a lot of fun to work with. Ultimately, I found the most joy in working with the different state chapters and technical committees within NCD. Although in-person meetings have been hit or miss this last year, I hope to be able to visit with many of you whom I have corresponded with over the last year! I think some good conversations over some good beer are needed.



When the April edition of Mainstream hits the press, the AFS vote for 2nd vice president will be underway (election closes Friday, April 29th). I want to remind everyone that AFS leadership plays a large role in shaping AFS through identifying its values and developing the initiatives that will take place during a candidate's 5-year term (2nd vice president, 1st vice president, president-elect, president, and past-president). This year, the AFS nominating committee actively sought to identify candidates who were employed by state agencies – a group historically under-represented within AFS leadership. Of the nominees, we have two very qualified candidates and both provide a strong state government background to the current AFS leadership team. Gary Whelan (NCD - Michigan DNR) and Kevin Dockendorf (SD - North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission) are the two candidates this year.

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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.

President's Message, continued

AFS members should have received an email with the link to vote from AFS (around March 28th). If you are a member and did not receive the election email, or have any questions regarding the election process, please contact Lauren Maza at lmaza@fisheries.org. Please take some time to review the candidate bios and vote!

Something I have noticed in my last few years of working within AFS, is the declining participation of AFS members. Leading at all levels of AFS provides a rewarding experience and I have made amazing, lifelong friends along the way. Lately, it has become tougher to find candidates for NCD presidency (and NCD committee chairs, and chapter volunteers). The NCD excom position is less than a four-year time commitment (Vice -president, President-elect, President, Past-president), but your first and last years in office are not too big of a time commitment. The term would basically run from 2023 - 2026. With my transition to NCD past-president in August, I will be soliciting nomination suggestions for the next NCD president. If you are interested in running for NCD excom, please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions regarding the position.

Recently, we have had a few volunteers that are revamping the student affairs and communications committees. I want to take the time to thank Hadley Boehm, Shaley Valentine, and Brittany Harried for their efforts. New NCD Twitter (https://twitter.com/NCD_AFS) and Instagram (<https://www.instagram.com/ncdafs/>) pages have been established and I ask that you work with our new Committee Chairs to populate these sites and highlight the great work being done within the North Central Division!

In closing, it has been my pleasure to serve as the NCD President and I thank the division for selecting me for this amazing opportunity. I will continue to work with the chapters and technical committees as I transition into the Past President role. I'm excited to work with our new NCD Excom as we transition to the next goals and new visions in 2023.

82nd MIDWEST FISH & WILDLIFE CONFERENCE

Fish & Wildlife Stewardship in Working Landscapes

February 13–16, 2022 • Des Moines, Iowa



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

Each year, the North Central Division of the American Fisheries Society recognizes society chapters, student subunits, and scientists & managers for their activity and contributions to the Division and the field of fisheries research & management. The Awards Committee is pleased to announce the winners of the 2022 awards.

The *Most Active Chapter Awards* recognize chapters that have conducted the most active programming to enhance professionalism and fisheries science. The North Central Division annually recognizes both a large chapter (> 100 members) and a small chapter (< 100 members).

INDIANA CHAPTER (Small) WISCONSIN CHAPTER (Large)

The *Most Active Student Subunit Award* recognizes a student subunit that demonstrates the most active program, as evidenced by one that develops interest among undergraduate and graduate students in fisheries science and in fulfilling the mission of the American Fisheries Society.

Lake Superior State University

The *Best Communications Award* recognizes a chapter of the North Central Division that develops the most efficient, useful, and attractive newsletter and website. These products serve to inform members of relevant and timely information.

INDIANA CHAPTER

The *Fisheries Excellence Award* recognizes a North Central Division member who has made an outstanding contribution to the fisheries profession. Contributions may consist of a single activity or a collection of achievements over an individual's career.

Craig Paukert

The *Meritorious Service Award* recognizes extraordinary service to the American Fisheries Society by a North Central Division member. Contributions at the Chapter, Division, Section, or Society levels can all be recognized; contributions can include a single outstanding achievement or a set of cumulative actions.

Jeff Kopaska

Congratulations to our winners and please consider nominating your state chapters, University subunits and outstanding AFS members in the future.



2022 Business Meeting Minutes
82th Midwest Fish & Wildlife Conference, Des Moines, Iowa
February 13-16, 2022



President Fincel called the meeting to order at 10:30AM. Sixty-Seven members were in attendance when the meeting was called to order.

Introduction of Special Guests

No Special Guests – In most years, AFS staff and/or one or more AFS officer attends. AFS Constitutional Consultant Randy Schultz was recognized

Approval of the 2021 Business Meeting Minutes

The 2021 business meeting minutes were posted on the NCD website and in the Spring 2021 newsletter. No comments or changes to the business meeting minutes were received.

A motion to approve the business meeting minutes as written was made, no objections—The motion was approved by membership.

AFS Video Report

Leanne Roulson- Importance of networking and highlights for the AFS meeting in Spokane, WA August 21-25, 2022. The theme is “Perspectives above and below the waterline”. Joint aquatic societies (JASM) meeting in Grand Rapids will take place in May 2022.

- Webinars- hosted by AFS are done monthly and can be viewed live or in the archives.
- Scholarships –allow students and professionals the opportunity to attend AFS meetings
- Student Subunits – these groups are very active and AFS members are encouraged to reach out
- RAWA – update – Hoping to pass this year and Drue Winters (AFS Policy) is working diligently to gain support
- Fisheries Grey literature. Database – great place to upload technical reports, surveys and non-published work for AFS members. Allows members to access and download pdf. reports.
- Discussed the values of membership.
- Focusing on DEI will be a part of her president’s plan.

Treasurer’s Report

The North Central Division of the American Fisheries Society has \$137,695.03 in two accounts (checking and AFS investments) as of December 31, 2021. The finances are detailed below. Since this is a year’s end report it does not reflect any spending after January 1, 2022. The newest line item is the MAFWA Travel Grant money that is to be used for student and early career professional travel to the Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

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NCD Treasurer Report EOY 2021

Prepared by: Drew Holloway

NCD-AFS Total Funds **\$137,695.03**

Account Summaries

NCD General Fund	\$7,791.68
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Technical Committees

Centrarchid	\$1,007.19
Esocid	\$4,955.28
Ictalurid	\$5,751.79
Rivers and Steams	\$3,753.88
Salmonid	\$8,563.41
Walleye	\$21,525.58

Other Funds

Fenske Award	\$5,027.26
Cont. Education	\$1,675.88
MAFWA Travel Grants (Student/ Young Prof.)	\$20,330.08

AFS Investments**

NCD	\$23,354.00
Ictalurid Tech Committee	\$23,820.00
Walleye Tech Committee	\$10,139.00

** Latest updates were from Q2 sent on 09/27/2021

Prepared by: Drew Holloway
NCD - Secretary/Treasurer
Dholloway@msdeng.com

President Report

Mark Fincel – This year NCD was well represented in AFS committees and boards. Introduced Sara Thomas to the group as our recently elected vice president. Affiliate membership- State chapters members vs Parent society members. Trying to find a balance of both. Kelly Kotche (AFS) will be contacting chapters for a survey on membership. Encouraged Chapters to respond to this request. 2022 declining student memberships- significant after COVID-19 and need to work on getting them back to a parent society membership. Universities need to continue their support of AFS stressing its value to students.

Jeff Kopaska (Past-Past President)– Within AFS, fisheries professionals need to be heard. Jeff made this a goal as NCD president. Feels that we need to do more to encourage AFS Society-level membership among our colleagues.

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Past-President Report

Joe Conroy – Deferred to later items

President-Elect Report

Brian Nerbonne -Deferred to later items

Standing Committee Reports

Archives Committee: No Report

Audit Committee: 2021 NCD End of Year report was submitted and approved by Tom Bacula, chair, on February 2, 2022.

Awards Committee (Nerbonne):

- Recognize committee members: Seth Love, IL-AFS; Nick Kramer, KS-AFS
- MAFWA Travel awards given out to 35 students and early career professionals
- All 6 NCD awards were given out this year – looking forward to this every year

Communications Committee (Holloway): The Facebook page is continuing to grow with 546 page likes. Our “Fieldwork Friday” posts are still a fan favorite and will continue during the 2022 field season. Please continue to share your photos, videos and stories relevant to the fisheries field.

Continuing Education Committee: No Report

Membership Committee (Fincel): Auto-enroll option for membership. Renewed webinar series-public option to show nonmembers what’s going on in AFS. Job board is up and running. Membership surveys are being ready to roll out to lapsed membership

Newsletter (Holloway): Newsletter submissions should be sent to Drew Holloway by 4-1-2022 for the spring newsletter. The Newsletter and other communications reasonability will be passed off to Brittany Harried after the Spring *Mainstream* is released.

Nominating Committee (Conroy): Vice President nominations have been completed and Sara Thomas was elected. Thank you to Kopaska for the assist in helping obtain candidates. Jeff Kopaska – Fisheries Magazine update to the Mainstream April 2021 article – 1995 to current past presidents only 1 private industry, 2 state agencies, academic or federal makes up the rest. Agency employees underrepresented and need to be on a balanced ballot (Agency vs Agency).

Resolutions Committee: No report.

Student Affairs Committee: Discussion was had during “new business” with the group and two volunteers (Shaley Valentine and Hadley Boehm) were selected to help get this committee back on track.

Technical Committee Reports

Centrarchid Technical Committee (Will Radigan):

Summer Joint WTC/CTC/ETC meeting planned for 2022 in WI
Joint winter business meeting held 2022 in conjunction with MF&WC

Continued on next page...

Esocid Technical Committee (Jordan Weeks):

Compiling our annual report

Finalizing outreach effort to solicit funds from muskie and pike organizations (fishing clubs) to

Create scholarships for students to attend professional meetings

planning our summer meeting (hopefully in person w/WTC CTC) for July 2022 in Wisconsin

Ictalurid Technical Committee (Chris Brooke):

The NCD ITC will meet at the MFWFC at 4:30 PM on February 15th. There will be a virtual option available.

The ITC received 5 applications for a small grant for catfish research. This is the first time a grant has been offered by the ITC and we hope for it to become an annual grant. We have selected a winner and will announce the winner at or before our meeting on February 15th.

After a long process and a lot of hard work from a lot of folks, Catfish 2020 is in the final stages of getting wrapped up. The proceedings from the conference have been published and are available online.

Reservoir Technical Committee Andrew Buelmann):

Submitted summary of 2021 AFS res tech symposium "Back to the Future of Reservoir Science And Management: What Have We Learned in 50 Years?" to Fisheries Magazine. The entire symposium was recorded and presentations can be viewed at: https://docs.google.com/document/d/1hnE3zjVT-GBi6IB8pg29AeECXNKC74z-a_TQQE5rRw/edit?usp=sharing.

We are currently looking to raise funds to publish the proceedings from this symposium, if anyone knows who would like to provide some money for this publication please contact

Andrew Buelmann at Abuelmann@dnr.in.gov. Currently we have \$2,500 from the Fish Habitat Section. Thanks to the symposium planning committee: Rebecca Krogman, Jeremy Risley, Steven Sammons, Michael Homer, and Joseph Conroy.

Res Tech members attended the Southern Division Res Tech meeting (Thanks Rebecca Krogman for taking diligent notes). The Southern Division is looking to expand their travel award to include students from other divisions so the NCD committee may have award money to give out for future meetings.

Sent out request to state chapters for 2021 state reports.

Rivers and Streams Technical Committee (Bret Roberg):

NCD-RSTC meeting is scheduled for March 29-30th and will be a virtual meeting hosted through Zoom. Folks interested in attending can register [here](#). Dr. Kurt Fausch is scheduled to be the keynote speaker at our RSTC meeting in March. We have received and uploaded the RSTC chapter reports onto the RSTC website for 2021, along with some additional updates from previous years as well. In the meantime, I will have Brian Borkholder upload an additional reports that I may receive moving forward.

Salmonid Technical Committee (Jeremy Keintz):

The Salmonid Technical Committee is in the process of reorganizing following years of inactivity. A group of individuals have formed a work group to facilitate reestablishing representation from the chapters within NCD. A meeting will be held Feb. 13, 2022 at the Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference with both in Person and virtual attendance options. During 2022 the committee has the goal of getting chapter representatives in place and holding another meeting to formally vote in new officers. An update on the committee's progress towards these goals will be provided to NCD leadership in November 2022.

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Undervalued/Underappreciated Fishes Technical Committee (Paul DeRolf,): *Provisional*
No Report provided

Urban and Community Fisheries Technical Committee (Tyler Stubbs): *Provisional*
UCTC hosted an urban symposium at the 2021 Midwest Fish and Wildlife Virtual Conference. Presentations were from Iowa, Minnesota, Wisconsin, Kansas, City of Eagan, MN, and the US EPA. Next committee meeting will be after the 2022 Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference. Discussion will involve leadership, elections, etc. Working to continue to gain representation from additional states and provinces.

Walleye Technical Committee (Lawrence Eslinger):

The Walleye Technical Committee (WTC) was busy again in 2021! We conducted a virtual joint winter meeting with the Esocid and Centrarchid technical committees (ETC and CTC, respectively) in February associated with the virtual Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference (MWFWC) in St. Paul, MN. Additionally, at the 2021 MWFWC we successfully coordinated a Percid symposium entitled, "Effects of Ecosystem Change on North American Percid Populations". The symposium featured 27 presentations contributions. In July, we held a virtual, joint meeting (again with ETC and CTC) via Zoom, which was again, well attended and conducted relatively seamlessly. Throughout much of 2021, WTC members have continued to work behind the scenes pursuing publication of full paper contributions towards the Percid symposium conducted at the 2021 MWFWC. The review process is nearing completion, with successful papers to be featured within a forthcoming special section of the North American Journal of Fisheries Management. Efforts have also been ongoing for gathering financial contributions to support authors with associated publication costs. Anyone seeking to be members of the WTC should contact myself (Lawrence.eslinger@wisconsin.gov) or Dave Seibel (David.seibel@wisconsin.gov; WTC Secretary). Stay tuned!

New Business:

Call for Volunteers in vacant committee roles

NCD Merchandise "Store" (Holloway)– a print on demand storefront held virtually with no overhead costs Future goal will be to allow state chapters and student subunits to host pages. – Threadless Tees handles everything.

Special thank you awards given to Jeff Kopaska and Joe Conroy for their time on NCD EXCOM

Student involvement

Shaley Valentine – Talked about the need for more student involvement outside of awards. Also mentioned the lack of diversity in the room and how students need to be more involved in the planning of events and mentorship opportunities. Student Conclave needed.

Upcoming Meetings & Locations

2022 AFS Annual Meeting, August 21–25, 2022, Spokane, Washington
2023 Midwest Fish & Wildlife Conference, February 12–15, 2023, Overland Park, Kansas

President Fincel adjourns meeting at 11:47am

Respectfully submitted by Drew Holloway, NCD AFS Secretary-Treasurer.

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Janice Lee Fenske Memorial Award- 2022

The purpose of the Janice Lee Fenske Memorial Award is to recognize undergraduate and graduate students for their achievements in the fields of fisheries or wildlife management and encourage their participation in professional societies and conferences. Since 2005, the annual award ceremony held during the Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference has recognized over 400 students from over 40 different universities.

The 2022 award ceremony took place on February 14 during the Midwest Fisheries and Wildlife Conference and recognized student finalists from 11 different universities in 7 states throughout the Midwest.



Fisheries
Shaley Valentine
Southern Illinois– Carbondale



Wildlife
Jeffery Edwards
University of Wisconsin– Stevens Point

Fisheries Finalists

Hadley Boehm, University of Missouri-Columbia
Logan Cutler, South Dakota State University
Jordan Everson, University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point
AnaSara Gillem, University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point
Erik Griffen, Iowa State University
Kelly Hoyer, Central Michigan University
Mikayla Kindler, Kalamazoo College
Lindsey LaBrie, University of South Dakota
Madeline Lewis, Iowa State University
Hannah Mulligan, South Dakota State University
Kyle Olivencia, Iowa State University
Kristina Pechacek, University for Wisconsin-La Crosse
Benjamin Schall, South Dakota State University

Wildlife Finalists

Dustin Brewer, Central Michigan University
Amber Smith, University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point
Cassie Stitzman, Northern Michigan University
David Wolfson, University of Minnesota

Special thanks to the following individuals from the Iowa and Michigan Chapters of the American Fisheries Society and The Wildlife Society for their help with the award: Jo Ann Alexander, Dave Clapp, Robin DeBruyne, Matt Dollison, Patrick Ertel, Seth Fopma, Drew Holloway, Rebecca Krogman, Tamara Lipsey, Holly Jennings, Jessica Mistak, Gary Roloff, Mark Tonello, and David Williams.

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MAFWA Travel Award Recipients

This was the second year of the Midwest Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies student and early career professional travel grants. The Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference profits are split with the Wildlife Society to fund student and early career professionals travel. This year we were able to fund 35 attendees to our meeting!

Jonah Bacon
Alexandra Cabanelas Bermudez
Logan Cutler
Addie Dutton
Jordan Everson
Seth Fopma
Kamden Glade
Cameron Goble
Erik Griffen
Rebecca Henningsen
Michael Hillary
Kelly Hoyer
Ashley Johnson
Amanda Kerkhove
Mikayla Kindler
Lindsey LaBrie
Nathan Lederman
Dahlia Martinez

Thomas Miles
Michael Moore
Hannah Mulligan
Kristina Pechacek
Spencer Phillips
Kristina Rands
Mitchell Rosandich
Benjamin (BJ) Schall
Michael Schneider
Bryan Sea
Donovan Sean
Cassandra Shaffer
Harris Tanner
Shaley Valentine
Dakota VanFleet
Nichelle VanTassel
Lyndsie Wszola



Committee Reports

Walleye Technical Committee:

Jason DeBoer – WTC Chair

The Walleye Technical Committee (WTC) has been busy during the past year. We held a virtual joint summer meeting with the Centrarchid Technical Committee (CTC) via Zoom on July 20, 2021. We're in the final stages of publishing a special section in the North American Journal of Fisheries Management from our virtual 2021 Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference symposium entitled "Effects of System Change on North American Percid Populations." Efforts to raise financial support to help cover publication costs were successful, totaling \$15,550 from state AFS chapters, DNRs, and the AFS Education Section, with additional funds promised from the NCD as needed. We're planning to host the upcoming joint WTC/ETC/CTC summer meeting at the Iowa Lakeside Laboratory in Milford, IA on July 18-20, 2022. Anyone interested in becoming a member of the WTC should contact myself (jadeboer@illinois.edu) or our committee secretary Joe Rydell (joe.rydell@nebraska.gov).



Photo: Drew Holloway

NCD Committees

Student & Early Career Professionals Activities Committee Update

Hadley Boehm & Shaley Valentine, Committee Chairs

After a multi-year absence, the NCD Student and Early Career Professionals Activities Committee (SECPAC) is in the process of rebuilding. As we are only a couple months into this process, we have more plans than accomplishments to report. The SECPAC, which was formerly the Student Activities Committee, now includes early career professional (ECP) activities as well.

The SECPAC's priority this spring/summer is to improve communications between the NCD, Student and Early Career Professionals subsection, state chapters and student subunits. To this end we are in the process of updating a contact list for student subunits in the NCD. Not all websites and social media pages are current, so if you are involved with a student subunit, would you please reach out (hibhr5@mail.missouri.edu) to ensure we have the most current contact information for your subunit. Additionally, we would appreciate hearing from faculty at institutions without a student subunit, who would be willing to receive and pass on information about AFS membership and opportunities to their students.

As we move into late summer/fall we'll be working with the student/early career professionals planning committee to assist with the 2023 Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference (MFWC). The tentative plan is to host a student and early career professional colloquium and social next winter in Kansas City.

The evolving structure of the SECPAC is two co-chairs with four subcommittees devoted to Communication, Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference Planning, Membership, and Continuing Education. At least one student or ECP representative on the SECPAC from each state/province would be ideal. Currently, we still need a representative from Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Michigan, Nebraska, and Ontario so if you are a student or ECP from any of those locations in particular, please reach out. The reason for such a large group is to 1) combat the loss of committee related knowledge and momentum that often results as students graduate and chairs roll over, 2) provide a natural mentoring opportunity where older students and ECPs can help newer members as they become more involved in AFS, 3) provide a greater diversity of perspectives, and 4) share tasks to keep SECPAC time commitments feasible for students and ECPs.

If you have any suggestions or comments for the SECPAC, or would like to become involved, please reach out and contact us with questions (hibhr5@mail.missouri.edu; shaley.valentine@siu.edu).

NCD Committees



Interested in getting involved with NCD? Please consider helping with any of the NCD committees listed below!

Standing Committees

Auditing Committee

Continuing Education Committee

Membership Committee

Newsletter Committee

NCD Nominating Committee

Resolution Committee

Student Affairs 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

Urban & Community Fisheries

Undervalued Fishes

NCD Chapter Reports

Missouri Chapter Update

The 2022 Annual Meeting of the Missouri Chapter of the American Fisheries Society (MOAFS) was held in Osage Beach on February 2nd, in conjunction with the Missouri Natural Resources Conference. A snowstorm limited attendance, but approximately 40 members were in attendance. The main topic of discussion was the upcoming plan to create and print a series of educational posters displaying all of Missouri's fish diversity.

MOAFS Awards

MOAFS presented a letter of recognition to the chairpersons of the 2022 Missouri Natural Resources Conference Steering Committee. The MOAFS oversaw hosting the Missouri Natural Resources Conference and many chapter members persevered through substantial uncertainty in the face of the pandemic to plan and deliver an excellent meeting.

The MOAFS Lee Redmond Citizen's Award was presented to Bob Virag for his involvement with the Missouri Stream Team program. Bob's contributions to the Missouri Stream Team Program include more than 2,600 hours dedicated to educating others and monitoring Saint-Louis-area streams, with 300 data collection trips to his adopted stream, Creve Coeur Creek. His dedication and ingenuity have also provided the Stream Team Program with a multitude of resources for Stream Team volunteers all over the state. With his engineering experience, he created a self-supporting kick net and collapsible net stand to make monitoring even easier for volunteers, especially during the age of COVID to aid those who desire to monitor alone.

The MOAFS A. Stephen Weithman, Jr. Leadership Award was presented Emily Tracy-Smith. Emily has been a thoughtful, involved, invaluable member of MOAFS. She took on the task of updating the Chapter Newsletter and has led the MOAFS Legislative Actions and Concerns Committee since 2017. She has been extremely active with the committee, working closely with partner groups including the Conservation Federation of Missouri on issues affecting the state's aquatic resources. Emily serves as part of CFM's Rivers, Streams, and Fisheries Committee, and as Advocacy Advisor for Stream Teams United, a nonprofit which supports the Stream Team Program and advances protection and improvement of Missouri's waterways through education, advocacy, and stewardship. Emily also was a co-author of *Still Hooked – Our First 50 years*, documenting the history of the Missouri Chapter of the American Fisheries Society.

The MOAFS John L. Funk Award of Excellence was presented to James Civiello. Throughout his career he has been a leader and role model to his staff and many others throughout the Missouri Department of Conservation. Because of his dedication and passion for the aquatic resources of Missouri, he has made many long-lasting contributions over the years. Some of these include: his work with enhancing trout production at Shepherd of the Hills Hatchery, oversight of fish production at 4 warmwater and 5 coldwater hatcheries, assisting with HIMS (Hatchery Information Management System) development and implementation, working to improve hatchery monitoring and alarm systems in the hatcheries, administering the feed contract ensuring the nutritional requirements are met for the species being reared, coordinating annual fish trades with his counterparts in other states to bring in fish species that assist in providing diverse angling opportunities and also for restoration efforts, hosting the Mid-Continent Fish Culture Workshop that brings in fish culturists and researchers from across the county. One of his most notable achievements was helping pioneer the culture of Ozark and eastern hellbenders developing techniques now used for propagation and culture at the St. Louis Zoo.

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NCD Chapter Reports

Missouri Chapter Update Continued

MOAFS Student Awards

Student Achievement Award- Bailey O'Brian

MNRC Best Student Aquatics Poster Award- Jackson Winslow

Joe G. Dillard Award- Ashley Hrdina

MNRC Best Student Aquatics Presenter- Austin Mueller



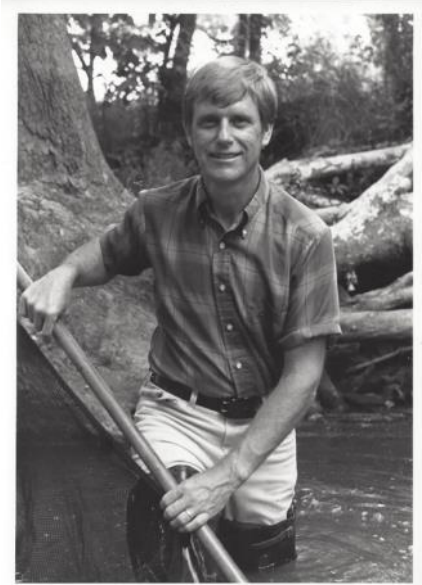
NCD Remembers Bill Pflieger

Dr. William Leo Pflieger, passed away at the age of 89, in Ashland, Missouri, December 15, 2021.

Dr. Pflieger worked for many years as a fishery biologist for the Missouri Department of Conservation (MDC) and was recognized as an expert on Missouri fishes and crayfishes. He authored three books: “The Fishes of Missouri”, “The Crayfishes of Missouri”, and a revision of the first edition of “The Fishes of Missouri.”

“The Fishes of Missouri” instantly became a widely used text book due to the high quality of the figures, photographs, keys and biological information. Executive Director of the American Fisheries Society, Doug Austin, commented that, “Yes, Bill Pflieger was a noted ichthyologist. I don't know any fisheries student from my era who didn't have one of his books.”

Dr. Pflieger was born October 26, 1932 in Columbus Ohio. He was a Korean War veteran and was married to Jo (Osborne) Pflieger who preceded him in death November 14, 2021. Bill, as he preferred to be called, was an avid naturalist, hunter, and beekeeper.



Bill obtained a BS from Ohio State University in 1958 followed by an MS in 1960. He was recruited by MDC in 1961 to assemble information about the distribution and habitats of all fish species occurring in Missouri. Bill reviewed published literature and located collections of Missouri fishes held at several museums in both Missouri and in other states. He also visited most areas of Missouri, and made over 700 collections of fish from more than 500 localities.

He took a leave of absence from MDC in the early 1960's to pursue a PhD at the University of Kansas. He documented his work there in a 245-page 1971 published report, “A Distributional Study of Missouri Fishes,” that was a partial fulfillment for a PhD from the University of Kansas in 1969.

During his 34-year tenure with the MDC, he published three aforementioned books, as well as numerous reports and publications. He was very instrumental in the establishment of Missouri's system for storage, retrieval, and analysis of stream resource data as well as the development of an aquatic community classification system for Missouri. Bill's knowledge of fishes, streams, zoogeography and natural features, and how these affect systems and communities led to a contract with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to prepare a recovery plan for the endemic and endangered Niangua Darter.

Bill was a prodigious field worker and became known as “One-more-seine-haul, Bill” by his coworkers. Even though the sun was setting, and it had been a long day, Bill would say, “Let's make just one more seine haul to see what is in that pool!”

Bill was a research associate at the University of Missouri, a member of the Society of Sigma Xi, American Fisheries Society, International Association of Astacology, Natural Areas Association, Society of Ichthyologists and Herpetologists, Missouri Conservation Pioneers, and a founding member of the Missouri Chapter of the American Fisheries Society.

Bill was honored for his many contributions, receiving: the 1977 Missouri Chapter of the American Fisheries Society's John L. Funk Award of Excellence; 1992 MDC Fisheries Division Employee of the Year Award; 1997 American Motors Conservationist of the Year Award; and 1997 Missouri Natural Areas Committee Award.

His advice on the systematics, habitat requirements and other aspects of fish and crayfish life were highly sought after by other professionals as well as lay people and will be sorely missed.

NCD Announcements

Brittany Harried, Communications Chair

The NCD is starting some new initiatives and needs your help! Please see the information below.

Journal article highlights: Have you published recently? If so, please send us a DOI link and short description of your study (2-3 sentences) to one of the contact options below. If you are active on any of the social media platforms, please also follow the page(s) and include your profile name/handle so we can tag you. We will post this information across all of the social media accounts to facilitate dispersal of your hard work across the NCD!

Student subunit highlights: Has your student subunit hosted any events lately? Please send a photo(s) and brief description of your event to one of the contact options below. We will post this information across all of the social media accounts to highlight the work you've been doing!

Fisheries scientist spotlights: To improve both virtual and in-person connections among members of the NCD, we would like to spotlight fisheries scientists in the NCD! Please send a photo of the person you would like to nominate (self-nominations are also encouraged!) and a short description including their: 1) current affiliation, 2) topic of work/degree program/research, 3) stage in their career (i.e. student, early-career profession, or established professional), and 4) research and/or hobby interests. If the person you are nominating is active on any of the social media platforms, please also include their profile name/handle so we can tag them. We will post these spotlights on the 1st and 3rd Mondays of each month across all of the social media accounts to virtually introduce folks across the NCD.

Contact options:

Email: northcentraldivisionafs@gmail.com



<https://www.instagram.com/ncdafs/>



https://twitter.com/NCD_AFS



<https://www.facebook.com/NCDAFS>

Upcoming NCD Meetings

2023
Overland Park,
Kansas
2/12—2/15



152nd ANNUAL MEETING

Spokane

AUGUST 21-25, 2022

CALL FOR ABSTRACTS

Abstract submissions are being accepted until 4/20/2022.

A full list of symposiums have been announced

<https://afsannualmeeting.fisheries.org/>