
DAKOTA CHAPTER AMERICAN FISHERIES SOCIETY NEWS

Issue 25

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2003 Chapter Meeting in Review

Fisheries Professionals and Organizations Recognized

Two individuals and one group from South Dakota recently received awards from the Dakota Chapter of the American Fisheries Society. John Lott of Pierre and Dr. Charles R. Berry, Jr. of Brookings both received the Distinguished Professional Service Award. Boy Scouts of America Troop 17 from Spearfish won the Aquatic Resource Conservation Award.

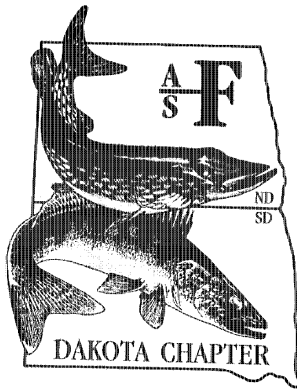
The Distinguished Professional Service Award is awarded annually to outstanding fisheries professionals from North and South Dakota. John Lott is a Senior Fisheries Biologist with the South Dakota Department of Game, Fish and Parks, primarily involved with the management of Lake Oahe and Lake Sharpe.

In addition to his contributions to fisheries management and research, John is an active member of the American Fisheries Society. He has also been on the board of the South Dakota Discovery Center in Pierre and has been very involved with Fishing Has No Boundaries, an organization that helps disabled people gain greater fishing opportunities.

Dr. Charles R. Berry, Jr., is the leader of the Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Research Unit at South Dakota State University. During his 15 years of service, he has educated numerous M.S. and Ph.D. students and provided classroom instruction to many more students. He is a leader in stream fisheries in South Dakota, and his research has provided critical information toward the recovery and management of threatened and endangered fish species. He also is an active member of the American Fisheries Society at the local chapter and parent society levels.

The Aquatic Resource Conservation Award is given annually by the Dakota Chapter to recognize the efforts of an individual, organization, or business in the Dakotas, not involved with fisheries at a professional level, which has made a contribution to the aquatic resources of the region. Boy Scout Troop 17 of Spearfish received this award for its significant service to the South Dakota Department of Game, Fish and Parks, the United States Fish and Wildlife Service, and the Fish Culture Section of the American Fisheries Society. The troop has done numerous projects for McNenny State Fish Hatchery and the D.C. Booth Historic National Fish Hatchery.

The Dakota Chapter is comprised of fisheries professionals from North and South Dakota, and is a subunit of the American Fisheries Society.



Dakota Chapter Officers

2002 – 2003

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Standing Committees

Membership

Mike Barnes
Robert Hanten

Continuing Education

John Lott
Steve Chipps
Steve Kelsch
Jack Erickson
Dennis Unkenholz
Terry Steinwand

Environmental Concerns

Dave Dryda
Scott Elstad
Jeff Shearer
Steve Wilson
Harry Holloway

Awards & Nominations

Mike Brown
John Lott
Jason Lee

Planning

Wade King
Mike Brown
Will Sayler

Resolutions

Greg Simpson
Chuck Scalet
Mike Olson

Student Affairs

Sam Stukel
Ryan Knapp
Jennifer Powell

Election of New Officers

The Dakota Chapter held officer elections at the annual meeting in Fargo. A highly qualified slate of candidates was presented and the following list of individuals was elected. Brian Blackwell will serve as Vice President (SD), Jason Sorensen as Secretary/Treasurer (SD), and President Elect (ND) is Scott Elstad.

2004 Dakota Chapter AFS Meeting

The 2004 Dakota AFS Chapter meeting will be held March 15, 16, and 17 at the Ramkota Inn in Pierre, SD. Begin thinking about your presentation and which office that you want to run for.

Technical Committees

Esocidae The Musky Symposium will be held in Indianapolis during September 2004. Josh Elder is the contact for the technical portion of the meeting and they will be looking to have 20 – 30 technical papers on muskies and there will also be a nontechnical session. This is a preliminary query to see what kind of interest there might be to present at the meeting. If you have something that you might be interested in presenting, please contact Josh at jelder96@hotmail.com.

Rivers and Streams The Rivers and Streams committee holds two meetings a year, one in March and one in December at the annual Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference. The purpose of the Committee is to disseminate information between states in the Midwest. From time to time, they are also involved in putting on workshops and symposiums. You can check out activities at the NCD website: www.fw.umn.edu/ncdafs/.

The committee is currently involved in a project that identifies certain contacts in the various states as to their expertise. It is called the Who's Who in Rivers and Streams. The committee is asking that if you would like to be identified on this list for your state that you contact Dr. Ed Peters at: epeters2@unl.edu.

Personnel Changes

Stephen Wilson

Stephen Wilson has changed duty stations from ONeill to Yankton. His new contact information is:

Stephen K. Wilson
Resource Management/GIS Specialist
Missouri National Recreational River
P.O. Box 666
Yankton, SD 57078
402 667 5524 phone
402 667 5536 fax

Cliff Stone

After 25 years of service in the fisheries arena, Cliff Stone, Senior Fisheries Biologist for the South Dakota Department of Game, Fish and Parks in Chamberlain, was recently promoted to the position of Region II Supervisor. Cliff assumed the duties of his new position on March 28, 2003. While the South Dakota fisheries team is sad to see him move on, we certainly wish Cliff the best in his new venture and want to thank him for his years of hard work and dedication to the fisheries resources and the people of South Dakota. While not specifically working on Missouri River fisheries, Cliff will be supervising regional fisheries staff in his new position.

Recognition For Our Members

Wayne Nelson-Stastny

Chapter member Wayne Nelson-Stastny received the prestigious Director's Award for Outstanding Individual Achievement at the recent meeting of the Wildlife Division of the South Dakota Department of Game, Fish and Parks.

The big unit won this award for his dedication to the resources, sportsmen and the citizens of South Dakota; perseverance to overcome the obstacles in pursuit of the right course of action; initiative to take on additional work load and stress; integrity to remain firmly committed to Department's mission; visionary to foresee the futures problems; his high moral and ethical standards; and his functioning as an educator and teacher to insure the lessons learned are passed to the next generation. Congratulations Wayne!

Steve Krentz

Steve Krentz was selected as the US Fish and Wildlife Service, Region 6, Fisheries Program Manager of the Year. Among Steve's many accomplishments, he has coordinated pallid sturgeon recovery efforts with a multitude of partners including States, Tribes, and non-Governmental organizations across the Missouri River Basin. Steve supervises the Missouri River Fish and Wildlife Management Assistance Office in Bismarck, ND.

Steve Brimm

Steve Brimm was selected as the US Fish and Wildlife Service, Region 6, Hatchery Manager of the Year. Among Steve's many accomplishments, he has used the D.C. Booth Historic National Fish Hatchery to promote recognition of the fisheries discipline to the public. Steve originated the 130th D.C. Booth Anniversary Celebration and then made it happen using his public relation skills to gather support from the volunteer public.

Membership List

An updated membership list can be found on the Chapter's Website or by contacting Mike Barnes.

RR1 Box 205, Spearfish, SD 57783, 605-642-6920, mike.barnes@state.sd.us

Useful Information

McNenny State Fish Hatchery The McNenny State Fish Hatchery (SD) can now be found at the SD Game and Parks website.

<http://www.state.sd.us/gfp/DivisionWildlife/Fishing/Hatcheries/McNenny/McNennyIndex.htm>.

North Central Newsletter The latest issue of Mainstream, the North Central Division newsletter, is now posted on the web at:

<http://www.fw.umn.edu/ncdafs/Mainstream.html>

Waterproof Keyboards The following information came from Tim Hoffnagle (a former Dakota AFS member from UND). We have been using a computer keyboard that is made for field use (e.g., flexible, waterproof, etc). We have been testing it under field conditions for the past two weeks at Manchester Marine Lab and Bonneville Fish Hatchery while doing maturity sorts. We processed and recorded data for about 1800 fish using this keyboard and it worked very well. The keyboard was definitely waterproof and had the advantage of a numeric key pad layout like a 'normal' 109 key, keyboard as opposed to the awkward numeric key setup found on most laptops. The keyboard can also be rolled up, it's washable, and you can spill your beverages all over it without doing any harm. I have no idea about life expectancy for the key board but it seems to be pretty durable.

If you think you might be interested here's the info on it.

The keyboard is called "The Virtually Indestructible Keyboard" and is made by 'Grandtec USA' . Peter got the one he sent us at Radio Shack for \$39.99. If you want more information Grandtec's phone number is (214)366-3496. You can also buy it from their web site: <http://www.grandtec.com/> www.GrandTec.com.

Aquatic Nuisance Species Impacts

LR Schlueter

As biologists, we have been trained to look at population dynamics as inter or intra species competition and habitat needs in an ecological prospective. We are able to make predictions about future fish populations based on our understanding of these relationships. It is well understood that as aquatic habitats change in quality and quantity, so will the fish populations. In our work, we focus on problems facing us and react to those changes. While we biologists cannot change the climatic conditions which have caused low water conditions in many regions, we know that the water will come back and we can manage fish as we have done before.

Add into the typical mix of parameters we deal with a new set of players—the invasive, injurious, aquatic species that have a high potential to out compete native and desirable species for food and living space. Aquatic nuisance species (ANS) have a direct impact on a system's trophic cascade; a decrease in the top end biomass, i.e., the sport fish for which we manage. These new ANS problems will have a greater impact to future fisheries than the current low water conditions we are experiencing. A classic aquatic nuisance species is the "carp" which is revered by some and hated by most. The expansion of carp followed the typical pattern of a new species: 1 - becoming established in new waters; 2- modifying those habitats through their activities; 3 – reproducing in great numbers; 4 – populations of desirables declined in their presences; 5 – they became the dominant species due to a shift in the ecological balance; and 6 – efforts to control them has had limited success.

The new wave of ANS that is heading our way has all the markings of being more devastating than the carp invasion. If we have learned a lesson from the carp, it is that ANS can be controlled if actions are taken early, the actions must be appropriate, and the public's buy in on the actions is needed. ANS species can be controlled by targeting our control efforts at the weakest point in the expansion pattern. The simplest and most effective point to control ANS is to prevent its introduction. We, professionals and all concerned anglers, need to be very active at informing the public of the risks of ANS expansion, the effect ANS will have on their local fishery, and how to prevent ANS importation.

From that point of public buy-in, biologists must educate the public on appropriate precautions to prevent ANS importation. We must stress to the public that prevention is one of the keys to the recreational fishery that we all want.

The AFS-AIBS Connection and Ethics Conference (by Chuck Berry)

This note is intended to bring Dakota Chapter members up to date on the AFS-AIBS (American Institute of Biological Sciences) relationship on Federal aquatic policy, and what the AFS position is on ethics.

I represent the AFS Parent Society on the Council of 87 member societies that make up AIBS (see Fisheries 27(5):28 for details). AIBS publishes BioScience, lobbies Congress aggressively, and helps AFS with Federal aquatic policy analyses. AFS now has its own Analyst - Brooke Ann Zanetell (has a column in Fisheries titled "Legislative Update"), but AFS still funds the AIBS policy analyst Adrienne Froelich. You can subscribe to her free reports (www.aibs.org and click on PUBLIC POLICY NEWS AND REPORTS). Adrienne is specifically hired to focus on aquatic policy and last year wrote for Fisheries before we hired Brooke. Most of her reports are about government funding for conservation, scientific research, and education.

The recent AIBS meeting theme was "BIOETHICS IN A CHANGING WORLD." My new PhD student Christopher Hoagstrom and I did a poster that described ethical issues in fisheries. First "How to teach ethics?" We surveyed major fisheries schools and concluded that ethics are becoming a bigger part of curricula. Some schools have seminars, include ethics in orientation classes (SDSU does this) and have professors trained in how to teach ethics (unique approaches needed). But most just bring up the ethics issue ad hoc. For example, at SDSU, when we discuss sample size, we contrast the old method of "bag em up" to more ethical approach of keeping only the required sample size. In graduate programs, the advisor-advisee relationship was where ethics issues were discussed.

Regarding professional ethics, AFS has a Code of Professional Practices (see AFS membership

directory page 4 or Fisheries 21(3):26-29). The Code covers relations with clients, employers and the public, and integrity of the profession. Furthermore, AFS has a policy statement (#30) on “Responsible Use of Fish and Other Aquatic Organisms.”

(www.fisheries.org/Public_Affairs/Policy_Statement/s/ps_30.shtml). It states that AFS “...supports the broad range of consumptive and nonconsumptive human interactions with aquatic organisms...”

Finally, we addressed the question “Is fishing ethical?” Izaak Walton published The Compleat Angler in 1653 and for the next 343 years anglers went about their sport, developed sportsmen’s codes, anti-pollution sentiments, and conservation attitudes backed with funding (excise taxes that generate \$40 million annually for restoring America’s sport fisheries). Today, 35 million US residents enjoy fishing in freshwater (80%) and salt water (20%), and 27% of American males fish; 9% of American females fish. Anglers spent \$38 billion annually on fishing, an impact larger than GM. Then came 1996 and the first National Fish Amnesty Day, when an anti-fishing group pointed out that fishing was more cruel than hunting because the angler “asks the fish to fight for its life as they “play” the fish for recreation.”

September 28, 1996, the first “National Fish Amnesty Day” coincided with the traditional “National Hunting and Fishing Day,” and was the first organized effort to stop sport fishing in America. The ethical issues of fishing were here to stay. Anglers countered with philosophy, research on hooking mortality, changes in fishing practices, and modernizing the “sportsman’s code” to make angling less vulnerable to attack.

Ubiquitous in the discussion is the issue of pain – do fish feel pain? Do fish suffer? Some say that a hooked fish struggles in pain, and research shows that shocked fish are “afraid,” and point out that if we did to our pets what we do to fish, we’d all be in jail. Others say that the small size of the fish cerebrum makes pain unlikely and that fish are just a “very reactive muscle run of reflexes.” Do fish feel pain? You decide.

One wise guy put it this way “Fish could have evolved with us, but they didn’t. So, until they get their scaly butts past us in the food chain, I say “Pass the tartar sauce.”

New Field Projects

Evaluation of Sampling Techniques for Juvenile Pallid Sturgeon and Food Habits of Sturgeon in the Missouri River Below Fort Randall Dam, South Dakota

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The pallid sturgeon was listed as an endangered species in 1990 and the shovelnose sturgeon has also seen a decline in overall abundance. Both sturgeons are sympatric over their entire range sharing similar habitats in the Missouri River. The Pallid Sturgeon Recovery Team has listed the reach of the Missouri River below Ft. Randall Dam as a Recovery Priority Area (RPA III) based on suitable habitat diversity. For these reasons, hatchery propagated pallid sturgeon were stocked below Fort Randall Dam.

The U.S. Army of Corp of Engineers has developed a long-term monitoring program for pallid sturgeon. However, there is no knowledge of when or where to effectively capture pallid sturgeon. The Upper Basin Pallid Sturgeon Work Group has also identified the need to evaluate sampling techniques and gear, particularly for juvenile pallid sturgeon.

My research goals are to determine the effectiveness of a benthic beam trawl, drifting trammel nets, static gill nets, hoop nets, and set lines to capture juvenile pallid sturgeon in different seasons and habitats. Knowledge of gear efficiency in various habitats will enable fisheries biologists to better monitor population status and trends. Criteria will be developed for measuring mean catch per unit effort (CPUE), according to selectivity and seasonal efficiency among gears in order to effectively monitor pallid sturgeon populations.

Another research goal is to determine growth and condition of juvenile pallid sturgeon in RPA III and determine the relative weights (W_r) of shovelnose sturgeon. Before juvenile pallid sturgeon were released into the river, passive integrated transponder (PIT) tags were inserted in each fish.

The PIT tags allow me to measure growth rates over time and changes in condition.

My final goal is to determine and compare the seasonal food habits of juvenile pallid sturgeon and adult shovelnose sturgeon. Currently, there is no diet studies completed on juvenile pallid sturgeon.

Recruitment through the juvenile stage is believed to be one of the major factors limiting pallid sturgeon recovery. The information gained from this study will fill a gap in the life history of the endangered pallid sturgeon and evaluate the utility a RPA III as a recovery site. Knowledge gained on gear efficiency and systematic monitoring of populations is an essential element in measuring pallid sturgeon responses from recovery efforts.

Meetings

Annual Parent Society Meeting Info

American Fisheries Society 133rd Annual Meeting

Québec City, Québec, Canada August 10-14, 2003

"Worldwide decline of wild fish populations"

For more information on the meeting or to register online, please go to

www.fisheries.org and click on "Annual Meeting"

4th World Fisheries Congress

Vancouver, BC CANADA May 2 - 6, 2004

This is the first announcement of a call for abstracts for the 4th World Fisheries Congress, to be held in Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada, on 2-6 May, 2004. The deadline for submission is 1 July, 2003.

The call for abstracts has opened, with over 40 topics related to the Congress theme. Online submissions are encouraged with instructions at the event website:

www.worldfisheries2004.org/abstract/abstract.htm.

Posters will be the main communication medium of the Congress and will be given prominence. Oral presentations will be selected from the oral/poster submissions. These papers will be presented in concurrent sessions conducted over the four days of the Congress. Oral and poster presentations will be given equal status for subsequent publication in

the proceedings. All submissions must address the Congress theme, Reconciling Fisheries with Conservation: The Challenge of Managing Aquatic Ecosystems.

Education and training workshops will be provided by highly-qualified instructors, and will be available for participants to attend immediately before and after the Congress. More information about the workshops is available at the event web site: www.worldfisheries2004.org/education/education.htm.

Opportunities for tradeshow exhibitors are detailed in a package available for downloading from the web site: www.worldfisheries2004.org/exhibition/tradeshow_info.htm.

The package includes a Tradeshow Fact Sheet, Tradeshow Schedule, and an Exhibitor Application form. We believe the 4th World Fisheries Congress will be an outstanding forum to advance fisheries science and management. We welcome your participation, and look forward to seeing you in Vancouver.

If you have not already done so, please visit our web site and fill out an Expression of Interest Form that will allow us to keep you updated about the Congress:

www.stargate.ca/worldfisheries2004/index.ht

4 NEW RELEASES FROM AFS:

Phone: (678) 366-1411, or Fax: (770) 442-9742

Email: afspubs@pbd.com Online: www.fisheries.org/cgi-bin/hazel-cgi/hazel.cgi

Common and Scientific Names of Aquatic Invertebrates from the United States and Canada: Cnidaria and Ctenophora, Second Edition

Stephen D. Cairns et al.

The purpose of this volume (an update to the first edition and now with a CD-ROM) is to provide a checklist of species and to recommend selected common names for North American Cnidaria and Ctenophora, thereby achieving uniformity and avoiding confusion in the nomenclature of their common names. In addition to stabilizing common name nomenclature, this list will heighten public awareness of the diversity and wide distribution of cnidarians in North America, help identify taxonomic groups in need of systematic revision, and serve as a preliminary guide to the literature required for the identification of species.

This text lists more than 1,300 taxa of jellyfishes, hydroids, corals, anemones, and comb jellies and sets the standard for vernacular names of the more widely known species. This book also includes an index, extensive references and bibliography, and annotated changes from the first edition.

Book and companion CD:

Stock number 510.28P

ISBN 1-888569-39-5

List Price: \$39

AFS Member Price: \$27

CD only:

Stock number 703.12

ISBN 1-888569-45-X

List Price: \$34

AFS Member Price: \$23

Strategies for Restoring River Ecosystems: Sources of Variability and Uncertainty in Natural and Managed Systems

Robert C. Wissmar and Peter A. Bisson, editors

Fisheries and natural resource managers and policymakers need more efficient procedures for identifying sources of variability in ecosystems (natural and managed) and assessing uncertainties of managing and making decisions for developing and implementing river restoration strategies. This book seeks to integrate perspectives on variability of physical and biological functions and concepts of uncertainty in natural and managed systems, into strategies for renewing and conserving river ecosystems. The book explores approaches to understanding and communicating the processes contributing to the variability of different types of river systems, and to assessing major sources of uncertainty in natural and managed river ecosystems.

276 pp., paper

Stock Number: 550.44

List Price: \$69

AFS Member Price: \$48

ISBN 1-888569-46-8

A Guide to Sampling Freshwater Mussel Populations

David L. Strayer and David R. Smith

Assessing mussel populations accurately and efficiently requires knowledge of both statistical principles and mussel biology. The purpose of this guide is to provide practical advice to environmental professionals to help them choose sound designs and methods for assessing freshwater mussel populations. The authors critically review sampling designs and methods that might be useful for sampling freshwater mussel populations and offer exemplary designs to meet several common objectives. The guide is largely compiled from published works, although some new, unpublished material is included, and brings together into a coherent, compact form the information needed to design mussel surveys and assessments.

AFS Monograph 8

110 pp., paper, June 2003

Stock Number: 520.08

List Price: \$55

AFS Member Price: \$38

ISBN 1-888569-50-6

Mysteries from the Yukon: The Adventures of a Junior Biologist

Lawrence S. Buklis

Flowing through the heart of Alaska, the Yukon River is the scene for stories of mystery and adventure. Searching for lost gold from the Klondike, chasing thieves in a blinding snowstorm, plunging through raging waters on a hydropower project gone wrong-- three fast-paced adventures await readers in grades 5 through 9.

Mystery and adventure of another kind await as well. Have you ever dreamed of working in the great outdoors? To call it your job to work in places others can only hope to visit? Have you wanted to discover how natural systems work, to explore frontiers still to be found? Through the experiences of a fishery biologist and his family on the legendary Yukon, these adventures help feed the dream: could this be me?

217 pp., paper, June 2003

Stock Number: 550.46

List Price: \$21

AFS Member Price: \$15

ISBN 1-888569-52-2

The American Fisheries Society (AFS) is pleased to announce its newest online service – **Fisheries InfoBase**, providing abstracts and the full-text PDF versions of 1988-1997 articles appearing in AFS journals.

For subscription information, visit http://www.fisheries.org/publications/Infobase/afs_infobase.shtml

Or go online to the AFS Homepage at www.fisheries.org and click on "**Fisheries InfoBase**"

What's new at AFS? Read all about it at <http://www.fisheries.org/WhatsNew.shtml>

The **AFS Online Bookstore** is a valuable resource for all fisheries and aquaculture related books:

<http://www.fisheries.org/cgi-bin/hazel-cgi/hazel.cgi>

AFS Job Center Online (and other employment resources): <http://www.fisheries.org/jobs.shtml>

Renew your **AFS Membership** online at <http://www.fisheries.org/forms.shtml>

Don't forget to browse featured articles from the latest issue of **FISHERIES** magazine at: <http://www.fisheries.org/fisheries/fishery.shtml>

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