



American Fisheries Society

August 2011

President's Message

Dirk Miller

I want to start out my first column by thanking you for electing me. I look forward to the opportunity to serve the section and society. One of the challenges of serving as a section officer is knowing how to represent the interests of the members. One approach is to forge ahead doing what you think is right and assuming that people will tell you if they think you are screwing up. I will proceed on that path but would greatly appreciate your input if you have any ideas for section activities or direction you would like the section to take. Early in my career I was told that what I got out of my AFS involvement would be directly proportional to what I put into it. Please get involved so you get what you want from the Fisheries Management Section (FMS). Contact me or any of the officers or regional representatives – we would love to hear from you.

The 2011 FMS business meeting will be Sunday afternoon September 4, 3:00 PM to 5:00 PM in the Sheraton Hotel, Metropolitan A room." Please make your travel plans so that you can attend the section meetings on Sunday afternoon. This is where the business of the section is conducted and the meeting will benefit from your attendance and participation.

Last October I had the opportunity to attend the annual meeting of the Institute of Fisheries Management (IFM) in Portsmouth, England. It was a fantastic experience and the hosts at IFM were incredibly gracious. I attended this meeting representing AFS and the FMS as part of an officer exchange arrangement with the IFM that the FMS and the Fisheries Administration Section have had in place since 2005. Each of the two AFS Sections alternately sends a representative every two years. I followed FMS Past Presidents Ron Essig who attended the IFM meeting in Leeds, England in 2008 and Joe Larscheid who attended the IFM meeting in Minehead, England in 2006.

The meeting was held in the Portsmouth Historic Dockyard. With 800 years of naval history surrounded

by working docks and historic buildings it is an extraordinary setting for a meeting. I was able to tour the HMS Victory which is the world's oldest

commissioned ship and the Royal Navy's most famous warship. The conference dinner was on board HMS Warrior. Commissioned in 1860 it was an impressive warship. It made for an interesting dinner venue with tables placed between the cannons. My hosts were amused by the fact that the HMS Warrior was commissioned before Wyoming became a state. The food and libations were excellent. IFM presented several awards including a tribute to Valerie Holt who was stepping down after serving as secretary of IFM for 25 years. I thought 6 years as an AFS section officer was kind of long but her service was very impressive.

The theme of the meeting was "Fisheries in Transition – From Source to Sea". There were sessions on anthropogenic pressures, developing monitoring methods, marine and coastal access act impacts, juvenile habitat and recruitment, conservation and biodiversity and migration. I gave a keynote presentation on the challenges of fisheries management in Wyoming and tried to tie our challenges to as many of their session themes as I could. It was interesting to see some of the similarities and differences in the challenges that fisheries managers face. They have had a lot longer for anthropogenic impacts to change the systems they manage.

I want to close by once again asking that you contact me if you have any ideas, comments or concerns. I can be reached at dirk.miller@wyo.gov or 307-777-4556.

THANKS AGAIN– DIRK

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INFO ON FISHERIES MANAGEMENT SECTION

The Section is composed of people who wish to develop, apply, and evaluate effective management concepts or techniques as well as programs in education and information to solve fisheries management challenges. The Section promotes the exchange of fisheries management information and the results of applied research among professionals, students, user groups, resource management agencies, and the general public who share interest in fish and the habitats supporting them. The Section sponsors workshops, symposia, topical sessions at professional meetings, and special projects to examine fishery management challenges. Section membership provides a credible voice for a wide range of fisheries management issues. The Section continues active involvement with legislative initiatives as well as governmental and private-sector activities which affect the quality and extent of all fisheries. Selection of activities for Section involvement results from individual member initiative.

Objectives

- Developing and maintaining an association of persons interested and involved in fisheries management and development
- Promoting sound fisheries management practices and developing new management concepts and techniques
- Encouraging professional growth among Section members and others interested in fisheries management and growth of the fishery management profession by holding meetings and sponsoring workshops, symposia, and publications to disseminate information related to all aspects of fishery management
- Encouraging publication of case histories, policy analysis, and evaluation of management programs
- Promoting communication between fishery managers and researchers, employers, educators, legislators, and the public

In the end the fisheries management section is providing a forum for identifying, focusing attention on fisheries management and resolving issues and problems

Thank you for your continued support of our section. If you would like to have an article put in an upcoming newsletter please send it to quinton.phelps@mdc.mo.gov.



Fisheries Management Section of the American Fisheries Society –Annual Business Meeting

FISHERIES MANAGEMENT SECTION- BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES

Sunday September 12, 2010 , 3:00 PM, Pittsburgh, PA
49 people present (at least 35 members)

Welcome and Announcements (Ron Essig)

- Call to Order 3:00 p.m.; Quorum present.
- Acknowledgement of current and previous officers (several in attendance)

Don Jackson (AFS president)- Current AFS issues.

- NMFS- Mass marking efforts. Working out details.
- Names of Fishes- what to call bass? Florida, etc.
- South Atlantic red snapper decline. Marine fisheries section is providing perspective.
- Policy statements:
 - Climate change
 - Use of lead in fishing tackle
 - Use of drugs in aquaculture
- Fisheries magazine can be used as an avenue for communications. For example, the Mining law of 1872.
- BP oil spill on the minds of many AFS members.
- Need to identify ways that AFS can address disasters.
 - Hurricane Katrina
 - Haiti earthquake
 - BP Oil Spill
- National Fish Habitat Action Plan- AFS had briefing on Capitol Hill.
- Models for future AFS meetings- virtual attendance, joint meetings, symposia with The Wildlife Society.

Wayne Hubert (AFS incoming president) comments.

- He is here to serve!
- Will continue many of the ongoing initiatives in AFS.
- Theme for the Seattle meeting is "New Frontiers."
 - Large focus on education and training.
- Improve AFS website.

Approval of 2009 meeting minutes.

- No discussion, Mark Porath motion to accept, Andy Loftus 2nd. Motion passed.

Review and Approval of FY 2009 Financial Report (Brian Graeb)

- Current balance of about \$34,801
 - We are in good shape with no outstanding obligations.
 - No comment. Report approved.



Fisheries Management Section of the American Fisheries Society —Annual Business Meeting

Old Business

FMS Awards (Dirk Miller)

Hall of Excellence inductees (plaques will hang in the FMS Hall of Excellence at the Ak-sar-ben Aquarium in Gretna, NE).

Fred Harris received the sections highest honor Fred Harris received a Bachelor of Science degree in biology from Concord College in Athens, West Virginia, and a Master of Science degree in forest resources from the University of Georgia. Fred began his career with the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission in 1972 as a district fisheries biologist and was soon promoted to fisheries research coordinator. In 1981, he became Assistant Chief of the Division of Inland Fisheries and five years later was promoted to Division Chief, a role he served in for the next 18 years. Fred became the Chief Deputy Director in 2005 and subsequently served as Interim Executive Director until his retirement in October 2008.

While working as a field biologist, Fred focused on management and research projects related to enhancing fisheries in small lakes and reservoirs. He was the leader in establishing state electrofishing protocols for assessing largemouth bass populations in reservoirs. Fred wrote and coauthored several technical papers, magazine articles, and brochures, and helped organize several national fisheries symposiums and conferences.

Through his involvement and service with the AFS, Fred's contributions to fisheries management have extended nationwide. He joined the AFS in 1970, is a Life Member and a Certified Fisheries Scientist. He is a charter member of the North Carolina Chapter of AFS. Within the Southern Division of AFS, he chaired the Reservoir Committee and served on numerous other committees. In 1983, Harris served as secretary-treasurer and then president (1985-1986) of the Southern Division. His work for the organization resulted in his receiving the Division's Outstanding Achievement Award in 1992.

At the parent Society level, Fred served on the AFS Governing Board from 1999-2004 and was President of AFS in 2002-2003. He served as an officer on the Fisheries Management and Fisheries Administration sections and worked on the Fisheries Action Network, Local Arrangements, Visibility of Fisheries, Awards Re-evaluation, Professionalism, Nominating, Distinguished Service Award, Leadership, and Meritorious Service Award committees. In 1998 Fred received the AFS Distinguished Service Award.

Fred continues to be a strong advocate for the conservation and stewardship of fisheries and aquatic resources and a science-based decision making process. Fred's analytical and problem solving skills and enthusiasm for fisheries conservation have inspired a generation of fisheries professionals.



Fisheries Management Section of the American Fisheries Society —Annual Business Meeting

Award of Excellence

- o **Ken Bovee** who recently retired from the U.S. Geological Survey Fort Collins Science Center, has been a leader in the technical development, application, and dissemination of water management for fish, with worldwide recognition and citation.
 - o **Randy Schultz** who worked as a reservoir biologist with the Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks before starting as a research biologist with the Iowa DNR. Randy has served on multiple committees at the state, regional, national and international levels, and has many publications in peer-reviewed literature. He is an inspirational leader to all of his interns and co-workers, and has effectively communicated his research.
 - o **Dr. Michael Allen** received the award of excellence in recognition of his dedication and contributions to the field of fisheries management. His intense work ethic and quality laboratory setting enable Mike and his students to conduct valuable fisheries research. He has written many publications for both the scientific community and the casual fisherman, given presentations at national and international meetings, conducted continuing education workshops, and has served as a principal editor, associate editor, and journal referee.
 - o Distinguished Service Award: **Fred Jansen** was recognized for his 14 years of service to the FMS as the Webmaster.
- Conservation Achievement Award: **Wildlife Forever** was recognized for their accomplishments conserving fisheries and promoting fisheries management through conservation education and collaboration. Wildlife Forever has long been known for its grassroots conservation efforts across the country. In 24 years, Wildlife Forever has been involved in more than 800 projects throughout all 50 states.

Book Projects Report

Inland Fisheries Management (Mike Quist)

- Complete and available in October
- FMS invested \$1880 in this project

Biology and Management of Walleye and Sauger (Brian Graeb)

- All chapters in and mostly revised.
- FMS invested \$5,000 in this project

Second International Catfish Symposium (Ron Essig for Tom Lang)

- Great meeting- 205 attendees, 100 presentations
- FMS invested \$5,000 in this project

FMS Assisted Symposia

American Shad and River Herring (Jim Bowker)

- 35 presentations- largest at meeting
- FMS co-sponsored with Aquaculture Section

Emerging Issue Affecting Functional Connectivity (Meredith Bartron)

- 18 presentations
- FMS co-sponsored with the Genetics and Habitat Sections



Fisheries Management Section of the American Fisheries Society —Annual Business Meeting

Other Reports

FMS/FAS Exchange program with the Institute of Fisheries Management (Ian Dolben, IFM).
Discussed current issues in UK.

- Bad News
 - Economic climate resulting in cuts to environmental agencies 25-40%
 - May reduce staff from 11,000 to 7,500
 - Re-organizing
- Good news
 - License sales increasing
 - New Legislation improving angler access to streams and coastal areas

Urban and Community Fisheries Management Committee (Ron Essig for Tom Lang and Rick Eades)

- Facebook page has 54 members- please visit and "friend" this page

Newsletter (Quinton Phelps)

- All good- keep sending stuff

FMS Webpage (Fred Jansen)

- Just completed new revision
- New Website easier to navigate
- Fred is ready to step down- looking for a successor
- Online application for funding now working

Sport Fish Restoration Return on Investment Project (Andy Loftus)

- Excise tax returned to sportfish restoration
- Manufacturers question program, erosion of support, reductions in returns
- Conducting review of projects
- Studied several projects in detail and found 1000-2000% return on investment
- Trying to communicate findings to industry
- Project will be complete by the end of the year and will include in FMS newsletter

Requests for Funding

- Online database for standard sampling comparison data (Norman Mercado-Silva)
 - Norman demonstrated website
 - Users can compare their data against regional averages
 - Questions:
 - Target audience- academics or agencies? Both
 - Still able to compare with non-standard methods? Yes
 - What will the money be used to fund? Programming, consulting, and Quality control
 - Return on investment- nothing direct, but indirect from sales of the Standard Sampling book
 - (FMS supported this project)
 - Motion- Brian Graeb
 - 2nd- Don Gablehouse
 - Oral vote- tied
 - Hand vote- 11 yes, 10 no. Motion to donate \$5,000 passed



Fisheries Management Section of the American Fisheries Society –Annual Business Meeting

Requests for Funding (continued)

Hutton program donation (Cindy Williams)

Excomm decision to bring to the membership

Motion for one-time donation of \$2,000- Jason Vokoun

2nd Cindy Williams

Passed unanimous

Leadership Transitions

Regional Representatives

- Northeast- Scott Decker
- North Central- Mike Hawkins
- Southeast- Lawrence Dorsey
- Western- Cory Sipher
- Secretary-Treasurer- Mark Porath
- President-Elect- Brian Graeb
- President- Dirk Miller

Presidents remarks- link FMS mission to the AFS strategic plan

- Global Fisheries Goal
- Think of opportunities for future meetings
- Network with other organizations
- Books/symposia
- Identify ways that FMS can support training for students and young professionals
- Regional/topical meetings

New Business

Ecologists without Borders (Larry Dominguez)

- Information item
- Similar to Dr.'s without borders for ecologists
- Early stages
- FMS may have role in the future

Seattle meeting- expecting record attendance

Adjourn at 5pm.





NEW FRONTIERS IN FISHERIES MANAGEMENT AND ECOLOGY: LEADING THE WAY IN A CHANGING WORLD

AMERICAN FISHERIES SOCIETY 141ST ANNUAL MEETING
SEATTLE, WASHINGTON . SEPTEMBER 4-8, 2011 . WWW.FISHERIES.ORG/AFS2011

Set your sights on attending this year's Annual Meeting of the American Fisheries Society in the beautiful Pacific Northwest. With its focus on "**New Frontiers in Fisheries Management and Ecology: Leading the Way in a Changing World**," the conference will provide a wonderful opportunity for fisheries professionals to meet, exchange information, catch up with friends, and find inspiration. AFS President Wayne Hubert, Meeting Co-Chairs Cleve Steward and Larry Dominguez, and Program Co-Chairs Craig Busack and Dave Ward invite you to attend the 2011 AFS Annual Meeting at the Washington State Convention Center in Seattle, Washington. With magnificent Puget Sound at its doorstep and Mount Rainier and the towering Cascade and Olympic mountain ranges visible in the distance, the Emerald City offers both scenic splendor and myriad recreational opportunities. The Convention Center is within walking distance of the vibrant Seattle waterfront, with its jumble of shops, restaurants, art galleries, and the world famous Pike Place Farmers Market. There are a multitude of shopping venues, sights, and experiences to enjoy when not engaged in meeting activities. You'll want to extend your stay to allow time to visit Puget Sound, the rugged Olympic peninsula, and other fabulous nearby destinations.

The 2011 AFS Meeting will provide a unique forum for participants to explore the many multidisciplinary aspects of fisheries science and management. In addition to the eclectic mix of outstanding symposia, contributed papers, and posters for which AFS meetings are known, the Seattle meeting will feature a broad range of technical, social, and legal topics that are of national and international interest, including measures to recover from massive anthropogenic and weather-related catastrophes and to ensure the long-term sustainability of fisheries resources. (see the following link for an interview with one key presenter, Ray Hilborn on the future of ocean fisheries).

Regional topics will highlight efforts to protect and clean up Puget Sound and address emerging issues related to the Columbia River, salmon recovery, and watershed management. We encourage those involved or interested in fisheries science and management, marine and freshwater habitat protection, or fisheries-related recreation to contribute to this important meeting. Support AFS and indulge yourself by coming to Seattle this September. We guarantee your experience will be a memorable one.

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