

AFS – New York Chapter Newsletter – August 2005

Editors' Note

Hope you had a great summer! As the daylight shortens and nights cool, our thoughts turn to fall activities - maybe you're planning a little musky or smallmouth fishing or perhaps wood splitting. Though it's months away, chapter leaders are already hip deep in planning for the annual meeting to be held in Utica in early February (*Enhancing the Connections between Management and Science*). Elsewhere in this newsletter is the first call for papers; start thinking of papers or posters you may contribute to help build a quality event. At the same time, we're preparing to host the '06 National meeting in Lake Placid. As you read this, our chapter president Jim McKenna and others may be hard at work in Alaska (poor guys) learning the ropes for next year's meeting. If you want to be involved in meeting planning or serve on a committee, there's plenty to do for any member interested in helping. Just ask Jim McKenna or any executive committee member if you want to dive in. See you on the water.

Leslie Surprenant
Allen Peterson
Co-editors

President's Corner

The spring and summer have been filled with planning for our 2006 annual chapter meeting and assessing the results of the 2005 meeting. The 2005 Tri-society meeting held last February was a great success; the talks and interactions were great, the chapter realized a greater profit than from a typical annual meeting. This will help us support the 2006 national meeting in Lake Placid, NY and carry on with other activities.

In April, I represented the chapter at the NE Fish and Wildlife Conference. The theme, "*Who is a Customer and How Do We Manage that Relationship?*", was well supported by the speakers. The many posters and oral presentations highlighted much of the great fish and wildlife work going on in the northeast region. Next year's conference will be held in Burlington, VT. In association with interests at the national level, I am participating with many others across the country on development of the National Fish Habitat Initiative, which is backed by AFS and other organizations. A document concerning this initiative should be ready by next spring.

We decided to hold a typical annual meeting (rather than try to merge with the 2006 parent society meeting) at our July Executive Committee meeting. The meeting will be held in Utica, NY February 1 – 3, 2006. The theme of the meeting will be "*Enhancing the Connections Between Management and Science*". Our membership consists largely of natural resource managers, scientists, and people not associated with government, but interested in fishery resources. This meeting will be an opportunity to look closer at how science and management interact and how we might improve that connection. Our Program Committee is lining up speakers for the meeting. Start thinking about your abstracts for the general presentations. More information on that meeting is found elsewhere in this newsletter.

All our committees continue to be active, keeping an eye on fisheries and environmental issues in NY (e.g., water level regulation and research in the St. Lawrence and Lake Ontario), conferring about special awards and member benefits, planning another GIS workshop, bringing this newsletter to you, working with students, and a variety of other things. There is always a need for more help. If you are interested in participating on any of the chapter committees, contact me or any of the other Executive Committee members.

The chapter will host the 2006 Parent Society meeting in Lake Placid, NY and we continue to work with the planning committee for this special event. Financial support and meeting

AFS – New York Chapter Newsletter – August 2005

accommodations are falling into place. We are also working on a design for a NY AFS chapter T-shirt. If you think this is a good idea (or not), send a note to me or another Executive Committee member. I am attending the parent society meeting in Anchorage in September to represent the chapter and help promote the 2006 Lake Placid meeting. New York will be represented by a strong contingent from various agencies, universities, and the chapter.

It has been a busy and hot summer, but a good one for the Chapter. I appreciate all the support of the Executive Committee Members and all our chapter members and am grateful for the opportunity to help further the Chapter's causes.

Jim McKenna
President – NY Chapter American Fisheries Society

Chapter News

Website

The chapter website www.newyorkafs.org, should be updated by now – or will be soon. 2006 chapter meeting info will be posted shortly. Comments, questions and suggestions should be directed to Bill Snyder snyderw@morrisville.edu.

Workshop

Workshop

Dick McDonald taught an introductory Geographical Information Systems (GIS) workshop geared toward using GIS software in the environmental and scientific arenas in Rochester last February. The workshop will be offered again at a date to be determined if/when Dick has received enough response to fill a course. Mark Malchoff is now chairing the Workshop Committee. If you are interested in a **GIS workshop this year (Fall 2005)**, please contact Mark (518-564-3037 or mark.malchoff@plattsburgh.edu) or Dick McDonald ASAP at: (607) 753-9391 ext.40.

New Members

Free Fish CD and Book! Annual chapter dues are only \$10 (\$5 for students). The first 50 new chapter members (not a member for at least 5 preceding years) receive a free copy of the NYCAFS's CD *Historic Distribution of Inland Fishes of NYS: Map Series* by E. C. Raney, which provides the New York distribution of 131 freshwater fish species. In addition, the first 20 members of the Chapter who become new members in the parent organization American Fisheries Society in 2005 will receive a free copy of the *Guidelines for the Use of Fishes in Research*.

Scott Jones, Sec./Treas.
New York Chapter American Fisheries Society
C/O Devine Tarbell & Associates, 290 Elwood Davis Rd., Liverpool, NY 13088
Phone: 607-533-8801; Fax: 607-533-8804 Email: Scott.Jones@DevineTarbell.com

Student subunit

Under the advisement of Dr. Neil H. Ringler, professor and fisheries biologist, the ESF chapter of AFS has been active in the fisheries community for the last 31 years. Student members have been involved in projects with faculty, graduate students, the NYSDEC and other agencies.

AFS – New York Chapter Newsletter – August 2005

These projects not only benefit the fisheries community, but allow student members to gain experience and contacts to aid them in their future careers. Students also attend guest presentations on aquatic ecology issues. These presentations are vital for students to increase their knowledge of current research. If you are interested in presenting information to our student chapter, or if you have any ideas for projects our chapter can be involved with, please contact:

Tony Siniscal
State University of New York
College of Environmental Science and Forestry
1 Forestry Drive
Syracuse, NY 13210
(315) 470-6949
neatoe17@mac.com

Professor Contacts needed! If you know of New York or northeast colleges with aquatic environmental programs and know professor contacts in those schools, please forward any college/contact information you have to Mark Arrigo at marrigo@ecologicllc.com. The student subunit would benefit by having a contact at each college to keep students up-to-date on activities within the Chapter. Thanks for your help!

National AFS news

Web site <http://www.fisheries.org>

What's new at AFS? <http://www.fisheries.org/html/WhatsNew.shtml>

AFS Book Store at <http://www.fisheries.org/cgi-bin/hazel-cgi/hazel.cgi>

AFS Job Center Online: <http://www.fisheries.org/jobs.shtml> <http://www.fisheries.org/jobs.shtml>

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

Browse featured articles from *Fisheries* at: <http://www.fisheries.org/fisheries/fishery.shtml>

New AFS Books

Black Carp: Biological Synopsis and Risk Assessment of an Introduced Fish

Leo G. Nico, James D. Williams, and Howard L. Jelks

This book is a detailed risk assessment and biological synopsis of the black carp, native to eastern Asia. A great deal of controversy surrounds the presence of this fish in the US. Most involved with the aquaculture industry view black carp as an important tool in controlling disease-carrying snails in aquaculture ponds. Those interested in mollusk protection and groups involved with aquatic ecosystem conservation are concerned that continued use of black carp by U.S. aquaculturists will lead to the species' establishment in open waters.

Special Publication 32

337 pages, hardcover, subject index

List price: \$60

AFS member price: \$42

Stock number: 510.32C

The Behavior and Ecology of Pacific Salmon and Trout

Thomas Quinn

Few subjects have generated as much emotional dialogue around conflicting scientific and policy agendas as the protection and management of Pacific salmon resources. Thomas Quinn distills from scientific

AFS – New York Chapter Newsletter – August 2005

literature essential information on the behavior and ecology of Pacific salmon. This book is richly illustrated with photographs and original drawings and includes examples from classic studies by pioneers of salmon biology and from the most current research to illustrate the important features of salmon life history and behavior and the complex physical, biological, and human factors that affect them.

328 pages, 64 in color-- Stock number: 637.07P

List price: \$35.00

Member price: \$28.00 More information and to order: <http://64.224.98.53/publications/catbooks/x63707P.shtml>

Monitoring Stream and Watershed Restoration

Philip Roni, editor.

Millions of dollars are invested annually to aquatic restoration, yet little guidance exists on how to monitor and evaluate these activities. This book provides a practical resource for designing and implementing monitoring and evaluation programs for restoration activities at various scales from individual, site-specific actions to multiple projects throughout a watershed. Chapters are organized around the major types of restoration techniques, including road improvements, riparian silviculture, fencing and grazing management, floodplains, estuarine, in stream, nutrient enrichment, and acquisitions and conservation easements. Also includes chapters on economic evaluation and monitoring design

350 pages, glossary, index

Stock number: 550.47P

List price: \$65.00

Member price: \$45.00

More information and to order: <http://64.224.98.53/publications/catbooks/x55047P.shtml>

Propagated Fish in Resource Management

Mary Nickum, Patricia Mazik, John Nickum, and Don MacKinlay, editors.

This book contains the peer-reviewed technical papers presented at a June 2003 symposium examining the effective use of fish culture as a tool for fisheries resource management. The symposium identified information gaps in technical knowledge, debated the appropriateness of assumptions and current theories being used to make resource management decisions, and attempted to reconcile philosophical differences that have become an obstacle to science-based resource management.

Symposium 44

640 pages, hardcover

List price: \$75

AFS member price: \$53

Stock number: 540.44C

More information and to order: <http://64.224.98.53/publications/catbooks/x54044.shtml>

American Fisheries Society, Attn: Orders Department, 1650 Bluegrass Parkway, Alpharetta, GA 30004. Phone: 678-366-1411. Fax: 770-442-9742. Online: <http://64.224.98.53/cgi-bin/hazel.cgi/hazel.cgi>

AFS – New York Chapter Newsletter – August 2005

Upcoming Events

AFS 135th Annual Meeting, Anchorage, AK. September 11-15, Contact Betsy Fritz, bfritz@fisheries.org
301-897-8616

AFS—23rd Wakefield Fisheries Symposium: Biology, Assessment and Management of North Pacific Rockfishes, Sep 12-15, Anchorage, AK. www.uaf.edu/seagrant/Conferences/rockfish/info.html. Contact Sherri Pristash, fyconf@uaf.edu, 907/474-6701.

95th Annual Meeting of the International Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies 2005 Annual Meeting, Sep 11-16, Nashville, TN. Contact info@delaneymeetingevent.com, 202/624-7890.

2005 National Forum on Contaminants in Fish, Sep 18-21, Baltimore, MD. See www.epa.gov/waterscience/fish/. Contact Camille Heaton, heaton@rti.org, 202/974-7817.

AFS Investigation and Valuation of Fish and Mussel Kills Continuing Education Workshops sponsored by Indiana and Michigan Chapters of AFS, Sep 20, South Bend, Indiana. Contact Nicole White, nwhite@nmu.edu, 9006/869-4319.

AFS The Coastal Cutthroat Symposium: Biology, Status, Management, and Conservation, Sep 29-Oct 1, Fort Worden State Park (near Port Townsend), WA. See www.orafs.org. Contact Tim Cummings, Tim_Cummings@fws.gov, 360/604-2512.

AFS 59th Annual Conference of the Southeastern Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies: When Practice Meets Policy, Oct 16-19, St. Louis, MI. www.sdafs.org.

The Annual Conference on Soils, Sediments and Water, October 17-20, University of Massachusetts at Amherst <http://www.umasssoils.com>

Fourth National Conference: Nonpoint Source and Stormwater Pollution Education Programs, Oct 17-20, Chicago, IL. Contact Bob Kirschner, bkirschn@chicagobotanic.org.

Yellowstone Cutthroat Trout Symposium, October 20, Idaho Falls, Idaho. Contact Scott Christensen, schristensen@greateryellowstone.org, 208/522-7927.

Eighth Annual Wetlands and Watersheds workshop: Aquatic systems and Water Quality, Oct 25-28, Atlantic City, NJ. See www.wetlandsworkgroup.org. Contact Frank Reilly, Jr., frank@wetlandsworkgroup.org, 540/286-6072.

Building for the Future: Dr. E. J. Crossman Muskie Symposium, Oct 28-30, Indianapolis, IN. See www.muskiesinc.org.

Annual Symposium of the North American Lake Society: Lake Effects: People/Water Exploring the Relationship, Nov 9-11-25, Madison, WI. See www.nalms.org. Contact Carol Winge, winge@nalms.org, 608/233-2836.

Nov 13-17—**26th Annual Meeting of the Society of Environmental Toxicology and Chemistry: Environmental Science in a Global Society: SETAC'S Role in the Next 25 Years**, Baltimore, Maryland. See www.setac.org.

NY Chapter AFS Annual Meeting, Feb. 1 – 3 - Utica, NY

AFS – New York Chapter Newsletter – August 2005

Miscellaneous

Fish kill in Black River of Lewis Co., August 2005

A large fish kill occurred in the Black River near Lowville, NY after an August 10, 2005 spill of about 3 million gallons of liquid manure into the main channel from a lagoon of a large dairy. Reduced oxygen and elevated ammonia killed fish for the next 24 miles of river over the next three days as the material slowly moved downstream. This stream section is wide, relatively deep and slow moving, with only a few tributaries. The lower end of the section has a long waterfall, and this provided enough reoxygenation to moderate the toxicity. The primary fisheries are walleye, smallmouth bass, northern pike, chain pickerel, yellow perch, rock bass and bullhead. Over 4,400 dead fish were counted in a stratified sampling program during the week following the kill. Numbers of dead sportfish were highest for smallmouth bass, yellow perch and rock bass, at about 11 % of the total for each species. Walleye were 4%, and northern pike and chain pickerel were each 1% of the total. Minnows and darters were the largest categories, at 33 and 20%, respectively. There were many northern pike over 38 inches, walleye over 24 inches, smallmouth bass over 16 inches and burbot over 17 inches. The toxicity took a heavy toll on sportfish, as evidenced by substantially reduced numbers collected during extensive electroshocking efforts the following week. Bullhead and carp were perhaps the only species weathering the event without serious impact. Angler effort in this section of river had been an estimated at a moderate 7-10 trips/acre with angler catch rates of diary cooperators from 0.3-0.7 walleye/hr. The manure spill is still under investigation by Region 6 Department Environmental Conservation, and the alleged violations stated on August 23 totaled over 2 million dollars.

Snakehead discovered in NYC! NYS Department of Environmental Conservation fisheries staff trapnetted five snakeheads during a routine sampling in Meadow Lake, Queens, in late June. US Geological Service confirmed the identity of these non-native invasive predacious Asian fish. Biologists are developing a response plan.

New York State Division of Fish, Wildlife and Marine Resources released its **Draft Comprehensive Wildlife Conservation Strategy (CWCS)** which may be viewed at <http://www.dec.state.ny.us/website/dfwmr/swg/cwcs2005.html>. Public comment will be accepted through September 16th.

New York State's Departments of Environmental Conservation and Agriculture and Markets have jointly released the **final report from the Invasive Species task force**. The public review and comment period ends September 14. The document may be viewed at <http://www.dec.state.ny.us/website/dfwmr/habitat/istf/index.html>

AFS – New York Chapter Newsletter – August 2005

Meeting Announcement and First Call for Papers New York Chapter American Fisheries Society Annual Meeting February 1st -3rd, 2006 -- Utica, NY

Enhancing the Connection Between Science and Aquatic Resource Management

From its earliest origins, the American Fisheries Society has served as a forum for those dedicated to applying the tools of science to the problem of sustaining renewable but limited aquatic resources in the context of increasing and increasingly complex societal demands on those resources. Effectively integrating science into the socially and politically convoluted world of fisheries management is a challenge that our membership continues to face on a daily basis. What lessons have we learned as a profession? How does the level of scientific literacy in society affect our efforts? How will the relationship between science and management evolve in the coming decades?

Our meeting theme describes an objective that we tend to internalize as a core value early in our academic and professional careers. It is therefore fitting that we take the opportunity to explicitly examine the ways in which we succeed or fail to enhance the connection between science and aquatic resource management.

If you would like to speak on this or any other topic please contact Fred Henson at 315-337-0910, or fghenson@gw.dec.state.ny.us. There is plenty of room for speakers and all are welcome to contribute posters. The deadline for abstracts is January 13, 2006. If you have suggestions for invited speakers or if you wish to suggest a facet of this year's theme that you feel merits particular attention please contact Fred Henson ASAP.

AFS – New York Chapter Newsletter – August 2005

NY Chapter of the American Fisheries Society 2005-2006 Officers and Executive Committee

President, Jim McKenna

jemckenna@usgs.gov

Annual Meeting, Jim McKenna

jemckenna@usgs.gov and Scott Jones

Scott.Jones@devinetrbell.com

Past President, William Gordon

whgordon@gw.dec.state.ny.us

President-elect, Michael Flaherty

mjflaher@gw.dec.state.ny.us

Secretary-Treasurer, Scott Jones

Scott.Jones@devinetrbell.com

Newsletter Editors, Leslie Surprenant

ljsurpre@gw.dec.state.ny.us

Allen Peterson ampeterson@nyseg.com

Website, William Snyder

snyderw@morrisville.edu

Student Sub-Unit, Mark Arrigo

marrigo@ecologicllc.com

Professional Incentives, **Open** (your name can be here!)

Resolutions/Envir. Concerns, Randy Vaas

navypap@twcny.rr.com

Native American Affairs, Dick McDonald

dmcDonald@usgs.gov

Professional Diversity/Youth Aquatic Education

Cara Ewell-Hodkins Cara.Ewell-Hodkin@fws.gov and Dawn Dittman

ddittman@usgs.gov

Workshop, Mark Malchoff

mark.malchoff@plattsburgh.edu

Membership, Mike Flaherty

mjflaher@gw.dec.state.ny.us

Nominating, William Gordon

whgordon@gw.dec.state.ny.us

Audit/Finance, Mark Arrigo

marrigo@ecologicllc.com

Program, Fred Henson

fgHenson@gw.dec.state.ny.us