

President's Message

I am honored to have the opportunity to serve "You" the membership of the Northeastern Division of the American Fisheries Society. To be able to work with and for other dedicated people who have a common interest is a pleasure and an inspiration.

I began my service to the AFS as an undergraduate student in Upstate New York. In 1980 I attended an annual meeting with my major professor and first mentor, and some of his graduate students. At that time all I did was join AFS, nothing special, or at least that is what I thought. I remained a member through my graduate school years in South Dakota where I increased my service to AFS by presenting my graduate work at AFS chapter meetings and other scientific fisheries gatherings. I went to work on the Columbia River as a term fisheries technician but it seemed I was to be too busy and did not have much time or resource (\$) for meetings and such.

After I moved back east and landed a "permanent" fisheries job in New Hampshire, my service to the AFS really took off. My boss told me I had the "honor" (didn't seem so at the time) of organizing the AFS Atlantic International Chapter (AIC) meeting, as it was our turn to host. Well, I did a good enough job on arrangements that at the business meeting they "honored" me by nominating me for Secretary-Treasurer (the only nomination). I reluctantly accepted. I served five years until I moved back to New York as a

consultant when I got "too busy" again to be much involved with AFS.

Upon my return to New England I was again nominated as AIC Secretary-Treasurer and served 3 years, then one as Vice President and then President. I also served as co-chair on the raffle committee for the AFS annual meeting in Quebec. The NED then asked me if I would accept a nomination as a candidate for First Vice President of the division. I thought about it for some time. I wondered if I had the ability to do the job and was concerned about the time commitment. It was assured by the Nominations Chair that there would be help from the other officers (division and chapters) and that the way the executive committee succession was structured (1st VP, President Elect, President, and Past President) I could gradually become familiar with the roles I would perform as President. I agreed, and here I am.

Now I know this sounds like a "me" story, but it really isn't about me at all. It's about the AFS and you. This organization, its structure and purpose, are all about you, and the common interest you share with others who choose to "join". Remember...that first step in service to others. I ask that you consider taking another step, or two, and volunteer for a committee, help with meeting arrangements, chair a session and/or give a presentation on your work. I think you will be surprised at what an honor and pleasure it is.

Larry Miller



AFS Mission Statement
The mission of the American Fisheries Society is to improve the conservation and sustainability of fishery resources and aquatic ecosystems by advancing fisheries and aquatic science and promoting the development of fisheries professionals.

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- WEBSITE-
 The NED AFS has a website – www.nedafsf.org. While it is still a work in progress, please check it out and give us your feedback. Greg Kozlowski has agreed to be our new webmaster, and he can be contacted at gekozlow@gw.dec.state.ny.us.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

AFS 137th Annual Meeting

Sept. 2-6, 2007
San Francisco, CA

The 137th Annual Meeting is fast approaching. Registration



information, deadlines and an overview of activities may be found on the meeting website at <http://www.fisheries.org/sf/>. Hope to see everyone there!

Attention Students!

Student employees will be needed to work during presentations to adjust lighting, operate audiovisual equipment, and perform other duties throughout the duration of the meeting. Students will be paid \$10/hr. If you are interested in working at the meeting please email Norm Ponferrada at nponferrada@ucdavis.edu.

63rd Annual Northeast Fish and Wildlife Conference

April 2007
Mystic, Connecticut



The American Fisheries Society (AFS), Northeastern Division (NED) will hold its 55th annual meeting in conjunction with the Northeast Fish and Wildlife Conference in April 2007 in Mystic, Connecticut. We are looking for someone to organize a session on fish culture/fish health/transgenics. If you are interested please contact Margaret Murphy at mmurphy@qeallc.com.

NED meetings that will be held at the meeting are listed below.

NE Division of the American Fisheries Society Executive Committee Meeting (Retreat)
Sunday, April 22, 2007 - 12:30pm to 6pm

March 2007

NE Division of the American Fisheries Society
Annual Business Meeting
Monday, April 23, 2007 - 5:15pm to 7pm

NE Division of the American Fisheries Society
Past President's Lunch
Tuesday, April 24, 2007 - 12pm to 1:30pm

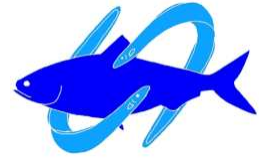
NE Division of the American Fisheries Society
Incoming Executive Committee Breakfast
Wednesday, April 25, 2007 - 7:00am to 8:30am



The Northeast Fish Rapper

2nd International Symposium on Diadromous Fishes

**June 18-21, 2007 –
Halifax, Nova Scotia**



This symposium will review the current state of scientific knowledge with respect to biology, ecology, and conservation of diadromous fishes (including anadromous, catadromous,

potamodromous, and amphidromous species). The symposium theme will build upon that of the very successful 1986 American Fisheries Society symposium, **Common Strategies of Anadromous and Catadromous Fishes** (Dadswell et al. 1987. *Am. Fish. Soc. Symp. 1*). However, emphasis will be shifted to address how recent alterations to the environment and human activity has affected diadromous fishes with respect to their sustainability and role in aquatic ecosystems. See the website for more information <http://www.anacat.ca>

CALL FOR AWARD NOMINATIONS

~NED AWARDS~

We are seeking nominations from each chapter for the division's Outstanding Chapter awards. Winners from each of the three categories will be considered for the parent society's Outstanding Chapter award. Categories are:

- large chapters (100 members or more);
- small chapters (less than 100 members);
- and,
- student subunits.

Please remember that full university chapters, e.g. SUNY ESF, will be considered in the appropriate chapter category rather than the student subunit category. **The deadline for submitting the nominations to the committee is March 23, 2007.** You can also access the form on the AFS web site:

http://web.fisheries.org/main/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=72&Itemid=87

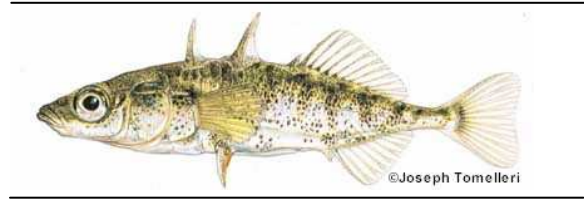
Awards will be presented at the 63rd Northeast Fish and Wildlife Conference, April 22 to 25th in Mystic, CT. The strongest nominations typically include a resume of the nominee, a letter of nomination, and supporting letters.

DWIGHT A. WEBSTER MEMORIAL AWARD

This award is presented annually and is the most prestigious recognition given by the Northeastern Division. It may be awarded for any of the following achievements:

- Lifelong contributions to fisheries science and the profession in the Northeast or while working in the Northeast;

- Meritorious/prestigious service to the profession and fisheries;
- Significant academic or technical accomplishments; and,
- Long-term service in the Northeastern Division as an AFS member.



PRESIDENTS’ AWARD

This award is presented to an individual who is selected by Past-Presidents and the incumbent President; it is not limited to Past Presidents.

The recipient need not be a current AFS member, and the award need not be presented annually. The award may be presented for any or all the following achievements:

- Promotion of fisheries management and upheld ideals of professionalism;
- Dedication to AFS and employer.

MERITORIOUS SERVICE AWARD

This award is presented to an individual who must be an AFS member for any or all of the following:

- Leadership and service to the profession and/or AFS;
- Substantial achievements for AFS and the fisheries resource; and,
- Significant long-term service to the NE Division within the Division.

SPECIAL ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

This award recognizes an individual or group acting as a team or committee for any or all of the following special accomplishments.

- Notable contribution(s) for conservation and/or the fisheries profession within the Northeastern Division; and
- Administrative or project-related accomplishments.

The recipient(s) need not be an AFS member(s) and the award need not be presented annually.

To make a nomination for any of these awards, please send a resume of the nominee, a letter of nomination, and supporting letters by March 16, 2007 to:

Margaret H. Murphy
 QEA, LLC
 290 Elwood Davis Road
 Liverpool, NY 13088

phone: 315-453-9009 x29
 FAX: 315-453-9010
 email: mmurphy@qeallc.com

MID-TERM REPORT

Mid-Term Report to the AFS Governing Board, March 10, 2007

I. Motion Report

Nothing to report.

II. Activity Report

(A) Charge or Annual Program of Work: NED Plan of Work 2007 (appended)

(B) Summary of Outcomes and Accomplishments Organized by Focus Area in Strategic Plan with the appropriate goals, strategies, targets referenced

Aquatic Stewardship

Goal AS 1, Local and Global Leadership

- The NED is working with the Great Lakes states and the federal agencies to

develop an informational portal on the NED website that will link to the most up-to-date information on the emerging issue of VHS outbreaks in wild fish populations within the Great Lakes region.

explore the possibility of developing collaborative links to each others websites in the hopes of increasing visibility, collaboration, and information exchange in the fisheries and aquatic community.

Goal AS 2, Stewardship Education

- The NED is the main sponsor for the “Challenges for Diadromous Fishes in a Dynamic Global Environment – 2nd International Symposium on Diadromous Fishes” to be held June 18-21, 2007 in Halifax, Nova Scotia. This symposium is a follow-up to the successful symposium held in 1986 in Boston, MA, and will have more emphasis on human activity and the sustainability of diadromous fishes.
- The New York Chapter provided considerable support to the AFS 136th Annual Meeting held in September, 2006 at Lake Placid, New York. The meeting was deemed a great success with nearly 2000 registrants attending.

Goal AS 3, Promotion of Stewardship

- The NED sponsored three speakers for the Black Bass Workshop to be held at the Northeast Fish and Wildlife Conference in April 2006 in Burlington, VT. The proceedings for the conference have been received by the NED and will be uploaded to the website in the near future.
- The NED is the main sponsor for the “Challenges for Diadromous Fishes in a Dynamic Global Environment – 2nd International Symposium on Diadromous Fishes”

Information Transfer and Outreach

Goal ITO 1, Visibility

- The NED is working to improve its website and is attempting to reach out to state and federal agencies, non-governmental natural resource organizations, and universities to

Goal ITO 2, Collaboration

- The 2007 NED Annual Meeting will be held in conjunction with the 2007 Northeast Fish and Wildlife Conference that will take place in Mystic, Connecticut, April 22-25, 2007. This meeting is sponsored by the Northeast Association of Fish and Wildlife Administrators and brings together state and federal fish and wildlife administrators and their staffs from fish, wildlife, outreach, and law enforcement disciplines to exchange information, share ideas, and network with their peers.
- NED chapters often hold joint meetings with other societies, such as the Society of American Foresters or The Wildlife Society.
- The Southern New England Chapter held its January meeting at the Connecticut DEP, in Old Lyme, Connecticut, and a June meeting will be in either Old Lyme or at the University of Connecticut in conjunction with the American Institute of Research Fisheries Biologist meeting.
- The Atlantic-International Chapter is providing logistical and administrative support for the NED sponsored 2nd International Symposium on Diadromous Fish set for June 17-21, 2007 in Halifax, Nova Scotia, by providing session chairs, registration personal, and AV technical help.

*Continued on page 11
(MID-TERM REPORT)*

NORTHEASTERN DIVISION PLAN OF WORK 2007

AFS Strategic Plan

The Strategic Plan of the AFS, 2005-2009 identifies three focus areas: Aquatic Stewardship (AS), Information Transfer (ITO), and Member Services (MS). The NED plan of work for 2007 has been developed within this framework in order to help us meet the goals in these focus areas. As stated in the Strategic Plan the mission of Divisions within AFS "...is to advance Society goals by coordinating and complementing Chapter activities related to information exchange, outreach, aquatic stewardship, and governance at a regional level and to maintain a liaison role with regional resource stakeholders. Divisions serve member needs in large geographic areas by coordinating with provincial, state, and tribal agencies and organizations as well as among AFS Units and by representing Chapter needs to the AFS leadership (i.e., Society officers, the Executive Director, and Governing Board members)."

NED Work Plan

Focus Area I: Aquatic Stewardship

AFS and its members will be leaders in promoting the sustainability and sound stewardship of fisheries resources and aquatic ecosystems (The Strategic Plan of the American Fisheries Society, 2005-2009).

1. The NED will provide scientifically-based information to assist policy makers and other publics in developing sound natural resource policies. NED will assist Chapters in developing workshops to train members in dealing with media and policy groups. The NED also will support the implementation of the National Fish Habitat Initiative. (Strategy AS 1.5, MS 2.1, MS 2.4)
2. The NED will support programs and activities produced by Chapters and sub-units to educate various publics on aquatic resource issues. The NED will promote conferences and symposia that focus on sustainability and aquatic stewardship topics. The NED is the major sponsor of the 2nd International Symposium on Diadromous Fish to be held June 18 through 21, 2007 (Strategy AS 2.3, AS 2.10).
3. The NED will support partnerships and collaboration with other environmental organizations to develop symposia, workshops, or publications to address

complex issues which encompass multiple disciplines. The NED will participate in the 63rd Annual Northeast Fish and Wildlife Conference to be held April 22 through 25, 2007 (Strategy AS 3.1, ITO 2.1, MS 2.1, MS 2.4).

Focus Area II: Information Transfer and Outreach

AFS and its members will be recognized by decision makers and natural resource professionals as an important source of science-based information about fisheries and aquatic ecosystems and their conservation, management, and sustainable development (The Strategic Plan of the American Fisheries Society, 2005-2009).

1. The NED will strive to update its' website on a regular basis (at least monthly) to maintain a current information network. In addition, the NED will evaluate expanding the website to include information on committees and highlights of activities as well as other Division activities. The NED will continue electronic publication of the Northeast Fish Rapper and notify members when a new issue is available (Strategies ITO 4.2; MS 3.1).
2. The NED will sponsor the publication of the Proceedings of the 2nd International Symposium on Diadromous Fish (Strategies AS 2.3; ITO 2.1; MS 1.4).

*Continued on page 12
(PLAN OF WORK)*

PENNSYLVANIA CHAPTER REPORT

The PA Chapter of the AFS held its fall meeting in November 2006. At that time, Dr. David Argent (California University of Pennsylvania) was officially installed as President and Mr. Jason Detar (PFBC) was named vice president. Mr. John Arway was formally recognized for his contributions during his tenure as President as was Mr. Mike Hendricks, who served as the Chapter's secretary/treasurer for nearly 10 years. The fall meeting focused on IBI developments within Pennsylvania and the Northeast, with presentations from Dr. William Kimmel, Mr. John Arway, and Mr. Lou Reynolds. During this meeting a proposal was put forth to the membership to co-sponsor a spring technical meeting with the West Virginia Chapter of the AFS. The spring meeting, whose theme is Large River Ecology, is to occur March 9-10, 2007 in Morgantown, WV. The meeting will include

four keynote speakers who have extensive experience with the Ohio, Allegheny, and Monongahela rivers as well as those who have experience with environmental policy; two continuing education workshops; and a technical session with posters and oral presentations.

In other news, Pittsburgh, PA will host the national AFS meeting in 2010. Dr. Douglas Austen, Executive Director of the PA Fish and Boat Commission, is assembling a team to lead planning and coordination efforts for this meeting.

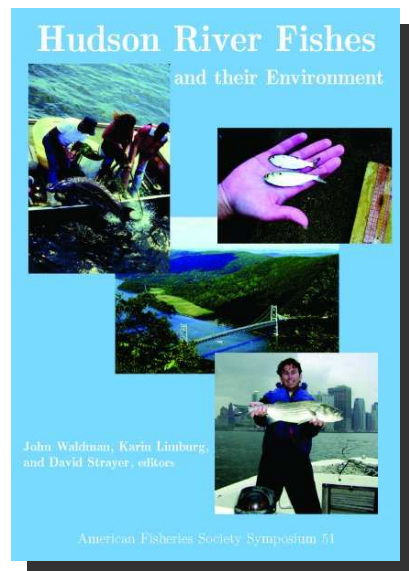
President
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 250 University Avenue
 California, PA 15419
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 argent@cup.edu

Hudson River Fishes and their Environment

John Waldman, Karin Limburg, and David Strayer, editors
 365 pages, published by the American Fisheries Society

The Hudson River is one of the most scientifically-studied rivers in the world. This volume contains new findings about the ecological and environmental workings of the Hudson and the effects on fishes. Chapter authors present important new findings, including a review of the hydrodynamics and physical and chemical conditions in the estuary; the impact of power plants on pelagic fish; the effects of pollution, climate, and nonnative plants and animals on the Hudson's fishes; the importance of tributaries for some species; and the impact of human activities, such as angling and changing land use, on fish populations.

For a complete listing of contents and to order from the AFS Online Bookstore go to: <http://www.afsbooks.org/x54051p.html>



AFS EDUCATION SECTION CONTEST

What is the largest bony fish?

If you are like me, you probably waited until the last minute to renew your AFS Membership for 2007. When you renew, please consider this invitation. The Education Section of the

American Fisheries Society invites you to join our Section. Education Section activities, including preparation and revision of textbooks, support of student travel to meetings, and compilation of brochures on academic programs and fisheries career opportunities. One focus of

the section is undergraduate and graduate education. However, the Education Section also supports lifelong learning of all fisheries professionals. We encourage all fisheries professionals to expand their minds through the pursuit of new knowledge. To that end, we are sponsoring a "Largest Fish" contest.

What is the largest bony fish known to science? If you think you know the answer, email your

response to slochmann@uaex.edu. We will provide a small incentive to some lucky individual, randomly chosen from among the respondents with the correct answer. Take some time, explore the possibilities, and see what there is to learn about really big fish. You must be a member of the Education Section to be eligible for the "small incentive."

Steve Lochmann, Education Section



FISHERIES *IN THE NEWS*

The White House Requests \$10 Million from Congress to Restore the Penobscot River

January 26, 2007

Contact : Laura Rose Day, Executive Director
(207) 232-5976 or (207) 430-0114
(Old Town and Augusta, Maine)

The Bush Administration today announced that it is requesting \$10 million dollars from Congress to restore the once-abundant sea-run fisheries of the Penobscot River in Maine, the second largest river in the Northeast. The announcement includes details of the FY2008 National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) budget providing \$ 10 million for the Penobscot River Restoration Project. The NOAA budget includes \$38 million nationwide for protecting and restoring coastal and marine areas, including "a project to eventually restore nearly 1000 stream miles of habitat for endangered Atlantic salmon and other fish species." Funding for the Penobscot River Restoration Project includes \$8 million for dam acquisition and \$2 million to NOAA's Office of

Habitat for technical assistance, pre- and post-removal studies, and engineering.

Project partners include NOAA, the Department of the Interior, dam owner PPL Corporation, the Penobscot Indian Nation, the state of Maine, and American Rivers, Atlantic Salmon Federation, the Natural Resources Council of Maine, Maine Audubon, The Nature Conservancy, Trout Unlimited and the Penobscot River Restoration Trust.

"The White House and NOAA are indicating to Congress that the success of this innovative partnership among business, state, tribal and federal government, and citizens to restore the Penobscot River is of great national value," said Laura Rose Day, Executive Director, Penobscot River Restoration Trust. "Together, we will restore the Penobscot River system and in doing so we will renew fisheries, wildlife, and the cultural, recreational, economic and other values that the river can offer to the people of Maine and the nation. The Trust is thrilled that the Administration and NOAA are supporting this remarkable project. "

"For more than 10,000 years, the Penobscot River has been the heart of our homeland," said

Penobscot Indian Nation Chief Kirk Francis. "Our identity as a tribe is deeply intertwined with the health of the river. The river's restoration is critical to our cultural survival. We commend the administration for its support for this and we express our appreciation to the Maine Congressional Delegation who have been so supportive and encouraged the Administration to continue funding this project."

"This is perhaps the most important fresh-water restoration project underway in North America," said Michael Tetreault, Executive Director of The Nature Conservancy in Maine. "The benefits of the project are far reaching for species including federally endangered shortnose sturgeon, Atlantic sturgeon, river herring, striped bass, tomcod, rainbow smelt and Atlantic salmon. In this region where culture, tradition, business, and recreation all depend on a thriving Penobscot, the benefits to people will be tremendous."

Source: Penobscot River Restoration Trust



Endangered Species Act Protection for American Eel Not Needed

Contacts: Heather Bell 413/253-8645; Diana Weaver 413/253-8329

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service today announced the completion of an extensive status review of the American eel, concluding that protecting the eel as an endangered or threatened species under the Endangered Species Act is not warranted.

In completing the review, the Service examined all available information about the American eel population from Greenland south along the North American coast to Brazil in South

America and as far inland as the Great Lakes and the Mississippi River drainage. While the eel population has declined in some areas, the species' overall population is not in danger of extinction or likely to become so in the foreseeable future, the Service decided.

"The eel population as a whole shows significant resiliency. If we look at eels over time, we see fluctuations in the population numbers, so a decreasing number of eels right now does not necessarily forecast an irreversible trend," according to Heather Bell, Service fishery biologist.

"Over fishing and hydropower turbines continue to impact eels in some regions, such as Lake Ontario and Chesapeake Bay, although these factors do not fully explain the reduced number of eels migrating up the St. Lawrence Seaway and into Lake Ontario " Bell said.

Several actions have been taken in an effort to conserve eel populations including installation of eel ladders for upstream passage at hydropower projects, implementation of state harvest restrictions, and dam removals that open historic eel habitat. In addition, Canadian resource agencies have closed the harvest of eels in the Canadian portion of Lake Ontario. The Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada is considering designating the American eel a "species of special concern." During the next few months, the Service will prepare suggestions for managing to allow for eel fishery sustainability while ensuring adequate conservation measures for the species.

The Service initiated the status review in 2004 at the request of the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission, representing 15 states from Maine to Florida. Following that request, Douglas Harold Watts of Augusta ,Maine, and Timothy Allan Watts of South Middleborough, Mass., requested by petition that Endangered Species Act protection be extended to the eel.

The Service determined in 2005 that substantial biological information existed to warrant amore thorough examination and began a comprehensive review of all the available scientific and commercial information. The

Service hosted two workshops to discuss threats and vulnerabilities with eel experts from federal and state agencies, nonprofit organizations, private industry, Native American tribes, academia, the ASMFC, the Great Lakes Fishery Commission, Canada, England and Japan.

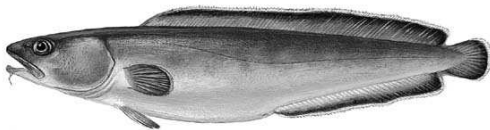
American eels begin life in the Atlantic Ocean's Sargasso Sea near Bermuda. The larvae ride the Gulf Stream for several months until they make their way to Continental Shelf waters.

Some eels grow to adulthood in the marine environment; some go into freshwater/saltwater estuaries; some migrate up rivers and streams; and some eels move from one habitat to another as they develop. Biologists believe this adaptability among various environments enhances the species' ability to survive despite threats in one or more environments.

Eels in the marine environment grow faster and mature earlier than those in freshwater. Eels in large freshwater systems may grow slowly for as long as 40 years, becoming much larger than eels in salt water before beginning their downstream migration en route to the Sargasso Sea where they spawn.

The "Federal Register" notice with the status review on American eels will be published Feb.2. See <http://www.archives.gov/federal-register/index.html> For additional information about American eels, see <http://www.fws.gov/northeast/ameel>

Source: U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service



Initiation of a Status Review under the Endangered Species Act for Cusk

Contact: Jen Costanza, (978) 281-9388
National Marine Fisheries Service

Office announces the initiation of a status review for cusk (*Brosme brosme*) and solicits information on the status of, and threats to, the species. We seek information relevant to the following topics: (1) historical and current abundance and distribution of the species; (2) potential factors for the species' decline throughout its range; (3) rates of capture and release of the species from both recreational and commercial fisheries; (4) post-release mortality; (5) life history information (size/age at maturity, growth rates, fecundity, reproductive rate/success, etc.); (6) morphological and molecular information to assist in determining stock structure; and (7) threats to the species. For more information, please contact: [Kim Damon-Randall](#) or 978-281-9300 x 6535.

Federal Register Notice (March 9, 2007)

- Information regarding the status of, & threats to, the cusk must be received by April 1, 2007
- You may submit information by any one of the following methods:
 - Fax: 978-281-9394, Attention: Kim Damon-Randall-Damon
 - Mail: Information on paper, disk, or CD-ROM should be addressed to the Assistant Regional Administrator for Protected Resources, NMFS, Protected Resources Division, One Blackburn Drive, Gloucester, MA 01930.
 - E-mail: cuskinfo@noaa.gov. Include in the subject line the following identifier: "cusk status review."

Source: NOAA Fisheries

For the Latest News from the NMFS Northeast Regional Office Check out their website:
<http://www.nero.noaa.gov/nero/hotnews/>

MID-TERM REPORT, continued:

- The Mid-Atlantic Chapter donated \$250, and will be providing in-kind support for the upcoming coolwater fish workshop. It also held a joint with the Tidewater Chapter from the Southern Division.
- The Southern New England Chapter donated \$1000 to the 2nd International Symposium on Diadromous Fish.
- The Pennsylvania Chapter held a joint meeting with the West Virginia Chapter from the Southern Division, the theme of which was “Understanding Large Rivers”.
- The NED and its Chapters contributed \$700 to the SDAFS Disaster Relief effort in order to pay for shipment of Bob Carline’s donated library and provide additional assistance to AFS members within the areas affected by Hurricanes Katrina and Rita.

Goal ITO 4, Information Network

- The Southern New England Chapter has utilized an electronic discussion and vote, to approve a donation to the 2nd International Symposium on Diadromous Fish being sponsored by the NED.
- The NED has used electronic voting and polling to successfully interact with its membership in a timely and cost effective manner.
- The NED will publish the proceedings of the “Challenges for Diadromous Fishes in a Dynamic Global Environment – 2nd International Symposium on Diadromous Fishes” to be held June 18-21, 2007 in Halifax, Nova Scotia.

Member Services

Goal MS 1, Professional Development and Recognition:

- The NED Awards Committee is actively seeking nominations for the Division’s awards which will be presented at the Division’s annual meeting in April.
- The NED provided a \$2,500 sponsorship for the Student Colloquium and Career Fair held at the AFS 2006 Annual Meeting held in Lake Placid, New York.
- Several chapters in the NED are working with area universities in hopes of developing student sub-units.
- The NED has programs to recognize the best student fisheries presentation and poster (\$400) and support student travel (\$295) to its annual meeting held in conjunction with the Northeast Fish and Wildlife Conference.
- The NED has a program to recognize its most senior members for their long term commitment to the AFS and the NED through presentation of the walking
- The NED contributed \$500 to the Clemens-Rigler Fund to support graduate student travel to the Canadian Conference for Fisheries Research and the Society of Canadian Limnologists annual meetings.

Goal MS 2, Science Based Information

- The Pennsylvania Chapter’s fall meeting was held in November and the meeting theme was centered on development a fish survey based Index of Biological Integrity (IBI) for assessing water quality in Pennsylvania and the northeast states.
- The NED is working with an ad hoc committee of the Northeast Association of Fish and Wildlife Administrators to explore the development of a “River and Stream Technical Committee” modeled after the one that currently exists in the North Central Division.

Goal MS 3, Online and Web Services

- The NED is continuing to work on updating its website, which is experiencing difficulties with software and access, that has limited interfered with timely updates to the information on the website. An outside web designer was solicited to redesign the website and a new domain was purchased (www.nedafs.org). NED's new webmaster is attempting to keep the website updated in order to provide a communication link for the NED membership. If difficulty continues with access to the existing website the NED will consider migrating to the newly updated AFS server for web hosting.

Goal MS 4, Diversity

- The NED made a \$500 contribution to the Equal Opportunities Section to support minority student travel to the 137th Annual AFS Meeting in San Francisco.
- The NED contributed \$5,000 to the Hutton Junior Fisheries Biologist Program.

Goal MS 5, Strategic Plan Implementation

- The NED reviewed and updated the

Division's Procedural Manual and is in the process of distributing it to the all officers and making it available to the NED membership. As part of the updated procedures it will be the responsibility of each NED Past President to review the Procedural Manual and update it as needed at the end of his/her term.

- The NED bylaws have been revised, reviewed by the Constitutional Consultant, approved by the NED membership, and accepted by the AFS governing board at the 2006 AFS Annual Meeting.
- The NED President developed a plan of work for 2007 (see attached).

Goal MS 6, Financial Security

- The NED is conducting a review of its investment portfolio in order to determine the best vehicle to generate revenue and meet the current and long range financial needs of the division.

(C) Recommendations or Suggestions for Future Consideration

Nothing to report.

PLAN OF WORK, continued:

Focus Area III: Member Services

AFS will provide excellent, cost-efficient services, operations, and support for its members (The Strategic Plan of the American Fisheries Society, 2005-2009).

1. The NED will actively recruit new members and focus attention to the recruitment of underrepresented groups. The NED will support the Hutton Junior Fisheries Program by offering mentors

- and recruiting under-represented groups in the Northeast to the profession and by continuing financial support to the program (Strategy MS 4.1).
2. The NED will investigate strategies to expand student membership and involvement in Division activities (Strategies MS 1.7, ITO 3.8).
 3. The NED will assist chapters in providing quality continuing education experiences to Division members by financial support or by offering professional courses taught by qualified individuals or groups (Strategies MS 1.1).

PLAN OF WORK, continued:

Summary

The Division needs to work on providing better and timelier service to the Chapters. The Chapters need to feel confident that they are connected to the AFS and the AFS in hearing and reacting to the Chapters' interests and concerns. This responsibility falls to the Division to act as the northeastern regional liaison, because the division has standing representation on the AFS Governing Board and Management Committee that collectively oversee the operations of the AFS.

In order for the Division to carry a clear and concise message from the Chapters there needs to be effective, accurate, and timely communication between the Division Officers and the Chapter Officers this has and will continue to occur through the monthly conference calls, the annual business meeting, and meeting summaries and reports. The Chapters will need to communicate with the membership and this has and will continue to occur through annual business meeting, meeting summaries and reports, and intrapersonal communications between Chapter Officers and members. The Division and the Chapters will continue to keep the membership informed of AFS business and activities through newsletters and websites.

The NED will continue to provide forums for the members to interact and exchange information and ideas related the fisheries and aquatic resources. This will be accomplished through the continuing participation in the Annual Northeast Fish and Wildlife Conference and sponsorship of the 2nd International Symposium on Diadromous Fish. The NED will continue to improve member serves through ongoing dialogue with the AFS regarding development of new and improved offerings to the membership. The NED will also strive to increase interest and recruitment of young fisheries professionals though an increased focus on adding more student sub-units through an increased dialogue with professors and instructors at colleges and universities on the benefits of AFS to the development of young fisheries professionals under their tutorage.



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Division Leaders***

Sept. 2006 –Sept. 2007

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Best Student Presentation

Awards

TBA

Continuing Education

TBA

Environmental and Resource

Issues

TBA

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