



# RYBA

Newsletter of the Minnesota Chapter of the American Fisheries Society

Year 2001 No. 3  
September Issue

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## READ THIS!

### Editors' Message

In the last newsletter I requested that all members indicate if they are willing to receive the newsletter electronically rather than via mail. I have heard from about 40% of the membership - does this mean that 60% of you don't read the newsletter anyway (I ask rhetorically)? About 10% of respondents indicated that they want to keep getting a hard copy. If this rate holds, I will switch to electronic format and mail hard copies those wanting them. I need to hear from everyone so you all have access to the newsletter. Please let me know your choice, ELECTRONIC (e-mail attachment or web site announcement) or HARD COPY (mailed). If you do not receive this question by e-mail, call (612-624-3019) or e-mail

([imm@fw.umn.edu](mailto:imm@fw.umn.edu)) me with a response.

### President's Message

#### by Brad Parsons

The wonders of laptop computers. One can sit here in the Phoenix airport, overlooking an extremely hot, dry, environment, and write a message that we will be reading in the cool wonders of Minnesota in September. I have just finished attending the 131st Annual Meeting of the American Fisheries Society, held here with the theme A2001 - A Fisheries Odyssey. I would like to thank the DNR Section of Fisheries for sharing the expenses for my attendance here with the Chapter.

There are several reasons I was very happy to be here. The primary one is to visit and exchange ideas with the leaders of the Society. We were very fortunate to have President Carl Burger attend our Chapter meeting in Fargo. Unfortunately, his illness prevented us from getting to know him as a person and a leader. Listening to his talks here, and talking with him one on one, it was so apparent that he cares very deeply for the Society, the resource, and especially we the members who make up the Society. Anyone who wonders what membership in the Society can do for them need only experience the commitment of leaders like Carl to know what an advantage it is to have an advocate like him for the resource and our profession. Although I spent less time with him, I got much the same feel from our incoming President Ken Beal. We are in good hands, and with leaders upcoming like our own

Ira Adelman, I see that lasting through the foreseeable future. Our Society's commitment to professionalism will continue. We also now have Tim Goeman sitting as President of the North Central Division. These people can be tremendous resources for us. If you have questions, concerns, or suggestions about the direction of our Society, be sure to express them.

The networking at these meetings is also a huge plus, meeting new people and catching up with old acquaintances. I bring greetings to the Chapter from former members like Tom Kwak, Hannibal Bolten, and Dale Burkett. I also had the opportunity to meet Dick Ryder of MEI fame for the first time. On a note of more direct application to my work, I was able to have long talks with Jeff Boxrucker from Oklahoma and Mike Allen from Florida. We talked a great deal about the differences between southern and northern crappies, and future research directions. I would encourage everyone to try and attend a Parent Society meeting every few years. Again, what can the society do for you? It brings all these people together once a year. No matter what you are doing, you can find someone to bounce ideas off of. While I still feel the Midwest/North Central Division meeting has the best technical sessions, we all still need that broader context.

In closing, I would like to briefly address Bill Thorn's editorial from our last issue. In many ways, he is absolutely correct. Universities are, in general, the best recruiting tool. However, the retention he writes of is simply a matter of ongoing recruitment. All the "recruitment" things I mentioned in the last issue can

work just as well for retention. No matter how professional we may be, we all still need positive reinforcement that our efforts, or in this case, our money and time spent on our Society, are important and respected. Bill talks about the importance of continual learning. Our upcoming Continuing Education workshop on non-game fish and mussel identification is a great example of a course that can really help the field fisheries professional, in Bill's example, fisheries management specialists. How many times have we been shoreline seining, and known we had two or more shiner species, but struggled to ID them? I sure have. How many times has someone walked into our office with a clam shell they found, and we struggled to tell them what kind it was, or anything about it? Many thanks to Bill for taking time to submit his opinion to the newsletter. As always, we strongly encourage anyone with further opinions on this or any other subject to write them down for the Ryba. Keep the lines of communication open, and remember to recruit and retain.



## Officer and Excom Reports

### DNR - Joe Ostazeski

I'll make this brief as I pack up my things for Duluth, where I'll be working with the Lake Superior Area office at the French River. The buzz over Mille Lacs walleye management picked up early this season as the DNR narrowed the harvest slot to 16-18 inches early in the season in order to bring angler harvest in under the state's allocation of 310,000 pounds. This appears to be working, but folks around the lake are saying the regulation is hurting the local economy. A summary is available on

the DNR website:

[http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/hot\\_topics/080301.html](http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/hot_topics/080301.html). In other Mille Lacs news, the fieldwork for a pilot study using hydroacoustic-methods was done on the lake this August. The objective is to get a useful biomass estimate of the forage base and evaluate the possibility of getting a useful walleye estimate.

Not quite fisheries news, but relevant nonetheless, is the stalled negotiations between the state and the two largest unions of state employees, AFSCME and MAPE. Because the majority of the state's DNR fisheries employees are in these unions, a strike could virtually shut down state-sponsored fisheries operations in Minnesota. The earliest date that this could happen is September 17<sup>th</sup>.

## Committee Reports

### Scholarship - by Mark Hove

#### Scholarship and new web page launched.

At the last Business Meeting several people expressed interest in coordinating the chapter's first scholarship. This summer Bruce Vondracek gathered the group together and we have produced a scholarship announcement and application, and placed these materials on a new chapter web page dedicated to serve students interested in fisheries and aquatic biology (<http://www.fw.umn.edu/mnafs/student/default.html>). The Committee will receive and review applications. The winner will be announced at our next annual meeting. Committee members include: Ira Adelman, Deb Brister, Don Cloutman, Henry Drewes, Linda Erickson-Eastwood, Jerry Grant, Jay Hatch, and Mark Hove. We emailed a scholarship announcement to 20 Minnesota colleges and universities and are in the process of calling each institution. If you know a college student who is interested in fisheries or aquatic biology have them visit our web page. In addition to scholarship information the web page provides links to Minnesota institutions that offer college courses in aquatic

ecology or fisheries. Deadline for scholarship applications is October 19, 2001. If you have any suggestions for improving the chapter scholarship please share them with Bruce Vondracek, or web page suggestions with Mark Hove.

### Public Education - by John Hiebert

The MNAFS display was repaired this summer. The sign had begun to show some signs of wear and tear and the support bar across the top of the display "disappeared" at the State Fair last year. Rainbow Signs (who made the display) repaired the display in time for it to be used at the State Fair this year. In addition, I added a brochure holder for our chapter brochure. Over 160 brochures were picked up at the fair this year. This is the end of the copies of the old brochure that I had. The graphics company that printed out the original brochure no longer had the layout on file, so a new brochure needs to be designed. This topic was discussed at the August EXCOM meeting and any volunteers who are interested in helping re-design this brochure can contact me. The display will be set up at the chapter meeting in Duluth and hopefully we can have the new brochures completed and available by then.

### Awards - by Melissa Drake

ATTENTION chapter members! Did you join the Chapter prior to 1976? Or, do you know someone who has been a member for at least 25 years? If so, please let us know. These members deserve to be recognized for their long-term commitment to the Chapter.

Do you know someone who has gone above and beyond the call of duty to accomplish the Chapter's goals? Let that person know you appreciate their hard work. Nominate him or her for a Special Recognition Award. What about someone who has made a lifelong commitment to Minnesota's fisheries? Nominate him or her for the prestigious Award of Excellence. There are a lot of people out there working hard to make the world a

better place for fish - don't let their efforts go unnoticed!

Would you like to contribute to the Annual meeting but don't know what you can do? Why not be a paper/poster judge? It's a great way to get involved.

To nominate that special someone for an award, to let us know who has been a member for at least 25 years, or to volunteer to judge papers please contact Melissa Drake at 651-772-7966 or melissa.drake@dnr.state.mn.us.

## Continuing Education - by Laurie Sovell

The Continuing Education Committee helped organize the second annual "Fluvial Geomorphology and Stream Restoration" workshop held in June, 2001. Due to the hard work of instructor and organizer Karen Terry (DNR Eco Services) as well as the donated time and thorough knowledge of instructors Luther Aadland, Ian Chism and Jason Moeckel (DNR Eco) and Sandy Verry (USFS), the workshop was once again a huge success. Students spent four days in the beautiful Whitewater State Park learning about stream typing, restoration theory, design and implementation. Despite the low cost (\$80) of the workshop and the less than capacity crowd of 29, we managed to come out in the black again. Please let Jerry Grant (gerold.grant@dnr.state.mn.us) know if you would be interested in this course in 2002.

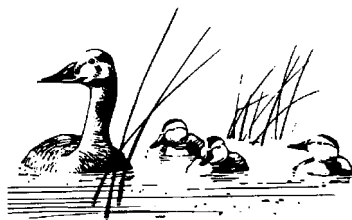
We have been busy planning a new course on non-game fish and mussel identification for the fall. The class will be held from 9 AM to 5 PM on September 27th at the Coon Rapids Dam Regional Park Visitors Center. We have an all-star cast of instructors lined up, including fish experts Jay Hatch, Konrad Schmidt and Andrew Simons and mussel experts Rick Hart and Mark Hove. As if that isn't enough, we will feed you lunch (bring your bib, blended squash can be messy) and help you identify fish samples that you bring! If you are

interested in this short yet intense course on how to tell one *Notropis* sp. from another for the low cost of only \$30, please contact Laurie Sovell (laurie.sovell@pca.state.mn.us). As of August 27 we have 12 people registered for the class, which will be limited to 30 people, so don't delay.

If you haven't already received an e-mail announcement for this workshop, please make sure our membership committee chair, Brian Healy (bhealy@fws.fed.gov.us) has your current e-mail address.

## Issues - By Mark Hove

Our committee will continue working on the proposed Garrison Water Diversion proposal in North Dakota. We are looking into involving the North Central Division and the North American Benthological Society in this issue. Please contact me if you'd like to participate in this or another important issue.



## FWLA - by Don Pereira and Bruce Vondracek

*MNAFS contributes to the FWLA, Don and Bruce are our representatives to this organization - Ed.*

### 2001 Legislative Session Report

by Gary Botzek  
Executive Director Fish & Wildlife Legislative Alliance

If you like overtime or extra innings in sports, then you would have loved the 2001 legislative session. When the legislature adjourned on May 21 at midnight—my birthday—none of the major budget bills or the tax bill were completed. Overtime!

When the Special Session ended at 3:30 AM on June 30, all the major budget bills, the tax bill, and a bonding bill all had been passed. The government did not shut down on July 1 and we were ready for the long, hot summer!

Back in January the FWLA Board established its legislative priorities for the 2001 session. Those priorities reflected the FWLA's desire to increase and enhance fish and wildlife habitat as well as, to provide permanent, long term financial support for the programs that surround the hunting, trapping, and fishing activities of this state.

The FWLA believes in a strong well-managed public system of habitat for excellent outdoor experience. Hunters, trappers, and anglers have been, and are willing, to pay a lot of money to guarantee the habitat and the experience. The FWLA believes that the state needs to reinvest back into the public infrastructure of WMA's and other public opportunities if these experiences are going to continue to improve or at hold their own.

I am happy to report that the 2001 legislature did an excellent job in the conservation/habitat arena.

The passage of the \$50 million LCMR package contains \$11.74 million for the Fish and Wildlife Habitat Corridor proposal sponsored by the MWA and other conservation groups. This is the start of something big! In total the LCMR package invested \$18.3 million in fish and wildlife habitat projects.

The passage of a bonding bill provided for \$43 million in state match funding, as well as, the necessary administrative dollars for the Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP). This action will allow the completion of the 100,000 acres sign-up in the Minnesota River Valley. This federal-state partnership pilot program will be the model for the future set-aside efforts in Minnesota and across the country. It is good policy for water quality. It is good habitat for the hunters. It is an excellent program for

the farmers who own land in the flood plain.

The same bonding bill provided \$2 million for the road mitigation of wetlands--another excellent habitat enhancement.

In the funding area, the legislature did re-commit over \$20 million of the taxes in-lieu from the sale of lottery tickets for natural resources programs, including fish and wildlife, ecological services, enforcement, parks and trails. This amount equals 88.5% of the total sales tax paid on lottery tickets.

The legislature, in the passage of the environmental-natural resources budget bill, committed \$594 million, including \$158 million from the game and fish fund, of the DNR for the management of natural resources over the next two years.

There were two areas where the legislature was unable to finish their work in terms of natural resource policy and long term funding.

#### Con Con Lands:

Probably the biggest disappoint of the session was the inability to resolve the differences in the final batch of Con Con lands in three northwestern counties. These 102,000 acres were part of DNR Commissioner Alexander's 1991 order "designating" them at WMA's. However, an Attorney General's opinion, said that only the legislature could make the designation decision.

In the 2000 session over 260,000 acres were designated as WMA's or state forests, but the 1991 order was left behind for additional public hearings. The issue of ATV use, both for recreational use and deer hunting, is stronger on these lands.

A procedure set up on the 2000 law provides for the possibility of ATV trails in corridors of disturbance, like power line routes, forest and township roads. However, some local ATV users and hunters would prefer that additional trails within the WMA's be provided in advance of the final WMA designation by the legislature. These are referred to as "spur" or "access"

trails. While negotiations got to the highest level no agreement could be reached and the clock ran out on this issue for the year.

The FWLA and the Coalition of Minnesota Conservation Organizations (COMCO) favor the limiting of ATV use on these WMA's.

#### 3/16 Dedication of Sales Tax:

The so-called "Minnesota Plan," modeled after a Missouri law, did not get to the finish line this session, either. Due to the fact that a constitutional amendment can't be on the ballot until November, 2002, there is still time next session to pass the bill and get it on the ballot. There and then, the people could decide if they want to dedicate a portion of the current sales tax to natural resource management.

Senator Bob Lessard and Representative Mark Holsten have introduced the bill. There was one hearing in the House and Lessard continues to work on the Governor for his support. The 3/16 dedication of sales tax to the game and fish fund, parks and trails, and three major zoos is the same as last year's model. This percentage would raise around \$135 million a year for the conservation efforts of the state.

The bill would establish an 11-member council that would manage the new funds. DNR would have to come to the council and submit proposals for the dollars, as could other organizations. DNR is opposed to this new budgeting approach, as are some conservation organizations.

In addition, the new money would be used for "game and fish," projects not "fish and wildlife" projects like earlier bills called for. This change in terminology has generated concern from some conservation and environmental groups, especially in the non-game area. Negotiations continue on these two issues, with a number of options being discussed and considered. We hope to work out the differences by next session.

In summary, the 2001 legislative session was a very good one in terms

of conservation, habitat, and natural resource management, both in budget and policy matters. The FWLA's 2002 legislative focus will be on Con Con land designation and the 3/16 funding bill.

The FWLA represents a number of hunting, trapping, and fishing organizations. We encourage you as a member and/or an outdoor enthusiast to contact your representative and senator and thank them for their support on fish and wildlife issues. Write, call, or email them on issues that are important to you and your family, especially the outdoors issues. They need to hear from you!



## NCD Technical Committee Reports

### Walleye - by Todd Kolander

The summer 2001 Walleye Technical Committee was held in Bellevue, Iowa. Chair, Steve Newman with the Wisconsin DNR opened the meeting with 45 members in attendance. The focus topic for the summer meeting was predator/prey interactions.

Twelve presenter representing Canada, Wisconsin, South Dakota, Nebraska, Texas, Alabama, Kansas Wyoming, and Indiana provided quality papers on their respective area of research. Topics focused on interactions between walleye and host of other species, which include yellow perch, rainbow smelt, black crappie, white crappie, white bass, hybrid bass, gizzard shad and trout. Two of the presenter provided talks on walleye research dealing with creel survey results of the liberal walleye bag limits on Lake Oahe and also covering walleye and sauger hybridization and introgression relating to dams and diversions.

For summaries of these papers, please contact Dick McWilliams with the IA DNR at, [http://ws3.coopfish.siu.edu/walleye\\_tech/fishmgt@opencominc.com](http://ws3.coopfish.siu.edu/walleye_tech/fishmgt@opencominc.com)

## Centrarchids - by Mike McInerney

The summer meeting of the Centrarchid Technical Committee (CTC) was held on 7-8 August at Wyasuling State Park in southwest Wisconsin. A total of 16 people from eight states (IA, IL, IN, KS, MN, MO, NE, SD) participated. The meeting included nine oral presentations, two poster presentations, a roundtable presentation of centrarchid-related management and research projects, and several discussions on ongoing CTC projects.

Three papers and one poster (Bill McKibbon, Craig Paukert, Tim Bister, SD; Tim Cwalinski, IN) were on evaluations of restrictive harvest regulations on bluegill (BLG), crappie, and largemouth bass (LMB). In all four cases, these regulations fell short or are falling short of meeting desired goals of increased numbers of larger individuals because of inadequate growth or poor survival. However, anglers still favored the regulations. Don Kline (IA) reported that his state is creating long-term data sets of fish captured with electrofishing and nets. This database contains length and weight, lake or stream, type of lake, sample times, etc., and also contains the field notes linked with each sample collection. Cindy Tomcko (MN) and Melissa Drake (MN) presented papers on factors affecting growth of BLG in Minnesota lakes. Tomcko reported that BLG growth was higher in lakes with lower year-class strengths, lower Secchi depth, higher June and July air temperatures, higher net catches of yellow perch and walleye, and lower catches of LMB and yellow bullhead. Drake reported that BLG growth increased with increasing percent of lakeshore and watershed classified as cultivated, and decreased with increasing percent of lakeshore and watershed classified as forested. Maximum age of BLG decreased with

increasing trophic state of lakes, but BLG growth was not linked with the number of lake dwellings per km of shoreline. Nathan Olson (SD) reported that slower growing BLG population exhibited a more random feeding pattern (feeding on chironomids, amphipods, and trichopterans) than did the faster growing population (fed mostly on chironomids) in the Nebraska Sandhills. I presented a paper that compared catches of *Lepomis* in day electrofishing, night electrofishing and trapnetting. Trap nets captured larger BLG and pumpkinseed than electrofishing, but catch per effort (CPUE) differed seasonally between gears. CPUE of BLG among study lakes were similar with each gear, but CPUE of pumpkinseed among lakes was inconsistent between gears. Randy Schultz (KS) provided data on saugeye introductions in midwestern lakes. Size structure of BLG, black crappie, and white crappie improved in some lakes, but not others after saugeye introductions. Success of saugeye introductions improved in lakes without black crappie. Bill McKibbon (SD) provided a poster with data on seasonal catchability of LMB to electrofishing in SD lakes. Catch patterns in natural lakes differed from those found in impoundments.

Each state representative provided an update on what each state is doing regarding centrarchid management and research. Kansas Game Fish and Parks is experimenting with BLG length limits to improve size structure, but they appear to be failing because of inadequate growth. They are also addressing mortality and other issues involving fishing tournaments for LMB, and determining which planting methods work best for establishing water willow stands so that cover and bank stabilization can be improved. The Illinois Natural History Survey is doing research to determine the effects of different regulations on BLG populations in Illinois, to determine effects of catch and release angling on reproductive success of LMB in IL ponds, determining the prevalence and impact of LMB virus on LMB populations in the US, and determining factors affecting year-class strength in LMB and smallmouth

bass populations in Ontario. The Iowa Department of Natural Resources found that LMB do not control BLG abundance in larger lakes, discovered that black crappie appear to concentrate in small areas in Mississippi River backwaters during winter which could lead to overexploitation, and they are developing a data base on fishing tournaments. The Missouri Department of Conservation reported that the special regulation of a 8-in minimum and 8 fish bag on BLG continues to provide an RSD of 20% in an urban lake. Their department will begin a 10-yr study to determine the effects of four different harvest regulations on BLG populations in Missouri lakes and ponds, and they will likely try to determine if spotted bass are displacing smallmouth bass in some Missouri streams. Nebraska Game Fish and Parks may switch from trapnetting in fall to trapnetting in spring for assessing black crappie populations because catches are substantially higher. They are experimenting with fish feeders to improve growth of BLG in some impoundments, and they have observed that stocking adult rather than fingerling centrarchids can establish fisheries in renovated lakes. South Dakota Game Fish and Parks may try to introduce a statewide minimum length limit of 18 in on LMB rather than the current 15 in. LMB experience limited recruitment in northeastern SD lakes. The Indiana Department of Natural Resources has been dealing with issues such as the perception by many Indiana anglers perceive that too many non-resident anglers fish Indiana waters. They are also doing research on restrictive harvest limits on largemouth bass and smallmouth bass.

Other business items included the status of the *Lepomis* symposium, last year's black bass and crappie symposiums, CTC participation in this year's AFS meeting in Phoenix, and the CTC webpage. So far, a total of 16 papers and three posters have been submitted for the *Lepomis* symposium which will be held at this year's Midwest meeting in Des Moines. Topics include ecology (relationships, genetics, and habitat use) and

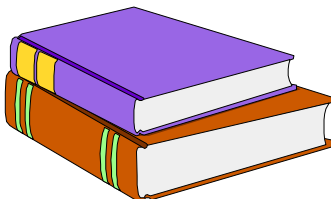
management (regulations and habitat manipulations). A couple of time slots are still available, so if anyone is interested in presenting something please let me know. Manuscripts for the black bass and crappie symposiums have been reviewed and sent back to the authors for corrections. The proceedings of the black bass symposium should be out by the end of this year, but the publication date of the crappie symposium (in the North American Journal of Fisheries Management) will be later. Finally, the CTC is participating in the symposium *Special regulations and sport fishing: the promise of science lost?* held at the AFS meeting in Phoenix. Randy Schultz (KS and CTC chair) will be presenting a compilation of various regulations on centrarchids within the North Central Division (NCD) and public responses to them. The CTC webpage is linked to the NCD webpage, is updated periodically, and is maintained by the NCD webmaster.

Lastly, next year's summer meeting will tentatively be held at Wyalusing State Park in early August 2002. I will have specifics on time and date later on. If you have any questions or comments, please let me know via email: [mike.mcinerney@dnr.state.mn.us](mailto:mike.mcinerney@dnr.state.mn.us) or phone 320-234-2550.

## Salmonids - by Pat Rivers

The North Central Division's Salmonid Technical Committee's summer meeting was held in Stillwater July 10-11. The meeting consisted of several talks and on-site tours of two MN DNR stream restoration projects. Marty Melchoir of Inter-Fluve, Inc. reported on a stream restoration project on Kamrath Creek in Wisconsin. The project included restoring 1300 feet of the stream. Techniques used kept project costs low at \$20 per foot. Jeff Weiss (MN DNR) reported on a tagging study done on Lanesboro Area streams. Findings from this study reveal significant movement. Bill Thorn (MN DNR) discussed components of a large brown trout study. He will be researching the

effects of temperature, bioenergetics, and geology on the abundance of large brown trout. Jason Moeckel (MN DNR) reported on proposed Woodbury development that likely will impact Valley Creek base flows. The proceedings from the Trout and Trout Angler Workshop II held last summer are available for downloading at [www.dnr.state.mn.us/odnr/wildlife/troutworkshop/index.html](http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/odnr/wildlife/troutworkshop/index.html). Conference attendees will receive a hard copy by the end of September. Planning for the next workshop (likely within 3-5 years) has started. If interested in serving on the steering committee, please contact Mark Ebbers at 651-297-2804. The STC's annual business meeting will be held at the Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference in Des Moines, IA this December. Interested members are encouraged to attend.



## Meeting Minutes

Minutes 28 August EXCOM Meeting  
- Brainerd Public Library, 10:00 AM

Present: Todd Kolander, Joe Ostazeski, Brian Borkholder, Pat Brown, Mike McInerney, Don Cloutman, Mark Hove, Tom Groshens, Brad Parsons, Donna Dustin, Melissa Drake, Pat Rivers, Shannon Fisher, Tim Geoman

Agenda approved as stands

Treasurer's report – Donna reported that we have closed our money market checking account and opened a money market fund with Vanguard, which had the lowest expenses of the funds that we researched. When the CD matures she will compare interest rates and either renew the CD or move the money to the money market fund, depending on which has a higher rate. Since April we have paid President Parsons' expenses for the Annual Meeting in Phoenix and the Stream

Morphology Workshop net income was \$487.39.

2002 Meeting update – Brian Borkholder reports: the chapter meeting will be 23-25 January, 2002 and the first call for papers has gone out. There will be a Tribal Natural Resources session with 7 tribal biologists from Minnesota participating. The Tuesday evening social will be at the Great Lakes Aquarium and hors d'oeuvres will be sponsored by the Fond du Lac tribe. Some breaks will be sponsored by other bands and Brian is still looking for local sponsorships to defray expenses. There are two possibilities for a banquet guest speaker: Mike Furtman, who wants stipend and Buddy Sievertson, who has been a fisherman on Lake Superior his whole life and would speak about life on Lake Superior. Mark Hove commented that we did give \$200 to a speaker when he was in charge. Brian will see if Buddy is willing to speak and if not he will look into getting Mike. Brad added that if Buddy does come we should offer to pay his expenses and maybe a small honorarium. Brad said that there might be a continuing ed workshop on the 23rd (not set up at this point) and Brian said that there is space available if it is held.

Ad Hoc Scholarship Committee Update - Don Cloutman and Mark Hove – Bruce Vondracek kept things moving this summer and deserves our thanks. The web page now has PDF files describing the scholarship and its requirements along with an application form. There are also hotlinks to fisheries programs at several Universities. Mark E-mailed applications to 20 programs in MN and he will follow up with scholarship coordinators. The application deadline is October 19. Brad Parsons asked that the committee recommend 3-4 top candidates and the EXCOM will review them - we are committed to give at least one scholarship but we could give more depending on the budget and the quality of the candidates. He also asked whether the person will attend the annual meeting. Mark said that, while the check will be given before the meeting, there will be

a presentation of the award at the banquet. Mark Hove moved that the EXCOM approve the scholarship and application materials as they appear on the website for this year's scholarship. No second needed. Discussion: none. Motion carried (unanimous).

#### EXCOM Member Reports

Joe Ostazeski (DNR): There is currently an impasse between the two unions representing most State fisheries employees and the State. A strike is looking very possible as early as Sept 17. Discussion of issues involved in this. Joe added that there has been a lot of staff movement and some new hires in DNR recently.

Pat Brown (Open): Pat gave a presentation at the National AFS meeting. Since he is new to the position there is no other news.

Don Cloutman (Academic): Gearing up for school, which starts this week.

Virginia Snarski (Federal) no report.

#### Committee Reports

Awards (Missy Drake) - Would like to propose that each EXCOM representative nominate someone for an award. Special Recognition - anybody who went above and beyond to help the Chapter or advanced the goals of the Chapter. Mark Hove asked if the nominee has to be a chapter member. Missy and Brad were not sure but will check the manual. Missy is working on the 25-year member list. Joe Ostazeski asked if there is a list of past recipients of all the awards, as that might help spur nominations. Missy remembered seeing at least a partial list and will check the files.

Issues (Mark Hove) and Resolutions (Brad Parsons reporting for Jeff Weiss): Mark and Jeff Weiss have been working on the Garrison Diversion issue, Brad received a letter from the Manitoba Premier thanking us for our support of the anti-diversion/devils lake outlet. He was cc'd on a letter to North Dakota Gov. Hoeven. Mark reported that he sent letters on the Garrison/Devils Lake

issue to governors, legislators, organizations etc. He is moving now to involve the NCD on this issue. Brad has spoken with Tim Goeman (new president of NCD) and Bill Franzin (Mid Canada Chap). There is currently no NCD Resolutions chair and Tim indicated that we may appoint a MN person to chair this committee and move this issue ahead to the Division level. We are running short on time since the Des Moines meeting is the second week of December and we need to have something by then.

Resolutions: Jeff Weiss has been contemplating bringing forward a discussion of fish kills and responsibility for investigations (PCA, CO's, Area Fisheries Staff). There have been problems with restitution not being paid. Todd Kolander agreed that there is a problem with the lack of a defined leadership role for any agency - fisheries may have to prod PCA to take samples, follow up with the polluter etc. It is a real problem in the southern part of the state. Shannon Fisher added that he has been involved in cases where jurisdiction is not clear: PCA says the County has jurisdiction, while the County says 'back off' and meanwhile nothing gets done. Mike McNerny has had similar experiences where it is unclear who is responsible. Brad commented that there is a history with parent society regarding this issue: AFS printed a book on investigating fish kills and restitution. There is no question that the Society has been involved with this issue and it would be appropriate for us to take it up. Mike M. added that Iowa seems to have a better system for fish kill investigations. Since pollution & fisheries are in same department they seem to be more successful in investigating and getting fines assessed. Tom G commented that Missouri was also successful in these investigations with a good relationship between pollution and fish people and an established protocol for investigations. Tom G suggested that we define the problem in writing and then approach agency heads with concerns and see what reactions we get. Mark H suggested we might offer models for improvement to agencies, maybe based on states where things

are working well. Brad agreed that we should define the problem in writing. Jeff should outline the issues and problems involved, as well as places where things work better than they do here. Maybe we could have a summit on this issue with MN agencies and other states where things work better participating to put together a plan. Pat Rivers suggested that he check with Tim Schlagenhoft on this since Region 5 had a workshop recently on fish kill investigations. Mark H. volunteered to take the Garrison/Devils lake issue over and let Jeff work on this. Todd K. commented that he was involved in workshop a few years ago and at that time there was not much interest from PCA or the CO's in taking the lead on this. We need to have agency cooperation so that fast, cooperative investigations get done in time. Mark wondered if we might get legal help (since there are legal issues embedded in this problem) and Brad suggested the Center for Environmental Advocacy or the Attorney General's office. Brad concluded that we should have Jeff run with this issue. We may be able to have a position ready for the membership to review at the annual meeting. Tom G. added that in Missouri they put together a table showing the impact of fish kills over time (miles of stream affected, numbers of fish, one year, three years etc.). This table was helpful when approaching parties about the issue as it demonstrated the magnitude of the problem. This may also be a good issue for the fishing roundtable.

Long Range Planning - No report

Public Education - John Hiebert (via Brad Parsons) The AFS display was taken to Rainbow Signs for restoration and addition of brochure holder. They did not get the brochure holder done but John bought one and attached it himself. The bill from Rainbow Signs is coming and there is a line item in budget for this. John also reports that he can't find an electronic copy of the brochure, which needs to be updated for next year (add scholarship info, maybe other changes?). Shannon Fisher asked if the chapter has been involved in the State Science Fair program. He has been involved

elsewhere (judging) and feels that it is a good program and very appropriate for us as there are often many aquatic projects. The fairs run from late winter to mid-May and have Jr. High, 9th grade, and Sr. High divisions. Brad (and others) felt that this is a good idea. Shannon will contact John H. and the State Academy of Science to see if they are interested in having us recognize aquatic projects. He will try to get it set up before annual meeting so we can get a budget and action item completed in time for this year's Fair.

Students - no report from Deb. Brad inquired whether there was a student travel award last year and whether there is a standard application. Mark H. did not recall any recipients - Donna will check records and Mark will put an application on the web page. There is \$500 in budget for this.

Fishing Roundtable - Mark H. had nothing new to report as the roundtable meets in the winter.

Fundraising - No report. Some discussion of fundraiser ideas: last year we had "buy a mug and get a ticket for a print drawing", could we work this into the banquet i.e. "buy a mug to get free beer." Brian said that there is a happy hour before the banquet and we could work something like that in.

FWLA - quiet right now - there was a meeting Aug 9 to set priorities for this legislative session. 3/16 Bill - they may suggest some alternative language regarding citizens controlling money allocation - although they are not opposed to citizen oversight. Con-Con lands: the bill to designate them as Wildlife Management Areas stalled, one problem was whether to allow ATV access - there may be an agreement to allow tightly regulated access. Water management: has been assigned to MN Planning, coming from fact that many agencies have a say in water management issues. It is likely that legislative activity on this topic will occur this session and this may affect agencies, possibly resulting in re-organizations.

Brad noted that the fish kill issue would be a good issue for FWLA to take up. If we make enough progress on this issue by the annual meeting, FWLA may be able work on it this year. If anyone has any other issues that FWLA should be addressing, talk to Bruce Vondracek or Don Pereira. Todd K brought up concerns about vegetation removal and habitat destruction: the current rules are not adequate to protect remaining habitat and shorelines. Don C added that vegetation removal seems responsible for the decline of pugnose shiners. Missy D added that the same may be true for the least darter (both are species of concern). Tom G commented that there really aren't any non-game fish people in the DNR. Brad will pass these thoughts on to Don P.

Historian: Brad is looking for a long time member to take this job, so as to keep some institutional memory.

Continuing Ed: (Brad for Gerry Grant) - The announcement has gone out for the Fish & Mussel ID Workshop, 12 people are already signed up. Twenty-nine people attended the Stream Restoration Workshop at Whitewater in June. People should let Gerry Grant know if they are interested in having this workshop again. The committee is considering holding a short statistics course this winter at the annual meeting.

Procedures Manual - open, no report. Brad noted that there is a need (especially at our business meeting) to have a Parliamentarian (other than the President). This job should go to the Procedures chair.

Newsletter - There was a fair response to the e-letter survey regarding the move to an electronic newsletter. We will be asking for more responses in print and will have to make a decision at annual meeting.

Webmaster - Mark H reports that they have been revising the genetics section page. Mark H has also done some reorganizing lately and the page should be good for awhile.

TWS - no report

## Upcoming Events

### **35<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Minnesota Chapter of the American Fisheries Society January 23 - 25, 2002 Duluth, MN**

*See 1<sup>st</sup> Call for Papers  
later in this issue*

**63rd. MIDWEST FISH AND  
WILDLIFE CONFERENCE  
Marriott Hotel, Des Moines, Iowa  
DECEMBER 9-12, 2001**

Conference theme: TRANSITIONS  
IN THE CONSERVATION  
LANDSCAPE

Conference website:  
[www.state.ia.us/midwest2001](http://www.state.ia.us/midwest2001)

## Of Interest

### **AN AUSTRALIAN VISITOR by Bill Thorn**

In December, 1999. I spent a day with Paul Brown, a fisheries scientist, at the Snobs Creek research station in Victoria, Australia. We discussed our resources, and concluded that the development and degradation histories of Australia and the United States were very similar. We also discussed the advantages of biologists exchanges to disseminate information. Initially, this idea was discussed by Jack Wingate, AFS president and the former Director of Fisheries for New South Wales, and resulted in my trip "down under." Last fall, Paul asked me to set up a two week itinerary to learn about and view habitat rehabilitation in Minnesota and Wisconsin.

Paul arrived at the Twin Cities airport on Sunday evening, June 10. Jack

Wingate met him at the airport and provided lodging that night at his house. On Monday morning, Jack and Paul toured St. Paul and the Mississippi River area and arrived at the DNR building near 110 hrs. For an hour, Paul used slides to inform us of the Victoria resource and his work. After lunch, Jennie Winkleman explained the aquatic vegetation restoration program. Then Melissa Drake drove him to Hinckley, where they met John Frank who drove Paul to Duluth.

On Tuesday, Tracy Close and Paul visited Minnesota north shore streams where Tracy is studying the use of woody debris for habitat rehabilitation to increase steelhead survival. Next they crossed the St. Louis River to view woody debris work on Wisconsin south shore streams with project biologist Bob DuBoise. That night, after returning to Duluth, Molly Negus hosted a social for Paul, local DNR staff, and tribal biologists. Rod Pierce transported Paul to Detroit Lakes on Wednesday. On the way, they picked up Gerry Albert, the large lake specialist for "Winnie." They took a boat onto Winnie to view the extensive riprap project. At Detroit Lakes, they met Pete Jacobson and Donna Dustin who took Paul to Donna's research project sites for rehabilitation of walleye spawning sites in streams. Then Pete drove Paul to Fergus Falls for Thursday. Luther Aadland and Arlen Schalekamp showed Luther's fish passage work on the Ottertail River and Arlen's use of half-logs for smallmouth bass in a lake. In the evening, they took Paul fishing for the famous Minnesota walleye. The guides were successful and Paul caught fish, and they finished the evening with a fish fry.

Friday morning, Ann Kuitunen took Paul to Fleet Farm. The bargain table had many lures with colors we don't use the U.S. and they do use in Australia. Paul took advantage of the exchange rate and bought many lures and a rod and reel for research when he returned home. Ann drove Paul back to St. Paul where I met them, and took Paul to Lake City for the weekend. We returned to Lake City in

time for Paul to meet many of the staff.

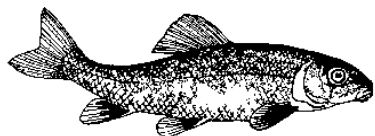
Paul stayed with me for the weekend, and we had planned to view habitat rehabilitation for trout in southeast streams and for warmwater fish in the Mississippi River backwaters. However, weather did not produce good streams conditions. On Saturday morning, Dan Dieterman of Lake City took Paul into the backwaters of the Mississippi River. The fishing on the backwaters may have been the only unsuccessful effort for Paul on the trip. In mid-afternoon, they met me and two members of the local Trout Unlimited chapter on the Middle Branch of Whitewater River. We viewed the TU habitat rehabilitation project, and electrofished to show the brown trout population. Then, we found some clearer water, and Paul successfully fly-fished for brook trout and brown trout.

Paul and I spent most of Sunday on Hay Creek viewing three reaches with different methods of habitat rehabilitation for brown trout. Late in the afternoon, we braved the wind and waves of Lake Pepin for Paul to catch sauger and white bass. As I retrieved the truck and trailer from the parking lot, Paul claims he and the boat almost landed on the dock! We finished the day with grilled venison tenderloin. On Monday, we headed for Wisconsin. First, to LaCrosse and a day with Dave Vetrano of the Wisconsin DNR, viewing habitat rehabilitation (mostly with lunger structures) on southwest streams. He also had his crew available to electrofish a rehabilitated reach. That evening, Dave and his wife and daughter, hosted supper at his farmette - grilled wild turkey breast and venison tenderloin, home grown green beans and strawberries, and freshly baked bread. Paul stayed in downtown LaCrosse that night and I returned to Lake City. The next morning, Dan Hatleli picked Paul up at the motel and began the trip north. They met Al Hauber in central Wisconsin and proceeded to Wausau. They were able to discuss the controversial projects of artificial cranberry ponds and bottling of spring water, both which use groundwater,

the lifeblood of trout streams. Al entertained Paul for the evening at his house.

On Wednesday, Al and Paul met with Pete Segerson and Dave Seibel from Antigo. They toured habitat rehabilitation on two low gradient streams with cobble bottom. Late that afternoon, they drove to Minocqua for a wildlife feed hosted by Wisconsin biologists discussing data from ceded territory lakes. Paul also gave his slide show for those not fishing. I met them back in Antigo about 2200 hr and we drove to my trailer about 45 minutes east.

We met Pete and Dave Thursday morning to observe the spring pond dredge that deepens coldwater spring ponds. Then we viewed previous work emphasizing cover on a small stream, and island creation on the much larger Wolf River. Lee Meyers from Green Bay joined us in the afternoon and caught a 20 inch brown trout while "surveying" the Wolf River. Lee took over the last couple hours and it rained. We did see one stream with rehabilitation in the Nicolet National Forest. That evening, Pete arranged for two local Trout Unlimited members to take us fishing for brook trout on a "private" spring pond. Our guides felt bad because we only caught 5, but it was a unique fishing experience for Paul. Friday morning Lee picked us up at my place for breakfast. Then we inspected fishing piers in a stream on the national forest (USFS/TU project) and a in-stream project with woody debris (USFS/youth program). After lunch, I took Paul to the Green Bay airport for his 24 hour trip home. During the trip, AFS chapters and DNR staff of both states presented Paul with mementoes of his visit. Paul has thanked all who contributed to his stay and has said the information he obtained was invaluable. He brought 40 rolls of film and made notes every night. He wants to put together a program for his colleagues.



### On the Underside

**Contributed by Charles Anderson and Dennis Schupp**

No wonder the English language is so very difficult to learn: (and no wonder why I can't speak right!!)

We polish the Polish furniture.  
He could lead if he would get the lead out.

A farm can produce produce.  
The dump was so full it had to refuse refuse.  
The soldier decided to desert in the desert.  
The present is a good time to present the present.  
At the Army base, a bass was painted on the head of a bass drum.  
The dove dove into the bushes.  
I did not object to the object.  
The insurance for the invalid was invalid.  
The bandage was wound around the wound.  
There was a row among the oarsmen about how to row.  
They were too close to the door to close it.  
The buck does funny things when the does are present.

They sent a sewer down to stitch the tear in the sewer line.  
To help with planting, the farmer taught his sow to sow.  
The wind was too strong to wind the sail.  
After a number of Novocain injections, my jaw got number.  
I shed a tear when I saw the tear in my clothes.  
I had to subject the subject to a series of tests.  
How can I intimate this to my most intimate friend?  
I spent last evening evening out a pile of dirt

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### Minnesota Chapter of the American Fisheries Society membership

We encourage membership in the Parent Society of the American Fisheries Society ([www.fisheries.org](http://www.fisheries.org)). If you join the Parent Society, they will bill your MN AFS dues automatically and send the money to us. If you do not join the Parent Society, or have not paid your state chapter dues through AFS, please submit your dues with the information below. We also offer free membership to students but they will need electronic access to obtain newsletters (no mailed copy).

\_\_\_\_\_ \$7.00 annual membership (make check payable to MN AFS)

\_\_\_\_\_ Free membership for students (electronic newsletter only)

Name \_\_\_\_\_ e-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Mail to : Donna Dustin - Secretary-Treasurer  
Minnesota Department of Natural Resources  
14583 County Highway 19  
Detroit Lakes, MN 56501

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# First call for Papers and Posters

## Everyone should Plan to attend the 35<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Minnesota Chapter of the American Fisheries Society January 23 - 25, 2002

Our 2002 meeting will be in Duluth, at Canal Park along the beautiful shores of (frozen?) Lake Superior. Accommodations will be at the Inn on Lake Superior, located on Canal Park Drive. The meeting will begin with registration and a social mixer at the new Great Lakes Aquarium on the evening of the 23<sup>rd</sup>. A full day of presentations is planned for the 24<sup>th</sup>, followed by the mandatory business meeting, a pre-meal social, and a banquet that evening. A half day of presentations will end the meeting on the 25<sup>th</sup>.

Be sure not to miss the opportunity to exchange information and further network with your peers. The program is open to contributed papers and posters related to fisheries and other aquatic resources. Please submit a short abstract as an attachment (Word or WordPerfect) to [brianborkholder@fdlrez.com](mailto:brianborkholder@fdlrez.com), or mail the abstract on disk or paper to Brian Borkholder at Fond du Lac Resource Management, 1720 Big Lake Road, Cloquet, MN 55720. Please submit your abstract no later than **30 November 2001**. Please include the title, author(s), institution, mailing address, phone number, email address, presenter, and classification (student or open). Indicate whether your abstract is for an oral or poster presentation.

For planning purposes, it will help to have a tentative list of presenters as soon as is possible. Even if you do not have an abstract currently prepared, but intend on submitting one, please inform me soon with a tentative title in order to reserve a spot.

We are planning a special session highlighting Tribal Natural Resource Departments, projects, and cooperative efforts with the State DNR. Ideas for additional sessions and / or speakers are always welcome.

Lodging reservations can be made by contacting the Inn on Lake Superior at (218) 726-1111 or 1-888-668-3976. Mention that you are making reservations for the Fisheries meeting to assure the special room rate of \$56, double occupancy. At this time, I do not have a guess as to registration costs, but we are making every effort to keep it affordable. The Great Lakes Aquarium has donated the facilities for our group, and Fond du Lac has offered to sponsor that evening's social. The 1854 Authority has offered to sponsor one of the meeting breaks. As we get additional sponsors, the costs will continue to decline. The costs will be finalized by the December RYBA.

For additional information, please contact Brian Borkholder at 218-878-8004.

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To All Chapter AFS Members:  
Nominations for 2002 Minnesota Chapter Officers

Please complete the following form and return it by mail, email or FAX if you wish to nominate candidates to serve as Chapter Officers in 2002. Nominations must be received by **Nov 16, 2001**.

Shannon Fisher  
Nominating Committee Chair  
Minnesota DNR - Division of Fisheries  
175 County Rd 26  
Windom, MN 56101-1868  
email: [shannon.fisher@dnr.state.mn.us](mailto:shannon.fisher@dnr.state.mn.us)  
FAX: 507-831-2921

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President Elect (Only DNR staff should be nominated for this position this year):

name: \_\_\_\_\_  
telephone: \_\_\_\_\_  
affiliation: \_\_\_\_\_

name: \_\_\_\_\_  
telephone: \_\_\_\_\_  
affiliation: \_\_\_\_\_

Secretary Treasurer:

name: \_\_\_\_\_  
telephone: \_\_\_\_\_  
affiliation: \_\_\_\_\_

name: \_\_\_\_\_  
telephone: \_\_\_\_\_  
affiliation: \_\_\_\_\_

Executive Committee (Excom: DNR, Federal, Academic, or Open):

name: \_\_\_\_\_  
telephone: \_\_\_\_\_  
affiliation: \_\_\_\_\_

name: \_\_\_\_\_  
telephone: \_\_\_\_\_  
affiliation: \_\_\_\_\_

**2000-2001 Minnesota Chapter of the American Fisheries Society****Chapter Officers**

President	Brad Parsons	brad.parsons@dnr.state.mn.us	320.634.4573; fax 320.634.4576
President-elect	Brian Borkholder	brianborkholder@fdlrez.com	218.879.3919
Past President	Mark Hove	Mark.Hove@fw.umn.edu	612.624.3019; fax 612.625.5299
Secretary-Treasurer	Donna Dustin	donna.dustin@dnr.state.mn.us	218-847-1579; fax 218-847-1588

**Excom Members**

Minnesota DNR	Joe Ostazeski	joe.ostazeski@dnr.state.mn.us	218-927.3751
Federal	Virginia Snarski	snarski.virginia@epamail.epa.gov	218-529-5116
Academic	Don Cloutman	dgcloutm1@vax1.bemidji.msus.edu	218-755-2877
Open	Pat Brown	wbrown@paulbunyan.net	218-679-3959

**Committee Chairs***Standing Committees*

Awards	Melissa Drake	melissa.drake@dnr.state.mn.us	651-772-7966
Issues	Mark Hove	Mark.Hove@fw.umn.edu	612-624-3019
Long Range Planning	Henry VanOffelen	henry.vanoffelen@dnr.state.mn.us	218-847-1579
Membership	Brian Healy	bhealy@fs.fed.us	218-335-8685
Nominations	Shannon Fisher	shannon.fisher@dnr.state.mn.us	507- 831-2919
Public Education	John Hiebert	john.hiebert@dnr.state.mn.us	763-675-3301
Resolutions	Jeff Weiss	jeffrey.weiss@dnr.state.mn.us	507-467-2442
Students	Deb Brister	djb@fw.umn.edu	612-625-3183

*Special or Ad Hoc Committees*

Fishing Round Table Delegate	Mark Hove	Mark.Hove@fw.umn.edu	612.624.3019
Fund Raising	Tom Burri	tom.burri@dnr.state.mn.us	218.286.5220
	Henry VanOffelen	henry.vanoffelen@dnr.state.mn.us	218.847.1579
FWLA Delegate	Bruce Vondracek	bcv@finsandfur.fw.umn.edu	612.624.3421
	Don Pereira	don.pereira@dnr.state.mn.us	651.772.7962
Historian	<i>open</i>	-----	-----
Continuing Education	Laurie Sovell	laurie.sovell@pca.state.mn.us	507.389.1925
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**Internet:** Minnesota Chapter, [www.fw.umn.edu/mnafas](http://www.fw.umn.edu/mnafas); North Central Division, [www.fw.umn.edu/ncdafs](http://www.fw.umn.edu/ncdafs); American Fisheries Society, [www.fisheries.org](http://www.fisheries.org). All past issues of RYBA can be found at the Chapter website.

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