



# RYBA

## Newsletter of the Minnesota Chapter of the American Fisheries Society

Year 2002 No. 3  
September Issue

### INSIDE:

President's Message	1
Excom Reports	2
Committee Reports	3
Division Tech Comm Rep	4
Meeting Minutes	4
Upcoming Events	9
Of Interest	9
On the Underside	10
1 <sup>st</sup> Call for Papers	11

### President's Message by Brian Borkholder

President's Message  
By Brian Borkholder

*"Once you have caught a fish, you have known an unbounded happiness that may haunt you for the remainder of your days. You will want to do it again and again."* – Sam Cook

I have just returned from Baltimore, and the 132<sup>nd</sup> Annual meeting of the AFS. I've never attended a Parent Society meeting before, but let me say that it is worth doing so, at least once in your career. I gained a fresh perspective on how the Parent Society functions, as well as better feel for the quality of leadership within the Parent Society. I spent quite a bit of time with Fred Harris, Society President, at the Aquarium Social (I think the Maryland planning committee stole

our idea!) as well as lunch with Barb Knuth, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President. And we all know Ira Adelman, the Vice Pres. I was particularly impressed with the vision and plans these individuals have for the Society. Now's a great time to be involved and active within all levels of the AFS. Retention and recruitment were common themes at the meeting. In fact, it was mentioned that only about half of the individuals in our profession are members of AFS. This is a reminder that we need to be recruiting new members from our pool of co-workers. And we need to be able to demonstrate that being involved with AFS is making a difference, both for the resource and for us personally.

At the resource level, Congratulations to everyone who participates and is a member of the MN Chapter! In Baltimore, our Chapter was awarded the Outstanding Chapter Award for 2002. This isn't an award that happened because of any one thing in particular that we've done this year. It's because of the groundwork, vision, and labor of our past leadership and the work of our members that continue to further the goals of the Society and our Chapter. The Chapter is involved in many different areas and projects, and I'm quite sure that if you have the desire to plug in, you will be able to find an area of interest in which to serve. If you are interested in seeing the completed application, Mark Hove will be getting it posted on the website sometime this fall. Check it out, and congratulations once again!

At the personal level, involvement at the annual meeting was extremely beneficial. I attended the Principles of Leadership training course, as well as

the Continuing Education Committee's meeting on the development of a Leadership Curriculum. Having taken the first course, I think the Society's plans for various leadership modules is very exciting. All too often we find ourselves working on committees, teams, and with the general public. Developing people who can work together for the resource is the underlying rationale for this curriculum. As one individual at the meeting stated, "Leadership is getting someone to follow you. Otherwise, you're just taking a walk." The Leadership Curriculum is still in the planning stages, and I expect we won't be seeing anything tangible for at least a year or two. The grand plans include Leadership Certification much like the Society's current Fisheries Professional certification.

Speaking of annual meetings, John's plans are coming together for our 2003 meeting in March, just southwest of the Twin Cities. Make plans now to attend, and when John posts the registration form, please PRE-REGISTER! This will make John's job infinitely easier, as well as save both the Chapter and you, personally, some money. And with the money you save, you can help to support the Chapter's efforts through the annual raffle. Let me just say that Tom Burri does an excellent job with organizing our raffle each year. Maybe I expected too much at the national level, but the quality and quantity of the raffle items that Tom consistently acquires is better than what was offered in Baltimore. Tom's efforts, but more importantly, **your generosity** allow the Chapter to participate in most of the projects and activities that have made the MN

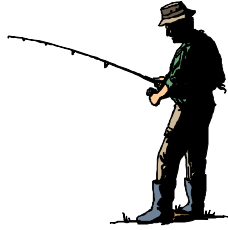
RYBA Editor: Loren Miller  
lmm@fw.umn.edu

The Chapter publishes RYBA four times a year (Jan., May, Sept., and Nov.). Deadlines for article submission are: April 15, Aug. 15, Oct. 15, and Dec. 15. The views and opinions expressed herein are not necessarily those of the Minnesota Chapter

Chapter **the** most active AFS chapter in the Nation. Thanks again to everyone!

The Nominations Committee works very hard each year to encourage (coerce?) members to run for office. In the past, it's often been frustrating to locate volunteers willing to give back to the Chapter. The ExCom is considering two proposed changes to the Chapter's By-Laws which will make nominations easier for the Committee. The first involves the office of Secretary/Treasurer. The ExCom has proposed changing this position to a two-year term. The second proposal would make each ExCom position a two-year term as well, with the DNR and Open positions up for election during even-numbered years, and the Federal and Academic positions up during odd years. This will cut down on the number of contacts the Nominations Committee has to make each year, and should make that job easier. We will discuss this at the next annual Business Meeting, and vote on the suggested changes. If you are interested in serving, or know of someone who might be, please contact Shannon Fisher and let him know.

I hope everyone had a great summer sampling season. I know mine wasn't half as productive as I would have liked. But with rivers running at bankful stage for much of the summer, what's a stream surveyor supposed to do?! I simply can't believe I'm looking out my window at grey autumn skies already. Where did that summer go? I trust everyone has a safe and rewarding fall season, whether it's tying up the sampling season, stocking walleye fingerlings, taking that one last canoe trip, or walking in the woods anxiously anticipating that next grouse to take flight. Take some time to enjoy life and the outdoors this autumn. Come February, you'll be glad you did!



## Officer and Excom Reports

### by John Heibert - President Elect

See the first call for papers for **The 36<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Minnesota Chapter of the American Fisheries Society** **March 3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup>, 2002 in Chaska, MN**

### Excom Open - by Andy Edwards

Tribal News:

Fond du Lac Division of Resource Management and 1854 Authority have been working on a stream survey of the Pike and Sandy rivers in northern St. Louis County. Survey efforts thus far have been focused on fish assessments and physical/chemical characteristics of the rivers. Fieldwork next summer will survey the invertebrate and plant communities. The Sandy/Pike system is one of two sites identified in a proposal by MNTAC mining for discharge of excess water from a tailings basin; the other site is the Dark River.

1854 Authority and FDL are also preparing for the start of their annual fall young of year walleye electrofishing assessments. Approximately 2 dozen lakes will be assessed again this fall. Some of the lakes now have a 6-7 year database. In addition to providing useful information on year-class strength and over-winter survival to Age-1, the information is used by local DNR offices in determining whether or not to stock walleye fingerlings and in

some cases walleye fry the following spring. We are also examining the relationships between Age-0 CPUE one year and the Age-1 CPUE the following year in hopes of finding some predictive value in the Age-0 assessments. Spring assessments on some of the longer-term fall survey lakes will be evaluated to see if we can track the strong year classes to maturation and spawning. Local DNR offices have also provided gillnet CPUE's for comparison. We hope to have some of this out for publication in the near future.

The Fond du Lac Division of Resource Management is hosting a Hutton Jr. Biologist for the summer and have had him out getting his feet wet (literally) on several projects.

Red Lake Department of Natural Resources reports that they have just finished their young-of-year assessments for walleye and it appears that the 2002 year class was poor. Based on that they anticipate stocking in 2003. They also expect the first cohort of stocked males to be mature and spawning by next spring. Surveys this spring turned up more adult females than any year since 1987 and they found almost no males. It appears that the forage base is fairly strong this year. Regarding other species, it appears that yellow perch pulled off an average year class, crappie look to have pulled off the first good year class since 1995, and (get your poles ready) sheephead had a strong year class.

Grand Portage Natural Resources Department stocked 45,000 two-inch Nipigon strain brook trout into 3 Lake Superior tributaries on the reservation. This is the 8<sup>th</sup> year of their Coaster Brook Trout restoration program. Eggs are obtained annually and reared in a few redds on the reservation. In addition, 4,300 fingerlings were stocked into an on-reservation lake.

Grand Portage is also cooperating with 1854 Authority, USFWS-Ashland, DNR-Grand Marais to collect walleye eggs from the Pigeon River for stocking back into the stream above Partridge Falls. A fungal problem this

year limited production but they ended up stocking ~600 4-inch fingerlings. DNR-French River also provided 70,000 St. Louis River strain walleye fry. The fry were raised to 6-8" at a reservation rearing pond and stocked into an inland lake on the reservation.

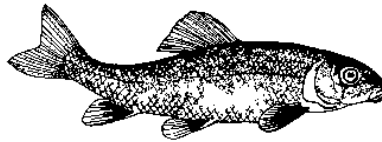
Grand Portage has also been surveying numerous cold-water streams on the reservation and report that a fish passage ladder under US Highway 61 on Grand Portage Creek is nearly complete. The ladder will re-open a 3-mile stretch of stream to anadromous brook trout and rainbow trout.

#### Miscellaneous:

Reviewing the summer edition of *Superior Vision* (newsletter of the Lake Superior Alliance) the other day I ran across two items of interest that will bear watching. (I had heard nothing of either until I read the newsletter and the info I give here is straight from the newsletter.)

Clough Island—This is a 370 acre island in the St. Louis River estuary that was the site of a homestead many years ago. It has recently been sold to developers. The Nature Conservancy had explored purchasing it for fair market appraisal value of \$400,000. However the developers paid \$1.2 million. Apparently plans include homes/condos for up to 1,000 units as well as a marina and golf course. Currently there are no means to access the island other than by water, nor are there utility connections. No permits have been applied for as of yet, but this will bear watching.

Trans-Superior power cable—A new 1120 megawatt power plant is in the works in Thunder Bay, Ontario. Plans are to run a high voltage transmission line through Lake Superior, starting at the Ontario/Minnesota border of Pigeon River past the southwestern tip of Isle Royale and directly to the Keweenaw Peninsula of Michigan. They hope to tap into the Chicago/lower Michigan electrical market. This also bears watching.



## Committee Reports

### Continuing Education By Mike Duval

We have received only 12 survey responses to the continuing education survey in the May02 edition of RYBA. We clearly need further input from our membership to guide future CE offerings. Continuing education workshops and courses are an opportunity to keep current with advances in our profession, as well as to provide a means for accumulating credit towards professional certification/recertification through the Parent Society. We need member input to set our future CE direction for the coming years, so fill out the survey form attached at the end of this newsletter and return it to the CE Committee or e-mail your responses.

### The following is a letter from Janet Boe, MN DNR, thanking us for contributing to a continuing education workshop.

#### CAREX WORKSHOP IN BEMIDJI 6-7 AUGUST 2002

The genus *Carex* is one of the larger and more difficult genera that botanists, land managers, and wetland ecologists encounter in northern Minnesota. In early January 2002 a multiagency group of botanists got together to begin to plan a workshop that would help us all gain a better understanding of the identification and ecology of the genus. In this time of budget shortfalls, we committed to working together to bring a workshop to Bemidji, for the benefit of ourselves and our colleagues in northwestern Minnesota.

We settled early in the process on asking Dr. Tony Reznicek, curator of the herbarium at the University of Michigan and the North American expert on the genus *Carex*, to be our

lead presenter. We also invited Welby Smith, botanist with MN DNR and someone with a statewide perspective on *Carex* species and their habitat, to work with Tony in presenting this workshop.

We decided on a workshop size of 50 (the number we could fit into two adjacent labs in the Biology Department at Bemidji State University) for the two-day event. To keep the registration fee low, we decided to solicit sponsorships from agencies and groups (including MN TWS and the Minnesota Chapter of AFS) who might have an interest in this kind of a workshop for their staff or members. We were very fortunate to receive financial and in-kind help (ranging from the loan of a projecting microscope to checks for \$500) that enabled us to meet our budget in spite of a registration fee of only \$50.

After receiving 50 registrations, we established a waiting list of 10. When all was said and done, all but two on the waiting list had been given an opportunity to attend the workshop.

Tony, in addition to giving top-notch slide-and-fresh-material-studded lectures, cheerfully identified any sedge brought to him. Welby provided coveted up-to-date distribution maps for all Minnesota *Carex* species for the workshop binders, taught us about *Carex* habitats, and was a constant source of information about Minnesota species.

Thank you to MN AFS for its sponsorship of this workshop!

### Students By Steve Fischer NCD First Vice-President

Attention all fisheries students and potential fisheries students throughout the AFS - North Central Division. Are you interested in participating in a future Student Conclave? Interested in meeting students from other universities throughout the North Central Division? Looking for a chance to present your data ... preliminary results, final results,

designing a project? Here is your chance!

One of my plans as NCD First VP is to develop such a Student Conclave within the NCD. What I envision is arrival on a Friday afternoon, sessions / presentations on Sat, and depart on Sunday. Obviously I can't do it without some input from you! I would be most appreciative if you would take a few minutes and reply to the following questions:

1 - Are you interested in participating in a NCD Student Conclave: YES or NO.

2 - If NO ... why not?

3 - If YES, when is the best time of year to hold such a function? a) Fall semester (late Sept/early Oct); b) part of Midwest Fish & Wildlife Conference (early December); c) mid-winter; or d) spring (April?).

4 - Would you be willing to serve on a committee for the meeting?

5 - What is a good place to hold such a meeting? Wisconsin is the most central location (Wyalusing State Park in Prairie Du Chien is one possible option).

6 - What else would you like included on the agenda?

Please answer these questions in an email to me or use this form and mail me your response.

Please feel free to contact me at 573/882-9880, x-3271 or [fischsa@mail.conservaation.state.mo.us](mailto:fischsa@mail.conservaation.state.mo.us)

### **Award - by Missy Drake**

ATTENTION chapter members! Do you know someone who has gone above and beyond the call of duty to accomplish the Chapter's goals? Let that person know how much you appreciate their hard work by nominating him or her for a Special Recognition Award. What about someone who has made a life-long commitment to Minnesota's fisheries?

Nominate him or her for the prestigious Award of Excellence. Have you or someone you know been a Minnesota Chapter member for at least 25 years? If so, please let us know. Members who have made a long-term commitment to the Chapter deserve recognition. 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!

Have you wanted to contribute to the Chapter, but don't know what you can do? Why not volunteer to judge papers or posters at the Annual meeting? It's a great way to get involved.

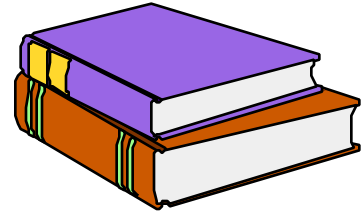
To nominate that special someone for an award, to let us know who has been a member for at least 25 years, or to volunteer to judge papers or posters please contact Melissa Drake at 651-772-7966 or [melissa.drake@dnr.state.mn.us](mailto:melissa.drake@dnr.state.mn.us).

### **Division Technical Committee Reports**

#### **Centrarchids – by Mike McInerny**

As most of you probably know, the Centrarchid Technical Committee (CTC) did not have a summer meeting in 2002. The CTC will be participating in the upcoming Midwest Fisheries Conference in Bettendorf, IA. I have been told by Randy Schultz (KS), program chair for the Conference, that several slots for paper presentations remain open for the technical session. Content of these presentations can range from completed management or research projects, to updates on current projects, or even proposals. Thus, if you have something to present, please contact Randy Schultz via email: [randys@wp.state.ks.us](mailto:randys@wp.state.ks.us). Other news includes setting dates and location of the 2003 summer CTC meeting and appointment of a new chairperson. We will hold that meeting on 29 and 30 July at Wyalusing State Park, just south of Prairie Du Chien, WI. Ed Braun (IN) will take over the chair at

the upcoming Midwest Fisheries Conference meeting.



### **Meeting Minutes Submitted by Donna Dustin, Secretary/Treasurer MN AFS**

MN AFS EXCOM MEETING: 27 AUGUST 2002 at Brainerd Public Library

Present: Brad Parsons, Joe Ostazeski, John Hiebert, Donna Dustin, Mike Duval, Brian Borkholder, Mike McInerny, Don Cloutman, Mark Hove, Brian Healy, Andy Edwards

Meeting called to order at 10:15 AM.

*Annual meeting* – John Hiebert reported that the 2003 Annual Meeting location is set for the Oak Ridge Conference Center in Chaska. John plans to start working on the details in September. We discussed ways to encourage people to pre-register and the consensus was that a monetary penalty is needed to get people to pre-register. The facility is flexible in regards to food and space, they can hold over 100 in each room if needed. John proposed that we get guest speakers from outside government agencies, hopefully giving some different perspectives. Several names were mentioned as potentially “stimulating” speakers. There was some discussion of AV needs. A suggestion was made to have speakers send powerpoint presentations in before the meeting so they can be loaded on laptops and ready to go before the meeting. First call for papers and announcements will go in the next RYBA and on the website. Dates are March 3-5 (Monday-Wednesday).

## EXCOM Reports

*President:* Brian Borkholder attended the AFS annual meeting and was impressed. The meeting set an attendance record with 35 countries represented. Our chapter won the outstanding chapter award, a big honor for our chapter! This award reflects the work of many people over the last several years. Mark offered to put the award and application on the website. Brian heard several comments from people who were impressed with our involvement in the High School Science Fair. Other chapters are interested in getting involved in this also. The AFS book program has really taken off. AFS is doing VERY well. The 2003 meeting will be in Quebec City. The Hutton Junior Biologist program had 52 students this year – and is still growing. They are hoping for 100 next year.

Brian attended the first module in the leadership curriculum and the continuing ed program on leadership as well. The program is based on the fact that many fisheries people have good science skills but little or no training or skills in leadership. AFS is considering a leadership certification program similar to the Fisheries Professional Certification program. They want to make this broadly available, not just to upper level administrators. AFS is thinking that they should charge a premium (on the order of \$1500 per module) for this training, to demonstrate its importance. Brian has been asked to give feedback on this program, and the EXCOM gave him some. The EXCOM feels the thinking on cost is crazy – if the focus is on helping the membership then it should be as close to free as possible. If it grows to the point that it attracts outside people then you might want to charge a premium to those people. Mark stated that they would need to prove that this will be fantastic, life changing, training in order to get people to go for premium pricing. There will be a need to get the bumps out first. Duval concurred that they will need to figure out the curriculum, presenters and many details. It has to be worth the

money and there are many organizations and groups out there who already specialize in this kind of training. Andy mentioned that the certification part would be critical to making this work and administrators would have to be supportive, or people in the field would not choose to or not be able to go. All this is still in the planning stages and Brian will relay our feedback to the committee.

There are no new legislative fires since our last meeting. As far as we know the “Mini-Midwest” meeting is still on.

*Treasurer’s report:* John brought up issue of meeting costs and ways to defray them. Since this year’s meeting will be in the Metro area, costs will be higher than our last few meetings. Brian mentioned that the parent society has just sold the membership list to Cabela’s and wondered if we should consider doing this. Duval said no, he felt that many people would be upset. Donna said that the fundraiser is an income source for the chapter and we could elect to spend more to put on the meeting this year, rather than putting it in the bank. Brad noted that if the chapter subsidizes the meeting, we will need to let the membership know that we are discounting the price. Someone raised the idea of making the pre-registration price be the discounted price, thereby giving a real incentive to preregister? Brad suggested possibly \$55 for pre-registrants and \$70 for walk-ins? [Secretary’s Note: dollar figures are for discussion purposes only, final costs have not been set] This way the Chapter supports those who preregister, not those who wait. Everyone liked that idea.

Brief discussion of fundraiser, ideas – such as getting trips guides to donate trips. Brian had no luck in this but may be worth trying again.

Donna presented a summary of the chapter’s finances to date. We currently have \$3,586.85 in Business Checking and \$24,946.45 in our Money Market account (earning interest to fund the Scholarship).

Donna also reported that one check has gone missing from the June Stream Geomorphology Workshop. The individual paid by check at the workshop, but Donna has no record of receiving or depositing the check. We have no idea where this check has gone. Donna has attempted to contact the person involved to see if the check was cashed (hopefully it has not). If the person has to stop payment on the check then the chapter will absorb that cost and ask for the balance of the workshop fee in a new check.

*Federal:* Brian Healy discussed two big forest plan revisions that are coming up. The EIS process is ongoing. He is bothered by the impression that the forest products industry and some groups such as the Ruffed Grouse Society (RGS) are influencing the process too much in the Chippewa and Superior National Forests. He would like to see other groups offering support for options that include good riparian management. Joe noted that increasing beaver food (aspen) is certainly not the best thing for trout and walleye streams. Brian remarked that many other projects have been put on hold while this process drags on. They did complete a rusty crayfish survey and Mark’s mussel survey will go on. There is also a road crossing survey of road projects’ effects on streams. There is also an upcoming Army Corps Operations and Planning Exercise on Reservoirs, – it will be appropriate for us to comment on this for sure.

*Academic:* Don Cloutman The Howard Hughes Foundation awarded a grant to the Headwaters Science Center in Bemidji which funds a four year project where Junior high students will study water quality throughout the area. The grant includes teacher workshops and internships (teaching water quality). Duval mentioned that they might contact Minnaqua for help with intern recruiting – it would be a good opportunity for future science teachers. Bemidji State University just hired an endowed professor in wetlands, who will be getting started teaching wetlands classes this year.

Also an invertebrate ecologist, who works mostly on rivers is on tenure track now. Don's group did some walleye tracking on Lake Bemidji during spawning this year. Mark mentioned several new hires at colleges and university in aquatics and fisheries, and he gave a brief update of what's new at the U of M.

*Open:* Andy Edwards - Fond du Lac Division of Resource Management and 1854 Authority have been working on a stream survey of the Pike and Sandy rivers in northern St. Louis County. Survey efforts thus far have been focused on fish assessments and physical/chemical characteristics of the rivers. Fieldwork next summer will survey the invertebrate and plant communities. The Sandy/Pike system is one of two sites identified in a proposal by MNTAC mining for discharge of excess water from a tailings basin; the other site is the Dark River.

1854 Authority and FDL are also preparing for the start of their annual fall young of year walleye electrofishing assessments. Approximately 2 dozen lakes will be assessed again this fall. Some of the lakes now have a 6-7 year database. In addition to providing useful information on year-class strength and over-winter survival to Age-1, the information is used by local DNR offices in determining whether or not to stock walleye fingerlings and in some cases walleye fry the following spring. We are also examining the relationships between Age-0 CPUE one year and the Age-1 CPUE the following year in hopes of finding some predictive value in the Age-0 assessments. Spring assessments on some of the longer-term fall survey lakes will be evaluated to see if we can track the strong year classes to maturation and spawning. Local DNR offices have also provided gillnet CPUE's for comparison. We hope to have some of this out for publication in the near future.

The Fond du Lac Division of Resource Management is hosting a Hutton Jr. Biologist for the summer

and have had him out getting his feet wet (literally) on several projects.

Red Lake Department of Natural Resources reports that they have just finished their young-of-year assessments for walleye and it appears that the 2002 year class was poor. Based on that they anticipate stocking in 2003. They also expect the first cohort of stocked males to be mature and spawning by next spring. Surveys this spring turned up more adult females than any year since 1987 and they found almost no males. It appears that the forage base is fairly strong this year. Regarding other species, it appears that yellow perch pulled off an average year class, crappie look to have pulled off the first good year class since 1995, and (get your poles ready) sheephead had a strong year class.

Grand Portage Natural Resources Department stocked 45,000 two-inch Nipigon strain brook trout into 3 Lake Superior tributaries on the reservation. This is the 8<sup>th</sup> year of their Coaster Brook Trout restoration program. Eggs are obtained annually and reared in a few redds on the reservation. In addition, 4,300 fingerlings were stocked into an on-reservation lake.

Grand Portage is also cooperating with 1854 Authority, USFWS-Ashland, DNR-Grand Marais to collect walleye eggs from the Pigeon River for stocking back into the stream above Partridge Falls. A fungal problem this year limited production but they ended up stocking ~600 4-inch fingerlings. DNR-French River also provided 70,000 St. Louis River strain walleye fry. The fry were raised to 6-8" at a reservation rearing pond and stocked into an inland lake on the reservation.

Grand Portage has also been surveying numerous cold-water streams on the reservation and report that a fish passage ladder under US Highway 61 on Grand Portage Creek is nearly complete. The ladder will re-open a 3-mile stretch of stream to anadromous brook trout and rainbow trout.

Miscellaneous:

Reviewing the summer edition of *Superior Vision* (newsletter of the Lake Superior Alliance) the other day I ran across two items of interest that will bear watching. (I had heard nothing of either until I read the newsletter and the info I give here is straight from the newsletter.)

Clough Island—This is a 370 acre island in the St. Louis River estuary that was the site of a homestead many years ago. It has recently been sold to developers. The Nature Conservancy had explored purchasing it for fair market appraisal value of \$400,000. However the developers paid \$1.2 million. Apparently plans include homes/condos for up to 1,000 units as well as a marina and golf course. Currently there are no means to access the island other than by water, nor are there utility connections. No permits have been applied for as of yet, but this will bear watching.

Trans-Superior power cable—A new 1120 megawatt power plant is in the works in Thunder Bay, Ontario. Plans are to try and run a high voltage transmission line through Lake Superior, starting at the Ontario/Minnesota border of Pigeon River past the southwestern tip of Isle Royale and directly to the Keweenaw Peninsula of Michigan. They hope to tap into the Chicago/lower Michigan electrical market. This also bears watching.

*Minnesota DNR:* Joe Ostazeski - The State of MN is hurting for money and DNR is going through a budget cutting "exercise" where the Department is compelled to propose scenarios for cutting 12.5% of its budget **including** dedicated funds. This scenario would result in major staff and program cuts and could end up gutting the agency for the future, if it came to pass. At this point all is still speculation. The chapter may want to consider getting involved in the legislative process this year as they may be trying to balance the budget without touching education, health or human services. Duval asked how the chapter should be involved? Joe was not sure and Brad stated that we will need FWLA to help us make

constituents aware that cutting dedicated funds won't help the state's budget situation. If people are willing to pay fees, the services they are paying for shouldn't be cut. The chapter should send letters to the House and Senate leadership and whoever the new Governor is. Duval agreed and we decided to wait until after the elections to contact the new leadership. Duval inquired whether we should bring it up before the elections and try to generate discussions by the candidates since it is already an issue. More discussion of the timeline and scope of such an effort as well as whether the President should write a letter to The Outdoor News. Joe stated that this is not about simply cutting funds, but it is about not allowing dedicated funding to be used as it should be. It was agreed that a letter to the Outdoor News would not be to take a stand on the issue, but to ask candidates for more information regarding their views on the use dedicated natural resource funds. Brad will check with contacts at Outdoor News right away to see if a question on use of dedicated funds can be put in their candidate surveys. Joe will check with Minnesota Public Radio for their debate schedule and see if they might ask a similar question. Brad also offered to help draft the letter.

*Continuing Education:* Mike - The workshop was apparently a success and the chapter made a modest profit (even with one registration check unaccounted for). A fall version of the workshop will be held in a few weeks. The survey is not showing good returns (11 so far) – would like to plug it in the newsletter one more time and try to get more returns. Will be planning the next few years after survey is done.

#### Committee Reports

*Awards:* Missy Drake (absent) relayed the usual plea for nominations for awards.

*Issues:* Brad Parsons noted that we worked well with TWS on the Hwy 169 issue. We don't know what the

status of that project is right now. No new big issues.

*Membership:* Brian Healy we currently have 201 members, 21 students – there is a lot of turnover in membership.

*Nominations:* Shannon – The proposal to lengthen terms of office and stagger the terms of EXCOM members can't be acted on yet. The membership will have to vote on these changes and then we will have to send it through Bethesda, to complete a change in the bylaws.

*Public Education:* (Eric Altena absent, John Hiebert reported). John passed the new brochures around and commented on it. Other than one typo, all were pleased with them. The display with brochures is up at the state fair right now.

*Students:* Brian asked if there are any details on the progress in forming a student chapter. Mark has been working on this. A state chapter needs to oversee the student chapter so we need to get some chapter members involved and pass it on to vote at the business meeting. Brian will add this to the agenda for the next EXCOM meeting. Mark will keep working on this.

#### Ad Hoc Committees

*Fishing Roundtable:* Mark Hove – the Roundtable will meet late January as usual. Nothing new to report.

*FWLA: (from Don Pereira)* Don attended a meeting on August 6 – the following is Don's report from that meeting: President Lance Ness called this meeting to update FWLA members on development of new strategies to keep FWLA functioning. The primary development that he had to share with us was from a meeting he had with MOHA leaders (MN Outdoor Heritage Alliance) the previous evening. One important point to understand is that to maintain their nonprofit tax status as a 501C3, MOHA cannot spend more than 20% of their budget on any type of lobbying efforts. This is the same

situation for MN AFS, but this is not the case for FWLA. [As a nonprofit 501C3, MN AFS is restricted by federal tax law to not spending more than 20% of their budget on lobbying activities, or activities that directly affect the political process. Since we give \$1500 to FWLA each year, we must spend a total of at least \$7500 annually to meet these rules. We also need to maintain a suitable paper trail complete with receipts in the event of an audit.] As a 501C4, FWLA can engage in activities to influence legislation with no limit on expenditures. FWLA is a non-profit but not tax deductible, and can form a "PAC" for certain political activities. FWLA may be the only statewide conservation organization that carries these credentials (excluding the larger national organizations like the Ikes and Audubon).

It appears that FWLA, in its current membership configuration, can raise about \$12K per year. FWLA leadership estimates that we need at least \$20K to function with any degree of effectiveness. One way to raise the balance is to partner with another group. So, here's what Lance tossed around with MOHA. We enter in to a partnership with MOHA, perhaps with a new name. Under this new umbrella, we will have two separate entities with separate budget streams (for required tax legalities). MOHA will be one entity, with their current education focus, and FWLA will be the other with their lobbying focus. Annual lobbying efforts will work as follows. We will identify only one to three big issues that the hired lobbyist will work on. These should have statewide applicability. An example would be the 3/16ths sales tax funding bill. Other, smaller lobbying efforts would be up to the member organizations (like MN AFS) to carry out. However, the member organization would receive detailed coaching from the lobbyist or other experienced FWLA staff (e.g. Lance Ness) on how to do the lobbying (e.g. who are the key legislators to contact, when should they be contacted, and what are the major obstacles to achieving a particular goal).

To my ear, this sounded like a reasonable way to go. However, the MN AFS chapter would have to find suitable individuals to approach legislators if we were to lobby on smaller issues. As a DNR employee it would not be wise for me to do it, and as a federal employee Bruce may also be restricted from direct lobbying activities (though we could certainly contact our legislators as individual citizens of the state). There was also considerable discussion from long-term FWLA members (e.g. Ray Norrgard, and Al Farnes) about the shortcomings of this plan. For example, Ray argued strongly that effective organizations get things done by having numerous constituents contact key legislators in mass. When a legislator gets 50 plus e-mails and faxes on one issue, they usually take notice. At the meeting, someone referred to the general "apathy of the average sportsperson" as the key obstacle to operating this way. I wonder if MN AFS does not suffer from this affliction. Can we get many members mobilized to contact their legislator on a specific issue? If so, then this plan may work for us. A second option would be to set up a web-based system with a web site for information and an associated list server to notify all members at critical times. While this option is attractive, it would require initial capital investment and continued funding for maintenance, and thus may compound our current fiscal challenges.

As far as Lance Ness (FWLA President) is concerned, FWLA will continue to operate as usual. It is Lance's intention to have a lobbyist prior to the upcoming session provided we have the budget to do so. Lance also feels that we do need some form of grassroots connection and contribution ideas. Does MN AFS EXCOM have any ideas or thoughts to offer? [End of Don's report]

Discussion: Don C. inquired whether there would be any conflicts between MNOHA and us and the tax status of each group was discussed. Brad stated that we might not want to spend \$1500 on this new group, but it would probably be worthwhile to stay

involved. Brian added that even if the lobbyist can't focus on all the issues, if they are all brought to the attention of the board, then Don and Bruce could let the membership know when legislative issues come up and we can write letters, even if the hired lobbyist doesn't work on that. The consensus was we should try this for a few years and see how it goes. We need to maintain a voice on big issues. The lobbyist and FWLA staff would still give us information and coaching on our lobbying efforts (how to do it, who to talk to etc). Donna noted that the \$1500 that the chapter paid in December 2001 was for our 2002 dues.

*Newsletter:* (from Loren Miller) – The deadline is early next week for the newsletter.

*Webmaster:* Wansuk has gone back to Thailand. Dave Anderson (Montrose DNR) is willing to take over the website. He will contact Mark about getting access to U of M computers to do this.

*Science Fair* (Shannon Fisher) – Our awards were a huge hit, the students were thrilled to get a non-academic prize (fishing poles) in addition to the books. He will try to get the winning students to attend the chapter meeting and set up their posters. Volunteers are needed for Southeast and Rochester regional fairs next year, so any chapter member in those regions can contact Shannon, if interested. Brian was also a judge at the State Science Fair and he commented on the excellent quality of the projects at this year's fair.

NCD Technical Committees

*Centrarchid:* Mike McInerney reported that there was no summer meeting this year. The 2003 summer meeting will be held the last week in July in Prairie de Chien. They are looking into doing a survey on the history of regulations on black bass in NA. Still working on questions. If that goes well might do one on sunfish and crappies.

*Old Business* – None

New Business

The *Carex* workshop that we donated \$200 to went well. 50 people took the class and there was a waiting list. The Chapter received a thank you from the planning committee.

*Changing terms of office* – the Secretary/Treasurer will be a 2 year term as will EXCOM seats. Half of the EXCOM would be elected each year. The EXCOM did not feel that term limits are needed for Secretary/Treasurer as the annual audit process should keep them in line. The EXCOM has a 2 consecutive term limit, although a person can serve more as long as there is a break in service. We could keep that in place with the new limit for an EXCOM member becoming 4 years. These changes must be approved at the annual business meeting and then go through the Parent Society to take effect.

*World Fisheries Congress* – sponsored by AFS and they are looking for financial assistance such as providing full or partial travel support for a topic chair, speaker, or make a general contribution. There is a long list of speakers and topics, most will be coming from overseas (\$\$\$). The event is not until 2004, so John can propose a contribution in his budget and we can discuss it at the business meeting.

*Dennis Anderson* – it has been proposed that Mr. Anderson should receive some kind of award for his series of articles on Minnesota Lakes. We have already discussed having him speak at the annual meeting. While the EXCOM felt that he is not eligible for a regular chapter award (not a chapter member, and not at the Award of Excellence level), we could pass a resolution to present him with a recognition or appreciation certificate. This idea will be forwarded to Missy and re-visited at the next meeting.

*MN AFS summer intern program* – Daryl Bathel brought this up the idea of the chapter sponsoring such a program. There was some discussion of how this would differ from the

Hutton Program. The feeling (Brian, Brad, Joe, Donna) was that we should keep supporting the Hutton Program, for us to try to start our own intern program at this time would be redundant and also have liability issues for the chapter.

*Procedures Manual* – Brian had various sections for committee chairs. He would like us to update the duties of the committees and see if changes are needed. Also there may be a need for some transitional protocol for bringing new people in to committees and or leadership positions. Chapter 11 (awards) – need to add student paper award. Brad has added last few chapter meetings to list. Also in Chapter 3 he changed wording to “current version”. Brad moved we accept the changes, Joe second, no discussion – motion passed.

The manual mentions a Past President committee, which was formed in 1989, but is not being used. Should we emphasize it more? Something to think about.

John made a motion to adjourn at 14:40. Joe seconded, motion passed and we hit the road.

## Upcoming Events

### Fluvial Geomorphology and Stream Classification Workshop

16-20 September 2002 at Fergus Falls

Two workshops teaching fluvial geomorphology and stream classification techniques are being offered by the Minnesota Chapter of the American Fisheries Society and the Minnesota Dept. of Natural Resources. A combination of classroom lectures and field exercises will teach stream typing and its applications as well as fundamental hydrology and hydraulics of rivers. In addition, a bus tour will be included to familiarize students with the various stream types that they are likely to encounter in the field. These workshops are designed to provide participants with a basic understanding of fluvial

geomorphological concepts as well as the essential tools for classifying streams to Level 1 and Level 2 using the Rosgen classification methodology. Class participants' knowledge will be tested on course material covered, including practical hydrology, bankfull indicators, surveying, and stream classification. Workshop presenters will include Luther Aadland, Ian Chisholm, Karen Terry, and Kevin Zytovicz, all with the MN DNR, and Sandy Verry with the USFS.

A successful workshop was held in June at Whitewater State Park near Elba, MN and a second session will be 16-20 September 2002 at Fergus Falls, MN. The Fergus session is currently full but, if interested, you may want to get on a waiting list for last minute openings. Call or email Karen Terry (218.739.7449, karen.terry@dnr.state.mn.us).

### Midwest Fisheries Conference

Bettendorf, Iowa  
December 3-5, 2002

Due to the cancellation of the 2002 Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference, the American Fisheries Society (AFS) – North Central Division (NCD) will be sponsoring a Midwest Fisheries Conference in December

Place: Isle of Capri Hotel  
1777 Isle Parkway  
Bettendorf, Iowa  
1-800-724-5825

<http://www.fw.umn.edu/ncdafs>  
Contact: Chris Guy at  
chrisgy@ksu.edu or (785) 532-6634

### Society for Conservation Biology 2003 Meeting

29 June - 2 July, 2003  
Duluth, MN

The University of MN Sea Grant Program and Natural Resources Research Institute are sponsoring this meeting.

## Of Interest

Dr. David Schindler, a renowned environmental scientist and Professor of Ecology in the Department of Biological Sciences, University of Alberta, Edmonton, Alberta, will present two seminars at St. Olaf College September 19-20, 2002.

Dr. Schindler has received international acclaim for his work on the environment and has been labeled by many as "Mr. Environment" of Canada. He is actively engaged in research on fresh water ecosystems, and in shaping public policy in many countries around the world. Professor David Schindler conducted whole ecosystem experiments on the responses of lakes to input of nutrients, and showed how algal blooms in most lakes could be reduced. He also showed how acidification reduced biodiversity, impairing the operation of food webs. His recent work has shown the effect of climate change on fresh water lakes and streams.

The Effects of Lost Biodiversity on the Functioning of Species-Poor Ecosystems  
St. Olaf College, Viking Theater - Buntrock Commons Thursday, September 19, 2002  
4:00 p.m.

The Cumulative Effects of Climate Change and Other Human Activity on Freshwater Communities  
St. Olaf College, Science Center 280  
Thursday, September 19, 2002  
7:30 p.m.

## MAINSTREAM on the web

MAINSTREAM is now available on the internet. This electronic newsletter is a source for summaries of AFS happenings in NA's heartland, insane editorials, and selected pieces of good humor. At the 2001 Annual Meeting the EXCOM decided to move to electronic distribution of the Mainstream. This purely electronic newsletter can be found at: <http://www.fw.umn.edu/ncdafs/mainstream.html>

## On the Underside

### Submitted by Mark Hove

Private diaries of a cat and a dog

Dog:

Day number 181

8:00 am - OH BOY! DOG FOOD!

MY FAVORITE!

9:30 am - OH BOY! A CAR RIDE!

MY FAVORITE!

9:40 am - OH BOY! A WALK! MY

FAVORITE!

10:30 am - OH BOY! A CAR RIDE!

MY FAVORITE!

11:30 am - OH BOY! DOG FOOD!

MY FAVORITE!

12:00 noon - OH BOY! THE KIDS!

MY FAVORITE!

1:00 pm - OH BOY! THE YARD!

MY FAVORITE!

4:00 pm - OH BOY! THE KIDS! MY

FAVORITE!

5:00 PM - OH BOY! DOG FOOD!

MY FAVORITE!

5:30 PM - OH BOY! MOM! MY

FAVORITE!

etc., etc., etc.

CAT:

DAY 752 - My captors continue to taunt me with bizarre little dangling objects. They dine lavishly on fresh meat while I am forced to eat dry cereal. The only thing that keeps me going is the hope of escape and the mild satisfaction I get from ruining the occasional piece of furniture. Tomorrow I may eat another houseplant.

DAY 761 - Today my attempt to kill my captors by weaving around their feet while they were walking almost succeeded ... must try this at the top of the stairs. In an attempt to disgust and repulse these vile oppressors, I once again induced myself to vomit on their favorite chair... must try this on their bed.

DAY 765 - Decapitated a mouse and brought them the headless body, in an attempt to make them aware of what I am capable of -- and to try to strike fear into their hearts. They only cooed and condescended about what a good little cat I was. Hmmmm... Not working according to plan.

DAY 768 - I am finally aware of how sadistic they are. For no good reason, I

was chosen for the water torture. This time, however, it included a burning foamy chemical called "shampoo." What sick minds could invent such a liquid? My only consolation is the piece of thumb still stuck between my teeth.

DAY 771 - There was some sort of gathering of their accomplices. I was placed in solitary throughout the event. However, I could hear the noise and smell the foul odor of the glass tubes they call "beer." More importantly, I overheard that my confinement was due to MY power of "allergies." Must learn what this is and how to use it to my advantage.

DAY 774 - I am convinced the other captives are flunkies and maybe snitches. The dog is routinely released and seems more than happy to return. He is obviously a half-wit. The bird, on the other hand, has got to be an informant, and speaks with them regularly. I am certain he reports my every move. Due to his current placement in the metal room, his safety is assured. But I can wait. It is only a matter of time...

## **FIRST CALL FOR PAPERS AND POSTERS**

### **The 36<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Minnesota Chapter of the American Fisheries Society March 3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup>, 2002 in Chaska, Minnesota**

The program is open to contributed papers and posters related to fisheries and aquatic resources. If you wish to present a paper or poster, please submit a short abstract as an attachment to [john.hiebert@dnr.state.mn.us](mailto:john.hiebert@dnr.state.mn.us), or mail the abstract on disk or paper to John Hiebert at Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, Area Fisheries Headquarters, 7372 State Highway 25 SW, Montrose MN 55363. Please include the title, author(s), institution, mailing address, phone number, e-mail address, presenter and classification (open or student).

Plans for the 2003 meeting are beginning to take shape. The meeting will be held at Oak Ridge Conference Center in Chaska. The facility is located on 130 wooded acres overlooking Lake McKnight, adjacent to the Minnesota Landscape Arboretum. All meeting activities will be held on-site. The facility has a variety of amenities including a health club, half-court basketball or volleyball court, cross country ski trails (snow permitting) along with on-site lodging, dining and a bar with pool tables and pizza and late night appetizers. For the meeting, all of the presentations will be held in adjacent rooms with ergonomic chairs and tables for taking notes.

The meeting will start with registration and a social mixer, with snacks and free beer from the Lake Superior Brewing Company, back by popular demand. In addition, raffle items will be available. The strong financial state of our organization is mainly attributed to the success of our yearly raffle. This has allowed our group to provide scholarships to students along with travel to our annual meetings, support for the Hutton Junior biologist program and scores of other worthy causes. So when you attend remember to be generous in purchasing raffle tickets.

The second day will begin with a series of talks about how organizations outside of the traditional resource groups (state, tribal and academic) are working on aquatic resource issues. This will be followed by a series of submitted presentations and the Annual business meeting. Once the business meeting concludes (hopefully before midnight), a pre-meal social (which will include beer if everyone hasn't drunk it all the night before) and banquet will take place. A half day of presentations will end the meeting on the 5<sup>th</sup>.

Since the meeting is taking place in the Twin Cities, registration costs will be higher than in Duluth. However, we will be offering an early registration program with substantial discounts over the cost of registering at the Meeting. We are also trying to provide a meeting only registration fee. The full registration will include the meeting facilities, Audio Visual, snack breaks (which are available throughout the day), continental breakfast on Tuesday and Wednesday, lunch on Tuesday, and the snacks and beer at the socials. Attendance at the Banquet is not required but encouraged and the cost is tentatively set at \$20.

I hope you all can make it. Please contact John Hiebert at 763-675-3301 for more details.

### MN Chapter AFS Continuing Education Survey

**The Minnesota Chapter of the American Fisheries Society is updating continuing education needs and interests of our membership. This updated information will be used to guide development of future continuing education workshops sponsored by the Chapter. Historically, the Chapter has received little response to these kinds of inquiries. With the revised Professional Certification procedures recently implemented by the parent society, it is now more important than ever to pursue professional development. This survey is your vehicle for influencing what's offered, so take a moment to fill it out and return it to the Continuing Education Committee at: Michael Duval, MnDNR, Regional Fisheries Office, 1601 Minnesota Drive, Brainerd, MN 56401**

Or via email: [michael.duval@dnr.state.mn.us](mailto:michael.duval@dnr.state.mn.us)

**Instructions:** Please review the following list of continuing education topics and indicate those proposed courses you would be interested in attending. You may select as many courses as interest you, and you are encouraged to insert others that would be beneficial to your professional development. For the courses you select, please prioritize them by indicating your highest priority numerically beginning with "1" and so on through to your lowest preference.

Topic Area and Proposed Course	Rank	Topic Area and Proposed Course	Rank
Biology		Statistics	
Population dynamics		Refresher statistics	
Multi-species interactions		Spatial statistics	
Non-indigenous species		Fisheries/culture math	
Diseases/parasites		Non-parametric tests	
Genetics		Multi-variate statistics	
Other:		Other:	
Management		GIS/Computers	
Hab. enhancement/restoration		ArcView primer	
Watershed processes		Kriging and interpolation	
Lake reclamation		Other:	
Land preservation/protection		Fish culture	
Other:		Disease control	
Techniques/technology		Hatchery techniques	
Standard sampling methods		Pond management	
Instream flow		Reclamation techniques	
Fish/critter ID		Other:	
Plant ID		Population Modeling	
Hydroacoustics		Population estimation	
Rosgen methodology		F.A.S.T. and other models	
Age and growth		Other:	
Tags and tagging		Human Dimensions/Socioeconomics	
Remote sampling		Public involvement	
Aquatic plant restoration		Conflict management	
Other:		Natural resources economics	
Contaminants		Facilitation/mediation skills	
Environmental contaminants		Other:	
Other:			

Comments:

## 2001-2002 Minnesota Chapter of the American Fisheries Society

### Chapter Officers

President	Brian Borkholder	brianborkholder@fdlrez.com	218-878-8004; fax 218-879-4854
President-elect	John Heibert	john.hiebert@dnr.state.mn.us	763-675-3301;
Past President	Brad Parsons	brad.parsons@dnr.state.mn.us	320-634-4573; fax 320-634-4576
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	Brain Healy	bhealy@fs.fed.us	218-335-8685
Academic	Don Cloutman	dgcloutm1@vax1.bemidji.msus.edu	218-755-2877
Open	Andy Edwards	aedwards@1854.org	218-722-8907

### Committee Chairs

#### *Standing Committees*

Awards	Melissa Drake	melissa.drake@dnr.state.mn.us	651.772.7966
Issues	Brad Parsons	brad.parsons@dnr.state.mn.us	320.634.4573
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	Eric Altena	eric.altena@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
FWLA Delegate	Bruce Vondracek	bcv@finsandfur.fw.umn.edu	612.624.3421
	Don Pereira	don.pereira@dnr.state.mn.us	651.772.7962
Historian	Jeff Sluiter	jsluiter@yahoo.comopen	952.432.6992
Continuing Education	Mike Duval	mike.duval@dnr.state.mn.us	218.828.2271
	Ray Valley	ray.valley@dnr.state.mn.us	651.793.6539
	Phil Talmage	philip.talmage@dnr.state.mn.us	651.284.3587
Procedure Manual	open		
RYBA Editor . Newsletter	Loren Miller	lmm@fw.umn.edu	612.624.3019
Webmaster	Wansuk Senanan	ws@fw.umn.edu	612.624.0744
MN TWS Representative	Mike North	michael.north@dnr.state.mn.us	218.828.2433
MN Science Fair	Shannon Fisher	shannon.fisher@dnr.state.mn.us	507. 831.2919

#### *NCD Tech Committees*

Rivers and Streams	Tom Groshens	tom.groshens@dnr.state.mn.us	218.755.2974
Salmonid	Pat Rivers	pat.rivers@dnr.state.mn.us	651.345.3365
Centrarchid	Mike McInerny	mike.mcinery@dnr.state.mn.us	320.234.2562
Esocid	Rod Peirce	rod.pierce@dnr.state.mn.us	218.327.4452
Walleye	Todd Kolander	todd.kolander@dnr.state.mn.us	507.362.4223
Ictalurid	Kevin Martini	kevin.martini@dnr.state.mn.us	218.634.2522

**Internet:** Minnesota Chapter, [www.fw.umn.edu/mnafs](http://www.fw.umn.edu/mnafs); 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.

Minnesota Chapter AFS  
Attn: Loren Miller  
Dept. Fisheries and Wildlife  
200 Hodson Hall, Univ. of Minnesota  
1980 Folwell Ave.  
St. Paul, MN 55108

