



RYBA

Newsletter of the Minnesota Chapter of the American Fisheries Society

Year 2003 No. 4
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President's Message

by John Hiebert

As we finalize our plans for the 2004 Annual Meeting and look to the future with our long range plan discussion, I didn't want forget a few housekeeping issues from 2003. I would like to remind any chapter members who have not sent in their chapter dues for this year, to please do so. Some of you have been long time chapter members but missed the 2003 Annual Meeting and therefore did not pay for your dues along with registration. I would encourage any of you to mail in your dues and keep your membership up-to-date. Your membership fees help support all of the good activities the chapter does, which in turn has allowed it to be recognized as the most active in the parent

society. I would also like to remind students that even though your membership is free, to fill out your membership forms and send them to our chapter secretary Donna Dustin. By doing this, you allow us to keep our membership database up to date, and it allows you to receive updates about upcoming events and chapter information. Thank you for your help on this.

I would also encourage any chapter members who are not parent society members to consider joining for 2004. After becoming chapter president and meeting some of the staff and officers in the parent society, I have a better appreciation of the hard work they do as advocates for aquatic resources and for fisheries biologists. Through our professional society we have an independent voice on issues critical to our aquatic resources. Join on-line at the parent society's website.

The 2004 Parent Society Annual Meeting will be held August 21st-26th in Madison, Wisconsin and I would encourage chapter members to attend. It isn't often the parent society meeting is held this close to Minnesota, and attending an annual meeting gives one an opportunity to learn about a wider variety of topics than are typically presented at a chapter or division level meeting. I truly enjoyed the Annual Meeting I attended this summer and I would highly recommend that chapter members make the short drive down I-94 to attend this one. Even if there will be Packer fans present.

The 2004 Annual Meeting of the Minnesota Chapter of the American Fisheries Society (MNAFS) is scheduled for March 15th-17th at the Kelly Inn in St Cloud. It will be a joint meeting with the Minnesota Chapter of the Society of Conservation Biology (SCB). Loren has put together a great agenda, with plenty of opportunities too see technical papers and posters, interact with peers and socialize with members of MNAFS and SCB. The first call for papers has already gone out and abstracts for the conference will be accepted until January 16th.

A session is being set up at the Annual Meeting to help develop the next long-range plan for MNAFS. Matt Ward, the new Long Range Planning

RYBA editor: David Anderson
The Chapter publishes **RYBA** four times yearly (February, May, September, and December). Past issues can be found at the Chapter website: www.fw.umn.edu/mnafs
Please direct comments or submissions to:
david.anderson@dnr.state.mn.us

The views and opinions expressed herein are not necessarily those of the Minnesota Chapter.

Chair, David Fulton and myself will be organizing the session. This will be an opportunity for all chapter members to voice their opinions on where the chapter should be going in the next 3 years. At this meeting, members will suggest topics they would like the Chapter to tackle; after all of the topics are compiled, members will have the opportunity to vote on which topics are the most critical. This information will be used as the basis for our next long-range plan. Prior to the Annual Meeting, a series of questions will be placed on the chapter website to help facilitate discussion at the planning session. If you are unable to attend the Annual Meeting, please send your ideas to Matt or myself.

The changes in the chapter's bylaws were approved unanimously. The parent society parliamentary procedures chair is reviewing these changes, and a few cosmetic ones may be proposed for a vote at the upcoming annual meeting. If any changes are proposed, they will be available for viewing on the chapter website prior to the Annual Meeting. I will also be proposing an increase in chapter dues from 7 to 10 dollars. This will also be voted on at the annual meeting. In the previous RYBA I asked for input from chapter members about this change, and so far all responses have been positive. If you have any questions or comments about the proposed change, please e-mail or call me.

I hope you all have a good winter and I will see you all in St Cloud.

Officer Reports

President Elect
By Loren Miller

2nd CALL FOR PAPERS AND POSTERS

Deadline for abstracts: January 16, 2004

The 37th Annual Meeting of the Minnesota Chapter of the American Fisheries Society
March 15 -17, 2004 in St. Cloud, Minnesota
Joint Meeting with the Minnesota Chapter of the Society for Conservation Biology

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 Imm@umn.edu, or mail the abstract on disk or paper to Loren Miller at Dept. Fisheries, Wildlife and Conservation Biology, 200 Hodson Hall, 1980 Folwell Ave., St. Paul, MN 55108. Include the title, author(s), institution, mailing address, phone number, e-mail address, presenter and classification (open or student). Also please indicate if you choose oral presentation only, poster only, or oral presentation preferred but willing to bring poster.

Plans for the 2004 meeting are set. The meeting will be held at the Kelly Inn in St. Cloud, the site of past successful annual meetings. This central location should make it accessible to many members. The Kelly Inn has space for all meeting activities plus many hotel rooms without needing to head outdoors. A block of rooms will be held for the MNAFS-MNSCB meeting. Please contact the hotel by February 15, 2004 to reserve one of these rooms. The rates are \$62 single, \$82 double. Other hotels are within walking distance or short drives.

We will be joined by the newly formed Minnesota Chapter of the Society for Conservation Biology. The meeting will follow our typical format: Monday evening registration and social, Tuesday plenary, presentations, business meeting, and banquet, and Wednesday half-day of presentations. We will have joint

sessions that highlight the connections between our respective disciplines and some concurrent sessions. I also plan to have one extended session for our chapter to begin developing an updated long-range plan. On Tuesday afternoon we will have a poster session to increase the visibility and standing of our poster presentations.

(Note: Further details will be posted on the Chapter website as they become available.)

**Secretary-Treasurer
Donna Dustin**

Donna provided minutes from the November Executive Committee meeting. They can be found on the chapter website (www.fw.umn.edu/mnafsf/).

**ExCom - Open
By Andy Edwards**

That little thing called freeze up started about November 1st here in the northeast portion of the State. Means the fish squeezers are gonna have to start working indoors again for the most part. First report of people icefishing was November 8th around Duluth. While I was working at a deer station collecting heads for CWD testing I saw a couple of fishermen pulling boats that returned their minnows after finding several inches of ice at the local landings. Even with the above average temperatures and rain this past week many of the small lakes still had some ice as of this morning.

I can't say that I have a whole lot to report this time. Most of my pleas for info fell on deaf ears or resulted in auto reply messages saying folks were out of the office. Guess a lot of us are burning vacation time chasing whitetails around the woods.

Combined efforts of the 1854 Authority and Fond du Lac band finally resulted in completing our fall electrofishing surveys for young-of-year walleyes. I spent a few longer nights on the water this year. Had something to do with the honorable past-president Borkholder, a windy night on Mille Lacs, and a swamped shocking boat. I would suggest that you mention this to him at the upcoming annual meeting over a beer or two. It is really a good story. Back to the surveys, it didn't look like a very good year for natural reproduction in most of the lakes we survey in the northeast.

Folks I've talked to say that whitefish netting has been pretty good on lakes that were opened this year. Kind of a small but hardcore group that partakes in this activity.

Since the onset of winter seems to have slowed the fisheries news to a trickle, I will wrap this up and get on with burning my vacation time in the deer woods. Have a safe and happy winter season. Hope to see you at the annual meeting in March.

Committee Reports

Membership

By Calub Shavlik

The 2003 Minnesota Chapter of the American Fisheries Society had 206 members of which 29 were non-paying students. These numbers are slight increase from 2002, when the membership was 201 with 21 non-paying students. A memo was sent out to active members of 2002 that did not renew in 2003. This might result in a last minute increase in membership. During the next year, we need to recruit members to reach or surpass numbers from 2003, but hopefully reach the record level of 295 in 2001. In 2003, there were 144 chapter members that were also members of the parent society. Try to convince colleagues or friends that are currently working in the field or are interested in fisheries issues in Minnesota, of the benefits of belonging to the chapter. If you or someone you know wants to join, refer to the chapter website or contact Donna Dustin for instruction.

Nominations

Upcoming Election – Elections will be held this winter for Chapter President and two Excom seats (academic and open). All three races are unopposed, but it is still important that you still remember to vote. Each of the candidates has written a brief biography – these can be found on page 9. Now is the time to begin looking for nominees for next year, when elections will be held for the positions of President, DNR-Excom and Federal-Excom. Send your nominations to Greg Busacker.

Continuing Education

Geostatistics Course – There are still a few spots available for the January 15th course. Registration is due by January 8th. Details and a registration form are available on the Chapter website.

Esocid Technical Committee

By Rod Pierce

The Esocid Technical Committee held a mid-year meeting at Kemp Natural Resources station (Woodruff, Wisconsin) 9-11 July 2003. The theme of the meeting was assessment and protection of esocid habitat. Featured speakers were Anna Sugden-Newbery and Greg Sass from the Center for Limnology, University of Wisconsin-Madison, who described the importance of woody debris and lakeshore development to fish communities in Wisconsin lakes. UW personnel took us on a tour of Red Rock Lake where several studies have been conducted. Much of the discussion during the business meeting centered around an upcoming Muskies Inc. symposium to be held in Indiana during September 2004. The technical portion of the symposium has since been cancelled. Steve Pallo, Illinois Department of Natural Resources, was elected as incoming chair of the committee and will be installed during our meeting at the Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference in December. Tim Simonson, Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources was elected as chair-elect. Anyone interested in committee activities should contact Daniel Isermann at dan.isermann@dnr.state.oh.us, or Minnesota Chapter representative Rod Pierce at rod.pierce@dnr.state.mn.us.

Salmonid Technical Committee

By Pat Rivers

The STC's last large event was the Trout and Trout Angler II Workshop in July of 2000. Since then, there has been little turnout for summer meetings or the annual business meeting. Much of this is likely due to budget constraints and lack of out-of-state travel for many agencies. Mark Ebbers, the current chairman of the STC recently mailed a letter to STC members hoping to get members more active. The STC currently has over \$7000 in the treasury available to address NCD trout and salmon issues. If you are interested in becoming more involved or have ideas on how to reinvigorate the STC, please contact Mark Ebbers.

Awards

By Melissa 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. There are many people out there working hard to make the world a better place for fish - don't let their efforts go unnoticed!

ATTENTION students! Do you want to learn how to improve your presentation skills or put together a better poster? If so, volunteer to judge papers or posters at the upcoming Chapter meeting. It is a great learning experience and an excellent way to get involved. All chapter members are eligible to judge papers or posters.

Have you or someone you know been a member of the Chapter for 25 years? If so, please let us know. 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.

The **Special Recognitions Awards** can only be given to Chapter members (Appendix C of Procedures Manual). It is given in recognition of special service to the Chapter, such as outgoing officers or committee chairs or members who provide a special service to the Chapter. Chapter members who contribute to advancement of the goals of the Chapter through their participation in resource related projects are also eligible for Special Recognition Awards.

Each Special Recognition Award nomination must include (Procedures Manual Appendix C-4):

1. The name, address, email, and phone number of the nominator.
2. The name, address, email, and phone number of the nominee.
3. The nominee's current position.
4. A short statement of why the nomination is being made. If the nomination is to recognize service to the Chapter, the service provided must be described. If the nomination is for a special project, the nature of the project and the nominee's role must be described.
5. Although not required, supporting materials and names of other people familiar with the nominee's accomplishments may provide useful information for determining award eligibility.

The **Award of Excellence** may be presented to any individual or group, regardless of membership in the AFS, in recognition of years of dedicated service to the fishery profession or in recognition of an outstanding effort to further the goals of the AFS and the Chapter. The purpose of the Award of Excellence is to recognize outstanding efforts of persons or groups to preserve, promote, or improve fish populations, fish habitat, or the field of fishery science. This Award it recognize extraordinary service above and beyond the call of duty.

The criteria on which the award is based include the following:

1. Is the accomplishment or professional service truly above and beyond the call of duty?
2. What is the extent of the impact the nominee has had?
3. Is the impact exceptional, given the position and location of the individual?
4. How well do the accomplishments of the nominee match the goals of the AFS and the Chapter?

Each Award of Excellence nomination must include (Procedures Manual Appendix C-4):

1. The name, address, email, and phone number of the nominator.
2. The name, address, email, and phone number of the nominee.
3. The nominee's current position.
4. Nomination statement - indicate how and why the nominee is worthy of the award. Describe the impact or significant contribution the individual has made. One or two typed pages.
5. Support documentation - other material may be included to document the nominee defense.
6. List the name, title, address, and telephone number of two other people who are familiar with the nominee's accomplishments.

Past Award Recipients:

Award of Excellence

- 1989 Dr. Calvin Fleming
 1990
 1991 Dr. Thomas Waters
 1992 Representative Willard Munger
 1993 Dennis Schupp
 1994
 1995
 1996 Jack Skrypeck
 1997 Robert Strand
 1998 Dennis Ernst
 1999 Jack Wingate
 2000 Dr. George Spangler
 2001 not given
 2002 William C. Thorn
 2003 Warren (Joe) Scidmore

Special Recognition Award

- 1993 Donald Schreiner
 Timothy Goeman
 1994 Bradford Parsons
 Mark Cook
 1995 Henry Drewes
 1997 Deserae Bushong

-
- Tracy Close
Jeffery Reed
1998 Jingyin Li - website
Henry VanOffelen
1999 Gerald Grant - website
2000 Mark Hove – Continuing ed
Laurie Sovell – Continuing ed
Doug Kingsley
Bruce Vondracek
2001 Linda Erickson-Eastwood – fund raising
Tom Burri – fund raising
2002 Jerry Grant – Continuing Education
Jeff Weiss – Resolutions
2003 Shannon Fisher – Science Fairs
Mike McInerny – Centrarchid Technical Committee service
Brian Borkholder – Hutton Mentor
Cindy Tomcko – Hutton Mentor

Best Paper (at the annual meeting)

- 1989 Barbara Shields
1990 Howard McCormick
1991 Timothy Goeman
1992 Henry Drewes
1993 Weming Li
1994 Tim Essington
1995 Loren Miller
1996 Loren Miller
1997 Carl Richards
1998 Mark Cook
1999 Rod Pierce
2000 Brian Ickes
2001 Gerald Grant
2002 Melissa Drake
2003 Loren Miller

Best Poster (at the annual meeting)

- 1992 Dr. Raymond Newman
1993 John G. Eaton
1994 James Louma
1995 Mark Hove
1996
1997
1998
1999
2000 Jay Hatch
2001 Darren War
2002 Mark Hove
2003 Matthew Ward

25 Year Service Awards

- 1992 Ira Adelman, Jim Grobner, Dick Hassinger, Howard Krosch, Ken Hokanson, Howard McCormick, Huon Newberg, Dennis Schupp, Joe Scidmore, Jack Skrypek, Jim Underhill, Tom Waters, Don Woods
- 1995 William Thorn, Gary Siessennop, Farrel Bandow, Dennis Anderson
- 1998 Robert Davis (>72), Gary Kimball (>71), David McConville (>72), John Spurrier (>73), Tracy Close (>73), Dennis Ernst (>67), Hubert Fisher (>72), Charles Gernes (>67)
- 2002 Virginia Snarski (1976), Harlan Fierstine (1977)

Outgoing President Award

- 1989 Mike Vandeford
- 1990 Daryl Bathel
- 1991 Greg Busacker
- 1992 Jeff Gunderson
- 1993 Virginia Snarski
- 1994 Don Pereira
- 1995 Willian Thorn
- 1996 Carl Richards
- 1997 Larry Kallemeyn
- 1998 Timothy Goeman
- 1999 Bruce Vondracek
- 2000 Paul Radomski
- 2001 Mark Hove
- 2002 Brad Parsons
- 2003 Brian Borkholder

Of Interest**University of MN e-mail changes**

At the end of the year, the Fisheries, Wildlife, and Conservation Biology Department will discontinue the use of their own server for e-mail. Addresses with the current name@fw.umn.edu structure will be converted. Some of you have already notified the Chapter of your new address; for those that haven't, please contact Calub Shavlik (calub.shavlik@dnr.state.mn.us).

Endangered Rivers

The American Rivers organization is asking for nominations for their list of the nation's most endangered rivers. The goal is to raise awareness about rivers of regional or national significance which are facing the most urgent or significant threats. Details and nomination forms can be found at the group's website: <http://www.americanrivers.org/> (click on "River Campaigns").

Fisheries Conservation Foundation

The Fisheries Conservation Foundation (FCF) was formed in 2003 to serve as the outreach arm of AFS. The FCF seeks proposals for projects that are consistent our mission to promote a better understanding of marine and freshwater fishery resources among users, the public, and decision-makers. Proposed projects should be submitted as pre-proposals for one of two deadlines, either December 31, 2003 (Fall cycle this year only) or April 30, 2004 (Spring cycle) to the following address:

Fisheries Conservation Foundation
5410 Grosvenor Lane, Suite 110
Bethesda, MD 20814-2199

Pre-proposals for project funding may be targeted to address issues in any area, but priority consideration will be given to those that propose activities in one or more of the following three PROGRAMMATIC CATEGORIES: Public Outreach and Information, Institutional/Organizational Capacity Building, On-the-Ground Projects and to those that focus on one or more of the following six CONCEPT AREAS: Stocks in Peril, Vanishing Habitats, Polluted Aquatic Ecosystems, Exotic Invasions, Shaping Resource Policies, Enhancing Leadership in Fisheries

This program of funding is designed to support projects that will help the Fisheries Conservation Foundation accomplish its mission. In that regard, funding for primary research or to support agency-mandated initiatives or responsibilities is unlikely.

For more information contact: John Epifanio at (217)766-955

Candidate biographies

Chapter President Elect: Tim Brastrup

I am running for the office of Chapter President so I may assist others in addressing critical issues that face fisheries resource management in Minnesota. The Minnesota Chapter of the American Fisheries Society has a long history of natural resource advocacy in fisheries management. I believe that to have sustainable success in fisheries management, there needs to be a strong science-based professional organization such as the AFS to help foster proper management. I feel that active membership in the chapter helps contribute to the profession. I hope to contribute to the chapter, and my long experience in the field, which began as a seasonal laborer in 1967 to my present position as the Area Fisheries Supervisor at Brainerd with the MN DNR, should be helpful. I have an MA in Fisheries Biology from St. Cloud State University, and have been an adjunct instructor of Natural Resource Management at Central Lakes College in Brainerd, MN, since 1988. I have been a chapter member since 1979 serving on the Excom, and two terms as Chapter Secretary-Treasurer from 2000 to 2002. Being a disabled army veteran, I have also had opportunities to work with several veteran service organizations and that experience has been valuable.

One of the most important aspects of our professional sustainability is the academic contingent of our chapter. College faculty and students are our future and an assurance that the fishery resource will be managed, using fresh ideas and renewed enthusiasm. I also believe strongly that fisheries professionals in the various resource agencies are the backbone of the profession. As Chapter President, I will work hard to sustain the progress already gained by the chapter and to meet the new challenges facing the profession. I am anxious for the opportunity to serve the chapter and to work with the accomplished Chapter Excom and Committee Chairs.

MNAFS Excom - Open: Thomas Howes

My name is Thomas Howes; I am a tribal member of the Fond du Lac Reservation, and an employee as well in our Environmental Program's Water Division. I am the field technician for our Water Division. I am an avid angler, especially when it comes to flyfishing. I became aware of AFS through our Fisheries Biologist, Brian Borkholder. I assisted him in preparing the MN Chapter Annual Conference when it was held in Duluth. I have also worked with a student who was part of the Hutton program, Josh Barney. I look forward to meeting some of the professionals from around the state and hope to contribute as much as I can.

MNAFS Excom – Academic: Julie Zimmerman

I am currently a PhD candidate in the Fisheries program at the University of Minnesota, Twin Cities, and have been in the program for three years. My dissertation research examines replacement of native brook trout by nonnative brown trout in Minnesota streams, and how this change in a top predator affects growth of other native fish (slimy sculpin), macroinvertebrate assemblages, and prey availability for all species. Before starting my doctorate, I worked as a research fellow at the University of Minnesota, and completed a project with Bruce Vondracek modeling the effects of agricultural land use on suspended sediment and fish communities in Minnesota watersheds. My educational background includes a M.S. in Ecology from Colorado State University and a B.A. in Environmental Studies and Geography from University of California, Santa Barbara.

I have been a member of AFS and the MN chapter since 2000. I have served as the chair of the Student Committee for MNAFS, and am currently serving as the Academic Executive Committee Representative. I am also currently serving on the Graduate Resources Committee of the North American Benthological Society (NABS), and was the co-chair and co-founder of the NABS Mentor Community Development Subcommittee. I received the MNAFS Best Student Paper Award in 2002, was runner-up for the parent society's J. Frances Allen Scholarship in 2003, and received the NABS President's Award in 2003.

Upcoming Events

MN AFS Continuing Education Geostatistics for Fisheries

January 15th 2004 10am – 4pm
U of MN – St. Paul Campus

details available on the Chapter website

The 37th Annual Meeting of the Minnesota Chapter of the American Fisheries Society St. Cloud, Minnesota March 15 -17, 2004

Joint Meeting with the
Minnesota Chapter of the Society for Conservation Biology

(see Loren's call for papers on page 2)

2004 Midcontinent Warm Water Fish Culture Workshop Council Bluffs, Iowa February 2 - 4, 2004

4th World Fisheries Congress Vancouver, BC CANADA May 2 - 6, 2004

American Fisheries Society Annual Meeting Madison, Wisconsin August 21 – 26, 2004

Wild Trout VIII Symposium Yellowstone National Park September 20 - 22, 2004

details available at www.wildtrout8.com

Chapter Officers

President	John Hiebert	mottled_sculpin@hotmail.com	763-675-3301; fax 763-675-3147
President-elect	Loren Miller	lmm@umn.edu	612-624-3019
Past President	Brian Borkholder	brianborkholder@fdlrez.com	218-878-8004; fax 218-879-4854
Secretary-Treasurer	Donna Dustin	donna.dustin@dnr.state.mn.us	218-847-1579; fax 218-847-1588

Excom Members

Minnesota DNR	David Anderson	david.anderson@dnr.state.mn.us	763-675-3301
Federal	David Fulton	dcf@fw.umn.edu	612-625-5256
Academic	Julie Zimmerman	henry041@umn.edu	612-624-7495
Open	Andy Edwards	aedwards@1854authority.org	218-722-8907

Committee Chairs*Standing Committees*

Awards	Melissa Drake	melissa.drake@dnr.state.mn.us	651-772-7966
Issues	Brian Borkholder	brianborkholder@fdlrez.com	218-878-8004
Long Range Planning	Matt Ward	matt.ward@dnr.state.mn.us	218-525-0853
Membership	Calub Shavlik	calub.shavlik@dnr.state.mn.us	218-547-1683
Nominations	Greg Busacker	greg.busacker@dot.state.mn.us	651-284-3759
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	Anne Cooper	amcoop@fw.umn.edu	612-624-0744

Special or Ad Hoc Committees

Fishing Round Table	Mark Hove	mark.hove@fw.umn.edu	612-624-3019
Fund Raising	Tom Burri	tom.burri@dnr.state.mn.us	218-286-5220
	Brian Borkholder	brianborkholder@fdlrez.com	218-878-8004
FWLA Delegates	Bruce Vondracek	bvondrac@umn.edu	612-624-3421
	Don Pereira	don.pereira@dnr.state.mn.us	651-772-7962
Historian	Jeff Sluiter	jsluiter@yahoo.com	952-432-6992
Continuing Education	Mike Duval	michael.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
MN TWS Representative	Mike North	michael.north@dnr.state.mn.us	218-828-2433
Procedure Manual	Mike McInerny	mike.mcinerney@dnr.state.mn.us	320-234-2562
MN Science Fair	Shannon Fisher	shannon.fisher@dnr.state.mn.us	507-831-2919
Webmaster/Ryba Editor	David Anderson	david.anderson@dnr.state.mn.us	763-675-3301

NCD Technical Committee Representatives

Centrarchid	Cindy Tomcko	cindy.tomcko@dnr.state.mn.us	218-327-4456
Esocid	Rod Peirce	rod.pierce@dnr.state.mn.us	218-327-4452
Rivers and Streams	Karl Koller	karl.koller@dnr.state.mn.us	218-327-4124
Salmonid	Pat Rivers	pat.rivers@dnr.state.mn.us	218-547-1683
Walleye	Jeff Reed	jeff.reed@dnr.state.mn.us	320-634-4573
Ictalurid	Dennis Topp	ourfish@means.net	218-634-2522