

# *American Institute of Fishery Research Biologists*

## **. . . BRIEFS . . .**

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(CANADA, UNITED STATES, AND OTHER COUNTRIES)

OCTOBER 1978

### **REVIVAL**

You received a compact "Report 1977" in July that served as a substitute for BRIEFS. An Editorial Review Committee, resulting from the 1977 Board of Control meeting, in their report to the 1978 Board, agreed with comments submitted by Heward Bell that BRIEFS should be a more substantial publication worthy of AIFRB.

It has been a year since our last issue of BRIEFS and the prospects for a substantially different newsletter are not very likely for the next year. We are planning four issues before the next Board of Control meeting, in Montana, September 1979. I will need your help in preparing an acceptable newsletter. Please keep these closing dates for the next three issues in mind: January 15; April 1; and July 1, 1979.

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### **PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

I am looking forward to serving as your President for the next two years. The superb performance of Bob Borovicka, immediate Past President, will be difficult to emulate. I shall continue to promote the purposes of the Institute as stated in the Articles of Incorporation.

In the next few months, I will be contacting some of you to serve in various positions. As stated in the Bylaws, the President must appoint a Secretary-Treasurer, Secretary of Membership, Regional Directors, a Membership Review Committee, and a Nominating Committee. In addition, at the last meeting of the Board of Control, the President was authorized to appoint a committee to examine the possibility of altering Policy Statement IV - Declaration of Affiliation (Policy Statements are attached to the Bylaws) so that a merger of AIFRB with another group may be considered. If any member or Fellow of the Institute is interested in serving on any of these committees, please let me know.

Recently, I received some comments concerning standards for gaining membership in our Institute. Let me assure you that even though we wish to expand our membership, the standards for membership and the criteria for elevation in rank (Associate to Member to Fellow) are being maintained. I can report to you that this is so, having witnessed the actions of the Board of Control concerning promotions at the last Board meeting in Kingston, Rhode Island.

Please be assured that I shall welcome any suggestions, criticisms, or comments on what the Institute is (or isn't) doing, and what it should do. Again, let me say that I am looking forward to the next two years.

Gene Nakamura

### **BOARD OF CONTROL MEETING HIGHLIGHTS**

KINGSTON, R.I., AUGUST 21-22, 1978

ATTENDANCE: Robert L. Borovicka, President; Eugene L. Nakamura, President Elect; Alan J. Mearns, Southern California; H. William Newman, Metro Washington, D.C.; Henry D. Wendler, N.W. Washington; Bruce L. Wing, Alaska; J.Y. Christmas, N.E. Gulf; and Kirk T. Beinigen, Oregon-S.E. Washington.

AFS-AIFRB MERGER PROPOSAL tabled until a new Committee can examine the possibility of altering Policy Statement IV - Declaration of Affiliation, so that a merger with another group may be considered.

DISTRICT DIRECTORS AND THE REGIONAL DIRECTORS, to be appointed by Pres. Nakamura, are requested to canvass members for advancement.

REGIONAL DIRECTORS should represent members in their Region that do not belong to a District.

EACH PRESIDENT WILL ATTEND A MEETING IN EACH District during his term as President Elect, President, or Past President.

PRESIDENT NAKAMURA to canvass Board of Control to consider recommending change of Bylaws to:

- (a) Reduce District Directors Term of Office from 3 to 2 years.
- (b) Regional Directors may be appointed from immediate Past District Directors.

INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION OF THE EASTERN NORTH PACIFIC (ICENP) proposed by the Northwest Washington District to provide a working compact for Canada, U.S., U.S.S.R., Japan, Taiwan, Korea, Mexico, and others. Board requested a written report on the status of commission and Bruce Wing and Henry Wendler will inquire also.

JOHN W. REINTJES, Carolina District, appointed BRIEFS Editor.

NEW DISTRICTS UNDER CONSIDERATION are the formation of New York-New Jersey District and potential Districts being discussed for the Denver area, Texas, and British Columbia.

DISCUSSION: Federal and State Fishery Agency heads should be fishery scientists according to opinions obtained by informal poll in several Districts. The American Fisheries Society should be commended on their stand against political appointments to positions requiring professional scientists.

## DISTRICTS IN ACTION

### ALASKA

Alaska District held two meetings during the past year. Late spring, summer and early fall is the active field season for most of the members so meetings then are not worthwhile. A letter was prepared to the Alaska State Coastal Zone Planning Commission supporting the recommendations of the National Marine Fisheries Service Region 5 on timber harvest practices and leave strips in Southeastern Alaska.

William A. Smoker (Founding Fellow) received the Alaska District Pacific Fisheries Biologist award at the District annual picnic meeting. A meeting will be held in October to plan a program on multispecies fisheries and extended jurisdiction in the Northeast Pacific.

### CAROLINA

Carolina District has 40 members distributed over a large area so that attendance at meetings is a major problem. In August, at Charleston, S.C., Ernest Premetz, Executive Director of the South Atlantic Fishery Management Council presented the

present activities and plans of the Council and the increasing demands of Fishery Management Plans for research information.

A meeting is planned in October to make plans for the coming year to increase membership, for greater member participation at meetings and with District fishery problems.

### CENTRAL CALIFORNIA

Our newest District is sizing up its membership and planning its first year. Increasing the membership, having productive and interesting meetings that will attract members, and setting up District objectives will dominate the up-coming meetings.

### FLORIDA

The major activity group of the District is "The Fishery and Environmental Advisory Committee". During the past year they have:

- (a) recommended caution regarding the introduction of grass carp, especially in restricted waters, and accompanying parasite introductions.
- (b) concluded that the introduction of snook to fresh waters was not an environmental problem.
- (c) advised the State Legislative sponsor of a size limit on 5 species of groupers to modify his bill.

The District, with approximately 70 widely-scattered members, meets four times a year.

### METROPOLITAN WASHINGTON, D.C.

Three meetings were held during the past year: The first, in March, was an evening meeting devoted to a seminar by Irwin Alperin, Executive Director, Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission, on his views of the implementation of the Fishery Conservation and Management Act. The Councils are dependent on biologists from State and Federal agencies for advice and assistance in developing plans. He noted that the work load on those currently involved was heavy and he urged participation by more biologists.

The second, in June, centered around a talk by Barry Nichols, Assistant Vice President and Manager of Environmental Projects for Science Applications, Inc., entitled "Ethics in Conflict of Interest from a Consultant's Point of View". The topic has been an area of concern to AIFRB.

The third, in August, was a luncheon specifically held to allow members to meet AIFRB President Robert Borovicka. The meeting was well attended.

A committee, headed by Clarence Idyll (Founding Fellow), has prepared a list of objectives for the

District members to be discussed at the next meeting:

1. To use the professional competence, knowledge and experience of the members to serve the public.
2. To increase communication among the members of the District on a personal and professional basis.
3. To promote the standing and dignity of fishery research as a profession.
4. To examine the responsibility which the profession should assume.

## NORTHEASTERN GULF OF MEXICO

As a relatively new District, last year was spent on organizing and recruiting. Widely-separated members are obstacles to well-attended District meetings as in most other Districts. A successful and well-attended Meeting was held at Ocean Springs, Miss. on May 24, 1978. A program on "Gulf of Mexico Trawl Fishery Problems" was chaired by Charles M. Roithmayr.

For the coming year, meetings are planned parts of the District with a local Chairman preparing a program of concern and interest to the locality. The first meeting for the year is planned for early November when nominations for District Officers will be made.

## NORTHWEST WASHINGTON

Northwest Washington District has monthly meetings with attendance ranging from 30 to a maximum of 60 that attended the November 1977 meeting and panel discussion on "Principles and Risks of Managing Mixed Stock Fisheries".

The District had an exceptional program on the workings of the Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council. This is a unique method of reviewing applications for energy facilities through 14 State Agencies in a once-through coordinated evaluation.

Effective communication between biologists and reporters, script writers, broadcasters, and telecasters was emphasized during the year.

## OREGON-SOUTHWEST WASHINGTON

Continues to be one of the more active Districts with successful luncheon meetings. A workshop on "Juvenile Salmonids in Estuaries" was well-attended and proved to be the highlight of the year.

A statement was sent to the Oregon Legislature disapproving of appointments by the Governor to some positions that were more appropriately the responsibility of the Fish Commission.

## SOUTH CENTRAL GREAT LAKES

The series of informal seminars and discussions was continued last year under the leadership of Neal Foster, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Meetings are rotated between Ann Arbor and East Lansing to encourage participation from members in both locations. Traditionally these sessions are followed by refreshments and additional discussions.

The four programs were:

Great Lake fish larvae are being entrained--so what! Richard Cole, Michigan State Univ., David Jude, Univ. Michigan. Discussant: Eugene Fritz, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

Involvement of Michigan State University students in overseas fishery projects through the Peace Corps. Robert Ceru, Michigan State Univ., with comments and observations by Susan Baker and John Hamilton, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

Fishery science for the 1980's. Henry A. Regier, Univ. Toronto.

Three studies on trout in Michigan inland lakes and streams. Gaylord Alexander, Howard Gowing and Richard Clark. Michigan Department of Natural Resources.

## SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

On June 6, 1978 the District sponsored a "Stock Abundance Estimation Workshop" at San Clemente. Ten working papers on methods ranged from quadrant surveys, tagging, catch/effort; virtual populations, incidental catch, planktonic eggs and larvae, aerial and acoustical surveys. Ninety attendees with some from Washington, D.C. and Florida. The District plans 5 or 6 meetings a year and the first for the new year will be in October when program plans will be made.

## EDITOR'S COMMENT

District activities and their objective accomplishments are the vital signs of AIFRB. I have relied on information from many sources, including some good reports from District officers, to prepare the preceding section. Districts in Action was a misnomer in some Districts during the past year. It is obvious to me that most of the Districts have many of the same problems: Regular meetings, widely-scattered members and attendance, and a program or plan of action. I hope to get a report from each District for the February BRIEFS that includes highlights of a meeting or two and program emphasis for the year. Several recent developments may help to bring the Districts in closer contact with each other: These are the formations of Regions, the

appointment of Regional Directors, and visitation by the President during his incumbency on the Board of Control.

## FINAL REPORT - COMMITTEE TO INVESTIGATE A NAME CHANGE FOR THE INSTITUTE.

The final report of the committee, established by the 1976 Board of Control was submitted to the 1978 Board. The conclusion was:

"This issue of changing the name of the Institute to better reflect the current composition of its membership does not appear to be a "burning" one for the membership. Only 34 percent of the members were concerned enough to complete the questionnaire. Among those that did respond, a clear majority (59 percent) favored retention of the current name for the reasons that ranged from mild to strong. If the name of the Institute were changed, the respondents favored the names "Institute of Fishery Research Biologists" and "Institute of Professional Fisheries Scientists" in that order. However, the results here are not too clear because a large percentage (43 percent) of the ballots marked yes on Question 1 did not specify an alternative name. Consequently, the results would likely be different if the respondents were given only the choice of voting for an alternative name. We suggest, therefore, that should the Board decide to change the name of the Institute, the results to Question 2 not be used as the sole basis for selecting a new name. However, based on the results of the poll, in which a clear majority of the respondents preferred retention of the current name, the Committee recommends that a name change not be considered at this time."

Gary T. Sakagawa, Chairman  
Walter R. Nelson  
Roy J. Wahle

## IN MEMORIAM

We have learned of the passing of our members and colleagues:

JOHN C. DOBIE, MEMBER 1959  
St. Paul, Minnesota  
ROBERT LYNN CHEW, MEMBER 1974  
Juneau, Alaska

## NEW DIRECTORY OF MEMBERS IN 1979

Please check your directory listing and if your address is incorrect or has been changed, send the correct address to F. Heward Bell.

## AFS CALL FOR PAPERS

The American Fisheries Society 109th Meeting will be held at West Yellowstone, Montana on Sept. 12 - 15, 1979. The deadline for submission of formal abstracts to be considered for contributed technical sessions is March 15. Abstracts should be double spaced and limited to 250 words. Include the reason for doing the study, the objectives, the principal results and conclusions. Include title, full name and address of each author and if the author is a student. State what visual aids are required (2 x 2 slides preferred). Authors will be notified the state of their submission by late May.

Proposals for symposia, modules, debates and poster sessions by individuals or groups will be accepted until January 15.

All proposals, abstracts, and queries should be sent to: Dean E. Arnold, A F S Program Chairman 1979, 328 Mueller Laboratory, University Park, PA 16802.

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BRIEFS, the newsletter of the American Institute of Fishery Research Biologists, is published four times a year. It is intended to communicate the professional activities and accomplishments of the Institute, its Districts, and members. Circulation is restricted to Institute membership. Comments and copy materials should be sent to the Editor: John W. Reintjes, National Marine Fisheries Service, Beaufort, N. C. 28516.