American Institute of Fishery Research Biologists

Promoting excellence in fishery science

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Website: www.iattc.org/aifrb/

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President's Message

Greetings!

The annual meeting of the Board of Control has been scheduled to ecede the AFS meeting in Lake Placid, NY. on Saturday-Sunday, September 9-10. Drs. Joe Rachlin and Barbara Warkentine are making arrangements for our meeting. Our thanks to them for all their efforts to make the meeting a success. Dr. Doug Vaughan is organizing two AIFRB-AFS symposia to be held at the AFS meetings this year: "Biology and Assessment of Protogynous Hermaphrodites" and "Abundance Estimation and Stock Assessment: Recent Quantitative Advances" (see pp 5-6). I hope you will all be there to support them and enjoy the presentations.

The W.F. Thompson Award committee, chaired by Dr. Bill Bayliff is currently soliciting nominations for best student paper for 2004. If you know of an outstanding student paper published that year, please contact Bill at wbayliff@iattc.org by April 15. Bill is also looking for a few good reviewers for these papers. If you are interested in being a reviewer, please contact Bill. This is one of the Institute's important awards for outstanding science so please take the time to help Bill and his committee. On behalf of all of AIFRB I want to thank the reviewers for a tremendous job in reviewing the 2003 papers. Thank you.

The Steering and Fund Raising Committees for the 50th Anniversary Symposium, "The Future of Fisheries Science and Management in North America", have continued to work on their plans. The Committees felt they needed a little extra time to organize the symposium so the symposium has been rescheduled for February 2007, still in Seattle. We have funding commitments from NOAA Fisheries and Sea Grant and are waiting to hear from DFO, Canada as well. The two fishery agencies have expressed strong interest in the symposium. General announcements of the symposium should go out in Science, National Fisherman, etc shortly.

An important part of our organization is the awards we give for outstanding fishery biology and conservation research. The committees for each award work hard to select the best research and scientists for recognition. But your help is needed! Please take the time to submit nominations for these awards. The deadlines for nominations are announced in BRIEFS and will be on our new web page; if you have questions about the selection criteria or process, please contact the award chairs or your District or Regional Directors, who are listed in the BRIEFS.

Linda

Meet the Production Editor! John Merriner, M.O.L.*

John V. Merriner retired 3 January 2006 after 23 years of service to the national Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) and 12 years of service to the Commonwealth of Virginia, Virginia Institute of Marine Science (VIMS). John began his career in fisheries science and management in 1970 at the VIMS and the School of Marine Science of the College of William and Mary. John moved on the Beaufort Laboratory of NOAA Fisheries in 1982.

Hailing from Winchester, VA, John began his higher education at Rutgers, the State University of New Jersey (New Brunswick) from which he took a BS in psychology in 1964. He entered North Carolina State University in 1964 and took MS and Ph.D. degrees in Zoology in 1967 and 1973. John's masters thesis dealt with the hatching success of induced centrarchid hybrids as a tool for assessing of alpha level systematic relations. John's Ph.D. dissertation was an exhaustive study of weakfish (*Cynoscion regalis*) life history with a pioneering management plan for the fisheries for this species in North Carolina.

At VIMS, John's work began in the Institute's Advisory Services function, where he worked in the anadromous fish program. At the time of a deep depression in striped bass standing stocks, anadromous fish work in Chesapeake Bay meant mainly the management of river herrings, the alosines. Concurrently, John worked in the Environmental Data Base Directory Project that

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sought to organize and make available environmental data, including data on stiped bass abundance and habitat attributes. John became a Senior Marine Scientist and moved up into administration at VIMS; he served as Department Head of Ichthyology from 1975 to 1982, and eventually served as Acting Division Chief of the Fisheries Division until his departure in 1982.

While at VIMS, John served as an Assistant and then Associate Professor of Marine Science in the School of Marine Science at the College of William and Mary in Virginia. John's voracious reading appetite for all things fishy, along with an encyclopedic knowledge of fish and fisheries is reflected in the diversity of research problems attached by his graduate students. John guided nine MS students and five Ph.D. students through to degrees in his 12 years in the School of Marine Science. Never domineering, John was a quiet mentor who led by example, using his own workhorse ethic as a standard for his students. Thesis and dissertation topics included physiological energetics, functional morphology, trophodynamics, reproductive biology, population level toxicant affects, and comprehensive life-history studies with fishery management implications. Three of his Ph.D. students worked in the early life history of fishes including juvenile fishes.

In Federal service, John began as Acting Chief of the Fisheries Branch of the NOAA Fisheries, Southeast Fisheries Science Center's (SEFSC) Beaufort Laboratory; later John moved into the Branch Chief position. In this position, John had oversight of fisheries research programs in Atlantic and gulf menhaden, coastal pelagies, and reef fishes. John served this position until the transition of the then 100 year old Beaufort Laboratory from NMFS or it's predecessor organizations, to NOAA's National Ocean Service. With the transfer complete, John served as Advisor to the NOS Center Director for fisheries.

John Merriner is a 41 year member of the American Society of Ichthyologists and Herpetologists, a 38 year member of the American Fisheries Society (Marine Fisheries Section and Early Life History Section), and a 32 year member of the American Institute of Fisheries Research Biologists (AIFRB). John was a former member of the Southeast Estuarine Research Society and Sigma Xi Society.

A steadfast advocate of diversity in the workplace, John Merriner promoted education and advancement of minorities of women and minorities of fisheries professions. He received the NOAA Equal Employment Opportunity Person of the Year Award in 1999.

Fisheries scientists find their motivation and gratification in many places - a passion for angling, an association with the commercial fishing enterprise, or simply a fascination with chondrichthyans and osteichthyans as evolutionary successful aquatic vertebrates. John indulged in each of these. John Merriner's true calling, his vocation really, was in the translation and communication of the work of fisheries scientists to fisheries management. John published 23 senior authored, and 30 junior authored papers in peer-review journals, and one book chapter. He also was the author of numerous reports to Management Councils, Commissions and ad hoc committees. John served as a liaison for the Southeast Fisheries Science Center to the South Atlantic Fishery Management Council, Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council, the Caribbean Fishery Management Council, and the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission. He contributed heavily to several management plans, most recently for red porgy. John received the NOAA Group Administrators Award in 2003 for significantly increasing public confidence in NOAA's assessments of population status for specific marine fisheries in the southeastern United States with the development and application of the Southeast Data Assessment Review process. Pursuant with the communication of fisheries science, John served as Scientific Editor of Fisheries Bulletin from 1998 to 2002 and as Production Editor of *Briefs*, the newsletter of AIFRB from 1999 to 2005.

Fisheries scientists and fisheries managers, as well as students, colleagues, and friends, will sorely miss John Merriner and his tireless efforts.

* Man of Leisure

Contributed by Jeff Govoni

And Two More Retirements

Dora Reader
still reachable at Great Lakes Science Center

Charles A. Barans
Now: 644 Clearview Drive
Charleston, SC 29412

McGowan New District Director Northern California

Michael McGowan can be reached at Maristics, Inc located at 1442-A Walnut Street, Ste. 1888, Berkeley, CA 94709.

Founding Fellow: John B. Glude

John Glude was born in Silverdale, Washington, on August 2, 1918 and was graduated from Silverdale High School as class salutatorian in 1935 at the age of 16. He then went on to college at the University of Washington where he earned a BSc. in fisheries, with a minor in engineering, in 1939 and, subsequently, an MBA from the same institution.

His first job following graduation was with the Washington Department of Fisheries (WDF) which he left briefly during World War II to serve as naval architect draftsman at the Tacoma Naval Shipyard. Following the War, he returned to his position as a fishery biologist with the WDF. He was involved with research on the effects of pollution from pulp mills on oysters. This work formed the basis for regulatory actions and the preservation of the valuable oyster resources in the State of Washington. In addition, Mr. Glude was responsible for overseeing the import of seed oysters from Japan for use along the northwest US coastline while employed by the WDF.

In 1948, Mr. Glude left the WDF to accept a position at the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution in Massachusetts to conduct research on the abundance and survival of soft shell clams along the entire US Atlantic coast. The research project was moved the following year to the site of a former federal fish hatchery in Boothbay Harbor, Maine. After being elevated to the position of laboratory director, he initiated further investigations into the artificial propagation of clams and other marine species. His research during those years on the soft shell clam was considered ground-breaking and is still referred to extensively today.

He later joined the US Fish and Wildlife Service and, subsequently, the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), as its laboratory director in Annapolis, Maryland, where he supervised research over methods for farming shellfish with an emphasis on oysters. When that laboratory later was closed, Mr. Glude was reassigned to the NMFS headquarters in Washington, DC, to take charge of that agency's Shellfish Research Branch and its seven regional laboratories. While there, he developed the first National Aquaculture Plan, and led a team of experts to assist Ireland in improving its fisheries resources. His last agency assignment was as Assistant Regional Director of the NMFS's Northwest Regional Office in Seattle, Washington, a position he occupied until his retirement from federal service.

Following retirement, Mr. Glude formed his own consulting company, i.e., Glude Aquaculture Consultants. Among his many pursuits in that capacity, he served as an aquaculture consultant to the U.N. Food and Agriculture Organization.

In addition to his life-long membership in the AIFRB, Mr. Glude was also a life member of several other professional organizations. He served both as Vice President and President of the World Aquaculture Society, and for 2 years as President of the National Shellfisheries Association. During his career, he published more than 100 scientific papers on clam and oyster culture.

Mr. Glude was an avid outdoorsman; he particularly enjoyed fly fishing, duck hunting, kayaking and wind surfing.

He passed away on October 19, 2004 in Annapolis, Maryland.

Assembled by Dick Schaefer

Treasure Found:
Personal Code of Ethics

by W.F. Thompson
Presented: Pacific Fishery Biologists Meeting
Lake Wilderness March 23, 1956

A code of ethics must be based upon certain beliefs. May I state them, frankly admitting that I no more than any man have ruled my life in complete conformity to them.

I believe that I earn my place in this world by the service I can give, not by what I can take from others. I am a part of humanity. Its health and prosperity are my health and prosperity. I help to build today what my children and my students will use and depend upon tomorrow. I am part of a living, evolving, functional organism, and as that part I must plan my life.

I believe that my fellow man must serve as I do, and be served as I am. I owe him his due, his place in the sun, for he cannot help me unless I help him.

Because of these beliefs, and because I have chosen to serve as a scientist, I must play my part in making my science effective. I must further its development; must contribute to its store of knowledge; must take part in its activities.

My intellectual lineage is that of free men. My inheritance is from Darwin, Agassiz, and Jordan and from all those great men who have done things and in turn have left them for me to build on. My debt is to them, and I must keep alive the flame they have kindled. I owe them homage. I must serve no mean politician but rather the great ones in my science. I am a servant of the temple, not the priest; of the principle, not the man.

Because of these beliefs, and because I am one of a scientific group with a purpose in the world, the success of my fellows in their service is vital to me. I must help them to learn, to do, and to play their part. I must help them by recognizing their accomplishments and by giving them their chances. I must not only make my own contributions with my own research, but I must be a teacher for those who can use my help, always maintaining high standards.

Because of these beliefs and because of these duties, I must keep my self-respect and that of my fellows. I must act each day in the consciousness of my responsibilities and my privileges as a scientist. I must not consciously permit myself to be used for unworthy purposes. I must not use my place or have others use it to defraud others, or to render futile the processes of the society upon which we all depend.

Since my value, my worth to me fellows as a scientist, depends upon the contributions to knowledge that I make, and upon their acceptance for these, contributions must be real. They must not be pretense. What I offer must come from me. Since my contributions will be accepted and used only if I am respected and since my opportunities for service depend upon this, I must maintain my standing and my integrity. No false claims, no erroneous conclusions, no false theory, no stolen ideas must come from me.

That my fellow men can recognize me for what I am, so that they can see the metal in the instrument upon which they depend, I must not put forth false claims of merit. I must let others praise me if I am worthy. I must be modest in bearing, yet not avoid responsibility nor lack faith in myself or my abilities.

By reason of all these things, what I contribute to my science must be worthy. To make it worthy, it must be complete as a contribution and reach these who can use it. I must hold this completeness as a day-by-day objective. My aim must be the project for which I hold responsibility, not the money nor the position. I owe attainment of the objective as payment for the time and money invested in me. I must not labor day-by-day and leave my labor fruitless. In these things, I carry my own responsibilities; pay my own debts to the world, I am a scientist; not a serf.

W.F. Thompson

The ideas above are apparently the basis of our Institute's principles of professional conduct. The original document, signed by Thompson, has been forwarded to archivist Kate Myers. Many thanks to Ted Merrell for preserving and presenting this historic document to me. It was an honor to handle it. Ed.

Fiftieth Anniversary Symposium: Status Jan 10, 2006

By Linda Jones

I want to bring you up to date on what has been happening on the 50th Anniversary Symposium and to invite comments. The Steering Committee and the co-conveners are developing the program and list of speakers. Invitations to specific scientists and general announcements of the symposium in Science, National Fishermen, etc., will soon go out. It will be described as an AIFRB 50th Anniversary Symposium in all the announcements so this will be our symposium alone.

Fund Raising: Vidar Wespestad has agreed to chair the Fund Raising Committee which includes Tom Keegan and Bernard Megrey. NMFS has committed to providing 25K, perhaps more. We have applied to Department of Fisheries and Oceans and Dick Beamish believes they will provide some funds as will Sea Grant. We also have some commitments from industry and Washington. So we are making progress on the funding.

Symposium status: As the discussions of the co-conveners and Steering Committee have continued, the focus of the workshop has evolved and the title now is "The Future of Fisheries Science and Management in North America". The description of the symposium is: The symposium will examine the current state of fishery science in North America, in particular, the research opportunities and challenges for the next decade. These will be considered in the context of science in support of fishery management decision-making, policy and technology. Outcomes from the symposium will influence emerging issues and critical scientific questions relevant to fisheries and management in North American and worldwide. This is not exactly the symposium originally proposed, but NMFS and DFO are very interested in this symposium topic and NMFS at least would probably contribute additional funds to support it.

We are seeking good academic participation. One area that will be important is what academic curricula are important for the new ecosystem-approach to fishery management.

The disappointing news is that neither the co-conveners or the Funding Committee feel that they can meet the October 2006 time frame and are proposing February 2007 instead. I am disappointed by the delay, but think that we need to have a great symposium first and foremost. One benefit of waiting is that NMFS likely could provide some support for publication since it would be in a different fiscal year.

Symposium Co-conveners: Brian Rothschild and Dick Beamish; Steering Committee: Rick Methot, Bill Fox, Andy Rosenberg, John Boreman, Fred Serchuck, Steve Murawski

District News: Northern California Vibrant! (anyone else out there?)

The Northern California AIFRB Banquet was held Saturday, January 28th at 5 pm at The Beach Chalet in San Francisco. Cocktails (The Beach Chalet has an extensive list of "in-house" brews) and sunset viewing (fog-dependent) at 5 pm, were followed by dinner at 6 pm. The dinner consisted of 3 courses (a starter, an entree and dessert). There were three entrees (fish, beef/pork, or vegetarian) which with wine, tax (go Arnie! ed.), gratuity and a little for the District cost $35.

Submitted by Michele Barlow

Briefs welcomes (cherishes, covets, pleads for, etc.) district news. Send anything in any form - stone tablets, papyrus scrolls, notes in bottles, emails. I'm really easy! Ed.

AIFRB Smyposia at AFS 2006 Lake Placid

Proposal for Symposium at AFS 2006 Annual Meeting

I. TITLE: Abundance Estimation and Stock Assessment: Recent Quantitative Advances

ORGANIZERS: John M. Hoenig, Douglas S. Vaughan, Erik H. Williams

DESCRIPTION: This symposium will present recent advancements in quantitative methods for the understanding and management of fisheries. The papers presented will cover a wide area of applications related to the assessment of fish populations, both marine and freshwater. Speakers have been chosen from different agencies and universities from a wide geographic area. It is hoped that this broad focus will allow meeting attendees to be exposed to a wide range of perspectives. Quantitative methods symposia similar to this have been very well attended in the past, including those developed by the current organizers [Halifax (1994), Hartford (1998), Charlotte (1999), Phoenix (2001), Quebec City (2003), and most recently Madison (2004)]. Quantitative methodologies continue to advance rapidly, so a symposium at Lake Placid seems highly appropriate. Topics of recent interest will continue to be emphasized, including life history estimation, fisheries surveys, tagging, habitat and spatial statistics, assessments with limited data, biological reference points and control rules, multi-species modeling, and the interface between science and management.

SPEAKERS AND TITLES: Featured Speaker - To be announced; Burdick, S., J.E. Hightower, J. Buckel, K.H. Pollock, and L. Paramore: "Selectivity and Survival of North Carolina Red Drum Using 20 Years of Mark and Recapture Data."; Christman, Mary, Jon Volstad, and Danny Lewis: "Spatially-Explicit Modeling of Population Dynamics of *Crassostrea virginica* in the Chesapeake Bay"; Clark, William: "Alarums and excursions: a biography of the Pacific halibut assessment."; Gedamke, Todd, J.M. Hoenig, W. duPaul, and J. Musick: "New approaches to assessing skate populations: what we infer from a trawl survey."; Hart, Dvora: "When do closures increase fishery yields?"; Hasbrouck, James: "Meta-analysis of marine survival of coho salmon in Alaska."; Hoenig, J.M., D. Gauthier and W. Vogelbein: "Impact of mycobacteriosis on striped bass, as inferred from tagging data"; Ianelli, James: "Evaluating single-species, unit-stock assessment models under spatially dynamic conditions."; Ihde, Thomas and J.M. Hoenig: "Performance of index-removal methods for estimating population size and exploitation rate."; Kahn, D.M.: "Improving precision of parameter estimates via an iterative process for estimating and inputting year-specific M estimates in a catch-survey model of the Delaware Bay blue crab stock."; Linton, B.C. and J.R. Bence: "Evaluating methods for estimating process and observation error in statistical catch-at-age analysis"; Maki, Kristin, J. M. Hoenig, D. M. Heisey, and J. E. Olney: "Comparing historical catch rates of American shad in multifilament and monofilament nets: A step towards setting restoration targets for Virginia stocks."; Pollock, Ken H., J. Yoshizaki and C. Jones: " The use of population level natural tags based on otolith microchemistry: Estimation of demographic parameters."; Rose, Ken: "Stock assessment of data-poor, unaged populations: A case study of the small pelagic fisheries."; Schmidt, Dana: "Comparison of catch/age modeling with robust age structured mark/ recapture analysis on some riverine fish stocks in the upper Columbia River"; Sharov, Alexei: "Atlantic striped bass assessment using catch at age and mark and recapture information"; Thorne, Richard E.: "Did the Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Change the Natural Mortality of Herring in Prince William Sound and Invalidate the Age-Structured Model?"; Yoshizaki, Jun and K. H. Pollock: "The

use of individual natural tags: models for estimation of population demographic parameters"; Wilberg, Michael: "Estimation of noncompliance with recreational bag limits for yellow perch in southern Lake Michigan".

CO-SPONSORS: Marine Fisheries Section (AFS), Estuaries Section (AFS) and American Institute of Fisheries Research Biologists (AIFRB).

II. TITLE: Biology and Assessment of Protogynous Hermaphrodites

ORGANIZERS: Elizabeth N. Brooks, Douglas S. Vaughan, Kyle W. Shertzer

DESCRIPTION: Protogynous hermaphrodites start life as female and later switch to male. This life history strategy provides unique challenges to fishery management, as the potential is for males to be more heavily exploited. This symposium will address basic biology, stock assessment, and management of protogynous hermaphrodites.

SPEAKERS AND TITLES: Mark Collins & Marcel Reichert: Age, growth, and reproductive biology of gag (*Mycteroperca microlepis*) from the southeastern United States; Chris Koenig & Felicia Coleman: Reproductive ecology of groupers of the southeastern US; Scott Heppell: Modeling efforts on management strategies for protogynous groupers. OR behavior/life history of protogynous groupers and how fishing aggregations may disrupt it; Doug Devries: The reproductive ecology of red porgy in the Gulf of Mexico and its implications for management; Roy A. Pemberton Jr: Reproduction and Demographics of Black Sea Bass, a Protogynous Hermaphrodite; Pat Harris: The effects of fishing and fishery regulations on life history characteristics of *Pagrus pagrus* (Sparidae) in Atlantic waters off the southeastern United States; Gary Fitzhugh: Evidence for skipped (asynchronous) annual reproduction among protogynous grouper species; Elizabeth Brooks, Kyle Shertzer and Todd Gedamke: An Evaluation of measures of spawning stock biomass for protogynous hermaphrodites; Richard S. McBride, Angela S. Collins, and Adam K. Richardson. Geographic and sex-specific patterns of age, size, and mortality for a hermaphroditic fish, hogfish (Labridae: *Lachnolaimus maximus*); Richard S. McBride, Lewis H. Bullock, Paul E. Thurman, and Michael R. Johnson. Sexual and reproductive development of a protogynous hermaphrodite, hogfish (Labridae: *Lachnolaimus maximus*).

CO- SPONSORS: Marine Fisheries Section (AFS) and American Institute of Fisheries Research Biologist (AIFRB).

Two Important Meetings

60th Annual Conference of the Southeastern Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies
Marriott Waterside Hotel in Norfolk, Virginia, November 508, 2006

"Wildlife Management in the Next New World"

Call for Papers - Manuscripts and abstracts are being requested for the 60th Annual SEAFWA Conference

Fisheries and Wildlife Sessions: Fisheries and Wildlife manuscripts and abstracts will be peer-reviewed and, if accepted, will be published in the Proceedings of the Southeastern Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies. Guidelines for submissions can be found at SEAFWA2006.org

Contributors' participation in the Fisheries and Wildlife Technical Sessions will include:

- Oral presentation of peer-reviewed manuscripts, *deadline for manuscripts is April 28, 2006*
- Oral presentation of peer-reviewed abstracts (limited space available on the program), *deadline for abstracts is April 28, 2006*
- Posters, *deadline for posters is April 28, 2006*

More information at SEAFWA2006.org

Hosted by the Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries

Large Pelagic Fishes in the Caribbean and the Gulf of Mexico: Current Status and Integrated Management

A one day symposium dedicated to scientific presentations and discussions of large pelagic fishes and fisheries will be convened as part of the Gulf and Caribbean Fisheries Institute annual conference November 5-10, 2006 in Belize City, Belize. The purpose of the symposium is to share current research on the biology and management of large pelagic fishes in the Caribbean Sea and Gulf of Mexico region and to develop a list of recommendations for future research and management of large pelagic fishes related to critical issues of regional concern. Species to be included in the symposium are billfish (marlins, sailfish and swordfish), tunas, large pelagic sharks, dolphin, wahoo and ocean sunfishes.

The symposium will consist of two keynote speakers, three invited theme speakers, contributed oral and poster presentations and an open panel discussion. The Symposium Themes are 1) Fisheries Ecology, 2) Movements and Population Structure, and 3) Management: Strategies, Problems and Solutions. A special symposium issue of Gulf and Caribbean Research will be published, and oral and poster presenters are encouraged to submit manuscripts for peer review in the issue.

Complete and updated information on the Symposium, including abstract submission information, can be found at the Gulf and Caribbean Fisheries Institute website (www.gcfi.org). The initial call for papers was March 15, and the abstract deadline will be July 31, 2006.

The Symposium Organizing Committee consists of Jim Franks (University of Southern Mississippi, USA), Nancy Brown-Peterson (University of Southern Mississippi, USA), Mark S. Peterson (University of Southern Mississippi, USA), Pete Sheridan (National Marine Fisheries Service, Panama City, USA), Brian Luckhurst (Department of Environmental Protection, Bermuda), Hazel Oxenford (University of the West Indies, Barbados) and Patrick McConney (University of the West Indies, Barbados).

Lower 48 Pacific Salmon The Future? Two Views

Advocates float radical ideas to save salmon

By Winston Ross
From The Register-Guard, Thursday, January 26, 2006

Portland - Give up on streams that no longer can sustain wild salmon. Throw open the fish hatchery gates. Create a Wild Salmon National Park. Build new waterways instead of tearing down dams.

These are just a few of the conflicting, provocative and radical suggestions from a group of 33 scientists, salmon policy analysts and advocates who have been studying the future of wild salmon in the Pacific Northwest since 2002. The volunteer participants of a project called Salmon 2100 unveiled two dozen recommendations Wednesday that they said offer groundbreaking but pragmatic ideas for keeping salmon at sustainable levels through the year 2100. The fish have been reduced to one-tenth of historic levels, despite recent gains. The ideas are bold because the threats to wild salmon are so profound that none of the current efforts will sustain the fish for another century, the group concluded.

Four key factors will reduce salmon to a mere remnant of their historic numbers, if not drive the species toward extinction, the group said. Those threats are: 1) A likely quadrupling of population in the Northwest, to an estimated 65 million by 2100, 2) Increased scarcity and competition for water, 3) A system of commerce that favors profits over fish protection, 4) Individual lifestyle choices that ignore impacts to species such as salmon.

"We can't predict how these things are going to play out," said Bob Lackey, a senior fisheries biologist with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and co-leader of the project. "But they're not likely to change in ways that will be favorable to salmon. Wild salmon, by the end of the century, will be reduced to remnant runs in the lower 48 states. There will be runs along the coast, in my view, but practically speaking, in most places, they'll be gone." That's why Salmon 2100's members took a novel approach: accept that current efforts won't overcome salmon's looming obstacles. Then find a way to sustain the species anyway.

Some of the project's "policy prescriptions," to be published in a book later this year, actually conflict with each other, which is fine, Lackey said. The idea isn't to look for consensus on how to save wild salmon, but to propose a number of politically and socially palatable ideas that actually could work. Among the proposals:

- Create sanctuaries, even a Wild Salmon National Park, in areas that have the best likelihood of keeping wild salmon in

good shape. Abandon other runs that won't realistically survive the century. Some argue for shifting effort to high-elevation areas that will suffer fewer impacts from climate change. Others advocate for refuges on the coast.

"I'm not saying give up on the watershed," said Jim Martin, former salmon adviser to Oregon Gov. John Kitzhaber and chief of fisheries with the state Department of Fish and Wildlife. "I'm saying don't invest in places that are in direct trajectory of the growth juggernaut, and are going to get nailed by a changing climate. Invest in the areas where we still have some snowpack. ...We're going to lose salmon in these low-elevation streams; they won't be able to withstand the water temperatures." Martin also suggested offering incentives to local governments to control growth.

- Allow hatchery fish, traditionally excluded from interbreeding with wild stocks, to be released into the general population. Conservationists have said such a move would introduce disease into the wild salmon population and weaken the gene pool. But it certainly would bolster salmon runs, proponents say.
- Build new streams. "You can build streams on old floodplains, old farmland, behind railroad dikes, highway dikes," said Ernest Brannon, distinguished research professor of the Center for Salmonid and Freshwater Species at the University of Idaho. Brannon estimated such work could be done for a cost of $50,000 per mile.
- Convince landowners that protecting salmon can benefit them economically, and the general public to reduce its footprint on the landscape. The choices people make about where to live what to eat and what to buy affect the environment salmon depend on for survival, some researchers said.

"The way to alter lifestyles is to change our ethical relationship with the land," said Jack Williams, chief scientist with Trout Unlimited and an adjunct professor at Southern Oregon University. "Live in a place that reduces our need to drive; think twice about purchasing a second vehicle; buy a low-emissions, low-polluting model; reduce travel; walk; eat less meat; buy organic foods from local growers; when you move, move to a smaller house or apartment; use energy-efficient appliances."

How likely such ideas are to come to fruition remains unclear. At the last minute, the chairman of the Bush administration's Council on Environmental Policy, James Connaughton, asked to be added to Wednesday's agenda, to respond to the project's ideas. He said his attitude about the fate of wild salmon was more "Pollyanna" than doom and gloom. "We have to reflect that we are making progress, albeit incrementally," Connaughton said. "All the runs have increased. It's important to know that runs can increase." Connaughton also brought two new policy initiatives from the administration - a review of fishing practices and U.S. hatcheries, which could lead to tighter fishing restrictions and fewer hatcheries down the road. But neither approach reflects the Salmon 2100 project's key premise - that minor tweaks to current approaches won't sustain salmon long-term, Lackey said after Connaughton's speech.

Still, the optimism level among the conference's attendees was high on Wednesday. Keynote speaker William Ruckelshaus, who served as EPA chief under Presidents Nixon and Reagan, encouraged participants to believe that they can make a difference. "Salmon recovery is right in the middle of an American paradox," said Ruckelshaus, speaking of the clash between values of people who want to protect fish and behaviors that harm them. "You've been told to help salmon recovery by Congress and the executive branch," he said. "When you're faced with seemingly insurmountable or intractable problems, you can either stew about them, convince yourselves that they can't be solved, or you can break them down into practical and solvable problems."

Submitted by and thanks to: Bob Lackey

Bush Policy on Salmon Shifts

Administration wants to reduce harvests, shut some hatcheries

By Jeff Barnard, Associated Press writer

Portland - The Bush administration wants to put salmon restoration on a new course by reducing harvests of threatened and endangered fish by U.S. and Canadian fishermen and shutting down hatcheries that are harming wild spawners. James Connaughton, chairman of the White House Council on Environmental Quality, announced the new policy Wednesday at a meeting of salmon scientists, many of whom have concluded that only remnant runs of wild Pacific salmon will survive unless people make major changes in the way they live. Connaughton said extensive work has been done to restore freshwater habitat and make hydroelectric dams less lethal, and it is time to focus on reducing the harm caused by salmon harvests and hatcheries. "We cannot improperly hatch and we cannot carelessly catch our way back to salmon recovery," Connaughton told the scientists. "I tend toward optimism. The fact that 350 people are in this room and 150 more wanted to be here is the best condition for success."

Connaughton, the top environmental adviser to President Bush, outlined the new policy at the Salmon 2100 Conference, where 350 scientists from government agencies, universities, Indian tribes and conservation groups gathered to consider new ways to prevent the extinction of wild salmon over the coming century. The Salmon 2100 report, produced by a group of 33 scientists and policy analysts, concludes that too many people using too much energy and natural resources make it inevitable that wild Pacific salmon will be reduced to remnant runs without a major overhaul in the way people live.

Current salmon runs are 5 percent of historical levels, said Robert Lackey, a fisheries scientist for the Environmental

Protection Agency and chairman of the conference. Wild runs disappeared from Europe, most of Asia and the Northeast as populations grew. Human population in the Northwest and British Columbia is likely to increase from 15 million to 65 million over the next century. Lackey said Connaughton's proposals did not address the four primary drivers of wild salmon declines - a market economy that gives salmon short shrift, rapid population growth, increasing demand for clean water, and human lifestyle choices that ignore the needs of fish.

Glen Spain of the Pacific Coast Federation of Fishermen's Associations, which represents California commercial fishermen, said sport, commercial and tribal fishing account for only 5 percent of human-caused salmon deaths in the Columbia Basin, while hydroelectric dams account for 80 percent. "The fundamental issue is what gives the biggest bang for the buck in salmon restoration," Spain said. "What the administration is doing is pointing the finger at the victims of salmon declines - that is, the fishing-dependent communities whose economy is being devastated. "Hatcheries were intended to replace habitat behind dams," Spain added. "If they close all the hatcheries, we want some dams down, too."

Jack Williams, the chief scientists for Trout Unlimited and former fisheries chief for the Bureau of Land Management, said Connaughton's proposals were "clearly inadequate." Just as NOAA Fisheries will be examining individual hatcheries, the agency should examine individual dams to see if their economic benefits outweigh the harm they cause salmon, Williams said. Connaughton said the administration has a strong commitment to the hydroelectric dams, which contribute to the economic vitality of the region. He added the Bush administration focus on harvest and hatcheries grew out of a commitment to end overfishing in all the nation's oceans and efforts to renew the basic fisheries law of the land, the Magnuson-Stevens Fisheries Conservation Act. He said it was incongruous to allow people to eat endangered salmon when shrimp fisheries in the Gulf of Mexico were shut down against the possibility of killing sea turtles.

The administration would work to reduce harvests of wild salmon through the Pacific Fishery Management Council, which sets West Coast ocean salmon fishing seasons; 2008 negotiations with Canada on a treaty to regulate fishing on U.S. fish in Canadian waters; and Oregon and Washington's joint regulation of the Columbia River, he said. "Our goal is to minimize, and where possible eliminate, the harvest of naturally spawning fish that provide the foundation for recovery," Connaughton said in an interview. "I need to underline a strong commitment to the defense of tribal trust and treaty rights to harvest fish in all the usual and accustomed places." Connaughton said he did not want to predict how far harvest limits might be taken.

Scientists have long blamed hatcheries for producing salmon that dilute the gene pool, spread disease, and compete for food and habitat, while being less fit to survive in the wild. Connaughton said NOAA Fisheries would be reviewing the 180 hatcheries in the Columbia Basin over the next 12 months, shutting down those that harm salmon and helping others that contribute to recovery.

Submitted by: Bob Lackey

International Symposium on Deep-Sea Corals

Research and Management of Coral Areas in South Atlantic Region Included

"The widespread existence of large, complex coral reef ecosystems in the colder and deeper parts of the world's oceans has been one of the most remarkable discoveries in marine science in the last decade," stated Dr. Stefan Hain, with the United Nations Environmental Program's Coral Reef Unit, in Cambridge, United Kingdom. "Emerging results show magnificent reefs surprisingly similar to their warm-water counterparts, but also evidence that these cold-water reefs are impacted and threatened by increased human activities, particularly bottom fisheries, on continental shelves and seamounts."

Sharing a common interest in the study and protection of these coral area, over 250 deep-sea coral researchers and managers from 30 different countries gathered at the University of Miami's Rosenstiel School of Marine and Atmospheric Science in early December to participate in the 3rd Annual Symposium on Deep-Sea Corals. Scientists presented papers on topics ranging from distribution of hard corals off of India and the geology of coral mounds found in the cold waters offshore of Ireland and Denmark, to deep-sea coral ageing in New Zealand and growth monitoring in the Sea of Japan.

The broad range of papers presented during the symposium emphasized the international distribution of deep-sea corals and their need for protection. Closer to home, scientists and managers discussed deep-sea coral distributions in Aleutian Islands off of Alaska, precious corals of the Hawaiian Archipelago, New England seamounts, and the deep water corals of the Gulf of Mexico and South Atlantic region.

Deep Water Corals in the South Atlantic Region

"Deep water corals occur abundantly along the continental slope of the southeastern U.S.," explained Dr. Steve Ross with the University of North Carolina at Wilmington's Center for Marine Science. From 2000 - 2004 scientists surveyed deepwater coral communities between North Carolina and east-central Florida. Using the submersible, *Johnson Sea-Link* from Harbor Branch Oceanographic Institution (HBOI), researchers conducted deep water dives, recording video data on fish and habitat distributions.

They found that in some areas deep water corals form significant mounds, while in other areas they contribute substantial structure to existing bottom habitats. John Reed, Chief Scientist with HBOI has been instrumental in documenting deep water reefs in both the southeastern U.S. and Gulf of Mexico, including the Oculina Bank off the east central coast of Florida. Spanning 300 square miles, the Oculina Bank has been designated a Habitat Area of Particular Concern (HAPC) by the South Atlantic Fishery Management Council, prohibiting the use of damaging fishing gear in the area. The Council has developed an Evaluation Plan for the Oculina HAPC, and Council staff presented a poster during the symposium, highlighting recent outreach activities through partnerships with NOAA's Undersea Research Center, NOAA Fisheries, and HBOI.

Recent survey work by both Ross and Reed presented to the South Atlantic Fishery Management Council led to the proposed designation of six deep water coral Habitat Areas of Particular Concern in 2005. These areas will be included in the Council's Fishery Ecosystem Plan and Comprehensive Amendment.

Roger Pugliese, Senior Staff Biologist with the Council gave an oral presentation on deepwater corals in the U.S. Southeast, their conservation and management. His presentation, a collaboration with Environmental Defense, summarized the Council's evolution to an ecosystem-based management approach. He addressed the six proposed deep water coral HAPCs, development of a deepwater coral research and monitoring plan, and acknowledged the partnerships critical to the management process. Tina Udouj, with the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, made a presentation on the development and capabilities of the Council's Habitat and Ecosystem website http://map.mapwise.com/safmc/default.aspx and the Internet Map Server accessible from the site, both developed in cooperation with FWRI.

"A major take away from the symposium is that the South Atlantic Council, through a network of regional partnerships is on course to conserve some of the most extensive and virtually pristine deepwater coral systems in the world," state Pugliese.

The Council's Ecosystem-based Management Committee will discuss these and other topics during its upcoming meeting February 28 in Jekyll Island, Georgia.

From: The South Atlantic Update, Winter 2006

A team of over 20 scientists are currently involved in the development of the Council's South Atlantic Deep Water Coral Research and Monitoring Plan. The plan will provide guidance on priority needs to support management of deepwater coral resources and enhance coordination among researchers in the region. A workshop for the team was scheduled March 9-10, 2006, at the Florida Fish and Wildlife Research Institute, St. Petersburg, FL. For more information, contact Roger Pugliesen at roger.pugliese@safmc.net or Myra Brouwer at myra.brouwer@safmc.net.

VA Seafood Industry, plagued by rays, decides if you can't beat 'em, eat 'em

Officials promoting voracious cownose ray cuisine to Asian market

By Scott Harper

Cownose rays look and act like stingrays, their kite-shaped bodies gliding along the bottom of the Chesapeake Bay, gobbling oysters and clams like seafood lovers at an all-you-can-eat buffet. Once considered graceful visitors to the Bay, cownose rays have become such a problem for a struggling oyster industry that Virginia officials now want to turn the tables on the winged creatures and start eating them - in part to curb their numbers in state waters.

The Virginia Marine Products Board recently dispatched a trade mission to South Korea to determine whether Asian palates and wallets might support a new commercial fishery for rays harvested from the Bay. To test local appetites, the state board gave away barbecued ray wings, labeled as "Chesapeake rays," last summer at the Hampton Bay Days festival. The board is also assisting in a study at the Virginia Institute of Marine Science of possible markets and future uses of cownose rays and their fleshy body parts. "I'm very excited about rays and this project," said John Maxwell, a certified chef and culinary teacher at J. Sargeant Reynolds Community College in Richmond. Maxwell traveled to South Korea as part of the trade mission and prepared experimental ray dishes for guests at a Thanksgiving feast. He said the reaction was fabulous. One of the most popular techniques, Maxwell said, was marinating wing-cut fillets in olive oil, wine vinegar, oregano and lime juice, then grilling them. "It's very easy to work with and has no fishy taste at all," he said. "I refer to it as a sea-going meat. It's really more like beef than fish" and contains little fat.

Scientists are not sure whether there has been in increase in cownose rays in the Bay; population counts have not been conducted. Shellfish growers, though, swear numbers are increasing, mostly because the rays' two biggest predators - sharks and humans - are not around as much to snatch them from the Bay. Several shark species are in decline, and fewer anglers are deploying nets that typically strangle rays.

Nevertheless, the marine animals, each averaging 35 inches in diameter and weighing more than 25 pounds, certainly have become infamous nuisances of late. They were blamed for wrecking the opening of a highly touted Army Corps of Engineers oyster-restoration project in the Great Wicomico River two summers ago. In June 2004, they ate about 1 million disease-resistant

babies set on artificial oyster reefs in the river - a $78,000 frenzy that caused the Corps to spend another $500,000 last spring for protective fencing around the reefs.

Responding to more pleas for help from oyster and clam growers, the Virginia Marine Resources Commission in December discussed a request to establish a bounty system for cownose rays. As envisioned, the state would pay anglers to kill rays, thus winnowing their populations and influence on shellfish beds. Scientists and regulators opposed the idea. They said cownose rays are a migratory species that travels from Brazil to New England each year, stopping in the Bay in late spring and summer to give birth to pups. To hunt them in Virginia might have biological consequences that could reverberate for years and across two continents, the experts said. In the end, the commission rejected a bounty program and endorsed additional efforts at starting a commercial fishery for rays. "We need some kind of harvest strategy," said Rob O'Reilly, assistant state director of saltwater fisheries. "We have industry, science and the state working together cooperatively on this, so we want to see how this works."

Launching a new seafood industry is not so easy, though. For one, rays are especially difficult to handle. Their whiplike tails include sharp-edged barbs that can slice an angler's hand or leg in a flash. Plus, the relatively low price for a pound of processed cownose ray - about $1.99 - has kept anglers from targeting them in the past, according to officials and previous studies.

In 1979, Virginia scientists published a report on rays and their effect on oysters after a devastating season in the Rappahannock River. The study recommended a commercial fishery be developed for rays, but one never took off. The report also suggested a sports fishing derby with prizes for the largest rays, male and female, caught during the tournament. The report said Texas had success with such derbies and noted how anglers in California went on "extermination parties" for bat rays that plagued oyster grounds there.

For his study last year, Bob Fisher, a commercial fishing researcher at VIMS, obtained a special permit from the state to catch cownose rays at the mouth of the Bay and up to three miles offshore. He netted more than 20,000 pounds of rays, experimented with various processing techniques and supplied meat to different markets. Fisher also wants to investigate the use of a ray's liver oil as a health supplement, its cartilages for medicinal purposes and its carcass for fertilizer. As a low-fat meat alternative, Fisher said, "people will eat it; they like it." But, he added, "it's the fishermen who don't want to deal with this species. It's dangerous, and, so far, there's not a lot of money in it for them."

This article, distributed by the Associated Press, originally ran in the Virginian-Pilot.
From: Bay Journal, February 2006

Ed Note: The cownose ray is also taking the blame for devastating the North Carolina bay scallop resource where the recorded annual catch has dropped from millions of pounds of meat to a mere 80 in 2004-2005. True cause? Ecosystem non-management?

New Species Discovered in Fiji's Great Sea Reef

World Wildlife Fund (WWF) Survey Reveals Vast Collection of Marine Species

The first comprehensive survey of Fiji's Great Sea Reef, the world's third longest barrier reef, has revealed a staggering array of life, including a new species of reef fish. WWF's 12-day survey expedition recorded a new species of damselfish (*Pomacentrus* sp.), unique mangrove island habitats, several threatened species (green turtles and spinner dolphins among them), as well as marine life not previously recorded in Fiji's waters.

"The Great Sea Reef, locally know as Cakaulevu, is a global treasure," said Kate Newman, director of WWF's Marine Ecoregions program. "Covering more than 77,000 square miles, the reef is home to thousands of marine species - many of which are endemic - and it is a vital fishing ground for local communities." The survey which, WWF conducted with local and international experts and community members, also identified significant threats to the Great Sea Reef, including overfishing and poaching by illegal fishers, poison fishing, sand dredging, and other destructive activities.

Recognizing the reef's global importance, local chiefs launched the first of the country's network of marine protected areas (MPAs) on the Great Sea Reef in November. These MPAs include permanent "tabu zones," where no fishing or harvesting of other marine resources may take place. "The people of Macuata Province are working closely with WWF and the Fiji Locally Managed Marine Areas network to protect this unique marine environment," said Etika Rupeni, a WWF country program manager in Fiji. "Protecting the Great Sea Reef will ensure that one of our greatest assets remains intact and continues to be an important part of the tradition, culture, and livelihood of the people of Fiji.

From: Focus, January/February 2006

District Directors

Alaska, Northern
Joseph F. Margraf, Jr.
University of Alaska
P.O. Box 757020
Fairbanks, AK 99775-7020
ffjfml@uaf.edu

Alaska, Southeast
Bruce Wing
P.O. Box 210265
Auke Bay, AK 99821-0265
bruce.wing@noaa.gov

Arizona - New Mexico
G. Morris Southward
Statistics and Res. Inst.
New Mexico State University
Box 30003 Dept. 3130
Las Cruces, New Mexico 88003-8003
southward@nmsu.edu

California, Northern
Michael McGowan
Maristics, Inc.
1442-A Walnut Street, Ste. 188
Berkeley, CA 94709

California, Southern
Raymond R. Wilson
CSULB Biol Sci
1250 N. Bellflower Blvd.
Long Beach, CA 90840
rwilson1@csulb.edu

Capital
Frank M. Panek
National Fish Health Research Laboratory
1705 Leetown Rd.
Kearneysville, WV 25430

Carolinas
Patrick Harris
SC-DNR, MRRI
PO Box 12559
Charleston, SC 29422
harrisp@mrd.dnr.state.sc.us

Florida
Thomas W. Schmidt
USDI Nat'l. Park Service
Everglades Nat'l. Pk., S. Fla. Res. Ctr.
P.O. Box 279
40001 State Rd. 9336
Homestead, FL 33014
tom_schmidt@nps.gov

Great Lakes, South Central
Dora R. Passino-Reader
National Fish. Center
1451 Green Road
Ann Arbor, MI 48105-2897
dora_reader@usgs.gov

Gulf of Mexico, Northeast
Vacant

Keystone
Joseph W. Rachlin
Dept. Biological Sciences
Lehman College of CUNY
250 Bedford Pk. Blvd. W.
Bronx, NY 10468-5189
joseph.rachlin@lehman.cuny.edu

New England
Kevin Friedland
National Marine Fisheries Service
28 Tarzwell Dr.
Narragansett, RI 02882
kevin.friedland@noaa.gov

Oregon-SW Washington
Vacant

Texas
Lance Robinson
Texas Parks and Wildlife Dept.
Seabrook Marine Lab
Seabrook, TX 77856

Washington, NW
Katherine Myers
School of Aquatic & Sciences
University of Washington
Box 355020
Seattle, WA 98195-5020

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Website: www.iattc.org/aifrb/

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President's Message

Greetings to all AIFRB members,

You may have noticed a new look to the AIFRB web site. Kim Anthony, (A 2003) at Cal State Long Beach, with help from BOC members, has designed and updated the AIFRB web page. We thank Kim so much for her outstanding efforts to improve our web site and provide a better tool for communications. There is still more information that will be added to the web page such as descriptions of the committees, but it should be completed in the near future. Then it will be an up to date source for information about AIFRB.

A reminder about the 50th Anniversary symposium, scheduled for February 13-15, 2007 in Seattle. It will be advertised in scientific journals shortly. So stay tuned for news on the symposium.

Linda

Two Important Meetings

Southern Division Spring Meeting 2007

1st Call for Papers

The Tennessee Chapter and Southern Division of the American Fisheries Society invites you to Memphis at the Marriott Downtown Hotel for the 2007 Southern Division Spring Meeting, 7-11 February 2007. The meeting's theme is "Diversity of Fish, Habitats, and People." Please submit suggestions for workshops and symposia to Phil Bettoli (PBettoli@tntech.edu) by 1 September 2006. The due date for symposia, poster, and general session abstracts will be 1 December 2006. For more information, visit the meeting website at http://www.sdafs.org/meetings/2007/. Instructions for abstract submission can be found at the same website.

Phil Bettoli, Tennessee Tech University

Challenges for Diadromous Fishes in a Dynamic Global Environment

1st Call for Papers

June 17-21, 2007 Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada

The AFS Northeastern Division is soliciting abstracts for a second international scientific symposium on diadromous fishes, built upon the successful 1986 AFS symposium, Common Strategies of Anadromous and Catadromous Fishes.

The symposium will review the status and range of responses of key diadromous fish species to changes in the global environment from direct and indirect effects of human activity. Participants will address options for maintaining stock sustainability and the role that diadromous fishes play in the functioning of ecosystems and regional and national economies. Invited, contributed, and poster papers on seven topics are solicited: Dynamic Nature of Diadromy; Ocean Environment and Migration; Climate Change and Anthropogenic Influences; Population and Habitat Restoration; Linkages with Ecosystem Energetics; Socio-Economic and Bio-Political Linkages in Management; Ecosystem Management Approaches for the Future.

Proceedings will be published through AFS, including papers from oral presentations and poster abstracts. Titles and abstracts for papers are due 1 September 2006; posters 1 January 2007.

Contact: Alex Haro, Chair (Alex_Haro@usgs.gov) or 413-863-3806. Symposium website for abstract submission: www.anacat.ca.

The AIFRB is a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt nonprofit organization (EIN 61-6050711).

LOSSES

Henry A. Podoliak, F 1973 EF 1983

Ed note: In four years at Cornell, I only "cut" two classes, both from the Fish Culture course taught by A.M. Phillips and Henry Podoliak. Still, after 44 years, ridden by guilt, I offer belated apologies. But it was my senior spring, the lilacs were dosing the whole of Ithaca with pheromonal perfumery, and she was blonde. Somehow I passed the course, ground sheep lungs, wheat middlings and all, and am enjoying my fortythird year of marriage to the blonde. I'd do it again!

R. Walter Williams, M 1961 F 1976 EF 2001

4915 Salish Way
Bellingham, WA 98226-8950

Thanks from Geoff Moser

I wanted to thank AIFRB for the Outstanding Achievement Award and for the kind and most generous comments announcing the award. I have a few comments about the two books that were ascribed to my authorship. "ontogeny and Systematics of Fishes" was a volume of collected papers given at an international symposium dedicated to the memory and scientific works of Elbert "Ahlie" Ahlstrom. The American Society of Ichthyologists and Herpetologists published the book, which included 78 authors from 11 countries. I had the privilege of co-authoring some of the chapters and co-editing the volume with Bill Richards, Dan Cohen, Mike Fahay, Art Kendall, and Sally Richardson. All copies of the book were sold within a few years of publication and it has been out of print since then.

CalCOFI Atlas 33, "The Early Stages of Fishes in the California Current Region," was a product of my former research group at the Southwest Fisheries Science Center, with a few chapters written by other contributors. All of my former staff contributed chapters to the book, with Bill Watson writing half of the total chapters. I served as editor for the volume which was published by Allen Press, Lawrence, Kansas.

The most enjoyable aspect of the years at the Southwest Fisheries Science Center was the opportunity to collaborate with friends and colleagues. Most of my publications were multi-authored, team endeavors and that was the joy of my career in fishery biology. Of course, that is the part of retirement that I miss the most. This is somewhat tempered by continued collaboration with colleagues on some unfinished projects.

Warmest Regards,

Geoff Moser, P.O. Box 446, Bozeman, MT 59771

Recognize Excellence, Nominate!

Outstanding Achievement Awards

We are again soliciting your nominations for the Outstanding Achievements Awards. This is your opportunity to help AIFRB recognize the individuals and organizations that are making outstanding contributions to our science. Two awards are given for each year.

The Individual Achievement Award is given to an individual who has made significant contributions to the advancement of fishery science. This is the highest award for achievement. Candidates will be rated on the following criteria: significance of publications, exceptional service to the profession, outstanding teaching or training of students, important discoveries or inventions, and significant contributions to the advancement of fishery science. It is important that applicants address each of the criteria thoroughly.

The Group Achievement Award is given to research groups with outstanding records of scientific contribution to fishery science or fishery resource policy. It is the Institute's highest award for achievement and recognition of research groups that nurture excellence in fishery science. Candidates will be rated on the following criteria: sustained contribution of significant publications, exceptional service of the fishery profession, outstanding teaching or training programs, important discoveries or inventions, and significant contributions to the advancement of fishery science. Again, it is important that applicants address each of the criteria thoroughly.

The nominating letter should include name, address, telephone number and email address of nominee, a short resume of the nominee, and a letter fully describing how the nominee meets the criteria. Please include your name, address, telephone number and email address.

Nominations for these two awards are due by ***July 8, 2006.*** Fishery scientists whose names were submitted and selected as runner ups last year will also be considered. Submit nominations to: Dr. John Williams, Northwest Fisheries Science Center,

2725 Montlake Blvd. E., Seattle, WA 98112. For your information and help in considering nominees, attached are the lists of Individual Outstanding

Achievement Awards 1979-2006 and Group Outstanding Achievement Awards 1982-2003. If you have any questions, please contact: John Williams: john.g.williams@noaa.gov; Jack Helle: jack.helle@noaa.gov; Bill Taylor: Taylorw@msu.edu

Individual Outstanding Achievement Award

1979 Elbert H. Ahlstrom; 1980 James E. Sykes; 1981 F. Heward Bell; 1982 Richard H. Stroud; 1983 Kenneth D. Carlander; 1984 David W. Schindler; 1985 Peter Larkin; 1986 William G. Gordon; 1987 William F. Royce; 1988 Reuben Lasker; 1991 Robert L. Burgner; 1992 William W. Fox; 1993 Arthur D. Hasler; 1994 William E. Ricker; 1995 Raymond J.H. Beverton; 1996 Reeve M. Bailey; 1997 William G. Pearcy; 1998 John H.S. Blaxter; 1999 Saul B. Saila; 2000 John R. Hunter; 2001 Kenneth E. Wolf; 2002 Fred Utter; 2003 Howard Bern; 2004 Brian Rothschild; 2005 John Fryer; 2006 H. Geoff Moser

Group Outstanding Achievement Award

1982 Canadian Journal of Fisheries and Aquatic Sciences; 1983 Great Lakes Sea Lamprey Control Program; 1984 Harvesting Technology Division, NMFS, Pascagoula, MS; 1985 Sport Fishing Institute; 1986 International Pacific Halibut Commission; 1988 Southwest Fisheries Center, NMFS, LaJolla,
CA; 1992 Cooperative Fish & Wildlife Research Units Center & Related Coop Units; 1997 International North Pacific Fisheries Commission; 1998 The Illinois Natural History Survey; 1999 National Fish Health Research Laboratory, USGS, Kearneyville, WV; 2000 International Pacific Halibut Commission; 2002 The Great Lakes Fishery Commission; 2003 Northwest Fisheries Science Center, Ecotoxicology Research Team

Northern California Meets, Passes Soy Sauce Again!

(Don't they have Barbecue in CA?)

The Northern California District's first meeting of the season, a dinner and presentation was held at Ping's Mandarin Restaurant in San Rafael on April 27th. The speaker, Dr. William Cochlan, discussed "Harmful Algal Blooms on the West Coast". You can see his work on his website at rtc.sfsu.edu. The cost was approximately $20 per person (tax and tip included).

Submitted by: Allison Gordon, Institute for Fisheries Resources
P.O. Box 29196, San Francisco, CA 94129

Applications Needed!

2006 AIFRB Research Assistance Award Program

The Research Assistance (RA) Award established in 1986 is offered annually to AIFRB graduate students and other Associate members to support travel expenses associated with professional development. The RA provides a maximum award of $500 towards the opportunity to present results of an original paper or research project of merit at scientific meetings, or to conduct research at distant study sites. All AIFRB Associate Members in good standing are eligible (www.aifrb.org). An individual may receive one award in a lifetime. Application packages must contain a research abstract, letter of support from the student's sponsor, and a 2-page curriculum vitae. Send AIFRB RA applications to: Dr. Jerald S. Ault, University of Miami RSMAS, 4600 Rickenbacker Causeway, Miami, FL 33149, (305)421-4884 ph; (305)421-4791 fax; jault@rsmas.miami.edu. Deadline is 1700 EST on June 23, 2006.

American Rivers Announces
America's Most Endangered Rivers 2006

#1 Pajaro River: The Pajaro River, and the safety and well being of its riverside communities, are at a critical turning point. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is poised to recommend yet another old-style, over-engineered flood control project that will actually produce an ever increasing risk of catastrophic flooding. To protect these communities and restore the health of the Pajaro, the Corps must adopt a modern and comprehensive flood protection project that works with nature — instead of against it.

#2 Upper Yellowstone River, MT: Dubbed "America's last best river" by National Geographic Magazine, the Yellowstone River faces burgeoning riverside development, with much of the construction occurring in the river's floodplain and involving considerable alteration of the wild river's banks. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the local officials of Park County, Montana must move urgently to guide development in a way that protects one of America's most scenic rivers and avoids putting people in harm's way.

#3 Willamette River, OR: Home to more than 70 percent of the state's population, the Willamette River Valley is the heart and lifeblood of Oregon, but a loophole in state regulations allows companies to dump millions of pounds of pollution into the river in "toxic mixing zones." The governor must make good on his promise to clean up the Willamette and end the use of toxic mixing zones on the river.

#4 Salmon Trout River, MI: The pristine Salmon Trout River is at the heart of one of Michigan's largest remaining wild areas and provides drinking water and unparalleled recreation. However, a mining operation is poised to convert part of the river's headwaters into an industrial zone, creating a risk of acid mine drainage that could contaminate the river and harm Lake Superior. The state government must deny the mining permit application for this mine.

#5 Shenandoah River, VA, WV: One of America's most storied rivers, the peaceful Shenandoah is facing an onslaught of development that threatens the tranquility and clean water that have attracted people to the river for centuries. County governments along the Shenandoah have a rapidly-closing window to get a handle on runaway development before it changes the character of the river and valley forever.

#6 Boise River, ID: Idaho's Boise River provides drinking water, irrigation, and prized, family-friendly recreation, but if a Canadian mining company moves ahead with plans to blast two giant pits and remove over 1,000 feet of mountain in the river's headwaters, it could also deliver cyanide and mine run-off to Idaho's capital city. The Idaho Department of Environmental Quality should deny the mining company's request for a permit, and the U.S. Forest Service should work diligently to protect the section of the Boise River within its jurisdiction.

#7 Caloosahatchee River, FL: Drinking water for tens of thousands of people, a world renowned haven for birds and other wildlife, and the heart of a $2 billion local tourist economy, the Caloosahatchee is reeling from the effects of the Corps of Engineers' decades of manipulation of Florida's fabled "River of Grass." Regular discharges of millions of gallons of fertilizer and toxic laden water from Lake Okeechobee into the river threaten the health and economy of South Florida. The Corps, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and local authorities must work together and quickly to regulate not only the toxic discharges from the lake but the agricultural runoff and other pollution that are fouling it in the first place.

#8 Bristol Bay, AK: The Bristol Bay watershed in Alaska is an intricate system of lakes, streams and rivers that is the source of the single largest salmon run on earth, on the Kvichak River. But the Bay's spectacular salmon runs and bountiful wildlife are threatened by plans to blast North America's biggest open pit, cyanide heap mine into the headwaters of the Kvichak and Nushagak Rivers. As it crafts a management plan for the area in 2006, the Bureau of Land Management must protect these irreplaceable rivers in the only way that is sure to work, by closing the area to mining.

#9 San Jacinto River, TX: The Republic of Texas was born on the banks of the San Jacinto, and the river and its tributaries still nurture remnants of the state's fabled Big Thicket bottomland hardwood forests. But unregulated sand mining, in which companies peel off huge swaths of forest to excavate the sand beneath them, threatens the health of this storied river and the people who depend on it for drinking water and recreation. It is time for Texans to protect what's left of this unique place and have some say over the sand mining companies that are stripping off and hauling away the land that once absorbed and filtered the waters of the San Jacinto.

 # 10 Verde River, AZ: As a critical source of drinking water for Phoenix and other communities, and a haven for boating, fishing and birdwatching, the Verde is a jewel in the desert, but could find itself drastically diminished if plans move forward to increase pumping of water out of the aquifer that feeds the river, pitting one community's water supply against another. The Corps of Engineers, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and local governments must closely review the impacts on the Verde of any pumping from the Big Chino aquifer, especially the project recently proposed by the City of Prescott and the Town of Prescott Valley.

From: Press Release by American Rivers

A Pfiesteria Trilogy I

Fish kills linked to a toxic ambush-predator dinoflagellate: distribution and environmental conditions

JoAnn M. Burkholder, Howard B. Glasgow Jr, Cecil W. Hobbs
Department of Botany, Box 7612, North Carolina State University, Raleigh, North Carolina 27695-7612, USA

Introduction

A toxic dinoflagellate with ambush-predator behavior and complex life cycle recently was implicated as a causative agent of major fish kills in estuaries of the southeastern United States (Burkholder et. al. 1992). *Pfiesteria piscicida* (gen. et sp. nov.; taxonomy to be proposed by K.A. Steidinger et al.), which represents a new family, genus and species of dinoflagellate, was first observed as a contaminant of unknown origin in finfish cultures (Smith et al. 1988, Noga et al. 1993), and was discovered at a fish kill in estuarine habitat during 1991 (Burkholder et al. 1992).

Excerpted and much abridged from: Marine Ecology Progress Series, Vol. 124: 43-61, 1995, Published August 10

A Pfiesteria Trilogy II

Documenting an Ecological Mystery in Maryland

It was like an episode from *The X-Files* television series - a bizarre organism in Maryland seemed to be killing fish and causing skin lesions, confusion, and short-term memory loss in humans. While the scientific and medical community rushed to try to solve this ecological mystery, a maelstrom of national media attention stirred political conflict and public hysteria, and led to an economic crisis in the state's fishing industry.

With Sea Grant's goal of educating the public about science and marine issues, a writer and film producer with Maryland Sea Grant College produced an Emmy-award-winning documentary that followed the unfolding real-life drama. *The Pfiesteria Files* examines how the regulatory, scientific, and environmental communities, as well as the media, reacted to the fish-kill episode and helped put the environmental and societal issues into a larger context. The documentary won a 2002 Emmy for best documentary.

Since its original broadcast, the documentary has received numerous airings on Maryland Public Television and several other major awards. Maryland Sea grant has used the documentary for education purposes and plans to update the documentary next year to mark the 10th anniversary of the state's *Pfiesteria* episode.

To order a copy of *The Pfiesteria Files*, point your browser to www.mdsg.umd.edu. For more information on how the documentary was produced, contact Michael Fincham at (301) 405-6382, or fincham@mdsg.umd.edu.

Abridged from: Coastal Services 9(2) March-April 2006

A Pfiesteria Trilogy III

NOAA study redefines cause of fish lesions

by Brad Rich, News-Times

Beaufort, NC - A study led in part by scientists from National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) laboratory here provides strong evidence that a water mold, not the toxic dinoflagellate *Pfiesteria*, was almost surely responsible for most of the fish skin lesions that alarmed the public and impacted seafood sales and coastal tourism in the 1990s. A report on the study, published recently in the peer-reviewed journal "Applied and Environmental Microbiology," states that the water mold known as *Aphanomyces invadans* is the pathogen responsible for seasonal outbreaks of skin ulcers and lesions observed in menhaden and other estuarine fish along the U.S. East Coast.

Large-scale lesion events in the 1990s, initially linked to Pfiesteria - an organism discovered by N.C. State university scientist Dr. JoAnn Burkholder and dubbed by some in the press as "the cell from hell" - caused widespread concern over the safety of seafood and recreational waters. An independent study published in 2003 in the journal "Ocean and Coastal Management" estimated that lost revenues for the tourism, restaurant, and seafood industries exceeded $100 million.

Scientists from NOAA's Center for Coastal Fisheries and Habitat Research on Pivers Island in Beaufort were aided in the study by experts from the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, the N.C. Division of Water Quality, the Virginia Institute of marine Science at The College of William and Mary - now led by Dr. John Wells, former director of the UNC Institute of Marine Sciences in Morehead City - and N.C. State University's College of Veterinary medicine. NOAA scientists, including study corresponding author Dr. Mark W. Vandersea of Pivers Island lab, developed specific tests or assays to detect the *A.*

invadans water mold. They validated these assays in the laboratory before applying them to Atlantic menhaden taken from the Pamlico and Neuse River estuaries in North Carolina.

The results of both assays were the same: all lesioned menhaden tested positive for *A. invadans*. Until this study, scientists had been unable to positively identify *A. invadans* as the only species of water mold responsible for causing the lesions in wild caught fish. According to the report, the new study supports a growing body of research evidence, including recently collected data by researchers in southern Asia and Australia, indicating that *A. invadans*, rather than *Pfiesteria*, is the major cause of ulcers and lesions in fish. *A. invadans*, however, should not be considered the sole cause for ulcerative lesions, the study notes. The report states, as UNC Institute of Marine Sciences researcher Dr. Hans Paerl told The News Times repeatedly in the 1990s when assessing what some call "Pfiesteria hysteria," that there are many other causes of fish lesions, including poor nutrition, parasites and bacterial and viral infections. The study and the report state that additional studies will be needed to determine how natural *A. invadans* infections are caused.

"Identifying the sources and the conditions promoting the growth and transmission of the pathogen will help resource managers better predict when lesion events are likely to occur and perhaps develop effective mitigation strategies," NOAA scientist Dr. Wayne Litaker said.

From: Carteret County NC News Times, April 14, 2006

International Caviar Trade Suspended

World Wildlife Fund (WWF) Hopes Ban Eases Pressure on Sturgeon Stocks

The international trade in caviar and other products made from wild Caspian sturgeon was suspended in January by the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species. CITES said it would not approve quotas on sturgeon products because limits did not adequately protect the species and failed to take into consideration the widespread illegal trade.

"We welcome this strong action by the CITES Secretariat and hope that it will help preserve the Caspian sturgeon for future generations," said Simon Habel, director of TRAFFIC North America, part of WWF's wildlife trade monitoring network. "Sturgeon have been in dire straits for some time and it has been clear that something drastic had to be done to stop the rampant trade in illegal caviar and to ensure that the legal trade is sustainable and properly regulated."

Around 60 percent of the caviar that is traded legally each year is imported by Western European countries. Most of the caviar in the European market comes from Iran and the Russian Federation, the world's largest exporters.

CITES called for importing countries, including the United States, to meet their obligations and fully implement the measures to which they have agreed in order to ensure that imports are from legal sources and have proper registration and labeling.

"It's time that caviar producing and importing countries step up and help wipe out the illegal trade in caviar with tough enforcement measures, including antipoaching efforts and implementation of the CITES labeling requirements,' Habel said.

From: Focus, March-April 2006

Fight over menhaden catch limit looming in Virginia

Several bills aimed at limiting menhaden harvests in Virginia waters failed to win approval in the VA General Assembly, setting up a possible showdown between the state and a coastwide fisheries management commission. Three bills before the House of Delegates, and another in the Senate, were either defeated or withdrawn, leaving the state without a legislative plan to implement the Chesapeake Bay catch of the fish which was capped by the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission. "Virginia is playing chicken with the federal law that enforces this thing," Ken Hinman, president of the National Coalition for Marine Conservation, told the Richmond *Times Dispatch*.

In August, the ASMFC's menhaden management board, which has representatives from Virginia and every coastal state from Maine to Florida, voted 12-2 with three abstentions to limit Omega Protein's Bay catch to 105.8 metric tons - the company's five-year harvest average. Omega, which is based in Houston and operates fleets and fish factories on the Gulf Coast, processes menhaden into high protein oil and meal used primarily in animal feed.

The management board imposed the harvest cap for five years beginning July 1 to give researchers time to determine the effects that industrial fishing has on the numbers of menhaden in the Bay. Many recreational fishermen argue that striped bass in the Bay are suffering because of a lack of menhaden to feed upon. Omega spokesmen have argued that catch limits would put its Reedville, VA, plant, which employs more than 200 people, out of business. If the catch limit is exceeded, the federal commerce secretary could order the fishery closed.

From: Bay Journal, March 2006

Gulf of Alaska (GOA) Dark Rockfish

The North Pacific Council examined the effects of removing dark rockfish from the Federal Fishery Management Plan (FMP) and allowing the State of Alaska to take over management of the species in State and Federal waters. Dark rockfish were officially recognized as a distinct species from dusky rockfish in 2004. The Council initiated this analysis in 2005 following recommendations from the stock assessment authors, the GOA plan team and the Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC) due to the assumption that this species inhabits predominantly nearshore shallow water habitats, hence is not well assessed by the offshore GOA trawl survey, and concerns that the species could be locally overfished.

The Council concurred with the SSC regarding the limited availability of information regarding the geographic and depth distribution of this species. The 2005 trawl survey indicated patches of high biomass of this species. While these were limited to only a couple of tows, it demonstrates the difficulty in assessing the actual distribution of the species at this time. The Council requested that additional information be provided in the analysis to better determine the actual distribution of this species. The availability of additional information is as yet unknown. The Council also requested that additional alternatives be included in the analysis for consideration of delegated management to the State of Alaska while retaining the species under the FMP.

Staff contact is Diana Stram

From: News and Notes, North Pacific Fishery Management Council, April 2006

Note: The scientific name is Sebastes ciliatus. It was recently identified to species level as distinctly different from Dusky rockfish Sebastes variabilis by Orr and Blackburn (2004). Prior to that both species were combined as dusky rockfish with the varieties as light dusky and dark dusky. -Diana Stram

Pacific Fishery Management Council Votes to Allow Lowest Ever 2006 Salmon Fisheries Off California and Oregon

At its meeting in Sacramento April 3-7, 2006, the Pacific Fishery Management Council voted to allow limited commercial, recreational and tribal ocean salmon fisheries off the coast of California and Oregon this year. Prior to the decision, the Council had considered a complete closure of all salmon fisheries in this area due to low numbers of naturally spawning Klamath River fall Chinook salmon, which swim with healthier stock along a 700-mile stretch of the Oregon and California coast. The decision has been forwarded to National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) for final approval.

The Council heard compelling testimony from over 100 of the estimated 1,000 people that attended the public meeting where the decision was made. After describing her family fishing history, Barbara Stickel of Morrow Bay tearfully said, "Only a few Klamath fish will be accidentally taken. I need some sort of meaningful salmon fishery." Over 5,000 pieces of written comment were also received. Testimony was also received from representatives of Indian Tribes, coastal communities, ports, and Congressional offices. Troy Fletcher, a Yurok Indian, called for, "not a blue ribbon committee, but a blue collar committee, to work together to fix the Klamath River." Mike Rees from Salmon Trollers Marketing Association presented a petition with over 7,200 signatures asking for a fishery targeting Sacramento River Chinook salmon. "Sometimes you have to go past the numbers that say no and do the right thing for the whole and say yes," said Tom Creedon from Fisherman's Wharf in San Francisco.

The Council fishery management plan calls for at least 35,000 mature fall Chinook to spawn naturally in the Klamath River. However, less than 35,000 spawners were counted the past two years and only 25,000 spawners were expected this year even with a total closure of salmon fisheries where Klamath Chinook are found in the ocean. The Council's decision to allow limited fishing will result in an estimated 21,000 natural spawners in the Klamath River, to provide for a catch of over 200,000 salmon in ocean recreational and commercial fisheries.

The Council's decision was justified in part by the fact that in the past, low numbers of returning Klamath spawners have produced high enough numbers to maintain strong runs in the future. For example, a spawning level of 18,500 in 1999 produced 196,000 salmon. However, in 1990, 16,000 spawners produced only 45,000 adult fish. The average number of natural Klamath River spawners during the past 10 years has been 55,400. Klamath River naturally spawning Chinook salmon are not listed under the Endangered Species Act.

The Council recommended use of an emergency rule to allow the fisheries to remain open. A complete closure would have meant millions in lost economic activity for recreational and commercial salmon fisheries, as well as a lack of local wild salmon in

stores and restaurants. These salmon fisheries have averaged $133 million dollars per year in economic impacts to coastal and inland communities. "Even a low season is as devastating as a hurricane to us," said Steven Kingsley of San Francisco, California. "But we need a least a small season to survive." NMFS and the States of Oregon and California have discussed ways to bring federal disaster relief to salmon fishing businesses.

The season allows some commercial fishing around Newport, Oregon during June, July, September and October. In California, there will be a limited season in September for Fort Bragg; in July, August and September in San Francisco; and in May, July, August and September in Monterey. Sport fisheries will be allowed most months in Oregon and California, but there will be closures. Details of the salmon season structure will be posted on the Council website shortly.

In-river habitat factors are thought to be primarily responsible for the diminished Klamath returns the past few years. Drought, irrigation withdrawals, and dams have been blamed for raising river water temperatures, reducing or eliminating spring floods that rush fish to the sea, and creating conditions for parasite infestations. In 2002, 30,000 adult Chinook salmon in the lower Klamath River were killed by a combination of environmental factors including low river flows. Parent year spawners were well above the 35,000 goal and recent seasons have been greatly restricted, indicating overfishing has not been a factor. Nearby ocean conditions during the past two summers may have been poor for Klamath fish. Current rains in the Klamath River are ending a multi-year drought.

Press Release
Pacific Fishery Management Council, Portland, Oregon

Playing God in the Bob

By PJ DelHomme

The Bob Marshall Wilderness Complex in northwestern Montana is 1.5 million acres of wilderness bliss. It's a place where the Continental Divide runs wild like a meandering river for sixty miles. More than a thousand miles of trails lead hikers and packers to places like Gateway Gorge, Curly Bear Mountain and the twenty-two-mile long vertical wall of rock known as the Chinese Wall. The Bob, as the locals call it, is the destination in the lower forty-eight states for those looking to camp, fish and hunt in a place where noise and man have little presence.

In the far western portion of the Bob, the South Fork Flathead River has its beginnings, fed by more than 350 alpine lakes. Fish species such as rainbow and Yellowstone cutthroat trout, as well as hybrid and pure strains of westslope cutthroat, call these lakes home; some outfitters and their clients call the lakes heaven.

Yet if the U.S. Forest Service accepts a proposed plan to save native westslope cutthroat populations in the South Fork Flathead River, heaven will be in for a change. Through intensive management using helicopters, pack stock and motor boats inside the boundaries of the wilderness, the project would eradicate all fish species in some of those lakes using antimycin - a poison that kills fish and their eggs, but is reportedly not harmful to humans. The lakes would then be restocked with westslope cutthroat.

For this project, officially named the South Fork Flathead Watershed/Westslope Cutthroat Trout Conservation Program, the area slated for treatment has the potential to provide a stronghold for genetically pure strains of westslope cutthroat that are already monitored as species of concern. If the fish populations aren't restored, some conservationists, anglers and wildlife officials fear the remaining westslopes will hybridize with nonnatives, eliminating the last pure strains of the species. Others, such as outfitters who depend on those lakes for their livelihood and citizens who have fished the lakes for years, have voiced their objections to both the intent and implementation methods of the project.

The area of the South Fork drainage above the Hungry Horse dam is home to 355 lakes, fifty of which have fish. Of those fifty, a little more than half have been determined to contain genetically pure westslopes. Officials fear that the hybrids in the remaining lakes will eventually migrate out of these headwater lakes, use the South Fork as a highway and breed with existing pure westslope populations.

While the proposed plan is going to cost the Authority an estimated $2.5 to 3 million, the entire process to treat all of the lakes will span a decade. The plan is to treat two to three lakes per year at a cost of around $300,000 annually. If the Forest Service decides to go ahead with the plan, the solace provided by the Bob Marshall Wilderness could be suspended for a decade, beginning as soon as fall 2006. Water could be contaminated and fish, native and nonnative alike, will be killed. In exchange, westslope cutthroat trout populations could have a safe haven to live without the fear of hybridization. If the project works, it will be a victory for the trout. If the plan fails or gets rejected, it will be one more blow to a species already on the verge extinction.

Abridged from: Forest Magazine, Spring 2006

Two Classics Revised!

The Physiology of Fishes

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Edited By: David H. Evans, University of Florida, Gainesville, USA and
James B. Claiborne, Georgia Southern University, Statesboro, USA

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With the genomic revolution and a heightened understanding of molecular biology, we now have the tools and the knowledge to apply a fresh approach to the study of fishes. In addition to new chapters on gas transport, temperature physiology, and stress, as well as one dedicated to functional genomics, readers will discover that many of the new contributors approach their material with a contemporary molecular perspective.

While much of the material is new, the editors have completely adhered to the original's style in creating a text that continues to be highly readable and perpetually insightful in bridging the gap between pure and applied science.

Features found in the Third Edition: 1) Adds a section on New Technologies, with chapters on mutagenesis, functional genomics, and cell culture and stem cells; 2) Provides an international perspective with the contributions of expert authors from six countries; 3) Allows researchers to springboard in almost any direction with an extremely extensive bibliography; 4) Includes sixteen new full color plates to go with the book's 150 illustrations; and 5) Offers state-of-the-art ecological and molecular approaches.

Contents: Locomotion and Energetics - Locomotion, Feeding and Nutrition; Gas Exchange and Transport - Aquatic and Aerial Respiration, The Cardiovascular System, Gas Transport; Homeostasis and Reproduction - Ion Transport, Osmoregulation, and Acid-Base Balance, Temperature, Endocrinology, Stress; Reproduction; Neurophysiology - Hearing and Mechanoreception, Electroreception and Electrogenesis, Chemoreception; New Technologies - Mutagenesis: Insights from λ-Transgenic Medaka; Functional Genomics: Insights into Physiological Complexity, Cell Culture and Stem cells.

CRC Press, Taylor & Francis Group; Catalog no 2022, January 2006, 616 pp.; ISBN: 0-8493-2022-4, $119.95 / £49.99

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Joseph S. Nelson

Fishes of the World, Fourth Edition is the updated edition of a true classic in the field. The taxonomy of fishes presented includes the anatomical charactersitics, distribution, common and scientific names, and phylogenetic relationships for all 515 families of living fishes. This *Fourth Edition* features: Both fossil and extant species; More than 500 illustrations; Fully vetted scientific and common names; An extensive bibliography.

ISBN: 0-471-25031-7; March 2006 624 pp; $125.00 USA / $162.99 CAN; John Wiley & Sons, Inc., 111 River Street, Hoboken, NJ 07030-5774

Slow Progress in Restoring Salmon

Judge Orders Increased "Spill" Past Turbines

The struggle over rebuilding salmon stocks in the Columbia and its main tributary the Snake River continued through the late fall and into winter. In a river that once produced an estimated 16 million adult spawning salmon every year, recent years have seen only several hundred thousand return. Earthjustice succeeded in getting a court order forcing the government to revise its operation plans for Columbia and Snake river dams to make them less harmful to protected salmon stocks.

Because this will take months, Earthjustice attorney Todd true recently asked the judge in the case to order some interim relief for the salmon. He asked the court to order the government to supply at least a minimum amount of water during the spring and summer of 2006 to move migrating young salmon safely down the rivers, through the multiple dams blocking their way, and out to sea. The court saw the basic sense of the argument and ordered the government to increase the amount of water spilled past the turbines at each dam to aid salmon migration. This is the safest way to get baby salmon past each dam. The court ordered "spill" comes as state officials from Oregon and Washington are predicting that very few adult salmon will return to spawn in 2006 due to past river mismanagement. Even though the increased water releases ordered by the court are a step in the right direction and build on past court rulings, they won't result in more adult fish returning to spawn for several years. -JM

From: In Brief, Spring 2006

Cod Conservation Zone Created in State Waters

In an effort to rebuild depleted cod populations in New England, the Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries enacted a season closure to cod fishing in state waters from December 1 through January 15. The closure is intended to protect cod spawning aggregations - when large groups of cod gather to reproduce - from north of Boston through south of Marblehead and three miles out from the shoreline.

For some fish species, large spawning aggregations can account for the majority of annual reproduction. Consequently, fishing practices that intentionally target these aggregations severely hampers the populations' growth. The protective measures - which the state describes as a "Cod Conservation Zone" - will eliminate most fishing gear that could pose a threat to cod during the spawning aggregations, thereby helping to rebuild depleted cod populations.

"We appreciate the Division of Marine Fisheries' commitment to increasing protections for cod in state waters. Protecting these spawning aggregations is critically needed to jumpstart the Gulf of Maine cod rebuilding process," said Geoff Smith, New England Fish Program Manager for The Ocean Conservancy. "The future of cod - and the New England fishing communities that depend on them - depends on conservation measures like this seasonal closure."

Recent stock assessments indicate that cod populations continue to be overfished: populations have plummeted by 20 to 25 percent since 2002, leaving them at a fraction of their healthy, sustainable levels. Strong conservation measures are critical to ending overfishing and allowing cod to rebuild. -Sara Bennington

From: Blueplanet, Winter/Spring 2006

Retardant Use Needs Oversight

In the thirty-five years since President Nixon signed the National Environmental Policy Act, the U.S. Forest Service, more than any other agency, has resisted its full disclosure mandate. The Forest Service has tried to avoid compliance with the Act for clear-cutting, pesticide spraying, wilderness development, off-road vehicle use, outfitting permits in wilderness areas and a host of other activities. As the Forest Service lost court case after court case, the agency has reluctantly incorporated NEPA into its decision making.

That is, in everything but firefighting. The Forest Service's firefighting arm, which now accounts for about half the agency's total spending, has never - not once, in thirty-five years - disclosed to the public the environmental effects of any of its fire suppression actions. Whether it is bulldozing miles of fire roads through wilderness areas or cutting down wildlife-sustaining trees during firefighting, the Forest Service has hidden from public scrutiny the ecological damage caused by wildland firefighting.

For the first time, in a lawsuit brought by Forest Service Employees for Environmental Ethics (FSEEE), represented by Marc Fink and the Western Environmental Law Center, a federal district court judge has ordered the Forest Service to analyze under NEPA one of its firefighting activities - the use of aerial fire retardant. In his thirty-five-page decision (available online at http://www.fseee.org/press/retardantorder.pdf), Judge Donald Molloy ruled that the Forest Service must assess in a NEPA document its use of fire retardant and must formally consult with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service regarding the effects retardant has on threatened and endangered species. Molloy noted that in a one-year period, aerial retardant was dumped into streams with threatened species at least eight times.

Each year the Forest Service dumps, on average, 15 million gallons of fire retardant and, in some years, as much as 40 million gallons. The retardant includes ammonia-based fertilizer and, in some brands, sodium ferrocyanide, and is highly toxic to fish. Studies by U.S. Geological Survey scientists have found that even relatively low levels of retardant concentrations in water - levels easily exceeded by an errant airplane drop - are toxic to fish and other stream organisms. In 2002, a single retardant spill in central Oregon killed more than 20,000 trout along a six mile stretch of Fall Creek.

Judge Molloy noted in his decision that "All evidence suggests that the USFS was told by other agencies to consult NEPA on fire retardant issues," and that "The decision not to involve NEPA appears to be a political decision." A memorandum FSEEE obtained during the court case shows that the decision to break the law came directly from Undersecretary of Agriculture Mark Rey. But, it is also evident from the record that Rey had substantial support for his decision among the Forest Service's firefighting managers.

FSEEE will be asking the judge for a time schedule to ensure the Forest Service promptly follows the law. In the meantime, use of aerial fire retardant can continue, as FSEEE has not requested an injunction barring its use. This is just the first step in a long-overdue public look at the Forest Service's 100-year war on fire, and is best performed with cool heads - not during the heat of the blaze. -Andy Stahl

From: Forest Magazine, Winter 2006

Western Pacific Council Approves Change to Fishery Ecosystem Plans

At its December 2005 meeting, the Western Pacific Regional Fishery Management Council approved a change from species-based to place-based management of offshore fisheries in the U.S. Pacific Islands. Under the change, the four existing fishery management plans (FMPs) for bottomfish, crustaceans, precious corals and coral reef resources in federal waters (generally 3 to 200 miles offshore) of the U.S. Pacific islands will be restructured into four place-based fishery ecosystem plans (FEPs): 1) Mariana Archipelago FEP (includes Guam and Northern Mariana Islands); Hawaii Archipelago FEP (includes both the main and Northwestern Hawaiian Islands, including Midway Atoll); American Samoa Archipelago FEP; and Pacific Remote Island Areas FEP (includes the islands and atolls of Baker, Howland, Jarvis, Johnston, Palmyra, Wake and Kingman Reef). The existing Pelagic FMP for the Western Pacific Region will become a Pacific Pelagic FEP.

This structural change will allow the Council to more easily incorporate ecosystem-based principles into the management of fisheries in the federal waters surrounding the U.S. Pacific islands. No new regulations are being implemented at this time. The "ecosystem-based" approach to fishery management has been promoted since 1986 by policy makers, fishery management agencies and environmentalists worldwide, including the President's Commission on Ocean Policy, the Pew Ocean Commission, NOAA and the U.N. Food and Agriculture Organization among others.

At its meeting the Council adopted the FEP objectives, boundaries, management unit species, advisory group structure, and regional/international coordination and community participation approaches. Council staff is working with the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) and local resource management agency staff to finalize the FEP documents prior to transmission to the Secretary of Commerce for approval.

From: Pacific Island Fishery News, Winter 2006

The Ultimate Catch

World Wildlife Fund (WWF) Scientist Documents World's Largest Freshwater Fish

Fishermen in northern Thailand netted a 646-pound Mekong giant catfish believed to be the largest freshwater fish ever found. The nearly 9-foot-long catfish was caught in June by villagers in a remote area along the Mekong River and is the heaviest recorded since Thai officials started keeping statistics in 1981, according to a WWF researcher.

"It's amazing to think that giants like this still swim in some of the world's rivers," said Dr. Zeb Hogan, a WWF Conservation Science fellow and leader of a new WWF and National Geographic Society project to identify and study all freshwater fish over 6 feet long or 200 pounds. "We've now confirmed that this catfish is the current record holder - an astonishing find."

Local fishermen in northern Thailand caught a 646-pound giant Mekong catfish, the heaviest recorded since officials started keeping records in 1981. A WWF researcher documented the catch as part of a new project to study large freshwater fish.

Local environmentalists and government officials negotiated the release of the record-breaking fish so it could continue its spawning migration in the far north of Thailand, near the borders of Thailand, Laos, Myanmar, and China - also known as the golden Triangle. But the fish, an adult male, later died.

The Mekong giant catfish is Southeast Asia's largest and rarest fish; the population has plummeted due to dam construction and environmental deterioration. Earlier in the month, WWF helped release four adult Mekong giant catfish into the wild to help increase the population. The fish were fitted with tags to alert fishermen of their protected status.

"I'm thrilled that we've set a new record, but we need to put this discovery in context: these giant fish are uniformly poorly studied and some are critically endangered. Some, like the Mekong giant catfish, face extinction," said Hogan. "My study of giant freshwater fish is showing a clear and global pattern: the largest fish species are disappearing. We must find methods to protect these species and their habitats. By acting now, we can save animals like the Mekong giant catfish from extinction."

From: Focus 27(5), September-October 2005

District Directors

Alaska, Northern
Joseph F. Margraf, Jr.
University of Alaska
P.O. Box 757020
Fairbanks, AK 99775-7020
ffjfml@uaf.edu

Alaska, Southeast
Bruce Wing
P.O. Box 210265
Auke Bay, AK 99821-0265
bruce.wing@noaa.gov

Arizona - New Mexico
G. Morris Southward
Statistics and Res. Inst.
New Mexico State University
Box 30003 Dept. 3130
Las Cruces, New Mexico 88003-8003
southward@nmsu.edu

California, Northern
Michael McGowan
Maristics, Inc.
1442-A Walnut Street, Ste. 188
Berkeley, CA 94709

California, Southern
Raymond R. Wilson
CSULB Biol Sci
1250 N. Bellflower Blvd.
Long Beach, CA 90840
rwilson1@csulb.edu

Capital
Frank M. Panek
National Fish Health Research Laboratory
1705 Leetown Rd.
Kearneysville, WV 25430

Carolinas
Patrick Harris
SC-DNR, MRRI
PO Box 12559
Charleston, SC 29422
harrisp@mrd.dnr.state.sc.us

Florida
Thomas W. Schmidt
USDI Nat'l. Park Service
Everglades Nat'l. Pk., S. Fla. Res. Ctr.
P.O. Box 279
40001 State Rd. 9336
Homestead, FL 33014
tom_schmidt@nps.gov

Great Lakes, South Central
Dora R. Passino-Reader
National Fish. Center
1451 Green Road
Ann Arbor, MI 48105-2897
dora_reader@usgs.gov

Gulf of Mexico, Northeast
Vacant

Keystone
Joseph W. Rachlin
Dept. Biological Sciences
Lehman College of CUNY
250 Bedford Pk. Blvd. W.
Bronx, NY 10468-5189
joseph.rachlin@lehman.cuny.edu

New England
Kevin Friedland
National Marine Fisheries Service
28 Tarzwell Dr.
Narragansett, RI 02882
kevin.friedland@noaa.gov

Oregon-SW Washington
Vacant

Texas
Lance Robinson
Texas Parks and Wildlife Dept.
Seabrook Marine Lab
Seabrook, TX 77856

Washington, NW
Katherine Myers
School of Aquatic & Sciences
University of Washington
Box 355020
Seattle, WA 98195-5020

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Promoting excellence in fishery science

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President's Message

Our annual Board of Control meeting will be held in Lake Placid, September 9 and 10, 2006. All members are welcome to attend. An agenda will be posted on the web closer to the meeting dates.

Doug Vaughn has organized two AIFRB symposia that will be held during the American Fisheries Society meetings later that week (see article this issue). We encourage all of you attending the AFS meetings to attend our symposia.

I would like to welcome three new District Directors to the Board of Control. Katherine Myers has replaced Bruce Miller in the Northwest Washington District. Mike McGowan has replaced Diana Watters in the Northern California District and Steve Cadrin is the new Director of the New England District, replacing Kevin Friedland. We look forward to working with these new BOC members.

On behalf of the BOC members, I would like to thank Diana, Bruce and Kevin for all their hard work for the organization both as the Directors and as BOC members. We will miss them and their input to the BOC.

Planning continues on the 50th Anniversary symposium, scheduled for February 13-15, 2007 in Seattle, WA. The symposium is entitled "The Future of Fishery Science in North America." The Steering Committee is in the process of inviting Session chairs. The Local Organizing Committee has been working on various details in Seattle. It is shaping up to be an excellent symposium, so plan to attend!

Linda Jones

Board of Control: Midyear Teleconference Minutes

(Abridged)

Present: Linda Jones, Richard Schaefer, Joe Rachlin, Barbara Warkentine, Neal Foster, John Merriner, Dora Passino-Reader, Allen Shimada, Mike McGowan, Ray Wilson, Joe Margraf, Tom Keegan

1. Projected Attendance: Board of Control (BOC) Meeting, Lake Placid

As of May 24, nine Officers and Directors plan to attend the BOC meeting. As per last year the maximum reimbursement from the Institute will be $400.00 per member.

2. 2006 BOC meeting arrangements: Joe Rachlin and Barbara Warkentine have been in contact with AFS and arrangements have been made for our meeting program and meeting room needs. Saturday night dinner is planned for BOC members and companions.

3. Budget: Treasurer Allen Shimada reported that we have $12,700 in the checking account. Expenses to come from this include such items as $2,000 for the research assistance program, $1,200 for fish plaques, and at this point $3,200 for travel to the BOC. Other costs will be *Briefs*, and a second dues mailing. He estimated that we should have approximately $2,000 in the account at the time of the BOC meeting. This is similar to last year, assuming the travel for the BOC meeting does not increase.

4. 2007 50th Anniversary: Linda Jones reported the following: Theme is "The Future of Fisheries Science & Management." Organizing Committee is in place. Session moderators are being contacted. Social Event - A reception (as opposed to a sit-down dinner) is planned with a proposed charge to attendees of $30. Fund Raising – Vidar Wespestad is heading up fund raising efforts. Committed sponsors include: NMFS ($25K), DFO ($15K Canadian) and Sea Grant ($10K) as well as other smaller contributors. Logo items for attendees: mugs, t-shirts, umbrellas, or memory sticks with AIFRB logo imprinted on them were discussed as

The AIFRB is a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt nonprofit organization (EIN 61-6050711).

possible items to give as part of the registration package. The consensus was to look into the memory sticks. *(At age 66, I could use a whole bundle of memory sticks. Ed).* Registration Fee - $175 for non-AIFRB members, $135 for Members and $110 for Students. Recruitment – It was suggested that we have a raffle for individuals that apply for membership. Poster Session – A general poster session is planned. An award will be given for the best student poster.

5. Membership: Membership Chairman, Tom Keegan, reported that our membership is approximately the same as it was last year. We are going to make a full blown effort at the 50th Anniversary to recruit members. It's important for District Directors (DD) to recruit new members. A significant problem seems to be the "leak out" of student members and members who leave a district for a position elsewhere and do not renew. It was recommended that a DD take it upon him/herself to contact the DD or RD of the area to which the individual is moving so that the DD or RD can make contact and encourage continued membership. Recruitment brochure in Spanish is being renewed and a French version may be produced for use in Canada.

6. Web-page: Neal Foster reported that Kim Anthony has been working hard on the web-page. She does this while working full time and working towards her Master's degree. Help is needed to keep the information on the site current. Kim does update the site when she gets a number of items. Kim can be contacted via the web-site by clicking on "Webmaster". The address is aifrb@earthlink.net. Some Districts do not have information on the site and the pertinent Directors should be contacted to have them provide material for posting. Providing Directors direct access to the site was discussed but was dismissed due to security concerning the site. Perhaps having co-webmasters might be considered. The Computer Committee is to provide recommendations to the BOC regarding how to keep the web pages updated.

7. Nominating Committee: John Merriner reported that there are two candidates for President-elect and that the process is on schedule.

Two AIFRB Symposia at Lake Placid!

Symposium I: Biology and Assessment of Protogynous Hermaphrodites

Organizers: Dr. Elizabeth N. Brooks, Dr. Douglas S. Vaughan, Dr. Kyle W. Shertzer

Protogynous hermaphrodites start life as female and later switch to male. This life history strategy provides unique challenges to fishery management, as the potential is for males to be more heavily exploited. This symposium will address basic biology, stock assessment, and management of protogynous hermaphrodites.

Oral Presentations: 1. Roy A. Pemberton, Jr - Reproduction and Demographics of Black Sea Bass in the Mid-Atlantic Bight; 2. Richard S. McBride, Lewis H. Bullock, Paul E. Thurman, and Michael R. Johnson – Sexual and reproductive development of hogfish (Labridae), a hermaphroditic reef fish; 3. Richard S. McBride, Angela S. Collins (presenter), and Adam K. Richardson – Age, growth, and mortality of hogfish (Labridae), a hermaphroditic reef fish; 4. Pat Harris – Temporal changes in the life history of red porgy off the Atlantic coast of the southeastern US; 5. Doug Devries – Protogyny does not necessarily make a species more sensitive to exploitation – the red porgy case; 6. Chris Koenig & Felicia Coleman – Mechanism of fishing-induced sex-ratio disruption in gag; 7. Mark Collins and Marcel Reichert – Age, growth, and reproductive biology of gag from the southeastern United States, 1996-2005; 8. Gary Fitzhugh – Evidence for skipped annual reproduction among protogynous grouper species; 9. Elizabeth Brooks, Kyle Shertzer, and Todd Gedamke – Measures of spawning stock biomass for protogynous hermaphrodites; 10. Scott Heppell – Models to compare management options for a protogynous fish.

Associated Poster Session: Min Liu – Early gonadal development in a protogynous epinepheline, the orange-spotted grouper.

Symposium II: Abundance Estimation and Stock Assessment – Recent Quantitative Advances

Organizers: Dr. John M. Hoenig, Dr. Douglas S. Vaughan, Dr. Erik H. Williams

This symposium will present recent advancements in quantitative methods for the understanding and management of fisheries. The papers presented will cover a wide area of applications related to the assessment of fish populations, both marine and freshwater. Speakers have been chosen from different agencies and universities from a wide geographic area. It is hoped that this broad focus will allow meeting attendees to be exposed to a wide range of perspectives. Quantitative methods symposia similar to this have been very well attended in the past, including those developed by the current organizers [Halifax (1994), Hartford (1998), Charlotte (1999), Phoenix (2001), Quebec City (2003), and most recently Madison (2004)]. Quantitative methodologies continue to advance rapidly, so a symposium at Lake Placid seems highly appropriate. Topics of recent interest will continue to

be emphasized, including life history estimation, fisheries surveys, tagging, habitat and spatial statistics, assessments with limited data, biological reference points and control rules, multi-species modeling, and the interface between science and management.

Oral Presentations: 1. J.M. Hoenig, D. Gauthier and W. Vogelbein – Impact of mycobacteriosis on striped bass, as inferred from tagging data; 2. S. Burdick, J.E. Hightower, J. Buckel, K.H. Pollock, and L. Paramore – Selectivity and survival of North Carolina red drum using 20 years of mark and recapture data; 3. William Smith – Harvest mortality and population demographics of southern flounder based on a tag-return experiment in the New River, NC; 4. Dana Schmidt – Comparison of catch/age modeling with robust mark/recapture analysis on some resident fish stocks in the upper Columbia River; 5. Alexei Sharov – Merging tagging data with relative abundance indices and catch at age in sequential population analysis; 6. Emmanis, Dorval, Jenny McDaniel, and Paul Crone – Fecundity, egg-escapement and population variability in the market squid fishery off California; 7. Todd Gedamke, J.M. Hoenig, W. DuPaul, and J. Musick – New approaches to assessing elasmobranch populations: What we infer from a trawl survey; 8. Kristin Maki, J.M. Hoenig, D.M. Heisey and J.E. Olney – Comparing catch rates of American shad in two net types: A step towards setting restoration targets for Virginia stocks; 9. Thomas Ihde and J.M. Hoenig – Performance of index-removal methods for estimating population size; 10. Michael Wilberg – Estimation of recreational bag limit noncompliance for yellow perch management in southern Lake Michigan; 11. Ken Rose – Stock assessment of data-poor, un-aged populations: A case study of the small pelagic fisheries; 12. B.C. Linton, J.R. Bence – Evaluating methods for estimating process and observation error in statistical catch-at-age analysis; 13. William Clark – Alarums and excursion: A biography of the Pacific halibut assessment; 14. Richard E. Thorne – Did the Exxon Valdez Oil Spill change the natural mortality of herring and invalidate the age-structured model?; 15. James Hasbrouck – Meta-analysis of marine survival rates of coho salmon in Alaska; 16. D.M. Kahn – Improving precision of parameter estimates via an iterative process for estimating and inputting year-specific M estimates in a catch-survey model of the Delaware Bay blue crab stock; 17. Jesse Schwartz – Ecological indicators in the California near shore: Evidence from video surveys on SCUBA; 18. Jon Volstad and Mary Christman – Population dynamics of *Crassostrea virginica* in the Chesapeake Bay as a function of disease prevalence and weather conditions; 19. Rebecca Reuter – Assessing species in a complex environment; 20. Dvora Hart – When do marine reserves increase fishery yield?.

Associated Poster Session: 1. Douglas Vaughan, Kyle Shertzer and Joseph Smith – Gulf menhaden in the US Gulf of Mexico: Fishery characteristics and biological reference points for management; 2. Yu-Tin Lin – Age and growth of southern bluefin tuna in the central Indian Ocean.

A Loss

Jack G. Robinson, May 12, 2005
Last address: 41997 Spruce Lane, Astoria, OR

Retirement

Charles A. Barans, May 2006
From the South Carolina Department of Wildlife and Marine Resources, Charleston, SC

Northern California District Vital!

Meets and eats in San Rafael

Dr. Nathaniel Scholtz (NOAA, Seattle) discussed restored urban streams and salmon die-offs at the Northern California District Meeting at Ping's Mandarin Restaurant, San Rafael, May 20, 2006. Twenty bucks bought the entire meal with tax and tip for attendees. Allison Gordon reports the next two meetings will be in or near Santa Cruz and Benicia.

Cousteau Alert! PBS Presentations

Jean-Michel Cousteau's Ocean Adventures series on PBS has been set to air "America's Underwater Treasures: Part One", Wednesday, September 20, 8 pm and "Part Two", Wednesday, September 27, 8 pm. The episodes highlight the nation's National Marine Sanctuaries. For each Sanctuary they highlight a feature story and provide background natural history coverage.

"Part Two" has a piece on the Olympic National Marine Sanctuary. The feature story is the cooperative program between NOAA's Sanctuary program, funding by the Marine Debris Program and the Makah Tribe in finding and removing derelict fishing gear. The Cousteau film crew spent a week with the Northwest Straits Commission's Derelict Fishing Gear Removal Team filming the removal of a derelict gillnet and several crab pots. Everyone involved invites you to share this compelling story as seen through the eyes and lens of Jean-Michel Cousteau.

Submitted by: Jeff June via Allen Shimada

Jeffrey A. June, Natural Resources Consultants, Inc., 1900 West Nickerson Street, Suite 207, Seattle, WA 98119-1650; Phone (206) 285-3480, Fax (206) 283-8263, email jjune@nrccorp.com, website www.nrccorp.com

Cypriniform Conference

The Institute of Hydrobiology in Wuhan, China and the Cypriniformes Tree of Life Initiative have combined resources for the first Special International Symposium and Workshops entitled "Biology of Cypriniformes". The conference will be held between 12-15 October 2006 and information on this symposium, registration, travel, workshops and working groups, and excursions is available at the website link below. Some aspects of this site are rapidly being completed but please visit for information available now. There are varied topics for contribution ranging from distributions and systematics, genomics, development, aquaculture, invasive species, and ecology and behavior. If you or your group would like to see additional topics added please contact Rick Mayden at cypriniformes@gmail.com.

Website to visit: www.bio.slu.edu/mayden/conferences/CToL_Symposium.

American Rivers Hails Congressional Move to Close Shipping Channel That Doomed New Orleans

Mississippi River Gulf Outlet Funneled Katrina Storm Surge Toward City, Would Close Under Emergency Supplemental Funding Bill

WASHINGTON American Rivers today praised action in the U.S. Congress to shut down the Mississippi River Gulf Outlet (MRGO) shipping channel that was a significant cause of the catastrophic flooding in the New Orleans metro area following Hurricane Katrina in 2005. Studies by Louisiana State University's Hurricane Center have concluded that MRGO amplified and funneled Katrina's storm surge directly toward the levees that protected the city's Ninth Ward and St. Bernard parishes, breeching them, flooding neighborhoods, and killing hundreds of people.

Along with the direct damages caused by MRGO, the project destroyed more than 20,000 acres of coastal wetlands that would have helped blunt the storm surge. Intended as a shipping channel, MRGO has never come close to meeting the economic performance the Corps predicted for it.

The ill fated MRGO navigation channel has been blamed for the overtopping and breaching of the levees and flood walls that swamped the Lower 9th Ward, St. Bernard Parish, and the heart of New Orleans, causing hundreds of deaths in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina. Additionally, many blame it for the flooding of those same areas during Hurricane Betsy in 1965.

The closure plan, championed by Senators Landrieu (D-La.), Vitter (R-La.), Inhofe (R-Ok.), and Jeffords (I-Vt.),will at a minimum de-authorize deep draft navigation on the MRGO while restoring wetlands destroyed by the construction and operation of the channel. In addition to reducing the threat to New Orleans and its surrounding parishes, these actions will help restore Louisiana's rapidly vanishing coastal wetlands by stopping salt water intrusion up the channel, which has been a major cause of significant wetlands loss in the area. This in turn will help reduce future storm surges in the region.

Press Release: American Rivers, June 9, 2006

History Under the Palms

The Miami Laboratory, A History of Federal Fisheries Research in Miami, Florida By Albert C. Jones
A Review – sort of By Gene Huntsman

Sort of, I say, because I haven't really read every word. It's big, 96 pages, 39 photos, 8 appendix tables, and I need to get this Briefs issue off my living room floor. So we'll go with my sampling and quick page turning. Fellow Al has done a noble job of chronicling the rapid evolution of a major Federal facility from its origins as 1. a field of station of the venerable Galveston Laboratory and 2. (and more importantly) the permanent home of the minuscule tropical Atlantic biological group that emigrated from the lofts of the Smithsonian to the new building on Virginia Key in 1965. Now the headquarters of the NOAA's Southeast Fisheries Science Center that oversees other facilities in Beaufort, NC, Charleston, SC, Panama City, FL, Pascagoula, MS, Galveston, TX and elsewhere, the institution is a research and management unit with its fingers in marine pies nearly the world around. It's all in Al's bok (well, almost all), all forty years of it and few could have documented the explosive growth of this research mushroom so well. Al was there almost the entire time. So we find in the text not just staff listings, but extensive details of research program growth and change, of the reason for and impacts of the many research efforts of the administrative staff, of ships used and the loss of ships, of the changes in Federal or societal emphasis in fisheries management and the resulting realignment of activities in the laboratory. Like I said, almost all there. All the muscle, all the bone. And given the expectations of staidness in a Federal publication maybe that's all Al could give us. But I missed some internal organ - poets would say the heart. Maybe, or maybe it's the pancreas, for sure some important part of the guts. I missed those stories of irrespressible personalities and subdisastrous misadventures that give vibrancy and reality to histories. Of naturalized German, Pothoff and Russian-extracted Dragovich daily revivifying the ancient antagonism between Slav and Teuton, often at the top of their lungs (but with good nature - I think!), of Fred Berry's fanaticism about, and adornment of the Laboratory landscaping with, kapok trees (Beaufort had its own Johnny Figbush!), of the lab staffer who in satirizing a Miami Tourist Bureau program of providing local guides to visitors, swamped the lab switchboard as retailers sought his tee shirts that portrayed the Tourist Bureau's slogan "See Miami with the natives!" along with numerous silhouettes of roaches, of the gigantic but poorly engineered dumb bell shaped (4 feet deep, each circle about 20 feet in diameter) salt water tank designed to make oceanic tuna feel at home that collapsed suddenly sending thousands of gallons of salt water careening down an office-lined corridor, of the enormous waste of Federal research dollars occasioned by positioning the largely male-staffed laboratory immediately adjacent to Miami's de facto nude beach (I didn't know binoculars could wear out!). So many rich personalities, angels and jerks, whackos and savants! Are they not an essential part of the Miami lab's story? Al, get busy! Write the rest of the lab history as well as you have the coat and tie version.

Bad Records? No Problem!

Council Recommends Increased Quota for Tilefish (Lopholatilus)

At its meeting in early May in Virginia Beach, VA the Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council (MAFMC) approved a quota adjustment that would increase the tilefish quota from 1.995 million pounds to 2.175 million pounds if approved by the National Marine Fisheries Services (NMFS). This increase of less than 10 percent corresponds to the difference between "live weight" and "landed weight." Since the Tilefish Fishery Management Plan (FMP) was implemented in November 2001 until May 2005, landings were recorded in "landed weight" instead of "live weight" as required by the FMP. In other words, by weight, more fish were being removed from the stock than the FMP authorized. Despite this inadvertent error in landings record keeping, the June 2005 stock assessment concluded that the resource was no longer overfished and overfishing was no longer occurring. Moreover, that same stock assessment indicated that the resource was nearly 20 percent ahead of the initial rebuilding projections, i.e., the original quota management measure predicted a 59 percent rebuilding level at this time whereas the stock assessment calculated that the stock is at 72 percent of its maximum sustainable biomass target. The resource is to be completely rebuilt to the biomass level that will support the maximum sustainable yield level by 2011. The new quota level should not jeopardize that schedule.

Press Release: Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council, May 8, 2006

It's an Ill Wind.... Hurricanes, other stuff accelerate Red Snapper Recovery

A joint amendment to the Gulf of Mexico Reef Fish and Shrimp Fishery Management Plans (FMP) is currently underway. The purpose of the amendment is to rebuild the red snapper fishery by the year 2032. In order to do so, issues such as bycatch, in both the red snapper directed fishery and the shrimp fishery, and overfishing must be addressed.

Dave Donaldson, Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission, gave a presentation that showed forces of nature, along with current economic conditions have substantially reduced shrimping effort in the Gulf of Mexico. It is predicted that current effort levels are reduced by as much as 60% in some areas and about 40% Gulf-wide.

The Council also heard testimony that the 9.12 million pound annual allocation for the red snapper directed fishery had not been reached in 2004 or 2005. Instead, it is estimated that catches were about 500,000 pounds under for each of those years. "Due to a reduction in mortality in both the red snapper directed fishery and the shrimp fishery, we've actually begun the rebuilding plan three years earlier than planned, therefore we may be able to reach an optimum red snapper population before our target of 2032," said Degraaf Adams, a Council member from Texas.

Based on this information, the Council requested that staff re-analyze the rebuilding program, taking into consideration the shrimp effort reduction beginning in 2005, and to conduct an analysis of TAC based on reported underages of 500,000 pounds in each of the last three years. Calculations based on these early reductions will provide additional information on the rebuilding needs for Amendment 27/14. Those analyses will be presented during the August 14-17, 2006, Council meeting in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

From: Gulf Fishery News, June-July 2006

Gulf of Mexico Council establishes Individual Fishing Quota (IFQ) for the red snapper fishery

Tampa, Florida – May 3, 2006. After spending nearly six years in development, Reef Fish Amendment 26, which establishes an IFQ system for commercial red snapper, received resounding approval from eligible voters. While the Department of Commerce will have the final say in whether or not the measure is approved, 87% (weighted) of those who returned a ballot voted in favor of the IFQ Amendment. "We're tired of wasting fish," said David Krebs of Destin, Florida, adding that "VMS (*?Ed*) and a quota system is the only way we're going to save the fishery."

At its March meeting, the Gulf Council voted to forward Reef Fish Amendment 26 to the Secretary of Commerce for review and consideration. Under the red snapper IFQ program, also known as Amendment 26 to the Reef Fish Fishery Management Plan, individual fishing quotas will be assigned to current permit holders based on historical landings. Class 1 reef fish permit holders will choose ten consecutive years between 1998 and 2004. For those fishermen who hold a Class 1 historical captain's license, individual quotas will be assigned based on a seven-year average of historical landings.

For years, the red snapper fishery has been marked by overcapitalization. The current limited entry and closed season management system has encouraged fishermen to engage in derby-type fishing where participants race to harvest as many fish as possible before the quota is taken and the fishery closed. "We stepped up, identified problems, and went forward with ways to address those problems," said Donald Waters, a commercial fisherman from Pensacola, Florida who also serves on the Red Snapper IFQ Advisory Panel.

It is hoped that working under an IFQ system, product quality will increase by improving fishing and handling methods. A reduction in bycatch is also anticipated because fishermen will be allowed greater flexibility in operations. "IFQs often create an incentive for fishermen to conserve the resource by giving them a long-term interest in the health and productivity of the fishery," said Wayne Swingle, Executive Director of the Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council. "We won't be racing out there for ten days trying to wipe out everything that's out there," said Krebs.

If approved by the Secretary of Commerce, the IFQ program will become effective in 2007.

Press Release: Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council, May 3, 2006

Gulf Grouper May be Subject to IFQ, too!

The Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council (Council) has convened several meetings of the Ad Hoc Grouper Individual Fishing Quota Advisory Panel (AHGIFQAP)(*WOW! Ed.*) to continue discussions regarding the scope and general configuration of an Individual Fishing Quota (IFQ) program for the Gulf of Mexico commercial grouper fishery.

The Council has begun deliberation of a Dedicated Access Privilege System (DAP) for the commercial grouper fishery, and has appointed an Ad Hoc Grouper IFQ Advisory Panel composed of commercial grouper fishermen and others knowledgeable about DAP systems to assist in the development of such a program.

The AHGIFQAP was formed last year after the Council developed a regulatory amendment to control fishing in the red grouper fishery. That amendment set a commercial trip limit of 6,000 pounds in an attempt to extend the fishing year, which has closed increasingly earlier over the past few years as fishermen have reached the quota before the end of the season. It is expected that the new limits will lengthen the season some; however, moving to an IFQ system could be a more effective way of managing the fishery and extending the fishing year.

Press Release: Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council, April 27, 2006

Longline Area Closured do Reduce Bycatch

In response to a lawsuit filed by the National Coalition for Marine Conservation over the swordfish, billfish, and shark bycatch in U.S. longline fisheries, NOAA Fisheries closed 133,000 square miles of coastal waters off the southeast U.S. coast in August 2000.

When NOAA Fisheries compared bycatch data from before (1997-1999) and after the closure (2001-2003), it revealed that implementing area closures produced significant reductions in bycatch.

These findings are especially relevant when considering the new consolidated Atlantic Highly Migratory Species Fishery Management Plan. White marlin stocks in particular are in such bad shape that one organization has petitioned to list them as either a threatened or endangered species. By far the single biggest source of mortality for marlin is bycatch from commercial longlines. In 2004, U.S. commercial longlines killed 34 metric tons of blue marlin and 27 metric tons of white marlin. In contrast, that same year recreational anglers landed 115 blue marlin and 31 white marlin. Of course, the reality is that recreational anglers caught many more marlin than were landed and some proportion of these fish die after they are released. however, recent research found that white marlin survival rates are substantially higher when caught using circle hooks.

Species	Reduction in Bycatch Mortality
Sailfish	-77.6%
Pelagic Sharks	-55.9%
Blue Marlin	-50.3%
White Marlin	-47.5%
Dolphin	-47.2%
Juvenile Swordfish	-39.5%
Large Coastal Sharks	-27.9%
Sea Turtles	-27.9%

Since longline bycatch represents the major source of marlin mortality, judicious implementation of additional area closures would undoubtedly improve marlin stocks in the Atlantic. Unfortunately, the latest draft of the Highly Migratory Species Fishery Management Plan does not incorporate additional closures as preferred alternatives. Instead, preferred alternatives include mandatory use of circle hoots with bait during billfish tournaments and/or a complete moratorium on recreational harvest of white marlin. Many recreational anglers would undoubtedly support one or both of these management objectives if they would indeed help improve white marlin stocks. However, it is doubtful that additional recreational regulations alone will accomplish this goal without additional concessions in the longline industry to help further reduce the amount of marlin bycatch.

From: International Angler 68(3), May June 2006

Fishery Management - Micro Scale

The endangered desert pupfish and Gila topminnow received new leases on life recently, when the Arizona Game and Fish Department, in cooperation with the San Carlos Apache Tribe, transported 150 Gila topminnows to the Conservancy's San Pedro River Preserve. There, a helicopter provided by the Bureau of Reclamation picked up the topminnows and 150 desert pupfish and transported them to land jointly owned by the Conservancy and the federal Bureau of Land Management, where the fish were released into tributaries of Aravaipa Creek.

From: Nature Conservancy, Summer 2006

Sea Turtle Catch Closes Hawai'i Longline Fishery

New Gear Doesn't Protect Turtles

The majestic loggerhead and leatherback sea turtles of the pacific are a direct link to the age of the dinosaur. These gentle creatures are know to swim thousands of miles across the Pacific Ocean, but the advent of industrial fishing may put an end to this ancient voyage.

The Hawai'i-based swordfish fleet has been a source of much of this problem. This fleet kills sea turtles as bycatch (non-target fish, birds, and other species that get caught in longline fishing hear that harvest the sea with thousands of hooks). Earthjustice's Paul Achitoff, representing the Sea Turtle Restoration Network, convinced the court to shut down a large area of the ocean around Hawai'i in 1999 to protect sea turtles from the longline fleet.

In 2004, the fishery was reopened with promises that a new fishing tackle would protect sea turtles. This techno-fix didn't work. The fishery was reopened with the understanding that if 16 leatherback turtles or 17 loggerhead turtles are hooked by longliners in a single year, swordfishing would be closed for the remainder of the year. The loggerhead limit was hit this year so NOAA Fisheries closed the swordfish fleet on March 20, 2006. "Ever since they reopened the swordfish longline fishery in April 2004, the Western Pacific Regional Fishery Management Council and NOAA Fisheries have been declaring they have figured out how to longline for swordfish without killing critically endangered leatherback and loggerhead sea turtles. Apparently, they were wrong. Let's hope this time they have the wisdom to keep the fishery closed," said Paul Achitoff. -Brian Smith

From: In Brief, Summer 2006

New Standard for Farmed Salmon

Unprecedented partnership nets environmental results

We're proud of this salmon. Ask us why! Curious shoppers who saw this sign at Wegmans, an East Coast supermarket chain, learned that Wegmans has asked its farmed king salmon supplier to meet tough health and environmental standards, the result of an unprecedented partnership with Environmental Defense.

To bring healthier farmed salmon to dinner tables nationwide, we worked with Wegmans and leading food-service company Bon Appétit. Together, we developed purchasing standards for farmed salmon. "Environmental Defense identified the environmental goals, then found ways for us to meet them," says Jeanne Colleluori of Wegmans.

Consumption of farmed salmon worldwide continues to soar, but its popularity raises concerns both about contaminants like PCBs and the threat fish farming poses to marine ecosystems. While Alaskan wild salmon is still the best ecological choice for consumers, it is expensive and not always in season.

Our standards require fish farms to limit contaminants, reduce water pollution and lessen the chances of fish escaping and spreading disease and non-native genes to wild populations. The standards also encourage further innovations, such as the development of closed tank systems. "We've long encouraged industry to embrace such standards. Now we have a model," says Monterey Bay Aquarium Seafood Watch manager Jennifer Dianto.

To reform fish farming, we worked with corporate trend-setters. Wegmans ranked number one on Fortune's 2005 list of the "100 Best Companies to Work For." Bon Appétit serves top-echelon clients and is an environmental leader in its industry. It also partnered with us on a purchasing standard that reduced antibiotics use in livestock production.

Now we are urging others to improve their farmed seafood offerings. Consumers can help: "Ask the seafood manager at your grocery store to stock wild Alaskan salmon and to adopt tough environmental standards for the farmed salmon they sell," says our director of corporate partnerships Gwen Ruta.

From: Solutions 37(3), June 2006

Commission gives Virginia time to act on menhaden

Governor to consider instituting cap as soon as he is legally able.

By Karl Blankenship

Regional fisheries managers have decided to wait until August until taking action that could lead to a closure of Virginia's commercial menhaden fishery, giving Gov. Tim Kaine more time to bring the state into compliance with new catch limits.

The Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission, at its May meeting, could have begun the process of finding the state out of compliance with requirements adopted last year that cap commercial menhaden harvests in the Bay at just less then 106,000 metric tons a year, the average of the past five years. But the state General Assembly, which has the primary responsibility for regulating menhaden, failed to pass any of four bills that would have established such a cap, which must be in place by July 1 to comply with the ASMFC's requirement. A law passed last year allows the governor to issue a proclamation regulating the fishery, but it does not allow the governor to act within 30 days of the May 1 opening of the harvest season, or when the General Assembly is in session.

The state's General Assembly has been in a special session to deal with transportation and budget issues, preventing Kaine from acting. The governor wrote the Commission march 31 saying he would "consider instituting a cap at such time as I have legal authority to do so to help protect the menhaden resource and those who benefit from it." At its May meeting, Jack Travelstead, head of the Virginia Marine Resources Commission's Fisheries Division, told the ASMFC Menhaden Management Board that the General Assembly session presents a "historic situation." "Hopefully I will have something different to report to you at your August meeting," he said. August is the menhaden board's next meeting.

Howard King, director of the Fisheries Service of the Maryland Department of Natural Resources and a member of the menhaden board, said he had been prepared to introduce a motion finding Virginia out of compliance, but instead decided state officials intended to act in "good faith" when given the opportunity. "We still view this as an internal Virginia issue," King said.

The ASMFC imposed the cap out of concern that Bay menhaden might be suffering from "localized depletion" as a result of fishing pressure, leaving too few fish in the Chesapeake for striped bass and other predators. Before its action, the Commission received more than 26,000 comments on the cap - a record-setting number - overwhelmingly urging it to limit or end the menhaden fishery. Because of the high level of concern, Bill Goldsborough, senior scientist with the Chesapeake Bay Foundation, said he had anticipated the Commission would find Virginia out of compliance. But, he added, "it does seem like the civilized thing to do is to let Virginia try to get it done. I have every hope and confidence that Gov. Kaine will do the right thing on menhaden given the opportunity."

Lawyers have been carefully reading the Virginia law to find such an opportunity. While the legislation had been taken to mean that the governor had to act 30 days prior to the start of the season, officials believe the wording may also allow Kaine to act 30 days after May 1. "It is still open to interpretation," said Jeff Corbin, Virginia Assistant Secretary of Natural Resources. "The governor is very interested in taking action on this," Corbin added. But he cautioned that Kaine may not necessarily endorse the ASMFC cap, and could offer a alternative measure, such as different catch limit. "The governor is very interested in looking not only at what ASMFC has handed down, but also the best available science," Corbin said. He also said the governor may act on his own if the General Assembly is still in session July 1. "I think the rules change once you become out of compliance," he said.

Under a 1994 law, if ASMFC finds a state out of compliance with its fishery management plans, the Commission can request the U.S. Secretary of Commerce to impose a moratorium on the state, closing the fishery altogether. Last year's action by the ASMFC, an agency made of state and federal fisheries managers, decided to cap the harvest at the average catch from 200-2004 for five years as a precaution while scientists conduct studies of the Bay's population, which has had low numbers of small menhaden for more than a decade. The cap does not affect menhaden catches outside the Chesapeake.

While many recreational fishermen have blamed the menhaden fishing fleet in Reedville, VA, operated by Omega Protein, for the lack of small fish, many scientists are unsure of the reason for the decline. They say other factors, such as climate, may be limiting production of young menhaden, or that the Chesapeake's increased abundance of hungry striped bass may be taking too large a bite out of the population.

Measured by weight, menhaden are the largest commercial catch in the Bay. They are used for a variety of purposes, from animal feed to nutritional supplements for humans.

From: Bay Journal, June 2006

Pacific Council Takes Preemptive Action to Prohibit Krill Fishery

In March, the Pacific Fishery Management Council adopted a complete ban on commercial fishing for all species of krill in West Coast federal waters. They also specified essential fish habitat for krill, an action that makes it easier to work with other federal agencies to protect krill. Krill (euphausiids) are small shrimp-like crustaceans that serve as the basis of the marine food chain. They are eaten by many species of fish managed by the Council, as well as by whales and seabirds. Although there was no fishery for krill in Council waters, krill are fished in Antarctica, Japan, and off the west coast of Canada. They are used in aquaculture and livestock feed and for fish bait and pet foods.

Because of the importance of krill to the marine food chain, the Council recommended banning krill harvest immediately, and made no provisions for future fisheries. Industry representatives on the Coastal Pelagic Advisory Subpanel agreed that krill are critically important to the ecosystem, but some felt more research and scientific analysis was needed before a ban was enacted. There are currently no directed krill fisheries on the U.S. West Coast and state laws prohibit krill landings by state-licensed fishing vessels in California, Oregon, and Washington. This broader prohibition will apply to all vessels in Council-managed waters and will take form as Amendment 12 to the Council's coastal pelagic species fishery management plan.

A krill ban was first proposed for West Coast National Marine Sanctuary waters by the National Marine Sanctuary Program. Extending the prohibition to all Council-managed waters recognizes the important role krill plays in the whole of the West Coast ecosystem and is an example of successful collaboration between the Council and the National Marine Sanctuary Program.

From: Pacific Council News 30(1), Spring 2006

Klamath Fall Chinook Triggers Conservation Alert

The Pacific Fishery Management Council confirmed that Klamath fall Chinook stock status has triggered a Conservation Alert according to the terms of the salmon fishery management plan. This occurs when a stock is projected not to meet its conservation objective, in this case the 35,000 natural spawner escapement floor. Because Klamath fall Chinook also failed to meet the spawner floor in 2004 and 2005, the Council directed the states of California and Oregon, the Yurok and Hoopa Valley tribes, and the Council's Habitat Committee to complete an analysis of the reasons for the shortfall and report back to the Council with recommendations by next March.

From: Pacific Council News 30(1), Spring 2006

Steller Sea Lion Permits Vacated

The Humane Society and other plaintiffs have sued the Secretary of Commerce, Conrad Lautenbacher, William Hogarth and NMFS claiming violations of NEPA, the ESA, the MMPA, and the APA by issuing certain permits that authorize research on the Steller sea lion (SSL). On May 26, 2006 U.S. District Court (for the District of Columbia) Judge Ellen Segal Huvell ordered that the contested permits that authorize research on SSLs be vacated. These research permits were issued by NMFS for SSL research for 2006 and subsequent years. The agency has initiated preparation of an EIS to explore and analyze potential impacts of the SSL (and northern fur seal) research activities and to explore alternative ways that this research might be conducted. But the plaintiffs claimed that the EIS should be completed before this research continues and the Court has agreed, claiming that the requirements of NEPA were not properly followed. In effect, the court order largely terminates nearly all SSL research currently being conducted by the National Marine Mammal Laboratory, the Alaska Sea Life Center, the North Pacific Universities Marine Mammal Research Consortium, the Alaska Department of Fish & Game, the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, and the Aleutians East Borough. The Council was informed that these research groups are working together to develop a list of research activities that are "non invasive" and might be allowed to continue, and hope to meet with the plaintiffs and the judge soon. Additional information on this new development will be provided to the Council in October. Staff contact is Bill Wilson.

From: North Pacific Fishery Management Council, News and Notes, June 2006

South Atlantic Council Approves Marine Protected Area Document for Public Hearings

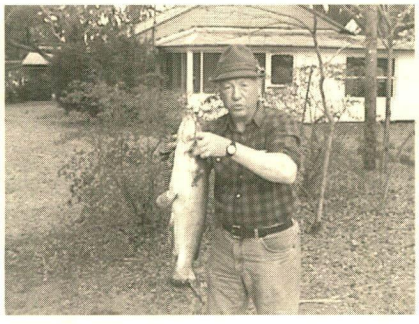
The South Atlantic Fishery Management Council approved Amendment 14 to the Snapper Grouper Fishery management Plan to take to public hearings last week during its meeting in Coconut Grove, Florida. The amendment contains alternatives for establishing a series of 8 deepwater marine protected areas in federal waters off the Southeastern coast. The areas are being proposed as a management tool to help protect deepwater species such as snowy grouper, speckled hind, warsaw grouper and blueline tilefish and their associated habitat. As proposed, harvest and possession of snapper grouper species would be prohibited in the marine protected areas, but fishermen would be allowed to troll for species such as tuna, mackerel, and billfish.

"Marine protected areas have been on the Council's agenda for a long time," (*12 years minimum, Ed.*) said Mac Currin, Chairman of the Council's Snapper Grouper Committee. "We hope that in addition to the obvious habitat protection benefits, they will facilitate protection and production of the deepwater snapper grouper complex." The Council has held informal public meetings, workshops, advisory panel meetings, informal public hearings, and scientific meetings as part of the development process of the amendment. Amendment 14 was reviewed during a joint meeting of the Council's Habitat and Coral Advisory Panels the week prior to the Council meeting as well as the Scientific and Statistical Committee during the meeting week. Recommendations from the advisory panels and various committees were considered as the Council selected preferred sites at each location to include the public hearing document.

The Council also reviewed various alternatives for requiring vessel monitoring systems to aid in enforcement of the areas. The monitoring systems allow for tracking the movement of vessels by NOAA Fisheries Office for Law Enforcement. The systems are currently required in the South Atlantic for rock shrimp vessels to monitor trawling activity around the restricted Oculina Bank Habitat Area of Particular Concern off the central east coast of Florida. Additionally, the Council agreed on the need to work closely with NOAA Fisheries' Highly Migratory Species Office to develop a joint rule prohibiting the use of shark longline gear in the marine protected areas. "This is absolutely necessary in order to prevent harvest of those snapper grouper species that we are trying to protect," explained Currin.

Public hearings are scheduled to occur in September.

Press Release: South Atlantic Fishery Management Council, June 23, 2006



Slow News Day!

Editor Huntsman (apparently having just ingested an unripe persimmon) displays 11 pound channel catfish he took on a 5 foot ultra light rod and 4 pound test line from the lower Neuse River, NC in March 2006. To avoid further unnecessary terrorizing of small children with pictures of unattractive fish and worse fishermen, please provide editor with real news about AIFRB, you, or your organization. Ed.

District Directors

Alaska, Northern
Joseph F. Margraf, Jr.
University of Alaska
P.O. Box 757020
Fairbanks, AK 99775-7020
ffjfml@uaf.edu

Alaska, Southeast
Bruce Wing
P.O. Box 210265
Auke Bay, AK 99821-0265
bruce.wing@noaa.gov

Arizona - New Mexico
G. Morris Southward
4155 Sotol Drive
Las Cruces, New Mexico 88011
morlor31@comcast.net

California, Northern
Michael McGowan
Maristics, Inc.
1442-A Walnut Street, Ste. 188
Berkeley, CA 94709

California, Southern
Raymond R. Wilson
CSULB Biol Sci
1250 N. Bellflower Blvd.
Long Beach, CA 90840
rwilson1@csulb.edu

Capital
Frank M. Panek
National Fish Health Research Laboratory
1705 Leetown Rd.
Kearneysville, WV 25430

Carolinas
Vacant

Florida
Thomas W. Schmidt
USDI Nat'l. Park Service
Everglades Nat'l. Pk., S. Fla. Res. Ctr.
P.O. Box 279
40001 State Rd. 9336
Homestead, FL 33014
tom_schmidt@nps.gov

Great Lakes, South Central
Dora R. Passino-Reader
National Fish. Center
1451 Green Road
Ann Arbor, MI 48105-2897
dora_reader@usgs.gov

Gulf of Mexico, Northeast
Vacant

Keystone
Joseph W. Rachlin
Dept. Biological Sciences
Lehman College of CUNY
250 Bedford Pk. Blvd. W.
Bronx, NY 10468-5189
joseph.rachlin@lehman.cuny.edu

New England
Steven Cadrin
NOAA/UMass
838 S. Rodney French Blvd.
New Bedford, MA 02744-1221
steven.cadrin@noaa.gov

Oregon-SW Washington
Vacant

Texas
Lance Robinson
Texas Parks and Wildlife Dept.
Seabrook Marine Lab
Seabrook, TX 77856

Washington, NW
Katherine Myers
School of Aquatic & Sciences
University of Washington
Box 355020
Seattle, WA 98195-5020

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American Institute of Fishery Research Biologists
c/o Allen Shimada
NMFS, Office of Science and Technology
1315 East West Highway
Silver Spring, MD 20910

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Website: www.iattc.org/aifrb/

VOL. 35, NO. 4 JULY, AUGUST 2006

President's Message

Our Board of Control (BOC) Meeting was held in Lake Placid, New York on September 9 and 10, 2006. The minutes from the meeting will be in the next issue of *Briefs* and on the AIFRB web page (www.iattc.org/aifrb/default.htm) when they are completed.

AIFRB 50th Anniversary celebration symposium: The Future of Fisheries Science in North America symposium is really developing into a great symposium The second notice about the symposium will be in journals shortly with a call for contributed papers and posters. You can submit abstracts online as soon as the web site is completed, or contact one of the convenors or co-chairs. The symposium will examine the current state of fishery science in North America, in particular, the research opportunities and challenges for the next decade. These will be considered in the context of science in support of fishery-management decision-making, policy and technology. The symposium is a truly unique occasion to assemble leaders active in conservation, management, and sustainability to present insights and new approaches to current and future scientists who will be working to achieve and maintain the sustainability of global fisheries resources in an increasingly complex environment. The papers are intended to focus on future research; what is known; what is not known; what are the challenges; what new programs are needed; what are the constraints; what do we need to do?

Vidar Wespestad and his fund raising committee are in high gear so please help make this a successful venture for AIFRB by working with us to raise the funding. If you know of sources of funding in your region, please contact Vidar (vidarw@verison.net).

Development of web pages for online registration to the symposium is being headed by Dave Somerton, Alaska Fisheries Science Center. Kim Anthony, Nancy Davis and I are preparing other web pages (hotel information, symposium schedule, etc.) These should be online shortly, if not already.

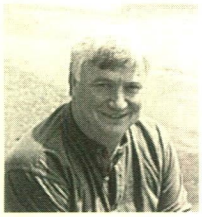
Remember the dates: February 13-17, 2007. The symposium will be held at the Red Lion Hotel on Fifth Avenue in Seattle Washington. Check the AIFRB web site to get the latest news about the symposium.

The Board of Control is working to build a stronger AIFRB – for the next 50 years. As members of AIFRB, please support these new ventures. It is a lot of work to organize an outstanding symposium. Your help in fund raising, preparing relevant papers, attending the symposium or working with the local committees is all needed. Contact the committee chairs or your BOC representative and see how you can help.

Linda Jones

Reciprocal Recognition:

Presidential Candidates honored by nominating committee selection; Institute honored by candidate's offer of service and sacrifice



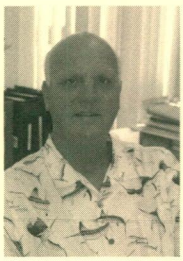
Dick Beamish

Dick Beamish started his career as a fisheries biologist in the 1960s. He finished his PhD at the University of Toronto in 1970 and went directly to Woods Hole Oceanographic Institute for a Post Doctoral Fellowship with Dick Backus. Woods Hole may still be one of his favourite spots. He worked at the Freshwater Institute in Winnipeg for a few years, ending up at the Pacific Biological Station in Nanaimo, British Columbia in the mid-1970s. Currently he is the Senior Scientist, but has been Head of the Groundfish Section and Director, as well as Acting Director General for Fisheries Research in Canada. Dick is an Editor for Transactions of the American Fisheries Society, a member of the Science Panel for the

The AIFRB is a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt nonprofit organization (EIN 61-6050711).

North Pacific Research Board, Chairman of the Scientific Steering Committee for the North Pacific Anadromous Fish Commission, an active member of PICES, a member of the Committee for Scientific Cooperation for the Pacific Salmon Commission, the Departments representative on the Pacific Fisheries Resource Conservation Council, one of two scientists on the Deputy Minister's Science Management Board, a former Canadian Commissioner for the International Pacific Halibut Commission and a Professor at a local university. Dick has also been the Executive Producer of six videos that celebrated the life and contributions of well-known fisheries scientists such as Dr. Bill Ricker. He has published over 300 articles, about one half are in peer-reviewed journals. Dick has been honoured with the Order of Canada, Order of British Columbia, made a Fellow of the Royal Society of Canada and recently became the first foreign scientist to be made an honorary member of the fisheries laboratory TINRO in Vladivostok, Russia. He played old timers rugby until a few years ago. He enjoys gardening and making chocolates.

Many aspects of science interest him. He remains attracted to age determination and still enjoys the challenge of identifying annuli. He maintains a lamprey lab in his home because it will not fit at work. He has several new species of lamprey waiting to be described. He has always been fascinated by the impact that climate and climate change has on the dynamics of fish and their ecosystems. The emphasis on ecosystems and our changing climate mean that fisheries science is positioned to make some pretty important discoveries. Thus, it is a great time for biologists to solve problems. Dick has been a member of the AIFRB for 25 years. He thinks that the AIFRB can provide a forum for discussion on major issues in fisheries science as well as recognizing excellence in our profession. AIFRB members represent a group of experts who are able to provide leadership and a focus for science. Currently Dick and others are organizing a Symposium on the Future of Fisheries Science in North America that will draw attention to AIFRB as well as celebrate the 50th Anniversary of AIFRB. This symposium is supported by NOAA and DFO and should attract a large audience. It is through symposia like these that Dick believes that AIFRB will play a key role and attract new members, especially young biologists.



Jerald S. Ault

Jerry Ault is currently an Associate Professor of Marine Biology and Fisheries at the University of Miami's Rosenstiel School of Marine and Atmospheric Science, where he has been on the Graduate Faculty since 1993. He is an internationally-recognized leader in fisheries science for his research on theoretical and applied fish population and community dynamics for assessment and management of tropical marine fishery ecosystems, particularly for his development of large-scale spatial ecosystem simulation models applied to assess the response of multispecies coral reef fisheries to exploitation and environmental changes. Jerry's hometown is San Diego, but given that his dad was a career senior naval officer and aviator, to catch up to various aircraft carriers, in his youth his family frequently moved between San Diego, San Francisco, Jacksonville, and Washington, D.C. This closeness to both oceans generated Jerry's lifetime love for fishing, surfing and diving, and his skills in mathematics naturally brought him to fisheries science. Jerry earned his B.S. in quantitative fisheries from Humboldt State University (HSU) in 1979. For the next two years he was employed by Living Marine Resources in San Diego, working closely with Gordon Broadhead on the population dynamics of yellowfin tuna and northern anchovy off California and Mexico; and sardines-anchovies in the Humboldt Current. He returned to HSU to study abalone population dynamics with John DeMartini and received his M.S. in *Natural Resources* in 1982. Jerry spent 1982-1983 conducting doctoral research in *Biological Oceanography* with Mike Mullin at Scripps Institution of Oceanography, and then he relocated to work with Bill Fox at the University of Miami in fishery management science & applied statistics, receiving a Ph.D. in 1988. He then conducted post-doctoral studies in fish population dynamics in Chesapeake Bay and Costa Rica with Brian Rothschild at the University of Maryland. Jerry has published more than 60 peer-reviewed scientific journal papers, and another 100+ technical memoranda, book reviews, and computer software in other literature. Amongst numerous awards for his scientific contributions to the profession of fisheries science, he was elected to the Sigma Xi National Honor Society in 1986, a Certified Fisheries Professional of AFS in 1999, and was recipient of the Best Publication Award from the U.S. Dept. of Commerce, NMFS Scientific Publications for the senior authored paper published in *Fishery Bulletin* Volume 96(1998) entitled '*A retrospective (1979-1996) multispecies assessment of coral reef fish stocks in the Florida Keys*'. Each year, Dr. Ault leads a multi-institutional (federal, state and university) research team that conducts a marine life census in the Florida Keys-Dry Tortugas coral reef ecosystem. His research has been featured on the *Evening News with Dan Rather*, the *National Geographic Channel, CNN, Animal Planet, PBS Waterways* and regional TV news; and, in the *Miami Herald, LA Times, Chicago Tribune*, and *New York Times*. Jerry joined AIFRB as an Associate in 1984 and has been a Fellow since 1998. Since 2000 he has chaired the AIFRB Research Assistance Award Committee, and for the past several years participated in the national Board of Control meetings. With the excellent help of his RAA committee members, Jerry has worked to increase the capacity for professional education and outreach of AIFRB. For the future of the organization, Jerry would like to address three priority areas. The first is building the membership base through expansion of the recent past-President's efforts to promote AIFRB. The second is to focus the broad expertise of AIFRB on critical fisheries issues at regional, national and international levels. Finally, he wishes to build the fiscal reserves of AIFRB to ensure the future of the Institute.

Note: Although voting members of AIFRB have already received this material, there are many additional readers of Briefs who should know of our outstanding candidates. Ed.

Four Research Assistance Awards

2006 AIFRB Research Assistance Award Program

The Research Assistance (RA) Award established in 1986 is offered annually to AIFRB graduate students and other Associate members to support travel expenses associated with professional development. The RA provides a maximum award of $500 towards the opportunity to present results of an original paper or research project of merit at scientific meetings, or to conduct research at distant study sites. All AIFRB Associate Members in good standing are eligible. An individual may receive two awards in a lifetime.

In 2006, four (4) AIFRB Associate Members received $500 research assistance awards. The award recipient, their affiliation, title of their abstract, and scientific meeting attended are listed below.

2006 AIFRB Research Assistance Award Recipients

Ms. Cyndi L. Dawson of Moss Landing Marine Laboratories presented a paper entitled , *'Movements and habitat utilization of the prickly shark, Echinorhinus cookei, in the Monterey Bay Submarine Canyon'* at the 2006 American Society of Ichthyologists and Herpetologists and American Elasomobranch Society meeting in New Orleans, LA.

ABSTRACT: Spatial utilization and movement patterns are fundamental to understanding the life history of a species. The prickly shark, Echinorhinus cookei, is a poorly known large predator that commonly occurs at the head of the Monterey Submarine Canyon (MSC). It has a distribution throughout the Pacific Ocean and is characterized in the literature as a deep-water species (100 -650m). Several observations and catches have been made at the head of the MSC in water less than 60m deep. These records are in contrast with the generally accepted depth distribution of prickly sharks and lead to questions about their depth range and movement pattern. I used acoustic telemetry to determine the movements, habitat utilization patterns, and seasonal abundance of prickly sharks in the MSC. Acoustic transmitters were implanted in 10 female and 5 male prickly sharks from March -August 2005. Tagged sharks ranged in size from 1.7 -2.5m. Acoustic signals from tags were collected by a combination of active tracking from the surface and passive tracking via moored receivers. Male and female prickly sharks exhibited a pronounced diel movement pattern. The pattern included an offshore movement along the axis of the canyon during the day and an onshore movement at night. To date, tagged sharks have had sustained residency at the head of the MSC in depths less 60 m throughout the year. Tagged individuals have visited the head of the canyon Home range sizes for the two males and one female actively tracked were 1.49, 2.26. and 0.20 km^2 . All home ranges were constrained within the axis of the canyon.

Mr. Nicholas C. Wegner of Scripps Institution of Oceanography at the University of California San Diego presented a paper entitled *'Intrinsic elasmobranch characters potentially limit gas exchange and the aerobic performance of the shortfin mako, Isurus oxyrinchus, a lamnid shark'* at the 1st International Congress of Respiratory Biology in Bonn, Germany.

N.C. Wenger, C.A. Sepulveda, J.B. Graham

Scripps Institution of Oceanography, Center for Marine Biotechnology and Biomedicine, Marine Research Division, Pfleger Institutefor Environmental Research

ABSTRACT: The tunas (family Scombridae) and lamnid sharks (family Lamnidae) demonstrate a remarkable evolutionary convergence for high performance swimming. Analysis of the gill structure of the shortfin mako (*Isurus oxyrinchus*), a lamnid shark, reveals similarities to tunas in the presence of specializations to maintain gill rigidity during ram ventilation and to permit the O_2 transfer required by fast, sustainable swimming. However, mako and tuna gill specializations have structurally different bases due to intrinsic differences in the gill design of elasmobranchs and teleosts. The elasmobranch gill has a more tortuous water pathway than that of teleosts which may limit mako gill dimensions. Thus, while mako gill surface areas are larger than non-lamnid shark species, they are significantly less than those of tunas. The larger size of elasmobranch red blood cells also increases lamnid lamellar thickness and gas diffusion distances in comparison to tunas. Such characters limit gas exchange and may prevent lamnid sharks from reaching the scope of sustainable aerobic performance achieved by tunas.

Mr. Walter Bubley of the University of New Hampshire presented a paper entitled *'Life as a single parent can be hard: life history of a simultaneously hermaphroditic fish, Diplectrum formosum'* at the 2006 American Society of Ichthyologists and Herpetologists and American Elasomobranch Society meeting in New Orleans, LA.

ABSTRACT: Sand perch, *Diplectrum formosum*, is a serranid found along the western Atlantic coast from Virginia, United States of America, to Uruguay. including the Gulf of Mexico and Caribbean Sea. The gonads (ovotestes) of mature sand perch were shown to contain active ovarian and testicular tissue concurrently confirming that it is a simultaneous hermaphrodite. Simultaneous hermaphrodites may have different life history strategies from fishes that are gonochorists or sequential hermaphrodites because of the added stresses placed on the fish from developing and maintaining both sexual tissues. This study examined the gonad morphology. growth rate. maximum size and age. size and age at maturity, reproductive cycle, and

possible mating strategies of sand perch and how they compare to typical gonochoristic and sequential hermaphroditic fishes found in the area. Sand perch were sampled with a variety of gear types from the Atlantic waters along the southeastern United States from North Carolina to Florida during April 2000 through August 2005. The physiological. morphological, and behavioral traits of sand perch differ compared to those of similar species. These differences between species may be due to the overall demands of simultaneous hermaphroditism.

Mr. Matthew R. Walsh of the University of California Riverside presented a paper entitled , *'Life history evolution in Rivulus hartii: interactions between predation, competition and resource availability'* at the joint annual meeting of the Society for Evolution, the Society of Systematic Biologists, and the American Society of Naturalists in Stony Brook, NY.

Matthew R. Walsh and David N. Reznik

ABSTRACT: Life history evolution remains studied independently of the multitude of ecological factors inherent in natural systems. This is extremely important because theory suggests that the evolution of life history traits is best explained by interactions between common ecological factors such as predation, density regulation, and resource availability. In Trinidad, Hart's killifish (*Rivulus hartii*) is commonly found in contrasting communities that experience differences in predation, competition, food availability, indirect effects, and potentially density regulation. Thus, here I evaluate patterns of genetic variation across communities and demonstrate that *Rivulus* exhibits a significantly higher fecundity and smaller egg size in sites with high predation and resource levels. Conversely, *Rivulus* matures at an earlier age and size when found with competitors and thereby lower resource levels. Finally, *Rivulus* evolved a larger egg size and lower fecundity in response to the experimental introduction of a competitor. Some of these changes disagree with life history theory. Therefore, future work will focus on a more comprehensive evaluation of *Rivulus* life histories across communities and a greater examination of the ecological factors driving these genetic changes.

Save the Dates: February 13-15, 2007

Fiftieth Anniversary of the AIFRB Symposium

The Future of Fisheries Science in North America

Red Lion Hotel

Seattle, Washington

The symposium will examine the current state of fishery science in North America, in particular, the research opportunities and challenges for the next decade.

Keynote address: Dr. Wendy Watson-Wright, ADM Science, Fisheries and Oceans Canada; Dr. Bill Hogarth, Assistant Administrator, National Marine Fisheries Service

Convenors: Richard Beamish (Fisheries & Oceans Canada), Linda Jones (American Institute of Fishery Research Biologists), Steven Murawski (NOAA Fisheries), Brian Rothschild (School of Marine Science and Technology, UMass Dartmouth), William Fox (NOAA Fisheries) and John Boreman (NOAA Fisheries).

Sessions: Management – Research requirements, current successes and challenges, Co-chair Jim Balsiger and Bill Fox; Ecosystems, Co-chair Mike Fogarty and Jake Rice; Ocean environment-ocean and climate influences, Co-chair Ken Drinkwater and Anne Hollowed; Stock Assessment, Co-chair Rich Methot and Bob Mohn; Technology, Co-chair Van Holliday and Ken Foote

Call for abstracts and posters will be on the AIFRB web site (www.iattc.org/aifrb/default.htm) along with online registration, hotel reservations and additional information on the symposium.

Board of Control – Agenda

(Abridged)

Saturday, 9 September 2006 (0830-1700 hrs)

President's Report (Jones); Secretary's Report (Warkentine): Minutes of 2004 BOC meeting (Anchorage, Alaska) and adoption; **Treasurer's Report** (Shimada): (a) State of Treasury, (b) Delinquent members, (c) Advice from Capital Management Committee (Wespestad), (d) Founders Fund, (e) Outlook for 2005-2006, (f) Adoption of authorization for Treasurer (Fiscal 06-07)**; Report of Membership Committee** (Keegan); **Report of W.F. Thompson Award Committee** (Bayliff): Award recipient and plans for presenting the award; **Report of Research Assistance Award Committee** (Ault) (see this issue); **Report of Outstanding Achievement Award Committee**; **Distinguished Service Award** (Jones): (a) 2005 award presentation to Allen Shimada, (b) Committee (Sakagawa, Schaefer and Jones) to consider 2006 awards; **Report on *Briefs*** (Huntsman)(See this issue); **Report on Productions** (Merriner); **Report on Web Page** (Foster); **District Reports** (Directors).

BOC Dinner, Saturday 9 September 2006

Sunday, 10 September 2006 (0900 – Call to order, Jones)

Project Reports: (a) Celebration 2006 (Jones), (b) Biography of Founders (Warkentine), Founders Fund (Sakagawa and Shimada); **New Business**: (a) Report from the President-Elect nominations committee (Jones), (b) Electronic journal – decision on how to proceed (Friedland), (c) Discussion on AIFRB in the next 50 years, (d) Assistance for treasurer and other BOC positions, (e) Review of reimbursement at annual BOC meetings (Jones), (f) Review of committee assignments (Jones); **Appointments** (Jones): (a) Regional Directors, (b) Officers and/or Interim Directors, (c) Standing Committee Chairs, (d) Special Committee Chairs.

California Districts Continue to Set Example

District Meeting: The Southern California and Baja California, Mexico District met on June 8, 2006 at El Adobe Restaurant in San Juan Capistrano. After a lively business meeting and dinner, Ms. Vanessa Tobias, a Master's candidate at the University of Michigan, gave a presentation titled "Groundwater Sources and their Influence on the Distribution of Steelhead Trout in Topanga Creek, Topanga, California."

Best Student Paper in Fishery Biology Awards: The Southern California and Baja California, Mexico District of the American Institute of Fishery Research Biologists made the following *Best Student Paper in Fishery Biology* awards at recent meetings. Each award included a check for $200, funded by $250 in direct contributions from our District Fellows, $200 from the AIFRB national office, and funds in the District treasure. The intent of the awards is to raise the visibility of the AIFRB in California and other western states. In addition, all students who competed for the 2006 SCAS award were sent letters of thanks, invitations to join as student members of AIFRB, and information about AIFRB, including reference to the AIFRB web site.

2006 Southern California Academy of Sciences annual meeting, held May 12-13, at Pepperdine University, Malibu, CA: Ectoparasites of Fishes Associated with Wastewater Discharge in the Southern California Bight. Julianne E. Kalman. University of California, Los Angeles, Department of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology, Los Angeles, CA 90095 and Orange County Sanitation District, http://scas.jsd.claremont.edu/annual/compabs.html. At the 2005 Annual Meeting of the Western Society of Naturalists, held in November 2005 in Monterey, CA: Testing Assumptions of Mark and Recapture Theory: An Example with a Tropical Snapper. C.L. Wormald (with Steele and Forrester), University of Rhode Island. 2005 Southern California Academy of Sciences annual meeting, held May 20-21, at Loyola Marymount University, Los Angeles, CA: Behavioral Thermoregulation of the Leopard Shark (*Triakis semifasciata*) in the Nearshore Embayments of Santa Catalina Island, California. Barbara V. Ziegler, California State University Long Beach, Department of Biological Sciences, Long Beach, CA 90840-3702. The abstract is available at: http://www.flmnh.ufl.edu/fish/organizations/aes/2005kz.pdf.

Service Award Presented to Dr. Jim Allen: District Fellow Dr. Jim Allen, Southern California Coastal Waters Research Project, was formally recognized and awarded a plaque on September 29, 2005 at California State University, Long Beach for his 10-year contribution to the teaching of graduate and undergraduate students in the Marine Biology Program at California State University, Long Beach. Dr. Allen has been an Adjunct Professor at Long Beach State since 1995. District Director Ray Wilson presented the award to Jim Allen.

Submitted by: Traci Larinto, Secretary-Treasurer, Southern California and Baja California Mexico District

Report-*Briefs* Editor August 2006

As usual the six editions of *Briefs* produced in the past year constitute the bulk of my report. The rest of this discussion will focus on the general assignment from President Jones to consider changes that might improve the appearance of *Briefs*. I have mulled the subject irregularly for several months and in my opinion the major change that would increase the pizzazz factor of *Briefs* would be more photographs and, especially, color photographs. Disregarding, for the moment, the issue of a supply of appropriate color photography, I would assume, based on previous experiences, that utilization of color in *Briefs* would, ordinarily, create a substantial increase in the cost of production. However, I gather that there are schemes by which costs can be kept low despite use of color photographs. I can envision a process in which *Briefs* is created entirely electronically by the editor (avoiding the use of commercial assistance and costs thereof), the files are electronically transferred to an inexpensive offshore printing establishment (I have received oral reports that color printing is remarkably cheap in the far East), and completed *Briefs* (Hard copy, perhaps pre addressed ready to mail) are flown back to the US for posting. It is conceivable that the process just described, with color renditions, would be less expensive than the current process, and maybe even more rapid. As an aside, even if my guesses about cost and expeditiousness are correct, I am not the editor to take on the job. Old dogs can learn new tricks, but they have to want to.

Not withstanding all of the above. I am unconvinced that *Briefs* needs more pizzazz. What *Briefs* needs is more information. To reiterate my usual litany about material selected for *Briefs*, my priorities for inclusion of material are first, news about business of the institute; second news about members and their work; and third, interesting news about developing or extraordinary issues in fisheries research and public policy affecting fisheries. Materials submitted by members always receive high priority, and when, oh so rarely but praise Heaven when it occurs, a member actually writes an original piece for *Briefs*, I always include it (after rolling on the ground, kicking my feet in the air and howling like a banshee in uncontrollable glee). Comments, good and bad, from readers always focus on content, not cosmetics. Thus I believe that the path to the most attractive *Briefs* is the route that delivers more useful information.

Perhaps it is only a perception of mine but I believe I am now receiving considerably less district news than 10 years ago when I began. Only the two California Districts are now reliable contributors. The Great Lakes, Keystone, and Carolina Districts, once good sources are now nearly invisible. Some formerly regular personal contributors now have other priorities and no one else has appeared to take their place. The Directors, officers, and committee chairs are providing much less material than a decade ago. The popular Who's Who in AIFRB feature has disappeared (but is revivable) for lack of contributions even though I tried over about three years to keep that feature going by assigning (for over a year in advance) district directors the responsibility for providing (not writing) Who's Who pieces for specific issues of *Briefs*. Despite two iterations of the scheme I got only one (as I recall) submission.

The solution to provision of ample material is enthusiasm for providing same on the part of the officers and the BOC. I know that I could live on the telephone and badger appropriate persons so as to receive material for *Briefs* but I don't believe that is in my job description, and sure as hell isn't on my "Why I retired" list of things I want to do. I would assume that any member or fellow of AIFRB has proven already that she is a responsible adult and can be depended on to remember their responsibility to provide punctually copies of any pertinent reports to the editor of *Briefs*. In an almost perfect world officers and members would remember to send to the Editor, press releases, news clippings, original thoughts (even if brief), etc., that would alert other members to developing news in fisheries. (Recall that another of my attempts to gather material in the last category was to provide to approximately 20 strategically placed volunteers self-addressed, pre-posted envelopes so that they could just stuff and mail any "good stuff". Out of 100 plus so-dispersed envelopes, 2 returned. One was an actual contribution, the other was a request for a personal favor by the mailer.

It is incumbent upon anyone accepting the honor of a leadership position in the AIFRB to shoulder the responsibility both for directly providing copies of pertinent material for *Briefs*, and for ensuring that any subordinate officers, committee chairs, etc. also communicate faithfully with *Briefs*.

Recently the notion of producing *Briefs* quarterly rather than bimonthly has surfaced. While the reduction in issues would both decrease to some extent the work of the editor and the cost of *Briefs*, the longer periodicity would exacerbate one of the principal weaknesses of *Briefs*, the source of most of the few criticisms received over the last decade – lack of timeliness. In the fast moving 21st century I do not believe that a reduction in issues would provide benefits that outweigh the losses.

Respectfully submitted by Gene Huntsman (Editor)

2007 Announcement for the Gibbs Award

NOMINATIONS are solicited for the Robert H. Gibbs, Jr. Memorial Award for Excellence in Systematic Ichthyology from the American Society of Ichthyologists and Herpetologists (ASIH). The prize is awarded for "an Outstanding body of published work in systematic ichthyology" to a citizen of a Western Hemisphere nation who has not been a recipient of the award. The award is offered annually and consists of a plaque and a cash award (approximately $5000). The award is presented during the banquet held in conjunction with the annual meeting of ASIH. Nominations may be made by any ichthyologist, including self-nominations, and should include the nominee's curriculum vitae, details of the nominee's specific contributions, and their impacts on systematic ichthyology. Nominations should be submitted by 1 March 2007 for the nominee to be eligible for that year's award. Nominations will be effective for three years. Four copies of each nomination should be mailed (not faxed or e-mailed) to: Chair of the 2007 Gibbs Award Committee, Dr. David Greenfield, 944 Egan Ave., Pacific Grove, CA 93950 (greenfie@hawaii.edu) or to the ASIH Secretary, Maureen A. Donnelly, Department of Biological Sciences, Florida International University, 11200 SW 8th Street, Miami, FL 33199 (asih@fiu.edu).

Assistance Needed

Assistance Needed-Ecuador

Sr. Eduardo Rebolledo Monsalvo contacted Sara Randall of the Institute for Fisheries Research in San Diego requesting assistance in developing a fishery research and teaching program at the local Ecuadorean University. (Universidad Tecnica Luis Vargas Torres ?? –English construction is a little strained). He is seeking laboratory equipment, library materials and field collecting devices. Apparently, the current program is at rock bottom so contributions ranging from glassware through journals and books to CTD units, including plankton nets and trawls would be appreciated.

For more information contact erobolledo@jatunsacha.org or Sara Randall at srandall@ifrfish.org.

Submitted by Allison Gordon

Recreational Salmon Fishing in Alaska

Upper Cook Inlet Provides Substantial Benefit to Alaska's Economy

Alaska is well known for its recreational fisheries, especially salmon. In March 2006 the Kenai River Sportfishing Association published an economic study detailing the value of recreational and commercial fishing in Upper Cook Inlet.

- Roughly 60% of Alaska's recreational fishing occurs by three Cook Inlet Boroughs (Kenai, Mat-Su, and Anchorage) and involves 250,000 participants annually.
- Recreational fishing in Southcentral Alaska generates $532 million (2003 dollars) in total sales that support 6,100 annual jobs producing $171 million in income.
- Recreational salmon fishing in Upper Cook Inlet generates $290 million (2003 dollars) in total sales that support 3,400 average annual jobs producing $95 million in income.
- Commercial salmon fishing in Upper Cook Inlet at mid-1990s high ex-vessel (commercial catch) values supported an estimated 500 average annual jobs in harvesting, processing, and indirect employment producing $15 million in income.
- The average value (over and above expenses) that individual Alaskans place on their annual recreational fishing is $714 (2003 dollars) – technically referred to as "net economic value".
- The collective economic gain or net economic value of recreational salmon fishing in Upper Cook Inlet ($104 million in 2003 dollars) is almost half (47%) of the statewide net economic value total with $56 million of that going to Alaskans.
- The collective economic gain or net economic value of Upper Cook Inlet commercial salmon fishing to all permit holders at current ex-vessel prices is less than $1 million.
- Demand for recreational fishing opportunities in the Cook Inlet boroughs is expected to continue to grow by 2.3% per year through 2010 – a net increase of almost 60,000 anglers over 2001 levels.
- Commercial fisheries are currently allocated 80% of the Upper Cook Inlet salmon harvest, while sport and personal use fisheries are allocated 20% of the harvest.

The entire study can be downloaded by visiting:
http://kenairiversportfishing.com/Final%20Report_Economics_UCL_March%2013.pdf

From: International Angler 68(4) July-August 2006

American Wins WWF Prize for Fish-Friendly Gear

Invention could prevent shark deaths on fishing lines

The World Wildlife Fund (WWF) awarded U.S. inventor Michael Herrmann the grand prize in the International Smart Gear Competition for a fishing gear concept that could save thousands of sharks each year from accidentally dying on fishing lines. A research associate with the New Jersey research company SharkDefense, Herrmann was awarded $25,000 by an international panel of judges to further test and develop his idea.

Competition participants from 26 countries submitted more than 80 entries proposing fishing gear that would help reduce "bycatch," the accidental – and usually fatal – capture of marine species in gear not meant for them. Herrmann's winning idea uses sharks' ability to detect magnetic fields as a way to protect them. He found that placing strong magnets just above baited hooks on a longline repels certain shark species, averting potential harm to the shark and the fishing gear.

Every year, thousands of sharks die after being caught on hooks set by commercial fisheries that are targeting tuna and swordfish. In May, the World Conservation Union announced that 20 percent of shark species are nearing extinction. Bycatch is a major contributor to their decline.

"WWF created the International Smart Gear Competition to reward and inspire innovative ideas that could reduce fisheries bycatch," said Carter Roberts, president and CEO of WWF. "Bycatch is a critical environmental and economic problem. We need to focus on smarter fishing, which means better targeting of intended catch while safeguarding endangered marine wildlife. It's a goal that fishermen, conservationists, and seafood lovers can all support.

Runners-up prizes of $5,000 were awarded to two other inventions: A flexible grid for trawl nets that allows larger fish that are not targeted catch to swim out safely, and a floating scarecrow device to scare away seabirds, which become bycatch casualties when they are caught on the large wires attached to trawl nets.

WWF established the International Smart Gear Competition in 2004 to award and inspire practical and cost effective methods for reducing bycatch. The panel of judges included fishermen, researchers, engineers, and fisheries managers from all over the world.

From: Focus 28(4) July-August 2006

IUCN Report: Atlantic and Gulf Sharks Depleted

As each summer beach season approaches, public fascination with sharks begins to rise. This year that rise is accompanied by a sobering assessment from the IUCN-World Conservation Union. The 2006 IUCN Red List of Threatened Species paints a troubling picture of shark population decline in every corner of the globe.

The Red List - a global inventory of the world's threatened species - presents compelling scientific evidence that shark populations are in serious trouble globally, and it underscores the need for science-based protection and sound fisheries management.

In 2006, more than one hundred shark and ray species, including several native to the Gulf of Mexico and Atlantic coast, are now included on the Red List, and several previously Red-Listed species face increased risk, according to the report. One of every five shark and ray species evaluated is considered "threatened" on a global scale.

"Despite growing awareness, sharks are still not getting the urgent conservation action they need, leaving several species at serious risk for extinction," said Sonja Fordham, Director of Shark Conservation for The Ocean Conservancy and Deputy Co-chair on the IUCN Shark Specialist Group, the team responsible for assessing world shark species for the Red List. "It's not too late to bring US Atlantic sharks and rays back, but it will take decisive action from the state and federal ocean agencies that are responsible for fish conservation."

The World Conservation Union (IUCN) is the world's largest conservation network. In 1991, The Ocean Conservancy helped to establish the IUCN Shark Specialist Group with the mission of promoting the health conservation and recovery of the world's sharks, skates, rays, and chimaeras.

From: Blue Planet Summer 2006

Nature Conservancy Purchases Morro Bay Trawl Permits, Vessels

On June 27, the nonprofit Nature Conservancy announced the purchase of six federal trawling permits and four trawling vessels from commercial fishermen in Morro Bay as part of a collaborative effort to protect ocean habitat off the coast of central California and to help the troubled fishery. The acquisitions represent the nation's first private buyout of Pacific fishing vessels and permits for conservation purposes.

The Conservancy initiated the trawler buyout program at Morro Bay as a pilot project three years ago. The Conservancy and its nonprofit partner, Environmental Defense, approached Morro Bay trawl fishermen and harbormasters about developing the plan. The Morro Bay trawl fishermen and the Conservancy worked together to identify diverse marine habitats that would be off limits to trawling and submit those recommendations to the Council as part of the development of the Essential Fish Habitat (EFH) environmental impact statement. The Nature Conservancy proposed to buy back permits and vessels to reduce trawling efforts if their proposal was adopted.

In June 2005, the Council approved the consensus no-trawl map, which bans bottom trawling in 3.8 million acreas of ocean - an area roughly the size of Connecticut - between Point Conception off the coast of Santa Barbara, and Point Sur south of Monterey Bay. The U.S. Secretary of Commerce signed the map and additional closed areas into regulation in May 2006.

"NOAA has always relied on the creative energy of stakeholders to come up with new and better ways to protect marine resources," said William Hogarth, head of National Marine Fisheries Service. "By working closely with fishermen, the Pacific Fishery Management Council and NOAA, the Nature Conservancy has found a surprising and effective new way of using private money to conserve a public resource." "The deal with The Nature Conservancy provided me with options I didn't previously have," said fisherman Gordon Fox, who sold his permit and vessel to the Conservancy. "It will give me a chance to try new, less costly methods of fishing off the central coast of California."

For now, the Conservancy is shelving the permits it has acquired and banking the harvest rights. In the future, however, it may request that regulators allow the Conservancy to lease back some permits to central coast fisherman who would use finer-scale gear and help create a certified market for ground-fish.

In addition to the six permits, the Conservancy has purchased four trawling vessels and is exploring alternative uses for them, such as oceanographic research, marine debris removal or marine surveillance and enforcement. If new owners cannot be found, the vessels will be demolished and recycled. One vessel associated with the acquired trawling permits will remain with its current owner, who holds permits for other types of fishing. However, the vessel will be legally constrained from bottom trawling for groundfish in the future. Any fisherman who sells his permit to the Conservancy can not re-enter the trawl groundfish fishery.

While federal agencies have conducted buyback programs using public funds, the Morro Bay buyout is the first on the Pacific coast to be privately financed. The cost of acquiring a permit and vessel runs several hundreds of thousands of dollars. Trawl permit owners in Monterey, Moss Landing and Half Moon Bay have also expressed an interest in selling their permits and vessels to The Nature Conservancy, but those deals would be conditioned upon the Council's passage of more collaboratively designed no-trawl zones.

From: Pacific Council News, Summer 2006

Victory for the Outer Kingdom

The world's largest marine protected area created in the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands

President Theodore Roosevelt established our nation's first national monument, Devil's Tower, in Wyoming in 1906. He went on to designate 17 other monuments, including the Grand Canyon, earning him a reputation as the father of America's national parks. In June, President Bush took a similarly bold step for the oceans, announcing the establishment of the largest marine protected area in the world. The new Northwestern Hawaiian Islands Marine National Monument encompasses a biologically rich string of islands and atolls that stretch 1,200 miles northwest of the main Hawaiian Islands.

The action will safeguard more than 84 million acres of marine wilderness, an area larger than all of America's national parks combined. The region includes the world's most remote coral reefs and supports more than 7,000 species, including endangered Hawaiian monk seals, tiger sharks and millions of nesting seabirds. One quarter of the species are found nowhere else.

As a national monument, the archipelago will enjoy the highest level of government protection. Fishing will be phased out in five years and coral mining prohibited. The area will remain open to Native Hawaiians for traditional uses and for scientific

research. The designation culminates nearly a decade of work by Environmental Defense (ED) and local allies. "The monument is an extraordinary victory for the environment and for the recognition of Native Hawaiian cultural practices," says our scientist Dr. Stephanie Fried. The islands are revered by Native Hawaiians.

Despite their remoteness, the islands show signs of stress. Among the first to voice concern was Buzzy Agard, a respected elder who first fished the area in the 1940s. He soon noticed fish were disappearing. "I realized I was helping destroy this unique place," he says. In recent years, research vessels have added to the problem by dumping raw sewage in the area.

Fried teamed up with Agard and helped develop a network (*hui*) of Native Hawaiians, fishermen, divers and local activists to promote protections. Together ED and the *hui* placed the issue on the agenda in Washington, bringing local partners to testify there. The *hui* mobilized citizens to speak at more than 100 public meetings and submitted more than 110,000 messages to officials.

In 2000, the *hui* convinced President Clinton to designate the area as an ecosystem reserve. We also persuaded Governor Linda Lingle to withdraw her initial opposition and, last year, to ban fishing in state waters. Bush's action builds on those efforts. "Our work isn't over," says Fried. "Monitoring will be crucial to ensure creation and enforcement of strong regulations." Still it's a time to celebrate. Says Buzzy Agard: "This gives me hope that my grandchildren will actually see the marine life I saw, without having to read about it in a book."

From: Environmental Defense Solutions 37(4), September 2006

Ed. Note: This event made national news reports but is too significant to omit from Briefs.

Progress in the Atlantic, Too!

Public Hearings Scheduled for Proposed Marine Protected Areas
Areas to aid in management of deepwater snapper grouper species

The South Atlantic Fishery Management Council is holding a series of 8 public hearings to solicit public comment on Amendment 14 to the Snapper Grouper Fishery Management Plan. The amendment would establish 8 marine protected areas in federal waters in the South Atlantic. The MPAs are being considered to protect a portion of the population and habitat of long-lived, slow growing deepwater snapper grouper species (snowy grouper, misty grouper specked hind, yellowedge grouper, warsaw grouper, golden tilefish, and blueline tilefish) from directed fishing pressure.

Proposed as "Type II" MPAs, fishing for or possession of snapper grouper species would be prohibited in the areas, but fishermen would be allowed to troll for pelagic species such as tuna, mackerel, and billfish. Amendment 14 includes alternatives for the use of Vessel Monitoring Systems as an enforcement tool for the MPAs. Additionally, the Council intends to work closely with NOAA Fisheries' Highly Migratory Species Division to prohibit the use of bottom longlines by shark fishermen in the proposed areas.

Deepwater species are most vulnerable to overfishing because they live longer than 50 years, do not survive the trauma of being captured from deeper water, and they have complex life histories. The MPAs are intended to be used in concert with traditional management measures (bag limits, trip limits, size limits, etc.) to enhance the optimum size and age structure of these slow-growing, long-lived species. In addition, the proposed MPAs are intended to serve as a nursery area and refuge for deepwater species during various developmental stages. The sites under consideration are the result of a collaborative approach, representing years of planning and recommendations from advisory panels and public input through workshops, scoping meetings, and information hearings.

News Release: South Atlantic Fishery Management Council, August 18, 2006

Back from the Brink

Recent Endangered Rivers Stories
America Rivers Organization Recounts Success

Canning River (Alaska)

Last December, conservationists made yet another successful stand against those in Congress who want to open the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge to oil and gas drilling. In a 56-44 vote, senators defeated a last gasp attempt by Sen. Ted Stevens (R-AK) to attach drilling language to must pass military funding legislation. Energy development in the Arctic Refuge would harm this majestic place, with drilling severely damaging the region's rivers and lakes.

McCrystal Creek (New Mexico)

McCrystal Creek in New Mexico's Valle Vidal made it on the 2005 list of America's Most Endangered Rivers, threatened by

coalbed methane drilling. The Valle Vidal - or "Valley of Abundant Life" - offers remarkable scenery, ample recreational opportunities, and unique grassland habitat for wildlife. The big news is that state officials in New Mexico designated all of the Valle Vidal's surface waters as "Outstanding National Resource Waters," a move toward heading off coalbed methane drilling that would pollute the rivers in this pristine area.

Spokane River (Idaho, Washington)

A huge step has been taken towards the cleanup of the endangered Spokane River. This river is renowned for its prized trout fishery, riverfront trails and parks, and breathtaking scenery. Because of excessive phosphorus pollution from wastewater discharges, the river made it into the 2004 America's Most Endangered Rivers report. The Washington Department of Ecology has committed to reducing phosphorus levels in the river by half over the next 20 years.

Tuolumne River (California)

The San Francisco Public Utilities Commission decided to drop plans to build a huge new pipeline across the San Joaquin Valley. The Tuolumne is a California crown jewel - with the largest run of wild salmon in the San Joaquin Valley, world-famous whitewater runs, and some of the best wildlife habitat in the Sierra Nevada.

Adapted From: American Rivers, Spring 2006

Take That, David Oreck! Hawaii's Secret Weapon against Alien Algae

In the battle against invasive algae taking over coral reefs, marine researchers in Hawaii have a new weapon - a vacuum cleaner. Called the "Super Sucker," this giant underwater vacuum cleaners is deployed from a 13-by-25 foot specially built barge and requires a five-person crew to operate. It can remove up to 800 pounds of alien algae in an hour.

The idea for the Super Sucker came out of a partnership between the University of Hawaii, The Nature Conservancy, and the state Department of Land and Natural Resources' Division of Aquatic Resources. The problem researchers were facing, says Eric Co, marine program coordinator for The Nature Conservancy of Hawaii, is that alien algae overgrow coral reefs at "very high rates," resulting in corals being smothered in "a sprawling blanket of marine algae." One of the areas hardest hit by the algae overgrowth is Kaneohe Bay on the island of Oahu.

The partners first began tackling the algae problem through a community outreach effort that uses volunteers to clean the algae off reefs. While the initiative helps educate the community and volunteers successfully remove tons of algae, the process is limited and labor intensive. Then they had the idea of vacuuming the algae off the reef. Built and piloted in Kaneohe Bay, the Super Sucker is essentially a modified gold dredger that has been outfitted with a 40-horsepower diesel engine that runs on biodiesel fuel.

The pumping mechanism has no "grinding blades of death" - to ensure the algae stay intact and that no other species are harmed, says Brian Parscal, operations supervisor for the Super Sucker at the University of Hawaii. Two divers, equipped with a 4-inch round, 100 foot flexible hose, work in the water directing the suction hose. Aboard the barge, about 300 gallons of seawater a minute is dumped onto a mesh-screened topped sorting table. Sorters look for native algae and other marine life inadvertently picked up by the vacuum. Once cleaned, reefs will be seeded with native sea urchins to help control the alien algae's reinvasion.

The Super Sucker is helping marine researchers clean up 3,000 pounds of algae a day. Once collected, the algae are provided to local farmers to use as fertilizer. The group also is monitoring the reef for algae regrowth and reef health. The partners are currently working on a Super Sucker Jr., which can be deployed in shallower waters outside Kaneohe Bay. Tony Montgomery, aquatic biologist with the state's Division of Aquatic Resources, sees the potential for the Super Sucker to have broader applications. "The technology could easily be tweaked or maybe even directly transferred over to address other coastal management issues," he says. "Plenty of people were skeptical when we started this," add Eric Conklin, a graduate student in the University of Hawaii Department of Biology. "When they see what we've accomplished, they've become a lot less skeptical."

For more information, contact Eric Co at (808) 587-6270 or eco@tnc.org; Brian Parscal at (808) 271-1266 or parscal@hawaii.rr.com; Tony Montgomery at (808) 587-0365 or Tony.Montgomery@hawaii.gov; Eric Conklin at (808) 218-4366 or econklin@hawaii.edu.

From: Coastal Services 9(4), July-August 2006

District Directors

Alaska, Northern
Joseph F. Margraf, Jr.
University of Alaska
P.O. Box 757020
Fairbanks, AK 99775-7020
ffjfml@uaf.edu

Alaska, Southeast
Bruce Wing
P.O. Box 210265
Auke Bay, AK 99821-0265
bruce.wing@noaa.gov

Arizona - New Mexico
G. Morris Southward
4155 Sotol Drive
Las Cruces, New Mexico 88011
morlor31@comcast.net

California, Northern
Michael McGowan
Maristics, Inc.
1442-A Walnut Street, Ste. 188
Berkeley, CA 94709

California, Southern
Raymond R. Wilson
CSULB Biol Sci
1250 N. Bellflower Blvd.
Long Beach, CA 90840
rwilson1@csulb.edu

Capital
Frank M. Panek
National Fish Health Research Laboratory
1705 Leetown Rd.
Kearneysville, WV 25430

Carolinas
Vacant

Florida
Thomas W. Schmidt
USDI Nat'l. Park Service
Everglades Nat'l. Pk., S. Fla. Res. Ctr.
P.O. Box 279
40001 State Rd. 9336
Homestead, FL 33014
tom_schmidt@nps.gov

Great Lakes, South Central
Dora R. Passino-Reader
National Fish. Center
1451 Green Road
Ann Arbor, MI 48105-2897
dora_reader@usgs.gov

Gulf of Mexico, Northeast
Vacant

Keystone
Joseph W. Rachlin
Dept. Biological Sciences
Lehman College of CUNY
250 Bedford Pk. Blvd. W.
Bronx, NY 10468-5189
joseph.rachlin@lehman.cuny.edu

New England
Steven Cadrin
NOAA/UMass
838 S. Rodney French Blvd.
New Bedford, MA 02744-1221
steven.cadrin@noaa.gov

Oregon-SW Washington
Vacant

Texas
Lance Robinson
Texas Parks and Wildlife Dept.
Seabrook Marine Lab
Seabrook, TX 77856

Washington, NW
Katherine Myers
School of Aquatic & Sciences
University of Washington
Box 355020
Seattle, WA 98195-5020

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VOL. 35, NO. 5 SEPTEMBER, OCTOBER 2006

President's Message

Fall is already here and things are in high gear with new activities highlighted in this issue of BRIEFS.

Symposium Update: The symposium is an important event for AIFRB. I really encourage you to attend if at all possible. We have a great preliminary list of speakers and financial support from a number of agencies and private organizations. So we hope you will really support the symposium as well. See the article in this BRIEFS and the www.aifrb.org for more details. For student AIFRB members, the AIFRB Research Assistance Award could help provide some funding to attend the symposium (see web site for more information or contact jault@rsmas.miami.edu).

Awards: Congratulations to Dr. Richard Krause, George Mason University, on winning the W.F. Thompson Award for 2004 publication. Nominations are now open until April, 2007 for student papers published in 2005. Send your nominations to William Bayliff (wbayliff@iattc.org); details regarding nominations are on the AIFRB website.

A committee has been set up to develop the guidelines for the new Kasahara Early Career Award. Steve Cadrin, New England District Director, agreed to chair the committee.

See you in Seattle in February!

Linda

And Congratulations! New President-Elect! Congratulations, Dick Beamish

We are pleased to announce that Dr. Richard (Dick) Beamish, Fisheries and Oceans Canada, has been elected President-Elect of AIFRB. He will begin his responsibilities immediately and become President of AIFRB in September 2008 at the annual Board of Control Meeting. We look forward to Dick's leadership in building the organization for the future. He has broad experience and scientific excellence to bring to this new role and we are excited about working with him. Please welcome Dick to his new position.

We also want to thank Dr. Jerry Ault for agreeing to running for this position. We appreciate all his hard work for our organization over the years.

Good Science Rewarded: W.F. THOMPSON AWARD FOR 2004 Awarded to Dr. Richard T. Kraus

Richard T. Kraus, a recent graduate of the University of Maryland, is the winner of the W.F. Thompson Award for the best student paper published in 2004. His paper, Dynamics of white perch *Morone americana* population contingents in the Patuxent River estuary, Maryland, USA, was published in Marine Ecology Progress Series, Volume 279, pages 247-259. It was co-authored with Dr. David H. Secor of the University of Maryland.

The W.F. Thompson Award is given for the best student paper on freshwater or marine biological resource problems published in a peer reviewed journal. The papers are reviewed and evaluated by fisheries professionals on the contribution to

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fishery science, originality of the research, and presentation of the research and results. Dr. Kraus' paper received high scores in all of those categories. One reviewer said, "I thought this paper was exceptional. Very well written, comprehensive and addressing interesting questions regarding age class strength in estuarine fishes. The findings offered lots of potential for additional research in this area and offered an alternative explanation for a very common and misunderstood phenomenon." Another reviewer commented, "This paper did an excellent job of determining the contribution of both life history strategies and the contribution each make to the population. It was very well thought out and used many different techniques to get at their answer and justify their methods, so their results seem very sound."

Dr. Kraus is currently an assistant professor in the Environmental Science and Policy Department at George Mason University. He is now completing the following projects that he first undertook as a post-doctoral fellow at Texas A. and M. University:

> Determining movements of blue marlin *(Makaira nigricans)* in the Gulf of Mexico from pop-up archival tag data on light intensity, depth and temperature; assessing offshore banks in the Gulf of Mexico as nurseries for snappers and groupers; and developing chemical tracers in otoliths to understand movements and habitat use in southern flounder *(Paralichthys lethostigma).*

The membership of the AIFRB is grateful to the fisheries scientists who used their valuable time to review these papers. They did an excellent job of reviewing and evaluating all the submitted papers.

Nominations of student papers for the W.F. Thompson Award for 2005 (to be awarded in 2007) are now being accepted. Send papers based on student research in freshwater and marine biological resource problems to Dr. William Bayliff, Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission, 8604 La Jolla Shores Drive, La Jolla, California, 92037-1508, USA. e-mail: wbayliff@iattc.org. The deadline for submissions is April 15, 2007. Papers must be published in peer reviewed journals in 2005 to be qualified for the award. The award includes a cash award and one year membership in AIFRB.

50th Anniversary Symposium

"The Future of Fishery Science in North America"

February 13-15, 2007 Seattle Washington

www.aifrb.org

Have you registered yet? Submitted an abstract? Made your hotel reservations?
If your answer is no to any of these questions, visit the newly revised AIFRB website and do so. We hope you will join us in Seattle in February for this exciting symposium! Register now and save $$$.

Below is a preliminary list of invited speakers for the symposium, who will present their views on the future of fisheries science. They are sure to present new and challenging ideas.

Convenors: Richard Beamish (Fisheries & Oceans Canada), **Linda Jones** (American Institute of Fishery Research Biologists), **Steven Murawski** (NOAA Fisheries), **Brian Rothschild** (School of Marine Science and Technology, UMass Dartmouth), **William Fox** (NOAA Fisheries) and **John Boreman** (NOAA Fisheries)

Keynote address:

Dr. Wendy Watson-Wright, Assistant Deputy Minister for Science, Fisheries and Oceans Canada
Dr. Bill Hogarth, Director, National Marine Fisheries Service, NOAA
Dr. Steve Murawski, Chief Science Advisor, National Marine Fisheries Service, NOAA.

Session 1, Management: research requirements—current successes and challenges

Co-chairs: James Balsiger and William Fox, Jr.
James Balsiger, NOAA Fisheries: Management: research requirements, current successes and challenges - the US experience

Invited speakers:

Management: Research requirements, current successes and challenges—the Canadian experience. Kevin Stringer, Fisheries and Oceans Canada. Future research requirements for understanding the effects of climate variability on fisheries for their management. Frank Schwing, Southwest Fisheries Science Center, NOAA Fisheries. Future research requirements for understanding the effects of fisheries on the genetics of populations as it affects their management. Robin Waples, Northwest Fisheries Science Center, NOAA Fisheries. Future economic and social research requirements for improving the management of fisheries. Dale Squires, Southwest Fisheries Science Center, NOAA Fisheries.

Session 2, Ecosystems

Co-chairs: Michael Fogarty and Jake Rice

Michael Fogarty, Northeast Fisheries Science Center, NOAA Fisheries: Environment forcing of ecosystem dynamics and implications for ecosystem approach to management. Jake Rice, Fisheries and Oceans Canada: Spatial and habitat implications of ecosystem approach to management

Invited speakers: Trophodynamic implications of ecosystem approach to management. Mariano Koen-Alonso, Centro National Patagonico Biodiversity. Jesse Ausubel, Rockefeller University. Marine and freshwater linkages. Phillip Levin, Northwest Fisheries Science Center, NOAA Fisheries. Quantifying ecosystem goods and services. Ben Halpern, University of California, Santa Barbara.

Session 3, Ocean environment—ocean and climate influences

Co-chairs: Kenneth Drinkwater and Anne Hollowed

Kenneth Drinkwater, Bedford Institute of Oceanography: **title to be determined.** Anne Hollowed, Alaska Fisheries Science Center, NOAA Fisheries: **title to be determined**

Invited speakers: Early life history response backups. Kevin Bailey, Alaska Fisheries Science Center, NOAA Fisheries. Bottom-up vs. top-down. Kenneth Frank, Fisheries and Oceans Canada. The future of fisheries science with respect to ocean and climate influences. Alec MacCall, Southwest Fisheries Science Center, NOAA Fisheries. Long-term climate influences. James Overland, Pacific Marine Environmental Laboratory, NOAA OAR

Session 4, Stock assessment

Co-chairs: Richard Methot and Robert Mohn

Richard Methot, Northwest Fisheries Science Center, NOAA Fisheries and Robert Mohn, Fisheries and Oceans Canada. Where we've been; where we're going

Invited speakers: Two-way link to ecosystem research. James Ianelli. Alaska Fisheries Science Center, NOAA Fisheries Space – the final frontier. Marc Mangel, University of California, Santa Cruz. Stock assessments: operational models or research projects? Robert O'Boyle, Title to be determined. Daniel Goodman, University of Montana.

Session 5, Technology

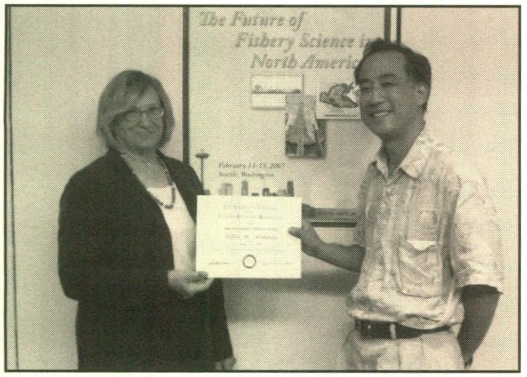
Co-chairs: D. Van Holliday and Kenneth Foote

D. Van Holliday, BAE Systems: **title to be determined**

Kenneth Foote, Woods Holes Oceanographic Institute: **title to be determined**

Invited speakers: Ecosystem modeling. Dr. Kevin Stokesbury, University of Massachusetts Dartmouth. Ecosystem technology. Dr. Olav Rune Godø. Institute of Marine Research. Platforms and observatories. Stephen. B. Brandt, Great Lakes Environmental Research Laboratory, NOAA. Genetic methods. Lorenz Hauser, University of Washington

Co- Sponsors: NOAA National Marine Fisheries Service and Sea Grant; Fisheries and Oceans Canada; North Pacific Research Board; AIFRB.



Treasurer Allen Shimada (r) accepts from President Jones the certificate signifying the AIFRB Distinguished Service Award for 2005. The award recognizes Allen's assiduous and truly exceptional performance as treasurer.

Website Confirms Evolution, Darwin Wins Another One New website: www.aifrb.org

Frequent and sometime visitors to AIFRB's Virtual Home will note the almost daily changes to the homepage, largely driven by the requirements of our 50th Anniversary Symposium Registration Site. Looking back on its evolution, the genesis of the AIFRB website dates from Michael Hinton's registration of our domain name, *www.aifrb.org*. The Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission has provided generous support from its host server for a number of years. We greatly appreciate their support. A significant step forward in organization of the Institute's major subject areas, and importantly, the creation of the new 'look and feel' was initiated this year. This project was possible only from the hard work and artistic talents of Student Associate, Kim Anthony, from Ray Wilson's lab at Cal State, Longbeach. Kim's work was instrumental in the improvement of the web page and we are very appreciative of her excellent work and outstanding efforts on the AIFRB web page.

As the web-based needs of the 50th Symposium became apparent to the Organizing Committee, Dr. Dave Somerton engaged Vickie Lingwood as a new programmer to write the dynamic program code that provides the critical functionality required of the symposium website. Their work resulted in online registration, payment, and account management functions. Before our next fiscal year-end, we anticipate a fully functional dynamic website that will permit members to make address changes, dues payments, and communicate with the BOC. The membership database will be integrated into the website, be able to generate the BRIEFS mailing list and to assist the day-to-day responsibilities of the Institute's officers and Committee Chairs. The website will have up to day information about nominations for awards, events and activities. Prospective members can review AIFRB's activities and make applications to membership.

Stay tuned, Linda Jones

Volunteers Needed

There are a number of opportunities for volunteers to help with various AIFRB activities. If you are interested in any of the following opportunities, contact the designated person or Linda Jones, President (ljones.wa@verizon.net)

1. **Assistant to the Secretary**: The AIFRB Secretary has announced that she will be stepping down at the end of her term, which ends in September 2008. We would like to have someone work with her and learn the intricacies of this job Some of the Secretary's duties are: Maintain all current records of the Institute; prepare notices of BOC and membership meetings for publication (in Briefs and web site); prepare the minutes of BOC and membership meetings; maintain a copy of the Articles of Incorporation, Bylaws, Policy Statements and standing rules with any amendments to these documents properly recorded; assist the President in preparing the agenda for meetings; maintain a list of all standing committees and all special committees and keeps on file all committee reports; maintains a list of names, addresses, phone and fax numbers and e-mail addresses of all officials of the Institute, including District officials, terms of office, and distributes list to officers. Contact: Barbara Warkentine (Synodus@aol.com) for more information or to volunteer.

2. **Computer Committee:** The AIFRB web page has been updated thanks to the efforts of Kim Anthony, CSULB, and Vickie Lingwood. The web site is becoming a major source of information about AIFRB and potentially will link to other fisheries and conservation information. We need to add members to this committee, particularly those who have computer talent, and/or web site ideas and expertise. Contact: Chair Neal Foster or Linda Jones.

3. **50th Anniversary Symposium:** Help is needed during the symposium for various activities: registration, setting up, preparing materials. Contact: Fred Utter to volunteer.

Be a volunteer: learn new skills, meet new people and support AIFRB.
Linda Jones

Losses

Kiyoshi George Fukano
(Not a Member but known to much of our membership)

Age 89, born in Seattle, September 24, 1916 and died September 10, 2006. Survived by wife, Yasuko; son, James; brothers, Frank (Micki) Fukano, Sequim, WA and Henry (Rose) Fukano, Seattle; many nieces and nephews. Predeceased by sisters, Mitsu Fukui and Toshiko Ishil. George graduated from the University of Washington, School of Fisheries 1939. He was employed as a Fisheries Biologist by the Fisheries Research Institute in Ann Arbor, Michigan from 1944-1964. In 1965, he returned to Seattle to work for the National Marine Fisheries Service as technical and managing editor of Fisheries Bulletin until his retirement in 1981. He was a lifetime member of the American Fisheries Society. During retirement he became an avid gardener. Attended classes at the Urban Horticulture Center to qualify as a Master Gardener. He was a member of the Japanese Garden Society and served as treasurer for the Japanese Bonsai Club. Private family services were held. Remembrances may be made to the University of Washington Foundation, School of Fisheries, Box 358240 Seattle, WA 98195 or to a charity of choice.

Submitted by: Bernie Skud

Raymond E. Johnson, F60, EF 75
2012 Antelope Place
Virginia Beach, VA 23456

His son Willard Johnson can be contacted at (757) 416-3554 or ojibwa52@verizon.net

Richard Stroud, F60, EF 82
September 4, 2006

Your Institute at Work!
Board of Control
Minutes
2006 Annual Meeting
Crown Plaza Hotel
Lake, Placid 9-10 September 2006

The 50th annual meeting of the Board of Control of the American Institute of Fishery Research Biologists (AIFRB) was held at the Crown Plaza Hotel in Lake, Placid 9-10 on September 2006.

President Jones called the meeting to order at 0900 on Saturday, 9 September 2006.

Roll call and determination of quorum (Warkentine): The following Officers, Members of the Board of Control (BOC), Committee Chairs and/or Co-Chairs, and AIFRB members were attending:

Officers President Linda Jones, Past President Richard Schaefer, Past President Clark Hubbs, Secretary Barbara Warkentine, Treasurer Allen Shimada, Membership Chair Thomas Keegan; ***District and Regional Directors*** - Alaska & Western Canada, Southeast Alaska Bruce Wing, SW States & Mexico, Northern California Thomas Keegan for M. McGowan, Northeastern States & Eastern Canada, Keystone Joseph Rachlin, New England Steven Cadrin, Southeast States & Eastern Mexico, Florida Thomas Schmidt, ***Member*** Douglas Vaughan.

President's Report (Jones): President Jones received a letter of thanks from Jack Helle. Jack indicated that he was overjoyed at receiving the AIFRB Distinguished Service Award and that this award meant a lot to him. AIFRB is very important to him and he plans on becoming more active.

President Jones reviewed her actions since assuming the Presidency after the last BOC meeting. She welcomed three new District Directors to the BOC. Letters of congratulations were sent to all AIFRB award recipients. The position of AFS-AIFRB liaison has been filed. The web-page has been completely redesigned thanks to Kim Anthony's hard work. The 50th Anniversary Celebration is moving along nicely.

President Jones extended her thanks to the BOC for their support in helping her during her first year as President.

Secretary's Report (Warkentine):

a. Minutes of 2005 BOC meeting (Anchorage, Alaska) were approved: On a ***motion***, by Director Rachlin.

Secretary Warkentine announced that the election process for President-elect was underway and thanked all involved for their assistance.

Secretary Warkentine announced that she plans to give up the position of Secretary in the not too distant future *(Ed Note: What a loss!)*. She would like to have a candidate for this position in place before the next President takes over. She has been doing this job for 10 years and feels that there is a need for a change.

Treasurer's Report (Shimada)

a. State of the Treasury: Treasurer Shimada's report, which reflects the period from 9/1/05 – 8/31/06, was distributed for review by the BOC. At the close of this period the total income was $24,333.79. Total expenses for the period were $23,436.88. This yielded a positive balance of $896.91. The balance brought forth from last year was $3,324.83. Thus the Institute's cash revenue, at the end of this fiscal year, stands at $4,221.74. As of 31 Aug 2006 the Smith Barney – Capital Fund (market value $83,651.86) and the FBR – Founders Fund (market value $38,280.80) representing a combined value of $121.932.66. This value combined with cash on hand in these funds ($1,285.35) yields a total of $123,218.01. This represents a $14,671.22 increase from fiscal year-end 2005.

A ***motion***, by Director Rachlin, to accept the Treasurer's report was unanimously **approved** by the BOC.

b. Delinquent members: Treasurer Shimada pointed out that the dues increase has kept us level but didn't increase our revenue. At the close of the books on 31/Aug/2006 dues revenue stood at $15,334.92. If all members were in good standing this item would be $18,000. He pointed out that approximately 100 Emeritus Members will be lost to the Institute as a result of the new dues structure. President Jones expressed the need to recruit new members. She also reported that she sent letters to emeritus members informing them of the new dues structure. Letters were also sent to delinquent members informing them that they would be dropped from membership, in accordance with our bylaws policy, if they did not pay their arrears dues. Treasurer Shimada expressed the importance of maintaining a physical presence between the President and the membership in helping to keep members in good standing.

c. Advice from Capital Management Committee: Member Wespestad continues to Chair this committee. No formal report was given.

d. Founders Fund: Treasurer Shimada reported that dividends generated from the Founders Fund will not be reinvested but will be held as a cash reserve. These funds can then be used for the Thompson Award, symposia, and/or receptions.

e. Outlook for 2006-2007: President Jones asked "How can we make the job of the Treasurer easier?" One suggestion is to have better coordination between the Treasurer, Membership Chair, and BRIEFS with regard to the membership roles. The web-site might provide the best means for coordinating information among these three parties.

Chair Keegan suggested that if revenues allow we might want to have a reception at the 2007 BOC meeting in San Francisco as this will be a well attended meeting ripe for recruiting. It was also suggested by the BOC that we might want to consider having a hospitality suite for the reception. President Jones stated that we need to get a budget in place for action items for 06/07 so that we know or at least have an idea of our fiscal needs. Treasurer Shimada informed the BOC that we have to place in that budget: 1) $1,200 for Outstanding Achievement Award plaques; 2) $450 for the cost of running the President-Elect election; and 3) $450 for dues mailing. To save cost in mailing items to the membership, Treasurer Shimada suggested that he can incorporate into the dues mailing items from the BOC. A letter from President Jones announcing the Symposium in Seattle will be included along with an announcement from Chair Keegan regarding the 2007 San Francisco Meeting of AIFRB.

f. Adoption of Authorization for Treasurer (Fiscal 06-07):

A ***motion***, by Director Rachlin, to authorize the Treasurer, Allen Shimada, to conduct business for the forthcoming fiscal year 2006-2007 (from the AIFRB Annual Meeting in 2006 to the AIFRB Annual Meeting in 2007), was **seconded** and unanimously **approved** by the BOC.

Report of Membership Committee (Keegan):

a. Results for 2006: Chair Keegan reported that there were 15 new members this year. It was the first year, however, in which there were no new members in the Northern California area. Chair Keegan pointed out that the location of the recruitment table at the annual meeting may play a part in how much interest we receive. Alaska wasn't as fruitful as was Madison, although Director Wing was happy to note that there were three new members from Alaska, two from the north and one from the south.

b. Recommendations and plans for 2007: The BOC reviewed the membership brochure. Chair Keegan informed the BOC that there is now a Spanish version. Chair Keegan will set up a committee to work on a more attractive brochure in time for the San Francisco meeting.

BOC members suggested that Chair Keegan write a piece for BRIEFS which would include: 1) requirements for membership and promotion, 2) a short bio on each Committee member and the Chair, and 3) a request for members to review their membership

status.

The BOC agreed that every issue of BRIEFS should have a Membership Section that would include such items as: highlights of fellows, a list of new members, and promotions. Director Rachlin will join the Membership Committee and has agreed to work with Chair Keegan on items for BRIEFS. Chair Keegan will draft a letter from the Membership Chair to individuals that have been nominated for membership. Treasurer Shimada also suggested that we encourage individuals that are working on the Celebration 2006 Symposium to encourage them to join AIFRB. Chair Keegan will act on this.

Report of W.F. Thompson Award Committee (Jones for Bayliff):

a. Award recipient and plans for presenting the award: President Jones acknowledged the great job that Chair Bayliff did in setting up the committee to review papers for this award.

This year the committee selected Richard T. Kraus to receive the 2007 W.F. Thompson Award for his paper entitled *"Dynamics of white perch, Morone americana population contingents in the Patuxent River Estuary, Maryland, USA."* published in Mar. Ecol. Prog. Ser., 279:247-259 (2004). Co-authoring with R. Kraus is David H. Secor.

President Jones will send a letter of congratulations along with the check, certificate, and an invitation to join AIFRB.

Award winners will receive BRIEFS at no cost for one year. District Directors will be notified of winners that reside in their districts so that he/she can contact them.

Report of Research Assistance Award Committee (Jones for Ault):

There were four award recipients this year.

The Committee's full report is presented in BRIEFS, July-August, 2006

Report of Outstanding Achievement Awards Committee (Jones for Williams):

a. Nominations (individual) for 2006: The BOC unanimously voted to award the 2007 Outstanding Achievement Award to Dr. Peter Moyle. The presentation will be made at the 2007 BOC meeting in San Francisco.

b. Nominations (group) for 2006: The committee did not have any candidates to present to the BOC for consideration in this category. President Jones asked the BOC to think of groups for consideration and to forward their nominations to the Committee.

Distinguished Service Award (Sakagawa):

a. 2005 award presentation to Allen Shimada: President Jones presented Dr. Shimada with the Distinguished Service Award. Photos of the presentation were taken and the write-up (prepared by the Committee) will be forwarded to Editor Huntsman for inclusion in an upcoming issue of BRIEFS.

b. Committee (Sakagawa, Schaefer and Jones) to consider 2006 award:

The Committee voted to give the 2006 Distinguished Service Award to BRIEFS Editor Gene Huntsman for his service to AIFRB. *(Well, golly-gee and a sincere thank you. Ed.)*

Report on Briefs (Jones for Huntsman): President Jones indicated that every issue of BRIEFS should have a paragraph from every District. There is a need for more AIFRB news. The frequency of publishing BRIEFS was discussed. The BOC generally agreed that, since this is the only direct contact that we have with the membership, the frequency of six issues per year should remain the same.

Director Cadrin indicated that we might wish to look at the design of the newsletter. Make it more appealing. He has agreed to send ideas for upgrading to Editor Huntsman. (See full Editor's Report, BRIEFS July-August 2006).

Report on Productions (Merriner): Secretary Warkentine suggested reevaluation of the duties of the Productions Editor given that many of the jobs formally done by the editor are now done by other committees (e.g. brochures-Membership Chair, mailing labels & postage – Coastal Press).

Merriner reported stated the postal bulk mail permit was renewed.

Report on Web Page Project (Jones): Production of the web-site involved needs for more help of monetary support for assistance, and security of the server. Government sites are not secure enough. They can't handle items such as symposium/ meeting registration.

A ***motion***, by Director Cadrin, to budget $1500 - $2000 per year for web support and if more is needed that the BOC be consulted, was **seconded** and unanimously **approved** by the BOC.

David Somerton will work with Shimada to implement the move and be a member of the web-page committee. The move to a new server should be completed within 2-3 weeks and will free Kim Anthony from the day to day web-site maintenance, while allowing her to concentrate on the major aspects of the site.

District sites should reflect the Districts' activities. It was suggested that they look at the Southern California as a model.

The BOC discussed a standard format for District postings. President Jones will ask the Web-page committee to develop standard guidelines for postings on District sites.

Selected Reports on District Activities (Directors):

Written reports, provided by District Directors, are presented in Appendices J through S and are not repeated here.

Northwest Washington: Director Myers reported much activity on the AIFRB 50th Anniversary symposium including local arrangements (*i.e.* housing, evening social).

Northern California: Director McGowan reported active participation in AIFRB District sponsored events. For the sixth year the District sponsored and organized the judging of student presentations and posters at the 2006 *Cal-Neva Chapter Annual Meeting of AFS.* Twenty three student papers were judged and six awards were presented. The District currently has $1571.58 in its treasury.

Southern California: Director Wilson reported three meetings with good attendance and continued sponsorship of its "Best Student Paper in Fishery Biology" Award Program. One award was given at the Western Society of Naturalists meeting and one at the Southern California Academy of Science.

South Central Great Lakes: Director Passino-Reader reported that five special awards were presented at the 48th Annual Southeastern Michigan Science Fair. District members judged student projects. The District currently has $127.52 in its treasury.

Capital: Director Panek reported updating the district's web page.

Keystone: Director Rachlin reported an election successful launch of its web page, and a luncheon meeting and recruitment drive at the State Museum in Albany.

New England: Director Cadrin reported a planned joint meeting with the AFS - Southern New England Region. AIFRB would provide the keynote address speaker.

Florida: Director Schmidt reported that due to a rather extensive hurricane season last year planned presentations were put on hold. He has also discovered that he has had more success with daytime meetings rather than nighttime ones.

Candidates for the now vacant Oregon area were considered. President Jones will contact them.

Regional Directors are to design posters for their respective Districts for the San Francisco Meeting.

Project Reports:

a. Celebration 2006 (Jones): President Jones reported t we are making significant progress and distributed the symposium flier to the BOC. Larger poster versions of the flier were displayed throughout the AFS meeting areas. A new logo for the symposium was designed.

President Jones will open the symposium with a brief history of AIFRB. There are five session topics which are as follows: Management: research requirements—current successes and challenges; Ecosystems; Ocean environment—ocean and climate influences; Stock assessment; and Technology. Director Cadrin indicated that we might get more abstracts submitted if the proceedings are published.

The meeting hotel is the Red Lion Inn near the convention center. One hundred rooms are guaranteed. We must use 20% of these or we will be charged for all. We also guaranteed $18,000 in food usage.

There will be a poster venue for student presentations.

There are a number of sponsors for the symposium. The help of all BOC members is needed to help secure more sponsors. A grant for $30,000 has been secured and another for $15,000 looks promising.

b. Biographies of Founders (Warkentine): Secretary Warkentine reported that she has complete bios for 11 founders with pictures for five of these. Biographies of 15 founders remain to be done. Director Cadrin has agreed to write up bios for Lagler and Walford.

c. Proposal for Founders Fund (Shimada): Treasurer Shimada distributed, for BOC review and action, a proposal prepared by G. Sakagawa, V. Wespestad, and A. Shimada. The proposal is to use Founders Fund resources for an award that will be called the "Kasahara Early Career Award." The intent is to grant one $2,500 award in its first year. After reviewing the criteria the BOC recognized the need to clarify what is meant by a "young scientist" and the composition of the committee. Regarding the "young scientist" issue the proposal will make no reference to youth or age but will focus on time since terminal degree and will read as follows: *"The Kasahara Award is intended to recognize the Institute's most promising scientists (no more than 7 years post Ph.D.) early in their research careers...."* With regard to the committee structure the document will now read: *"The committee is comprised of five individuals appointed by the President."* The BOC agreed that the committee should have balanced representation from academic institutions and agencies.

A ***motion***, by Treasurer Shimada, to accept "The Founders Fund – Kasahara Early Career Award" and to establish the Committee, was **seconded** and unanimously **approved** by the BOC.

President Jones will inform Mrs. Kasahara and invite her to one of the receptions in Seattle where the formal announcement of this award will be made. The award itself will be made to the recipient at the AIFRB social in San Francisco, site of the 2007 BOC meeting.

New Business:

Electronic journal: Director Cadrin presented Kevin Friedland's proposal for the initiation of an AIFRB e-journal. The BOC supported the idea. It was agreed that the BOC needed to address the cost options presented in the proposal. The BOC agreed that the journal must pay for itself with at least a small overage to cover inflation.

The following ***motion***, was presented by Director Cadrin. *The BOC authorizes a peer-reviewed e-journal for the Institute. The BOC selects an Editor for the journal to serve for a three year term. The Editor is authorized to select an editorial board with overlapping terms of three years. The Editor has final approval of the journal contents, and may authorize members of the editorial board to make approval decisions. The journal will provide an outlet for research, methods, and topical discussion relevant to the mission of the Institute. The Institute was founded to promote the conservation and proper utilization of fishery resources through application of fishery science. The Institute pursues this goal through advancing the theory, practice, and application of fishery biology and of related sciences, by maintaining and promoting high professional standards of conduct for practitioners of fishery science, and by recognizing outstanding achievement and competence by fishery scientists. The journal shall be an open access journal available only as electronic files via the World Wide Web. The Editor will report annually on the progress of the journal at the annual BOC meeting.*

The cost of the journal will be recovered via a word charge to authors. Once a paper is accepted for publication, the Editor will issue a bill to the author that must be paid to the Treasurer before publication. The Editor will send journal costs to the Treasurer for payment. Page charge rate to the author will exceed the page charge cost to the journal by 25%. The **motion** was **seconded** and unanimously **approved** by the BOC.

Kevin Friedland has volunteered to serve as Editor. Ellen Martinson expressed interest in reviewing papers.

Proposed names for the journal include: 1) Journal of the American Institute of Fishery Research Biologists, 2) FIONN, 3) Journal of Fishery Research and Conservation. The name FIONN raised some concerns in that its reference to salmon might turn people away from the journal and that unless the legend is posted along with the name some individuals would not appreciate its meaning. The name *"Journal of Fishery Research and Conservation"* was modified to *"Fisheries Research Ecology and Conservation"*. The BOC felt that the selection of the name should involve the membership at large. The three proposed names (1, 2 and modified 3 above) along with a request for suggestions of other journal names will be published in BRIEFS. President Jones will incorporate this into her letter that will accompany the dues mailing.

The BOC commended Kevin Friedland for his hard work on this project.

c. Discussion of AIFRB in the next 50 years: The question *"How do we attract, maintain and encourage members to become more active?"* was discussed. BOC members suggested that we consider having a town hall type meeting at the symposium meeting in Seattle. Also suggested was that we look into estate planning.

President Jones will set up an *ad hoc* committee called the **"Future Focus Committee"** that will have representatives from each region. The committee will be charged to: 1) determine what we can do better in the area of recruiting, 2) explore the possibility of having more symposia as we are doing in Seattle, 3) develop new initiatives, and 4) draft a new mission statement that is consistent with the policy of AIFRB. The committee will prepare their recommendations for presentation at the next BOC meeting.

Review of reimbursement at annual BOC meetings (Jones): The BOC discussed pro-rated reimbursement: if a BOC member only attends one day of the meeting their level of reimbursement should be less.

A ***motion***, by Director Rachlin, to give full reimbursement to those that attend the two days of the BOC meeting and ½ that rate to those that only attend one day was **seconded.**

Discussion of the motion: Many members spoke against the motion.

The **motion** was brought to a vote and was **denied**.

The reimbursement policy for this year remained at $400. The budget for reimbursement for next year was set at $6,000. This will cover 15 voting BOC members at a rate of $400. President Jones will place on the agenda for the mid-year meeting a review of the state of the treasury and the budgeted amount for reimbursement.

f. Review of committee assignments (Jones): President Jones reviewed committee assignments and members:

1) Computer Committee: David Somerton, Allen Shimada, and Kim Anthony

2) The Founders Fund - Kasahara Early Career Award Committee: Bruce Miller, G. Morris Southward, Kate Myers, and Clark Hubbs. Two additional members will be appointed.

3) Future Focus Committee: Marty Golden, Gil Radonski, and Tom Keegan

4) Editorial Board for E-Journal: Kevin Friedland (Editor). K. Friedland will select reviewers.

5) New Brochure Committee: Tom Keegan and Joe Rachlin

President Jones will add additional members to these members as needed.

h. AIFRB-AFS Liaison: Douglas Vaughan has agreed to serve as the AIFRB-AFS Liaison.

The idea of having liaisons to other organizations was passed to the Future Focus Committee for their consideration.

i. Brochures: Keegan and Rachlin will work on a redesigned brochure perhaps with help from a professional graphics group.

j. Logo items: Logo embossed shirts for the San Francisco meeting are under consideration.

k. Next meeting plans: The next BOC meeting will be held in San Francisco, Sept 1-2, 2007. Meeting plans and goals which are as follows: 1) a strong AIFRB presence, 2) brochures (two versions) available for recruiting purposes, 3) a hospitality suite for the meeting period, 4) a reception, 5) presentation of the Distinguished Service Award to Dr. Peter Moyle, 6) regional display reflecting District's fisheries related activities, 7) sponsored symposia, 8) solicitation of corporate donations, 9) judging of student papers by the Northern California and Southern California districts.

President Jones and Treasurer Shimada set up a budget at the mid-year meeting.

Appointments (Jones):

a. Regional Director: For the 2006-2007 year the following Directors are to advance to the position of Regional Director: Kate Myers for Northwestern States, Bruce Wing for Alaska & Western Canada, Dora Passino-Reader for Central States & Middle Canada, G. Morris Southward for Southwest States & Western Mexico; Steven Cadrin for Northeast States & Eastern Canada, and Patrick Harris for Southeast States & Eastern Mexico.

b. Officers and/or Interim Directors: President Jones appointments as: Secretary - Barbara Warkentine, Treasurer - Allen Shimada, Membership Chair - Thomas Keegan, BRIEFS Editor – Gene Huntsman, and Production Editor – John Merriner.

c. Special Committee Chairs: President Jones established an *ad hoc* committee – the Future Focus Committee. The BOC approved the appointment of Kevin Friedland as the Editor for the e-journal.

Barbara E. Warkentine, Secretary

4th North American Reservoir

Balancing Fisheries Management and Water

Uses for Impounded River Systems

June 6-9, 2007

Atlanta, Georgia

The Southern Division AFS Reservoir Committee invites abstracts for contributed oral and poster presentations for the 4th North American Reservoir Symposium. This symposium will address the challenges of managing reservoir fisheries in the context of competing water use. Within this scope, topics for contributed papers and posters include: (A) Balancing fisheries issues with basin-wide water uses; (B) Aquatic habitat; (C) Human dimensions; and (D) Catch and release and use of regulations to manage fisheries.

Additional information about the sympoium can be found at www.sdafs.org/reservoir/symposium or by contacting Vic DiCenzo at Vic. Dicenzo@dgif.virginia.gov.

First Mediterranean Congress on Sea Game Fishing

The First Mediterranean Congress on Sea Game Fishing was held September 20-22, 2006 in Palma de Mallorca, Spain. The event is promoted by the Federacion Meditterranea Para Una Pesca Resonsable and sponsored by the European Union, the Spanish Government and the Government of the Balearic Islands, in cooperation with the International Game Fish association.

The overall confernece goal was to develop and encourage responsible recreational angling in the Mediterranean. Specific conference topics include: 1) To define the social, economic, and environmental aspects of recreational angling; 2) To develop recreational fishing as a form of sustainable tourism; 3) To unify recreational fishing regulations in the Mediterranean as well as possible measures for self regulation; 4) To promote conservation of marine resources for recreational fishing.

Presentations will deal with all apsects of recreational fishing in the Mediterranean Sea. Special emphasis will be placed on sustainability, status of bluefin tuna, the marine charter industry, European legislation and the collaboration between recreational fishing and scientific institutions.

For more information on the conference visit: www.mediterranea-congress.org

From: International Angler, 68(5) September-October 2006

Board of Control Meets at Lake Placid, September 2006

Having debated climbing mountain at rear right the BOC wisely chose instead to pursue quality testing of local stumpblaster

Rear (l-r): Douglas Vaughan, Barbara Warkentine, Tom Schmidt, Allen Shimada, Tom Keegan, Steven Cadrin, Bruce Wing, Joe Rachlin.
Front (l-r): Clark Hubbs, Linda Jones, Dick Schaefer.

A Grateful Thank you to the Kasahara Family

Mrs. Hiroshi Kasahara
4731 West Roberts Way
Seattle, Washington 98199

Dear. Mrs. Kasahara,

On behalf of the American Institute of Fisheries Research Biologists (AIFRB), it is with great pleasure that I write to tell you of a new membership initiative just approved by the Board of Control at its 2006 Annual Meeting in Lake Placid, New York. This initiative creates the *Kasahara Early Career Award* and is established to honor the memory of your late husband, Dr. Hiroshi Kasahara (Fellow 1970, Emeritus Fellow 2000), and also recognizes the lasting contributions made by Dr. Hiroshi and Mrs. Toshiko Kasahara to international fisheries science and the work of the Institute.

The *Kasahara Early Career Award* is intended to support and encourage the Institute's most promising scientists, who show exceptional potential for leadership at the frontiers of fisheries science. Outstanding young Professional Associates and Members, at the outset of their independent research careers, are eligible for the award. Successful candidates will receive a certificate of recognition and a significant monetary award.

In taking this action, the Board of Control believes the Kasahara initiative will foster innovative developments in fisheries science and policy, and further increase awareness of the AIFRB and the benefits of membership. The *Kasahara Early Career Award* promotes the connections between fundamental and applied research and highlights the importance of integrating science with public policy for the future of living marine resources and their ecosystems.

We plan to announce the creation of thsi new award at our 50th Anniversary International Symposium on the "Future of Fisheries Science in North America: in February 2007 here in Seattle. We would be honored if you would attend the symposium when we make this announcement. Dr. Katherine Myers and I would be pleased to meet with you to present further details of the award, our plans to name the Kasahara Selection Committee and make the inaugural award at the September 2007 AIFRB Annual Meeting in San Francisco. Please feel free to contact me at (425) 488-1446.

The Institute honors the many contributions of Dr. Kasahara to fisheries science over the years and deeply appreciates your generous support of its programs and goals.

Sincerely,
Linda L. Jones, Ph.D.
President

Ed note: this edition of briefs was edited by telephone from a snowy, wind blasted Kansas, where there are no quail! Please excuse mistakes.

District Directors

Alaska, Northern
Joseph F. Margraf, Jr.
University of Alaska
P.O. Box 757020
Fairbanks, AK 99775-7020
ffjfml@uaf.edu

Alaska, Southeast
Bruce Wing
P.O. Box 210265
Auke Bay, AK 99821-0265
bruce.wing@noaa.gov

Arizona - New Mexico
G. Morris Southward
4155 Sotol Drive
Las Cruces, New Mexico 88011
morlor31@comcast.net

California, Northern
Michael McGowan
Maristics, Inc.
1442-A Walnut Street, Ste. 188
Berkeley, CA 94709

California, Southern
Raymond R. Wilson
CSULB Biol Sci
1250 N. Bellflower Blvd.
Long Beach, CA 90840
rwilson1@csulb.edu

Capital
Frank M. Panek
National Fish Health Research Laboratory
1705 Leetown Rd.
Kearneysville, WV 25430

Carolinas
Patrick Harris
886 Evans Road
Charleston, SC 29412

Florida
Thomas W. Schmidt
USDI Nat'l. Park Service
Everglades Nat'l. Pk., S. Fla. Res. Ctr.
P.O. Box 279
40001 State Rd. 9336
Homestead, FL 33014
tom_schmidt@nps.gov

Great Lakes, South Central
Dora R. Passino-Reader
National Fish. Center
1451 Green Road
Ann Arbor, MI 48105-2897
dora_reader@usgs.gov

Gulf of Mexico, Northeast
Vacant

Keystone
Joseph W. Rachlin
Dept. Biological Sciences
Lehman College of CUNY
250 Bedford Pk. Blvd. W.
Bronx, NY 10468-5189
joseph.rachlin@lehman.cuny.edu

New England
Steven Cadrin
NOAA/UMass
838 S. Rodney French Blvd.
New Bedford, MA 02744-1221
steven.cadrin@noaa.gov

Oregon-SW Washington
Vacant

Texas
Lance Robinson
Texas Parks and Wildlife Dept.
Seabrook Marine Lab
Seabrook, TX 77856

Washington, NW
Katherine Myers
School of Aquatic & Sciences
University of Washington
Box 355020
Seattle, WA 98195-5020

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American Institute of Fishery Research Biologists

Promoting excellence in fishery science

. . . BRIEFS . . .

Website: www.iattc.org/aifrb/

VOL. 35, NO. 6 NOVEMBER, DECEMBER 2006

President's Message

Happy New Year to all! I hope your holidays were merry.

December is an important month for AIFRB. Our Articles of Incorporation were signed 27 December 1956 in Seattle, WA. Fifty years of promoting excellence in science through awards, and recognition of outstanding achievements! It is a record we can all be proud of. With the incorporation occurring in Seattle, celebrating our 50th anniversary in Seattle seems fitting.

My thanks to all the Committees and other folks that have been working so hard on the AIFRB 50th Anniversary symposium. The program for the symposium, The Future of Fishery Science in North America, is on our web page (www.AIFRB.org). The symposium co-chairs, Dick Beamish (our President-elect) and Brian Rothschild, and the Steering Committee and Session Chairs, have put together a cast of excellent speakers, including Dr. Wendy Watson-Wright, Assistant Deputy Minister, Fisheries and Oceans, Canada, and Dr. Bill Hogarth, NOAA Fisheries Service Director. Dr. Steve Murawski, NOAA Fisheries Service Senior Science Advisor will also speak. We also have a number of excellent contributed papers. Dr. Ray Wilson and his committee have put together an outstanding poster session and reception. The Local Organizing Committee has been planning all the details for the symposium. Thanks to all of you for developing such a great symposium.

Our thanks also to NOAA Fisheries, Fisheries and Oceans, Canada and North Pacific Research Board as well as other organizations and companies, for supporting this symposium with funding in order to ensure we have an excellent symposium that will provide important information about fishery science in the next decade.

We hope to see you all at the symposium!

Linda

A Pearce Perspective: Oceanic Dead Zones

UN reports increasing 'dead zones' in oceans

WASHINGTON, October 20, 2006 - The number of oxygen-starved "dead zones" in the world's seas and oceans has risen more than a third in the past two years because of fertilizer, sewage, animal waste, and fossil-fuel burning, United Nations specialists said yesterday.

Their number has jumped to about 200, according to new estimates released by UN marine specialists meeting in Beijing. In 2004, UN specialists put the estimate at 149 globally. The damage is caused by exposive blooms of tiny plants know as phytoplankton, which die and sink to the bottom, then are eaten by bacteria, which use up the oxygen in the water. Those blooms are triggered by too many nutrients - particularly phosphorous and nitrogen.

The UN report estimates there will be a 14 percent rise in the amount of nitrogen that rivers are pumping into seas and oceans globally over a period from when the levels were measured in the mid-1990s to 2030. Oxygen starvation robs the seas and oceans of many fish, oysters, sea grass beds, and other marine life. The number of oxygen-starved zones has grown every decade since the 1970s. In the Chesapeake Bay, in the United States the Baltic Sea, the Kattegat Bay in the North Sea, the Black Sea, the Adriatic Sea, and some Scandinavian fjords.

Others have appeard off South America, China, Japan, southeast Australia, and New Zealand, according to UN research led by Robert Diaz, a marine scientist at the College of William & Mary. *By John Heilprin, Associated Press*

Pearce Comments: The preceding appeared in the Boston *Globe*, *NY Times* and other newspapers in the East and Western USA. It obviously is a release which came forth from the UN Conference in Beijing China which dealt specifically with oxygen deprived coastal, estuarine and oceanic habitats. It is worth noting that such low DO (dissolved oxygen) areas go much further back in history than the 1990's.

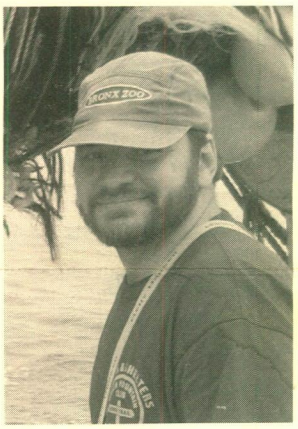
The AIFRB is a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt nonprofit organization (EIN 61-6050711).

When I started work with the US Department of Interior Bureau of Sports Fish and Wildlife a predecessor of NOAA, one of my first "fish assignments" was to investigate the effects of sludge dumping and the spoiling of contaminated dredging materials in the New York Bight off Sandy Hook, NJ. Variable amounts of sludge and some 5-10 million cubic meters of sewer wastes were dumped annually. Eventually NOAA formed the marine research program called NOAA MESA (Marine Ecosystems Analysis Program). This program studied sites off both the east and west coasts of the USA, as well as off Alaska and in the Gulf of Mexico. In the NY Bight a hallmark monitoring tool was the level of DO. Measurements between 1969-1984 revealed areas of reduced bottom DO over scores, yes hundreds of square miles. Heavily polluted bottom sediments, often characterized as the "dead sea" by the press, were associated with the area characterized by regular low D.O. measurements.

Similar findings were made in Puget Sound, the Gulf of Mexico, and other coastal habitats. These findings resulted in Federal and state legislation outlawing ocean disposal of contaminated solid wastes. Given that nonpoint release of oxygen-degrading materials are far more difficult to control, often entering marine waters via riverine export, I am not surprised by the A.P. news release. A series of papers and compendia were published in the early and later 1970's. These were papers in the NOAA MESA and NMFS North East Fisheries Science Center Series and provide valuable data today, three decades later. A particularly valuable paper is the small book by Swanson and Sindermann (eds) which treats a massive low dissolved oxygen event covering the entire Middle Atlantic Bight off New York and New Jersey.

Jack Pearce

Steve Cadrin: New England Director



Steven X. Cadrin is the Director of the NOAA/UMass Cooperative Marine Education and Research Program and a Professor of Fisheries Oceanography at the School for Marine Science and Technology in New Bedford MA. Steve has a PhD from University of Rhode Island, a MS from University of Massachusetts and a BS from Long Island University. He has been a stock assessment scientist for twenty years with the Northeast Fisheries Science Center, Massachusetts Marine Fisheries and New York Department of Environmental Conservation. His accomplishments include the development of precautionary harvest-control-rules for regional, national and international fishery resources, advancement of stock assessment methods for a wide range of invertebrate and finfish species, and global leadership in evaluating geographic stock structure. He has chaired several international working groups and convened symposia for the International Council for the Exploration of the Seas, National Marine Fisheries Service, American Fisheries Society and the Northeast Fish and Wildlife Conference. Steve's teaching and research agendas focus on population modeling, stock identification, collaborative research with fishermen, and application of advanced technologies for fishery science.

Southern California District Passes the Hat

The Southern California and Baja California, Mexico District met on Wednesday December 6, 2006 at the Fish and Game office in Los Alamitos. Members and guests enjoyed a Chinese dinner from Pick-Up Stix. At the meeting we installed a new slate of officers: Pete Haaker, Director; Kathy Dickson, Vice-Director; and Ms. Traci Larinto, Secretary-Treasurer. The outgoing Director, Ray Wilson, started a new tradition of passing the hat. An AIFRB hat was passed around the table with all attendees ceremoniously doffing the hat before it finally came to the new director, Pete Haaker. The speaker for the evening was Mike Moss, Marine Biologist for the National Parks Service, who gave a talk titled "A temporal analysis of *Rhinogobiops nicholsii*, a twenty five year review." The talk included discussion of the effects of temperature on blackeye gobies (*Rhinogobiobs nicholsii*), island kelpfish (*Alloclinus holderi*), sea urchins (*Stronglocentrus spp.*), and giant kelp (*Macrocystis porifera*) in and around the northern Channel Islands.

And Up North:

On November 16, 2006 the Northern California District met at Bai Tong Restaurant, Saratoga, CA for happy hour, dinner and a presentation.

Mondy Lariz, Northern California Director of California Trout gave a talk titled "Bringing Back the Steelhead to Stevens Creek". His talk touched on all three of this year's themes of AIFRB: Ecosystem management, Restoration Ecology, and Resolving Conflicts between Sport, Commercial, and Non-consumptive Users of Fishery Resources.

And to make sure that everyone began 2007 well fed, the Northern California District staged their annual AIFRB banquet on January 27th, 2007 at the Beach Chalet in San Francisco. Attendees were offered a 3 course meal plus either a glass of wine or beer from the restaurant's brewery. An organic salad, and a choice of 3 entrees and 2 desserts was served.

The menu offered: BBQ baby back pork ribs, slaw, french fries; or pan roasted herbed chicken, potato puree, sauteed broccolini, lemon, garlic rosemary sauce; or beer battered fish & chips, house made beer batter, tartar sauce, French fries, slaw; and beach chalet chocolate sandcastle, intense chocolate torte with chocolate; or shortbread cookies, peanuts and warm chocolate and caramel sauces; vanilla bean cheesecake with a walnut graham crust and topped with a berry compote.

(Thanks to Allison Gordon and Traci Larinto for all the news. Ed.)

Losses

Reynold A. (Mike) Fredin M 1952, F 1972

Mike passed away on December 5, bringing to a close 83 years of a long and good life. He was born on February 13, 1923 in Greenville, Iowa, to Swan and Dagma Fredin. Mike had one sister and eight brothers, each of whom was known as "Swede" as they passed through their small schoolhouse. They lived in a station house right by the railroad tracks, and throughout their lives enjoyed telling stories of their exploits growing up. Two brothers now remain; Bill and Ell and their wives, Janelle and Gladys, in Milford and Gilmore City, Iowa.

Mike studied at Simpson College, where he met the love of his life, Jerri Spalding. He joined the Army as a medic with a portable surgical unit and in June 1944, while on a 3-day leave, he and Jerri were married by her father. Their early years together were marked by separation as he served with the 77th Infantry Division in the Pacific. His Army buddy, Hugh Silver of Boynton Beach, Florida, became a lifelong friend. Mike's war experiences included serving in the battles of Leyte and Okinawa and later with the Occupation forces in Japan. Eventually he returned to school in Iowa where he and Jerri completed their studies.

A move to North Carolina followed as Mike began a career as a fisheries scientist with the U.S. government, and it was there that their daughters Linda and Debbie were born. In 1953 he was transferred to Seattle to work for the National Marine Fisheries Service, where he remained for almost 25 years. Mike specialized in North Pacific fisheries performing research and negotiating agreements with Japan, Canada, Korea and the USSR. He loved his work and made many enduring friendships with scientists both here and in Canada and Japan.

He is survived by Jerri, his wife of over 62 years, and by his daughters and sons-in-law, Linda and Tim Williams in Spokane and Debbie and Dick James in Everett. He also leaves five grandchildren and two grandsons-in-law: Heather and John Mortenson in Clarkston, Heidi and Brad Baughman in Pullman, Nathan Williams in Santa Clara, Margot Williams and Greg Williams in Spokane. Mike adored his grandkids and they in turn adored him. We miss him dearly and will carry fond memories of our time with him. He had a kind and generous spirit and a dry sense of humor.

A celebration on Mike's life and a farewell were embodied in a memorial service on Saturday, December 9th at North Creek Presbyterian Church, 621 164th Street S.E., Mill Creek, WA. In lieu of flowers remembrances are suggested to the American Institute of Fishery Research Biologists.

By Linda Williams (daughter)
rwilliams@awbank.net; (509) 951-2312

Remembrances of Reynold A. (Mike) Fredin
Jim Sykes

Mike Fredin passed away in Seattle in December, 2006. He and his wife were great friends of ours for about 56 years, although we did not get together many times after they left the lab at Beaufort, NC in 1953. Mike and I were hired at Beaufort soon after the lab was reactivated following WWII. Clint Atkinson brought us aboard to help with the investigation and management of Atlantic coast shad stocks. He and I worked largely on the Connecticut and St. Johns River fisheries. During the St. Johns work in FL, we endured many battles between blue crab and shad fishermen, in contentions about whether or not haul seines should be allowed in the river. This almost interrupted our shad tagging and recovery efforts, but we managed through diligent diplomatic efforts to just barely keep the peace.

Back at Beaufort, we attended Duke University and took the fishery dynamics course given by Ray Beverton and a course in fishway hydraulics taught by Millo Bell.

Mike was a real pleasure to have as a work mate, and went on to provide quality assistance to North Pacific fisheries in performing research and in negotiating agreements with Japan, Canada, Korea and the USSR. He was always a gentlemen of the first order; a generous man with a quiet sense of humor.

H. Kendall Warner, M 70, F 71, EF 03

ORONO, Maine - H. Kendall Warner, 78, passed away peacefully September 29, 2006, surrounded by his family after a very brief illness. He was born October 2, 1927, in Westfield, Mass., son of F. Harrison and Minerva (Kendall) Warner.

Ken received his early education in Freeport and later was tutored while the family traveled with General Motors' Parade of Progress across the United States. He graduated third in his class from Freeport High School in 1945. After attending Bowdoin College for one year, he was drafted into the US Army Infantry Division. Ken continued his education receiving a Bachelor of Science in wildlife management with high distinction from the University of Maine in 1950. He earned his Master of Science in fishery biology from Cornell University in 1952. Ken began his distinguished 50-year career as a fisheries research biologist with the Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife in 1948, serving in Ashland and Bangor. He was regarded as one of the world's foremost experts on landlocked salmon biology and management. Ken was the principal author and co-author of 27 scientific papers published in several professional journals, as well as multitudes of articles printed in Maine Fish and Wildlife magazine. Ken summarized much of what he learned about landlocked salmon in three books which he co-authored. He was a member of the American Fisheries Society and held several positions. He was also a member of the American Institute of Fishery Research Biologists, becoming a Fellow. Ken's professional recognitions are vast. He was the recipient of the American Fisheries Society Professional Award of Merit, Presidential Award and Special Recognition Award for 50 years of service as a fishery biologist. He was the recipient of the Sunkhaze Chapter of Trout Unlimited Silver Trout Award and Biologist of the Year Award. He also received the Thomas S. Pinkham Award presented by Atlantic Salmon Restoration for Northern Maine. Ken has had a profound, enduring impact on decades of fishery research in Maine. His extraordinary ability to recall observations made long ago, his skills as a naturalist and his sharp wit made him one of the most notable and well-respected fisheries biologists in the northeast. Ken continued his career as a fisheries volunteer until the present. Some of his work included co-authoring a third edition book on landlocked salmon in Maine, as well as research involving non-native fish introductions. In addition, he had nearly completed a book recounting his life experiences in Maine. Ken was a member of the Church of Universal Fellowship, Orono, where he held several positions including deacon and trustee. Ken was an avid outdoorsman, enjoying bird, deer and moose hunting in the northern woods of Maine. Of course, he enjoyed all aspects of fishing throughout the seasons. Most of all, and closest to his heart, was time spent with family at their fourth-generation cottage on Sebago Lake. Ken will be remembered for his keen sense of humor, sharp memory, calm, kind, honorable and gentle nature, which will be greatly missed, but never forgotten. Ken excelled at many roles in his life, and those who knew him will always feel blessed.

Ken was predeceased by his parents; and younger brother, William C. Warner of Bangor. He is survived by his loving wife of 36 years, Sandra (Noyes) Warner of Orono; his sister Ruth (Warner) Gruninger of South Freeport; his daughters, Kendra (Warner) Raymond and husband, Brian, of Hermon and Leanne (Warner) Parks and husband, Brhaun, of Orrington; his five grandchildren, Kent Andrew, Neily Kate, Nolan Patrick Raymond, Landen Eiley and Brock Kendall Parks. A sixth grandchild is due in the next several weeks. He is also survived by his sister-in-law, Barbara Warner; nephew and nieces, Dianna Emory, Lois Kilby-Chesley, Peter Warner and Anne (Warner) Foster; as well as several great-nephews and great-nieces.

At Ken's request, for his grandchildren's further education, and in lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to Edward Jones Investments, FBO, the Kendall Warner Scholarship Fund, PO Box 348, Orono, ME 04473.

From: Bangor Daily News

Mrs. Warner wrote:

November 26, 2006

To whom it may concern, I'm sorry to inform you that my husband, Kendall Warner, passed away recently. He certainly enjoyed his 50 years with the Inland Fisheries and Wildlife for the State of Maine. Although he retired a few years ago, he still continued to go for part of the day to the office to do volunteer work. In 1985 he co-authored a book titled *The Landlock Salmon in Maine*. This year he published another book with a biologist entitled The Maine Landlocked Salmon - Life History, Ecology and Management. My family and I were very proud of his accomplishments. Sincerely, Sandra Warner

Mrs. Warner can be reached at 86 Forest Avenue, Orono, ME 04473-1416

A Valuable Service: Thanks to Harold Allen

National Marine Fisheries Service Old Timer's Report (OTR)

Information on the history and current status of fishery "Old Timers" from BCF - NMFS was assembled by Harold B. Allen of Seminole, Florida, from his personal records and from comments and submissions by some of those listed. The purpose of this report is simply to assist friends and past co-workers to keep track of each other. The definition of an "Old Timer" for the report is any past or present Federal employee who has worked for BCF or NMFS. Please contact Harold Allen with questions, corrections, additions, removals or suggestions at hallen01@tampabay.r.com. Currently information on 110 former BCF - NMFS employees, many AIFRB members, is available.

A Significant Meeting!
Call for Papers, Posters, Nominations

Wild Trout IX
Holiday Inn, West Yellowstone, MT
September 16-19, 2007
"Sustaining Wild Trout in a Changing World"

The first International Wild Trout Symposium was held in 1974, with symposia now being held at 3-year intervals. These events bring together a broad and diverse audience. Governmental entities, non-governmental conservation groups, media representatives, and educators join anglers, guides, and business interests associated with trout fisheries to share viewpoints on wild trout management and related public policy, and to exchange technical information. During the ensuing 35 years, previous symposia have led to numerous innovative, new, wild trout management approaches. Wild Trout IX will continue this progress.

Wild Trout IX will offer a unique forum for professionals and trout anglers to interact, to get to know each other in an informal setting, and to be exposed to the latest wild trout science, technology and philosophy. These conferences equip participants to better manage, preserve, and restore these magnificent but declining resources. They focus on the needs of working level wild trout professionals, conservationists, and trout anglers.

The Wild Trout IX Program Committee is soliciting abstracts for presentations and posters. Please send brief abstracts (200-300 words or less) to Committee Co-chairman, Dirk Miller by April 1, 2007.

The Program Committee is particularly interested in papers related to the following topics: (1) Balancing native trout with introduced trout - Are wild trout always preferred? How important is it to provide exotic trout fisheries? Successful approaches to resolving conflicts created when converting from exotic to native wild trout? Case studies where high value exotic trout fisheries were eliminated to restore native trout. (2) Habitat enhancement and restoration - Are watershed scale efforts producing measurable results? How effective have 'natural channel design' projects been? Are traditional, less invasive approaches working? Any case histories of reach-level or watershed-level projects. How effective is dam removal? (3) Catch-and-release fisheries - Have these fisheries lived up to expectations? Is there any difference between catch and release and other "special regulations" or have the social changes diminished differences between a slot limit and catch and release? Or, once you have flies and lures only, does the bag limit matter? The good, bad, and truly ugly of catch and release: What have we learned? (4) Genetic considerations for managing wild trout - Why worry about genetics when managing exotic wild trout? Do stocked trout play a role? Are there practical ways to protect genetic integrity of native stocks? (5) Invasive species: vertebrates, invertebrates, plants - What are their impacts on wild trout? Any case histories where they did or did not impact the fishery (e.g., Didymo or New Zealand mudsnail)? Are there some good management approaches to combat their spread?

Abstracts related to other topics are welcome. Additional session topics and contributed papers may be added to fill out the agenda.

Authors are asked to consult the Wild Trout IX web site for guidelines for abstract, poster, and manuscript preparation: www.wildtroutsymposium.com

Please submit brief abstracts electronically to Dirk Miller using Word Perfect or MS Word files before April 1, 2007. Authors and presentations chosen for the symposium must submit a complete manuscript ready for publication in the Symposium Proceedings by August 1, 2007. For additional information and inquiries, contact the Program Committee Co-chairs: Robert Carline, US Geological Survey, 402 Forest Resources Building, University Park, PA 16802, Tel: (814) 865-6592, Fax: (814) 863-4710, email: f7u@psu.edu; Dirk Miller, Wyoming Game and Fish Dept., 5400 Bishop Blvd, Cheyenne, WY 82006, Tel: (307) 777-4556, Fax: (307) 777-4610, email: dirk.miller@wgf.state.wy.us.

Nominations are also invited for the Aldo Starker Leopold Wild Trout Medal. Two medals are conferred at each symposia in memory of this distinguished naturalist, one to a professional and one to a non-professional, individuals, who in the eyes of their peers, have made long-time and significant contributions to the enhancement, protection, and preservation of wild trout. Nominees must attend the symposium. Please send nomination letters and a brief rationale including complete recipient contact information before April 1, 2007 to WT-IX Awards Chairman, Marty Seldon, 1146 Pulora Court, Sunnyvale, CA 94087-2331, Tel: (408) 736-5631, email: mmseldon@sbcglobal.net.

Revision of the Kemp's Ridley Recovery Plan

(Much abridged by Editor)

Guest Editorial: Marine Turtle Newsletter 114:2-5, © 2006

Charles W. Caillouet, Jr.

106 Victoria Drive West, Montgomery, Texas 77356 USA (E-mail: Waxmanjr@aol.com)

The United States' Endangered Species Act (ESA) established policies and procedures for identifying, listing, and protecting species that are endangered or threatened with extinction. When in danger of extinction throughout all or a significant portion of its range, a species is listed as endangered. It is listed as threatened if likely to become endangered within the foreseeable future. Kemp's ridley sea turtle *(Lepidochelys kempii)* has been listed as endangered since 1970. Since the ESA-required recovery plan for Kemp's Ridley was published (USFWS and NMFS, 1992), much has been accomplished toward its recovery, and publications focusing on it have flourished. The recovery plan is now being revised by a Mexico-U.S. Kemp's Ridley Recovery Team (KRRT), to address current threats and needs, to highlight conservation accomplishments, and to meet ESA requirements <http:// www.fws.gov/kempsridley>. KRRT membership, background information, and minutes of its and its stakeholders meetings, are posted on the web site. A draft of the revised plan should be available for public review by early 2007.

I participated in two KRRT stakeholders meetings (April 2004 and February 2006) in Houston, Texas. At the first, input from stakeholders was solicited. At that meeting, and in an earlier Marine Turtle Newsletter guest editorial, I offered the following suggestions for consideration by the KRRT in revision of the recovery plan (Caillouet 2005):

1. Designate Texas beaches as known nesting habitats for Kemp's ridley, and provide these beaches, nesters, eggs and hatchlings additional protection;
2. Provide additional protection to Kemp's ridleys in Texas' nearshore waters, which are important migratory, breeding and foraging habitats;
3. Reevaluate the Kemp's ridley head-start experiment's accomplishments to date (see Caillouet 2000a), and fulfill prior commitments to determine the fate of head-started turtles released into the Gulf of Mexico;
4. Update annual hatchling and nest count data and estimates of parameter values or levels through the 2006 nesting season, and rerun the age-based model;
5. Estimate the relative contributions of annual hatchling production and post-1990 reductions in benthic stage mortality to the rate of increase in annual number of nests in Tamaulipas, and examine the cost-effectiveness of these two conservation approaches;
6. Caution should be exercised in imposing arbitrary limits on the number of nests protected annually in Tamaulipas;
7. Proposed methods for ranking threats should be reconsidered and revised;
8. Use of Hildebrand's (1963) point estimate of the 1947 arribada as a benchmark for establishing recovery goals and criteria should be reconsidered;

The full document including the rationales for each of the eight suggestions above, computations, and citations is available at: http://www.seaturtle.org/mtn/archives/mtn114/mtn114p2.shtml.

All I can say in response to this impressive document is that Charlie has come a long way since he occupied his time by suffocating catfish in a salvaged dairy tank in an Iowa basement. Ed.

Industry Tries to Unprotect Steelhead

Wild v. Hatchery-Bred Fish at Issue

A Building and Agribusiness industries organization, Pacific Legal Foundation, has filed a lawsuit seeking to force the federal government to lift protections for five dwindling wild stocks of steelhead trout in California. Though steelhead and freshwater rainbow trout often share the same streams, steelhead will migrate to the ocean and spend years there before coming back to spawn in freshwater rivers and streams, whereas rainbows live their entire lives in fresh water.

The anti-fish lawsuit argues the government should be forced to include hatchery born and bred steelhead with wild steelhead when calculating if the steelhead stock warrants protecting under the Endangered Species Act. The government recently established a new policy in this regard which tells them to lump both hatchery and wild fish together in a single stock and to count those fish in some circumstances when determining whether that fish stock deserves special protection under the ESA. Separately, Earthjustice is challenging this hatchery policy because the ESA requires federal wildlife experts to consider only the health of wild fish when determining whether to apply the act's protections. In this case Earthjustice, representing the Northern California Council of the Federation of Fly Fishers, Trout Unlimited, and the Federation of Fly Fishers, has moved to intervene in the case to ensure that wild steelhead throughout California remain protected by the ESA. -Tom Turner

From: In Brief, Winter 2006-2007

No-Trawl Zones: Using Private Money to Protect Seafloor Habitat in California

Protecting seafloor habitat often can result in lost income for some fishermen. Two nonprofit organizations have found a way to protect 3.8 million acres of California ocean bottom while simultaneously helping a troubled fishery. For the past three years, the Nature Conservancy and Environmental Defense worked cooperatively with fishermen and other groups to decide on important Central California marine habitats to close off from trawling and presented those recommendations to the Pacific Fishery Management Council. In exchange - and upon the council's implementation of the suggested no-trawl zones - the Nature Conservancy agreed to buy fishermen's trawl permits and vessels to help relieve the economic burden, making it the first private organization to buy Pacific fishing permits and boats for conservation purposes. "The ocean is the brave new world of resource management," says Rod Fujita, an Environmental Defense senior scientist and a partner in the program. "Governance in the ocean is evolving rapidly, so we need new tools like buy outs with quid pro quo attachments that embody a new social contract. In exchange for the privilege of profiting from the public's fish and investments in the fishery, fishermen must share the responsibility for protecting the resources held in trust for all of us."

While this agreement is specific to Central California, many of those interviewed express hopes that this type of cooperative fisheries management could be implemented elsewhere. "It's got to be driven by environmental groups and the fishing community," notes Steve Copps, senior policy analyst with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's (NOAA) National Marine Fisheries Service Northwest Region. "What managers have to do is stay out of the way and let the organic processes unfold."

Troubled Industry

The Pacific groundfish trawling industry has seen hard times. NOAA has declared six species of groundfish depleted, and trawl fishing revenues have fallen from $110 million in 1986 to $35 million in 2003. Part of the economic decline is because trawl fishing is the "most fuel-intensive way to catch fish," says Christopher Kubiak, a Morro Bay fisherman for over 20 years who sold his permit and vessel to the Nature Conservancy. One of the reasons he sold, he says, is that for the past 10 years, expenses kept going up, but the amount he got for his catch didn't.

Overcoming Conflict

As part of its Global Marine Initiative and the new California Coastal and Marine Program headed by Chuck Cook, the Nature Conservancy wanted to protect the waters off California's central coast because they include large offshore banks, rocky reefs, kelp beds, coral gardens, and some of North America's largest and deepest underwater canyons - all supporting a diversity of wildlife.

A 2002 National Academy of Sciences report that documented the negative environmental effects of bottom trawling became a "guiding light," says Cook, and he and Fujita took to heart the report's recommendations to protect seafloor communities by not only creating protected areas, but also reducing fishing outside those areas. They knew, however, that this would be a hard sell for an already troubled fishery. "There had to be a way to offset the social and economic costs of closing areas and doing marine conservation," Cook says. "We thought, 'Why don't we try to use private money to help forward the process of reducing pressure from the fishing industry and still allow for fishing opportunities?'" "We came to the conclusion," Fujita says "that the solution would involve addressing the underlying economic issues facing fishermen, rather than just continuing to impose more stringent conservation regulations. We're attracted to an approach based on consensus building, good science, and aligning market forces with conservation. We came up with a new way to achieve habitat protection goals that is also compatible with the goals that is also compatible with the goals of keeping areas open to fishing, healthy fishing communities, and economic benefits."

Deal Making

Using computer-based models, the Nature Conservancy and Environmental Defense scientists mapped out three areas that could protect about two-thirds of the overall biodiversity along the ocean shelf off the cost of Central California. With the Nature Conservancy's portfolio of sites in hand, Cook and Fujita approached Morro Bay trawl fishermen to work together to develop a plan.

The fishermen and environmental groups proposed protecting 3,835,000 acres of valuable habitat - about two-thirds of which is in the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary - while preserving "sweet spots" of productive fishing grounds that will enable trawlers to continue their livelihoods, Fujita says. They first brought the plan to central coast harbormasters and the Monterey Bay Aquarium's Center for the Future of the Oceans to address concerns and develop consensus for the plan. The group would come to be the fishing Heritage Group.

To offset economic impacts on the industry and to lessen the fishery impact outside the closed area, the Nature Conservancy committed to purchasing the permits and vessels of those wishing to get out of the business, if the no-trawl zones were approved.

With the fishermen and conservationists in agreement, the plan easily made it through the NOAA and Pacific Fishery Management Council's normally contentious regulatory process. In June 2005, the fishery council unanimously approved the no-trawl zone map, and the US secretary of commerce signed the map and additional closed areas into regulation in May 2006. The Morro Bay agreement was accepted as part of a coastwide plan to protect nearly 150,000 square miles of essential fish habitat from Mexico to Canada.

So far, the Nature Conservancy has purchased six federal trawling permits and four trawling vessels from commercial fishermen in the Morro Bay, says Cook. Negotiations are underway with fishermen on similar deals to protect areas off Monterey Bay and Half Moon Bay to the north. For now, the Nature Conservancy is holding idle the permits and harvest rights it has acquired. Cook and Fujita have the idea, however, of developing a plan to lease back some permits to central coast fishermen who would use selective fishing gear that would provide a more sustainable way to harvest groundfish. Fishermen are anxious for the opportunity to market more "ocean friendly" seafood, but the plan will require the revamping of the current permit structure.

For more information on the Nature Conservancy's Global Marine Initiative, go to www.nature.org/initiatives/marine/. You may contact Chuck Cook at (805) 646-8820 or ccook@tnc.org, or Rod Fujita at (510) 326-6065 or rfujita@environmentaldefense.org. Contact Steve Copps at (206) 526-6187 or Steve.Copps@noaa.gov. Jeremiah O'Brien can be reached at (805) 772-9037. Contact Christopher Kubiak at (805) 441-4838 or ckub@sbcglobal.net.

From: Coastal Services, November/December 2006

Efforts to impose UN trawling ban frustrated

By John Heilprin, The Associated Press

WASHINGTON - Fishing nations led by Iceland and Russia have blocked UN negotiators from imposing a full fledged ban against destructive bottom trawling on the high seas. After weeks of talks in New York, a United Nations committee that oversees high seas fisheries failed to gain unanimous support this week for ending unregulated bottom trawling. Fishing boats that drag giant nets along the sea floor can be as destructive as they are effective, wiping out creatures and habitats while scooping up everything in their path, according to a National Academy of Sciences report in 2002.

Iceland and Russia along with China and South Korea, resisted a proposed ban that had the backing of President Bush and US allies such as Britain, Norway, Australia and New Zealand. "There were several countries that really didn't want any controls at all," Assistant Secretary of State Claudia McMurray said in an interview Friday. "Unfortunately, the resolution comes up short." Any one country can hold up the committee's closed-door negotiations. Because of the impasse, the proposed ban probably won't be considered at a plenary meeting of the 192-nation UN assembly next month in New York.

A draft resolution privately adopted by the committee - a copy of which was obtained by the Associated Press - recommends that nations either ensure boats aren't causing harm or "cease to authorize fishing vessels flying their flag to conduct bottom fisheries" on the high seas. The draft resolution also asks fishery management organizations to help reduce damage from bottom trawling. Such organizations exist in the North Atlantic, the Southeast Atlantic, the Southern Ocean and the Mediterranean Sea. The remaining 75 percent of the high seas has no regulations for bottom trawling.

More than 60 conservation groups that campaigned for more than two years for a ban on unregulated high seas bottom trawling are discouraged, but not giving up. Joshua Richert, director of the private Pew Charitable Trusts' environment division, which coordinated the groups' campaign, called the rejection of the ban "a stunning example of dysfunctional decision-making and the unwillingness of the world's nations to stand up and just say 'no' to activity that is destroying the global marine environment." Conservationists say nations are letting fishing boats destroy a resource before its true worth is even known. They say the committee's alternative measures keep in place the status quo., by leaving it to countries to decide whether and when and where to use the fishing gear.

From: New Bern (NC) Sun Journal, November 25, 2006

Pacific Council Recommends Pacific Sardine Harvest Guideline for 2007

The Pacific Fishery Management Council is recmmending that National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) implement a Pacific Sardine harvest guidleine of 152,564 metric tons (mt) for the fishing season beginning January 1, 2007 and ending December 31, 2007. The recommendation is based on the most recent assessment of Pacific sardine biomass and the harvest guideline (HG) formula in the Coastal Pelagic Species Fishery Management Plan (CPS FMP). This HG recommendation is roughly 28% greater thatn the HG adopted by the Council for the 2006 fishing year and is over 50,000 mt greater than the largest recent harvest by US fisheries. Research cruises in 2006 discovered substantial spawning activity in southern California, and recent ocean temperatures are considered favorable for Pacific sardine.

In 2005, the Council adopted, and NMFS approved, a new long-term allocation framework for Pacific sardine as Amendment 11 to the CPS FMP. Under Amendment II, the Pacific sardine HG is allocated seasonally as follows: (1) January 1, 35% of the HG to be allocated coastwide; (2) July 1, 40% of the HG, plus any portion not harvested from the inital allocation, to be reallocated coastwide; and (3) September 15, the remaining 25% of the HG, plus any portion not harvested from earlier allocations, to be reallocated coastwide. Per the CPS FMP, the Council recommends an incidental allowance for Pacific sardine of up to 45% by weight of other managed CPS species in the event the coastwide harvest exceeds a seasonal allocation prior to the next scheduled reallocation.

From: Pacific Council News, WInter 2006

Anglers exceed Maryland's striped bass quota by 60%

For the second straight year, Maryland's recreational anglers have exceeded their early season quota for striped bass, forcing state officials to look for ways to curb their enthusiasm. "Anglers are becoming more proficient," said Howard King, fisheries director of the Maryland Department of Natural Resources. "We have to control the effort. We have to fish responsibly."

Anglers caught 67,000 striped bass over the four-week season that began April 15 or 60 percent above the quota set by the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission. Last year, anglers also exceeded their early season quota by about 60 percent. Fisheries managers raised the minimum size from 28 to 33 inches for the first two weeks of this season. They also banned tournaments from April 15 to May 1 to ensure that big female fish were not harmed during spawning. The state is considering even more restrictions for next season, including increasing the minimum size further, shortening the spring season or restricting the type of fishing equipment. "We may have a very high minimum size, 38 inches or possibly more," King said. "My goal is to get us out of this jam we face each year and by 2008 not be fishing under a quota."

King planned to hold a series of meetings with anglers and charter captains to get their input on how to control fishing before the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission convened in October. Talk about further restrictions worry charter boat captains. "We're really in a corner," said Charter Capt. Ed O'Brien, vice president of the Maryland Charter Boat Association, who has been fishing on the Bay for more than 30 years. "That (spring) fishery means the world to us. For many of us that's 45 to 50 percent of our business. We're really dead right now."

From: Bay Journal, November 2006

Changes in Basic Approach to Mackerel Management Possible

How would the king mackerel fishery be affected if the current joint management plan between the Gulf of Mexico and South Atlantic Fishery Management Council was separated? How would the fish be divided? How would permits be handled? Why do such a thing?

It isn't often in fisheries management that the phrase "amicable divorce" is used. But that's exactly what was discussed during the recent joint meeting of the South Atlantic and the Gulf of Mexico King and Spanish Mackerel Committees. The "divorce" being discussed refers to separating the current joint management plan shared between the Gulf of Mexico and the South Atlantic Councils for Coastal Migratory Pelagics. The plan governs the management of king mackerel, Spanish mackerel, and cobia, and data collection for cero mackerel and little tunny.

After 24 years of joint management, both committees agreed that options to create separate management plans for the Atlantic and Gulf of Mexico should be taken to public scoping. Committee members pointed to advantages to separating the plan, including streamlining and efficiency. "Most councils are criticized for taking so long to take action," said Gulf Council member Bobbi Walker during the meeting. "By separating the stock and doing two separate management plans, we can handle this in a more timely manner to the benefit of the stocks and the public." Currently, both councils must review and approve any changes to management plan.

Additionally, the separation would allow the South Atlantic Council to include mackerel in its ecosystem-based approach to management under its Fishery Ecosystem Plan. Council Chairman George Geiger pointed out that the two councils currently have different priorities, with the Gulf Council focusing on red snapper and other reef fish issues. "We've recovered our mackerel stocks in the South Atlantic and we believe that they can be recovered even better," said Geiger. Mr. Geiger also serves as Chairman of the South Atlantic Council's King and Spanish Mackerel Committee.

In addition to separating the FMP, the scoping document will include options to simplify the current seasonal boundaries for king mackerel by creating a single fixed boundary line, similar to that used in the Spanish mackerel fishery. Data has been requested from NOAA Fisheries Southeast Fisheries Science Center regarding allocations between the Gulf and Atlantic for the various boundary options to be included in the public scoping document.

The scoping document will also include options for addressing permit issues should a separate FMP be developed. All of the options will be included in the scoping document. The scoping document is scheduled for review and approval by the Gulf Council during its January 22-26, 2007 meeting and by the South Atlantic Council during its March 5-9, 2007 meeting. Public scoping meetings are tentatively scheduled for April 2007.

From: the South Atlantic Update, Fall 2006

FCMA Reauthorized - Adjusted

NEW YORK CITY, NY - Congress passed a reauthorization of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act early Saturday morning, December 9. The President thanked Congress for working in a bipartisan manner and in "maintaining our thriving commercial and recreational fishing communities." He added that "this bill embraces my priorities of ending overfishing and rebuilding our Nation's fish stocks through more effective, market-based management and tougher enforcement." This bill includes: strong measures to end overfishing and rebuild stocks, detailed provisions to guide the use of dedicated access privilege programs, and requirements to improve recreational fishery data collection. The course for fisheries management has now been set and it remains to be seen how well the Act is implemented. Consequences of this Congressional action were immediate. US Senator Chuck Schumer (D-NY), who lobbied hard for this reauthorization, attended the Council meeting on Tuesday, December 12 and commented that: "Fishermen will now get what they desperately needed the most - a temporary and minor reprieve from draconian deadlines and almost certain annihilation of the recreational fishing industry on Long Island." While praising the flexibility added to the legislation - it provided a critical provision to increase the rebuilding period for fluke an additional three years, moving the rebuilding deadline from 2010 to 2013. Senator Schumer also focused attention on the lack of fairness of regulations between neighboring states, such as New Jersey and Connecticut. Although the three-year extension will give the Long Island fluke industry the tools necessary to keep their businesses alive and still allow for the fluke stocks to grow, he stated that these inequitable rules put New York at a significant disadvantage, and encourages businesses to flock elsewhere. On point, Senator Schumer made the following comments: (1) Make the following restrictions more equitable with neighboring states: Length of season, number and size of fish that can be kept; (2) Work with the Secretary of Commerce to evaluate a new type of data collection system to ensure the most accurate statistics are being used to form any future recommendations; (3) Work with the Secretary of Commerce to conduct an annual analysis of the cumulative socioeconomic impacts to a fishing community when determining timelines, cutbacks and quotas, as well as multiyear management plans to reflect an average of fishing quotas as opposed to attempting to offset annual fluctuations.

Press Release: Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council, December 18, 2006

Wad of dough nets wad of dough!!

A prize pool like no other in the sport of Catch and Release Carp Angling

Al St. Cyr was the lucky angler who won an astounding $250,000 cash prize for establishing the new Texas, USA state record of 43.125 pounds for *Cyprinus carpio* during American Carp Society's premiere Texas Carp Challenge in Austin, Texas on March 31st, 2006. The 24-year old Austin resident broke the previous state record of 41.5 lb on Thursday of the six-day competition while fishing on Town Lake in downtown Austin. The Denton, Texas native admits he scouted several locations on the lake before settling in on a favorite spot called "the cut-out swim" which proved to be the quarter million dollar location. "A quarter-million dollar prize is unprecedented anywhere in the world in the sport of catch-and-release carp angling," said American Carp Society Director and tournament organizer, David Moore. "Al is a talented angler, "said American Carp Society director Sean Manning. "He brings a level of professionalism and sportsmanship to the tournament level. We couldn't be happier for Al as he epitomizes the sport. Our congratulations to him and to all the anglers for their efforts."

The American Carp Society provides a broad array of services which include carp tackle and equipment e-store, educational materials and publications, regional and national tournaments and contests. ACS is dedicated to the sport of catch and release carp fishing and promotes the conservation of the species.

For more information about the 2007 Texas Carp Challenge or the upcoming Tournament of Champions: phone (918) 335-3601.

From: International Angler 68 (6), November/December 2006

Al St. Cyr won $250,000 cash prize for establishing the new Texas state record of a 43 lb carp.

Fiscal Year 2006 Comparison Report
Statement of Cash Receipts & Cash Disbursements

	9/1/04 to 8/31/05	9/1/05 to 8/31/06	Amount Difference
Cash Receipts			
AIFRB Service Contract	0.00	0.00	0.00
Founders/Capital/Unrestricted Funds	3,840.00	1,950.00	-1,890.00
Member Dues	15,585.02	15,334.92	-250.10
Capital Gains (Reinvested)	625.06	2,596.18	1,971.12
Investment Income (Reinvested)	3,840.27	4,386.08	545.81
Misc. Funds Transfer (MissionFish '06)	300.00	3.31	-296.69
United Bank/PaPal Interest	12.68	30.24	17.56
Total Cash Receipts	24,203.03	24,300.73	97.70
Cash Disbursements			
Account Fees	51.17	55.08	3.91
AIFRB Meeting Service	0.00	0.00	0.00
AIFRB Reception	0.00	0.00	0.00
AIFRB Awards			
Achievement Award Expense	154.90	0.00	-154.90
Research Assistance Award	350.00	2,000.00	1,650.00
W. F. Thompson Award/Expense	0.00	500.00	500.00
Board of Control	2,800.00	1,822.71	-977.29
Bridge Loan	0.00	0.00	0.00
BRIEFS Newsletter	6,795.46	6,947.64	152.18
Check Collection	0.00	0.00	0.00
District Donation	0.00	0.00	0.00
District Recruitment	500.00	0.00	-500.00
Foreign Check Collection ('05); Taxes ('06)	193.48	0.43	-193.05
Honorarium/Memorial	100.00	0.00	-100.00
License Fees	0.00	0.00	0.00
Membership Expense (300 Diplomas '05)	957.00	56.20	-900.80
Other (WebPageDevelopment)	0.00	750.00	750.00
President's Expense	92.90	0.00	-92.90
Production Editor (Non-Prof Permit)	300.00	160.00	-140.00
Reinvestments (CapGains/Div/Int)	4,438.56	6,920.11	2,481.55
Reimbursement	0.00	0.00	0.00
Secretary's Expense	111.50	0.00	-111.50
Transfer Funds (UBck2FoundersFund)	3,840.00	1,916.00	-1,924.00
Travel Display	0.00	0.00	0.00
Treasurer's Expense	2,179.84	588.05	-1,591.79
Total Cash Disbursements	22,864.81	21,716.22	-1,148.59
Net Change	1,338.22	2,584.51	1,246.29
Beginning Cash Balance - 9/1/05	1,986.61	3,324.83	1,338.22
Cash Balance at End of Year - 8/31/06	3,324.83	5,909.34	2,584.51

Founders/Capital Accounts - 8/31/06

Combined Funds	Market Value ($)	Total Cost ($)	Unrealized Gain/Loss ($)	Unrealized Gain/Loss (%)	Annual Yield (%)	Annual Income ($)
FY 2005 EOY	$108,546.79	$90,495.94	$18,050.85	19.6%	3.1%	$3,363.65
FY 2006 EOY	$123,218.01	$102,027.10	$19,905.56	19.5%	3.8%	$4,696.29
YOY Change	$14,671.22	$11,531.16	$1,854.71	-0.1%	0.7%	$1,332.64

District Directors

Alaska, Northern
Joseph F. Margraf, Jr.
University of Alaska
P.O. Box 757020
Fairbanks, AK 99775-7020
ffjfml@uaf.edu

Alaska, Southeast
Bruce Wing
P.O. Box 210265
Auke Bay, AK 99821-0265
bruce.wing@noaa.gov

Arizona - New Mexico
G. Morris Southward
4155 Sotol Drive
Las Cruces, New Mexico 88011
morlor31@comcast.net

California, Northern
Michael McGowan
Maristics, Inc.
1442-A Walnut Street, Ste. 188
Berkeley, CA 94709

California, Southern
Peter Haaker
California Dept. of Fish and Game
4665 Lampson Ave., Ste. C
Los Alamitas, CA 90720

Capital
Frank M. Panek
National Fish Health Research Laboratory
1705 Leetown Rd.
Kearneysville, WV 25430

Carolinas
Vacant

Florida
Thomas W. Schmidt
USDI Nat'l. Park Service
Everglades Nat'l. Pk., S. Fla. Res. Ctr.
P.O. Box 279
40001 State Rd. 9336
Homestead, FL 33014
tom_schmidt@nps.gov

Great Lakes, South Central
Dora R. Passino-Reader
National Fish. Center
1451 Green Road
Ann Arbor, MI 48105-2897
dora_reader@usgs.gov

Gulf of Mexico, Northeast
Vacant

Keystone
Joseph W. Rachlin
Dept. Biological Sciences
Lehman College of CUNY
250 Bedford Pk. Blvd. W.
Bronx, NY 10468-5189
joseph.rachlin@lehman.cuny.edu

New England
Steven Cadrin
NOAA/UMass
838 S. Rodney French Blvd.
New Bedford, MA 02744-1221
steven.cadrin@noaa.gov

Oregon-SW Washington
Vacant

Texas
Lance Robinson
Texas Parks and Wildlife Dept.
Seabrook Marine Lab
Seabrook, TX 77856

Washington, NW
Katherine Myers
School of Aquatic & Sciences
University of Washington
Box 355020
Seattle, WA 98195-5020

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Dr. William H. Bayliff
Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission
8604 LA JOLLA SHORES DR
LA JOLLA CA 92037-1508

American Institute of Fishery Research Biologists
c/o Allen Shimada
NMFS, Office of Science and Technology
1315 East West Highway
Silver Spring, MD 20910

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