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NEWSLETTER

Iowa Chapter of the American Fisheries Society

VOL. 3 No. 2

July, 1987

PRESIDENTS CORNER

1987 MEETING

Our 1987 meeting was held December 7-10, 1986 in conjunction with the Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference. Thirty-three people attended the business meeting on December 9.

Significant business items included a report by Marion Conover that \$146 was netted by the "Guess the weight of the Fisheries Bureau" fund raising campaign. The group also agreed that we should develop a satin identification banner after a new logo is established. Annual Chapter dues were raised to \$5 and our fiscal year was changed to coincide with officer duties responsibilities (September to September). Additional business items included discussions of the Protected Water Areas Program (PWA) and the conservation alliance group. Letters of support for the PWA program were mailed to key legislators. We will be attempting to meet with a neighboring Chapter in 1988.

The Iowa Chapter awarded its second best paper award to Kay Hill for his paper entitled **MANIPULATION OF BASS-BLUEGILL-CHANNEL CATFISH POPULATION BY SUMMER AREATION**, which was presented at the Midwest meeting. The selection committee reports that all "Iowa" papers presented at the meeting were top quality!

1987 FUND RAISING EVENT

The Iowa Chapter AFS and Iowa DNR Fisheries Bureau co-sponsored the 1987 meeting of the Central States Small Impoundment Work Group Meeting this past March, 16-18. Vaughn Paragamian spearheaded the Chapter's effort by arranging a social period and evening barbecue. Several members assisted by

donating food items and their time. Jim Wahl reports the effort earned the Chapter \$160.

LOGO SUGGESTIONS NEEDED

At this mailing we have received two suggestions for a new logo. We appreciate the two offerings, but would like to see more. Send your ideas today to the address on the back of this newsletter!

NEW OFFICERS

We will be electing new officers this August utilizing our first mail-in-ballot procedure. Look for information about our candidates, voting procedure, and a ballot in the August newsletter.

MEMBERSHIP REGISTRATION

At the end of this newsletter you will find a registration form for Iowa Chapter membership. Several of you may not have had an opportunity to keep your membership valid or perhaps there is a potential member out there who would like to become one of us. Keep in mind you will not be eligible to vote in the August elections if you are not a 1987 member.

Steve Waters, President

THE IOWA SCENE

For almost a year, representatives of Iowa conservation, environmental, educational and recreation organizations (facilitated in part by the Iowa Natural Heritage Foundation) have been meeting to develop a strategy for the future. After reviewing existing programs and identifying problems and needs, the Iowa Resource Enhancement Program (Iowa REP) has been developed through an alliance of these organizations.

Iowa REP is a program to fill unmet needs through additional revenues to protect and enhance Iowa's natural resource heritage for the 21st century. Emphasis is on Iowa's soil, water, and other natural resources, completion and renovation of facilities, and providing education and research for the long-term wise management of these resources. The proposal assumes the continuation of existing levels of funding for existing programs.

An interim study committee of the legislative Natural Resources and Outdoor Recreation Committee has been proposed to study the REP issue. The alliance has contacted Speaker-of-the-House, Don Avenson, to offer our expertise to this study committee. Although no money has been designated for REP at this time, the alliance has their foot in the door. States that have similar programs to REP have shown that it takes a couple of years for a program of this significance to become reality.

REP calls for \$29.38 million yearly in operating funds. The major program components and a list of alliance members are shown below.

MAJOR COMPONENTS

Soil Conservation and Water Quality	\$ 8.55 million (29.1%)
Facility Development, Construction and Rehabilitation	\$ 8.00 million (27.3%)
Land Acquisition for Conservation Recreation and Preserves	\$ 6.00 million (20.4%)
Land and Resource Protection, Management and Utilization	\$ 2.50 million (8.5%)
Education	\$ 1.68 million (5.7%)
Research	\$ 2.65 million (9.0%)
TOTAL	\$29.38 million (100%)

IOWA REP CONSERVATION ALLIANCE

- Iowa Audubon Council of the Audubon Society
- Iowa Association of County Conservation Boards

- Iowa Association of Naturalists
- Iowa Association of Soil Conservation District Commissioners
- Iowa Chapter of Soil Conservation Society of America
- Iowa Chapter of the Wildlife Society
- Iowa Conservation Education Council
- Iowa Natural Heritage Foundation
- Iowa Society of American Foresters
- Iowa Park and Recreation Association
- Iowa Division Izaak Walton League of America
- Iowa Wild Turkey Federation
- Iowa Chapter of the Sierra Club
- Iowa Chapter of the Nature Conservancy
- Iowa Chapter of American Fisheries Society
- Iowa Trails Council
- Iowa Council of Pheasants Forever
- Pheasants Forever, Inc.
- Iowa League of Women Voters

COOPERATING ORGANIZATIONS:

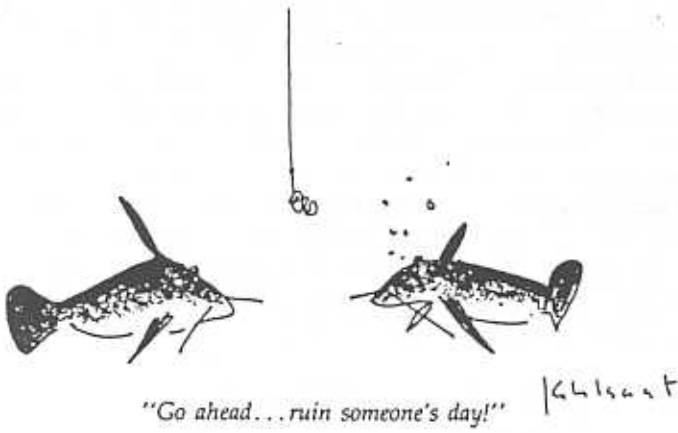
- Division of Soil Conservation, Dept. of Agriculture and Land Stewardship
- Iowa Department of Natural Resources

AFS NEWS

The pace of new member recruitment picked up in April, but we are still well below our pace for 1985 and 1986. First Second Vice Presidents Bob White and Joe Dillard are about to bring out their new membership brochure. With some help from you the new brochure should stimulate recruitment.

FIVE YEAR MEMBERSHIP RECRUITMENT AND LOSS CHART

	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987
Jan.	117	114	102	95	92
Feb.	97	97	128	135	107
March	73	103	158	93	68
April	51	76	103	71	78
May	64	69	50	58	
June	62	42	47	107	
July	45	74	67	89	
Aug.	73	68	65	53	
Sept.	48	74	92	81	
Oct.	57	74	85	66	
Nov.	72	64	48	44	
Dec.	82	65	73	52	
TOTAL NEW MEMBERS	841	920	1018	941	
DELINQUENT	919	930	853	825	
NET GAIN	(78)	(10)	165	116	



Ever wonder how many practicing fisheries biologists there are in North America? AFS 1986 and 1987 membership rolls show 7,587 members and our delinquent rolls show another 3,807 names and addresses of former members. Finally, the fisheries scientist directory lists 3,891 other professionals whose names and addresses are known to us. The best estimate is that there are two to three thousand persons who are on none of the AFS lists, so the total number of North American Fisheries Biologists (active, retired, and graduate student) is about 17,500.

Executive Director Carl Sullivan reported:

- A healthy Society with \$962,217 in member equity
- 1986 membership growth of 3 1/2 percent
- 1986 income of \$58,500 in excess of expenditures
- sale of 92 Life Memberships (\$46,000) in 1986
- 130 fewer members than usual lost for failure to renew
- decline of student memberships to 782, the lowest figure in 20 years
- fourteen percent increase in Section memberships to an all-time high of 5,573
- central office staff with 12 full-time, 1 part-time, and one volunteer member
- two dozen important staff-assisted developments in 1986
- twenty important challenges for 1987 and beyond
- a vigorous and productive editorial department with 6 full and/or part-time staff.

Newly revised professional certification brochures and application forms have been received at the central office and are available upon request. They will be mailed along with a copy of the North American Fisheries Policy and the AFS Code of Practices. In the future all applications

must be on these new forms. It will greatly speed our response and save the Society resources and energy if, with your request, you will enclose a self-addressed #10 envelope with 39 cents in postage.

AFS will present three continuing education workshops at the 1987 annual meeting in Winston-Salem, NC. The dates are September 12 and 13 and the subjects are: (1) Using Computer Spreadsheets in Fisheries; (2) The Public Dimension of Fisheries Management; and (3) Community Dynamics, Analysis and Management. Each workshop will require 16 contact hours of instruction and each will earn 1.6 Continuing Education Units.

A software program to present AFS Special Publication 12 Common and Scientific Names of Fishes as a window during word processing will be available soon. AFS has entered into an agreement with Software Source, Inc. to computerize the publication and to write the program. An example of how the software will work: a person is typing and needs to know the scientific name of a fish (or its correct spelling), the fields of information SP 12 may be called to the screen as a window in the word processing program by pressing a couple of keys. The common name is entered and the rest of fields (scientific name, family, order, etc.) will be filled in automatically. The needed information is centered in the text and normal work resumes. Look for the program in June. Expected price is \$100 with a \$10 discount to AFS members.

The USFWS Fisheries Review will not be funded in FY88 unless Congress reinstates the funding which was not requested by the Fish and Wildlife Service. David Willis, president of the Kansas Chapter, has written President Gerking on the subject. Willis says in part, "I am concerned about the potential loss of Fisheries Review (previously Sport Fishery Abstracts). From the point of view of myself and my local colleagues, the loss would hinder our abilities to remain relatively current in our field. What can be done to prevent the loss of this abstracting service?" AFS has supported reinstatement of the funding but the Journal's fate is still very uncertain.

The River Science Center a "brand" new public education and research facility, has hatched. The Center, sponsored by the Nature Institute, is located on Illinois state park land, 2.5 miles west of Grafton

and 30 miles from St. Louis. The nonprofit center's program includes (1) public exhibits; (2) public seminars and workshops (3) research and non-technical publications. Its mission is to promote river natural resources, particularly those of the Mississippi, Illinois, and Missouri Rivers. For more information write the director, Dr. Kenneth Lubinski, River Science Center, R. R. 1, Box 221, Grafton, Illinois 62037, or call (618)786-3317.

Full Wallop-Breaux funding through 1993 was approved by Congress when it overrode the President's veto of the Highway Revenue Act of 1987. Section 502 of the Act extends the imposition of the motor boat fuels tax through 10/1/93 while Section 503 extends the authorization and direction to pay to the Boat Safety Account and the Sport Fish Restoration Account through the same date. Although the money seems assured, the House Merchant Marine and Fisheries Committee will still be scheduling overview hearings to learn about results to date and to designate the funding apportionment between the sport fishing and boating accounts over the next five years. It is absolutely essential that the fishing and boating community reach full agreement on this matter well in advance of such hearings. For your information, final Wallop-Breaux apportionments for 1987 totaled 140.1 million. Iowa's share was about \$2,054,000.

Wallop-Breaux watchers will be interested to learn that the U.S. Treasury estimates fuel tax collections over the next three years as follows:

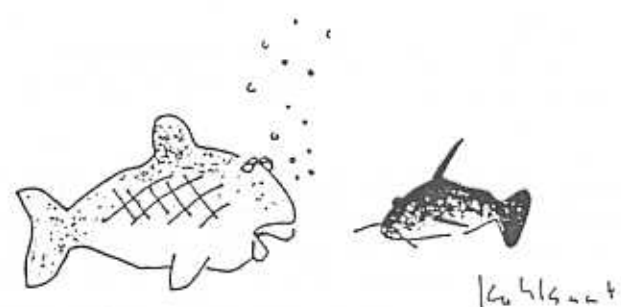
	1	2	3
FY88	\$ 9.40 billion	\$ 2.88 billion	\$ 110 million
FY89	9.39 billion	3.49 billion	113 million
FY90	9.47 billion	3.19 billion	117 million

- (1) Gasoline taxes allocated to Highway Trust Fund.
- (2) Diesel taxes allocated to Highway Trust Fund.
- (3) Gasoline taxes allocated to sport fish restoration and boating safety. W-B funds also include fishing tackle excise taxes and import duties on boats and tackle.

Next year additional gasoline tax revenue is scheduled to be added to the D-J fish restoration fund. It's not yet clear whether the boating sector will get Congress to increase from 10% the mandatory percentage spent on boating access facilities. However, in the NCD even an increase to 20 to 25% would probably be no problem. Most states spend this much or more of their annual D-J apportionment on motorboat access already.

Fifty-nine million Americans spent 988 million man-days fishing in 1985. According to SFI this is a 15 percent increase over 1980. At \$600 each, anglers spent \$28 billion, which proves that the nation's fisheries resource is immensely valuable and growing more so at a rapid rate.

An AFS response to the Bureau of Land Management's Strategic Plan for Wildlife and Fisheries has been sent to Director Robert Burford. AFS comments on BLM's "Fish and Wildlife 2000" reaction was developed by Paul Brouha and was supplemented by more detailed comments to Dave Almand, Chief of the Division of Fish and Wildlife. The final paragraph of our letter to Burford reads: "In summary, the plan contains some very good ideas for future program development. As the nation's professional fisheries society, and as part of our analysis of federal fisheries responsibilities we'd like to assist you by reviewing and evaluating your present fisheries program. Through the use of resource status and program questionnaires, interviews, and field habitat reviews we could help you chart a course to the realization of "Fish and Wildlife 2000". Our evaluation would focus on recommendations concerning fisheries resource status and use, program definition, and future budget and staffing. Let us know if we can help--a similar review of the Forest Service Fishery Program has had a very positive initial effect."



"Mister Carp to you..."



Congressman Bruce Vento, Chairman of the House Subcommittee on Public Lands, has responded positively to AFS testimony on the Bureau of Land Management's fisheries budget. Congressman Vento writes, "As you can see, we recommend that BLM funding for wildlife habitat management (which includes fisheries habitat) not be reduced as the administration has proposed but rather maintained at the base level, which would be \$1.253 million more than the President has requested." Our objective is not maintenance, however; we want to increase the BLM's fishery program.

The U.S. Forest Service Fisheries Task Force staged a "press conference" signing ceremony in Washington on March 16 with AFS and a number of other conservation organizations in attendance. In signing the new Forest Service Fisheries Auction Plan, Chief Dale Robertson said "This is not just something we are talking about, we are going to go for it. AFS helped arrange the ceremony which included slide show presentations by Forest Service Wildlife and Fisheries Director Bob Nelson and introductory remarks by Carl Sullivan, representing AFS. The Fisheries Action Plan is the final product of a year-long study by the FS Fisheries Task Force which in turn was appointed as a consequence of the 1983-85 AFS study of fisheries conditions and policies in the National Forest System.

NATIONAL RECREATIONAL FISHERIES POLICY

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Director Frank Dunkie has announced that the service will convene a volunteer group to discuss a National Recreational Fisheries Policy.

There is a great interest in the recent development of national recreational fisheries and fishing policies by Canada and New Zealand, and how these efforts have met with broad acceptance from their conservation organizations. The service acknowledges that the time is now right for the U.S. to develop a similar policy and emphasized that it would be developed cooperatively by a voluntary consortium of Federal and State agencies, along with constituency groups, tribal and industry representatives.

The goal of the new initiative would be a unified national recreational fisheries policy with a set of clearly-defined

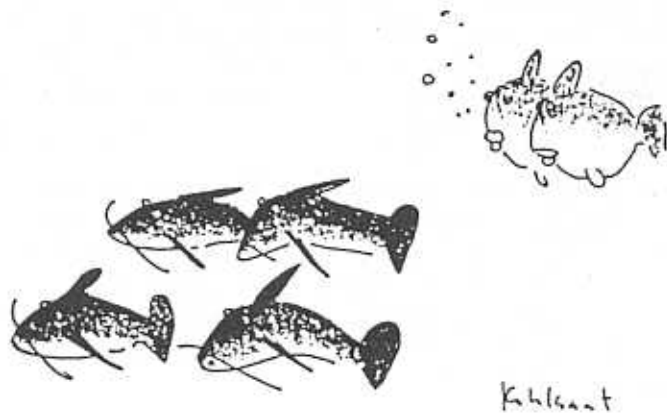
objectives and strategies that can be implemented through a framework of respective governmental and public sector responsibilities. One of the major objectives of the policy would be the advancement of the concept of joint stewardship of the Nation's recreational fisheries.

Representatives from major fishery resources conservation organizations, Federal, State, and tribal agencies, and private industry began meeting in April to pursue the new comprehensive policy. Carl Sullivan of the AFS National Office is part of the policy development committee.

The first full meeting of the Federal Fisheries Responsibility Committee was held in Washington, D.C., on March 18-19. Chairman Bill Gordon led the group in the preparation of a "capsulized" proposal and a specific strategy and timetable for action. The DIARY will be publishing more specific details in the near future. AFS President Shelby Gerking and President-Elect Stan Moberly were on hand for this important session. There is a perception among committee members that national concerns with the present inadequacies of federal government fisheries programs is growing. These concerns stem, in part, from the overlapping and sometimes combative postures of many federal aquatic resource agencies. Even greater anxiety is focused on the debilitated status of the nation's fisheries resources and habitats. The AFS Federal Fisheries Responsibilities Committee is recommending a comprehensive solution which includes the creation of a single national fisheries agency with attendant efficiencies and economies. For details see Fisheries, Vol 11, No. 4, pages 2-6 (July-August 1986).

Fisheries groups met with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers on April 14 to discuss the Water Development Act of 1986 (PL99-662). Paul Brouha attended for AFS and contributed to the discussion which centered on points of concern in the new law. Sections 906, 907, and 908 address fish and wildlife mitigation associated with projects; specifically that benefit measures implemented for environmental quality, including enhancement of fish and wildlife, must be at least equivalent to costs. In addition, all operation and maintenance expenditures on new projects for features designed for fish and wildlife mitigation must be paid by non-federal cooperators. The possibility of constraining mitigation

because of these cost-sharing provisions is of great concern.



"Well, there goes the neighborhood..."

PUBLICATIONS OF INTEREST

IOWA FISH AND FISHING

This popular book has been completely rewritten and will be available for purchase in June. This excellent 340-page hardcover book contains 21 chapters devoted to Iowa fishing waters, fish life histories, distribution, how to catch fish, and much more. The cost of the book is \$15 and is available from Iowa DNR, Wallace State Office Building, Des Moines, Iowa, 50319-0034.

MANAGING MUSKIES

The proceedings of the April 4-6, 1984 Muskie Symposium, is now available. The 372-page hardcover publication is AFS Special Publication 15. The symposium was jointly sponsored by AFS and Muskie Inc., with their members and chapters providing the original impetus and continuing support. The book, which is available from AFS for \$39.50, has sections devoted to (1) biological life history; (2) community interaction; (3) management considerations; (4) culture; (5) catch and release, and (6) private sector participation and future research needs.

FISHERIES SCIENTIST DIRECTORY

The new AFS Directory of North American Fisheries and Aquatic Scientist (2nd edition) has been published and advance orders have been filled. The Directory contains more than 9,000 names of aquatic scientists and includes job titles, phone numbers, addresses, and professional

specialities and activities. In addition to the alphabetical listing, names are presented geographically by state and also by disciplinary specialty. It's nearly a third more comprehensive than the original Directory and was all done at the National AFS office. The price is \$25 and may be ordered from central office.

MEETING AND EVENTS CALENDAR

July 12-15, 1987. **Annual Meeting of the Western Division of AFS.** Sheridan Hotel, Salt Lake City, UT. For more information contact Al Mills, 615 E. Center St., Orem, UT, 84057; 801/377-5780.

August 24-26, 1987. **5th Biennial Plains Aquatic Research Conference.** Winnipeg, Manitoba. For more information, contact Department of Fisheries and Oceans, Freshwater Institute, 501 University Crescent, Winnipeg, Manitoba, R3T 2N6; 204/949-5140.

September 11-17, 1987. **The 117 Annual Meeting of the American Fisheries Society.** Benton Convention Center, Winston-Salem, NC. For more information, contact Carl Sullivan, Executive Director, American Fisheries Society, 5410 Grosvenor Lane, Bethesda, MD, 20814; 301/897-8616.

September 30-October 1, 1987. **Catch and Release Fishing—A Decade of Experience.** Humboldt State University, Arcata, CA. This timely symposium will present new techniques, results and problems from a variety of fresh- and salt-water experiences. For more information, contact Roger Barnhart, California Cooperative Fisheries Research Unit, Humboldt State University, Arcata, CA, 95521; 707/826-3268.

November 2-6, 1987. **4th International Conference on Artificial Habitats for Fisheries.** Miami, FL. For more information, contact Dr. William Seaman, Conference Chairman, Building 803, University of Florida, Gainesville, FL, 32611.

December 5-9, 1987. **49th Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference.** Marc Plaza Hotel, Milwaukee, Wisconsin. For more information, contact John Lyons, Wisconsin Dept. of Nat. Res., 3911 Fish Hatchery Road, Fitchburg, WI, 53711.

Spring, 1988. **An International Symposium on Fish Tagging.** Contact AFS office for details.