

# Newsletter

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## Esox Schmeesox

From an abundance of young-of-the-year on spawning sites to a few senescent individuals, the Southern Ontario Chapter may well have one of the healthiest populations of esocid experts in North America. Up to now this newsletter has been lacking information on current esocid developments. However, this is now resolved as the voracious pikes are taking their due place of respect.

A North Central Division Esocid Technical Committee was formed the recent Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference in Des Moines, Iowa. This organizational meeting resulted in forming a mission statement as follows: (1) to encourage and coordinate research leading to the development of functional management strategies toward the use of esocid populations, (2) to advance the knowledge of esocid ecology, (3) to improve culture techniques, and (4) to provide a forum in which pertinent data and technologies can be exchanged within the scientific community and among user groups. It was agreed that a mid-year meeting would be held in LaCrosse, Wisconsin on July 14, 1992. The focus of this meeting was to provide a foundation for the committee

in terms of esocid management and current research and expertise. Each chapter president was requested to select a representative within their chapter to compile information for the July meeting.

Coincidental with the formation of the new NCD Esocid Technical Committee, Lebeau's (1992) Ph.D. thesis on historical ecology and phylogenetic systematics of large esocids has been accepted at the University of Toronto. Implications from this study have significant repercussions on the future socio-economics, fish culture, management, and research of North American esocids. A new species is described, which is most closely related to muskellunge, and has the proposed official vernacular name maskinonge. The description of the new species of Esox is presently under review for publication in *Copeia*, and so far has received positive criticisms. Thus, the subject of the present assignment will be to provide a Management Summary and review recent and current research studies throughout Ontario. Today's management objectives and problems, population status and abundance, as well as regulations will be reviewed for pike,

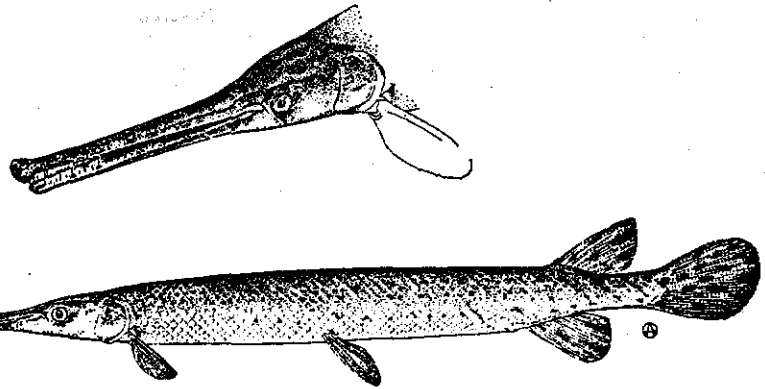
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Don't forget to sign up for the new Canadian Aquatic Resources Section

muskellunge, as well as maskinonge. A new proposal suggesting important modifications to esocid management policies and fishing regulations is in sight.

We appeal to all managers, fish culturists and researchers to send copies of reports and publications on the subject to Bernard Lebeau. Contact him at 416-642-2864.



## Calendar

**Symposium on Freshwater Mussel Conservation and Management** will be held Oct. 11-14 in St. Louis. Contact Kurt Welke (608-326-0233).

DFO will sponsor the **International Symposium on Climate Change and Northern Fish Populations** in Victoria, Oct. 13-16, 1992. Contact the symposium secretary at 604-756-7260.

**The 12th Annual International Symposium of the North American Lake Management Society (NALMS)** is scheduled for Nov. 2-7, 1992 in Cincinnati. Contact NALMS at 904-462-2554.

**Cumulative Impact Assessment Workshop** will be held on Dec. 4-5, 1992 at the Regal Constellation Hotel,

Toronto. The program will consist of invited speakers from throughout North America. Major themes include: impact identification and description; tools currently used (modelling, watershed planning, etc.) and new directions for CIA. Reg. \$250. Contact Sandra Dosser OMNR Bracebridge, POB 1C0 (705-645-8747).

**NC Division AFS Annual Meeting** will be in North York on Dec. 6-9, 1992.

**The 54th Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference** will be held at the Regal Constellation Hotel in Toronto, Dec. 6-9, 1992. Contact Laurel Winston-Smith at 416-314-1068.

**The Canadian Conference for Fisheries Research** will be held Jan. 3-4, 1993 at Trent University. Contact

Dr. Daniel Boisclair at 514-343-6762.

The AFS Southern Division will hold its **First Annual Mid-Year Technical Session** in Chattanooga, Tennessee, Feb. 24-28, 1993. The host chapters (Tennessee and Georgia) are currently soliciting abstracts for unpublished papers and posters on a wide range of subjects. Contact Spud Woodward (912-264-7218).

**The 58th North American Wildlife and Natural Resources Conference** will be in Washington on Mar. 19-24, 1993. Contact L.L. Williamson at 202-371-1808.

### EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

John Tran - President; Jon Bisset - Past-President; Hank Flotveid - Secretary; Gerry Leasing - Treasurer.

The newsletter is published quarterly by the Southern Ontario Chapter of the American Fisheries Society for the fisheries community. Issues are planned for March, June, September and December releases. Contributions to future newsletters are welcome and may be sent to the editorial committee for review. Articles should be less than one page in length. Those submitted as ASCII files on floppy disks are "editor friendly" and have a greater chance of being accepted. Ideas, suggestions and constructive criticism regarding issues of interest in the aquatic sciences are also welcome. All submissions should be sent to the editor by the first day of the month that precedes the desired month of issue. Articles requiring extensive discussion or revision before publication should be submitted well in advance of the deadline. Views expressed in the newsletter are not necessarily those of the chapter or American Fisheries Society.

### EDITORIAL COMMITTEE

Kevin Trimble - Editor [c/o Cumming Cockburn Ltd., 180 Columbia Street West, Waterloo, Ontario, N2L 3L3, phone (519) 885-5440, facsimile (519) 885-5959]

The Southern Ontario Chapter was formed to provide a regional organization for American Fisheries Society members who have an interest in the fisheries and aquatic concerns of Southern Ontario. It falls under the umbrella of the parent society and North-Central division of the American Fisheries Society. Chapter membership is open to any member of the American Fisheries Society regardless of their place of residence. Any person interested in either chapter or parent society membership should contact an executive officer or the membership committee chairman for details.

Figures from Scott and Crossman, *Freshwater Fishes of Canada*, Bull. 184, Fisheries Research Board of Canada. By permission of the authors.

# NCD Technical Committees

Much of the "nuts and bolts" work of the NCD occurs at the technical committee level. These committees provide additional opportunity for NCD member involvement in AFS. Chapter members may consider attending upcoming meetings.

In addition to the following contact information, it is advisable to communicate with existing SOC reps or EXCOM about participation.

Esocid Technical Committee: a young committee which held its first summer meeting this past July. Contact Terry Margenau at 715-635-4162. (see article in this issue).

Genetics Technical Committee: contact Julie Claussen at 217-244-5133.

Great Lakes Committee: as of Spring 92 this committee wasn't quite born yet and interested members should call Mike Hoff at 715-682-6163.

Reservoir Committee: Walt Duffy was exploring the feasibility of this committee during the Spring (particularly with regard to potential redundancy). He can be reached at 605-688-6121.

Rivers and Streams Technical Committee: has a scheduled meeting at the Midwest Fish & Wildlife Conference in Toronto in December. Contact Bill Bertrand at 309-582-5611.

Walleye Technical Committee: contact Dave Fielder at 605-773-5535.

Youth Education Committee: possibly to become the Environmental Education Committee; contact Linda Erickson-Eastwood at 612-297-4919.

## Envirosphere Limited Environmental Biologists

Envirosphere Limited specializes in aquatic biology, providing services to both public and private sector clients. Our approach to environmental management focuses on recognizing the potential of natural systems through protection and enhancement. Envirosphere Limited has the capability to assist your office in its endeavours in a highly professional and cost-effective manner. Please contact our office for additional information regarding our services.

### Services include:

- watershed/subwatershed studies (fisheries and wetland components)
- extent of fisheries utilization studies
- aquatic habitat surveys
- pond studies
- creel surveys
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# News

## Esocid Technical Committee Formed

An Esocid Technical Committee was formed at the recent Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference held in Des Moines, Iowa. The committee's mission is to encourage and coordinate research of esocids and to provide a forum for exchange of pertinent data and technologies within North Central Division (NCD) chapters of the AFS. To kick off the new committee, a symposium on Northern Pike ecology and management was held which included eight technical papers on pike research in our area.

The Esocid Technical Committee will hold its next meeting in July at LaCrosse, WI. Discussions for this mid-year meeting will center around historical and current esocid management strategies, and ongoing research within the NCD. The purpose of this meeting is to bring together management philosophies and research directions of NCD states and provinces. Any American Fisheries Society member can be a member of the Esocid Technical Committee. For more information on the committee or the July meeting, contact Terry Margenau (715-635-4162).

## Conflicts of Interest

The SOC Executive Committee is currently examining this issue, to the extent that communication has taken place at the level of the OMNR Deputy Minister. Since MNR employees' activities within SOC must be restricted, and the means of dealing with the conflict issue have not yet been resolved, EXCOM advises members to submit their HOME ADDRESS for all AFS correspondence.

## Sewell Commission

Blake Konkle, as chairman of the Environmental Concerns Committee, began pursuing contact with representatives of this commission in November. His initial goal was to volunteer SOC's participation in the review process.

## MNR staff Biologists Association

SOC has common interests with this new organization, especially professionalism issues. However, EXCOM has agreed that SOC should remain at arm's length from this internally oriented body.

## Provincial Urban Drainage Advisory Committee

President Elect John Tran and Dr. Jon Planck are representing the SOC on PUDAC.

## Fisheries Education in Canada

A newly formed Canadian Certification Committee within the Canadian Aquatic Resources Section (CARS) has recently undertaken a survey of post-secondary fisheries education in Canada. The objectives are to determine: the availability of formal education in fisheries sciences in Canada, the requirements for degrees and diplomas, and how these requirements and Canadian curricula compare with those in the U.S. The goal of this survey is to provide information for objectively defining criteria and standards for professional certification of AFS members graduating from Canadian institutions.

Early this year, questionnaires were sent to 63 degree-granting universities and colleges throughout Canada, including a French version the the appropriate

institutions. A similar questionnaire was also sent to 138 diploma-granting colleges and technical institutes (similar to associate degrees in the U.S.). Information requested included: whether departments offered named degrees or majors in fisheries or aquatic sciences and at what levels, requirements for program completion, affiliations with other fisheries-related institutions where students could receive training for credit, and listings of fisheries and aquatic science courses available.

As of the end of February, the response has been good. Thirty-seven (59%) completed questionnaires have been received from universities and 36 (26%) from technical schools. Results will appear in *Fisheries*. The committee hopes that this effort will generate interest in CARS and the AFS in Canada. Contact Bruce Barton, 2736 Laurel Cres. SW, Calgary, Alberta, T3E 6B3.

## Education Section

This section of the parent society has established an AFS Campus Network. The list of participating institutions, as of March 5, 1992 only showed two Canadian schools: Lakehead University, and the University of Alberta.

The newsletter from the Education Section suggests a wealth of information for students and educators, with such nuggets as recent theses. Contact president Brian R. Murphy (TX).

## CARS Canadian Certification Committee

Current AFS certification standards are based on core course requirements and a grading system which are not readily translatable across international boundaries. The Canadian Certification Committee is responsible for establishing certification standards for Fisheries Scientists and Aquatic Biologists in Canada. These criteria must meet or exceed those established

## SOC ExComm Resolution to All Members

At the June 30/92 ExComm meeting it was resolved that:

- 1) until guidelines have been adopted, no person will be permitted to attend any AFS/SOC sponsored classes, workshops, seminars and/or annual symposia unless applicable fees have been fully paid;
- 2) the Ways and Means Committee have been directed by the ExComm to develop guidelines for chapter sponsorship of individuals to classes, workshops, seminars and/or annual symposia where fees may be waived or funded by the Chapter, and further, to report such to the ExComm by Mid-September, 1992;
- 3) the Ethics and Professionalism Committee have been directed by the ExComm to develop a policy/guideline statement concerning discrimination and harassment for all chapter members and functions.

Other groups represented were Trout Unlimited Canada, OMAF/Soil and Crop Association, the Peel and Halton Soil and Crop Associations, Issac Walton Fly Fishermen's Club, Action to Restore a Clear Humber and a number of local public action groups dedicated to the Credit or specific parts of it.

Another meeting is scheduled for this Fall with a proposed focus on the planning process.

## SOC Membership Database

Mark Heaton is the new chairman of the Membership Committee for SOC. He is in the process of establishing a database of members for the chapter.

In the past, we have relied on the parent society database in Bethesda for mailing lists; but this only contains SOC members who are also parent society members. Members of SOC only have had to deal with some frustrating delays in receiving materials - until now.

With Mark's help we will soon have more consistent mailings to all members. He can be reached at 416-832-2761.

## Skinner Memorial Award

The John E. Skinner Memorial Fund was established in memory of John Skinner, former Western Division AFS president. It provides monetary travel awards for deserving graduate students and exceptional undergraduate students to attend the annual AFS meeting. A committee of the AFS Education Section selects awardees based on academic qualifications, professional services and promise, and reasons for wishing to attend the meeting. Call head office for details and applications.

for their US counterparts.

Canadian educational institutes must initially be surveyed to determine the undergraduate and graduate degree requirements in the various fisheries and aquatic science programs. Secondly, the findings should be compared objectively with those requirements common the US colleges and universities, along with consideration of the marketability of graduates within both countries. finally, standards must be established for certification of AFS members graduating from Canadian institutes and/or employed in Canada.

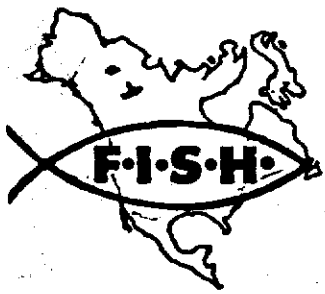
The chair of this committee is Bruce Barton and the members are to be announced.

## CVCA Public Interest Group Meeting

A public interest group meeting was held on June 25, 1992 at the Credit Valley Conservation Authority offices to initiate a forum for discussion of common issues involving land use management in the Credit Valley watershed. The first meeting was aimed at finding common ground among various groups and to collectively decide on strategies for future sessions.

Jon Bisset attended as AFS/SOC rep. and Geza Gaspardy is slated for an upcoming meeting.





## A Coalition for the Conservation of Aquatic Habitat

### Fisherman Involved in Saving Habitat (F.I.S.H.)

*Presents...*

# WATERSHED PLANNING

A 35 mm slide show depicting the need for developing Watershed Management Plans in Southern Ontario. The slide show shows examples of poor watershed practises in the past and highlights some of the advantages of planning on a watershed basis. The slide show can be borrowed from:

Fishermen Involved in Saving Habitat  
Southern Ontario Chapter  
P.O. Box 2655 Station B  
Richmond Hill Ont. L4E 1A6.

A nominal cost to cover postage and handling maybe requested.

F.I.S.H. is an international coalition dedicated to the conservation, restoration and enhancement of aquatic habitat at the political level. The Southern Ontario Chapter was formed to carry out the goals of the International coalition at a local level. The coalition consists of concerned groups and individuals representing the interests of conservation and environmental organizations, sport fishing and commercial fishing affiliations.

**FISHERMEN INVOLVED IN SAVING HABITAT**  
SOUTHERN ONTARIO CHAPTER  
P.O. BOX 2655 Station B, Richmond Hill, Ont. L4E 1A6