

Tidewater Press

Newsletter Of the Tidewater Chapter of the American Fisheries Society

Volume 21 Issue 1

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2006 Tidewater AFS EXCOM

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- **Past President** – Hank Brooks, Phone 804-684-7587; email hbrooks@vims.edu.
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- **VA Member-at-Large** – James Gartland, Phone 804-684-7546; email jgartlan@vims.edu.
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- **Webmaster** – James Morris.

President's Corner

The Tidewater Chapter held its 20th Annual Meeting January 15-17, 2006, in Atlantic Beach, NC, at the Sheraton Hotel and Resort. This was a wonderful venue, which attracted 86 participants including members from New York, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, and North Carolina. This was one of the largest annual meetings of the Tidewater Chapter for presentations: there were 32 oral and 20 poster presentations. Most of the presenters were students from East Carolina University, The University of Maryland, University of North Carolina at Wilmington, Delaware State



University, Salisbury State University, University of Maryland Eastern Shore, Virginia Institute of Marine Science, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Duke University, and North Carolina State University. Our invited speaker, Dr. Robert George of the George Institute for Biodiversity and Sustainability, provided a keynote address on “East Coast Dilemma: Coastal ecosystem changes in biology, physics, sea-water chemistry and societal economics”.

As usual, student presentations dominated this year's TWC meeting. A total of 38 student presentations were judged (14 posters and 24 oral papers). Congratulations to **Janet Ney** (Eileen Setzler-Hamilton Memorial Scholarship Award recipient) and also to **Christopher M. Butler** (North Carolina State University) and: **Ryan J. Woodland** (University of Maryland Chesapeake Bay Laboratory) who won best student poster and oral presentation awards, respectively. (See our website <http://www.sdafs.org/tidewater/> and next month's *Fisheries* for full details of all award winners

Our annual business and EXCOM meeting was well attended. Unfortunately, I was unable to attend the business meeting because of illness. A special thanks to **Hank Brooks** who stepped in and conducted the meeting on my behalf AFS First Vice President **Mary**

Fabrizio was also present and shared her thoughts to the chapter.

Our 2006 officers were formally announced and are as follows:

- President - **Anthony Overton** (ECU)
- President-Elect - **Dewayne Fox** (DSU)
- Sec/Treasurer - **Stephanie McInerny** (UNC-W)
- NC Member-at-Large - **Charlton Godwin** (NC DMF)
- MD Member-at-Large - **Bob Murphy**
- VA Member-at-Large - **Jim Gartland** (VIMS)

The new officers are in place and are ready to serve the chapter and its members. If you have ideas, suggestions, or comments, please do not hesitate to contact officers.

Additional Committee chairs were also assigned at the business meeting and they are as follows:

Membership Committee - **Hank Brooks**
Program Committee - **Dewayne Fox**
Nominating committee - **Hank Brooks**
Awards and Scholarship Committee - **Ron Klauda**
Communications Committee - **Roger Rulifson**

So many people assisted in making our annual meeting a success. On behalf of the chapter I would like to thank the Program Committee **James Morris, Roger Rulifson, and Fred Scharf**. Thank you to the East Carolina Student Subunit for assisting with the fishing tournament and the registration desk. I special thanks to **Dave Secor, John Olney, and Joe Luczkovich** who stepped in as session moderators. Thank you to **James Morris, John Cooper, and Tom Lankford** who tirelessly judged the numerous student presentations.

Our chapter continues to grow in size and spatial coverage. This is evident from our new members from Delaware State University (Maybe a Delaware State Student Subunit coming soon?). We are excited to announce that the students at Duke University have expressed interest in creating a student subunit of the Tidewater Chapter. **Aja Peters-Mason**, a student at the Duke Marine Lab in Beaufort, is heading their efforts (read his write-up in this newsletter). We welcome them and look forward to their organization efforts.

DeWayne Fox will be preparing for the 21st Tidewater Chapter annual meeting which will be held January 2007 in Lewes, Delaware. For more information about this meeting contact Tidewater President Elect Dewayne Fox at dfox@desu.edu.

I am very excited about the upcoming year serving Tidewater as president. Please don't hesitate to contact me.

Anthony Overton
Tidewater Chapter President 2006

TIDEWATER CHAPTER AWARDS PRESENTED AT THE 20TH ANNUAL MEETING JANUARY 2006 IN ATLANTIC BEACH, NC

STUDENT PRESENTATIONS

Student presentations dominated this year's TWC meeting. A total of 38 presentations were judged (14 posters and 24 oral papers).

In the poster category, the judges selected these three winners:

First Place: Christopher M. Butler (North Carolina State University) – *Atlantic bluefin tuna (Thunnus thynnus) feeding ecology and potential ecosystem effects during winter in North Carolina* (certificate and \$100)

Second Place: William E. Smith (University of North Carolina Wilmington) – *Harvest mortality and population demographics of southern flounder (Paralichthys lethostigma) based on a tag-return experiment in the New River, NC* (certificate and \$50)

Third Place: Jason J. Clermont (East Carolina University) – *Spatial variation of trophic position and diet of juvenile fishes in Albemarle Sound, North Carolina* (certificate and \$25)

In the oral paper category, the judges selected these three winners:

First Place: Ryan J. Woodland (University of Maryland Chesapeake Bay Laboratory) – *Recovery and status of the endangered shortnose sturgeon (Acipenser brevirostrum) of the Hudson River* (certificate and \$100)

Second Place: Lonnie C. Gonsalves (University of Maryland Eastern Shore) – *The effects of stress on the hypothalamus-pituitary-gonad axis in female striped bass (Morone saxatilis)* (certificate and \$50)

Third Place: Phil C. Simpson (Delaware State University) – *Habitat utilization patterns of juvenile Atlantic sturgeon (Acipenser oxyrinchus oxyrinchus) in the Delaware River* (certificate and \$25)

SPECIAL AWARDS

Second Eileen Setzler-Hamilton Memorial Scholarship Award – was created in 2003 to remember a scientist, educator, mentor, advocate for the Chesapeake Bay, long-time member of AFS, and the Tidewater Chapter's fourth President (1989). This award is presented periodically to a graduate student enrolled in a fisheries or closely related curriculum who is outstanding in research, teaching, participation in AFS, publishing and presenting research findings, public education, and outreach. The winner of the second Eileen Award is **Janet A. Nye**, a graduate student at the University of Maryland's Chesapeake Biological Laboratory. She received an engraved plaque and \$250. Janet is finishing a PhD degree, studying Atlantic croaker under the mentorship of **Tom Miller**, and has maintained a 4.0 GPA at UMD. She has a MS degree in Marine Biology and Geochemistry from the University of Delaware. Prior to returning to graduate school to pursue a PhD, Janet taught high school biology, chemistry, anatomy, and physiology for two years. She has been an AFS member since 1999, won a Skinner Award in 2002, participates in various outreach activities at CBL, and works with high school groups in southern Maryland. In her application materials, Janet wrote that when she arrived at CBL in 2002, one of the first faculty members she met was Eileen. Janet was impressed with Eileen's smile, cheerfulness, and the passion she obviously felt about her work.

Meritorious Service Award – is given periodically to a Tidewater Chapter member for their unswerving loyalty, dedication, and service to the Chapter and AFS over a long period of time, and for their exceptional commitment to the programs, objectives, and goals of the Chapter and AFS. The 2005 recipient is **James Morris, Jr.** James is with NOAA's Center for Coastal Fisheries and Habitat Research in Beaufort, NC. He served two terms as the ECU-Student Subunit President during its formative years. James also served one term

as the Chapter's President, created the Chapter's excellent web site (and has continued to maintain it for six years), and has served as Co-Editor of the Chapter's quarterly newsletter for the past four years. He continually strives to move the Chapter forward and find ways to increase membership.

Conservation Award – is given periodically to an individual, resource management agency, corporation, or non-profit organization that has distinguished themselves through notable fisheries or habitat conservation activities. The recipient of this award for 2005 is **Dr. Ed Houde**. Ed has been with the University of Maryland's Chesapeake Biological Laboratory for 25 years, where he is involved in research, conservation, and management of Chesapeake Bay fisheries and other aquatic resources. His expertise and leadership in fisheries science is recognized worldwide. Ed has published widely and prolifically on almost every aspect of fisheries science, including fish culture, early life histories, modeling of recruitment processes, and sustainable management. Because of his knowledge and credibility, he serves on numerous national and international advisory committees and boards. A few examples are the National Research Council Ocean Studies Board, the National Council Committee on Sustaining Marine Fisheries, and the Scientific and Technical Advisory Committee of the Chesapeake Bay Program. Recently, Ed has played a leading role in the development of the Chesapeake Bay Fisheries Ecosystem Plan, an important first step in developing a ecosystem-based management framework for the Bay that will serve as a model for ecosystem management plans for other estuaries around the world. Ed's scientific achievements, his fervent belief that sustainable fisheries management is possible, his persuasive personality, and his leadership abundantly qualify him for this Conservation Award.

Excellence in Fisheries Education Award – is given periodically to a Tidewater Chapter member who has achieved excellence in teaching and student advising in the field of fisheries science (or closely related field) and who encourages student participation at Chapter meetings. The 2005 recipient is **Dr. John Olney**, a Professor at the Virginia Institute of Marine Science. During his tenure at VIMS, he has mentored 12 masters and 7 doctoral students. In the classroom, John demonstrates a passion for providing outstanding courses to his students. He helped develop a Marine Fisheries Science course at VIMS, and is collaborating

with Ed Houde on an Early Life History of Fishes course. During the summer of 2005, John and Ed offered this course to a national audience. There was so much interest that all seats were filled and several students were turned away. John served as President of the Chapter in 1999, always finds funding so his students can present their research findings at Chapter meetings, and encourages other VIMS faculty members to attend with their students. While his probing, insightful questions can keep veteran scientists honest and humble, his approach with students is one of challenging but gentle encouragement. John sets a high achievement goal for his students by insisting on an uncompromising approach to the pursuit of scientific rigor. But his great sense of humor and infectious laugh make it a fun journey.

Special Presidential Award – is given to a Tidewater Chapter member who, in the opinion of the outgoing President, should be recognized for their faithful service to the Chapter. The 2005 recipient selected by outgoing President, Hank Brooks, is **Erik Zlokovitz**. He served as the Maryland Member at Large from 1999 through 2005, and worked closely with Jim Uphoff to organize the Chapter meeting held in Easton, Maryland, in 2001. Erik organized a successful raffle for the 2002 AFS national meeting, co-hosted by the Chapter and his agency (Maryland Department of Natural Resources), that was held in Baltimore, MD. He stepped up and volunteered to help Hank compile a EXCOM member procedural manual and survival guide, a project that is still in progress. In addition to his duties at DNR, Erik is a regular crew member on the Cooperative Winter Tagging Cruise that operates off the North Carolina coast.

Ron Kluda
Tidewater Chapter Awards Committee Chair



**Secretary/
Treasurer’s Report**

In the last newsletter, Wes Patrick gave an unofficial count of 48 members with a number of ECU and UMES students involved in the subunits not accounted for.

As of right now, I have a count of 76 members including those that paid through the parent society, those that paid at the annual meeting, all paid ECU subunit members

and UNCW subunit members. Right now, I do not have the contact information for the members of the UMES subunit. Members of student subunits are automatically considered members of the TWC. Please remember that in order for you to officially be a member of the TWC when registering with the parent society, you must check next to Tidewater Chapter on the chapter page of the registration form as well as pay the extra \$ 7.00 TWC dues. There seemed to be some confusion at the annual meeting this year with regards to membership and registration fees. Thirteen people claimed membership of TWC through the parent society but were not on my official list from the parent society as of 3/20/06, therefore they never paid their dues with the Chapter. Since I am new to this position, I am not sure of how much of a problem this has been in the past but I believe that it is something that needs to be cleared up. Please check the list of current members for your name. If you believe you should be a member of the TWC and are not on the list or would like to pay dues, please contact me at 252-422-5717 or at Stephanie.McInerny@noaa.gov .

Treasurer’s Report:

Checking: \$ 1913.30
CD: \$ 3005.11

Mutual Fund: \$ 1000.00

Total: \$ 5918.41

The savings account has been closed and all the money in savings has been transferred into a 6-month CD with a 2.22 % interest rate (better than our interest savings account <1%). Once the CD has matured in August, the money can be transferred back into checking. \$ 1000.00 has been used to purchase a mutual fund.

The money spent and deposited from the annual meeting is still being calculated and will hopefully be posted in the next newsletter.

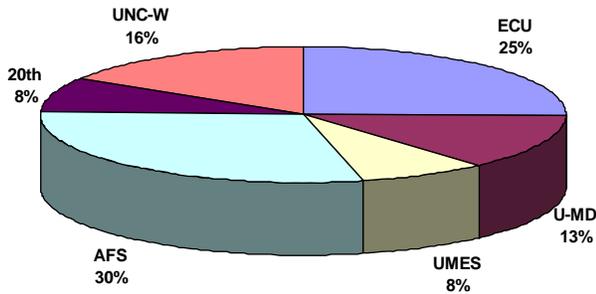
Sincerely,

--Stephanie McNerny, Tidewater Secretary/Treasurer

Annual Membership List(s)

Here is the latest information that we have for those folks that are listed as Tidewater Chapter members. From all subunit records, Parent Society records, and

Annual Meeting records we have a total of 99 members. Remember that the annual dues are sent in to the Secretary/Treasurer each year to renew your membership, or you renewed at the 20th Annual Meeting by paying an extra \$7, or you paid through the AFS Parent Society. The annual dues go to support our great scholarship and paper/poster awards program each year. If you are listed, but believe you should be, please contact Stephanie McInerny ASAP.



ECU Student Subunit (25)

- | | |
|-------------------|---------------------|
| Heidi Alderman | Dr. Don Holbert |
| Leigh Barnett | Katie Kleber |
| Dee Dee Barry | Stephanie McInerny |
| David Chagaris | Josh Murauskas |
| Jason Clermont | Dr. Anthony Overton |
| Becky Deehr | Ed Owen |
| Heather Drucker | Kelly Register |
| Eric Fitzpatrick | Dr. Roger Rulifson |
| David Gentry | Chad Smith |
| Andrew Gross | Chris Voss |
| Kevin Hart | Jennifer Woodroffe |
| Brett Hartis | Garry Wright |
| Brandon Hendricks | |

UNC-W Subunit (16)

- | | |
|--------------------|--------------------|
| Stephanie McInerny | Chip Collier |
| William Smith | Dr. Fred Scharf |
| Andrew Ostrowski | Dr. Tom Lankford |
| Chris Stewart | Eric Lehm |
| Brad Tayloe | Melissa Mitchell |
| Kim Sutton | Melissa Dionesotes |
| Adam Branson | Jacob Frady |
| Kyle Rommel | Matt Roberts |

U-MD Student Subunit and Campus (13)

- | | |
|------------------------|---------|
| Lisa Kerr | CBL |
| Adam Peer | CBL |
| Ryan J. Woodland | CBL |
| Ed Martino | CBL |
| Bill Connelly | CBL |
| Susan Flanders Cushman | UMCP/AL |
| Bill Rodney | UMCP |
| Rebecca Schroepfer | CBL |
| Terra Lederhouse | UMCP |
| Janet Nye | CBL |
| Sean Cooney | UMCP |
| David Lowensteiner | CBL |
| Eric Buck | CBL |

UMES students (8)

- Bernice Bedaku
 Reginald Black
 Brandon Fortt
 Lonnie Gonsalves
 Lisa Kerr
 Belita Nguluwe
 Jessica Shoop
 Branson Williams

Parent Society (29) State

- | | |
|----------------------|----|
| Timothy Targett | DE |
| Richard Bohn | MD |
| William Goldsborough | MD |
| Edward Houde | MD |
| Janet Nye | MD |
| Rebecca Schroepfer | MD |
| Harold Slacum | MD |
| Richard Takacs | MD |
| James Uphoff | MD |
| William Van Heukelem | MD |
| Branson Williams | MD |
| Heidi Alderman | NC |
| Jeff Buckel | NC |
| Robert Herrmann | NC |
| R. Laney | NC |
| Jason Lanier | NC |
| Sara Mirabilio | NC |
| Andrew Ostrowski | NC |

Helen Takade	NC
Douglas Vaughan	NC
Jon Truebe	NH
John Cooper	NY
Mary Fabrizio	VA
David Hewitt	VA
Jon Lucy	VA
Marcel Montane	VA
John Musick	VA
John Olney	VA
J. Watterson	VA

20th Annual Meeting (8) State

Dewayne Fox	DE
Ron Klauda	MD
Bob Murphy	MD
Harry Womack	MD
Summer Burdick	NC
Hank Brooks	VA
Kristen Delano	VA
Melanie Foxchattin	VA



Update on the 21st Annual Meeting of the Tidewater Chapter, Winter 2007 by Dewayne Fox and Tim Targett

We are sure this update will find everyone very busy as spring has sprung and the sampling season is either upon us or rapidly approaching. We wish all the students best of luck

on final exams. We are excited about hosting the 2007 Tidewater Meeting in Lewes, Delaware. We are looking at February 1st-3rd for the meeting dates, to avoid possible conflicts with the Striped Bass Cooperative Tagging trip and the Southern Division Meeting. If there are any other potential conflicts please contact Dewayne directly (dfox@desu.edu) (302) 857-6436. We

are also exploring the possibility of this being a joint meeting with the Mid-Atlantic Chapter.

The University of Delaware’s John Penrose Virden Residence and Conference Center <http://www.ocean.udel.edu/ships&facilities/virden.html>, which provides a great central location as well as limited housing facilities, has been selected as the meeting site. Additional accommodations are being negotiated with the Beacon Hotel <http://www.lewestoday.com/beacon/main.html>, which is approximately 1 mile from the conference site. We are exploring the possibility of hosting the Friday evening social at the Dogfish Head Brewery located nearby. We are exploring all possibilities for maximizing everyone’s foraging success at the upcoming meeting. Have a great summer and best of luck with the field season!

Communications Committee

Website Reminder – don’t forget to update your expertise database on the Tidewater website, www.sdafs.org/tidewater.

Tidewater Chapter ListServ - The Tidewater Chapter ListServ is up and running through East Carolina University. Here is the brief set of controls needed to subscribe or modify your subscription to TAFS ListServ:

- **To subscribe** -- E-mail to: listserv@ecumail7.ecu.edu and enter SUBSCRIBE TIDEWAFS in the body of the e-mail.
- **To send a message** -- E-mail to: tidewafs@ecumail7.ecu.edu.
- **To unsubscribe** -- E-mail to: listserv@ecumail7.ecu.edu and enter UNSUBSCRIBE TIDEWAFS in the body of the e-mail.



HAVE YOU REGISTERED?

Student Subunit News



University of Maryland by Lisa Kerr

The University of Maryland AFS Student Subunit has had a busy start to 2006 and we hope this level of activity carries on throughout the year. The 2006 Tidewater chapter of the American Fisheries Society conference, "Ebbing Tides and Shifting Sands: a Fisheries Mosaic" was a success by all standards. The conference was well-attended by the University of Maryland subunit with outstanding presentations representing the exciting and diverse specializations of our members. Presentations by our members ran the gamut from riparian ichthyofaunal response to habitat manipulation to contingent determination via otolith microchemistry. Four subchapter members presented their research at the conference: **Susan Flanders-Cushman** from the Appalachian Laboratory and three students from Chesapeake Biological Laboratory, **Janet Nye**, **Lisa Kerr**, and **Ryan Woodland**. **Dr. Ed Houde** (CBL) was honored with the Tidewater Chapter's Conservation Award for 2005. We congratulate Ryan Woodland, subunit secretary, for his award for best student oral presentation. T-shirts from our very own **Adam Peer** (fisheries scientist and artist at large) were a hot commodity, though some remain for any who wish to purchase this priceless work of art. Sizes still available are Medium & Large and run \$16. If interested, contact Lisa Kerr.

In January student members enjoyed a behind-the-scenes tour of the National Aquarium in Baltimore. In addition, the subunit continues work on the student-run Fisheries Seminar Series hosted at UMCES-Chesapeake Biological Laboratory. We recently enjoyed a seminar by Dr. Catriona Clemmesen, DFG Research Fellow at the University of Rhode Island, on "RNA/DNA ratios and otolith microstructure analyses as tools in Baltic Sea recruitment studies". We look forward to upcoming presentations by Dr. Rob Latour, Assistant Professor of Marine Science, VIMS on the "Food web dynamics of fishes in Chesapeake Bay"(April 13), and Dr. Al Place, Professor of Biochemistry, COMB, on the "Genetic Consequences of a Blue Crab Hatchery" (May 18)-All are welcome to attend.

If you are interested in getting involved in the subunit, or would like to order a t-shirt, please contact me.

Lisa A. Kerr
President, UM-AFS Student Subunit
University of Maryland Center for Environmental
Science
Chesapeake Biological Laboratory
P.O. Box 38, Solomons, MD 20688
410-326-7225
kerr@cbl.umces.edu



East Carolina University by Dee Dee Barry.

The ECU-AFS student has been very busy since the last newsletter!

The 5th Annual Student Colloquium in early November 4 was a tremendous success. Sixty-eight students from ECU, University of North Carolina-Wilmington, North Carolina State University, University of Maryland-Eastern Shore, West Virginia University, Auburn University, Delaware State, Tennessee Tech and University of Missouri descended upon Greenville for the weekend. There were 23 oral presentations and 14 posters of original research by both undergraduate and graduate students. **Bob Curry**, President Southern Division, **Dr. Joseph Love** from UMES and **Drs. Roger Rulifson, Anthony Overton** and **Joe Luczkovich** from ECU participated in a panel discussion where students asked questions regarding grades and research/work experience when applying for graduate school, internships and jobs, as well as opening a discussion about hurricane impact on fisheries along the Gulf Coast. The donations received by the Southern Division (\$1000) and Tidewater Chapter (\$200) made the colloquium possible. It was the purchase of 15 poster displays that caused the colloquium to be \$225 over budget. We selected Auburn University to host of the 6th Annual Colloquium in October 2006.

Students enjoy the welcoming social at the 5th Annual Student Colloquium in November 2005.



In December, ECU-AFS hosted its seventh annual meeting and banquet in December. Over 65 people attended this event to enjoy good company, southern cooking, live music, poster session (4 posters), and a slideshow commemorating 2005 events. Guests include

fishery professionals, students, ECU alumni, and AFS members from the national, division and chapter level. Invited speakers included Anthony Overton (President, Tidewater Chapter) and Bob Curry (President, Southern Division). Guest speaker was Mr. Thomas Bigford from the Habitat Protection Division of NOAA-Silver Spring, who gave guests an interesting talk about emerging habitat issues affecting marine fish. Mr. Bigford's visit was part of a co-sponsored weekend by the Coastal Resources Management Ph.D. program and the ECU student subunit of The Coastal Society.

Thomas Bigford speaks at the 7th Annual ECU-AFS Banquet in December 2005.



Thirteen members attended the Tidewater Chapter Meeting in January. Five members gave oral presentations while 4 students authored posters.

Jason Clermont took 3rd place in the poster judging. ECU-AFS hosted the 1st Annual "Beer on the Pier" fishing tournament off the hotels abbreviated pier. Twenty-five croaker and 1 black drum were caught. Fun prizes were awarded to all of the fishers and included

Most Fish Caught, Best Female Fisher, Most Serious Fisher, Species Diversity for the only non-croaker caught and Glee Club for the spirited non-fishers. ECU-AFS were also tasked with accepting registration and fees for the meeting.

We were honored as the Student Subunit of the Year at the Southern Division meeting in February!! Unfortunately, we depleted our travel funds and were unable to accept in person. **We are hoping Southern Division President Bob Curry will attend our April business meeting to celebrate with us.** We will be applying for the Parent Society Subunit Award to be announced at the Lake Placid meeting in September.



Three members went to the Georgia Aquarium over Spring Break to see the two resident whale sharks, Ralph and Norton. A tunnel leads you into the exhibit and allows fish to swim overhead. The main viewing window is 1620ft² and 2ft thick. Although the sharks are juveniles, the tank is the size of a football field

and can house them at full adult size. They were absolutely beautiful.

ECU-AFS and President Dee Dee Barry have been selected as finalists for two Recognition of Outstanding Leadership and Service awards through the ECU Division of Student Life: Student Organization of the Year and Perseverance (Adult Student Leader). These awards are considered one of the most prestigious on campus and it truly is an honor to be nominated. The ceremony is April 6, so cross your fingers.

We are preparing for two events in April...the Grifton Shad Festival and Barefoot on the Mall. This will be our first year at the Shad Festival and we will be co-hosting

“Catch It on the Fly” with The Great Outdoor Provision Co. Our members will demonstrate and assist older children and adults how to tie and cast flies as well as have wading pools for younger children to catch magnetic shad and other fish for prizes. Barefoot is the annual campus fair and we will be selling chicken wrap meals to help raise travel funds for the upcoming year.

Speaking of the upcoming year, officer elections for 2006-7 were held in February. Congratulations to the new officers!

- Co-Presidents – **Becky Deehr** and **Kelly Register**
- Vice-President – **Garry Wright**
- Secretary – **Jason Clermont**
- Treasurer – **Brandon Hendricks**
- Historian/Webmaster – **Andrew Gross**
- SGA Representative – **Brandon Hendricks**
- Advisors – **Don Holbert** and **Roger Rulifson**

Please visit the ECU-AFS website, www.ecu.edu/org/afs, to gain additional information regarding monthly meetings, and upcoming events. You can also take a look at our growing photo album!

If you are interested in attending a meeting, holding a forum with ECU students, or presenting your research, please contact the student subunit!

We look forward to hearing from you!
-- Dee Dee Barry, President, ECU-AFS
dbb0315@mail.ecu.edu



UNC-Wilmington by Stephanie McInerny

As of March 16th 2006, the University of North Carolina Wilmington Subunit has been recognized as an official student organization on the UNCW campus. Meetings are to be held on the third Thursday of every month in Dobo Hall. The subunit

has held two monthly meeting during the spring semester so far. Fritz Rhode from NCDMF attended the first meeting in February as the guest speaker to talk about employment and research at DMF in Wilmington. Jason Rogers, the chair of the Marine Technology

Program at Cape Fear Community College was the guest speaker for the March meeting. He informed the students of research and classes offered within the Marine Technology Program. Currently, the subunit has 16 members that have committed to the subunit by attending every meeting scheduled to date with many more attending meetings when able. The subunit is not currently collecting dues so an official count of members is unavailable.

The current officers of the subunit are as follows:

- President – **Stephanie McInerny**
- Vice President – **William Smith**
- Secretary – **Andy Ostrowski**
- Treasurer – **Brad Tayloe**
- Historian – **Chris Stewart**
- Advisors – **Fred Scharf** and **Tom Lankford**

Elections for next year’s officers will be held at the April meeting where Fred Scharf will serve as guest speaker to inform students of opportunities to get involved with fisheries on the UNCW campus. The subunit will also be painting the “spirit rock” located in the middle of campus during this monthly meeting for a bit of much needed fun in the sun and advertising for our new student organization.

Several fundraising events have been planned for May including bake sales and working local fishing tournaments. The idea of holding our own fishing tournament is also in the works for future activities and fundraising events. Currently, the UNCW subunit will be unable to receive a budget from SGA until the subunit has been official for two full semesters making fundraising extremely important for us in the upcoming school year. So far, we are very excited about the number in attendance at our monthly meetings and the future of the subunit definitely looks promising. Thanks to everyone for their continued support of our new subunit and we look forward to working with you all more closely.

-- Stephanie McInerny, UNCW



Carteret Community College, Division of Marine Science, Aquaculture Technology Program by Skip Kemp

We had a very busy year in Morehead City. Following is a list of completed activities for our program and our students:

- Completed the Citizens' Oyster Gardening Program grant project with APNEP, which was picked up and continued by a local group, the Shellfish Gardeners of NC. Submitted the final report, oyster gardening manual and companion DVD. The DVD was produced by Morgan and Deby at the CCC Public Relations Department and has been very well received by oyster gardeners. It is available as streaming video at the URL: (temporarily not working) <http://www.carteret.edu/stream/oyster%20garden.wmv>.

- The CCC Aquaculture Technology Program is a partner in the NC Aquariums oyster hatchery initiative and will operate the oyster hatchery for the transitional production program. Tom Osborne has been hired by NC Aquarium/Roanoke Island as full-time oyster hatchery specialist with CCC as his permanent duty station. The transitional program will hire up to two additional part-time positions based at CCC. Additionally the transitional production program could continue for up to three years until the Aquariums build their own hatcheries or establish a separate hatchery facility. CCC has been identified as a potential site for the separate large-scale hatchery facility.

- Continued outfitting the Howard Building with water filtration apparatus, tanks and pumping systems. Continued to have problems with new A/C units.

- AQU students took a field trip to Craven County Cooperative Extension Service for a seminar/workshop on Aquatic Plant Management and Control.

- AQU students heard guest lectures from Capt. Ron White who started up the world's first conch farm in the Turks and Caicos Islands and from Dr. Craig Harms, NCSU Veterinary School faculty in CMAST on fish disease diagnostics, anesthesia and euthanasia.

- AQU students artificially spawned the marine fish, Spot, on campus and are rearing the juveniles. Others species in culture at the facility are: alligators, shrimp, killifish, speckled trout, striped mullet, southern flounder, rotifers, oysters and clams.



Alligator culture at CCC.

- We will host tour of the oyster hatchery and aquaculture facility for the NCCF "Oyster Days" to be held Saturday March 25th.

- Planning for the Shellfish Expo 2006 event on April 10th sponsored by the NC Shellfish Growers Association and CCC Springfest on April 11th.

- Check out the website for COGP Citizens' Oyster Gardening Project Website:

- <http://www.carteret.edu/aqu/cogp/>

- And the Shellfish Gardeners of NC <http://www.oysters-cleanwater.info/>

- View the CCC Oyster Gardening video View, download or print a copy of the Oyster Gardening Manual

- <http://main2.carteret.edu/~kemps/files/>

Philip S. Kemp Jr.

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<http://main2.carteret.edu/~kemps>

<http://www.carteret.edu/education/academicprograms/AQUA/aquacultmain.htm>

Duke University, Nicholas School of the Environment and Earth Sciences

Hello!

I am pleased to have the opportunity to be able to formally greet all of the members of the AFS Tidewater

Chapter. My name is Aja Peters-Mason, and I am a first-year Master of Environmental Management student at the Nicholas School of the Environment and Earth Sciences spearheading the establishment of a Duke University Student Subunit of the Tidewater Chapter of the AFS.

While we hope to draw membership from all Duke University students, our proposed student subunit will run from the Duke Marine Lab, which offers a year-round curriculum for undergraduate, professional masters and doctoral students. Programs at the Marine Laboratory are central to the Nicholas School of the Environment's mission to provide interdisciplinary educational and research opportunities addressing the quality of the Earth's environment and the sustainable use of its natural resources. Duke Marine Lab faculty have expertise in a wide range of topics, including oceanography, marine biology, ecology, physiology, biochemistry, cultural anthropology and marine policy.

The establishment of a Duke University Student Subunit of the Tidewater chapter will allow all Duke University students to interact with and draw knowledge from fisheries professionals as well as fellow students interested in key estuarine and marine fisheries issues.

Again, I would like to thank all of the members of the AFS who have offered help and guidance in this process. The prospect of forming the Duke University Student Subunit has been greeted with nothing but enthusiasm, and my fellow classmates and I eagerly look forward to interacting with the Tidewater Chapter and associated Student Subunits in the future.

Thank you!

Aja Peters-Mason
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Maryland News from Bob Murphy

Yellow Perch in the News

The Maryland Department of Natural Resources (DNR) had struck a nerve with many recreational fishermen and conservationists when they proposed opening a long-closed fishery for yellow perch (*Perca flavescens*) in two tributaries to the Chesapeake Bay. The proposal for reopening the Eastern Shore fisheries would have been the first modification of the yellow perch fishery under the 2002 management plan. The proposal was based upon the work of DNR biologists who have been sampling the Choptank River since 1988 and the Nanticoke River since 1999. Public involvement in this recent regulation process included two public meetings to inform the public on stock conditions in the two rivers and two public hearings to receive public comment on the proposal. Many groups, particularly recreational anglers, voiced opposition to the proposed opening, arguing that the new regulations would seriously compromise the local stocks. DNR withdrew the proposed changes in late February acknowledging that public input was a deciding factor in the withdrawal, and not flawed stock assessments.

Oysters

The 2005-2006 season is shaping up to be a good year for oyster harvests in Maryland, with an estimated 100,000 bushels already harvested compared to 72,218 in 2004-2005 and a record low of 26,495 in 2003-2004. This increase in harvest is likely due to increases in gear efficiency (power dredging) and recent wet years that stifle disease (MSX and Dermo) and allow oysters to reach market size. As the state continues to assess the introduction of the Asian oyster (*Crassostrea ariakensis*), more research is underway to better understand oyster biology and reproductive success in Chesapeake Bay.

For example, Dr. Elizabeth North at the Horn Point Laboratory (University of Maryland Center for Environmental Science) in Cambridge and her colleagues have been incorporating a suite of physical and biological parameters into a model that simulates

oyster larvae transport under a variety of environmental conditions. Upon fertilization, oyster larvae exploit the plankton-rich water column for about two weeks before they are ready to settle. Dr. North's research incorporates tidal movements, currents, larval behavior, and existing oyster reefs into a model that will help predict settlement success. These data will serve as input for an adult/juvenile demographic model (developed by Mary Christman at the University of Florida at Gainesville, Jon Volstad from Versar, and colleagues), which predicts what will happen as the oysters grow and reproduce over the next ten years. The linked larval-transport-demographic model will help decision-makers evaluate alternatives related to native oyster restoration and the proposed introduction of *C. ariakensis*. For more information on Dr. North's work, see the featured article in the recent issue of Maryland Sea Grant's Chesapeake Quarterly (<http://www.mdsg.umd.edu/CQ/index.html>).

-- Bob Murphy, MD Member --at-Large



Virginia News from Jim Gartland

VMRC – State Record Striped Bass Landed

The Virginia Saltwater Fishing Tournament has certified that the 68-lb., 1-oz. striped bass captured by Mr. Clay T. Armstrong of Mechanicsville, Virginia is a new state record. Mr. Armstrong caught the fish on March 4, 2006 while trolling from his vessel, *Fin Addict*, in the Atlantic Ocean just south of the Sandbridge area of Virginia Beach.

He and his fishing partners had just deployed four rods and were trolling through a flock of gannets when all four rods “went off”. The first fish was lost, but two fish in the 30-lb class were landed. Armstrong fought the big fish on the fourth rod. As it neared the boat, the anglers realized that not only was this fish huge but also that there was a second fish on the “double-drop” rig. After both fish were boated, the anglers immediately ran back to Rudee Inlet to weigh the fish.

The record-setting bass measured 52 inches in length and had a girth of 33.5 inches. This fish broke the prior state record held by Paul W. Kleckner. His fish weighed 63-lbs., 8-oz. and was caught off of Wachapreague, Virginia on January 2, 2005.

For more information, contact Claude Bain, mrcswt@visi.net, the Director of the Virginia Saltwater Fishing Tournament.

VIMS – Roanoke Round-Up Scheduled for April 20-23, 2006

Dr. Jack Musick will lead his VIMS ichthyology class on the 37th annual Roanoke Round-up this year. During this trip, Dr. Musick and his students sample four major river drainages in the southwest area of the state: the Tennessee (North and South forks of the Holston River), Ohio (New River – several sites), James (Craig’s Creek), and Roanoke (Roanoke River). These sites correspond to those sampled by E. D. Cope in the 1860s.

Sampling is conducted at each location using a Smith-Root, Inc., LR-24 Electrofisher in conjunction with seine and dip nets. Students collect representative specimens at each site for identification and comparison purposes. The purpose of the trip is to provide the students with an introduction to Virginia’s freshwater fishes as well as a chance to examine the zoogeography of the region. Further, by sampling Mississippi and Atlantic drainages, students are able to compare different community assemblages located in close proximity and to study the evolutionary adaptations of the fishes. For additional information, please contact Jim Gartland (jgartlan@vims.edu).

--Jim Gartland, VA Member-At-Large



North Carolina News from Charlton H. Godwin

With summertime approaching, NCDMF is getting ready for another round of high school and university interns. Sponsoring summer interns is a win-win situation for all parties

involved. On the high school level, it allows students to

really learn what it is like to work for a state agency involved in environmental management and stewardship. It gives them the opportunity to get out in the field and participate in hands on research, while also gently breaking the news to them that not all marine biologists work with “Shamoo” as so often seen on television! Internships for high school students gives them a better understanding of the different facets of environmental management, hopefully allowing them to make a more informed decision about what career they wish to pursue after graduation.

For university students, it allows them to take some of the training they have already received in the classroom and apply it to real world situations. Rather than talking about ageing structures in Fishery Management classes, they actually get to remove and process structures, whether they be catfish spines, striped bass scales, or flounder otoliths. Students learn how to use various sampling gear, including balloon trawls, beach seines, and neuston nets. They also gain experience in handling various, small research vessels, from 19 – 23 feet in length, while learning about the importance of boater safety. Students also get to become familiar with data management, and start to understand the intricacies of managing large sets of data. They begin to realize the importance of collecting data in such a way that it can be accurately analyzed. They get to improve their basic computer skills with various types of software, including Access, Excel, and ArcView. Plus, NCDMF gets much needed work done for a very small cost!

While we have had numerous interns through the years, this year NCDMF is really excited to be sponsoring our first Hutton Program intern. Michael Loeffler, a biologist in the Northern District’s Elizabeth City office, will be the student’s mentor. This is a great program offered through AFS and we are looking forward to helping out in training our future fishery professionals. NCDMF anticipates another great summer with our interns and will update you on our Hutton intern in future newsletters.

-- Charlton H. Godwin, NC Member-at-Large

Roanoke River Shad Restoration Efforts are Taking Hold

Happy to report another small milestone in North Carolina’s effort to restore American shad to the Roanoke River basin. Last week, Kevin Dockendorf &

Jeremy McCargo were finishing their examinations of the otoliths collected **last spring** (2005) from ~60 adult Roanoke River American shad. Otoliths from one of the adult specimens were quite definitely marked with OTC. The fish was a 353 mm (TL) male and appears to be from the batches of fry stocked in the Roanoke River at Weldon in 2002 (820,000 fry were stocked at Weldon that year).

Last fall, we collected 420 outmigrating juvenile American shad (body lengths up to 80 mm or so) and of those, the otoliths of 29 were OTC-marked with a single mark (designating being stocked at Weldon) and 9 were OTC-marked with a double mark (designating being stocked in the Staunton River in Alta Vista, Virginia). We began stocking American shad fry upstream of John H. Kerr Reservoir in 2003 and each fall since then, we have collected increasing numbers of juvenile American shad in the lower Roanoke River that were stocked upstream of the reservoir in the Staunton River. We are encouraged that these hatchery-origin shad are able to utilize upstream nursery area habitats and outmigrate to the Albemarle Sound estuary.

If you have any questions, give me a call or you can contact the two guys who are actually doing the work, Kevin Dockendorf dockendorfkj@adelphia.net or Jeremy McCargo jeremy.mccargo@earthlink.net .

-- Pete Kornegay, NC WRC



Results of the 2006 COOPERATIVE WINTER OFFSHORE TAGGING CRUISE

DATES: January 17-29, 2006

VESSEL: National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Research Vessel OREGON II, 170-foot side trawler pulling two 65-foot bottom trawls. The OREGON II is based in Pascagoula, Mississippi, and operated by the NOAA Corps.

SCIENTIFIC PARTY PERSONNEL:



Scientific party for the 19th Annual SEAMAP Cooperative Winter Tagging Cruise, January 17-29, 2006.

- Art Coppola**, US Fish and Wildlife Service
- Jeff Ferrence**, NC Division of Marine Fisheries
- Eric Gowdy**, NC Division of Marine Fisheries
- Lara Jarvis**, NC Division of Marine Fisheries
- Dr. Wilson Laney**, US Fish and Wildlife Service
- Lydia Munger**, Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission
- Kelly Register**, Master's Candidate, East Carolina University
- Dr. Roger Rulifson**, East Carolina University
- Stephen Taylor**, NC Division of Marine Fisheries
- Dr. Clif Tipton**, US Fish and Wildlife Service
- Sara Winslow**, NC Division of Marine Fisheries
- Erik Zlokovitz**, Maryland Department of Natural Resources

Following is a list of species and activities accomplished by the 2006 cruise. NA = not yet available:

RESULTS:

Total hauls	302
Hauls lost or zero catch...(1 net lost to uncharted obstruction; 1 torn beyond immediate repair).....	1
Hauls not processed due to significant bycatch or net malfunction.....	5
Total hauls processed.....	296

Alewife juveniles for ECU studies.....	
Atlantic croakers for aging by NCDMF (> 400mm).....	NA
Atlantic croaker adults for CTILS diet studies.....	10
Atlantic croaker juveniles for CTILS diet studies.....	0
Atlantic menhaden retained for CTILS diet studies.....	0
Atlantic sturgeon caught	29
Atlantic sturgeon tagged/released.....	24
Atlantic sturgeon recaptures.....	1
Bay anchovies retained for CTILS diet studies.....	15
Black drum juveniles retained for CTILS diet studies...	1
Blueback herring juveniles retained for ECU studies....	NA
Bluefish captured/retained for NCSU studies.....	2
Clearnose skates measured/sexed.....	NA
Hickory shad for ECU reproductive study.....	NA
Horseshoe crabs captured/measured/tagged.....	12
Kingfish samples retained for NCDMF aging.....	NA
Little skates measured/sexed.....	NA
Monkfish captured/measured.....	4
Red drum captured/tagged/released.....	0
Sheepshead retained for CTILS diet studies.....	0
Smooth dogfish processed.....	2
Smooth dogfish female:male ratio.....	NA
Spiny dogfish processed.....	12,263
Spiny dogfish tagged.....	9,555
Spiny dogfish female:male ratio (F:M tagged only)....	NA
Spiny dogfish retained for fecundity/maturity.....	257
Spot retained for aging (<200mm).....	NA
Spotted hake retained for CTILS diet studies.....	3
Spotted seatrout for NCDMF aging (over 500mm)....	0
Spotted seatrout retained for CTILS diet studies.....	0
Striped bass caught.....	4,545
Striped bass tagged.....	4,445
Coded Wire Tag (CWT) sample size.....	NA
CWT positive sample.....	0
Percent CWT positive of fish screened.....	0
Other striped bass recaptures (non-cruise tagged fish)...	4
Striped bass stomachs removed for food habits.....	67
Summer flounder measured.....	743
Summer flounder juveniles for CTILS diet studies.....	19
Southern flounder measured.....	0
Weakfish samples retained for CTILS.....	15
Weakfish samples for NCDMF.....	NA
Winter skates measured/sexed.....	NA

The Scientific Party and crew of the OREGON II, trawling night and day in the Atlantic Ocean off the North Carolina Outer Banks, processed (processing includes counting, measuring, sexing and additional weighing, tagging and/or sampling for some species) a total of..... fish of different species.

This year's cruise capture and tagging of migratory Atlantic **striped bass** far exceeded the long-term average value for striped bass tagged (19-year average of 2,213). The 2006 cruise ranks **third overall** in numbers of

striped bass tagged and released (see Attachment 1 table). In addition to tagging 4,445 of the striped bass, random scale samples were taken for aging fish. Striped bass mortally injured during capture this year were sacrificed for aging and prey analysis by Chesapeake Trophic Interactions Laboratory Services. During its 19-year history, the Cooperative Winter Tagging Cruises have collectively tagged 42,044 striped bass. A majority of the fish tagged this year were in the 28-inch and up (711 mm +) size classes.

We had a request to collect **bluefish** this year again for work to be done by North Carolina State University. Few bluefish were encountered in the samples taken this year.No juveniles were encountered during the cruise, therefore none were bagged and frozen for this study.

Observations were taken also regarding **weakfish** abundance and distribution. Only a few catches of larger fish were observed this year. Samples of juvenile and adult weakfish encountered were measured and otoliths removed and retained for analysis by the NC Division of Marine Fisheries, and for the CTILS diet studies.

Twenty-nine **Atlantic sturgeon** were captured, measured and released this year. They were all scanned for coded wire tags but were all negative. One fish was a recapture. Twenty-four fish were tagged and released. Tagging ceased when all remaining t-bar tags were broken. The PIT tag reader essential for both scanning fish and verifying inserted tags ceased to function.

For the eleventh consecutive year during this cruise, **spiny dogfish** were enumerated. Tagging has been conducted in ten of the eleven years (no tags were available in 2000 and 2001). As observed in the previous years, the majority of the adult or immature fish encountered were females. This year's overall sex ratio for tagged fish was....., females to males (...:1 ratio). No neonates were captured this year. The spiny dogfish work was conducted in cooperation with the Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council, National Marine Fisheries Service--Northeast Fisheries Science Center, North Carolina Division of Marine Fisheries, and East Carolina University. Special thanks are due Dr. John Boreman of the NOAA-Fisheries Northeast Fisheries Science Center, Dr. Wilson Laney of the Fish and Wildlife Service, South Atlantic Fisheries Coordination Office, and Mr. Dan Furlong (?) of the Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council for providing funding for

the tagging study.

Summer flounder were not tagged this year, since the NC Division of Marine Fisheries has discontinued their tagging program; however, fish were measured. Overall number of summer flounder encountered on the cruise this year was 743, higher than last year.

For the third time during the Cruise, **skates** in the catch were measured and their gender noted. Three species were present in the catch: clearnose (*Raja eglanteria*); winter (*Leucoraja ocellata*) and little (*L. erinacea*). All Scientific Party personnel this year were trained in skate species identification, and we have a high degree of confidence that all specimens were correctly attributed to the appropriate species. Skate data will be analyzed for length-frequency, sex ratio and habitat distribution.

American shad, hickory shad, alewife and blueback herring were all documented to some degree this year for the third year. Efforts were made to note the presence of these species in tows positive for them, to begin delineating habitats they use offshore. No adult or juvenile American shad were collected by the NC Division of Marine Fisheries for aging this year, because none were caught during the entire cruise. Adult and juvenile alewives, blueback herring and hickory shad were collected by East Carolina University for a food habitats and ecological study.

Twelve **horseshoe crabs** were tagged this year, the fourth year in which such tagging has been conducted, setting a new record. See the comments below regarding the general paucity of benthic organisms in the catches this year.

In general, it appeared to the Scientific Party that the numbers of **benthic organisms** present in the samples was again lower than in the past. We are uncertain as to the reason for this, given that we were back on the OREGON II, and towing the nets rigged in the same manner as in the past. What is certain is that the numbers of such organisms as sand dollars, crabs, starfish, mollusks, and horseshoe crabs, all benthic species, were lower than we normally see in the samples.

Observations of **whales** occurred on several days during the cruise this year. On January 23 approximately 4:20 PM, Skilled Fisherman Tim Martin and Dr. Wilson Laney are confident they observed a northern right whale. Both men had a clear view of the stubby pectoral

fin as the whale breached. On January 28, an additional whale or whales were observed by Ensign Hemmick and Dr. Laney. These animals possessed a dorsal fin.

Temperature, salinity and depth data were unavailable from the ship's TSG sensors and were recorded at each station where the nets were set using a refractometer, and other ship instrumentation. Water temperatures this year have not yet been analyzed for comparison to the long-term cruise average. Sampling was conducted this year primarily in NC waters in an effort to focus on fish using the southern part of the wintering grounds, to attempt to tag coastal migratory striped bass and avoid tagging smaller Chesapeake Bay "outmigrants;" however, extensive trawling was also conducted in waters off southeastern Virginia due to the concentrations of striped bass present there. The largest striped bass tagged was a fish weighing 48.4 pounds and 48.5 inches in length.

Cruise data are available to interested parties by contacting the office at the address or telephone number below. **Data provided in this summary report are preliminary and subject to revision. Questions or comments should be directed to**

R. Wilson Laney
South Atlantic Fisheries Coordination Office
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
P.O. Box 33683
Raleigh, North Carolina 27636-3683
Telephone-Raleigh (919) 515-5019.

Announcements

NC's Coastal Habitat Protection Plan (CHPPs) has Research Needs

The North Carolina General Assembly passed the Fisheries Reform Act in August 1997. Among the Act's provisions was a requirement for the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) to prepare Coastal Habitat Protection Plans (CHPPs). The comprehensive approach required by the Act was probably among the first of its kind in the United States. The Department specifically assigned the management and drafting responsibilities to the Division of Marine Fisheries, with assistance from other DENR agencies, especially the Divisions of Water Quality, Coastal Resources, and Environmental Health, along with the Wildlife Resources Commission. The Coastal

Resources, Environmental Management, and Marine Fisheries Commissions adopted the CHPP in December 2004, and those Commissions adopted specific implementation plans during June – July 2005. The CHPP includes 19 specific management recommendations, with more than 100 implementation steps scheduled during 2005 – 2007.

The CHPP also identified numerous gaps in knowledge important to reaching and evaluating management decisions. The CHPP listed over 90 specific research needs covering a wide range of scientific disciplines. Issues identified cover the range of relationships among habitats, fish production, and human activities.

Following is a compilation of topics of research needs identified in the CHPP. No state funds are specifically set aside to support work on the identified research needs. Individual researchers and institutions are encouraged to utilize the CHPP and these research needs as they consider proposals for submittal to various funding sources. Members of the CHPP Development Team, in the agencies identified above and individually identified in the CHPP (Appendix C), are available to discuss potential research projects.

- Strategic Habitat Areas
- Stormwater runoff
- Fish-habitat relationships
- Docks and marinas
- Estuarine erosion and shoreline stabilization
- ~~Attaching related~~
- Beach nourishment
- Fishing gear impacts
- Managing non-native species
- Chemical effects
- Water supply
- Habitat status and trends
- Evaluating existing management measures
- Comprehensive water quality monitoring

Interested persons can obtain a copy of the CHPP on CD by sending an email request to chpps@ncmail.net or by telephone at 252-726-7021 (ask for the CHPP office). The CHPP, implementation plan, and this report are also available online at

<http://www.ncdmf.net/habitat/chpp28.html>.

60th Annual Conference of the Southeastern Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies, Marriott Waterside Hotel in Norfolk, Virginia, November 5-8, 2006



"Wildlife Management in the Next New World"

Call for Papers -- Manuscripts, abstracts, and posters 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 to space available on the program)

Deadline for abstracts is April 28, 2006

Posters

Deadline for posters is April 28, 2006

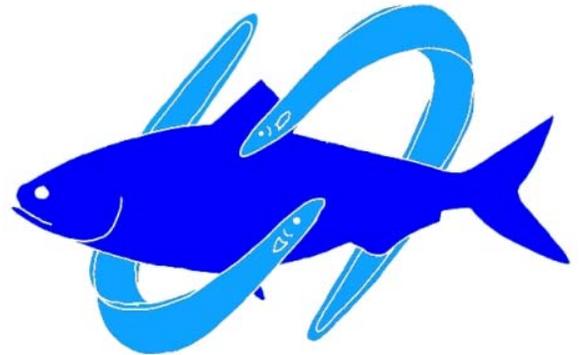
Law Enforcement, Legal, Licensing, Constituent Outreach and Marketing, Outdoor Education, and Minorities in Natural Resources Sessions

The respective Program Team Leaders will determine the programs for these sessions. Please contact the appropriate Team Leader directly if you have questions or suggestions. Team Leader contact information is located at SEAFWA2006.org.

More information at SEAFWA2006.org

Hosted by the Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries

Challenges for Diadromous Fishes in a Dynamic Global Environment



June 17-24, 2007, Halifax, Nova Scotia

The ANACAT II Symposium will review the current state of scientific knowledge with respect to biology, ecology, and conservation of diadromous fishes (including anadromous, catadromous, potamodromous, and amphidromous species). The symposium theme will build upon that of the very successful 1986 American Fisheries Society symposium, **Common Strategies of Anadromous and Catadromous Fishes** (*Dadswell et al. 1987. Am. Fish. Soc. Symp. 1*). However, emphasis will be shifted to address how recent alterations to the environment and human activity has affected diadromous fishes with respect to their sustainability and role in aquatic ecosystems.

The meeting will be organized as a 4½ day formal scientific symposium with 6 plenary presentations, ~40 invited/contributed papers, and a poster session.

Papers will be organized into 6 general topic areas:

Climate Change & Anthropogenic Influences

- ***Population and Habitat Restoration***
- ***Dynamic Nature of Diadromy***
- ***Contribution of Diadromy to Ecosystem Energetics***
- ***Ocean Environment & Migration***
- ***Social Ecology of Diadromous Fish Management***

A symposium Proceedings will be published through the American Fisheries Society, including full papers of the presentations and abstracts of the posters.

For more information, contact:

Alex Haro email: Alex_Haro@usgs.gov

19th Annual SEAMAP Cooperative Winter tagging Cruise rankings based number of striped bass tagged and released.

RANK	YEAR	FISHING DATES	VESSEL	NO. TOWS	NETS	NO. FISH TAGGED
1	2000	January 28-February 4	OREGON II	141	2	6,275
2	1994	January 21-26	OREGON II	96	2	4,632
3	2006	January 19-28	OREGON II	296	2	4,445
4	2005	January 24-February 3	OREGON II	149	2/1	4,266
5	2002	January 14-21	OREGON II	212	2	4,093
6	2004	January 16-24	R/V CAPE HATTERAS	249	1	2,708
7	2001	January 14-19	OREGON II	163	2	2,445
8	1990	January 17-24	CHAPMAN	77	1	2,010
9	2003	January 14-22	OREGON II	227	2	1,908
10	1991	January 24-31	OREGON II	162	2	1,780
11	1997	February 1-7	OREGON II	131	2	1,357
12	1988	January 15-22	OREGON II	167	2	1,335
13	1989	January 16-22	OREGON II	175	2	1,157
14	1992	January 18-19, February 3-5	ALBATROSS IV	53	1	1,017
15	1996	January 23-25, February 6-12	OREGON II	204	2	696
16	1995	January 23-29	CHAPMAN	57	1	644
17	1993	February 1-9	CHAPMAN	55	1	530
18	1998	January 16-23	CHAPMAN	64	1	463
19	1999	January 31-February 9	OREGON II	146	2	28