

Tidewater Press

Newsletter Of the Tidewater Chapter of the American Fisheries Society

Volume 22 Issue 2

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President's Corner

I hope this version of the Tidewater Press finds everyone doing well. No doubt it is a busy time of the year with field and laboratory studies going full tilt. Those working

in the field probably notice some biting and chewing insects along with the heat. Even those of us at the northern end of the Tidewater Chapter range distribution have found that we enjoy a little bit of AC at this time of the year.

Recently a large contingent of Tidewater Chapter folks made the trek to the much cooler realm of Halifax, Nova Scotia, to participate in the 2nd International Symposium on Diadromous Fishes from June 18-21st. I think it is safe to say that without participation from selected Tidewater Chapter members (i.e., John Cooper, Ron Klauda, and Roger Rulifson) the meeting would not have gone as well as it did. The aforementioned Tidewater Chapter members did much of the legwork for this meeting in addition to manning the registration desk and chairing sessions. In total 6 presentations were made by Tidewater Chapter members including Dave Secor who gave an invited presentation. The meeting was attended by approximately 250 scientists from around the world all working on diadromous issues. It was truly a great meeting and several students commented on the fact that they finally got a chance to meet the folks behind many of the seminal papers in this field. It has been over 20 years since the 1st International Diadromous Symposium and judging by the enthusiasm of the audience I don't think we will be waiting another two decades for the 3rd edition of this meeting. With any luck it will happen on a 5-10 year cycle.

Moving on to a more frequent and much larger meeting, the 137th meeting of the American Fisheries Society will be in San Francisco September 2-6th. This meeting falls over the Labor Day holiday this year and should be an absolutely wonderful time to visit the "other" coast. There are scheduled to be 61 symposia and 1,800 presentations which will make it one very large meeting.

2007 Tidewater AFS EXCOM and Ex-Officio Members

- **President** – Dewayne Fox, Phone 302-857-6436; email dfox@desu.edu
- **President-Elect** – John Musick, Phone 804-684-7317; email jmusick@vims.edu.
- **Past President** – Anthony Overton, Phone 252-328-4121; email Overtona@ecu.edu
- **Secretary/Treasurer** – Stephanie McInerny, Phone 252-422-5717; email Stephanie.McInerny@noaa.gov
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- **VA Member-at-Large** – Debra Parthree, Phone 804-684-7891; email parthree@vims.edu
- **NC Member-at-Large** – Fred Sharf. Phone (910)962-7796; email scharff@uncw.edu
- **Delaware Representatives** – Kevin Neves, Phone 401-206-9811; email URIMarineBio@yahoo.com; and Brian Boutin, email boutin@udel.edu
- **ECU Student Subunit** – Jennifer Woodroffe, Phone 252-328-9407; email JRW0709@ecu.edu.
- **MD Student Subunit** – Ryan Woodland, Phone 410-326-7216; email woodland@cbl.umces.edu
- **UNC-W** – Will Smith, Phone (910)962-3407; email wes2316@uncw.edu
- **Duke University** – Elia Herman, Phone 808-391-4534; email Elia.Herman@duke.edu.
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- **Historian/Listserv Administrator** – Roger Rulifson.
- **Webmaster** – James Morris.

I know that lodging options are plentiful in San Francisco but be prepared for sticker shock if you do not move quickly.



Tidewater members pose at the 2nd International Symposium on Diadromy (L-R): Colette Cairns, Ron Klauda, Wes Patrick, Dewayne Fox, Roger Rulifson, Jessie Thomas, Phil Simpson, Lori Brown, John Cooper, Marrassa (Gigi) Brady, Dave Secor, and Ryan Woodland.

I am pleased to say that we were able to put the 2007 Tidewater Chapter annual meeting to bed with all the final invoices being paid this last quarter. Both Tim Targett and I attempted to keep the costs low and with gracious support from Delaware State University, Dogfish Head Brewery, and Delaware Sea Grant we just about broke even. As a chapter we are all indebted to both Lori Brown and Stephanie McNerny for keeping the budgetary information straight and helping wrap things up once the meeting was finished. We are hoping to post the PDFs of the PowerPoint presentations and audio recordings of individual talks online soon. We will not post materials from those individuals who contacted us immediately following the meeting.

The Tidewater Chapter will be holding its mid-year EXCOM meeting in the near future. My initial attempts at selecting a date for early July were unsuccessful as I could not accommodate everyone's schedules. I will be contacting EXCOM members in the near future to select a date. The meeting will be held via conference call so as to make it easier for our EXCOM to get together.

I would like to send a personal thanks to Roger Rulifson for making sure we submitted materials to the newsletter in a timely manner. This is a thankless job and without

his hard work to pull the Tidewater Press together it would probably not happen nearly as frequently or would the final product be as nice.

Enjoy your summer!

--Dewayne Fox, Tidewater Chapter President 2007



Secretary/ Treasurer's Report

Treasurer's Report

Checking:	\$ 4491.15
Mutual Fund:	\$ 1220.83
Total:	\$ 5711.98.

Other than that everyone should know that we have lost money on the annual meeting by not breaking even for the past two years. If we want to keep contributing to funds like the Diadromous Fish, etc., we need to make money on this meeting to support that because we are currently ~ \$8.00 under our standard operating budget of \$4500 needed to throw our annual meeting.

--Stephanie McNerny,
Tidewater
Secretary/Treasurer



Update on Plans for the 22nd Tidewater Chapter Meeting, 2008, By Jack Musick

The 22nd Annual Meeting of the Tidewater Chapter is scheduled for Thursday, March 6, to Saturday, March 8, 2008 at the Virginia Institute of Marine Science (VIMS) in Gloucester, Virginia. Rooms have been reserved

at the Duke of York Motel in Yorktown, on the waterfront where there are also three pubs. Thursday evening will be used for posters and social w/ heavy finger food (at VIMS). Friday will be oral presentations with a buffet and beer afterwards, probably in Yorktown

across the street from the Motel. Saturday morning will be oral presentations, finishing at noon.

-- Dr. John A. (Jack) Musick – President-Elect

Communications Committee

Tidewater LISTSERV –

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If you are having difficulty with getting on the listserv, please contact me. Rulifsonr@ecu.edu.

Student Subunit News



University of Maryland By Ryan Woodland

The University of Maryland AFS Student Subunit is gearing up for a productive summer field season that ranges across a host of species and habitats. Ongoing studies by members of our subunit include a suite of metabolic, migration and bioenergetic

studies of white perch (*Morone americana*) by Lisa Kerr (subunit past president) and Deanna McQuarrie (subunit secretary). Jason Edwards is conducting experimental work assessing RNA:DNA ratios as an indicator of habitat suitability for juvenile Atlantic menhaden (*Brevoortia tyrannus*). In a synthetic study that ranges from the genetic to the population level, Adam Peer is investigating maternal effects on recruitment of striped bass (*Morone saxatilis*). One of our newest members, Kari Fenske, is engaged in a demographic study of American eel (*Anguilla rostrata*) in Chesapeake tributaries, harkening back to Johann Hjort's efforts to use "the science of vital statistics" as a model for fisheries research. Other ongoing studies include estuarine and marine community studies, recruitment dynamics of bluefish (*Pomatomus saltatrix*) to

Maryland's coastal zone, and trophic and bioenergetic studies of Atlantic croaker (*Micropogonias undulatus*).

In between field work and working up samples, the subunit has planned a field trip to the Smithsonian Environmental Research Center (SERC) on July 10th to attend a lecture by Doug Lipton titled "The Changing Values of Fish in Chesapeake Bay". The visit will allow subunit students to tour the facilities and interact with top-notch scientists engaged in topical research on estuarine and marine ecosystems. Also upcoming is the 3rd annual Bring Your Own Species barbeque; an event that has proven very successful at bringing together members of the subunit for lively discussion and a chance to expand our culinary horizons.

The subunit looks forward to organizing a student-mentor lunch at the 2008 Tidewater meeting hosted by president-elect Jack Musick. Established professionals from academia, government, NGO or private industry are encouraged to volunteer as a host mentor for a student. Interested individuals should contact Ryan Woodland at woodland@cbl.umces.edu. More information will be forthcoming as the meeting approaches.

Terra Lederhouse is wrapping up her Master's thesis, (*working title*: "Naked gobies (*Gobiosoma bosc*) as indicators of oyster reef restoration success"), on a subject guaranteed to help her in her new role as Program Manager of the Oyster Recovery Partnership – Good Luck, Terra!

If you are interested in getting involved in the subunit, please contact me at:

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President, UM-AFS Student Subunit
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Chesapeake Biological Laboratory
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East Carolina University By Jennifer Woodroffe

The spring semester has been busy for the ECU-AFS student subunit. In February, we sent one student to present at the 15th Annual Southern Division meeting in Memphis where we were presented with the Student Subunit of the Year Award for the second year in a row! We also sent six students

to the joint Mid-Atlantic and Tidewater meeting in Lewes. Five students presented in both oral and poster formats.

In April we participated in the Grifton Shad Festival where we hosted a kiddie fishing tournament, a fly casting seminar, and cast netting demonstration. It was great to see all the kids so excited! We also hosted our first annual Take-a-Kid fishing day. We had a good turnout and everyone had a great time. We wrapped up our annual spring fundraiser, Barefoot on the Mall, at East Carolina University. We sold hotdogs, baked goods, chips, and sodas. Proceeds from this event will help offset registration costs and other expenses to enable members to attend meetings.

On the homefront, we won the ECU-Organization of the Year award for the second year in a row and Dr. Roger Rulifson won the Student Organization Advisor of the Year award! To celebrate the end of the year we had a crawfish boil. Everyone turned out and we had a wonderful time. Thanks to Dr. Holbert for providing the food!

For the 2007-2008 academic year, the officers are:

- President Jennifer R. Woodroffe
- Vice President Jillian Osbourne
- Secretary Cecilia Krahforst
- Treasurer Ken Riley
- Historian/Webmaster Becky Deehr

Future activities include Get-A-Clue (a campus-wide organizational fair), Big Sweep (river clean up) and seminar/workshops.



If you are interested in attending a meeting of the ECU-AFS, participating in a seminar or workshop, or presenting your research, please contact the student subunit! We look forward to hearing from you!

Jennifer R. Woodroffe
President, ECU-AFS
384 Flanagan Building,
Office phone 252-328-9407



Duke University AFS, By Lisa White, Vice President

The Duke Student AFS chapter had a successful inaugural event at the University's Earth Day celebration on April 20th. The well-themed fish table hailed as one of the most fun stops at the event. Our goals for the day were to publicize the group, to recruit members and to educate the public about sustainable seafood practices. We were successful spreading our name by selling unique, yet functional Duke Fish slap koozies and signing up new members to the Society and our email list.

Many passers-by were intrigued by our fishing attire and seafood quiz game. To win a treat, participants would fish in our small ocean (a blue bucket) for paper fish. Each fish was labeled with the species name, and how it was caught. The contestant then had to decide if this was a sustainable capture method and could choose to put the fish back in the ocean, or on a plate. Monterey Bay Seafood Watch and Blue Ocean Institute wallet cards were distributed at the table. Many people were surprised to see some of their favorite catches on the avoid list and said the card would be a useful reference when grocery shopping and eating out. It was a great first outing for Duke Fish and the positive response has us positioned us for a big cast off next fall!



Duke AFS member Caitlin Luderer explains Seafood Watch cards to students at the school's 2007 Earth Day celebration in April.



AFS members Caitlin Luderer (left) and Elia Herman (right) show off the DukeFish slap koozies at Earth Day.

-- Lisa White, Duke University AFS Vice President



Maryland News from Bob Murphy

Winter temperatures and a lower Patuxent River fish assemblage

In temperate estuaries, nearshore fish assemblages are influenced by variable climate. Seasonal and interannual variability in temperature, freshwater flow, salinity, dissolved oxygen, and turbidity are all known to influence fish assemblage structure. Recent evidence indicates that the summer and fall fish assemblages in temperate estuaries are structured by climate occurring the previous winter and spring. Students and scientists at the University of Maryland's Chesapeake Biological Lab (CBL) in Solomons have been conducting weekly seine hauls from May to October for the past eight years at a single lower Patuxent River site to add to the evidence supporting a seasonal preconditioning of estuarine fish assemblages. This seine survey emphasized temporal sampling, examining the same site to reduce spatial variations known to occur along estuarine gradients. Rebecca Wingate and Dave Secor show that winter temperature and winter flow were most important factors in driving the summer and fall fish assemblage structure at the lower Patuxent River site. Further, they found that contemporaneous environmental

variables measured at the time of sampling were not influential.

While winter temperature was identified as the dominant factor influencing the summer and fall fish assemblage structure, Wingate and Secor also detected a highly significant rise of 1.5° C in winter surface seawater temperatures at CBL since 1938. While the overall trend was 0.2° C per decade, they also detected a steeper rise of 0.6° C per decade from the late 1960s until present day. Winter temperatures during the seine survey ranged from 3 to 6° C; with increasing winter temperatures within the small range observed during the CBL seine survey, overall abundances at the lower Patuxent River site may decline over time and the fish assemblage may shift from young-of-the-year (YOY) anadromous species such as white perch and striped bass to one dominated by YOY coastal spawning species such as spot and bluefish. The importance of winter climate on fish assemblage structure in temperate estuaries is relevant to climate change in the Chesapeake Bay region and worldwide. Few studies have examined the response of whole communities to climate change, limiting the knowledge of how climate is or will influence fish assemblage structure. In this study, analysis of preceding environmental variables coupled with intensive weekly sampling enabled scientists to test and support the hypothesis that summer-fall fish assemblages are structured by climate occurring during the previous winter.

While seawater temperatures at CBL in January of this year were the warmest on record (by half a degree C), this winter was not among the ten warmest winters since 1938. Winter temperatures were warm, and winter flows were in line with the 45-year average conditions. Students and scientists began this year's seine survey in the beginning of May and will continue throughout the summer and into fall. So far, large schools of Atlantic silversides, bay anchovy, and spot have been caught, along with adult cownose rays and a handful of YOY bluefish.

NOAA Chesapeake Bay Office Studies Derelict Crab Traps

Derelict fishing gear, including lost or abandoned nets and crab traps, can create safety, nuisance, environmental, and economic impacts in coastal waters. The Chesapeake Bay blue crab fishery—the nation's largest—uses traps as the primary method of harvest.

Conservative estimates suggest that more than 500,000 commercial crab traps are deployed in the Bay during the summer months. Estimates from around the United States (and locally) are that each commercial fisherman may lose as many as 30% of their traps for a variety of reasons. Crab traps in the Chesapeake Bay become “ghost traps” after their float line is severed by vessel propellers, chafed due to wave action, or affected by strong currents.

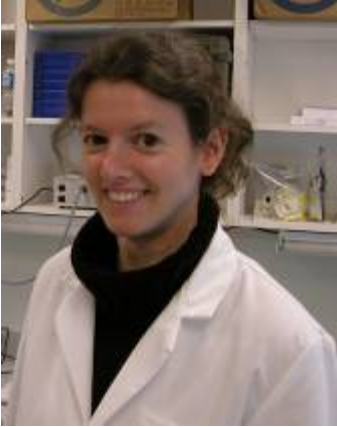
During sonar surveys conducted in winter of 2005, the NOAA Chesapeake Bay Office (NCBO) Habitat Characterization and Mapping Program noticed that there were many derelict ghost traps in the upper Bay. NCBO organized its Derelict Fishing Gear Program which operates in cooperation with a number of federal, state, and academic partners. This program is working to quantify how many derelict crab traps there are in various parts of the bay and whether they have an adverse effect on blue crabs and other resources. NCBO is currently conducting surveys in Maryland (VIMS Center for Coastal Resource Management is conducting similar surveys concurrently in the Virginia portion of the Bay) in the Rhode, West, and South Rivers. Estimates of derelict trap densities range from 20 to 690 traps per square kilometer. Further research will refine these numbers and scientific understanding of how derelict crab traps affect living resources in the Chesapeake Bay.

Chesapeake Biological Laboratory Dedicates New Fisheries Science Facility



Congressman Steny Hoyer (House Majority Leader), along with dignitaries from the State, science and local communities,

came to CBL (University of Maryland Center for Environmental Science) on Monday, May 21 to dedicate its newest research facility. The Fisheries Research Complex, housing both freshwater and seawater laboratories, will be used to enhance fisheries ecosystem management and research for our coastal and ocean waters. Tours of the facility were given after the dedication and included the opportunity to see young sturgeon, and other species from the Chesapeake Bay.



**Virginia News from
Debra Parthree**

**INTERNATIONAL
GAME FISH AWARD**

Gloucester Point, VA—
The International Game Fish Association (IGFA) has granted its individual Conservation Award for 2006 to Virginia Institute of Marine Science

(VIMS) professor John Graves. Graves was recognized for his research leading to the conservation of billfish and tuna. His contributions include the application of modern genetic techniques on billfishes and the use of pop-up tags in the catch-and-release marlin fishery. In addition, Graves has served as Chair of the Advisory Committee to the U.S. Section of the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT) and is actively involved in the Mid-Atlantic \$500,000, one of the East Coast’s largest game-fishing tournaments. The IGFA is the world’s oldest fishing association, founded 1939 and 30,000 members strong. The Association promotes game-fishing as both a recreational activity and as a platform for scientific research. For more information, contact Dave Malmquist, (804) 684-7011, davem@vims.edu, or John Graves, (804) 684-7352, graves@vims.edu.

AMERICAN SHAD TAGGING

Gloucester Point, VA—Traditionally, tagging techniques are used to examine the effects of fishing pressure on fish populations. However, a new study in the York River by VIMS researchers John Olney, Rob Latour, and Brian Watkins and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers researcher Doug Clark indicates that the act itself of tagging American shad may alter their behavior and bias estimates of mortality. Furthermore, previous studies have shown that American shad are particularly sensitive to handling. To confirm these suspicions, the researchers used acoustic tags, which allow for tracking a fish over space and time instead of simply providing the location where it was caught. Traditional tagging assumes the fish will recover from the procedure and continue their upriver migration normally; however, data from the acoustic tags show that assumption is not true in this case. Of the 29 acoustically tagged shad, nearly half abandoned or delayed movement upstream. The

American shad fishery was once Chesapeake Bay’s largest fishery, but has declined drastically due in part to overfishing and damming of spawning grounds.

Source: “Study Shows Importance of Listening to Shad” The Crest, Vol. 9, No. 1, Winter 2007.

<http://www.vims.edu/newsmedia/crest.html>



**ATLANTIC
STURGEON
RESTORATION**

Chester, VA—
Virginia Commonwealth University (VCU),

VIMS, the Army Corps of Engineers, and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service have joined forces this past winter to study the Atlantic sturgeon population in the James River. The effort is in attempt to restore the abundance of the primitive fish. During the settlement of Jamestown in the early 17th century, the fish provided a main food source for the desperately hungry pioneers, but overfishing and pollution has decreased the population today by more than 90 percent. After believing the fish to be virtually extinct, scientists recently discovered a meager breeding population in the James River. The restoration effort focuses on developing sonar techniques to detect sturgeon underwater and differentiate them from other similarly-sized fishes. The researchers hope to learn when and where the sturgeon congregate and spawn and consequently place protections on spawning areas or change dredging operations. It could take 40 years or more for the slow growing Atlantic sturgeon population to be restored.

Source: “Sturgeon at Jamestown was plentiful”. Richmond Times-Dispatch. May 11, 2007. Rex Springston, (804) 649-6453, rspringston@timesdispatch.com.

SHARK BITE AT VIRGINIA AQUARIUM

Virginia Beach, VA—Beth Firchau, leader of the shark physicals team and curator of fishes at the Virginia Aquarium & Marine Science Center, was bitten by a 10-year-old, 94-pound blacktip reef shark following a physical exam. The shark was slow to recover from the light sedation routinely administered to the animals for the exams. Firchau was trying to revive the shark by

moving it through the water to get oxygen to its gills when the animal began to swim on its own but then turned and bit her. The shark died a few hours after the incident. A necropsy revealed the fish was pregnant, which may have played a role in the fatal reaction to the sedatives. The shark physicals team had no reason to believe the animal was pregnant because it had had no contact with a male blacktip. Reports of asexual reproduction in female hammerhead sharks have surfaced recently, and the first confirmed case of parthenogenesis in captive sharks has been published. If the blacktip pregnancy at the VA aquarium is found to be a result of asexual reproduction, it will be the second confirmed case of parthenogenesis in captive sharks. Samples are being genetically analyzed; conclusive results may take several months.

Sources: AP Articles, "Shark bites Virginia aquarium employee", "Shark that bit aquarium curator was pregnant, tests show". On the Net: Virginia Aquarium & Marine Science Center: www.vmsm.com

--Debra J. Parthree, Virginia Member-At-Large

North Carolina News

CARTERET COMMUNITY COLLEGE RECEIVES PERMISSION FOR FULL AQUACULTURE PROGRAM

Morehead City – Skip Kemp, faculty member at Carteret Community College (CCC), reports that their application for a full Aquaculture Technology curriculum was recently approved by the Board of Governors. The emphasis in the courses and practicums will be on the applied marine sciences aspects of aquaculture instead of the traditional freshwater farming aspects, although both will be covered. The full curriculum is now available and CCC is accepting students for fall 2007. Some courses will be offered fully online. Also, a bilateral agreement between ECU and CCC allows for a 2+2 program where CCC students with an Aquaculture Technology AAS degree can matriculate to ECU.

--Skip Kemp, Program Director, CCC.

LIGHT STICKS MAY LURE TURTLES TO FISHING LINES

CHAPEL HILL - Thousands of loggerhead turtles die

every year when they get tangled or hooked in commercial fishing longlines meant for tuna or swordfish. New research suggests a possible reason why turtles swim into the lines. The glowing light sticks that lure fish to longlines also attract turtles, according to a University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill study.

The light sticks used in longline fisheries resemble the disposable plastic tubes popular with children on Halloween. The steady glow draws fish, which then find baited hooks and are caught on the lines. The lights also seem to fascinate turtles, however, which are equally likely to chomp on fish bait, or get snagged in the hooks and lines.

"Juvenile turtles are indiscriminate eaters and bite nearly everything small that they encounter," said Ken Lohmann, UNC-Chapel Hill professor of biology and senior author of the study. "Under natural conditions, most small objects floating or swimming through the sea are potential sources of food. But nowadays, with fishing lines, plastic, and garbage in the ocean, biting everything is not such a great strategy."

The study appears in the May 2007 issue of the journal *Animal Conservation*. John Wang, a former graduate student at Carolina and now a research associate with the Joint Institute for Marine and Atmospheric Research at the University of Hawaii, was the lead author of the study. Grants from the National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) and the National Science Foundation provided funding.

The new findings may help fisheries decrease the number of turtles caught on lines, the researchers said. Most longlines deploy their hooks below the depths where turtles usually swim, so shading the lights to direct illumination downward instead of upward might make the lights harder for turtles to see. Similarly, switching to colors that turtles can't detect very well might also reduce turtle deaths.

A recent estimate published in the journal *Ecology Letters* suggests 200,000 loggerhead and 50,000 leatherback turtles may die each year in commercial fishery longlines.

Lohmann, Wang and their team tested loggerhead turtle's response to light sticks in a large, water-filled tank. Turtles were placed into a soft cloth harness and tethered to an electronic tracking device that monitored their

movements. Safely encased in the soft fabric and released in the tank, the turtles swam as if in the open ocean, apparently unaware that they weren't going anywhere. When glowing light sticks were introduced to the tank, the turtles swam toward them, as if curious about the lights. The color or type of the light stick did not seem to matter. The turtles paddled toward green, blue and yellow light sticks, as well as toward both plastic chemical lightsticks and newer models based on reusable LEDs. Both captive-raised and wild-caught juvenile turtles were attracted to glowing light sticks, whether in total darkness or underneath a night sky. When the lights weren't activated, they were unappealing. The experiments were conducted at the National Marine Fisheries Services' Galveston Lab in Texas and at a turtle nesting area in south Florida.



The study needs to be repeated with longlines in the open sea to confirm that light sticks attract turtles under natural conditions in the ocean. The researchers are also curious to check leatherback turtles for a similar response. More information is on the Lohmann Lab Web site: <http://www.unc.edu/depts/geomag>. Lohmann can be reached at (919) 962-1332 or klohmann@email.unc.edu. John Wang can be reached at (808) 983-3714 or john.wang@noaa.gov.

Source UNC News Release:

<http://www.unc.edu/news/archives/may07/turtlelights050407.html>

QUEEN RETIRES AFTER 31 YEARS AT ECU



Bill (William H.) Queen retired at the end of June after 31 years as director of ECU's Institute for Coastal and Marine Resources (ICMR). Bill is a native of Birmingham, Alabama and received his BS and MS from the

University of Alabama, and his PhD in botany from Duke University. He moved on to South Carolina where we conducted research on salt marsh plants and how they adapt to highly saline environments. Bill then went to Maryland to oversee the Chesapeake Wetlands Program. In 1976, he moved to East Carolina University to become the first and only director of ICMR. During his tenure, Bill has served on many UNC, national, and international marine and coastal related committees and was instrumental in helping establish the Coastal Resources Management PhD program at ECU. Bill's retirement plans include taking a break from marine science issues claiming he is going to play golf and travel with his wife Beverly. Congratulations Bill!

Source: Coastwatch, High Season 2007, NC Sea Grant.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Update to the 10th Watershed and Wetland Workshop, Fall 2007 -- The 10th Watershed and Wetland workshop has moved to a new location. Unfortunately, the original hotel in Atlantic City, New Jersey will not be able to offer accommodation due to renovation. The new location will most likely be in Ocean City, Maryland. In addition, projected week of the venue will be most likely moved to either October 16 -19 or October 20-26. We will update you as soon as we have more specific information. If you would like to organize a panel (3 to 4 presentations) on a topic, or would just like to suggest a topic, please contact Jeff Thompson (410)537-3828, jthompson@mde.state.md.us.

Note: Abstracts are due by July 20.

"Solutions to Coastal Disasters 2008

Conference", April 13 – 16, 2008, Turtle Bay Resort, 57-091 Kamehameha Highway, Kahuku, Hawaii 96731. Please visit the conference website at

<http://content.asce.org/conferences/cd2008> for a detailed list of conference topics and abstract submission instructions. Prospective authors are cordially invited to submit an abstract to the Solutions to Coastal Disasters 2008 Organizing Committee by 16 July 2007.

Conference topics will focus on science, management tools, management challenges and options, and coastal land use policies related to a range of coastal hazards including:

- Coastal Erosion

- Hurricanes
- Coastal Storms and Seasonal High Surf
- Seismic Events and Tsunamis
- Climate Change
- Sea Level Change
- Wind and related coastal hazards

Multidisciplinary topics and papers are encouraged.

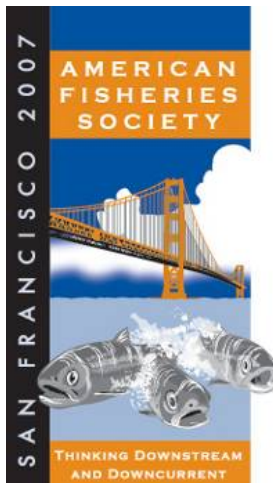
Key Conference Dates

- Last date for abstract submission: 16 July 2007
- Notification of abstract acceptance: 29 August 2007
- Last date for paper submission: 29 October 2007

WHAT'S NEW IN COASTWATCH – NC Sea Grant's publication has hit the streets for the "High Season" of 2007. Articles include:

- Oral History: Documenting Down East Fishing Traditions.
- Fish House Study Quantifies Declines
- The Inner Islands: Browns Island
- Small City, Big Plans (Wahsnginton, NC)
- Dog Days: Estimating Spiny Dogfish Populations
- Aquatic Robotics: Teens Plunge into Technology
- Queen's Quest: Human Dimensions in Coastal Science

Coastwatch is published 6 times a year. Request a free sample copy of Coastwatch by sending an email to sandra_harris@ncsu.edu or calling 919/515-9069. See www.ncseagrant.org for subscription information.



www.fisheries.org

10th Wetlands & Watersheds Workshop

The Place has changed.

We have been having a pretty hectic summer. Our tried and true partner, The Holiday Inn – Boardwalk in Atlantic City changed hands and is closing its doors in order to remodel. Unfortunately for us, this change came AFTER you had already received your mailed copy of the call for abstracts. We have been scrambling to find a venue for us that is available at about the same time, and is as consistently attentive to your comfort and our Workshop needs as we are used to. I am please to report that we found that place. The [Carousel Resort](#) in Ocean City MD is a beautiful property with a truly attentive staff. I have hosted meetings there in the past, as has Ralph, and we were both very satisfied. Their meeting facilities are superb. They offer a selection of rooms and condominiums (Faculty advisors consider renting a condo and bringing ALL your students). The bar and restaurants on site are excellent. They have indoor ice-skating and an indoor pool. The Boardwalk in Ocean City MD has board walking with an abundance of attractions. I actually enjoy the Ocean City Boardwalk much more than the Atlantic City Boardwalk, because there are so many more things to do.

Our room rates will be substantially lower. At this time I believe that we will be able to offer all comers a room rate of about \$74.00.

The Dates have changed - back

Traditionally we gather the last full week before Halloween. In you mailing you may have noticed that we changed the dates to a little earlier in the month to accommodate our venue. With the change in venue we are free to return to our traditional dates. So if you already marked your calendar when you got the mailing, please get it out and mark it again. **We will meet Monday through Thursday October 22-25, 2007.** As usual we will begin on Monday, meet through Wednesday, and have an optional filed trip on Thursday.

We are still accepting abstracts!

Due to the changes and confusion, we are still accepting abstracts. If you have been putting it off, please do not delay any longer. We already have a pretty full program lined up, but there is still room for your presentation. To submit, visit our electronic submissions page:

<http://wetlandsworkgroup.org/wetreg10/abstractsubmission.htm>

Some other attractions this year

Due to the popularity, we are again going to offer some technical training as part of the Workshop agenda. This year on Tuesday afternoon you will be given the chance to select one of several short courses taught by wetlands & watersheds experts.

There will be no extra charge for these short courses. New this year will be a Student Poster Award. Our growing association with the Mid-Atlantic Chapter of the Society of Wetlands Scientists has opened the door for more student participation than ever. We plan special poster session for students, and SWS will judge the presentations AND award two scholarships that defray attendance cost to the International SWS meeting scheduled next May in Washington DC.

Frank Reilly,
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WWF and its partners created the SmartGear Competition to inspire innovative, practical, cost-effective ideas that allow fishermen to "fish smarter" – to better target their intended catch while reducing bycatch. The competition awards cash prizes for the best idea to reduce bycatch, which is the leading threat to many marine mammals, sea turtles, seabirds, and certain fish species.

The 2007 International SmartGear Competition will award a \$30,000 Grand Prize and two \$10,000 Runner-Up Prizes.

Entry Deadline: July 31, 2007

The competition is open to all – fishermen, gear manufacturers, teachers, students, engineers, scientists, and backyard inventors.

Please visit www.smartgear.org for entry materials and to learn about the winning ideas from the first two competitions.

Also, please forward this e-mail to help us spread the word about the competition. Thank you!

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SmartGear Competition

Organizers of the 2007 International SmartGear Competition thought you (or someone you know) might have an innovative idea for reducing fisheries bycatch - and would appreciate winning \$30,000 for it!