

Fall 2022

Issue 66

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Dakota Chapter American Fisheries Society Newsletter



President's Message: Paul Bailey

Greetings, Dakota Chapter!

Fall is certainly a time of noticeable change for those of us in the Fisheries Profession and that may be especially true in the Dakotas. Offices become quieter without the presence of summer seasonal staff, heated shop space is full of equipment being winterized or repaired from field season use, and lunchroom conversation now centers on pheasant numbers, the waterfowl migration, or out-of-state hunting adventures.

As we transition into data analysis and report writing season, please consider sharing your work at the upcoming Annual Meeting of the Dakota Chapter (see the Call for Papers in this newsletter). I am continually impressed by the quality, diversity, and originality of projects being conducted by Chapter Membership and am personally looking forward to learning more. There is no denying the positive impact that the sharing of information, networking, and informal conversations facilitated by our Annual Meeting has had on many of us and the resources we care about.



Chapter President Paul Bailey

There may be no place with a greater abundance of outdoor opportunities than we have right here in the Dakotas. Please know that your work to provide these opportunities are greatly appreciated and directly enhances the quality of life for many of our residents and guests. I hope you are able to spend some time enjoying our fisheries in the upcoming months.

I am honored to have the opportunity to serve the Chapter alongside our capable officers and committee members and am looking forward to seeing you at our 2023 Annual Meeting!

Nominate Someone for a Chapter Award!

The Dakota Chapter membership is comprised of many individuals who work tirelessly for the benefit of the fisheries resource in North and South Dakota. The Dakota Chapter proudly supports the following awards to individuals or groups in recognition of their efforts. If you know someone who stands out and deserves recognition, please submit a nomination for one of the awards below.

The **Robert L. Hanten Distinguished Professional Service Award** may be presented annually to no more than two individuals who have made an outstanding contribution within the field of fisheries. These contributions must have noteworthy significance within the two-state region and go beyond the requirements of a job description. Preferably all nominees should have been both Chapter and Society members for at least eight years during their respective careers.

The **Aquatic Resource Conservation Award** may be presented annually to one individual or group that has made an outstanding effort in ensuring the future welfare of the Dakota's waters and/or fisheries. These efforts include but are not limited to: information, education, providing monetary or voluntary assistance, and legislative initiatives.

The **David W. Willis Outstanding Young Professional Award** may be presented annually to up to two individuals who have made outstanding contributions to the fisheries profession during the start of their fisheries careers. Nominees must not have completed five years of full-time fisheries employment. Contributions must be substantial and go beyond that required by their position. Nominees will have become established as contributors to the improvement of aquatic resources in North or South Dakota.

Letters of nomination can be sent to the Awards and Nominations Committee Chair, BJ Schall at Benjamin.Schall@state.sd.us.



Student Scholarship Opportunities

The Dakota Chapter offers several scholarships for students to support their education or travel to the annual meeting. Interested students should visit the Chapter website for scholarship criteria and application instructions:

<https://dakota.fisheries.org/awards-and-scholarships/>

The **Dr. James C. Schmulbach Memorial Scholarship** was established in 2006 to recognize the important contributions that “Doc Schmulbach” made to fisheries science. The scholarship recognizes an outstanding undergraduate student (junior or senior) who is studying fisheries science, or related field at an accredited college or university in North or South Dakota.

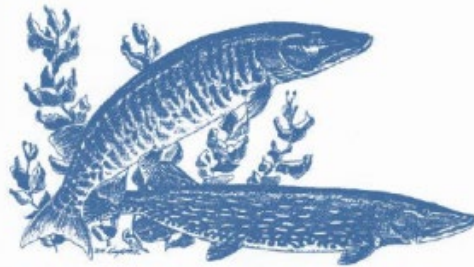
The **Dr. Robert A. Klumb Memorial Scholarship** was established in 2014 in memory of “Rob” Klumb, former Project Leader for the US Fish and Wildlife Service in Pierre, SD. The scholarship recognizes outstanding student(s) in fisheries science, and provides travel support up to \$250 to attend the annual Chapter meeting.

The **Will Sayler Memorial Scholarship** was established in 2021 following a donation from the Sayler family to honor the contributions of Will Sayler to the Dakota Chapter of AFS and his investment in student participation. This scholarship will be awarded to undergraduate students to cover the cost of “partial attendance” conference registration.

The **SDSU Student Subunit Sauger Scholarship** was established to assist South Dakota students attending the Annual Dakota Chapter meeting. Eligible students may be enrolled at any College or University in South Dakota. The number of scholarships to be awarded each year and the dollar amount of scholarships is annually decided by the SDSU Subunit Executive Committee. Sauger Scholarships are paid for by the SDSU Subunit from proceeds generated from the raffle conducted at the annual Dakota Chapter meeting.

The **VCSU Student Subunit Northern Pike Scholarship** was established to assist North Dakota students in attending the Annual Dakota Chapter meeting. Eligible students may be enrolled at any College or University in North Dakota. The number of scholarships to be awarded each year and the dollar amount of scholarships is annually decided by the VCSU Subunit Executive Committee. Northern Pike Scholarships are paid for by the VCSU Subunit from proceeds generated from the raffle conducted at the annual Dakota Chapter meeting.

The Esocid Technical Committee is seeking applications for a student travel grant: The Esocid Award



Purpose: To financially assist one or more students conducting research of interest to the Esocid Technical Committee (ETC).

Description: A travel grant of at least \$250 from the ETC of the North Central Division of the American Fisheries Society for up to three students to attend the Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference.

Eligibility Criteria: The recipient(s) of this award must be currently enrolled in a college or university for an undergraduate or graduate degree program. Preference will be given to those involved in research of interest to the ETC.

Documentation required: An application letter that includes: student's name, address, telephone number, educational institution, department, degree level, a short description of current research, reasons for wishing to attend the meeting (paper or poster presentation, pertinent paper session, sub-unit business and/or technical meetings), and reasons why financial assistance is needed.

Selection Criteria: The Executive Committee of the ETC will evaluate applicants based on the following criteria:

- a. AFS involvement (reasons for attending the meeting).
- b. Relevance of research to the goals of the ETC.
- c. Number of applications and current funding levels.

Frequency of Award: The ETC will select up to three recipients. Multiple applicants from the same state will be handled at the ETC's discretion.

Deadline: The deadline for receipt of completed applications by the ETC Scholarship Chair is January 20, 2023, to be eligible for the Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference and June 1, 2023, to be eligible for the National AFS Meeting.

Executive Committee Nominations

The Awards and Nominations Committee is seeking members willing to serve on the Dakota Chapter Executive Committee for the coming year(s). The Chapter functions solely on the willingness of members to step up and serve. If you have questions about the role or duties of any of these offices, feel free to contact current EXCOM members for feedback.

Positions that will be up for election at the 2023 annual meeting include:

- Chapter President-elect – a North Dakota member. The president-elect will assume office in the Fall of 2023 and serves as the Newsletter editor until transitioning to the office of President in 2024. They will preside over the Annual Meeting in 2025 in North Dakota.
- Chapter Vice-President – a South Dakota member. The incoming vice president will assume office in the Fall of 2023 and will assist the Chapter President with meeting arrangements for the 2024 Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference held in Sioux Falls.

If you are interested in running for office or would like to nominate someone for one of the offices above, please contact the Awards and Nominations Chair BJ Schall at

Benjamin.Schall@state.sd.us



"Whether you think you can or think you can't--you are right."
-- Henry Ford

2023 Dakota Chapter Continuing Education Virtual Learning Opportunity

The Dakota Chapter's Continuing Education Committee conducted a survey of membership in 2021 to gauge interest in a variety of potential topics. One topic of broad interest was otolith microchemistry. We are excited to bring you an opportunity to learn from one of the world's leading experts on this topic!

Current Application of Otolith Microchemistry in Fisheries Research and Management with Dr. Greg Whitley

Dr. Whitley is a Professor in the Department of Zoology at Southern Illinois University, Carbondale where he has led pioneering research on the use of otolith (and other structures) microchemistry as indicators of fish environmental history. This workshop will provide an overview of this topic and guidance as to the types of fisheries research and management questions that can be addressed through analysis of otolith microchemistry.

Please mark your calendar and plan to join this workshop virtually from **2:00 to 4:30 pm (Central Standard Time) on Wednesday, March 1st, 2023**. A link to this meeting will be distributed to membership in the upcoming weeks.



South Dakota Game, Fish, and Parks Update

John Lott, Section Chief

SDGFP Staff Changes

I am always amazed how many changes in staff we have in the Aquatics Section of SDGFP in a year. We have had three staff changes since I last reported on staffing in the summer 2022 DAFS newsletter. With Mark Fincel being hired as the area fisheries supervisor for our Upper Missouri River Management Area, it created a vacancy for a wildlife biologist in the Ft. Pierre office. Dylan Gravenhof, who was a resource biologist in that office, was hired to fill that wildlife biologist position. Cameron Goble, who was a wildlife biologist in Ft. Pierre, accepted a position with the Province of Alberta, creating another wildlife biologist vacancy in that office that will be filled soon.

Aquatic Habitat and Access and Fish Production are priority programs for the Aquatics Section of SDGFP right now and we are shifting resources to those programs. In the summer newsletter, I shared how we have increased staffing for the aquatic habitat and access programs throughout the state. We recently expanded staffing at Cleghorn State Fish Hatchery, in Rapid City, to five staff, by adding Mack Hawkins as a resource biologist. Cleghorn is the center of SDGFP's efforts to develop production-level recirculating aquaculture system (RAS) technology and Mack will be busy helping with the increased production capacity of Cleghorn.



South Dakota Game, Fish and Parks Update

John Lott, Section Chief, continued

2024 Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference

The State of South Dakota is hosting the 2024 Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference from January 27-31, 2024, in Sioux Falls, South Dakota. The Midwest Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies (MAFWA) assumed conference hosting responsibilities a few years ago and SDGFP, as a member of MAFWA, has been designated as the lead agency for conference planning. Planning efforts are just beginning. Do not be surprised if we reach out to the Dakota Chapter membership to help plan the event. There are many fisheries and wildlife management professionals outside of SDGFP, and for fisheries, North and South Dakota fisheries professionals have always worked together to meet the management needs of our states.

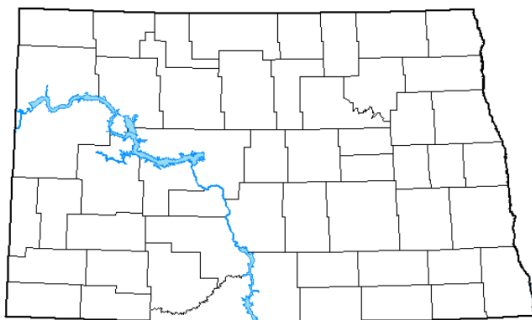


North Dakota Game and Fish Department

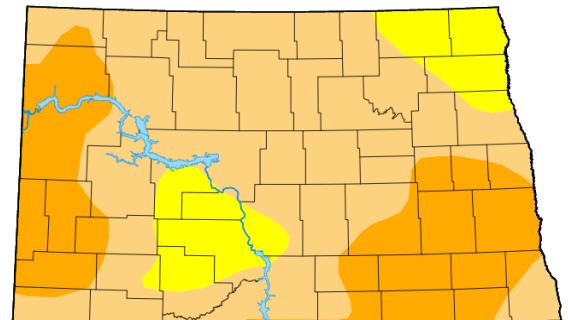
Greg Power, Division Chief

Deja vu all over again! Yogi had it right when it comes to always changing climatic conditions in the Dakotas. Just in this past summer newsletter, I shared the significance of the dramatic transformation from extreme drought in July 2020 to the return of normal conditions in July 2022 (according to the US drought monitor). Well fast forward to November 2022 and we're quickly trending back toward a serious drought. And of course, these abnormally warm and dry conditions affect our fishing water bodies. Thankfully, the large and unexpectedly drink of water we received last spring from mother nature has kept us in fairly good shape going into this winter.

North Dakota Drought Monitor
July 12, 2022



North Dakota Drought Monitor
November 16, 2022



Intensity:



Fishing in North Dakota this past summer was good to very good for most waters. However, despite continued strong fish populations, we have witnessed a 4% and 8% decline respectively in resident and non-resident fishing license sales this year. The price of gas and undoubtedly a slow start to fishing last April/May caused by excessive rains and two blizzards factored into this decline.

Some unexpected but good news for 2022 was the lack of documenting any new ANS infestation in the state ... despite both extensive and intensive monitoring efforts. Multi-faceted ANS information and education efforts continue, trying to hit on all venues. Because the Department has heightened concerns about the risks of moving boat docks/lifts from water to water, we will be seeking some administrative rule changes that increases our ability to regulate.

North Dakota Game and Fish Department

Greg Power, Division Chief, continued

Overall production from the hatcheries again met the need for the state, particularly for walleye, northern pike, trout, and chinook salmon. As always, a big thank you to our federal hatchery partners in setting and achieving a very high bar for fish production.

As mentioned in the summer newsletter, we added two FTE to our Development field staff in the past year which resulted in a very productive summer addressing boat ramp needs. Several very large projects were undertaken and completed (see photos).

Lastly, a longtime Dakota Chapter member and Game and Fish employee is retiring. Jason Lee will be doing more fishing and hunting in the days/years to come as he will be officially retired at the end of the year. Jason made numerous contributions to developing our fisheries resources and he will be missed.

As we transition to winter, make it a priority, and get out and wet a line. Give ice fishing a try, especially if you're a novice. You might get hooked.



Missouri-Yellowstone Rivers Confluence



Alkaline Lake (Kidder Co)



From the Field – Completed Project

Factors Influencing Mortality of Stocked Rainbow Trout in Black Hills Reservoirs

Chuck Mordhorst¹, Steve Chipps², Greg Simpson², Jeremy Kientz², and Jake Davis²

¹Department of Natural Resource Management, South Dakota State University

²USGS, SD Cooperative Fish & Wildlife Research Unit, South Dakota State University

³SD Department of Game, Fish and Parks, Region 1, Rapid City, South Dakota

Return-to-creel is an important outcome of put-and-take stocking programs, so understanding mortality of stocked Rainbow Trout is fundamental to managing these fisheries. Recent harvest estimates of stocked Rainbow Trout *Oncorhynchus mykiss* in Black Hills reservoirs are below desired management objectives. Rainbow Trout not harvested are assumed to be lost to various sources of mortality, raising concerns about the trout stocking program relative to the benefit provided to anglers. In a recent study, we evaluated factors influencing mortality of Rainbow Trout stocked into four, Black Hills reservoirs. We assessed the effects of angling, habitat conditions, stress, and diet on mortality of stocked trout. Using creel surveys, we documented angling methods, catch/harvest rates and angler pressure to estimate fish harvest and catch-and-release mortality. We found that *angling-related mortality* of Rainbow Trout, which encompassed both harvest and catch-and-release mortality, was relatively high at 78%, ranging from 42% to 80% among reservoirs. Angler harvest was the greatest source of mortality, with an estimated 56% of the 19,900 stocked Rainbow Trout harvested by anglers. Catch-and-release angling was a notable source of mortality with an estimated 22% of stocked Rainbow Trout lost to catch-and-release angling (range 11 to 30%). Bait fishing accounted for most of the catch-and-release mortality (95%), with much lower fish mortality associated with anglers fishing with lures (5%) or flies (i.e., fly fishing, 1%).

The fate of many stocked Rainbow Trout has been largely unknown in Black Hills reservoirs, complicating management decisions and making it difficult to assess cost:benefit decisions related to Rainbow Trout stocking. By combining both harvest and catch-and-release mortality, we found that an appreciable proportion of Rainbow Trout mortality could be attributed to angling-related activities in Black Hills reservoirs. Moreover, by accounting for carry-over fish and tracking changes in population size of stocked fish, we observed greater harvest (~60%) than has been previously documented (<40%). We also found that when determining the fate of stocked Rainbow Trout, it is important to consider the effects of catch-and-release angling, as it accounted for about 1 out of 5 angling-related trout mortalities and is positively related to catch rate and angler pressure.



From the Field – New Projects

Can Channel Catfish Serve as a Biocontrol for Overabundant Black Bullhead?

Tyler R. Bennett, Alison A. Coulter, Paul E. Bailey, and Mark A. Kaemingk

Without predator control many fishes can become overabundant and alter aquatic environments, resulting in less desirable recreational fisheries. Biocontrol strategies are commonly used to combat and reduce these nuisance populations to improve ecological and social conditions. Many waterbodies in the Midwestern United States have overabundant Black Bullhead populations, contributing to degraded recreational fishing opportunities. Preliminary data from the North Dakota Game and Fish Department (NDGF) suggests that Channel Catfish (*Ictalurus punctatus*) can immediately reduce Black Bullhead (*Ameiurus melas*) populations in small reservoirs (< 70 ha) with relatively simple fish communities. However, it is unclear if Channel Catfish can serve as a biocontrol as habitats (i.e., waterbody size) and fish communities become more complex.

The objectives of our study are to: 1) Assess the immediate effects that Channel Catfish stockings have at reducing an existing Black Bullhead population in a mid-sized reservoir (> 70 ha) and document water quality changes after a predicted reduction in population; 2) Evaluate how Black Bullhead respond to subsequent channel catfish stockings by documenting changes in feeding strategies and habitat use; and 3) Explore how Channel Catfish and Black Bullhead isotopic niche overlap differs across varying waterbody size, fish communities, and abiotic factors. We will use a combination of stable isotope ($\delta^{15}\text{N}$, $\delta^{13}\text{C}$) and diet analyses in both an experimental Before-After-Control-Impact design and observational studies to explore the response of Black Bullhead to introductions of Channel Catfish. Our findings will contribute to our ecological understanding of aquatic predator-prey dynamics and assist fisheries biologists with predator selection for controlling overabundant fish populations.



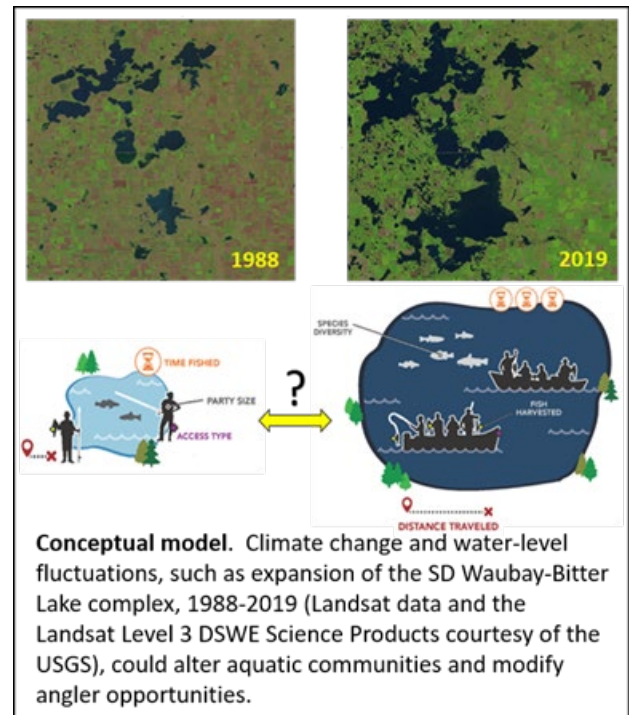
From the Field – New Projects

Impact of Climate Driven Changes to Water Levels on Recreational Fisheries in the Northern Glaciated Plains

Alison Coulter, Dave Coulter, Steve Chipps, Mark Kaemingk, Taufique Mahmood, Maddy Siller (MS student, SDSU), Shadi Rezghian (MS student, UND), and Matthew Maldonado (MS student, UND)

Our collaborative SDSU-UND team has been funded by the USGS Climate Adaptation Science Center to investigate climate-driven changes to recreational fisheries in South Dakota and North Dakota. The primary aim of the project is to provide fisheries managers with information about future climate impacts to aquatic habitats, fish communities, and angler communities. We are

excited to begin meeting biannually with natural resource agencies (e.g., SDGFP, NDGF) and other cooperators within the Dakotas. We will host our first cooperator meeting during DCAFS; please email Alison Coulter (Alison.Coulter@sdstate.edu) by February 6 if you would like to attend. You can find more information about the project [here](#).



Constructing and Understanding Angler Typologies Using License Purchasing Histories

Michael Lant, Brian Darby, Cayla Bendel, Rebecca Romsdahl, and Mark Kaemingk

Recreational fishing license sales are declining and may limit management efforts by state natural resource agencies. Mechanisms contributing to declining participation in recreational fishing remains largely unknown. Our objectives are to utilize North Dakota Game and Fish Department's (NDGF) license purchasing database to cluster anglers into discrete angling typologies with respect to their license purchasing histories and sociodemographic characteristics. This information can be used to predict the likelihood of license purchases for each angler typology. We will use 2009-2018 data of NDGF's license sale database to accomplish our objectives, as well as the U.S. Census data from 2020. We predict there will be multiple different angler typologies based on unique fishing license purchasing histories, sociodemographic features, and likelihood of subsequent purchases. Angler license typologies have the potential to reveal underrepresented sociodemographic groups, as well as highlighting spatial factors contributing to recreational fishing participation.

South Dakota AIS Update – Jake Davis

2022 was a busy year for the South Dakota Game, Fish and Parks (SDGFP) Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) program. In 2022, increases were made with outreach and education activities, partnerships with other organizations and field operations. Additional planning efforts were also made, which resulted in the development of the first SDGFP AIS Rapid Response Plan, as well as development of a revised SDGFP AIS Strategic Management Plan set to be implemented in 2023.

As in 2021, an AIS Communications Plan was developed for 2022. Efforts of the plan focused on reaching as many surface waters users of the state as possible. Essentially, any individuals who use waters of the state were the target audience. As such, AIS messaging was incorporated in many communication efforts, including the “Fishing South Dakota” campaign. The primary AIS message was “Clean, Drain, Dry”; however, other targeted messages were highlighted, such as not moving lake and stream water when transporting bait or fish and stopping at AIS inspection stations. These messages were disseminated on a variety of communications platforms which included both virtual (e.g., social media and email) and hardcopy versions (e.g., informational rack cards). New this year was a “Communications Kit” for Lake Associations. This included informational content that could be provided to Lake Associations that could then be distributed to their members through their internal channels. A partnership with Lawrence and Schiller Marketing and Advertising also resulted in a short new video for gas station televisions, 43 statewide, and Instant Experience on Facebook and Instagram. In total, over 1.8 million emails were sent with AIS content. Additionally, over 340,000 individuals were reached on social media and there was an 11% increase in views on educational material on the SDGFP YouTube page.



South Dakota AIS Update – Jake Davis, continued

Partnerships were also a large part of the 2022 SDGFP AIS program. These included state agencies such as Department of Transportation who helped install signage on zebra mussel infested waters and use of large interstate signage to flash messaging during peak boating season. The South Dakota Department of Revenue again assisted with distributing informational rack cards to county treasurers to include with watercraft renewal registrations. Similar to 2021, a partnership existed with the Enemy Swim Preservation Association for work at that waterbody. In general, an increased effort was made to work with Lake Associations. As a result, increased communication, and collaboration between these groups and SDGFP resulted in the form of dissemination of information, as well as increased monitoring at multiple waterbodies by Lake Association members.

Field activities also increased in 2022. Over 18,500 watercraft inspections occurred across the state, which this is the highest number to date. These occurred at up to 12 Watercraft Inspection Stations (WID) locations that were set up at any point during a given week during the peak boating season. In western South Dakota, continued partnership with local County Conservation Districts resulted in access-based inspection stations at the 6 largest reservoirs. Funding for these was provided through grants from US Fish and Wildlife Service and Bureau of Reclamation, along with SDGFP funds and a contribution from the West Dakota Water Development District. Due to the high number of waters and access points in eastern South Dakota, the majority of the WID stations were roving stations that targeted throughfares to increase the number of contacts made. A continued partnership with the Enemy Swim Preservation Association provided for an access-based WID at that waterbody.



South Dakota AIS Update – Jake Davis, continued

One issue that arose in 2022 was in regard to hiring intern and seasonal staff. In western South Dakota, a total of 17 of the 34 posted positions were unfilled with the County Conservation Districts. In eastern South Dakota, five vacancies were unfilled. This did impact field operations as WID locations and hours of operation were adjusted to available staff. Moving forward in 2023, increased efforts will be made to recruit applicants for all available positions.

Expansion of AIS was observed in 2022 within the state. In total, five new waterbodies were determined to be infested with zebra mussels: Enemy Swim Lake, Blue Dog Lake, South Rush Lake, Clear Lake, and Pactola Reservoir. The majority of these waterbodies are located in northeastern South Dakota; however, Pactola Reservoir is located in the Black Hills and is farthest west that zebra mussels have been documented in the state.



Looking to 2023, SDGFP will continue AIS efforts in the state. Some of the primary actions will be implementing the AIS Strategic Management Plan as well as operational and communications plans. Partnerships will again be a large part of implementing fieldwork, specifically the WID program. Additionally, partnerships will play a role in increasing monitoring efforts and disseminating outreach and education materials.

Dakota Chapter 2023 Annual Meeting



February 21-23, 2023

Quality Inn Bismarck
1030 East Interstate Avenue
Bismarck, North Dakota
701.223.1911

- **When:** February 21-23, 2023
- **Where:** Quality Inn, 1030 East Interstate Avenue, Bismarck, ND 58503
 - Please use room block reserved under “Dakota Chapter AFS”
 - Call 701.223.1911
 - Rooms are available for a rate of \$86.40 per night
- **Registration:** Early registration deadline is ***February 1, 2023***
 - Early registration fees \$150 Professional / \$100 Student
 - Late registration fees \$170 Professional / \$120 Student
 - Please register here: <https://dakota.fisheries.org/ninja-forms/5o94n/>

Call for Abstracts - Papers and Posters

Dakota Chapter Meeting 2023!

All Aquatic and Fisheries Papers and Posters are Welcome!

- Please submit abstracts online at <https://dakota.fisheries.org/ninja-forms/2lmhb/>

Presentation and Poster Requirements

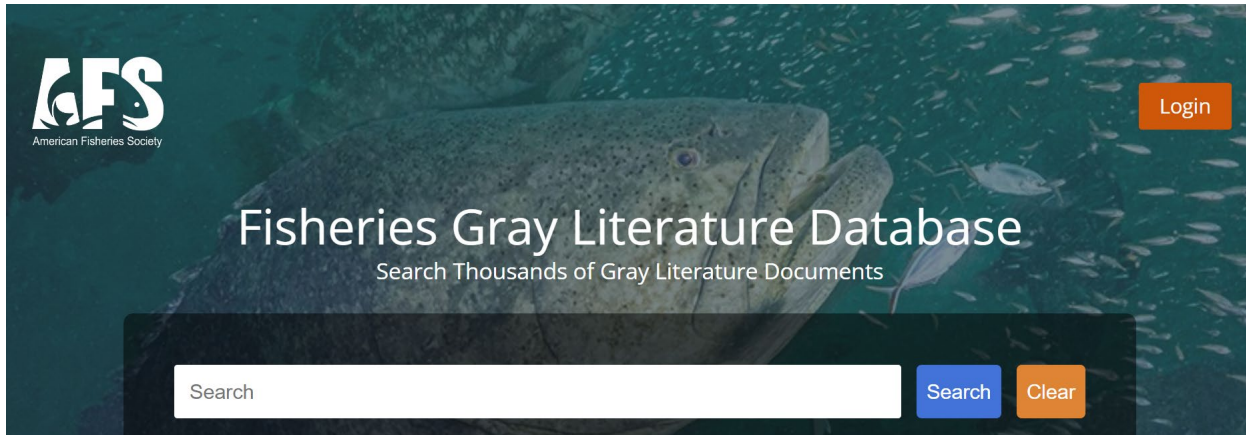
Oral presentations: 15 minutes followed by 5 minutes of Q & A. Any version of PowerPoint should work.

Posters: Must fit 3' high x 4' wide poster board. Easels and poster boards will be provided.

Please submit abstracts no later than February 1, 2023.



Are you using the AFS Gray Literature Database?



Thousands of in-house reports produced annually by State and Federal agencies, tribes, and non-government organizations remain undiscovered by most researchers and fisheries management biologists, primarily because the reports are not published and/or widely distributed outside the producing agency.

These “gray literature” reports contain valuable information on management assessments, fisheries surveys, research projects, human dimensions studies, license and marketing efforts, and much more, including Sport Fish Restoration re-ports. Until now there has been no centralized online database that collects and makes available these fisheries reports.

The AFS Fisheries Gray Literature Database, available to all at no cost, allows rapid access to these reports from an easy-to-use central database, assuring the availability of substantial volumes of past and present work to fisheries scientists in North America and beyond.

Users can search the full text of submitted reports, as well as searching by author, title, organization, state/province, species, and year range. An exact match can be specified, and users may limit the search by logical operators (“and,” “or,” “and not”).

Search results (up to 100 records) are displayed showing the document title, authors, date, organization, species, region, and abstract snippet, with the user search terms highlighted in yellow. Clicking on a document title brings up the full-text PDF of the document which may be read, printed, or saved.

Student Subunit Updates

Valley City State University and South Dakota State University

Valley City State University

Colby Dows, President

colby.dows@vcsu.edu



VCSU Subunit – fall 2022 kick off fishing derby

The AFS Student Subunit at VCSU held elections at the end of the last school year. The New Officers elected were President: Colby Dows, Vice President Logan Heen, Secretary: Morgan Ohm, and Treasure: Sanden O’Connell. The Fall 2022 semester kicked off with a fishing derby and fish fry held at Chautauqua Park in Valley City. Other activities include a bucktail and marabou jig tying workshop put on by a member of the club. We also had a guest Speaker, Texas Parks and Wildlife, Fisheries Biologist Dusty McDonald. He gave a presentation on his career and ghost fishing. This talk can be found on *The fisheries Podcast* ep:195 “Ghost Fishing Trotlines with Dusty McDonald”. Future activities will include a lead jig pouring workshop, and numerous ice fishing outings. We plan on starting to take in and seek out donations for the Dakota chapter meeting before and after Christmas break.

South Dakota State University

Bryce Capesius, President

bryce.capesius@jacks.sdstate.edu

The AFS subunit at SDSU has done some fun things so far this semester. We started the school year off with our annual club grill out where we gave new and current members the chance to do some backpack electrofishing. At another club meeting we gave students the chance to do some seining in the Big Sioux River and identifying the species they caught. At the most recent club meeting we took a tour of Prairie Aquatech, which is a company that specializes in creating and testing different food combinations with the goal of maximizing growth of common aquaculture species.

With regards to the rest of the events planned for the fall we have an upcoming aging structure activity, club officer elections, a resume activity, and last but not least, a meeting to prepare for the Dakota Chapter Meeting in the spring. Other big news is that the club received a grant from Cenex Harvest States Foundation that we plan to use to pay for the cost of gas and housing for members attending the Dakota Chapter Meeting.



SDSU Subunit – fall 2022 grill out and backpack electrofishing

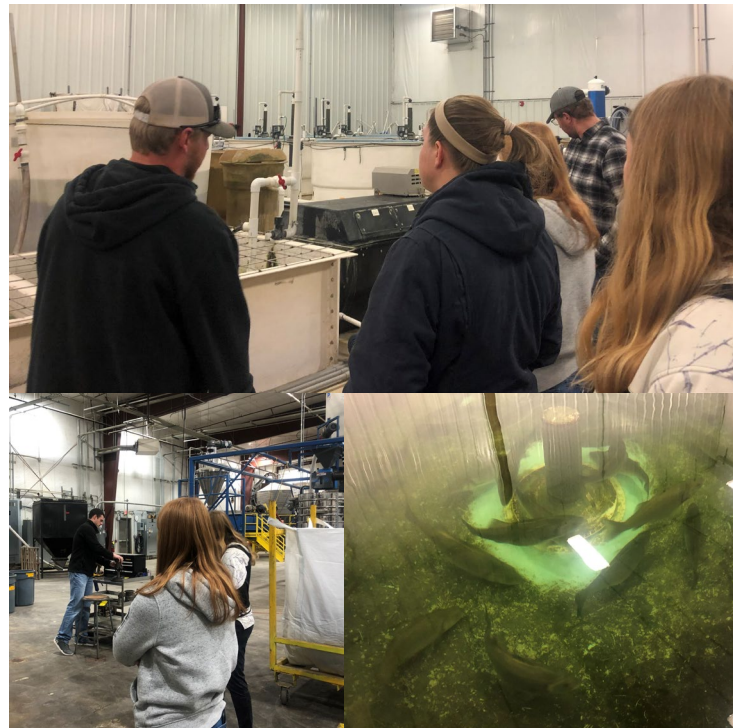
Student Subunit Updates



SDSU Subunit
fall 2022 Big Sioux River seining



SDSU Subunit
fall 2022 Prairie Aquatech tour



AFS North Central Division update - Mark Fincel

Awards

It is time again to recognize the excellent work being done by our members and chapters! An announcement will be coming out soon via email and on the NCD website for how to nominate individuals for our awards of excellence and meritorious service, as well as for chapters to nominate themselves for Most Active Chapter and Best Communications awards. Winners will be announced at the 2023 Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference.

NCD leadership nominations

We are currently seeking nominations for people to join the leadership of the North Central Division. This is a three-year time commitment, moving from president-elect to president to past-president during the term. This is a great way to learn more about AFS and influence the direction of the society. It is also a way to develop broader networks within our profession. The time commitment isn't as big as you might think; quarterly NCD excom meetings are virtual, as are quarterly meetings with chapter presidents and technical committee chairs. In-person attendance at the Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference and the parent society conference are strongly encouraged, and NCD funding is available to assist officers with travel when needed. Interested people can discuss it with current past-president [Mark Fincel](#), who chairs our nominations process.

NCD online store for t-shirts and other swag

We will soon launch an online store that does on-demand printing of shirts and other swag with the NCD logo. We will also offer the same service to NCD chapters, technical committees, and student subunits. Groups can upload an image and let the company handle printing and shipping. No need to order huge quantities and hang onto them for years trying to sell them at meetings! An announcement will be coming soon once the store is officially open!

2023 Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference

The 2023 conference will be held February 12-15 in Overton Park, Kansas. The meeting returns to an in-person format after two years of virtual or hybrid formats. I hope you consider making the trip to take in talks and reconnect with colleagues you have not seen face to face in a few years.

The NCD annual business meeting will be held on February 13 at 10:30 a.m. following the morning plenary. Several NCD technical committees will meet following the business meeting. Please plan to attend if you are at the Midwest!

There will be a limited number of travel grants from NCD for students and early-career professionals to attend the meeting. An email announcing that process will be coming soon. State chapters will also be giving Joan Duffey travel awards to students. Application processes for those awards will be announced by chapters, and NCD provides a financial match up to \$200 per chapter.

AFS North Central Division update - Mark Fincel, continued

2023 Parent Society Meeting in Grand Rapids, Michigan

Planning is well underway for the 2023 parent society meeting in Grand Rapids, MI. The theme is “Adaptive Approaches to Understand and Manage Changes in Fisheries”, and this will be an excellent opportunity to learn about current research and management projects when professionals from around the country come to our region for the annual meeting. It is also a great time to give a talk or organize a symposium to share the great work happening here in the Midwest. The [call for symposia](#) is open until December 19. Start making plans to attend and participate!

Parent Society Management and Governing Board Committees updates

The Governing Board meets only twice a year and includes representatives from each chapter and section of the society and provides oversight to the staff and officers. The Management Committee is a smaller executive committee that meets monthly and handles issues such as finances and internal policies.

Recent activity on these committees has included discussion and eventual approval of San Antonio as the location of the 2025 parent society meeting, financial discussions about the use of various funds held by AFS, and the planning of a publications retreat. Of particular note is the creation of a strategic reserve fund that could be used by AFS in times of financial need, and an initial payment of \$250,000 into that fund using AFS’s share of the proceeds from the Joint Aquatic Sciences Meeting that occurred in May 2022.

The publications retreat has typically occurred once every 5 years and was last held in 2017. The intention is to review the various journals published by AFS to consider their position, impact factor, and direction. Retreats are intended to improve how these journals serve the broader society.



November 2022 NCD President's Blog - Brian Nerbonne

Appreciating the North Central Division Technical Sections

I am choosing this month to highlight an important part of the North Central Division (NCD) that not all members may appreciate. Many of us are active at the state chapter level and may interact at the division level by attending the Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference. Another active and vital part of the NCD are the technical sections. Within the division there are eight technical sections: centrarchid, ictalurid, esocid, salmonid, walleye, rivers and streams, reservoirs, and urban and community fisheries. I hope to tell you why our technical sections are important to the mission of AFS, and perhaps pique your interest in participating.

Technical sections provide a venue for in-depth sharing of information with other experts who work in specific aspects of fisheries management and research within the NCD. Each tech committee strives to have members from all chapters within the division. They typically meet one to four times per year, once at the Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference and often another in-person meeting during summer. Some committees hold additional meetings virtually. At meetings attendees share relevant happenings within their respective chapters, and at summer meetings there are often guest speakers as well. The centrarchid, esocid and walleye tech committees typically hold a joint summer meeting to allow for cross pollination between the groups.

Technical committees also often organize symposia at the Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference or the parent society meeting. For example, in 2021 the walleye technical committee organized a symposium at the Midwest conference that focused on the effects of lake system change on walleye populations across the Midwest. The proceedings of that symposium were published in a [special section of the North American Journal of Fisheries Management](#). Members of the ictalurid committee have collaborated with the Southern Division's ictalurid tech committee to organize the international catfish symposiums that have been held every ten years since 2000, with proceedings published in the North American Journal of Fisheries Management.

Through these activities, the technical committees are a great venue for AFS members to learn from others and bring that knowledge back to their own work, and to share their own knowledge with others. If you are interested in getting involved with NCD technical committees, there is more information under the "committees" tab on the [NCD website](#). Everyone is welcome to participate, so feel free to contact the committee chair listed on the website if you want to learn more.

Wanted - Dakota Chapter Esocid Tech Committee Representative!
If interested, please contact Paul Bailey or Brian Blackwell.

Methods for Fish Biology, 2nd edition

List price: \$89.00

AFS Member price: \$62.30

It has been over 30 years since the 1st edition of the groundbreaking *Methods for Fish Biology* was released and much has changed. This new edition features contributions from a diverse set of authors and includes topics not covered in the 1st edition and updates to many of the important topics that remain relevant to the fields of fish biology, ichthyology, and fisheries



However, ecologists, geneticists, conservationists, reproductive biologists, and the like should find useful information here, and both the senior scientist and the new student will find useful new tools and discussions in these pages.

This new edition was designed to cover topics ranging from taxonomy to physiology to applied ecology—and everything in between. Standard information (such as histological techniques) has been updated and reinforced, while topics like stable isotopes and ecotoxicology are new additions. All chapters provide background and context before going deeper into a range of relevant methods, and finally ending on what the future directions are for the topic. Each chapter is well referenced and includes a glossary.





**Dakota Chapter
American Fisheries Society
Est. 1987**

*EXCOM Meeting Minutes
10/27/2022*

Call to Order – BJ Schall

Present included - President BJ Schall, Paul Bailey, Russ Kinzler, Cameron Goble, and Brian Blackwell

BJ Schall

thanked everyone and had one agenda item “Will Sayler Memorial Scholarship”

Discussed Will Sayler Memorial

Undergrad partial registration

BJ will make announcement and let the family know

Paul Bailey

2023 Annual Meeting will be in Bismarck

Starts Tuesday after President’s Day (February 21-23, 2023)

Quality Inn, Bismark

Mark Kaemingk creel workshop

Newsletter

December 15

2023 Annual Meeting Info

Secretary/Treasurer Report (9/30/22)

- Checking - \$1,892.50
- Edward Jones - \$5,627.62
- Klumb - \$7,611.50
- Schmulbach - \$11,157.03
- Sayler memorial - \$1,600.00

Student Subunit Report

- No Reports

Committee Reports

- No reports

Change of officers

- Paul Bailey, President
- Russ Kinzler, Vice President
- Cameron Goble, Secretary/Treasurer

Adjourned

Secretary/Treasurer Update

- Cameron Goble was elected Secretary/Treasurer at the 2022 Annual Meeting. However, Cameron recently accepted a new opportunity in Alberta and will be vacating his position with the Chapter. We wish Cameron well on his new adventure!
- Chapter Bylaws allow the ExCom to appoint a qualified replacement to fill an unexpired term. The ExCom unanimously supported appointing Dylan Gravenhof to serve as Secretary/Treasurer and Dylan graciously accepted. We look forward to Dylan serving the Dakota Chapter in this role!

Greetings Everyone,

With Cameron Goble leaving SD Game, Fish and Parks (SDGFP) to start a fisheries position in Alberta, there was a need to elect a new secretary/treasurer. Cameron and the EXCOM approached me about serving and I was happy to accept the opportunity to serve Dakota Chapter! I have been a fisheries biologist with SDGFP since 2018, working on the upper Missouri River out of the Ft. Pierre Regional office. I completed my bachelor's degree at South Dakota State University and am currently nearly completion of my master's degree at the University of Nebraska – Kearney, working with Dr. Melissa Wuellner. In my free time, you can likely find me chasing waterfowl, turkeys, and deer across the state or one of the few anglers in the state targeting bass on the MO river reservoirs.

Look forward to catching up with everyone in Bismarck in February at the annual chapter meeting!



Resolutions?

There are no resolutions to report as of the fall newsletter.

As part of the Resolutions standing committee, we are asked to report on resolutions throughout the Dakotas. This is the time to provide some background for potential resolutions involving fisheries issues by the Dakota Chapter. If you do have a particular topic, please feel free to submit a resolution for consideration by the Dakota Chapter. Examples of resolutions accepted by our parent society can be found here: <https://fisheries.org/policy-media/resolutions/>

Please email any potential recommendations for resolutions to Chelsey.pasbrig@state.sd.us.

2022-2023 Chapter Officers

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Standing Committees

Planning

Paul Bailey (chair, ND)
BJ Schall (SD)
Scott Gangl (ND)
Brian Blackwell (SD)

Continuing Education

Dan James (co-chair, SD)
Greg Power (co-chair, ND)
John Lott (SD)
Dave Lucchesi (SD)

Environmental Concerns

Jake Davis (co-chair, SD)
Michael Johnson (co-chair, ND)

Student Affairs

Bryce Capesius (SDSU)
Sanden O'Connell (VCSU)

Information and Web Support

Dylan Turner (SD)

Membership

Matt Ward (chair, SD)
Casey Williams (ND)
Jake Davis (SD)

Awards and Nominations

BJ Schall (chair, SD)
Scott Gangl (ND)
Jeremy Kientz (SD)
Joshua Wert (ND)

Resolutions

Chelsey Pasbrig (SD)
Gene Galinat (SD)

Technical Committee Representatives

NCD Walleye Tech Committee

Mark Fincel (SD)
Todd Caspers (ND)

NCD Centrarchid Tech Committee

Elizabeth Renner (SD)

NCD Escocid Tech Committee

Brian Blackwell (SD)

NCD Ictalurid Tech Committee

Christopher Cheek (SD)

NCD Rivers and Streams Tech Committee

Joshua Wert (ND)

