



# AMERICAN FISHERIES SOCIETY

### **JUNE 2010 NEWSLETTER**

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## President's Message

Summer is here! I hope that the Memorial Day holiday was the perfect kick-off to your summer season loaded with successful field sampling trips and enjoying fun-filled activities with family and friends. As you begin planning your summer trips, remember to take a child fishing and note that June 2010 is Great Outdoors Month. Enjoyment of our natural aquatic resources in North Carolina is deeply treasured. I thank each and every one of you that protect and enhance aquatic organisms and their habitats. Your persistent efforts and positive fortitude cannot be understated.

Are you planning to attend the AFS Parent Society meeting on September 12-16 in Pittsburgh? This year's meeting theme is "Merging our deeper currents" and is sure to be filled with excellent symposia, informative presentations and in-depth workshops as well as fun-filled socials to network with peers and colleagues. Be sure to check out all the events at <a href="http://www.fisheries.org/afs10/index.php">http://www.fisheries.org/afs10/index.php</a>. Enjoy the meeting!

If you are attending the meeting, please note the early bird registration is July 30. If you are an AFS member, you will realize a cost savings of \$75 compared to a non-member registration. If you are not an AFS member and plan to attend the meeting, annual membership dues are \$80. So, join AFS if you are not a member to realize the registration savings and receive all the benefits of annual membership. Check out the following benefits for membership to the American Fisheries Society: http://www.fisheries.org/afs/membership\_indiv.html

Have a great summer!

Kevin J. Dockendorf, NC AFS President

## Secretary-Treasurer's Report

June 2010 Treasury Report

2010 SDAFS Treasury Report

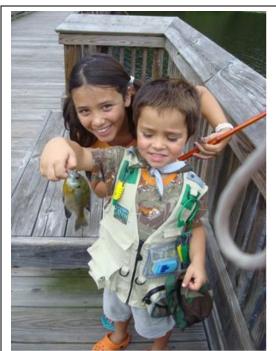
Submitted by Kevin Hining, Secretary-Treasurer

## NCSU Student Subunit Report

The NCSU Student Sub-Unit (aka, Student Fisheries Society, SFS) finished the spring semester strong and has remained active in the summer. Our undergraduate Vice Presidents, Ben Kornegay and Sally Petre, did a great job leading our April meeting. At this meeting, Patrick Cooney, a NCSU fisheries scientist active with SFS, gave a talk titled "Florida Water Wars: Are Fish Caught in the Middle?" Patrick presented on research in Florida, while relating to issues here in North Carolina. His talk was very informative and led to interesting discussions. It was wonderful to reconnect with SFS'ers at CMAST who joined us via an Internet feed for both our March and April meetings.

Two SFS'ers were busy presenting their research at meetings. Sarah Friedl presented at the AFS Tidewater Chapter Annual Meeting in Wilmington, NC while Dana Sackett presented at the USGS Modeling Conference in Broomfield, CO. A number of us are making preparations to attend and present at the AFS National Meeting in September held in Pittsburgh, PA.

As usual. SFS has been very active in outreach over the last few months. We sincerely thank everyone that has volunteered their time and effort to make these events possible and successful. First, a number of students assisted with the first NCSU Aquatic Sciences Day Camp in March. Held at Yates Mill Pond, the camp provided high school students with hands on fisheries experiences including electrofishing, seining, and fertilizing eggs. In early April, several SFS'ers continued our practice of helping at the annual Neuse River Clean-Up. Also in April, we conducted our first cleanup of our "adopted" Rocky Branch Creek. Our reach runs from Gorman Street to Pullen Road and the litter we collected ranged from sports equipment, recyclables, tires, and an ancient typewriter. In May and June, SFS'ers led cane pole fishing at Yates Mill Park events. We always have fun helping children hook worms, catch and release



SFS members share the excitement of fishing with these two young anglers at a fishing event at Yates Mill Park.

fish, and sharing fish stories. Also in May and June, we reeled in largemouth bass for



Sally Petre and Michael Fisk stand with pride over garbage removed from Rocky Branch Creek. This was the first of many clean-up events over SFS's three-year "adoption."

the annual mark-recapture study at the NCSU Fisheries and Wildlife Summer Camp. SFS'ers also participated in other aspects of this influential undergraduate camp, such as speaking about graduate school and assisting with electrofishing. At the end of May, members helped at the annual "Fish-In" at the Harris Farm ponds in Franklin County by sampling and fishing. Finally, SFS'ers are dabbling in the consulting realm, having completed a bathymetry study of Lake Kildaire in Cary using hydroacoustic gears. The lake suffers from sedimentation, so this project was conducted as baseline data for the lake association to assess the rate of future sedimentation. The consulting work will yield a nice donation to the SFS budget, and we thank Dr. Joe Hightower for helping complete the study, and reminding us to wear our PFDs.

In addition to being active with SFS, students have been working diligently on their research projects throughout the spring and summer. Others have graduated, or are moving closer to graduating. Hopefully we all find a little time relax and see family and friends.

Feel free to contact Josh (<a href="mailto:ikraabe@ncsu.edu">ikraabe@ncsu.edu</a>) or Mike (<a href="mailto:mwwaine@ncsu.edu">mwwaine@ncsu.edu</a>) if you have any questions. A reminder that you can keep up to date with SFS by joining our list serve and also can find information and more pictures at our website:

<a href="mailto:http://clubs.ncsu.edu/sfs/">http://clubs.ncsu.edu/sfs/</a>

We look forward to seeing everyone at our fall meetings, and once again thank the NC AFS Chapter for all of its support.

Submitted by Josh Raabe and Mike Waine, Student Subunit Co-Presidents

#### **Education and Outreach Committee**

#### The NCAFS Website is Getting a Facelift

The NCAFS website is a great source of information for fisheries students and professionals. It has a variety of uses from announcing meetings and awards, to sharing information about committees and other AFS efforts. Nonetheless, recent discussions among our members have prompted the NCAFS Webmaster and the Education and Outreach Committee to pursue a website makeover. In this time of mass information sharing via the internet, it seems appropriate that our website should display what the fisheries students and professionals in our great State are involved in. It should also function as a conduit for information sharing at both the State and National level. Additionally, it has the potential to serve as an outreach tool by storing educational materials that can be used by teachers and other educators.

The preliminary plan for the new and improved website includes a section on current and past research conducted by resource managers, universities, and the private sector. This section may be used to post relevant management reports, research articles, theses, websites, etc. that are applicable to fisheries and aquatic resources. There are also plans to add information about current or future work with volunteer opportunities that may be of interests to students or potential collaborators. In order to serve our members more efficiently, the new website may also contain an online survey for chapter members to determine what they want from the website and what updates may better serve their needs. There is also potential to add a suggestion box on the website for chapter members to submit requests, questions, or comments with anonymity. Lastly, the Education and Outreach Committee has tentative plans to post a series of slide shows and educational tools that will be accessible to middle and high school teachers. These tools could aid educators in developing lectures about rare and endangered species, anadromous fishes, aquatic resource management, and other topics of interests.

Members should see a basic version of the new website up and running by September or October; however, we could use your immediate assistance in gathering images, research findings, or anything else you may think would benefit the website. We plan on having a dynamic website that will be updated frequently, so the more information we can gather the better. There will be a more formal request to dig through your photos, published articles, grey literature, etc., once the website is up and running, but in the meantime feel free to send anything you have to Chris Wood (Chris.Wood@ncwildlife.org).

#### Thanks!!

Submitted by Chris Wood, Education and Outreach Committee Co-Chair

#### **News from Around North Carolina**

## Recent Activities of NCWRC's Scientific Council of Fishes Submitted by Bryn H. Tracy, NCDWQ

In North Carolina, there are approximately 215 indigenous, described and undescribed species of freshwater fish. Of these, 26% are considered imperiled as either state or federally listed Endangered (17), Threatened (17), or Special Concern (22). It is the responsibility of the Scientific Council on Freshwater Fishes to submits its recommendations to the Nongame Advisory Committee of the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission if changes in imperilment for any species are warranted. The Council is comprised of 15 members from state and federal regulatory and resources agencies, industry representatives, private consultants, and academicians.

In 2008 and 2009, the Council met to reassess the status of the state's fauna so that the listings would be based on the most current scientific evidence. The list was last updated in 2006 and codified into rule in 2008. The Council has proposed 16 changes in designations from the 2006 report:

Table 1. Proposed status changes to the rare, threatened, and endangered freshwater fishes of North Carolina.

Common Name	Scientific Name	Current Status	Proposed Status
American Brook	Lampetra appendix	Threatened	Endangered
Lamprey			
Banded Sculpin	Cottus carolinae	Threatened	Endangered
"Atlantic" Highfin	Carpiodes sp. cf. velifer	Special Concern	Endangered
Carpsucker			
Mountain Madtom	Noturus eleutherus	Special Concern	Endangered
Ohio Lamprey	Ichthyomyzon bdellium	Not Listed	Special Concern
Roanoke Logperch <sup>1</sup>	Percina rex	Not Listed	Endangered
Tennessee Darter <sup>2</sup>	Etheostoma tennesseense	Special Concern	Endangered
Sharpnose Darter	Percina oxyrhynchus	Special Concern	Endangered
"Broadtail" Madtom	Noturus sp. cf. leptacanthus	Special Concern	Threatened
"Lake Phelps" Killifish	Fundulus sp. cf. diaphanus	Not Listed	Threatened
Thinlip Chub	Cyprinella sp. cf. zanema	Special Concern	Threatened
Waccamaw Killifish	Fundulus waccamensis	Special Concern	Threatened
Blackbanded Darter	Percina nigrofasciata	Threatened	Special Concern
Mimic Shiner	Notropis volucellus	Not Listed	Special Concern
Atlantic Sturgeon	Acipenser oxyrinchus	Special Concern	Delisted <sup>3</sup>
Riverweed Darter	Etheostoma podostemone	Special Concern	Delisted

Please note: these recommendations are tentative. If reviews by the Committee and the Commission are favorable, the list of proposed changes will wind its way through the legislative process and ultimately be codified into rule in the North Carolina Administrative Code (<a href="http://ncrules.state.nc.us/ncac/title%2015a%20-%20environment%20and%20natural%20resources/chapter%2010%20-%20wildlife%20resources%20and%20water%20safety/subchapter%20i/subchapter%20i/%20rules.html">http://ncrules.state.nc.us/ncac/title%2015a%20-%20environment%20and%20natural%20resources/chapter%2010%20-%20wildlife%20resources%20and%20water%20safety/subchapter%20i/subchapter%20i/%20rules.html</a>).



From left to right: Mountain Madtom, proposed State Endangered; Tennessee Darter, proposed State Endangered, and Riverweed Darter, proposed Delisted. Photographs courtesy of Virginia Tech (<a href="http://www.cnr.vt.edu/efish/">http://www.cnr.vt.edu/efish/</a>) and Richard T. Bryant and Wayne C. Starnes.

## 2011 Annual Meeting Announcement Submitted by Michael Abney, President Elect

The NC Chapter of the American Fisheries Society announces that the 2011 annual meeting will be held at the Drury Inn & Suites-Northlake on the north side of Charlotte beginning with a Monday (February 21) evening welcoming social, and lasting to Wednesday, February 23. Tuesday will begin with a continuing education workshop in the morning followed by a technical session after lunch and an evening social with the student raffle. We will continue presentations Wednesday morning and finish up with the annual business meeting.

**Lodging Reservations** – Room rates are \$79.99 a night plus tax, single or double occupancy. Reservation information will be provided in the fall and winter newsletters. For details on the hotel go to:

https://wwwc.druryhotels.com/PropertyOverview.aspx?Property=0138

First Call for Papers – Students and professionals are highly encouraged to contribute oral presentations for the annual meeting. Topics may include completed projects, works in progress, and case histories. All presentations will be scheduled for 20 minutes, including a 5-minute period for questions. Please send all abstracts electronically to Jeff DeBerardinis at jeff.deberardinis@ncdenr.gov by January 21, 2011. Abstracts should include presentation title, author names, and addresses (including phone and e-mail if available). Please limit the text to no more than 250 words. It is assumed that the first author listed will be the presenter unless otherwise noted. If you are a student presenter, please make note of that on the abstract. Abstracts will be

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>A federally listed Endangered species discovered in North Carolina in 2007-2009 in the Dan, Smith, and Mayo rivers and in Big Beaver Island Creek in Rockingham County. <sup>2</sup>Formerly listed as Tennessee Snubnose Darter, *Etheostoma simoterum* (Cope), discovered in 2009 in Shut-in Creek, Madison County. <sup>3</sup>Under evaluation pending a legal review of the General Statutes.

listed in the meeting program in the order that they are received. For additional information feel free to contact Jeff by e-mail or by telephone (919-743-8473). Stay tuned to the annual meeting link on the Chapter website for updates!

#### Valuable Links -

The American Fisheries Society Home Page offers a wealth of links to assist you in your fishery endeavors. Information on ordering AFS books, public outreach, annual meetings, chapter links and joining the AFS can be found at <a href="http://www.fisheries.org/">http://www.fisheries.org/</a>.