Annual Report to the North Carolina Chapter of the American Fisheries Society

Activities of the Environmental Concerns Committee

February 2010

The Environmental Concerns Committee (ECC) has the following to report to the North Carolina Chapter of the American Fisheries Society (chapter):

- 1. Marla Chambers with the NC Wildlife Resources Commission has joined the ECC.
- 2. The ECC continues to gather and review information about the hemlock wooly adelgid outbreak in the North Carolina Mountains and the potential implications on cold water fisheries. We anticipate preparation of a white-paper on the issue that will be disseminated to the membership.
- 3. Similar to last year's effort on <u>the New and Watauga River Basins</u>, the ECC compiled trout fishery survey data from <u>the Catawba and Yadkin River Basins</u> and sent through the chapter president a petition to NCDENR to reclassify streams supporting trout that are currently not classified as trout supporting waters to the "Tr" standard. The ECC is planning to extend this effort to other mountain river basins in the future. The letter is <u>posted on the chapter website</u>.

The ECC also requests that the chapter membership continue recommending fishery-related environmental issues for the ECC to investigate and possibly address in the future.

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David McHenry, ECC Chair