



NEWSLETTER

September 2003

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We would appreciate your comments on this electronic version of the NC Chapter Newsletter. Please send all responses to Joe Hightower (jhightower@ncsu.edu)

President's Message

What I Did on my Summer Vacation...in Québec! - Like Hurricane Isabel, summer seems to have come and gone! Even with all the preparation (for summer and the storm), I wasn't quite ready when the event arrived, but pulled through it just as well. For me, it was a summer full of personal joy and sadness, and one of professional excitement. A professional highlight was the AFS parent society annual meeting in Québec City, Canada (or as they say up there, "reunion annuelle!"). It wasn't exactly a summer vacation — more like a working holiday — but was as professionally refreshing as a week on our beaches is for the tired soul.



Our chapter had a good showing at the annual meeting — perhaps owing to the fact that our society president, Fred Harris, was home grown. It was uplifting to sit among a crowd of some 1,800 members at the plenary session and listen to Fred's insightful comments on the meeting theme — Worldwide decline of wild fish populations. The tremendous respect that Fred earned from his officer peers and the membership was evident at the business meeting, and he reminded the society what a class act is by sharing credit for his successes as president with his fellow officers and committee chairs, as well as with those that supported him back home, like Bob Curry and their staff in the Fisheries Division, but perhaps most importantly, his wife Angie. Fred's willingness to serve as parent society president has benefited our chapter in numerous direct and intangible ways. So next time you cross his path, let's remember to thank him personally and as a chapter for his exemplary service.

Our chapter supports its student members with gusto! In response, they always come through to make the most of that support, and did so with a strong presence up in Québec. Our student subunit was generous and savvy enough to donate a modest amount of funding to support the student social at the meeting, and I think we were all surprised by the publicity that the donation yielded. The NC Chapter Student Subunit's logo was prominently featured on a huge screen in a repeating slide show of sponsors at the plenary session and business meeting — side-by-side with those of such economic giants as Hydro Québec (major utility company), the US Department of Interior, and BASS — sometimes it pays to be generous! I'm always impressed when I see our students at professional conferences, because they don't huddle up and stick to themselves — they're interacting with others to take full advantage of the meeting environment.

I'm also pleased when I see them at socials, meeting new contacts and friends, if not overdoing it with the refreshments. Among the many new experiences at the meeting, some of us became familiar with a local microbrew called "Le fin du monde," which translates to "the end of the world," reflecting its high alcohol content (9.9%, is there a 10% Canadian limit?!).

If you were among our chapter members that joined me in Québec, I hope that you gained as much from the meeting as I did. If so, you experienced a most interesting plenary session that included scientific results and opinions from the world's leading experts in the decline of wild fishes, a suite of oral and poster presentations that were especially diverse this year with the meeting in Canada, some lively and productive section meetings, some real hum-dinger social events, including one with dinner and music at a port facility on the shore of the St. Lawrence River, a chance to catch up with old colleagues and friends, and a few special days in an ancient, magical city — Québec is the closest that I've ever come to Europe!

Finally, I hope that my description of the parent society meeting has convinced you that it's a worthwhile experience. And while our budgets for time and money seem to shrink every year, and the number of applicable professional conferences expands each year, I hope you'll consider attending the AFS parent society meeting when logistics allow. Next year's annual meeting will be August 22–26 in Madison, Wisconsin, and as program co-chair for that meeting, I sure look forward to seeing plenty of abstracts from our chapter cross my desk. Come join us in Madison — if the professional excitement doesn't fulfill you, the brats, beer, and cheese curds will! See you there!

Tom Kwak

First Call for Papers – 2004 NCAFS Annual Meeting, Asheville, North Carolina, 4–5 February 2004

The North Carolina Chapter of the American Fisheries Society will hold its 2004 annual meeting 4–5 February in Asheville, North Carolina. The meeting will take place in downtown Asheville (hotel negotiations underway), within walking distance of historic sites, restaurants, and nightspots.

Highlights

Continuing Education Workshops,
Contributed Oral Presentations,
Competition for Best Student and Professional Papers,
Chapter Business Meeting and Award Presentations,
Wednesday Evening Social,
Good Company!

— **ABSTRACTS ARE DUE BY 15 December 2003** —

Presentations will be scheduled for 20 minutes (15-min presentation and 5 min for questions), that will be strictly enforced. Media for presentations may include 35-mm slides or Microsoft PowerPoint™. Abstracts should be a 200-word (or less) statement of objectives, principal results and conclusions and must include (in order) title; author names, addresses, phone, and e-mail; abstract text; and format (slides or PowerPoint). The first author will be assumed to be the presenter and principal contact person unless otherwise noted. Please indicate status of the presenter (student or professional) for award competitions. An informal poster session will be held at the Wednesday evening social; poster presenters should provide their own easels. Please send abstracts by e-mail or diskette using WordPerfect, MS Word (preferred), or ASCII text to: Mallory Martin, NC Wildlife Resources Commission, 645 Fish Hatchery Road, Marion, NC 28752, 828-659-3324, martinmg@wnclink.com. Please phone 828-659-3324 if you do not receive receipt acknowledgment of your abstract within 14 days of submission. Authors will be notified regarding presentation acceptance by early-January 2004.

Submitted by Mallory Martin, President-Elect

Minutes of the August 2003 Executive Committee Meeting

The minutes of this and past meetings are available in the quarterly newsletters as a MS Word document link. [August 2003 Minutes](#)

Submitted by Kim Sparks, Secretary-Treasurer

NCSU Student Subunit Report

Hello! Greetings from NCSU Student Subunit! Our membership has participated in various activities so far this summer and early fall. We had a large NCSU contingent attend the Annual Meeting in Québec in August. Thanks to our healthy budget, we were able to provide monetary assistance to several of our graduate students who traveled to Québec. We were also fortunate enough to be able to donate a bit of money to the student social, always willing to help out in that department!



Nate Bacheler, PhD Candidate, shows off his interesting catch! A blue-spotted coronetfish was caught during a NC Sea Grant FRG project Nate was involved with over the summer out of Atlantic Beach.

As for this semester, we have several exciting guest speakers lined up to present different topics to us. In October, Jody Duggins, staff photographer for the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission (NCWRC) will be sharing his experiences and photos that have recently been appearing quite frequently in the *Wildlife in North Carolina* Magazine. Then in December, we will be welcoming Fred Harris, Chief, Division of Inland Fisheries (NCWRC), to communicate his vision on where he thinks young professionals in the field of fisheries should focus their efforts. Also, in the next month, we will be attending a riverside workshop on Fish Health

Assessment hosted by Dave Coughlan and Kim Baker from Duke Power Company. We are also planning a workshop on motor maintenance, something we all need a bit of advice on!



Scott Waters, Research Associate (right), and Ed Malindzak, MS Candidate (left), catch 3 huge flatheads on a recent sampling trip on the Northeast Cape Fear River. Together, they have a total weight of 150 pounds! (the fish, not Scott and Ed).

The subunit plans to help the Commission folks at the NC State Fair this year while meeting and informing the public about fisheries resources in our region. We are also getting geared up to present our graduate research topics to our friendly North Carolina neighbors at the Chapter Meeting in February, never too early to start preparing!

Please check out the sub-unit web page at http://www.ncsu.edu/stud_orgs/sfs/ to learn more about our group and upcoming activities. The sub-unit list serve is the best way to stay up to date on fisheries related happenings at NCSU. Directions on how to subscribe are available at the web site.

Contact Alesia Read (anread@unity.ncsu.edu) if you have any questions about Sub-unit events.

Submitted by Alesia Read, Student Subunit President

Education Committee

It's time to start thinking about continuing education workshops for the 2004 Chapter Meeting! I have received several ideas from the EXCOM about workshops and all of them sound like they would be worthwhile. However, there's only room on the agenda for 1 or 2 workshops. Here's where I need your help. Please email below and let me know which of these workshops you would be interested in. Or if there's something else you'd like to see, let me know as well.

1. Recent advances in GIS techniques (an expanded version of the 2001 workshop)
2. Identification of nongame animals (this would be things like crayfish, snails, mollusks)
3. Recent advances in technology for fisheries research (tagging, acoustics, stable isotope evaluation)
4. Media and outreach processes and skills (similar to what we did in Wilmington but this time with an emphasis on reactive media relations)
5. A primer on diagnosing fish disease (mini-course on fish disease)
6. Population parameter assessment (topics to be determined by Chapter and instructor)
7. Effective scientific writing (a short course on effective writing)

As always, I would appreciate any comments or suggestions regarding items for the Education Committee. While I have focused primarily on continuing education for members, there are other ways we as a chapter can provide education outside of our membership. If anyone has any suggestions, please contact me at dorseylg@vnet.net or 704-986-6109.

Submitted by Lawrence Dorsey, Education Committee Chair

Environmental Concerns Committee

If Chapter members would like to participate in addressing any issues or have ideas or suggestions please contact Dave McHenry at E-mail: david.mchenry@ncwildlife.org or use the comment form on the ECC web page.

Submitted by David McHenry, Environmental Concerns Committee Chair

News from around North Carolina

AFS News from Past-President Fred Harris – The annual meeting in Quebec City was one of our larger conferences with more than 1900 people in attendance. Major award recipients included John Ney - Meritorious Service Award, Trout Unlimited - Carl Sullivan Fishery Conservation Award, Mike Sissenwine - Ricker Resource Conservation Award, Jean Chretien and David Anderson - Past President's Fishery Conservation Award and Jim Kitchell - Award of Excellence.

The Governing Board approved changes to the NC Chapter's bylaws; criteria and application form for best chapter awards (developed by a committee chaired by Shari Bryant); and a compilation of the duties of the

Resolutions Committee that was prepared by Randy Tinsley, chair of the Resolutions Committee. The Guidelines for the Use of Fishes in Research was accepted and approved for publication. Subsequently the American Institute of Fishery Research Biologists endorsed the Guidelines. Next year's budget was approved and once again our budget will be soundly in the black.

The Fisheries Conservation Foundation is official and the first meeting of the board of directors was held in early September. The Foundation is the outreach arm of AFS and we will be soliciting proposals for outreach projects in the next several weeks. An informational brochure describing the Foundation is near completion. President Tom will be receiving information about the Foundation later this year for dissemination to chapter members.

Ira Adelman became the new President of AFS and Jennifer Nielsen was installed as 2nd VP.

NCAFS News from Bob Curry – The AFS Governing board approved the NCAFS Bylaw revisions on August 9 in Quebec and Tom Kwak received the formal letter of approval, dated September 9. Please go to the NCAFS Home Page or follow this link to the [2003 Edition of the Bylaws](#).

SDAFS Election Results from Tom Kwak, NCSU - The Southern Division of the AFS recently held elections for new officers, and not surprisingly, our NC Chapter members, in an ongoing spirit of volunteerism, stepped up to the plate to help out. Bob Curry (NCWRC) agreed to run for the Vice President position, and Dave Coughlan (Duke Energy) allowed his name on the ballot for SDAFS Representative to the AFS Nominating Committee.

The Results: *Congratulations* to Bob Curry, who was elected as *Vice President of the Southern Division!* Bob will begin his term as VP at the SD Spring Meeting in Oklahoma City in February (2004), then the following year will serve as President Elect, before beginning his term as President during 2006. We can all look forward to productive years in the Southern Division with Bob on the Executive Committee. Unfortunately (for the Division), Dave Coughlan was not elected to the Nominating Committee post, and I can't tell you who did, cause the election results aren't published yet, and I can't remember his opponent, cause I voted for Dave! From my view, I offer Dave the same Congratulations that I do for Bob, as he was willing to devote much of his free time to support and advance our professional society.

So, *Congratulations and Sincere Thanks* to Bob and Dave on behalf of all your colleagues in the NC Chapter for your ambition, spirit, and generosity in running for Southern Division offices!

NCDWQ News from Bryn Tracy and Mark Hale - Despite what has seemed like a never ending deluge this spring and summer (Drought? What drought?) Division of Water Quality Staff have still been able to spend a considerable amount of time in the streams. This sampling season has seen the field work completed on the Fourth Creek TMDL Stressor Study (Yadkin River basin), Impacts of a Trout Farm (French Broad River basin), Verification of Sites Rated as Impaired in 2002, and Basinwide Monitoring (Cape Fear River basin).



DWQ Staff sort and measure fish after a stream electrofishing sample.

Forty sites were sampled in the Piedmont portion of the Cape Fear River basin while additional sites are awaiting to be sampled in the Sandhills and Coastal Plain region should the rains ever stop and the flows subside. Preliminary results showed some streams hardly influenced by last year's drought while others are more slowly recovering. Relocations of wastewater treatment plant discharges have lead to some improvements in North Buffalo and Little Troublesome Creeks. *Cyprinella lutrensis*, *Luxilus cerasinus*, *Lythrurus ardens*, *Notropis chiliticus*, *Phoxinus oreas*, and *Catostomus commersoni* appear to be expanding their ranges in the Haw River and Deep River watersheds. A small, previously unknown population of *Notropis mekistocholas* was discovered in Buffalo Creek, a tributary to the Deep River near High Falls. It is encouraging that despite the accelerated growth and development in the upper Cape Fear River basin there remain some fish communities still rated as Good or Excellent.

Public workshops on the water quality and future water quality management plans were held in April and September for the Tar and Catawba River basins. At these meetings Bryn Tracy discussed the basin's water quality covering the past two or three monitoring cycles. Four workshops will be held for the French Broad River basin this November (tentatively scheduled for November 17 and 18, 2003). Contact Bryn (bryn.tracy@ncmail.net)

or visit the Basinwide Planning Program's web site (<http://h2o.enr.state.nc.us/basinwide/>) for dates and locations.

The on-going field work for the Division's study on mercury contamination in fish is nearing completion. Top predators and lower level consumers were taken from nine waterbodies throughout the eastern part of the state including the Lumber River, Phelps Lake, and Contentnea Creek. Once water levels return to normal samples will be collected from the Waccamaw River and Lake Waccamaw. A three year study of persistent pesticides in fish (as first described in the March 2003 Newsletter) has begun. Focusing this year on sites in the eastern part of the state, samples (usually of Largemouth bass, Common carp, and Channel catfish) have been collected from the Deep River, and Jordan, Kerr, and Roanoke Rapids Lakes. For further information on the Division's on-going fish studies, please visit the Biological Assessment Unit's web site <http://www.esb.enr.state.nc.us/BAU.html> or contact Bryn or Mark Hale (mark.hale@ncmail.net).

NCSU News from Joe Hightower - Alesia Read, NCSU graduate student, received a \$10,000 Keep NC Clean and Beautiful Moore Fellowship Award for 2003. The fellowships are designed to recognize graduate students who will utilize their knowledge and creativity to provide solutions to North Carolina's environmental issues. The award will be used to support Alesia's research efforts. Candidates are evaluated on the following criteria: high academic standing, leadership capability, intellectual aptitude, independent thinking, civic-mindedness, strong communications skills, personal integrity, motivation, and high moral character.



Alesia holding an American shad from the Nottoway River, VA.

Alesia's Master's thesis research involves an intensive habitat survey for American shad in the Roanoke River Basin and is funded by the NC Wildlife Resources Commission and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Congratulations Alesia!

Summer Intern News from Bryn Tracy, NCDWQ - Aaron Bunch, a rising Junior in the College of Natural Resources at North Carolina State University, recently completed a summer internship with the Division of Water Quality's Biological Assessment Unit under the tutelage of Bryn Tracy. Aaron, whose major is in Fisheries and Wildlife Science, provided much needed assistance to the Fish Community and Fish Tissue Contaminant programs. During his tenure he developed and gained critical skills in the field and laboratory identification of many species of freshwater fish from the Cape Fear, Catawba, and Yadkin River basins; in wadeable stream backpack and boat electrofishing techniques, in Microsoft's Excel and Access database data entry and management, in instream and riparian habitat assessments, in water quality instrumentation, in tissue sample preparation, and in teamwork.

Aaron was able to document the differences in fish communities, stream habitats, and water quality between urban streams around the City of Greensboro versus those in more protected watersheds on the fringes of the Uwharrie Mountains and in the Sandhills. While he, Bryn, and Mark Hale were constantly challenged by the never-ending plague of rain this year, Aaron indubitably was thrilled when wearing chest waders on hot and humid days while wading in "bust your ---" Slate Belt streams in Randolph and Chatham counties. During happier times (as pictured below), he was even able to discover through the wonders of boat electrofishing the "hot spots" at Lake Phelps where the large bluegill and largemouth bass hang out.



Aaron Bunch holding a bluegill from Lake Phelps.

This was the first year a co-funded fisheries intern program was established between DWQ and the College of Natural Resources at NCSU. Dr. Tom Kwak provided a valuable link in "hooking up" Bryn with Dr. Richard Lancia of the College who helped set up the internship. Based upon this Summer's success, more enthusiastic and professional interns such as Aaron are planned for future years.

Comprehensive Wildlife Conservation Plan News from Salinda Daley, NCWRC - As a compromise to failed efforts to pass the Conservation and Reinvestment Act (CARA), in 2001 Congress developed new fish and wildlife conservation funding legislation, the State Wildlife Grants (SWG) program. The SWG program is designed to assist states by providing annual allocations for the development and implementation of programs to benefit wildlife and their habitats, including species that are not hunted or fished and those of "greatest conservation concern." We hope that this federal funding will eventually become a permanent funding source, supporting long-term wildlife conservation as CARA would have.

To meet their obligations under the SWG program, states must develop a Comprehensive Wildlife Conservation Plan (CWCP) and submit it to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service by October 2005. The North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission (NCWRC) has this responsibility in our state, and we have been planning and making progress towards developing our CWCP for just over a year now. The CWCP must include everything from basic information about distribution and abundance of priority fish and wildlife species, to research, survey, and long-term monitoring needs. For more information on the CWCP, contact Salinda Daley at the NCWRC (919.773.2881 x 250, salinda.daley@ncwildlife.org). To learn more about the SWG program and nation-wide conservation efforts, visit the Teaming with Wildlife web site (www.teaming.com).

Stream Restoration News from Dani Wise, NCSU - The 2004 Southeastern Regional Conference on Stream Restoration will be held in Winston - Salem, NC in June 2004. Please check out the link below to find out information on submitting an abstract for a presentation or poster, registration, and exhibiting your company or organization.

http://www.bae.ncsu.edu/programs/extension/wqg/sri/2004_conference/index.html.

Raleigh Aquarium Society News from Gerald Pottern - The Raleigh Aquarium Society meets at 7:30 pm on the first Thursday each month at the NCSU Vet School. Each monthly meeting includes a speaker or discussion group, raffle of aquarium supplies, fish & plant trading, and refreshments. Attendance at monthly meetings is free.

The Vet School is beside the State Fairgrounds at the corner of Hillsborough Street (NC-54) and Blue Ridge Road in western Raleigh. Go downstairs past the library (under the whale), straight through two sets of doors, then into first lecture room on the right. We are looking for speakers for our monthly meetings this year. The club's main focus is keeping and propagating fish and plants in aquaria, but we're also interested in general aquatic ecology, fish natural history, conservation, aquaculture, ponds, diving & collecting trips, and related fishy topics. Please come to a meeting, and contact Gerald Pottern at 919-556-8845 or gpottern@RJGAcarolina.com if you have ideas for a program.

Stream Restoration News from Barbara Doll, NCSU – Stream Restoration: A Natural Channel Design Handbook, the North Carolina Stream Restoration Institute's (SRI) official guide to stream restoration, is hot off the press. This 128-page book (not including appendices) contains information about stream survey procedures, classification, restoration options, restoration design procedures, vegetation, erosion control and much more! Get your copy for only \$35 (includes \$5 for shipping and handling). See the SRI's web page for order information:

http://www.ncsu.edu/sri/stream_rest_guidebook/guidebook.html

The guidebook can also be downloaded free as a pdf file.

USEPA News from Ed Hanlon, USEPA – The USEPA is pleased to announce the availability of the Summary of Biological Assessment Programs and Biocriteria Development for States, Tribes, Territories and Interstate Commissions: Streams and Wadeable Rivers Document (EPA-822-R-02-048). This document provides an abundance of technical and programmatic information which illustrates the progress States, Tribes, Territories, and Interstate Commissions are making in the utilization of biological assessments and criteria in their water programs for protecting streams and small rivers. To download a copy of the document and fact sheet, please visit <http://www.epa.gov/waterscience/biocriteria/> or http://www.epa.gov/bioindicators/html/program_summary.html. Bound copies of the document will be available in late August 2003. You can also get copies of the complete document by calling EPA's Water Resource Center by phone at (202) 566-1729, or by sending an e-mail to center.water-resource@epa.gov.

Recent AFS Publication News from Hannelore Quigley

1. Common and Scientific Names of Aquatic Invertebrates from the United States and Canada: Cnidaria and Ctenophora, Second Edition by Stephen D. Cairns et al., Special Publication 28, 115 pp., + 32 color photographs.

2. Strategies for Restoring River Ecosystems: Sources of Variability and Uncertainty in Natural and Managed Systems edited by Robert C. Wissmar and Peter A. Bisson, 276 pp.

3. A Guide to Sampling Freshwater Mussel Populations by David L. Strayer and David R. Smith, AFS Monograph 8, 110 pp.

To order: Online: www.fisheries.org/cgi-bin/hazel-cgi/hazel.cgi, Phone: (678) 366-1411, or Fax: (770) 442-9742.

Wild Trout Symposium VIII News from Bob Carline – September 20-22, 2004, Yellowstone National Park, Old Faithful Inn, WY. The goals of the Wild Trout VIII Symposium are to bring together a broad and diverse audience representing governmental entities, non-governmental conservation organizations, media representatives, educators, anglers, guides, and business interests associated with trout fisheries to share their viewpoints on wild trout management and related public policy, to exchange technical information, and to seek ways of cooperatively advancing the conservation of wild trout resources. To this end, the Program Committee is soliciting abstracts for presentations and posters. Authors are encouraged to consult the Wild Trout VIII web page (WWW.WILDTROUT8.COM) for guidelines for abstract, poster, and manuscript preparation.

Wildland Hydrology Short Courses for 2004 – Courses in Applied Fluvial Geomorphology; River Morphology and Applications; River Assessment and Monitoring; Natural Channel Design & River Restoration; Fluvial Geomorphology for Engineers; and Natural Rivers: Mechanisms, Morphology and Management will be taught at various locations in 2004. For more information and descriptions of these classes check the website, www.wildlandhydrology.com and click on courses or call 970-731-6100 or E mail: wildlandhydrology@wildlandhydrology.com. Note: Wildland Hydrology, Inc. will be moving its offices to a new address as of January 1, 2004 - 11210 N. County Road, Fort Collins, CO 80524, Ph. 970-568-0002, Fax 970-568-0004

Cill Ide Native Plant Nursery from Maureen F. Seelinger - Cill Ide Native Plant Nursery has plant material available for your stream and wetland projects this fall. Check out our web site <http://www.wetlandplantnursery.com> or call 919-302-6900.

Spotlight on Students and Young Professionals

Staci S. Hining, N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission Stream Mitigation Technician - Staci was born and raised in Boomer, Wilkes County, N.C. and graduated

high school in 1996. She earned a BS degree in Wildlife and Fisheries Science, Magna Cum Laude, with minors in Botany and Environmental Science from NCSU in 2000. Staci completed two Ornithology internships with the NC Museum of Natural Sciences in 1999 and in 2000 worked at the Big Sur Ornithology Lab in Big Sur, C.A. She also volunteered in the collection section of the museum before graduation from NCSU. Prior to working with the NCWRC, Staci was employed by Dr Jim Matthews, Habitat Assessment and Restoration Project, assisting with biological engineering of streambanks in the Charlotte area.



Staci sampling fish at a stream restoration site in Ashe County.

Staci accepted a position with the NCWRC Habitat Conservation Program in April 2001 as a Stream Mitigation Technician working out of the Elkin office in northwest N.C. Staci's responsibilities with the NCWRC are to assist with the planning and implementation of stream restoration/enhancement plans. Her current work focuses on the South Fork New River watershed (Ashe and Watauga counties) and in the Goose Creek watershed (Mecklenburg and Union counties). This work is being done to fulfill agency mitigation agreements with the N.C. Department of Transportation. Staci assists with the collection of data related to stream stability and fishery habitat quality at project sites, works with landowners to obtain conservation easements, and assists with the development of mitigation site plans. She oversees and assists with the installation of erosion control measures, fish habitat improvement structures, planting of riparian vegetation, and installation of livestock management practices. Staci also provides advice to other agencies involved in stream restoration activities. Highlights of

recent work include: development of a poster describing the NCWRC/NC DOT Stream Mitigation Program, improving existing data analysis and expense tracking spreadsheets. Staci has received additional training on natural channel design, and GIS applications.

Staci lives in Boomer and was recently married to Kevin Hining, who is employed by the NCWRC as a fishery biologist. During her time off, Staci enjoys traveling, gardening, canning, cooking, hiking, camping and fishing with Kevin.

Stacy A. C. Nelson, Assistant Professor, NCSU - Stacy Nelson is our newest fisheries faculty member at NC State University, and a welcomed addition to our chapter! He's an assistant professor in the Department of Forestry and the Fisheries and Wildlife Program and brings some much needed and timely expertise to our state. His research interests revolve around the use of remote sensing and GIS technologies to address both regional and local-scale questions of land use/cover change and the impact this change has on inland lakes, wetlands, and coastal ecosystems, as well as their associated effects on water quality and fisheries ecology.

Stacy is originally from Jackson, Mississippi, and grew up in the South, but he also spent time as a child in Jamaica, West Indies. His father was an entomology professor at Jackson State University, which may have influenced his career path. Stacy went on to earn a B.S. in biology from Jackson State. He completed a master's degree from the Virginia Institute of Marine Science (VIMS), the College of William and Mary's school of marine science, and his Ph.D. was recently completed at Michigan State University in their Department of Fisheries and Wildlife. He also taught marine science courses at Southern University's New Orleans campus. Currently at NC State, Stacy's teaching two GIS courses and advising graduate students working on remote sensing research projects, including land use and land cover change analysis, habitat assessment, hydrologic and water quality analysis.



Stacy Nelson, NCSU, in the field

Stacy has extensive experience in applying remote sensing and GIS to address land use and cover applications at both regional and local-scales. He has analyzed land cover change in the Barataria Bay Estuary, Louisiana, focusing on the freshwater wetland regions. As a NASA/ASEE Research Fellow, within the Earth Systems Science Office at the Stennis Space Center in Mississippi, Stacy worked to develop seasonal land cover change models of dominant wetland plant species for examination of estuary/carbon export relationships to the near-shore environments of the Gulf of Mexico. He also worked in cooperation with the NASA-funded Michigan Regional Earth Science Applications Center (MI RESAC), and the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality to implement satellite remote sensing for the detection of statewide Secchi depth detection and its influence on macrophyte and littoral zone characteristics. And, he has been involved in studies using remote sensing to examine seasonal and yearly fluxes of surface water chlorophyll, turbidity and temperature variations within the Chesapeake Bay as well as researching potential impacts to specific intertidal and wetland regions that are sensitive to increased urbanization.

Stacy has personal and continued interests in developing opportunities to collaborate, share, and learn within and across disciplines, as well as taking these experiences outside of the academic environment and into the community. Professionally, he enjoys teaching, extension, and research and views all three missions as a critically vital insurance policy for positively influencing the future of our natural resources and our citizenry.

In what little free time a new professor has, Stacy's a talented musician — he plays keyboard and bass and lead guitars in jazz and blues bands! He also gives some of his free time back to our community, as he mentors incarcerated youth at the Polk Youth Institution in Butner, NC, through the Yolcfellows Youth Ministry. Finally, let's all congratulate the newlywed on his recent marriage last month to his wife Kristie, as they become a family with their son Justin. Welcome, Stacy, to the NC Chapter and our fisheries community!

Meetings of Interest

57th Annual Conference: Southeastern Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies – Oct. 11-15, 2003, Mobile, AL. <http://www.seafwa.org> .

National Symposium: Wetlands 2003: Landscape Scale Wetland Assessment and Management – Oct. 20-23, 2003, Nashua, NH. The overall goal of this symposium will be to build the capabilities of local governments, states, federal agencies, not for profits and others to assess

and manage wetlands and related ecosystems on a landscape level. <http://www.aswm.org/calendar/2003am/cover9.htm> .

Southern Appalachian Man and the Biosphere Conference – Nov. 4-6, 2003, Asheville, NC, Nov 4-6, 2003. Meeting the challenges of a changing region. E-mail: samba@utk.edu.

Fourth World Fisheries Congress – May 2-6, 2004, Vancouver, British Columbia. Reconciling fisheries with conservation: The challenge of managing aquatic ecosystems. <http://www.worldfisheries2004.org>.

2004 Meeting of the American Society of Ichthyologists and Herpetologists – May 26-31, 2004, Norman, Oklahoma. The call for papers will not be mailed unless requested. Meeting information available only at <http://www.dce.ksu.edu/2004jointmeeting>

2004 Meeting of the North American Native Fishes Association (NANFA) - June 18-20, 2004, Riverbanks Zoo, Columbia, SC. NANFA is an unusual mix of academic and agency biologists, amateur naturalists, teachers, and aquarium hobbyists interested in the natural history, ecology, and conservation of native fishes, plants, and invertebrates, and their maintenance and propagation in home aquaria and ponds. For more information, check out the NANFA website at www.nanfa.org or contact Fritz Rohde at fritz.rohde@ncmail.net.

Southeastern Regional Conference on Stream Restoration - June 21-24, 2004, Winston-Salem, NC. This conference will showcase stream and wetland restoration efforts from Maryland to Florida. Professionals from the southeastern US and beyond will have an opportunity to present and discuss topics related to the field of restoration. http://www.bae.ncsu.edu/programs/extension/wqg/sri/2004_conference/index.html.

River Restoration and Urban Streams Symposium - June 27 - July 1, 2004, Salt Lake City, Utah. The Symposium will be part of the World Water and Environmental Resources Congress. <http://www.asce.org/conferences/ewri2004/>

134th Annual Meeting of the AFS – Aug 21–26, 2004, Madison, WI. Stay tuned to the AFS webpage for more details. <http://www.fisheries.org/>.

If you are aware of meeting information that would be beneficial to the membership of the NCAFS, please send it to the newsletter editor for inclusion in the next newsletter. djcoughl@duke-energy.com

Employment Opportunities

North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission – The commission has an opening for an Assistant Nongame Biologist in the mountain region working with Steve Fraley. Please visit the NCWRC website and locate the position - Western Region Nongame Aquatic Biologist I #4311-0000-0040-797. The position is currently posted on OSP website and closes 10/24/03.

http://www.ncwildlife.org/fs_index_commission.htm

URS (www.urscorp.com), the fastest-growing engineering and environmental consulting firm in the United States now has several positions open in the Raleigh/Durham, NC Office for:

Ecologist - Must have 3 years of experience in aquatic wildlife/habitat studies and wetlands delineation. Some experience in conducting aquatic entrainment/impingement studies is important. Must have substantial field experience and be willing to travel.

Senior Ecologist - Candidates must have a minimum BS degree and 10+ years of experience in one or more of the following areas: (1) impacts mitigation/restoration of wetlands and water resources, (2) CWA Sections 401/404 permitting and (3) aquatic entrainment/impingement studies. Certified Fisheries Professional certification desirable.

Senior Water/Wastewater Engineer - Candidates must have a minimum BS degree and 7+ years of experience in drinking water, wastewater, and/or storm water compliance and/or design. Will manage a variety of challenging drinking water, wastewater, and storm water compliance projects for government and industry. Will also be responsible for staff and business development. Must be able to attain government security clearance.

URS offers competitive salary, attractive benefits package and an excellent work environment. Qualified applicants should submit a resume to: HR Manager, URS Corporation – North Carolina, 1600 Perimeter Park, Suite 100, Morrisville, NC 27560. Fax: (919) 461-1416, Email: nc_recruiter@urscorp.com, EOE.

National Estuarine Research Reserve (NERR) - The National Estuarine Research Reserve System is now soliciting proposals for the 2004 class of Graduate Research Fellows. The Graduate Research Fellowship program offers students an opportunity to conduct their master's or doctoral research in a reserve. Students also gain hands on experience by contributing to the research

and monitoring program at their host reserve. To learn more about the fellowship and obtain guidelines for applying please visit <http://www.nerrs.noaa.gov/fellowship>. Applications must be postmarked by November 1, 2003.

The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission – openings for full-time fisheries biologists and technicians. Applicants must apply electronically to be considered for the job. Access the State of Florida Job Website by the following procedures to review the available jobs:

1. Visit: <https://jobs.myflorida.com/joblist.html>
2. Select Category: BIOLOGY
3. Select Agency: FWC - Fish & Wildlife Cons Comm
4. Scroll and click on SEARCH button
5. Review position description, minimum requirements, etc.
6. Scroll and click on BEGIN APPLICATION PROCESS button

USFWS Fisheries Technician Positions in Alaska for the 2004 Field Season - Fisheries technician positions are being offered by the USFWS in Alaska for the 2004 field season. Please distribute this information to all interested candidates/students, post it on a job board, or even on your web page. There are going to be an estimated 70 fisheries technician positions opening in Alaska next year. A few positions may begin as early as April, with the majority starting in late May and early June. We encourage all enthusiastic people interested in pursuing a career in fisheries to apply. Details can be obtained online at the USA Jobs website (www.usajobs.opm.gov) after the Oct 15th opening date.

Fishery related jobs can be found on the AFS web site at: <http://www.fisheries.org/jobs.html>. This site also offers links to job postings on non-AFS web sites.

If you have a fishery-related job opening and would like to post it in the next NCAFS Newsletter, please send your announcement to the newsletter editor. djcoughl@duke-energy.com

Valuable Links – Courtesy of AFS

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 <http://www.fisheries.org/>. Additional links can be found courtesy of Dr. Mike Allen and the Southern Division, AFS. <http://www.sdafs.org/links/msallen1.htm>