



**North Carolina Chapter of the American Fisheries Society
2021 Business Meeting
Online Meeting
February 17, 2021**

1. Call to Order, Ben Ricks, President - 10:50 am
2. Determination of Quorum, Kelsey Roberts, Secretary/Treasurer - 10:51 am
 - 62 members present
3. Welcome and Introductions, Ben Ricks, President - 10:52 am
 - a) AFS Parent Society EXCOM in attendance: none
 - b) AFS Past President(s) in attendance; none
 - c) AFS Southern Division and Past-President(s) in attendance
 - Tom Kwak SDAFS President - 10:52 am
 - Update: NC chapter- well represented in SDAFS with Tom Kwak as president and Jess Baumann as Treasurer and leading the Women's Leadership Group
 - Aaron Bunch and others helped organize virtual meetings
 - SDAFS annual meeting- will be virtual, was supposed to be in Arlington VA- April 6-9, 2021
 - Future meetings- 2022-In person, Charleston, SC
 - 2023- Virginia
 - 2024- Tennessee
 - 2025- North Carolina, Raleigh, NC
 - Parent society meeting– Nov 6-10, 2021, Baltimore NC, 150th anniversary activities
 - Diversity, inclusion, equity committee for SDAFS, contact Tom if you want to participate
 - NCAFS needs to submit a best chapter nomination
 - Catfish 2020- special issue, all attendees will receive hard copy
 - Join AFS!
 - d) NC AFS Past-Presidents in attendance - 11:02 am
 - Lawrence Dorsey, John Crutchfield, Brena Jones, Tyler Black, Tom Kwak, Mike Abney, Christian Waters, Jim Rice, Corey Oakley (and probably more but people put their hands down)
4. February 2020 Business Meeting Minutes, Ben Ricks, President - 11:03 am
 - Lawrence Dorsey - move to approve

- John Crutchfield - second
 - Approved!
5. NCSU, Student Subunit - 11:04 am
- Brendan Runde – Raffle update
6. Committee Reports
- a) Program and Arrangements – Ryan Heise - 11:05 am
- Thank you to Bryn Tracy, Nick Wahl, Mike Abney, Ben Ricks, Matt McKinney
 - 23 presentations
 - Over 100 registered
 - Thanks to Brena Jones for Website maintenance
 - Thanks to Sherri Evans- internal support with Duke and Teams
- b) Awards Committee – Greg Cope - 11:07 am
- Corey Oakley shares duties – program assembly for judging for awards
 - Greg- professional awards, ordering awards
 - Due to COVID did not administer student travel awards or undergraduate award program, hope to administer these programs later this year
 - No professional awards this year
 - Judged for best professional presentation 10 presentations judged for W Don Baker award, thanks to judged Oakley, Cope, Kwak; No Best Student Award because there were no full-length student presentations awarded
 - See attached report for more details
- c) Communications Committee – Kyle Rachels - 11:11 am
- 34 articles – 4 issues. Thanks to Brena Jones, Morgan Raley, Bryn Tracy for their help
 - Looking for administrator for Facebook
 - See attached report for more details
- d) Webmaster – Brena Jones - 11:12 am
- 1700 visits
 - 335 on listserv
 - No big changes on website- bylaws are on website under publications
 - See attached report for more details
- e) Education and Outreach Committee – Seth Mycko - 11:14 am
- No workshop at meeting, but hosted the statistics workshop which had 34 attendees
 - Call for ideas for workshops
 - Ryan Heise- question about posting meeting to website
 - See attached report for more details
- f) Environmental Concerns Committee – Ben Ricks - 11:16 am
- Survey Results- 100% support for building a letter for sound science Committee has been formed to write this letter and the letter will be completed by next business meeting
 - We need a new chair or to talk about other options (see new business)
 - See attached report for more details
- g) Finance Committee – Kelsey Roberts - 11:18 am
- The chapter is doing good financially

- Adopted the flexible management last year
 - See attached report for more details
- h) Nominations Committee – Jake Rash - 11:20 am
- Nominated secretary treasurer- Mike Walter and Casey Grieshaber
 - Casey Grieshaber is new Treasurer
 - Nominated Andrea Leslie and Jeremy McCargo
 - Andrea is the new president
- i) Mentoring Committee – Kevin Dockendorf - 11:23 am
- Created a listening session on December 7, 2020, met with students at NCSU and other previous students
 - Mentoring workshop- Feb 15, 2021, had panelists, and breakout sessions with moderators, thank you to everyone that participated
 - Most people were undergrads, then career professionals.
 - There were also some high school students and some students from other states
 - See attached report for more details.
7. Secretary Treasurer and Finance Committee Report, Kelsey Roberts, Secretary/Treasurer - 11:43 am
- See attached report for more details.
8. Awards Presentation, Greg Cope, Chair Awards Committee - 11:37 am
- 2021 Best Professional Paper Award – Casey Grieshaber
9. New Business - 11:50 am
- a) Additional items
- Ben- motion to dissolve Environmental Concerns Committee
 - Some agreement by chapter members
 - Tom Kwak- worried it won't become relevant anymore
 - Casey Grieshaber - Logistically wondering how it would work, discussed having the president form ad-hoc committee when each issue arises
 - Chris Goudreau- second the motion
 - Andrea Leslie- Also agrees, stressed updating members with an email with each issue and updating bylaws with a procedure for when issues come up
 - Jim Rice- Need to keep in constant communication with membership, also would like bylaws updated
 - Lawrence Dorsey- Agrees with dissolving and the general discussion
 - Jennifer Archambault- Shared that is was challenging to chair this committee, suggested creating guidance for policy vs advocacy (the parent society has good resources for this). Also suggested the letter on sound science could be a guiding document. Noted that other chapters don't have this committee.
 - Tom Kwak- AFS very active in environmental concerns, if big enough issue we can raise it to parent society.

- Kevin Dockendorf- Call to question the current motion-Current motion: Dissolve the current committee and serve concerns through ad-hoc committee.
- All those in favor: 40 (raised hands virtually)
- All those not in favor: 2 (raised hands virtually)
- Motion passes! 12:11 pm
- ACTION ITEM: Add a procedure for how to handle new concerns to bylaws.

b) Membership Dues

- Pay them!

10. Installation of Newly Elected Officers -12:14 pm

- a) Ryan Heise, President
- b) Andrea Leslie, President Elect
- c) Casey Grieshaber, Secretary/Treasurer
- d) Winner of AFS membership Richard Smith (talk to Casey)

11. Remarks by Incoming President, Ryan Heise -12:14 pm

- Tom- wanting SFS to send a raffle update
- Bryn- wondering what's up with dues, pay them!

12. Motion to Adjourn Meeting- Ryan Heise - 12:17 pm

**North Carolina Chapter of the American Fisheries Society
2020 Awards Committee Report
Submitted by Greg Cope and Corey Oakley
February 17, 2021**

Due to the Covid-19 pandemic and associated restrictions on travel and in-person meetings, the NCAFS Chapter did not administer the Student Travel Award Program or the Undergraduate Student Travel Award Program in 2020-2021. Likewise, because of the continued pandemic and virtual meeting platform for the 2021 annual meeting of the North Carolina Chapter of the American Fisheries Society, the Jerry R. Finke Distinguished Service Award and the Fred A. Harris Fisheries Conservation Award were deferred until the next possible in-person meeting.

For the 2021 annual meeting, the Committee recruited judges and conducted the judging for the W. Don Baker Memorial Best Professional Presentation Award. There were 10 full-length presentations made by professional members. The professional presentations were judged by Tom Kwak, Corey Oakley, and Greg Cope. The Richard L. Noble Best Student Presentation Award was not presented in 2021 because there were no full-length presentations made by students.

The 2021 W. Don Baker Memorial Best Professional Presentation Award was presented to Casey A. Grieshaber of the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission for her presentation entitled "Winter trout stocking in Piedmont impoundments and changes in angler effort". Her presentation was co-authored by Lawrence G. Dorsey.

North Carolina Chapter of the American Fisheries Society
2020 Communications Committee Report
Submitted by Brena Jones
February 10, 2021

The Chapter website (<https://nc.fisheries.org>) saw 6,586 page views in the past year, from 2,121 users. The most popular pages, after the Chapter meeting pages, were the officer & awards pages, as well as the dynamic [calendar of fisheries and ecology conferences](#) across the US.

We again successfully hosted both annual meeting registration and officer voting online, as well as having membership registration continually available. The listserv distributed newsletters, job announcements, news items, and calls for information to 316 participants. Many thanks to the Parent Society of AFS, who hosts our website and content at no charge to NCAFS. Your Chapter webmaster, Brena Jones, is continually working to improve utility and efficiency on the website; if you have events, news, or resources/suggestions to share, you may email brena.jones@ncwildlife.org. Thanks to all our members who have provided material to post!

Four quarterly newsletters were distributed to the Chapter in 2020. Those newsletters were comprised of 34 contributed articles (not including the President's message, good work, etc.) in 51 pages of printed material. These newsletters would not have been possible without the contribution of the many chapter members who contributed material, as well as the newsletter committee (Brena Jones, Morgan Raley, and Bryn Tracy).

As an annual reminder, anyone with a Facebook account can post photos or news directly to the [Chapter Facebook page](#). We have 411 Facebook page followers, an increase of 23 from last year. There were two Facebook posts in 2020—the last post was in February.

If you would like to be involved with any of the NCAFS communication channels, any Chapter member may contact Communications Committee Team Leaders:

Facebook Page - VACANT

Website - Brena Jones brena.jones@ncwildlife.org

Newsletter – Kyle Rachels kyle.rachels@ncwildlife.org

**North Carolina Chapter of the American Fisheries Society
2020 Awards Committee Report
Submitted by Seth Mycko
February 23, 2021**

In 2020, the NCAFS Education and Outreach Committee coordinated an occupancy modeling and estimation workshop lead by Dr. Krishna Pacifici of the NC State University Quantitative Ecology Lab. The workshop had 33 attendees and was held online January 12-13, 2021. COVID-19 limited other activities in 2020.

**North Carolina Chapter of the American Fisheries Society
2020 Awards Committee Report
Submitted by Ben Ricks
February 22, 2021**

The Environmental Concerns Committee (EEC) was tasked with polling the membership's opinion on the "Let Them Spawn" bill after the 2020 business meeting. The membership was polled for guidance to see if NCAFS should support this bill. Only 31 members completed the form with 65% supporting, 29% did not support, and 7% abstained. EXCOM and ECC did not feel then level of participation warranted action. Additionally, support for developing a statement supporting sound science in coastal fisheries management was 100% and EXCOM tasked the ECC to have this done by the 2022 meeting.

In addition, a motion to dissolve the ECC and process environmental concerns by having the president appoint chapter members to handle each issue as they arise passed at the 2021 business meeting. Procedures on how to handle each issue will be added to the bylaws by the 2022 business meeting

North Carolina Chapter of the American Fisheries Society
2020 ad Hoc Mentoring Committee Report
Submitted by Kevin Dockendorf
February 25, 2021

The NCAFS Ad Hoc Mentoring Committee was formed at the 2020 NCAFS Chapter meeting in New Bern.

The Covid-19 pandemic constrained activities during much of spring and summer 2020.

Virtual conference options such as Zoom and Microsoft Teams allowed for committee chair to attend and participate in the AFS Diversity and Inclusion day, Minorities in Natural Resources Conversation (MINRC), and NCSU Student Fisheries Society meetings to actively listen to needs of undergraduate and graduate students in the fisheries and wildlife conservation careers.

Committee members corresponded via e-mail and inquired “Who’s our audience?”. Research of available data in the NC Tower database was evaluated. Analysis of undergraduates in the Natural Resources and Conservation program from 10 UNC Public University systems revealed an exponential increase in B.S. graduates between 2003 and 2019. In 2019, there were 644 graduates and another 1,900 juniors and seniors in line to graduate from those universities. This conservation career has long been considered highly competitive, yet the number of graduates and upperclass students seeking job openings and internships during a pandemic was quite humbling.

In fall 2020, Committee chair Dockendorf coordinated with NCAFS webmaster Jones to develop a webpage for the mentoring committee. With this committee webpage established, mentoring information along with committee agendas and meeting recordings could be posted here as well.

On December 7, 2020, Mentoring Committee members met with a small group of undergraduate students for a virtual listening session to consider “Mentoring Mondays”, planned committee events to occur quarterly each year on Mondays. This session was recorded and is available on the committee webpage for review.

On Monday, February 15, 2021, NCAFS and NCSU SFS hosted a student-mentor workshop as a virtual opportunity to meet with undergraduate and graduate students and anyone interested in a conservation career. This event was hosted on Zoom by NCSU and was held in collaboration with the NCWRC Partnership for Inclusion – Relevancy Roadmap Implementation Grant and fostering the next generation of conservation professionals. This collaboration provided six panelists, six moderators and 29 attendees, including 4 high school students, to meet and converse. Pre-registration was voluntary and included an opportunity for students to provide questions for panelists ahead of time. Panelists were selected to represent public, private and academia sectors. This meeting was recorded and is available on the NCAFS Mentoring webpage.

On Wednesday, February 17, 2021, Committee Chair Dockendorf presented a lightning talk on utilization of the NC Tower database for insight on potential audience to be addressed and served by the committee. Committee Chair Dockendorf also presented at the NCAFS Business meeting on ad hoc committee progress to date. Dockendorf

advised opportunities abound for more members to be committee members, for us to actively listen to student needs and to continue our efforts to provide insights and advice to those students pursuing a conservation career.

Respectfully submitted,

Kevin Dockendorf, Chair

Jessica Baumann, Neil Medlin, Casey Grieshaber, TD Van Middlesworth, Ben Ricks

**North Carolina Chapter of the American Fisheries Society
2020 Finance Committee Report
Submitted by Kelsey Roberts
February 17, 2021**

Balances as of 1/28/2021:

NCAFS Checking	=	\$ 8,179
NCAFS PayPal	=	\$ 173
RRCC Savings	=	\$ 7,123
General Fund	=	\$ 67,768
Ichthus Fund	=	\$ 30,430



General Fund 2020

Return: \$7,754
Rate of Return: 14.27%



Ichthus Fund 2020

Return: \$1,955
Rate of Return: 6.83%

NCAFS Checking Account:

Income:

2020 Meeting	\$ 9,665.00
2019 NCAFS Only Membership	\$ ~718.00
2019 NCAFS and AFS Membership	\$ <u>1,275.00</u>
	\$11,658.00

Expenses:

2020 Meeting	\$ 5,807.00
AFS Plaques from 2018 Meeting	\$ 150.00
AFS General Liability Insurance	\$ 150.00
Free AFS membership award	\$ 65.00
Best Student Paper	\$ 600.00

Donations Given

—Bryn Tracy et al. (publication)	\$ 600.00
—Quentin Nichols (STB project)	\$ 750.00
—Morgan Raley (HydroGENomics)	\$ 750.00
—Env. Quality Institute (Flat Creek)	\$ 750.00
—Bryn Tracy et al. (NCfishes.com)	\$ 950.00
—Jeff Plumlee (SIA analysis)	\$ 981.00
—Toss (mural)	\$ 500.00
—SDAFS (2021 Mtg sponsorship)	\$ 300.00
	<u>\$12,353.00</u>

RRCC Saving Account:

Expenses:

Website package	\$ 377.12
Supplies	\$ 13.34
	<u>\$ 390.46</u>

Income:

Duke Energy Donation	\$ 1,000.00
Georgia Power Donation	\$ 2,091.65
Interest	\$ 1.12
	<u>\$ 3092.77</u>