

UNDERCURRENTS

February 2017

The Newsletter of the Michigan Chapter of the American Fisheries Society



President's Message ~ Ed Roseman



Greetings from Helsinki (Hyvää päivää),

I am writing this winter message from Hotel Seurahuone in Helsinki City Center, Finland on Friday (2 December), after participating in a week-long workshop to discuss restoration strategies for Baltic whitefish (*Coregonus maraenus*) stocks. The stocks are low due to the same factors that we face in the Great Lakes: exploitation, recruitment variability, and habitat degradation. Three scientists from the USA joined about three dozen scientists from the

Baltic region to talk about restoration strategies. We worked together to begin drafting an interdisciplinary and interjurisdictional plan for restoration of Baltic whitefish. Not many weeks ago, Great Lakes scientists convened a workshop to discuss similar issues related to restoring our ciscos. And, next September, many scientists from both regions will convene in Bayfield, WI for the 13th International Coregonid Symposium (<http://www.coregonid2017.com/>). Some might call this a coincidence, that so much attention is being directed toward these fishes simultaneously. But I feel that it is a fortuitous scientific opportunity to share knowledge and collaborate across borders as we work toward a common goal of restoring valuable habitat and fish populations.

As part of the Helsinki workshop, we visited two rivers where whitefish spawn; the Espoonjoki River (on left) is modified for restoration of spawning areas and riparian zones with man-made sinuosity and added rocks, while the Mankinjoki is a natural river (on right). Both are located in urbanized areas near Espoo, a few kilometers from the sea



archipelago, and both rivers get runs of a few hundred spawning whitefish each fall. Fisheries biologist Lari Venneranta from Natural Resources Institute Finland is leading research to investigate spawning success in these rivers and use lessons learned here to develop restoration strategies to restore habitat and populations in other coastal rivers in Finland. This work is similar to efforts in Michigan and the Great Lakes region to restore spawning habitats and measure the responses of fishes to restored areas.

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President's Message (Continued) ~ Ed Roseman

(Continued from page 1) Here in the Great Lakes, we have been fortunate to receive Great Lakes Restoration Initiative funding across federal, state, tribal, university, and private sectors. The benefits made under this initiative are widespread for both terrestrial and aquatic habitats and populations, and return on investments are being realized in our economies and societies with restored ecosystem services and new opportunities. While funding is important, the scientific leadership and skills of our talented managers and biologists are the real asset responsible for these successes. We had many great restoration projects in “shovel-ready” mode when these funds became available, and I think the “shovel-ready” status of ideas and plans is important to note. Taking the time to think about science and make plans using the “if I had a million dollars (or five grand, even!), what would I do with it?” as inspiration, is a critical step in planning. Write those ideas down so you have something ready to build on when an opportunity presents itself. This is what we sometimes also accomplish with workshops, emails, phone calls, and sometimes just casual chats in the hallway – all can lead to a good project idea, a paper, and some really cool science.

An excellent opportunity to talk with colleagues and discuss collaborative project ideas will be coming up in Mackinac City in March 2017 at our Chapter's annual meeting. President-elect Dr. Robin DeBruyne is organizing the 2017 Chapter meeting, to be held at the Mackinaw Beach and Bay Inn & Suites in Mackinaw City on March 14-16, 2017. The theme for our meeting will be “Bridging Opportunities Using Multi-Disciplinary Science.” We will feature keynote addresses and contributed papers on human dimensions research, fisheries management, bridges between inland and Great Lakes fisheries, fostering multi-disciplinary partnerships, and student research. More information will be announced soon.

Please check out and like our Facebook page! (<https://www.facebook.com/MichiganAFS/>). The page is frequently updated by our communications committee, chaired by Heather Seites-Hettinger. Look to the Facebook page for job announcements, continuing education course announcements, upcoming meetings, and other interesting and entertaining fisheries news from around the Mitten & Yoop.



MIAFS Technology Update

The MIAFS webpage is hosted on the parent society servers under the url – <http://michigan.fisheries.org/> - check it out! You can use this page to post job openings, find contact information for your officers, see meeting announcements, and so much more. Don't forget you can always hit the Chapter up on its Facebook page as well; <https://www.facebook.com/MichiganAFS/>. These two tools are YOURS to use– share information, post, start conversations– that's what they are there for!

For those of you that don't know, Justin Chiotti is the new webmaster for the Chapter webpage. Justin is a fish biologist for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service working out of the Alpena Fish and Wildlife Conservation Office. If you have anything you would like added to the site, please send Justin an email @ justin_chiotti@fws.gov.

From the President-Elect ~ *Robin DeBruyne*



Happy New Year! I want to start by thanking our members for giving me the opportunity to serve as Chapter President. As the President-Elect I have been busy planning for our annual chapter meeting in Mackinaw City at the Mackinaw Beach and Bay Inn and Suites from March 14-16, 2017. The meeting theme is “Bridging Opportunities Using Multi-Disciplinary Science”. We will have scheduled one and a half days of scientific presentations, a continuing education course in population estimation, large-vessel tours in Cheboygan, and a social networking event. The announcement in this newsletter has more details to plan your trip. Abstracts are due to me by February 17th.

I attended an in-person meeting at the Annual AFS meeting, and more recently a webinar, the Parent Society staff organized to inform unit leadership of the services AFS can provide, as well as hear how they can improve services and unit function within the Society. One of the reasons cited in recent surveys some fisheries professionals choose not to become Parent Society members is the lack of benefits of membership at the national level. The AFS staff is committed to improving member services for the Society and is actively working to make available unit leadership guidelines, trainings, and forums for members and unit leadership. As these resources become available, we will notify you and encourage their use. If you have any ideas or concerns to be brought to the staff in Bethesda regarding services for either members-at-large or unit leadership, please contact them or one of the chapter’s executive committee members. If you are a member of the Michigan Chapter but not the Parent Society of AFS, consider becoming a member of the Parent Society as well.

During my year as President of the Michigan Chapter I plan to focus on increasing member participation in the chapter and the Parent Society. This will be accomplished through a variety of ways, including reaching out to potential new members (e.g., student clubs officially and not officially designated as a subunit) and furthering our excellent track record of providing relevant continuing education courses to our membership. I am also open to suggestions regarding ways to improve services and communication from our unit and the Parent Society. With regard to communication, I would like to increase our digital presence in our social media and YouTube outlets to highlight what our members and students are doing across the Great Lakes State, while continuing to use and grow our great newsletter. If you have an event or highlight to share, please contact myself (rdebruyne@usgs.gov) or our newsletter editor (Heather Hettinger, hettingerh@michigan.gov).

That’s all from my desk. Stay warm and I hope to see everyone at the meeting in Mackinaw City!





MICHIGAN CHAPTER AMERICAN FISHERIES SOCIETY
Treasurer's Report for All Accounts
through December 15, 2016

BALANCE FORWARD January 8 , 2016

Checking	\$5,666.55
Savings	\$8,013.00
CD's	\$0.00
Petty Cash	<u>\$16.47</u>
TOTAL BALANCE	<u>\$13,696.02</u>

INCOME

AFS Dues Rebate	\$2,512.40
Continuing Education	\$10,854.44
Donations to MIAFS	\$0.00
Membership dues, meeting fees	\$1,345.00
Interest Savings	<u>\$3.60</u>
TOTAL INCOME	<u>\$14,715.44</u>

EXPENSES

Awards, Scholarships, Travel Grants	\$2,187.09
Bank Charges	\$1.00
Meeting Costs	\$300.00
Donations	\$1,450.00
Continuing Education	\$7,719.77
Postage/Office Supplies/Printing Fees	<u>\$0.00</u>
TOTAL EXPENSES	<u>\$11,657.86</u>

TOTAL CASH FLOW **\$3,057.58**

BALANCE December 15, 2016

Checking	\$9,021.53
Savings	\$8,015.60
CD's	\$0.00
Petty Cash	<u>\$16.47</u>
TOTAL BALANCE	<u>\$17,053.60</u>



December 14, 2016

President Ed Roseman
Michigan Chapter of the American Fisheries Society

President Roseman,

This letter is to confirm that William Keiper, Secretary-Treasurer of the Michigan Chapter of the American Fisheries Society, has provided me with all of the chapter's financial records for 2016. I cross-referenced all checks written, electronic withdrawals made, and deposit receipts against his financial-tracking spreadsheet and bank statements. The time period covered was from the last audit report that I completed in 2015 through December 9, 2016. I find the Secretary-Treasurer's records to be complete and accurate.

Please accept this document as the official audit report for the 2016 Treasurer's Report. For any comments regarding this audit, please feel free to contact me. William's record-keeping and quick response to my request for additional documentation made for a smooth audit of Michigan Chapter AFS's financial records.

Respectfully,

David C. Caroffino, Ph. D.
Audit Committee Chair
caroffinod@michigan.gov

Fisheries Biology Specialist
Charlevoix Fisheries Research Station
96 Grant Street
Charlevoix, MI 49720





**Annual Meeting of the Michigan Chapter of the
American Fisheries Society.**

Mackinaw Beach and Bay Inn and Suites in Mackinaw City, MI

March 14-16, 2017

Registration:

Please complete and return form by **March 3** for early registration. Electronic submission of form is preferred. Payment (check or Paypal®) must be received by registration deadline. Michigan Chapter AFS dues can be paid at the door. Registration for the continuing education course can be done by contacting Dan Traynor (TraynorD@michigan.gov).

Name:

Address:

Email:

Affiliation:

	(please select)	Student	Professional
Early Registration	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$50	\$75
Late Registration	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$65	\$90
Large Research Vessel Tour	<input type="checkbox"/>	Free	Free

Indicate your entrée selection below for the Tuesday evening dinner (included with registration).

- Southern Baked Chicken
- Broiled Whitefish
- Vegetarian Lasagna

Make checks payable to the *Michigan Chapter - American Fisheries Society* or utilize Paypal® via the Michigan AFS website <http://michigan.fisheries.org/annual-meetings/upcoming-meeting/>. **Be sure to indicate entrée selection.**

Send completed form and fees to:

William Keiper (KeiperW@michigan.gov)
10273 North Clinton Trail
Muliken, MI 48861

2016 Business Meeting Notes



The meeting notes from the 2016 AFS Business Meeting are now available on our web page, at <http://michigan.fisheries.org/past-meetings/>

Hard copies will also be distributed at our upcoming 2017 Chapter Business Meeting in Mackinaw City.



2017 Annual Meeting

"Bridging Opportunities Using Multi-Disciplinary Science"

March 14-16, 2017

Mackinaw Beach and Bay Inn and Suites, Mackinaw City, MI

The theme for the 2017 meeting is "Bridging Opportunities Using Multi-Disciplinary Science". Management of fisheries and habitat is often relying on skills and information from more than only the typical fisheries textbooks and theories. Including specialists and ideas from outside the fisheries-specific realm is increasingly common and the resources are better managed for these efforts. This year we are looking to feature these collaborative efforts, as well as collaborations between different agencies and universities working together to capitalize on specific expertise.

If you are working on projects that are part of a collaboration or multi-disciplinary effort, we encourage you to submit an abstract. As always, all presentations are encouraged, especially from students and those of you who we have not seen in a while. Abstracts should be emailed to Robin DeBruyne (rdebruyne@usgs.gov) using the provided form. The deadline for submission is February 17, 2017. You will be contacted by February 24 to be notified if your submission has been accepted as a poster or an oral presentation.

Registration and Lodging:

Please pre-register by filling out the provided form. Regular registration is \$75 and student registration is \$50 (payment by Check or PayPal®). The early registration deadline is March 3rd. After March 3rd the registration fee will be \$90 for professionals and \$65 for students. Hotel reservations can be made at Mackinaw Beach and Bay Inn and Suites by calling (231) 436-8621. Please ask for the Michigan AFS block of rooms to get the conference/government rate of \$69 per night.

Workshop: Tuesday March 14th, 9am-5pm

A workshop titled "Fish Population Estimation" will be held March 14th from 9AM - 5PM. The intent of this course is to provide an overview of the statistics of fish population estimation. After taking the course, students will be able to 1) apply appropriate statistical estimators for mark-recapture, depletion, and distance sampling population estimation methods, taking into account study design; 2) understand the consequences of violating assumptions, and identify appropriate field methodological or statistical approaches to minimize problems violating assumptions would entail; 3) design mark-recapture and depletion field sampling protocols. The workshop will be held at the Mackinaw Beach and Bay Inn and Suites. Dr. Dan Hayes of Michigan State University will instruct the workshop. Those interested in attending the workshop must register specifically for the workshop by contacting Dan Traynor (TraynorD@michigan.gov). The course is limited to 25 participants and student awards are available.



Meeting Schedule

Tuesday, March 14th

9am-5pm: Fish Population Estimation Workshop

Wednesday, March 15th

8 am – 9 am: Registration

9 am – 9:45 am: TBA

9:45 am – 12pm: Morning paper session

12pm– 1 pm: Lunch (on your own)

1 pm – 3 pm: Afternoon paper session

3 pm – 5 pm: Michigan Chapter Business Meeting

6 pm – 9 pm: Dinner (provided) /Poster session/Raffle



Thursday, March 16th

8 am – Noon: Morning paper session

Noon – 1 pm: Lunch (provided) and student award presentations

After lunch and awards there will be guided tours of the USGS and USFWS large vessels stationed in Cheboygan, MI. More information can be found at <http://www.glsc.usgs.gov/sites/default/files/infosheets/CVB20150818.pdf> and <https://www.fws.gov/midwest/news/documents/SpencerBaird.pdf>.





Janice Lee Fenske Memorial Award

The purpose of the Janice Lee Fenske Memorial Award is to recognize undergraduate and graduate students for their achievements in the fields of fisheries or wildlife management and encourage their participation in professional societies and conferences. Since 2005, an annual award ceremony has been held during the Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference. The 2016 award ceremony took place in Grand Rapids, Michigan on January 25th. In addition to recognizing 24 finalists from 18 different universities and 9 states, the following finalists were recognized as 2016 Fenske Award recipients:

Amanda Chambers- Fisheries

Amanda received her B.S. from Lake Superior State University, has worked for the U.S. Forest Service and the Annis Water Resources Institute, and is finishing up her M.S. at Central Michigan University where she is studying freshwater mussel assemblages.

Amanda is active in the American Fisheries Society – including the Michigan Chapter and its Student Subunits, the Society for Freshwater Science, and the Freshwater Mollusk Conservation Society.

According to Dr. Daelyn Woolnough, Amanda's graduate advisor, Amanda's ability to integrate, capture, and synthesize ideas beyond the average graduate student is one of the reasons she was happy to write a reference letter for the Fenske Award. She described Amanda as an excellent young biologist who is always challenging assumptions in the lab and in the field.

Tracy Swem – Wildlife

Tracy earned B.S. degrees from Western Michigan University in Biology and Environmental Studies, recently earned her M.S. from Michigan State University studying effects of prescribed fires on eastern box turtles, is working with USGS on climate change case studies, and is embarking upon her Ph.D. with Michigan State University studying climate change adaptation on the Kenai Peninsula in Alaska. Her work experience includes seasonal positions with the Michigan DNR (ranging from fisheries to wildlife to parks and recreation), and work as a city park ranger.

Tracy is an active member of The Wildlife Society, including the Society's North Central Section, Michigan Chapter, and Climate Change Working Group. She also served on the planning committee for not only this conference, but also the 2014 Midwest Fisheries and Wildlife Conference.

Dr. Gary Roloff, Tracy's graduate advisor, describes Tracy as passionate and driven. He goes on to say, "Like Jan Fenske, Tracy is self-motivated, needs little supervision, is honest and dependable; she exhibits the traits of a successful scientist."



Recipient of the Janice Lee Fenske Memorial Award for fisheries, Amanda Chambers, CMU. Presented by Jessica Mistak, DNR Fisheries Division and Dan O'Keefe, Michigan Chapter of AFS Past-President.



Special thanks go to the following individuals from the Michigan Chapters of AFS and The Wildlife Society, and the Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference Student Subcommittee who helped select the student finalists and award winners: Robin DeBruyne, Patrick Ertel, Tamara Lipsey, Dan O'Keefe, Tami Pattison, Mark Tonello, Jay Wesley, and David Williams. This award is made possible through organizational and financial contributions from:

- 2016 Midwest Steering Committee
- American Fisheries Society- North Central Division and Michigan Chapter
- The Wildlife Society- Michigan Chapter

Jessica Mistak, Chair

Recipient of the Janice Lee Fenske Memorial Award for wildlife, Tracy Swem, MSU. Presented by Jessica Mistak, DNR Fisheries Division and David William, Michigan Chapter of TWS.



2016 MIAFS Chapter Award Winners

Albert S. Hazzard Award

To recognize excellence in student research in fisheries or aquatic biology at a college or university in Michigan. The award is named in honor of Dr. Albert S. Hazzard (1901-1979). **The recipient of the 2016 Hazzard Award was Seth Herbst, Michigan State University, Ph.D. Walleye (*Sander vitreus*) dynamics in the Inland Waterway, Michigan**

Justin W. Leonard Award

To recognize outstanding professional competence and achievement of a professional employed in the field of fisheries or aquatic biology in Michigan. The name of the award is in honor of Dr. Justin W. Leonard (1909-1975), Professor of Natural Resources and Zoology, University of Michigan. **The recipient of the 2016 Justin W. Leonard Award was Chuck Bassett, US Fish and Wildlife Service.**

Grayling Award

To recognize outstanding contribution(s) to Michigan's fishery related resources, to Michigan's fishery profession, or to the Michigan Chapter by a person, industry, agency, or organization.

There were no nominations in 2016

MIAFS President Certificate of Appreciation

Dan O'Keefe received a Certificate of Appreciation from the American Fisheries Society for his service as President of the Michigan Chapter of the American Fisheries Society.

Student Travel Grants

Travel grants awarded to student members during the past year:

- 2016 MIAFS Student travel grant was awarded to **Joseph Krieger, University of Michigan**
- 2016 Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference travel grant was awarded to **Hailey Yondo, Michigan State University**

Best Student Paper, Poster Display – MIAFS 2015 Chapter Meeting

Poster: Austin Wenke, Lake Superior State University, Changes in stream biota and habitat following a perched culvert replacement in John's Creek, MI.

Paper: Eric Calabro, Central Michigan University, Effectiveness of critical lake trout and coregonid reef spawning habitat restoration in northern Lake Michigan: Mitigating environmental and invasive egg predator impacts.

For a number of years now, we have some awards that receive **NO NOMINATIONS!** This is absurd—we have over 250 active Chapter members out there who are doing great things every single day.

Nominate a student, friend, or colleague for one of the MIAFS Chapter Awards. Follow the hyperlinks below to view the eligibility criteria and to find how what is required to nominate someone!

Albert S. Hazzard Award (http://www.fisheriessociety.org/miafs/ahazz_award.html)

Justin W. Leonard Award (http://www.fisheriessociety.org/miafs/jleo_award.html)

The Grayling Award (http://www.fisheriessociety.org/miafs/gray_award.html)

Fish Population Estimation Workshop

A continuing education course sponsored by the Michigan Chapter of the American Fisheries Society

Instructed by Dr. Daniel B. Hayes from Michigan State University

Course Description - The intent of this course is to provide an overview of the statistics of fish population estimation. After taking the course, students will be able to 1) apply appropriate statistical estimators for mark-recapture, depletion, and distance sampling population estimation methods, taking into account study design; 2) understand the consequences of violating assumptions, and identify appropriate field methodological or statistical approaches to minimize problems violating assumptions would entail; 3) design mark-recapture and depletion field sampling protocols. Instruction will be accomplished with a mix of lecture and computer laboratory exercises, as well as group discussions. Lectures will be used to cover the conceptual and statistical foundations of the methods, computer exercises will be used to develop students' proficiency in applying appropriate analytical methods, and class discussion will be used to engage students in real-life situations and problems they have encountered, and possible remedies. The principle topics to be covered will include 1) closed population mark-recapture estimation methods; 2) closed population depletion estimation methods; 3) distance sampling methods; 4) case studies and applications of each design. If time permits, we will cover open population methods to some extent.

Approximate schedule:

Tuesday March 14, 2017

9:00 – 10:00 a.m. Course introduction, basic statistical concepts

10:15 – 12:00 p.m. Closed Populations: Mark-Recapture

1:00 – 2:00 p.m. Violations of Assumptions - how to handle

2:15 – 3:30 p.m. Closed Populations: Depletion methods

4:00 – 5:00 p.m. Group discussions of case studies



March 14th 2017

Mackinaw Beach and Bay

Inn & Suites

Mackinaw City, MI





General Outline

1. Course Introduction

- Goals of course
- Schedule

2. Basic statistical concepts

- Why use statistics
- Bias and precision
- Mean, variance, standard error, confidence interval
- Concept of statistical likelihood

3. Closed Populations: Mark-Recapture

- Assumptions Otis et al. hierarchy
- Basic statistics and calculations for single mark - single recapture design
- Statistics for single mark -multiple recapture design
- Statistics for multiple mark - multiple recapture design
- What to do when assumptions are not met
- focus on heterogeneous catchability, particularly with size of fish

4. Closed Populations: Depletion methods

- Assumptions
- Basic statistics for depletion experiments
- What to do when assumptions are not met
- focus on heterogeneous catchability, particularly with size of fish

5. Case Studies - student driven examples

Where - Mackinaw Beach & Bay All Suites Resort. 929 South Huron Avenue, Mackinaw City, Michigan 49701. http://www.mackinaw-city.com/hotels/mackinaw_beach_and_bay/

When - Tuesday, March 14th, from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Cost - \$25 for students (**up to six students will receive free registration, see workshop award form below**), \$50 for MIAFS members, and \$75 for non-MIAFS members.

Meals – Lunch will be provided

What to Bring: Participants will need to bring their own computers.

Lodging arrangements are not included with course registration. Hotel reservations can be made at the Mackinaw Beach and Bay Inn & Suites by calling 231-436-8621. Please ask for the Michigan AFS block of rooms to get the group rate of \$69 per night. To register for this workshop or if you have any questions please contact Dan Traynor at traynord@michigan.gov. Please include your name, affiliation/organization, and phone number. After registering you will receive an invoice with instructions for paying via check or PayPal.

Class size is limited to 25 participants. Please register by March 1st.

Continuing Education Update

The Michigan Chapter of the American Fisheries Society had another good year for continuing education. Four workshops were held in 2016 and the Continuing Education Committee expanded with the addition of Stacey Ireland from the USGS Great Lakes Science Center. A big thanks to Stacey for offering to help out! Also new for 2016 was our decision to hold 25% of all workshop seats for free student registrations, which can be obtained by filling out a short application. The new program was put into effect after the first workshop but unfortunately was only utilized by two students.

The first workshop offered in 2016, Introduction to Sampling and Identification of Freshwater Fish Eggs and Larvae, was held in conjunction with the Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference in Grand Rapids on January 24th. The workshop was organized and instructed by Stacey Ireland and Amy George from the USGS and Jeremy Pritt from the Ohio Department of Natural Resources. The workshop was a great success with 31 participants. The second workshop, Identification of Nongame Fishes, was held at Lake Superior State University on July 13th and 14th and was instructed by Dr. Kevin Kapuscinski. The workshop focused on the identification of minnows, darters, and suckers and drew 19 participants. Two weeks later the third workshop was held, this time in East Lansing. The workshop, Identification of Freshwater Mussels of the Great Lakes Region, was instructed by Dr. Daelyn Woolnough and Dr. David Zanatta from Central Michigan University. Like the fish identification workshop, the freshwater mussel identification work had both a classroom and field portion, and drew a full class of 20 participants. The fourth and final workshop of 2016 was the Smith-Root Electrofishing Principles and Safety Workshop in Gaylord. The electrofishing workshop, instructed by Patrick Cooney from Smith-Root, was held on October 18th and 19th and brought in 33 participants.

The Continuing Education Committee plans to organize several workshops for 2017. The first workshop will be held in conjunction with the Michigan Chapter's annual meeting in Mackinaw City on March 14th. We're still working on the details but the subject of the course will be fish population estimation. We also plan to organize another fish identification workshop and two additional workshops with subjects yet to be determined. As always, if you have ideas for courses you would like to see offered or are interested in teaching a course please contact Dan Traynor at traynord@michigan.gov or Stacey Ireland at sireland@usgs.gov. Suggestions for future courses are always appreciated!



From the Field...

Michigan and Ontario Partner to Learn About Great Lakes Muskellunge Movement Brad Utrup – Michigan DNR, Lake St. Clair Fisheries Research Station

While some are attempting to build walls and isolate themselves from neighbors, the Michigan Department of Natural Resources and Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry are going the opposite direction. During the last week of October 2016, the two agencies collaborated to capture muskellunge from the Thames River (a Lake St. Clair tributary) and surgically implant them with acoustic tags. Both organizations were able to bring important pieces of the puzzle to the table to make this project a success. Ontario provided acoustic tags from their inventory and Michigan offered their surgical skills and experience capturing muskies via electrofishing. The Michigan DNR has gained a lot of experience electrofishing for muskies during their brood stock collection in the Detroit River in recent years.

Netting adult muskellunge from a boomshocker is extremely challenging. The fish come rocketing up out of the water and often only offer one chance to throw your net in the fish's path. The Thames River adds another challenge; visibility rarely exceeds 8-10 inches deep. With all these negative factors piling up, some were less than confident that this effort could be pulled off with any degree of success. In the end, the fisheries professionals persevered, with 19 muskie captured and tagged in two days of effort (plus two additional tiger muskies that were captured, but not tagged).

The Thames River offers phenomenal muskie angling in the fall. Muskies make an annual migration to the river to feed on the abundant gizzard shad that congregate in the river. How far away do the muskies come from to take advantage of this feeding opportunity? No one knows for certain. That is one of the many questions researchers are hoping to answer with this project. The internal tags emit a ping that is unique to each individual fish. As a fish swims by, these pings are picked up by a series of receivers that are strategically placed throughout the Great Lakes. The receivers are part of the Great Lakes Acoustic Telemetry Observation System (GLATOS - data.glos.us/glatos). This work was part of a larger project involving the United States Geological Survey and the Ohio Department of Natural Resources. The internal tags have a lifespan of 5+ years and should provide valuable information on muskie movement in the Great Lakes for years to come.



Left: Michigan DNR fisheries biologist Clevo Harris finishes up successfully implanting a muskellunge with an internal acoustic tag.



Right: A muskellunge rockets from the murky waters of the Thames River.

2017 Election: Presidential Candidates

Justin A. Chiotti

I am a fisheries biologist for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Alpena Fish and Wildlife Conservation Office – Waterford Substation. For the past six years, I have conducted fisheries assessments on Lakes Huron and Erie, while focusing on the St. Clair – Detroit River System (SCDRS). My area of expertise is lake sturgeon biology and management however I am also involved with fish habitat restoration efforts in the SCDRS and fish passage projects in the Saginaw Bay watershed.

I earned my Master's Degree in Biological Sciences at Michigan Technological University in 2004, studying lake sturgeon in the Big Manistee River. My undergraduate work was completed at Michigan State University where I received a Bachelor's Degree in Fish and Wildlife in 2002. I have worked as a tribal fisheries biologist for the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians where I was involved with the inland consent decree negotiations between the State of Michigan and 1836 Ceded Territory signatories and at Cornell University studying coldwater fish in Adirondack streams and lakes. I have authored or co-authored ten peer-reviewed publications investigating the effects of acid deposition on fish populations, age and growth analysis of fish, lake sturgeon biology and management, northern madtom habitat use, and the impacts of reef restoration on fish communities. I routinely review papers and project proposals for numerous journals and funding entities, have served on graduate committees, and mentor undergraduate students. I am currently chair of the Lake Huron Lake Sturgeon Working group under the Lake Huron Technical Committee and also co-chair of the Science and Monitoring Committee for the St. Clair – Detroit River System Initiative.



As president-elect and in subsequent roles, I will continue to provide effective communication within our chapter, as well as within the broader fisheries network. Each year, the general public becomes more dependent on social and other electronic media to obtain their information. As fisheries professionals, we have to develop marketing strategies to maintain our relevancy and spread the word about all the fishery resources the State of Michigan has to offer. I would also like to showcase all of the restoration efforts being conducted in our urban areas and find a way to engage more urban youth in conservation programs.

2017 Election: Presidential Candidates

Jan-Michael Hessenauer

I am a fisheries research biologist for the Michigan Department of Natural Resources at the Lake St. Clair Fisheries Research Station in Harrison Township, Michigan. I conduct fisheries research projects on Michigan's Great Lakes waters from Saginaw Bay to Lake Erie, and also coordinate Michigan's inland Stream Status and Trends program. My research interests are primarily focused on understanding the effects of human activity on fish populations and communities.

I earned my Ph.D. at the University of Connecticut in 2015. My dissertation research compared unexploited Largemouth Bass populations with exploited populations in terms of physiology, genetics, and fish performance. I completed both my bachelor's (2008) and master's (2011) degrees at Michigan State University. My master's research studied the effects of spring fishing on the contribution of individual nesting Largemouth Bass to recruitment. I have published articles in a broad range of journals including NAJFM, TAFS, PLOS one and Environmental Management and served as a referee for numerous journals across the fisheries field.

I joined the American Fisheries Society while working on my master's degree, and have benefited tremendously from my membership both professionally and personally. I have been involved with several different sections and chapters in AFS and have served previously as a representative to the student subsection for the Northeast Division and was president of the University of Connecticut student sub-chapter. If elected, my goal would be maintain Michigan AFS's excellent reputation, provide relevant and useful continuing education opportunities, and provide support and networking opportunities for our student members. I also believe it is vital for Michigan AFS to seek out and engage with our members and potential members across a variety of media, including social media.



2016-2017 Chapter Officers

President

Edward Roseman
Research Fishery Biologist
USGS Great Lakes Science Center
1451 Green Rd.
Ann Arbor, MI 48105
734-214-7237

Email:
eroseman@usgs.gov

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Need to know something about the Chapter?

Check out the MIAFS website at:

<http://www.fisheries.org/units/miafs/>



This newsletter is published annually by the Michigan Chapter of the American Fisheries Society Editor Heather Hettinger. Comments, suggestions, and submissions should be directed to hettingerh@michigan.gov

Not a member? Know someone who should be a member?

Being an active member of the Michigan Chapter of the American Fisheries Society will provide many opportunities to advance your growth as a fisheries professional and allow you to have a bigger impact on in the future of Michigan's fisheries. Our newsletter, email listserv, and the ability to network and connect with other fisheries professionals from local governments, academia, fish culture, the private sector, and even other states will keep you current with all of the latest techniques and issues.

You do not have to join the parent society to be a Michigan Chapter member and the annual \$10.00 membership fee is a great bargain.!

To become a member and pay dues visit the membership page:

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The Michigan Chapter of the American Fisheries Society is a professional organization interested in maintaining high standards for the fisheries profession and ensuring conservation of Michigan's aquatic resources. The Michigan Chapter was founded in 1973 as part of the North Central Division of AFS and currently represents over 430 members.