



## President's Message

Jeremiah Haas

As I assume the chair from Jeremy Tiemann, I would first like to congratulate him on a very successful year for the Chapter. I appreciate the hard work and leadership that Jeremy provided to the Chapter during the past three years and will continue to look to him for advice as I begin my new role as Chapter President. I also want to thank Scott Shasteen and Scott Stuewe for accepting their new roles in the chapter executive committee. Scott Shasteen has assumed the Secretary/Treasurer position and Scott Stuewe has taken the vacant at-large position. A special thanks also goes out to Ann Holtrop and Laura Sass for several years of serving the chapter.

In my opinion, the Chapter is in great shape and is poised to aid educational and professional development within Illinois in many ways. As lean times are felt throughout the state, the Chapter will strive to be an active and energetic movement for fisheries science. As always, the Chapter will

continue to provide many opportunities for aiding students through grants for travel and awards for presentations.

This aid is also extended to the regular members of the chapter. The chapter is in good fiscal shape, so please apply to the chapter for grants to attend these important meetings. Aiding the membership whom manages these resources is a principle

“...I look forward to working with all of you on ways to better protect and manage Illinois’ aquatic resources.”

objective of the chapter.

There are some potentially long lasting decisions being discussed that will affect the fisheries of Illinois for years to come. The NCD is currently finalizing a resolution for ALL aquatic

invasive species (AIS) that use connections to the great lakes region. While the opinions are wide ranging throughout the Midwest and Canada, commonality was found in that this problem needed to be addressed now, rather than later. This resolution will be sent out the membership in the next few weeks as its finalized. It generally mirrors the resolution our chapter finalized last spring. Getting 6 states and a providence to agree on anything was a great success in itself.

If you are new to the Chapter, welcome! As we start our 49th year of the Illinois Chapter of the American Fisheries Society, I look forward to working with all of you on ways to better protect and manage Illinois’ aquatic resources.

- Jeremiah Haas

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**Newsletter of the Illinois Chapter  
of the American Fisheries Society**

**President:** Jeremiah Haas  
**Secretary-Treasurer:** Trent Thomas  
**Past President:** Jeremy Tiemann  
**At large EXCOM:** Cory Suski and Scott Stuewe

**Committee Chairpersons**

Archival.....Bob Schanzle  
Awards.....Steve Pescitelli  
Continuing Education.....Jeremy Tiemann  
Environmental Concerns.....Scott Shasteen  
Randy Sauer  
IL Environmental Council.....Bruce Lippincott  
IL Wildlife Action Team.....Trent Thomas  
Membership.....Matt Diana  
Raffle.....Jim Lamer  
Resolutions.....Rob Hilsabeck  
Student Concerns..... Trent Thomas  
Student Subunits  
Eastern Illinois University.....Sarah Huck  
Southern IL University.....Kenson  
Kanczuzewski  
University of Illinois..... Blake Ruebush  
Time and Place.....Jeremiah Haas  
Website.....Jim Garvey

**NCD Technical Committee Reps**

Centrarchid.....Dan Stephenson  
Esocid..... Rob Colombo  
Ictalurid.....Dan Sallee  
Rivers and Streams.....Steve Pescitelli  
Walleye.....Ken Clodfelter

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**Corporate Members of the  
Illinois Chapter of the  
American Fisheries Society**



# CHECKLIST OF ENDANGERED AND THREATENED FISHES OF ILLINOIS

## Illinois Endangered Species Protection Board

Effective August 20, 2010

### 19 Endangered, 12 Threatened

#### Endangered

*Acipenser fulvescens*, Lake Sturgeon  
*Ammocrypta clarum*, Western Sand Darter  
*Etheostoma camurum*, Bluebreast Darter  
*Etheostoma histrio*, Harlequin Darter  
*Hybognathus hayi*, Cypress Minnow  
*Hybopsis amblops*, Bigeye Chub  
*Hybopsis amnis*, Pallid Shiner  
*Ichthyomyzon fossor*, Northern Brook Lamprey  
*Lepomis miniatus*, Redspotted Sunfish  
*Macrhybopsis gelida*, Sturgeon Chub  
*Moxostoma valenciennesi*, Greater Redhorse  
*Nocomis micropogon*, River Chub  
*Notropis anogenus*, Pugnose Shiner  
*Notropis boops*, Bigeye Shiner  
*Notropis heterolepis*, Blacknose Shiner  
*Notropis maculates*, Taillight Shiner  
*Notropis texanus*, Weed Shiner  
*Noturus stigmosus*, Northern Madtom  
*Scaphirhynchus albus*, Pallid Sturgeon\*\*

#### Threatened

*Ammocrypta pellucidum*, Eastern Sand Darter  
*Catostomus catostomus*, Longnose Sucker  
*Coregonus artedi*, Cisco  
*Erimystax x-punctatus*, Gravel Chub  
*Etheostoma exile*, Iowa Darter  
*Fundulus diaphanous*, Banded Killifish  
*Fundulus dispar*, Starhead Topminnow  
*Lampetra aepyptera*, Least Brook Lamprey  
*Lepomis symmetricus*, Bantam Sunfish  
*Moxostoma carinatum*, River Redhorse  
*Notropis chalybaeus*, Ironcolor Shiner  
*Notropis heterodon*, Blackchin Shiner

\*\* = Federally Endangered

### CRITERIA FOR STATE LISTING

A species shall be included on the official list of endangered and threatened species when one or more of the following criteria exists: 1) Species included in the Federal list of Endangered or Threatened Species, 2) Species proposed for Federal Endangered or Threatened Species which occur in Illinois, 3) Species which formerly were widespread in Illinois but have been nearly extirpated from the State due to habitat destruction, collecting, or other pressures resulting from the development of Illinois, 4) Species which exhibit very restricted geographic ranges of which Illinois is a part, 5) Species which exhibit restricted habitats or low populations in Illinois, or 6) Species which are significant disjuncts in Illinois i.e., the Illinois population is far removed from the rest of the species' range.



ILLINOIS ENDANGERED SPECIES  
PROTECTION BOARD

The Illinois Endangered Species Protection Act prohibits the possession, taking, transportation, sale, offer for sale, or disposal of any listed animal or products of listed animals without a permit issued by the Department of Conservation. Also prohibited are the taking of listed plants without the expressed written permission of the landowner and the sale or offer to sell plants or plant products of endangered species.

## North Central Division

American  
Fisheries Society



### Resolution on Ecological Separation of the Great Lakes and Mississippi River Drainage Basins

*Whereas* Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) have adversely affected the ecosystem of the Great Lakes and Mississippi River and place the biodiversity and economic uses of our native ecosystems at risk and *Whereas* the Chicago Area Waterways (CAWs) made permanent the intermittent aquatic connection between the Mississippi River and Great Lakes drainage basins and *Whereas* AIS including round goby, white perch and zebra mussel have recently used the CAWs to expand their ranges from the Great Lakes into the Mississippi River basin and *Whereas* *Daphnia lumholtzi* moved into the Great Lakes basin via this pathway and bighead and silver carp are on the verge of entering the Great Lakes via the CAWs and *Whereas* additional AIS may use the CAWs for range expansion and *Whereas* an electric barrier has been installed on the CAWs to reduce the risk of AIS movement between the Great Lakes and Mississippi River and *Whereas* electric pulse and acoustic or visual barriers rely on organism response to be effective and *Whereas* the electric barrier is effective only on life forms able to respond to the discomfort of the electric field and swim against the water flow and *Whereas* the electric barrier is less effective on small fish and ineffective on planktonic life forms and *Whereas* the CAWS are important for interstate commerce and a vital corridor for commercial and recreational navigation in the Chicago Region and October 1, 2010 *Whereas* tow boats or barges with water ballast or damaged barges can transport water across the barrier potentially serving as a vector to move organisms independent of the organisms' response to an electric field and *Whereas* alternative technology is available to lift and move heavy cargo, ships and recreational vessels overland and *Whereas* the CAWS are a critical conduit for the conveyance of waste water and storm waters from Chicago and *Whereas* water quality can be a barrier, but the effect will likely not be localized nor effective on all life stages of all aquatic organisms and *Whereas* in order to be effective and localized, chemical barriers would require constant treatment and detoxification and *Whereas* waste water treatment systems can be improved to treat sanitary discharges such that they meet Great Lakes discharge standards and *Whereas* alternative solutions can be engineered to address periodic storm water conveyance needs in the CAWS now **Therefore Be It Resolved** That the members of the North Central Division of the American Fisheries Society call for permanent ecological separation of the Great Lakes drainage from the Mississippi River drainage to fully prevent the range expansion of all AIS species and life forms via the CAWS and **Be It Further Resolved** that the selected approach to separation of these two major Midwest watersheds should address and minimize or mitigate all impacts to the current services provided by the CAWS including commercial and recreational navigation, wastewater discharge and storm water conveyance.

## North Central Division Resolution on Aquatic Invasive Species: A Response from our IL-AFS President

On the previous page (p. 4) is the final draft from the NCD Resolution Committee on ecological separation of the Great Lakes and Mississippi River basins. It's probably safe to say no one is delighted with the final product, but all state chapter ExComs were able to agree to it. Needless to say this is a very contentious subject and there are very strong disagreements between the chapters and at times within the chapters about the long-term solutions to Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS). The Illinois ExCom did review this and voted to approve of this version after countless revisions. I believe that this version best held to the resolution passed by the IL chapter earlier this spring. If you have any questions on this, feel free to contact me.

- *Jeremiah Haas*



## Student Concerns Committee

Brian Metzke

With the start of the IL AFS officer cycle and the new academic year come fresh faces and a renewal of initiatives. I know several of the student subunits have already completed fisheries-related events and activities. Others are in the process of electing new officers and recruiting new members. Keep up the good work and let me or the Excom know if you need any help.

And now for some business... Winter commences the busiest time of the year for the Student Concerns Committee as we select several students to receive a series of awards. By the time this newsletter is distributed, Joan Duffy student travel applications (for the Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference) will be due and the winners announced. Thanks to all those that applied. Subunits will soon be receiving fliers outlining application instructions for both the Larimore Student Research Grants and ILAFS Student Travel Grants for the spring meeting. Preliminary announcements regarding application procedures are provided in this newsletter. These awards will be distributed during the annual meeting in March 2010. Students presenting during the annual meeting will also be eligible to receive recognition for their outstanding achievement through the Osborne Best Student Paper award and the IL AFS Best Student Paper award. Competition for these grants and awards has been intense in recent years, so students should begin developing their project ideas and preparing applications. Until then - have a great semester.

- *Brian*

## Sportfishing Industry Applauds EPA's Decision to Reject Lead Ban Petition

*America's anglers triumph over unwarranted petition to ban lead in fishing tackle*

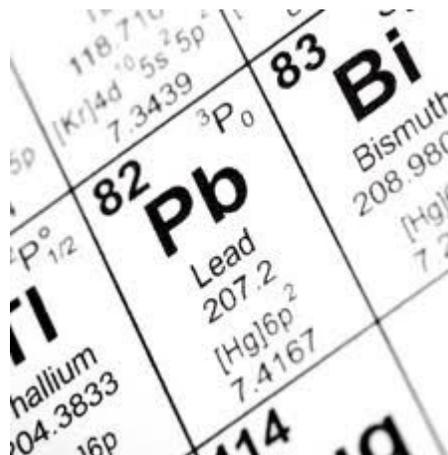
**Alexandria, VA** - November 4, 2010 - The sportfishing community commends the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and EPA Administrator Lisa Jackson for its decision to reject a sweeping petition to ban lead in all fishing tackle. The petition, which was submitted on August 3, 2010, by the Center for Biological Diversity and four other groups, requested that EPA ban all lead in all fishing tackle on all U.S. waters. The petition also included a request to ban the use of lead ammunition in the hunting and shooting sports. That part was denied on August 27 because EPA does not have the legal authority to regulate ammunition under the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA). Opposition from anglers was strong; over 43,000 anglers sent comments requesting dismissal of the petition to EPA Administrator Lisa Jackson through [www.KeepAmericaFishing.org](http://www.KeepAmericaFishing.org).



In dismissing the petition, EPA indicated that the "petitioners have not demonstrated that the requested rule is necessary to protect against an unreasonable risk of injury to health or the environment, as required by the TSCA." EPA also cited state-specific actions and the increasing education and outreach activities being undertaken, stating that those actions "Œcall into question whether a national ban on lead in fishing gear would be the least burdensome, adequately protective approach to address the concern, as called for under TSCA."

"The sportfishing community applauds EPA's decision," said American Sportfishing Association (ASA) Vice President Gordon Robertson. "It represents a solid review of the biological facts, as well as the economic and social impacts that would have resulted from such a sweeping federal action. It is a common sense decision."

Robertson further said, "Increases in the cost of recreational fishing would stop many anglers from enjoying the sport. The resultant decrease in fishing license sales and the federal manufacturers' excise tax on fishing tackle, which represent the two most important funding sources for fisheries conservation, would be a large setback for fish and wildlife managers and this country's natural resources."



"The sportfishing industry is very proud of the fact that America's anglers were united on this important issue and played a pivotal role in EPA's decision to reject this unwarranted petition," noted Robertson. "KeepAmericaFishing provides anglers an opportunity to present a strong, coherent voice so that they can express their concerns to decision makers. EPA's dismissal is without a doubt in direct response to the facts we presented which were soundly supported by our collective comments and input." (Continued on p. 7)

## Sportfishing Industry Applauds EPA's Decision Continued...

The sportfishing community's objection to the ban was based on:

- The data does not support a federal ban on lead sinkers used for fishing. In general, bird populations, including loons and other waterfowl species, are subject to many more substantial threats such as habitat loss through shoreline development. Any lead restrictions on fishing tackle need to be based on sound science that supports the appropriate action for a particular water body or species.
- A federal ban of the use of lead in fishing tackle will have a significant negative impact on recreational anglers and fisheries resources, but a negligible impact on waterfowl populations.
- Depending on the alternative metal and current prevailing raw material costs, non-lead fishing tackle products can cost from ten to twenty times more than lead products. Non-lead products may not be as available and most do not perform as well. Mandatory transitioning to non-lead fishing tackle would require significant and costly changes from both the industry and anglers.
- America's 60 million anglers generate over \$45 billion in retail sales with a \$125 billion impact on the nation's economy, creating employment for over one million people.

This is not the first time that such a ban has been requested. In 1992 EPA received a similar petition to ban lead fishing tackle and in 1995 the Agency abandoned the proposed rule because there was no threat to bird populations and the economic impact was determined to be significant. In September 2010, legislation was introduced to both chambers of Congress to prevent an overarching federal ban on lead in recreational fishing tackle ([S. 3850](#) and [H.R. 6284](#)).

"Even with this decision, ASA will continue to work with legislators and EPA to ensure that future considerations of lead fishing tackle bans are made in response to sound science, not unwarranted petitions," concluded Robertson. "Aside from the many anglers that spoke up, many organizations and members of Congress deserve thanks for decisively voicing their opinion to EPA."



## National Spotlight:

### Largemouth bass virus resurfaces in Virginia

**ANNAPOLIS, Md.** — Recent fish kills at Kerr Reservoir and Briery Lake in Virginia have been linked to largemouth bass virus by Virginia Department of Game & Inland Fisheries biologists. LMBV has not been implicated in fish kills nationally for nearly a decade. However, the Virginia incidents are a reminder that the organism may still pose some risk to largemouth bass populations. LMBV poses no risk to humans.

“The health of Maryland’s largemouth bass populations continues to be excellent,” said Don Cosden, DNR’s Inland Fisheries director. “Angler catch rates from monitored tournaments on the tidal Potomac were some of the highest we’ve seen over the last decade and individual fish condition is excellent. We have blue ribbon fishing opportunities in the Potomac River, Nanticoke River System and the Upper Bay tributaries including the Susquehanna Flats. We encourage everyone to enjoy the fishing while being vigilant in avoiding transporting fish, debris, bait and potential problems from one place to another.”

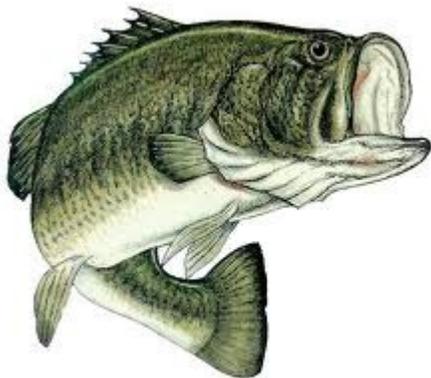
LMBV has not been linked to fish kills in Maryland. Maryland Department of Natural Resources Fisheries Service biologists have discovered the virus in routine testing of bass populations over the last 10 years. In the Potomac River, three of fourteen samples tested positive for the virus including largemouth bass from two sites on the tidal river and in one smallmouth bass from a site near Sheperdstown, W.Va.

Researchers from Virginia and West Virginia have identified the virus in their waters as well. In Maryland, largemouth bass have tested positive in the Nanticoke, Choptank and Patuxent Rivers, and Triadelphia Reservoir. The virus has not been identified in Upper Chesapeake Bay largemouth bass. However, Pennsylvania fisheries biologists have found infected young of year smallmouth bass in the Susquehanna River.

LMBV spreads by fish-to-fish contact, through the water or by fish eating infected prey. Fish biologists believe that LMBV was responsible for largemouth bass losses in the late 1990s in a number of Southern and Midwestern states. Impacted bass populations typically take three to four years to recover from a major LMBV event.

DNR Fisheries Service biologists offer the following guidelines to reduce the spread of this and other more disruptive invasive or pathogenic organisms, such as zebra mussels, which have recently been found in the lower Susquehanna River, and Viral Hemorrhagic Septicemia, which is a fatal fish virus found in the Great Lakes and some upper Midwestern states’ waters:

- Never transfer live fish from one body of water to another
- Never discard fish parts or unused bait in any body of water
- Drain water from livewells, bilges, engines, bait buckets and hoses and pumps before leaving the launch area; clear mud, vegetation and debris from trailers
- Disinfect livewells daily and particularly when moving between bodies of water



## International Spotlight:

**Scientists at odds over 'fishing down food web'** © Copyright, Postmedia News (By Margaret Munro)

VANCOUVER — One of Canada's most celebrated scientists is taking issue with a new study that suggests humans are not fishing down the food web. The study, published in the journal *Nature*, challenges a widely cited theory by Daniel Pauly at the University of British Columbia who has been warning for years that we could end up eating jellyfish sandwiches because global fisheries target large long-lived fish and then move down the food web to overexploit smaller species.

The new study, led by Trevor Branch at the University of Washington, says that in many areas fishermen are not overexploiting the top fish species first. In Thailand, for example, fishermen have been moving up the food web, says Branch, who is calling for better assessment of the health of marine ecosystems. Pauly takes grave issue with the new study saying it is seriously flawed and its conclusions unsubstantiated. "This paper is a hatchet job, and it's a bad hatchet job," says Pauly, who has a collection of international awards, leads the Sea Around Us Project, and is former director the UBC's fisheries centre.

In 1998, Pauly and his colleagues made international headlines with a study that warned of the dangers of "fishing down the food web" by overharvesting fish like halibut, cod and tuna at the top of the marine web and then going after smaller fish and invertebrates.

The Branch study is based on a more detailed data set that shows not only what type of fish are being caught but also which fish are in ecosystems. It concludes that the so-called "mean trophic level" of the fish being caught, one of the main indicators Pauly cites as evidence of fishing down the food web, "does not reliably predict changes in marine ecosystems."

"This is important because that measure is the most widely adopted indicator by which to determine the overall health of marine ecosystems," says Branch. Pauly's work prompted the United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity to use the "average trophic level" of fish being caught as a key measure of global marine diversity.

A trophic level is where a species fits in a food web, with plankton and jellyfish near the bottom of the marine food web and large predators such as sharks, halibut and tuna at the top.

Some top predators — most notably Atlantic cod — have been depleted by overfishing but Branch says overharvesting can also start at the bottom of the web.

"For the Gulf of Thailand, the measure (average trophic level) fails because fisheries first targeted mussels and shrimps near the bottom of the food web, before shifting to predators higher up in the food web," says Branch, noting that the average trophic level of what is being caught in the Gulf of Thailand is rising, which should indicate improving ecosystem health. Instead, he says fish at all levels in the gulf have declined tenfold since the 1950s because of overharvesting.

Branch says the study found using the average trophic levels to assess the state of marine ecosystems led to "inaccurate conclusions in nearly half" the 14 ecosystems examined.

"It's about as good as flipping a coin, half the time you get a right answer and half the time you get the wrong answer," he says.

Pauly says the study does not properly reflect the expansion of the global fisheries, and ignores many important fisheries in Asia, Africa and South America. It also "flies in the face of everything we know in fisheries, and generally in biology, where long-lived large organisms are more easily overexploited than short-lived, small ones," says Pauly, who is firing off a letter to the editor of *Nature* taking issue with the study.

Branch says that the study is "not personal" and notes that Pauly's groundbreaking work has made it socially unacceptable to overfish. "It's had an enormous impact internationally," he says. But Branch says more comprehensive measures are needed to assess fishing impacts and ecosystem management. He and his colleagues call for more emphasis on tracking trends in the true abundance of marine species, particularly those vulnerable to depletion. As for the jellyfish, Pauly says there is evidence they are increasing in abundance in some marine areas, likely as a result of overexploitation of species higher up the food web. Branch doesn't discount the possibility of one day seeing the slimy creatures in sandwiches. "I went to Taipei this year and they were serving jellyfish salad," he says, quickly adding that does not necessarily mean they are only jellyfish left in the sea. "It means they are now catching jellyfish along with everything else."

## News from Illinois' Subunits: University of Illinois

Update to Illinois Chapter

Subunit Status:

As of Oct 6, 2010 the U of I subunit has been re-approved by the University's Office of Registered Student Organizations. The first meeting was held on Sept. 30 with monthly meetings tentatively scheduled for the last Wednesday of each month. The meeting was primarily informational, with a presentation given by the Vice President pertaining to the benefits of undergrad involvement and the many networking and research opportunities provided through AFS.

Events 2010-11:

The subunit hosted a stream sampling event on Oct. 3 in the Copper Slough, the goals of which were to provide hands-on experience with electro-shocking and seining methods, skills in identifying local fishes, basic ecology of captured species, and application of such tools in the study, conservation, and management of streams. The event was highly received by the attending undergraduate and graduate students, and further sampling events will be planned periodically throughout the rest of the year. The Subunit has begun a discussion with IACUC to establish our own protocol for such educational events.

AFS aided in planning the Natural History Surveys 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Ecology Fieldtrip held Sept. 21-23, and several members participated part or full time on each of the days. Through the dates listed, local 6<sup>th</sup> grade classes from three schools held field trips to the INHS Aquatic Research Facility, with over 300 students attending. The purpose of the event was to provide a hands-on learning experience in which students could better understand the ecology of aquatic habitats. AFS members

participated in electro-shocking and seining demonstrations, aquatic macro-invertebrate diversity, and fish ecology. The experience was highly rewarding for members who participated, and a curriculum is being constructed for AFS to make a class room visit to a class which was unable to attend due to inclement weather. If this classroom educational experience is successful for both members and the grade school students, the subunit will construct a committee to schedule such events in classrooms at other local schools.

The subunit will hold a third annual trip to the Illinois River Biological Station to educate members on techniques deployed to capture and survey fish, with an emphasis on ecological threats imposed by Asian carp. This event culminates in an overnight camping trip/fish fry in Havana.

The ultimate goal of the subunit is to hold at least one educational, experiential, networking, or social event a month while increasing undergraduate involvement and interest in AFS and aquatic sciences.

- Zach Zuckerman



## News from Illinois' Subunits: Eastern Illinois University

The current officers of the EIU Fish and Wildlife Ecology Club are Sarah Huck as President, Rachael Nyland as Vice President, and Dakota Radford as Secretary/Treasurer. Our most recent club activity we held was an electrofishing workshop at Lake Charleston and the Embarras River. At our workshop, Dr. Rob Colombo taught us how to electrofish using a barge shocker and a boat shocker, as well as what kinds of fish species are found in our area. Also, we have been very involved in volunteering at the Douglas Hart Nature Center. We will be having our first annual Fish and Wildlife Ecology Club camping trip on the weekend of November 5<sup>th</sup> at Fox Ridge State Park and a Lake Charleston Cleanup the weekend of November 12<sup>th</sup>.

Sarah Huck, President.

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### ILLINOIS AMERICAN FISHERIES SOCIETY STUDENT TRAVEL GRANTS



The Illinois Chapter of the American Fisheries Society (IL AFS) will be awarding up to **4 travel grants** for students to attend this year's Annual Meeting. The grants will be **\$100 each** to help students to attend the Annual Meeting to be held in Peoria from **March 2<sup>nd</sup> - 4<sup>th</sup>, 2011**.

Criteria for this selection will be based upon financial need and/or reason(s) for attending the meeting (e.g., paper presentation, pertinent paper session, IL AFS committee meeting). Students should also state their class standing (i.e. junior, B.S. candidate), fisheries related interests, participation in IL AFS activities, and AFS membership status when applying. A letter from each applicant's advisor confirming the need for travel money is also required.

Grant recipients are asked to attend the Business Meeting at the conference to receive their awards.

**ALL STUDENTS ARE URGED TO APPLY, REGARDLESS OF WHETHER OR NOT THEY ARE PRESENTING A PAPER!!!**

Submit electronic or paper applications **by: January 28, 2011**

**to:** Brian Metzke  
IL AFS Student Concerns Committee  
One Natural Resources Way  
Springfield, Illinois 62702

Phone: (217) 557-9251 Fax: (217) 785-4325  
E-mail: [brian.metzke@illinois.gov](mailto:brian.metzke@illinois.gov)

## Aquaria enthusiast? Join the Southern Illinois Aquarists Association

Southern Illinois University Carbondale has a new outreach group, the Southern Illinois Aquarists Association. This organization is a collaborative effort between fisheries experts at SIUC, all of which share a passion for the aquarium hobby. Since ornamental fish-keeping is one of the fastest growing hobbies in the world today, the association's focus is to educate and assist fellow hobbyists in responsible fish-keeping practices while promoting conservation of natural reef habitats where the majority of marine fish and invertebrates are procured for the hobby. The association hopes to promote public awareness of the good, bad and the just plain ugly facts of the ornamental fish industry. "Making informed choices is the first step hobbyists can make in protecting the degradation of ecosystems and the decline of its key species." states James Garvey, SIUC Fisheries and Illinois Aquaculture Center director and group collaborator. He also points out the importance of educating aquarists on the consequences of re-releasing non-native species into local waterways and the damage they can inflict on fragile ecosystems. The SIAA also encourages involvement by ornamental fish suppliers and will work with these businesses to promote responsible procurement and breeding methods that will lessen the impact on rapidly declining wild populations. Meetings are held monthly in the John C. Guyon Auditorium at SIUC Morris Library. Attendance is open to the public and admission is free.



Centrarchid Technical Committee representatives,

In preparation for the upcoming winter CTC meeting held in conjunction with the Midwest Fish and Wildlife meeting, I am now asking for updates from your state with regards to Centrarchid related information. It was suggested at the past summer meeting that we focus our efforts each meeting on only a few species, thus providing more detailed information on what is happening in your respected state with respect to these species. This meeting we will focus on black bass (i.e., smallmouth, largemouth, spotted). Our meeting is going to be held in Greenway B from 2-4pm on Sunday, December 12. Please let me know if you are going to attend, and if so you can bring your report and present it at the meeting. If you are unable to attend, please email me a brief report by Friday, December 3. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to email ([mark.kaemingk@sdstate.edu](mailto:mark.kaemingk@sdstate.edu)) or call (605)-207-0098). Hope to see many of you there,

- Mark



**Illinois Lake Management Association (ILMA) &  
Illinois Chapter of the American Fisheries Society (IL AFS)**

are jointly hosting their annual meetings

at the Hotel Pere Marquette, 501 Main Street, Peoria, IL 61602  
**Wednesday, March 2, 2011 through Friday, March 4, 2011**

- Pre-conference workshops begin on Wednesday morning.
- Conference officially begins at 1:00 on Wednesday, March 2 and concludes at 12:00 pm on Friday, March 4.
- Registration fee includes refreshments during breaks, Exhibitor social Wednesday evening, and lunch and dinner banquet on Thursday. The Pere Marquette provides a free hot breakfast to those staying in the hotel.
- A block of rooms is reserved until February 9<sup>th</sup> under "IL Lake Management Association"; room rate is \$85.00/night plus tax double or single. The Hotel provides a free hot breakfast for their guests. We encourage you to reserve your room early. Reservations can be made by calling the Reservations hotline: (800) 447-1676 Reservations: 800-447-1676.

**Registration:**

ILMA and IL AFS are using an online registration system this year. The webpage is under development and will be available *after December 10<sup>th</sup>* at:

<http://events.constantcontact.com/register/event?llr=4qu5dfdab&oeidk=a07e34zw67432e182a1>

**Abstract Submission:**

ILMA and ILAFS are actively seeking oral and poster presentations for the conference. The deadline for abstract submission is January 14th. Please visit

<http://dnr.illinois.gov/FishWildlifeConference/Register.aspx> *after December 10th* to submit an abstract.

Questions on abstract submittal can be directed to Ann Marie Holtrop at [ann.holtrop@illinois.gov](mailto:ann.holtrop@illinois.gov) or (217) 785-4325.

**More Information:**

For more information, please contact: Scott Shasteen at [scott.shasteen@illinois.gov](mailto:scott.shasteen@illinois.gov) or (618) 993-7200.

*The Illinois Chapter of the  
American Fisheries Society  
Founded 1963*

## STUDENT RESEARCH AWARD PROGRAM

**PURPOSE:** The mission of the Illinois Chapter of the American Fisheries Society is to improve the conservation and sustainability of fishery resources and aquatic ecosystems by advancing fisheries and aquatic science and promoting the development of fisheries professionals. Thus, the purpose of the Student Research Awards Competition is to provide financial incentives for outstanding student research projects to promote the conservation, development, and wise use of the Illinois fisheries.

**WHO CAN APPLY:** Students attending any accredited Illinois college or university, who maintain a cumulative GPA equal to or greater than 3.0 may apply.

**AWARD:** A maximum of four awards per year will be granted. Each grant is eligible for up to \$500 depending on the quality of the proposal.

**APPLICATION:** Applications require submission of a proposal packet, which includes a proposal cover sheet, abstract, project description, budget, resume of candidate, and two letters of recommendation. A full proposal packet outlining specific application requirements will be provided to each student subunit.

**DEADLINE:** Completed proposals must be received by the Chair of the Student Concerns Committee of Illinois Chapter of the American Fisheries Society by **December 3, 2010**. Send applications to:

Brian Metzke  
Illinois Department of Natural Resources - ORC  
One Natural Resources Way  
Springfield, IL 62702-1271

**SELECTION:** All award proposals will be reviewed and selected by the Student Concerns Committee of the Illinois Chapter of the American Fisheries Society. Successful applicants will be notified by the end of January each year. At or near the end of their research, recipients of the ILAFS grant money must present their research findings at an IL AFS meeting.

**CONTACT:** Brian Metzke at the above address or phone: (217)557-9251 or e-mail: Brian.Metzke@Illinois.gov

# 71st MIDWEST FISH & WILDLIFE CON- FERENCE

**Minneapolis, MN  
DECEMBER 12-15, 2010**



We are excited about the number and diversity of topics at this year's Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference. In total, nearly 500 papers and posters will be part of the program. We have a breadth of topics ranging from Human Dimensions of Fish and Wildlife to long-term wildlife research to aquatic habitat restoration and everything in between. In fact, between the symposia and contributed papers in the general fish and wildlife sessions, we have 44 concurrent sessions spread out over three days. We believe this is a unique opportunity to learn about latest developments in fish and wildlife conservation, aquatic ecology, and contemporary issues in resource management. Please join us; it will be worth your time!

## QUESTIONS

Wildlife program questions may be directed to:

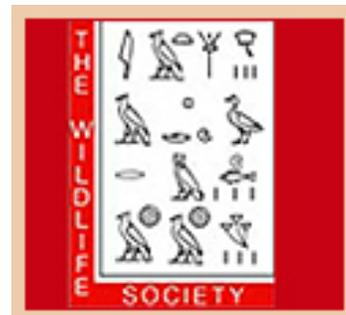
✉ Mark Hanson  
Phone: (218) 308-2283  
Email: [mark.alan.hanson@state.mn.us](mailto:mark.alan.hanson@state.mn.us)



Fisheries program questions may be directed to:

✉ Melissa Drake  
Phone: (651) 259-5245  
Email: [melissa.drake@state.mn.us](mailto:melissa.drake@state.mn.us)

✉ Jeff Reed  
Phone: (320) 634-4573  
Email: [jeffrey.reed@state.mn.us](mailto:jeffrey.reed@state.mn.us)



The Illinois Chapter of the  
American Fisheries Society

c/o William D. Hintz  
Fisheries and Illinois Aquaculture Center  
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