

**AMERICAN FISHERIES SOCIETY BIOENGINEERING SECTION
ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES
Marriott Hotel, San Francisco CA
4 September 2007**

Officers Attending: Doug Dixon, Marcin Whitman, Ted Castro-Santos, Michael Love

List of Attendees: See Attached Page

1. Calling to Order and Establishment of Quorum

The gathering began at 1200 PDT with pizza and soda provide free by the Section. The meeting was called to order at 1230 PST and a quorum was deemed to be present (19 Section members).

2. Introductions and agenda update

Each of the 27 persons in attendance briefly introduced themselves.

Marcin Whitman asked those in attendance if they received the notice about the annual meeting from the BES email listserv. Several of the BES members had not received the BES listserv emails. Marcin announced that there seems to be a problem with keeping the listserv up to date to ensure current members receive the emails, and that it would be looked into. If you are not getting the listserv messages and are a current Section member, please contact the Sec-Tres, Michael Love (mlove@h2odesigns.com).

3. Announcements

A. 2007 San Francisco BES V Symposium Announcement (Doug Dixon): The BES currently only has the symposium every 5 years. Between the last symposium in Baltimore in 2002 and this one in San Francisco, AFS Parent Society began limiting sections to a maximum of 40 papers. This limited the size of the current BES Symposium. The BES V Symposium covers topics in upstream and downstream fish passage, culverts, hydropower, and estuaries.

A Pop-up session has been added to the symposium, which allows attendees to briefly (3 to 5 minutes) present to the audience on a relevant topic, such as an innovative projects, on-going research, or potential research question.

B. BES V Symposium Proceedings (Tim Brush): Tim will be assembling and editing the proceedings for the BES V Symposium, which will be completed and published within the next 12 to 15 months. The proceedings will contain a total of 20 to 25 papers collected from selected presenters.

C. Status of BES IV Symposium Proceedings (Ned Taft on behalf of Steve Amaral of Alden): The proceedings from the BES IV Symposium in Baltimore in 2002 will be coming out shortly and people are encouraged to sign up for pre-orders.

D. Section Webmaster (Marcin Whitman): The BES webpage needs a work-over and a webmaster. Members with webmaster skills are encouraged to volunteer to serve as the BES webmaster. AFS is offering at the Annual Meeting a training on managing section websites.

E. Anadromous/Catadromous Conference Proceedings (Marcin Whitman): The conference organized in large part by Alex Haro and held this summer in Halifax was very successful and published proceedings will be available in the future.

3. Old Business

A. Telemetry Committee (Ted Castro-Santos): The *ad hoc* committee was established at the 2006 AFS Annual Meeting in Lake Placid with the intent of developing a “unified standard codeset” for use in telemetry. Currently each manufacture uses a different code, which can be proprietary. This makes it difficult to share equipment made by different companies. An “open standard” would allow more collaboration among researchers, potentially lower costs, and allow for better data collection. The committee has a disagreement on the details of how a proposed “unified standard code” should be structured. Decisions on the points of contention will be made shortly to keep things moving forward. The next step will be to conduct field testing to ensure that the proposed “unified standard code” will work. The committee is looking for funding for the testing.

B. Emerging Technology Committee (Lynn Reese): The *ad hoc* Emerging Technology (ET) committee provides technical support and guidance to innovators of new fish passage and protection technology. Lynn passed out the committee’s handbook, which contains the committee’s goals and objectives, bylaws, contact information, list of members, and guidelines for evaluating fish passage technologies. The committee is looking for 3 new members to begin serving in April 2008.

C. Newsletter (Marcin Whitman): Alex Haro, the editor of the BES newsletter, requests articles for the upcoming newsletter. Articles can cover topics, such as innovations or exciting projects. Please submit to Alex by October.

3. Treasurer’s Report (Marcin Whitman)

Matt Chan, outgoing treasure, was unable to attend. Marcin reported that the Section had over \$25,000 in its checking account. Book revenues were declining, partially because of the Section’s slow release of the BES IV proceedings. There are two big expenses on the horizon, the publication of BES V and BES IV proceedings, which will occur close together and significantly draw down the Section’s coffers.

Marcin congratulated Matt Chan for his past service as the Section's treasure and secretary, mentioning that he has done a GREAT job during his two year term.

4. Installment of New Officers

Doug Dixon was installed as the new BES President. Ted Castro-Santos was installed as the new BES President Elect, and Michael Love was installed as the new BES Secretary and Treasure. Marcin Whitman became the BES acting Past-President. These four individuals make up the current Section Officers.

Doug Dixon presented Marcin Whitman with a plaque in recognition of his past service as President of the BES.

5. New Business

A. Statement from Incoming Section President (Doug Dixon): Doug stated that there are two major section objectives: Information transfer and networking. To meet these objectives, Doug presented three suggestions:

1. The newsletter is an important part of this. Presently there is only one edition produced each year. To better achieve the goals of the Section, the newsletter should be more frequent. Each edition would not need to be as extensive as it is currently, making it a smaller effort to produce.
2. Doug presented the idea of having a Bioengineering Symposium every year, alternating between the East and West coast and having it not associated with the AFS Annual Meeting. Vendors could be asked to present at such Annual BES Symposiums and possibly help organize them. He also stated that waiting 5 years between Symposiums at the AFS Annual Meeting is too long and suggested having a smaller scaled-down annual BES session at the Annual Meeting.
3. Redefine the BES mission statement to more closely represent its current makeup and interests. For example, the current (original) mission statement includes aquaculture. However, it's been many years since aquaculture interests have been part of BES.

Doug concluded that he represents everyone in the section, provided his email (ddixon@epri.com), and asked members to contact him if they had questions, comments, or concerns and he would get right back to them.

General Discussion: Following Doug Dixon's statements, comments and suggestions were provided by attendees.

Tim Brush stated that having an Annual Bioengineering Symposium was a good idea but its success relied on having enough people participate. Chris Katopodis asked if BES is only about fish passage and suggested expanding the topics included in the BES Symposium, such as stream restoration. John Johnson asked if the topic of Ocean Energy would possibly fit as a topic of interest for the Section. Doug Dixon agreed that it would. Tim Brush pointed out that its about the active members that drive which topics become the focus of the Section.

Laura Wildman suggested having a booth at future AFS Annual Meetings to help with networking and to get more engineering students interested in fisheries and bioengineering. Laura Wildman mentioned that the River Restoration Education Curriculum had recently been completed by the Section and needed to be disseminated. Marcin Whitman suggested writing an article for *Fisheries*.

6. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned, approximately 1330 PDT. The next Bioengineering Section Annual Meeting will be in conjunction with the AFS Annual Meeting, August 17 to 21, 2008, in Ottawa, ON; exact details to be determined.

List of Members Registering

AFS Bioengineering Section Meeting Attendee List: September 4, 2007

Name	Email	AFS Member?	BES Member?	On ListServ?
Dixon, Doug	ddixon@epri.com	Y	Y	Y
Whitman, Marcin	MWhitman@dfg.ca.gov	Y	Y	Y
Reese, Lynn	lynn.a.reese@usace.army.mil	Y	Y	Y
Johnson, Gary	gary.johnson@pnl.gov	Y	Y	Y
Mefford, Brent	bmefford@do.usbr.gov	Y	?	Y
Gephard, Steve	steve.gephard@po.state.ct.us KatopodisC@DFO- MPO.GC.CA	Y	Y	?
Katopodis, Chris	reg2@pge.com	Y	Y	?
Geary, Gene	tbrush@normandeau.com	Y	Y	?
Brush, Tim	mlove@h2odesigns.com	Y	Y	Y
Love, Michael	mml1@humboldt.edu	Y	Y	Y
Lang, Margaret	jmann@pcz.com	Y	Y	Y
Mann, Jon	llanos@h2odesigns.com	Y	Y	Y
Llanos, Antonio	thogan@aldenlab.com	Y	Y	Y
Hogan, Tim	jblack@aldenlab.com	Y	Y	N
Black, Jon	jim_stow@fws.gov	N	N	N
Stow, Jim	larry.swenson@noaa.gov	Y	Y	?
Swenson, Larry	mhamlin@gunderboom.com	N	N	N
Hamlin, Melissa	amccusker@gunderboom.com	Y	N	N
McCusker, Andy	amaral@aldenlab.com	Y	Y	Y
Amaral, Steve	afranklin@forwild.umass.edu	Y	N	N
Franklin, Abigail Constantine, Candice	cconstan@cosbpw.net	Y	Y	N
Wildman, Laura	lwildman@amrivers.org	Y	?	N
Taft, Ned	ntaft@aldenlab.com	Y	Y	N
Castro-Santos, Ted	tcastro_santos@usgs.gov	Y	Y	Y
Johnson, John	john@johnsonPDX.com	Y	?	N