



Socioeconomics News

<http://www.fisheries.org/socioecon/>

Newsletter of the Socioeconomics Section of the American Fisheries Society

Fall 2003

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From the President's Desk

Greetings!

Over a year ago I took the reigns of the Socioeconomics Section. One of the highlights of the year was the AFS Annual Meeting in Quebec City. Due to the paucity of socioeconomics at the meetings I was able to tour the fort, the walled city, and enjoy many fine meals. I hope you were able to attend the meetings and enjoy Quebec City as much as I did. The AFS 134th Annual Meeting will be held in Madison, Wisconsin from August 21 – 26. I hope to see you there to enjoy more socioeconomics, brats, cheese, and beer.

The Socioeconomic Section annual meeting was productive. Eight members in attendance discussed various issues. The outcomes of this discussion are reflected in the planned activities for 2003-04 that are mentioned below. Minutes of this meeting will be sent to you separately.

Many of my goals for the past year were met. In particular, the Socioeconomics Section sponsored a symposium at the Southern Division meetings and the Memorandum of Understanding between the section and the Missouri Chapter was signed.

In an ideal world, we would have had a president-elect in 2002-03 to take over as president for 2003-04. Alas, this allows me to strive to achieve some of the section goals that were not achieved this past year. For instance, our 2003 membership has not significantly increased from 2002. We must increase our visibility at the meetings in order to increase membership.

Speaking of visibility, we plan to sponsor one or two symposia in Madison. We plan a regional theme for the symposium -- recreational fishing in the Great Lakes -- but the specific focus may change based on submitted papers. Please see the Call for Abstracts located elsewhere in this newsletter.

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The deadline for papers (titles and authors only) is November 21. The Call for Papers was distributed to the hdrfish@listserv.tamu.edu, rursoc-1@lsv.uky.edu, resecon@lsv.uky.edu, and fishfolk@mitvma.mit.edu listservs in October. A second symposium is being organized separately and is focused on Sea Grant extension efforts.

At the 2004 Annual Meeting we plan to sponsor a continuing education workshop. The second edition of *Investigation and Monetary Values of Fish and Freshwater Mussel Kills*, edited by Robert I. Southwick and Andrew J. Loftus, was published in 2003. The book is no longer a publication of the Socioeconomics Section (i.e., we will not receive any revenues from it), but the Section did play a big role in its publication. Wayne Davis initially suggested the update at the 1999 meeting of the section and Ray Rhodes instigated the update with the AFS parent society. The continuing education workshop will focus on the updated manual with, appropriately, Wayne Davis and Ray Rhodes as the organizers.

Unfortunately, our call for papers for the 2003 Weithman Award did not lead to a single submission. This was probably due to the late announcement (the MOU was not signed until May). See the 2004 announcement elsewhere in this newsletter. We also will be placing an announcement in a Fall issue of Fisheries and sending announcements to the various listservs. If you have other suggestions, in particular, relevant anthropology, sociology, and other social science listservs, please send them along to me.

Finally, I continue to enjoy working with you. Promoting socioeconomic analysis of fisheries problems within an association dominated by biologists is a worthwhile goal and rewarding activity. Let us hope we continue to pursue the goal.

John Whitehead

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JOB OPENING PRESIDENT-ELECT

The AFS Socioeconomics Section is seeking an unpaid president-elect (2003-04). The candidate may also be selected to fill the position of president (2004-05). Applicant must be a citizen of a country, 18-105 years of age, fluent in one language and have a valid NJ drivers license (just kidding on the last part!). Duties include organization of meetings, newsletter writing, administrative paperwork, and upkeep of firehouse, equipment and apparatus (just kidding on the last part!). Send letters of interest to John Whitehead at whiteheadj@uncw.edu.

Keep in touch!!!! (Communication within the SE Section)

AFS SocioEconomics Discussion List (AFS-SEL)

The purpose of AFS-SEL is to promote communication among members of the AFS Socioeconomics Section. Anyone in the Section and on the list can send a message about topics of interest to the group. Job or publication announcements and research or reference questions are welcome.

You may join AFS-SEL at any time. Send an email to LISTSERV@MITVMA.MIT.EDU and leave the subject line blank. In the body of the message type: SUBSCRIBE AFS-SEL YOURFIRSTNAME YOURLASTNAME. (The listserv is automated and will pick up your email address directly from the message.)

Web Page

At <http://www.fisheries.org>, left click your mouse on the "About AFS" link in the left hand column, then on "Units." Once you are on the Units page, click on the "Sections" button in the center at the top of the page. You should then find the "Socioeconomic" link to our page. Or, go directly to <http://www.fisheries.org/socioecon/>. Check here for information on Calls for Papers, Symposia, Workshops, SP-24, Weithman Award and other information of relevance to section members.

2004 A. Stephen Weithman Award for Best Student Paper in the Field of Socioeconomics

Missouri Chapter of the AFS Socioeconomics Section of the AFS

The Missouri Chapter and the Socioeconomics Section of the AFS are proud to announce the establishment of the A. Stephen Weithman Best Paper Award in Socioeconomics. These two subunits of AFS are cooperating to promote communication and interest in the field of socioeconomics by sponsoring an annual award for the best student paper in the field. The award will be presented for the best platform or poster paper presented by a student at the annual AFS meeting. Completed papers will be judged on content, originality, organization, contribution to the field of fisheries science, and overall presentation of the study. The award winner will be announced on the Socioeconomic Section's webpage (www.fisheries.org/socioecon) and receive \$150.00 and an award certificate following the annual AFS meeting.

This award was established in honor of Steve Weithman. He died 13 July 2000 in Columbia, Missouri, after a valiant five-month battle against pancreatic cancer. Steve was 47, and an AFS member since 1974. He received his B.A. (1974), M.S. (1975), and Ph.D. (1978) from the University of Missouri. He had been employed by the Missouri Department of Conservation since 1978.

Steve began his career as a fisheries research biologist, later became environmental services supervisor, and most recently was fisheries research supervisor at the Conservation Science Center in Columbia. He conducted research on a variety of topics, but was best known for his economic evaluation of fisheries and statewide surveys of anglers.

Steve understood the importance of communicating research results to his fellow scientists and to the public. He published 28 scientific and popular articles. He presented his findings at over 30 scientific meetings, including seven AFS annual meetings or symposia and a dozen state or regional conferences. Recognized as an expert in his field, he authored the chapter on socioeconomic benefits of fisheries in *Inland Fisheries Management in North America* (second edition, 1999), a best-selling AFS publication. In addition, Steve served as financial advisor to AFS.

Steve was a Certified Fisheries Scientist and a Life Member of AFS. He served on various committees of the Missouri Chapter, served two terms as chapter president, and acted as financial advisor to the chapter. He co-chaired the 1993 Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference. Steve was the first recipient of the Missouri Chapter's A. Stephen Weithman, Jr. Leadership Award in recognition and appreciation of his outstanding leadership in protecting Missouri's aquatic resources. The chapter's proclamation stated, "His leadership efforts are notable not only for their positive outcomes but are remembered for the professional and caring manner in which they were delivered."

The Socioeconomics Section and Missouri Chapter are proud to sponsor this award in honor of Steve Weithman. To be considered for this award, interested applicants should complete the attached form and deliver it to the President of the Socioeconomics section by **May 1, 2004**. *Papers must be completed before the AFS meeting to be eligible for this award.*

(Nomination form on following page.)

Nomination Form

2004 A. Stephen Weithman Best Paper Award in the Field of Socioeconomics Sponsored by the Socioeconomics Section and Missouri Chapter of American Fisheries Society

Student _____

Degree Sought _____

School _____

Expected Graduation Date _____

Paper Title _____

e-mail address _____

Paper Accepted by AFS Program Committee for Presentation as a (check one):

_____ Poster

_____ Platform

Person Submitting the Nomination for the Award (must be an AFS member):

Name _____

Mailing Address _____

Phone _____

e-mail address _____

Date Submitted _____

Please mail or fax this form by May 1, 2004 to:

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Wilmington, NC 28403-5945
Fax: (910)962-7464
email: whiteheadj@uncw.edu

-----Please Do Not Write Below this Line -----

Date Received _____

Paper Number _____

**American Fisheries Society
Socioeconomics Section
2003 Annual Report to the Governing Board**

TO: Fred Harris, President, AFS
FROM: John C. Whitehead, President, Socioeconomics Section
DATE: June 16, 2003

I. Action:

Action Requested: None

Recommended Motion: None

Minority View: None

Background for Motion: Not Applicable

II. Outcome or Accomplishments in Relation to the Society's Strategic Plan

Charge or Annual Program of Work: No charges or program of work defined

Outcome and Accomplishments Organized by Major Goal with Sub-goal Referenced:

Information Transfer and Outreach:

- The Section presented a "Fishery Economics for Non-Economists" workshop for the 2002 Annual Meeting in Baltimore for the general membership of the Society. This workshop was organized by Ray Rhodes (SCDNR) and John Whitehead (UNCW).
- The Section organized a Symposium, "Fisheries Socioeconomics," for the 2003 Spring Meeting of the Southern Division, February 16, in Wilmington, NC.

Member Services:

- The Fall newsletter was distributed in October 2002. The Spring newsletter was distributed in April 2003.
- The Section has revised its webpage and is developing plans to reinvigorate communication via the listserv.
- Together with the Missouri Chapter, the Section is planning to co-sponsor the A. Stephen Weithman, Jr. Award for the best socio-economic paper presented by a student at future AFS annual meetings.

Aquatic Stewardship:

- A Section working group is assisting AFS Director's Office with a US Fish & Wildlife Service funded project to update the replacement values in AFS SP-24A, "Investigation and Valuation of Fish Kills." The working group is comprised of Ray Rhodes (SCDNR), John Whitehead (UNCW), Herb Holloway (Louisiana DWF), and Wayne Davis (Kentucky DFWR).

III. Financial Status:

A copy of the financial report has been provided to Director of Finance and Administration Betsy Fritz.

AFS 2004 Annual Meeting
Continuing Education Course Proposal

Fish/Mussel Kill Investigation Course

Sponsor: Socioeconomics Section

NEEDS IDENTIFICATION: This course will provide practical information and knowledge regarding the investigation of fish/mussel kills in both freshwater and marine environments. New values have been developed for fish and a new protocol and values have been developed for the investigation of freshwater mussel kills. This course is designed for field personnel who are responsible for the investigation of such incidents but supervisors will also benefit by gaining a knowledge of the techniques used for reviewing reports prepared for such incidents.

OBJECTIVES OR LEARNING OUTCOMES: Course participants will be able to utilize organizational and investigative knowledge that is gained to develop individual fish/mussel investigative programs. Participants will also be exposed to different investigative and evaluation techniques to determine damages. Course participants will be able to take knowledge that is gained and immediately utilize in field applications as the situations arise.

CONTENT & METHODOLOGY: Topics to be covered include: Organization of Standard Operating Manual, Investigative techniques, Jurisdiction of fish kills, Fish kill counting techniques in freshwater and marine environments, Hazardous materials/safety in fish kills, Calculation of monetary values of fish kills, Investigation of mussel kills, Economic valuation of kills, and Legal aspects of fish kills. Students will be encouraged to interact with instructors about real scenarios that will be presented.

REQUIREMENTS FOR SATISFACTORY COMPLETION: Attendance of the entire day-long session and completion of program evaluation will be required for satisfactory completion.

ASSESSMENT OF LEARNING OUTCOMES: Assessment of learning will be conducted continuously through interaction between students and instructors. Active participation will demonstrate changes in the learner's knowledge base. The program evaluation will also be used to measure effectiveness of course instruction.

Course Contact:

Name: Wayne L. Davis
Address: #1 Game Farm Road
City, State, Zip, Country: Frankfort, KY 40601 USA
Phone: 502/564-7109, ext. 365
Fax: 502/564-4519
E-mail: wayne.davis@mail.state.ky.us

Call for Abstracts

Symposium: Socioeconomics of Recreational Fishing in the Great Lakes

Sponsor: AFS Socioeconomics Section

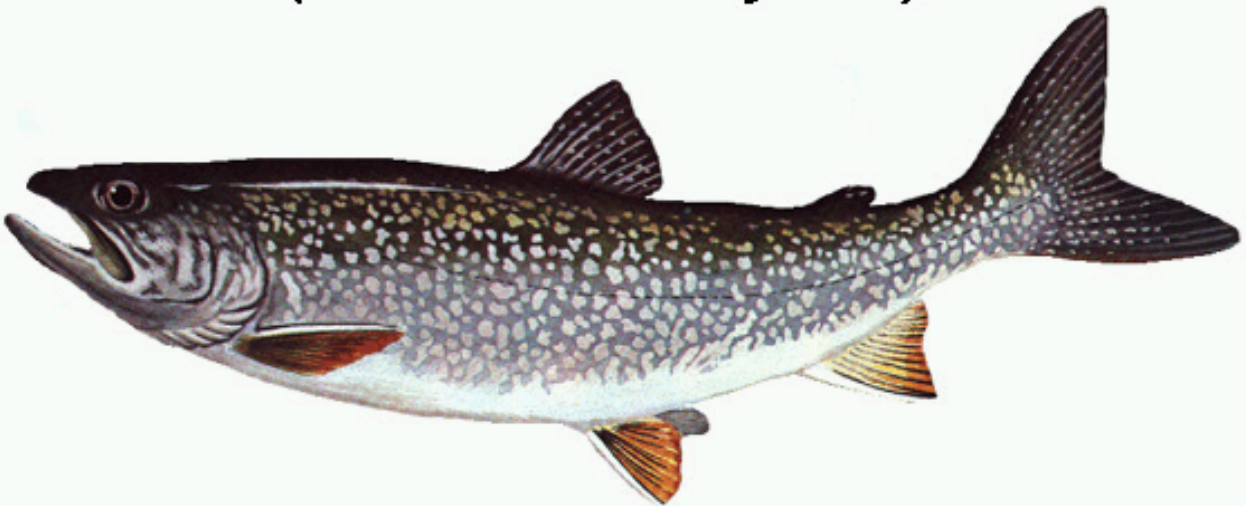
2004 AFS Annual Meeting

Madison, WI

August 22-26, 2004

The Great Lakes recreational fishery has experienced many problems including decline of catches, water quality, and exotic species. The purpose of this symposium is to address the socioeconomics of these and other important issues. Submissions are invited from any of the social sciences including anthropology, economics, political science, psychology, sociology and other human dimensions disciplines. Preferred applications are to the Great Lakes but are not limited to this region as long as your research has implications for, or applicability to, the Great Lakes. *Please send an abstract or brief description of your paper to whiteheadj@uncw.edu by November 21, 2003.* The Socioeconomics section will then prepare a symposium proposal and submit this to the AFS Program Committee by December 22, 2004. The Section will be notified of acceptance or refusal by January 19, 2004. If accepted, a list of all confirmed speakers and titles are due by February 2, 2004. Abstracts are due by February 23, 2004.

Lake Trout (*Salvalinus namaycush*)



Source of image: **Manitoba Conservation**
-- Fisheries Branch