



### Chapter Officers

- .....
- President: Tom Priesendorf
- President Elect: Clint Hale
- Secretary: Brandon Baumhoer
- Treasurer: Alex Prentice
- Past President: Greg Pitchford

### Committee Chairs

- .....
- Anglers with Disabilities: Mary Scott
- Awards: Greg Pitchford
- Chapter Historians:

Joe G. Dillard (Emeritus)

Vince Travnichek

### Continuing Education:

Andy Turner

Brad Farwell

Jodi (Joanna) Whittier

Finance: Greg Pitchford

## Message From the President

# "Bookends"



Some of you know that I have recently retired from my career job as a Fisheries professional. After twenty-nine years of rewarding efforts with the Missouri Department of Conservation, I have undertaken a new course. While sifting through my documents, I found a photograph from the first year of my career in the late 1980s. In my mind that photo represents one end of a pair of bookends and it set me to thinking about the path that I followed. While I will use my career as the backdrop for this article, this isn't really about me. Rather I hope readers will recognize that to succeed in this profession and achieve positive results, determination and steady focus on known challenges is critical to success.

## Information Technology/Website:

Kat Lackman &  
Alex Prentice

Legislative and Environmental  
Concerns: Emily Tracy-Smith

## Membership:

Jennifer Campbell-Allison

## MNRC Steering: John Ackerson

## Newsletter:

Emily Tracy-Smith  
Hope Dodd  
Nick Sievert  
Dan Metcalf

## Publicity: Trish Yasger

## Rivers and Streams: Eric Rahm

## Student Support: Jennifer Girondo

## Student Subunits

Missouri State University -  
Springfield: Brooke Widmar

University of Central Missouri -  
Warrensburg: Kyle Salisbury

University of Missouri - Columbia:  
Cheyenne Stratton

Southeast Missouri State University  
- Cape Girardeau: Edward Sterling

I first reflected on my college level classwork in the early 1980s pertaining to a wide array of natural science interests. Of global significance, among the topics we discussed was the (then) recent belief in a pending ice age brought on by frigid temperatures the previous decades. Later, by the end of the 1980s, a not well known concept of "global warming" was gaining prominence but had not yet become common knowledge to the media or the minds of the public.

A second photo is provided. It was taken at my recent retirement ceremony and represents the other bookend at the end of my career. I found it interesting to ponder similarities and differences of global topics and of local environmental issues at opposite ends



of my career. Fortunately, that ice age never materialized. While in its infancy at the start of my career, the forecasts of calamity from global warming have since been refined and expressed. We all know the anticipated future based on those reports. Droughts for some, deluges for others and more extreme weather events have been predicted. Whether those reports ultimately prove to be correct or not will be determined as time goes by. At the very least, the timeline for these calamities is not at all certain. However, I find it very interesting that despite the over-arching predictions of global influence, local stressors affecting our aquatic resources largely remain the same today as at the start of my career, almost 30 years later. Today professionals in Missouri are focusing on specific watersheds to deal with known stressors. We have a greater understanding on interactions today, but that list of known stressors is very similar to the list from decades ago.

So, I guess my point is we need to stay focused on immediate stressors and find ways to deal with them effectively. Undoubtedly by implementing good watershed practices addressing these threats that immediately threaten our stream integrity, we will be building in resiliency for what-ever future comes our way.

Tom Priesendorf

P.S. - Don't forget to register for MNRC. The deadline is fast approaching!

# Missouri Natural Resources Conference

**Resource Managers** ↔ **Resource Users**

Register NOW for the 2018 Missouri Natural Resources Conference  
January 31, February 1st, and 2nd At Tan-Tar-A Resort in Osage  
Beach, Missouri  
For more information check out [www.mnrc.org](http://www.mnrc.org) and Facebook pages

Plenary speakers for the conference are Stanley A. Temple  
(Missouri's Influence on Aldo Leopold) and Dr. Mark Morgan  
(Strength of Stories).

**Are you a Natural Resources Student  
Looking for a Resource Related Job?**

Be sure to attend the 20th Annual Student Job Fair on Wednesday  
January 31st.

Activities for Young Professionals include:

- Career Workshop (3:30 - 4:00)
- Speed Networking (4:00 - 5:30)
- Resume Building (4:00 - 6:00)
- Job Openings (5:00 - 6:30)

# Missouri Careers in Fisheries - Summary Report

Prepared by: Blake Stephens



At the 2017 Missouri Natural Resources Conference at Tan-Tar-A Resort (Osage Beach), MOAFS organized an invaluable opportunity for students and young professionals with an interest in the fisheries and aquatics career field. A special 2-hour Missouri Careers in Fisheries workshop was held from 1:00-3:00pm on Thursday, February 2<sup>nd</sup> focusing on what it takes to get started on a career path in fisheries and to fill in knowledge gaps to better prepare individuals for success in their career search.

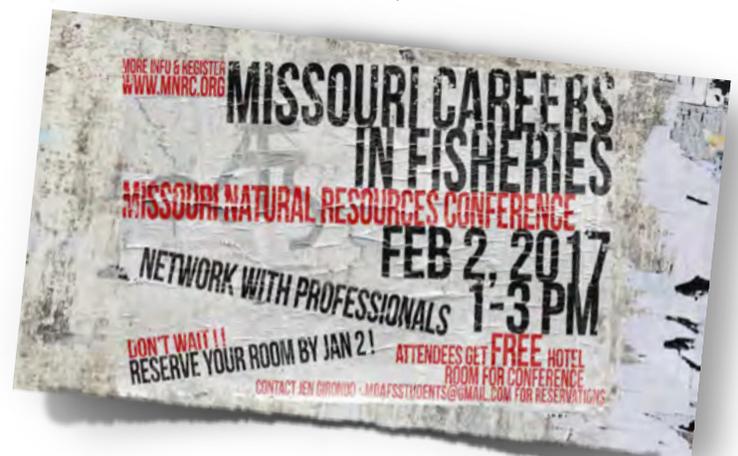
An estimated total of 105 students and professionals attended the workshop of which approximately 45 were students. MOAFS purchased and made available complimentary copies of an AFS Guide to Fisheries Employment book to anyone in attendance and gave out 40 books. As an added incentive, money provided to MOAFS for hosting the workshop was used to pay for lodging of any students who needed it.

The workshop began with an introduction and outline of what to expect, highlighting the need for being willing to step out of what's comfortable to reach your goals. Then the diversity of fisheries career opportunities in Missouri was highlighted through 9 presentations from fisheries professionals across the state.

Speakers included fisheries managers and biologists, warmwater and coldwater hatchery managers, researchers/professors, a policy coordinator, a non-profit professional, and a private sector professional. Each speaker took 10 minutes to tell their story of how they got where they are and to communicate important skills, traits, education, attitudes and experiences significant to their career.

Although everyone's career path was unique, there were common denominators in all. One common theme emphasized by the speakers was the need for a well-rounded employee that seeks out ways to blend formal education with relevant experience while sustaining character and professionalism in interactions with others. Existing structure within agencies to continue to train and develop employees was discussed, and presenters effectively laid out examples of pathways to achieving career success. The close of the workshop consisted of opportunities for students to interact with and ask questions to the speakers at standing tables setup throughout the room.

Responses of those who completed the post-workshop evaluation were overwhelmingly positive with respondents rating the content provided as 7.9 out of 10 and 100% of respondents saying they would recommend this workshop to a friend. A huge thank you goes out to all the MOAFS membership who helped promote, organize and host this workshop for students.



## Missouri Careers in Fisheries - Summary Report Cont.

### List of Speakers That Attended the Missouri Careers in Fisheries Workshop - 2017

Speaker	Discipline	Title	Agency
Drew Burdick	Hatcheries	Hatchery Manager (Lost Valley)	Missouri Department of Conservation
Bob Distefano	Researcher	Resource Scientist	Missouri Department of Conservation
Rebecca Landewe	Non-Profit	Current River Project Manager	The Nature Conservancy
Ben Parnell	Management	Fisheries Management Biologist	Missouri Department of Conservation
Kevin Atkins	Private Sector	Environmental Scientist	Ameren
Hope Dodd	Federal Agency	Fisheries Biologist	National Park Service
Jennifer Campbell	Policy	Policy Coordinator	Missouri Department of Conservation
Amanda Rosenberger	Researcher	University Professor	University of Missouri
Wes Swee	Hatcheries	Hatchery Manager (Meramec Spr)	Missouri Department of Conservation



# Missouri Careers in Fisheries - Summary Report

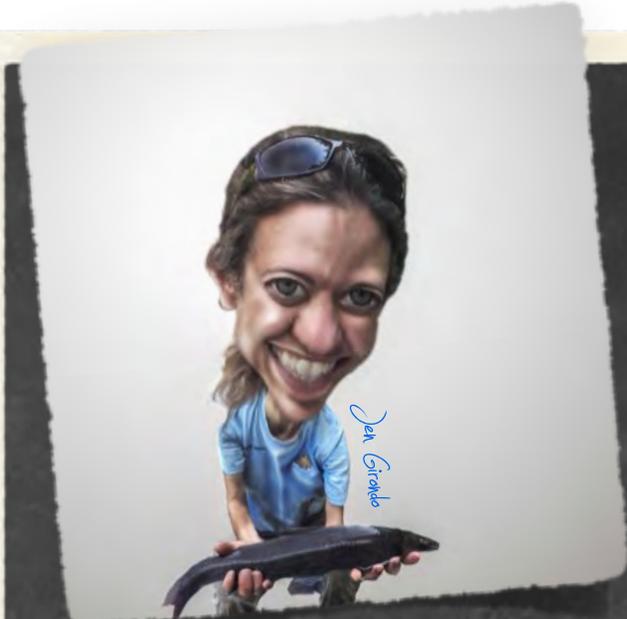
Prepared by: Blake Stephens

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# Student Support Report - Fall 2017

Prepared by: Jen Girondo



MOAFS' Student Support Committee awarded recognition for outstanding student presentations at MNRC-2017, and our annual scholarships.

2017 award winners include:

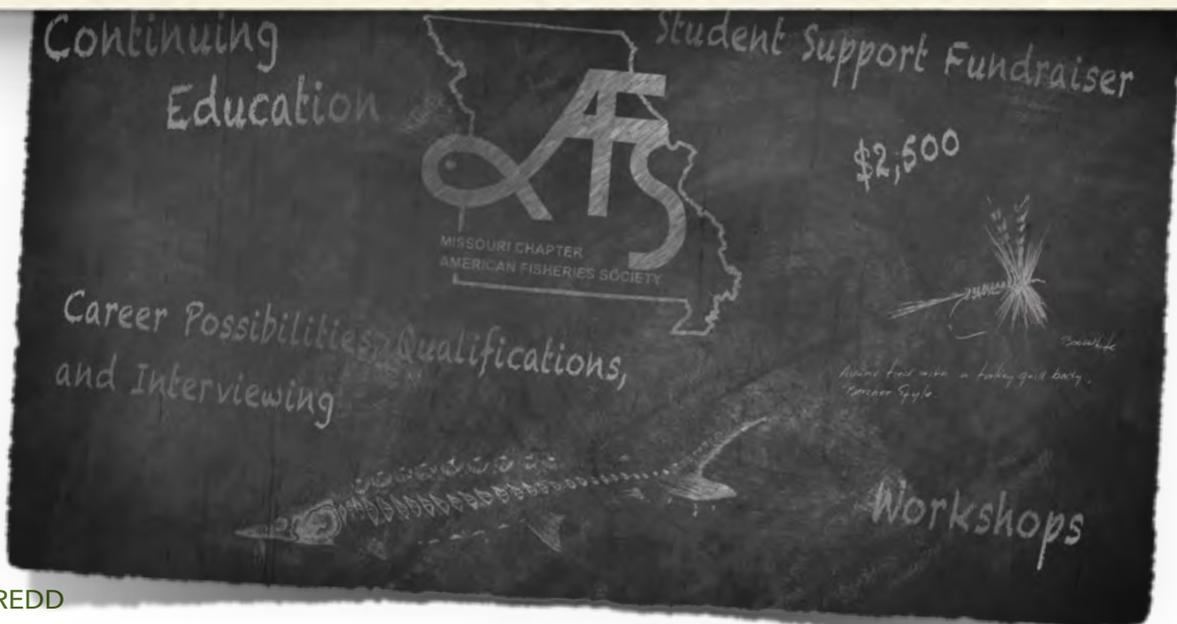
- Best student poster: Nichole Weedman (MSU)
- Best student paper: Julia Guyton (MU)
- Joe G. Dillard Outstanding Undergraduate Scholarship: Cheyenne Stratton (MU)
- Student Achievement Award: Tyler Ham (SEMO)
- Duffy Memorial Travel Award: Corey Dunn (MU)

We have been working with the student units to keep up to date on several "new" advisors & the elected officers, and collect semester activity reports.

Along with finance committee, we have worked on re-distribution of added funds from AFS-KC to bolster the amounts available to students for the coming year.

Committee member Kyle Winders has drafted a funding request to the Education Section for our joint student colloquium with TWS in the fall.

Applications are being taken for the 2018 round of scholarships – if you know a deserving candidate, please have them consider applying!



# Continuing Education Report - Fall 2017

Prepared by: Brad Farwell and Andy Turner



The Continuing Education Committee is working with the MNRC planning committee to host the 2018 Student Job Fair at the Missouri Natural Resources Conference. This event is scheduled for January 31<sup>st</sup>, 2018 at the Tan-Tar-A Resort and will include the following four sessions:

A Career Workshop	3:00-4:00 p.m.	Room 60-61
Speed Networking	4:00-5:30 p.m.	Salon C
Resume Building	4:00-6:00 p.m.	Room 60-61
Job Opening Session	5:00-6:30 p.m.	Salon C

All students have to do is show up at Tan-Tar-A! No registration is required and they do not have to attend the conference to attend the Job Fair (The evening mixer is not included in job fair, however a student registration is available for \$45 including the mixer and conference). It is suggested that students bring copies of their resume for review and to hand out.

Resource Professionals, Grad Students, and Professors: Are you seeking employees with natural resource backgrounds? Then the Student Job Fair is the perfect opportunity for you. In years past we have had over 140 students ranging from high school graduates to people with masters degrees, and current resource professionals, attended the Job Fair. Employers will offer full and part-time positions, along with temporary positions. No job is too big or too small. The Student Job Fair is free. Please contact Andy Turner for further information on how employers can participate in this year's Job Fair at [Andy.Turner@mdc.mo.gov](mailto:Andy.Turner@mdc.mo.gov). The deadline for employers to register will be December 22, 2017.

The Continuing Education Committee also remains active as members of the AFS North Central Division continuing education committee, which works to provide courses at the Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference.

# Treasury Report - Fall 2017

Prepared by: Alex Prentice



Budget year 2017 has been great for MOAFS and the Student Support Trust Fund (SSTF). The MNRC fundraisers (silent auction, outdoor trips etc.) netted a \$1,733.00 profit for the Chapter. The Chapter also collected \$920.00 in membership dues (\$340.00 at MNRC, \$580.00 reimbursement from AFS). MOAFS Operational accounts, as of September 30<sup>th</sup>, total \$22,849.12.

The four Certificate of Deposits (CDs) continue to grow with one set to mature in November which is expected to bring in ~\$200.00 for the Student Support Trust Fund (SSTF).

We are continuing the SSTF investment plan as outlined at the MOAFS annual meeting. A Vanguard mutual fund account totaling \$45,000 was established in April 2015 along with a buffer fund of \$5,000 in the money market account. A portion of the AFS Conference profits was allocated to the SSTF to increase the buffer to \$10,000, fully fund the 2017 SSTF budget, and funds set aside for 2018. This extra income along with the recent growth in the stock market has left the SSTF in great shape!

Since inception, the investment returns total \$9,335.80 at a 7.8% rate of return. Since January of 2017, the funds have experienced an increase in investment returns totaling \$6,810.32. Profits were distributed according to the SSTF Investment Strategy to fund the 2018 SSTF budget (\$3,683.93) and build the buffer fund (\$2,592.55).

Account	Current Balance*	Change
MOAFS Operational Share	\$ 8,521.22	
MOAFS Operational Checking	\$ 14,327.90	
MOAFS Special Projects Checking	\$ 3,779.36	
SSTF Money Market (Buffer Fund)	\$ 12,604.55	
SSTF Checking	\$ 4,018.38	
SSTF CD 1479	\$ 13,017.73	\$ 517.73
SSTF CD 2381	\$ 12,680.85	\$ 180.85
SSTF CD 2382	\$ 12,785.50	\$ 285.50
SSTF CD 2720	\$ 12,631.37	\$ 131.37
<b>Cumulative CD Value</b>	<b>\$ 51,115.45</b>	<b>\$ 1,115.45</b>
SSTF Mutual Fund (as of 9/30/2017)		
Stock market Index Fund	\$ 34,551.40	
International Stock Index Fund	\$ 11,472.04	
Cumulative Investment Returns YTD (Jan-Dec 2017)	\$ 1,023.44	

# Historian Report - Fall 2017

Prepared by: Joe Dillard & Vince Travnichek

## Making History - A note from and about your History Committee

It comes to pass that it is time to pass the torch. So, from this day forward, your History Committee will be headed up by Vince Travnichek. Joe G. Dillard, who held that position for 25 years, will be Historian Emeritus. Please consider joining them in this most important endeavor to compile and archive MOAFS's history. A few words from Joe and Vince...



Joe G. Dillard - I have enjoyed serving MOAFS in this capacity since its inception in 1991. We are so blessed to have such an abundance of records. My main task in the past was to round them up and protect them in my basement. Recently, my major effort has been compiling that information into a document entitled, "The Missouri Chapter of the American Fisheries Society: The First 50 Years."

With the good help and encouragement of Amanda Rosenberger and Emily Tracey-Smith, we now have a pretty good working draft\*. Our intent is to have a hard copy version and a web version. The hard copy version will not include the 241 pages of scanned meeting minutes! The hard copy without the minutes will be approximately 240 pages.

Now, for the future. I am hoping that you will seriously consider volunteering for the History Committee, encourage saving MOAFS records and either in 2039 or 2064 compiling the 75th and/or 100th version of this tome. May we not become un-hooked! History happens and must be reported. I'm sure that Vince would appreciate your help.



Vince Travnichek - How does one begin to follow in the MOAFS footsteps of Joe Dillard? He has been our Historian longer than I have been a member of our Chapter, and I consider myself one of the 'Old Folks' in MOAFS. Speaking of Joe and history, I first met

him back in 1987. He was a plenary speaker at the Oklahoma AFS Chapter meeting in OKC, and I was just starting graduate school at Oklahoma State. He spoke on stream habitat monitoring. Fast forward three years and I was at my first AFS annual meeting that was held in Pittsburgh, PA; I was just starting my PhD at Auburn. I saw Joe and reintroduced myself, we discussed what I was up to (stream ecology and hydropower), and who walks up? Lee Redmond.

They were both busy people at the meeting given Joe was presiding over the meeting as AFS President and Lee was on AFS EXCOM being the current NCD President. Yet they both took time to talk to me, and Lee followed up after the meeting with a letter (yes, before that thing called email) with some contacts within MDC regarding stream sampling. Neither of them probably remember that encounter. However, as a young professional, I was amazed that someone of their "importance" would take time to talk to me, and follow-up with a letter after the fact. At the time I never really thought our paths would cross again, but six years later I was in Missouri attending my first MOAFS meeting, and of course Joe and Lee were there. Thus, if you get nothing else out of this blurb, please consider how your history



PROFESSOR HUXLEY, LL.D., F.R.S., L.S.D.,  
 PROFESSOR OF NATURAL HISTORY, NATURALIST, INSPECTOR OF  
 FISHERIES, ETC.  
 "There is more in heaven and earth, O ratio, than is dreamt of in  
 your philosophy" — (so perhaps he'll find it in the rivers).

and experience might benefit some young professional. Reach out and introduce yourself; that five minutes may influence their entire career. You will probably never realize the importance of the encounter, but they will.



Twenty years have passed since my first MOAFS Chapter meeting, and it now appears I am the Historian. I can't promise 25 years like Joe did, but my hope is that I will carry on the foundation that he put in place; however, it is more like the History House that Joe built, not just a foundation. To conclude, as Joe said... "May we not become un-hooked! History happens and must be reported." I would appreciate your help as Historian. Whether you just attended your first MOAFS meeting back in February and I was that old guy sitting up front, or you have been around awhile, your assistance is welcome! Who knows, you might become our next Historian? Finally, GOYA!... but that is another history lesson for another day for our younger members.  
Later - VT



# Membership Committee Report-Fall 2017

Prepared by: Jennifer Campbell



MoAFS Lifetime memberships renew automatically each year. All others membership types may be renewed at [www.moafs.org/membership](http://www.moafs.org/membership), through the Parent Society, or at the MoAFS booth during our annual meeting at the Natural Resources Conference. When renewing your membership through the MoAFS website or at the booth, please indicate your privacy preferences.

Among other benefits, your MoAFS membership ensures your eligibility to vote in MoAFS elections, delivery of MoAFS emails, and the privilege of running for MoAFS offices and service on MoAFS committees. Contact me with any questions about MoAFS membership at [Jennifer.Campbell@mdc.mo.gov](mailto:Jennifer.Campbell@mdc.mo.gov) or 573-522-4115x3159.

Sarah Daubendiek (MU)  
 Jimmy Salings (MU)  
 Colton Hampton (MU)  
 Bailly O'Brian (MU)  
 Connor McKillip (MU)  
 Erik Griffen (MU)  
 Dixie Litchard (MU)  
 Christopher Hackaday (UCM)  
 Holly Wilhelm (UCM)  
 Marissa Ginger (UCM)  
 David Anderson (UCM)  
 Megan Ryba (UCM)

Colten Hosey (UCM)  
 Alyssa Simon (UCM)  
 Arianna Weaver (UCM)  
 Destini Miller (UCM)  
 Daniel Akin (UCM)  
 Ben Long (UCM)  
 Molly Takacs (UCM)  
 Mirra Cornejo (UCM)  
 Edward Sterling (SEMO)  
 Joshua Abner (SEMO)  
 Wesley Sleeper (SEMO)  
 Thomas Devine (SEMO)  
 Mark Chowning (SEMO)

*Welcome!*  
*New MOAFS Members*

# LEGISLATIVE AND ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERNS - FALL 2017

PREPARED BY: EMILY TRACY-SMITH



This past spring and summer the legislative and environmental concerns committee gained two new members, **Zach Morris** and **Brooke Widmar**. Together, under the guidance of Mark Zurbrick, we are working on ways to engage MOAFS membership and keeping everyone well informed. We have discussed utilizing social media, creating a separate listserv, organizing an advocacy workshop, and collaborating with Stream Teams United and the Conservation Federation of Missouri (CFM) on legislative issues.

One way we have strengthened the relationship with CFM is through our participation in the Rivers, Streams and Fisheries Committee. **Emily Tracy-Smith** serves as Chair, and **Zach Morris** as Vice Chair. We also attended Conservation Day at the Capitol on April 12, 2017 and the CFM Affiliates Summit, September 14-15, 2017.

## Results of the 2017 Session of the Missouri Legislature

Thirty-three bills were introduced during the 4-month 2017 legislative session that could have had possible impacts on the Departments of Conservation and Natural Resources. Twenty-five of these bills originated in the House and eight in the Senate. Legislation was proposed concerning captive cervids, land acquisition, wildlife damage compensation, composition of the conservation commission, and the right to hunt and fish. Many of these were reintroductions of bills that failed to gain approval in past sessions of the Missouri Legislature.

With one notable exception, (see **HB556**) none of the legislation had substantial or direct impacts to waters and fisheries of the state, however, most of the bills negatively affect how the MDNR or MDC operates.

One bill we closely followed was **HB556** (Ross), **which was defeated**. This bill is the same as HCS HB 2405 (2016), which reduces public usage of navigable waterways to the low water mark instead of the high water mark which currently allows activities such as accessing gravel bars. Much of this bill codified existing case law, and there was concern that certain provisions of the bill could affect recreational use of Missouri streams by people who use waterways for floating and wading. It was unclear what streams, if any, would be impacted. Whereas, current Missouri law had been interpreted such that the public right to navigation extends to recreational boating in Missouri and all persons have a right to navigate any river or stream that has a sufficient flow to float a recreational boat like a canoe. There is no similar wording in this bill.

Text in this bill specified, “**no adjoining parts of a watercourse are to be considered navigable unless they are deemed navigable by a Missouri Court**”. It also prohibits MoDNR from implementing or enforcing any federal rule regarding “**Waters of the United States**” or “**Navigable waters**”.

*Continued on pg. 17*

# LEGISLATIVE AND ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERNS - CONTINUED

*Continued from pg. 16*

Conservation Federation of Missouri (CFM), Stream Teams United, and MOAFS opposed this bill because Missouri DNR should be allowed to provide guidance on water issues. This bill had a public hearing on April 12, 2017 that was attended by concerned citizens, members of CFM and MOAFS members **Mark Zurbrick** and **Zach Morris**. A vote was not held by the Conservation and Natural Resource Committee (therefore defeated), however we will be looking out for future proposed legislation concerning this topic.

## Highlights of Other Proposed Legislation:

**Defeated:** SJR16 (Munzlinger), HJR 38 (Houghton), and HJR 9 (Moon), Proposed a constitutional amendment to resubmit the conservation sales and use tax to voters for approval every few years.

**Passed:** HB181 (Phillips), Allows conservation agents to enforce littering offenses on waterways, banks, and public lands.

**Defeated:** HB1042 (McCaherty), Changes the laws regarding development permits in floodplains.

**Defeated:** SB22 (Chappelle-Nadal), Modifies provisions relating to hazardous waste (not opposed to original bill). However, an amendment to sell state parks (Eleven Point, Bryant Creek, Ozark Mountain and Jay Nixon) was added by Representative Ross, which is **STRONGLY** opposed by CFM, Stream Teams United and MOAFS.

**January 3, 2018** is the start of the next legislative session, to stay informed on the Missouri Legislation activities use these resources:

Legislative Action Center <http://www.confedmo.org/lac/>

LegiScan <https://legiscan.com/MO/legislation>

Stream Teams United, Legislative Lookout <http://mstwc.org/advocateforwater/>

Taking a note from stream teams united: **“Don’t forget to thank your legislators and bill sponsors for their work on important legislation that impacts Missouri’s waterways!”**



At the Conservation Federation of Missouri Affiliates Summit, (Left to Right) MU graduate students Emily Sinnott and Rachel Owen, and MOAFS members Emily Tracy-Smith and Zach Morris.



Conservation Day at the Capitol, April 12, 2017. (Left to Right) MOAFS members Zach Morris, Mark Zurbrick, and Emily Tracy-Smith, and Jeff Meshach from World Bird Sanctuary.

# Angler's with Disabilities - Fall 2017

Prepared by: Mary Scott



The Missouri Times  
NEW YORK MONDAY, JUNE 7, 2015



## A Day at the 'ol Fishing Hole

Choices for People Center, the National Wild Turkey Federation's Wheelin' Sportsmen Program, the Missouri Department of Conservation, and the Missouri Chapter of the American Fisheries Society held its annual event "Day at the Ole Fishing Hole". This fishing and picnic event is for people with disabilities and their families and was held on Saturday, September 16th at Rolla's Lions Club Park in Rolla Mo.

Approximately eighty-five people attended the event. The weather could not have been more beautiful for a day out fishing. Several fish were caught and a lot of fish stories were told. The first fifty-five participants received a T-shirt donated by the Missouri Chapter of the American Fisheries Society. There was a free lunch which included sodas and snacks for all attendees, donated by National Wild Turkey Federation-Wheelin' Sportsmen Program and Choices for People. Bob Pellegrin and Larry Cardin cooked the noon meal while most people fished. The Choices for People and MDC staff assisted in registering folks, fishing, prepping lunch and cleaning up.

The most important part of the day was not the food or the fishing, but the opportunity for people with disabilities to enjoy the outdoors and some quality time with friends and family. There were smiles and laughing throughout the day.

Thanks to all the volunteers and those who donated food and other talents for this very fun and special event. The contributions had made a difference for those that don't always get an opportunity to enjoy the great outdoors.



# Outdoor Adventures - Fall 2017

Prepared by: Greg Pitchford



*Greg Pitchford*

SUPPORT MO AFS AND COME OUT ON THE WATER WITH MIKE FOR A FLY FISHING ADVENTURE ON YOUR CHOICE OF MISSOURI WATERS.

## FLY FISHING WITH MIKE KRUSE



Mike Kruse, Columbia, MO

AFS member Mike Kruse is hosting a fly fishing trip for two people to a Missouri water of choice. Options include spring regill fishing, summertime dawn/dusk bass bugging or a wade fishing trip on an Ozark trout stream. The trip will be tailored to interests and skill level of the successful bidder and the destination will be selected based on the fishing conditions at the scheduled time of the trip. The trip must be taken between April 1 and Dec. 31, 2017.



Fly Fishing with Mike Kruse in Colorado:  
Mike and Liz Siepker



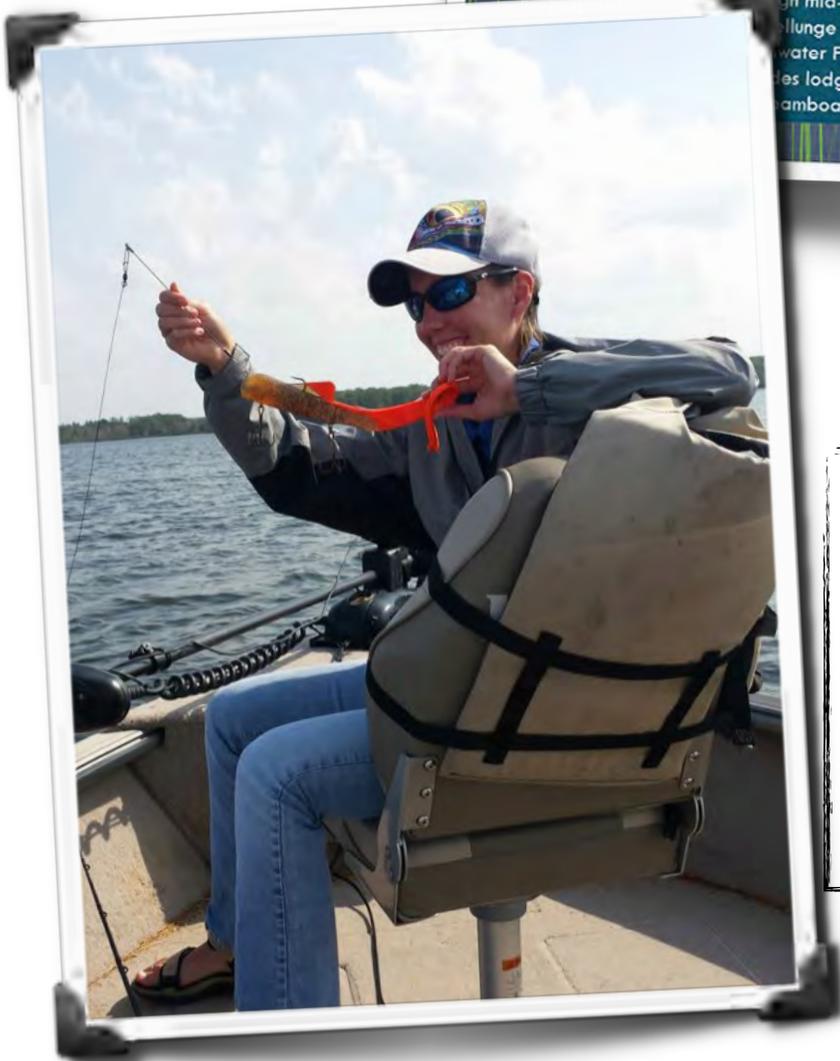
# Outdoor Adventures - Fall 2017 (continued...)

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO EXPERIENCE MUSKY FISHING AT IT'S FINEST, PLEASE SUPPORT MO AFS AND COME OUT ON THE WATER WITH DAVE.



**MUSKY FISHING WEEKEND IN NW WISCONSIN**

Dave Neuswanger, Hayward, WI  
Retired fishery management biologist Dave Neuswanger and his son Bryan invite you to an early fall weekend (mid-September through mid-October) you will not soon forget – fishing for musky on Lost Land and Teal lakes near the home of the Wisconsin Water Fishing Hall of Fame in Hayward, Wisconsin. Raffle tickets include lodging and food for two nights at Dave and Bryan's cabin on the north shore of Camboat Bay of Lost Land Lake.



Musky fishing with Dave Neuswanger in Hayward, WI

Trip to Hayward to musky fish with Dave. Unfortunately, they did not land any muskies, but did have one hit, and 5 follows. They kept waiting to take pictures for when they boated a musky, but that never happened. So in the end they only had one picture, of Liz Siepker with the musky lure.



## UCM AFS Chapter Report - Fall 2017



Prepared by: Kyle Salisbury

So far this fall, the University of Central Missouri chapter of MOAFS had had a pretty exciting and busy semester. Starting off this Semester has seen selection of new cabinet members.

President: Kyle Salisbury   Vice President: Samantha Holcomb   Secretary: Arianna Weaver   Treasurer: Christina Edmondson



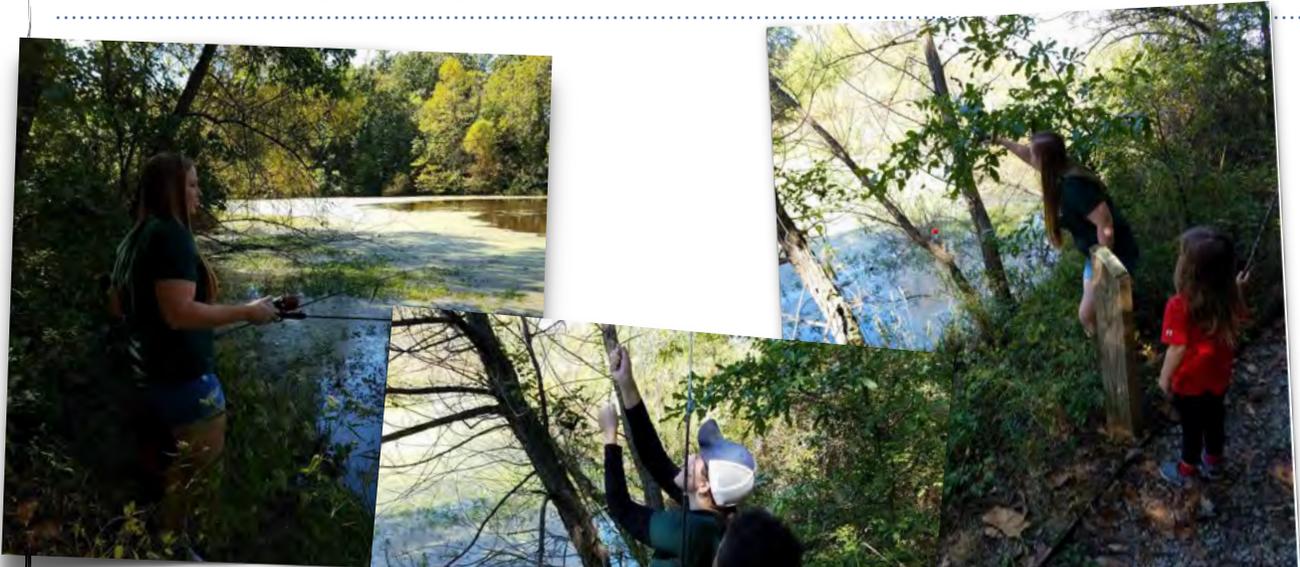
Our First major event of the semester was a tour of the Lost Valley Fish Hatchery in Warsaw, Missouri. Members of the UCM Chapter of AFS were given a backstage tour of the production room where we were shown how MDC raised the federally endangered Topeka Shiners and state endangered Lake Sturgeons. Graduate Student and AFS Vice President Samantha Holcomb is doing work comparing morphology and microhabitat usage in three species of Sculpins *Cottus carolinae*, *C. hypselerus*, and *C. bairdi* and graciously took volunteers from AFS and TWS with her into the field to help collect specimens. Daniel Akin; president of TWS and member of AFS is currently conducting a project collecting and raising the Red Shiner *C. lutrensis* to study the effect of anthropogenic habitat alteration on fish body streamlining and allowed members of our chapter to help him collect specimens. Our chapter also helped with the



annual bioblitz at Pertle Springs by running a kids fishing clinic and advisor Dr. Aaron Geheber did a backpack electrofishing demonstration. Upcoming events that the UCM chapter is planning include an Electrofishing workshop with one of our chapter advisors, Dr. Aaron Geheber, on the 25<sup>th</sup> of October. Our chapter is also honored to receive 2 guest speakers from the Missouri Department of Conservation; Mr. Jacob Westhoff to talk about his work with endangered and rare fish species on November 2<sup>nd</sup> and Mrs. Rebecca O'Hearn will be coming on November 16<sup>th</sup> to talk about her work with pollution and fish kills. Finally, We will round out the semester with selection of new cabinet members to replace those of us graduating this Fall and Spring.



## UCM AFS Chapter Report - Fall 2017 Cont.





# SOUTHEAST MISSOURI STATE UNIVERSITY · 1873

## SEMO AFS Chapter Report - Fall 2017

*Prepared by: Edward Sterling*

2017 has been a busy conference year for our chapter's members. Members Wesley Sleeper, Tyler Ham, and Joshua Abner all presented their research at the Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference and Edward Sterling joined them in presenting their research at the Missouri Natural Resources Conference. Wesley Sleeper, Edward Sterling, Dustin Broaddus, Sindupa De Silva, Tyler Ham, and Joshua Abner all presented their research at the AFS National Meeting as well.

AFS members Tyler Ham, Sindupa De Silva, Joshua Abner and Edward Sterling assisted local landowners in Southeast Missouri with seining ponds for a community assessment and management effort. This allows a specific goal oriented management strategy that addresses each of the landowners needs.

At multiple events (Boy Scouts in St. Louis, Bass Pro Outdoor Days in Jefferson City, and MDC's Day on the River at Cape Girardeau Riverfront) members Joshua Abner, Tyler Ham, Sindupa De Silva, Jessica Hughes, Mike Hughes, and Edward Sterling, fried Asian Carp and conducted fillet demonstrations for the public. These demonstrations helped spread awareness of an invasive species in Missouri waters and show a viable way of utilizing and potentially removing this harmful species. Other activities during MDC's Day on the River event included education and identification of a variety of River fish by Sindupa De Silva and Joshua Abner, and a 'casting challenge' by Mike Hughes and Jessica Hughes, which teaches the art of casting to youth.

Thomas Devine, Sindupa De Silva, Dustin Broaddus and Edward Sterling had fun and gained valuable experience assisting Missouri Department of Conservation employees at Lost Valley Hatchery. They got to tag Lake Sturgeon with coded wire tags and removed lateral scutes from nearly 5,000 fish to aid researchers with future identification of wild and hatchery fish.

Members of the subunit will walk in SEMO's Homecoming parade and hand out candy, stickers and other goodies to members of the public accompanied by Smokey Bear and a research boat provided by the Missouri Department of Conservation.





# SOUTHEAST MISSOURI STATE UNIVERSITY · 1873





# Missouri State

U N I V E R S I T Y



## MSU AFS Chapter Report - Fall 2017

*Prepared by: Brooke Widmar*

### Focus on Networking

We have all heard the saying "it's not what you know, it's who you know." While knowledge is very important in the fisheries world, so are connections! The Missouri State University subunit participates in many different activities, and my goal is to always incorporate networking opportunities at the same time. In early October, our members collaborated with multiple other MSU environmental clubs to clean an urban stream in our city. The event was organized by the local Audubon group and some National Park Service American Conservation Experience (ACE) fellows, giving our AFS students the chance to make connections with ACE interns, ask questions, and learn more about the program. Later this semester we will be working alongside National Park Service Heartland Network employees to seine Terrell Creek at the Wilson's Creek National Battlefield National Park. What a great chance to learn a fisheries skill, and network with professionals! I am looking forward to bringing a large crew of members to the Missouri Natural Resource Conference in January, for even more networking opportunities.





# Missouri State

U N I V E R S I T Y



## MSU AFS Chapter Report - Fall 2017 Cont.



## Missouri Collegiate Conservation Alliance

The Missouri Collegiate Conservation Alliance, MCCA, is an organization dedicated to providing a unified voice for college students to become knowledgeable about and engaged in efforts on behalf of conservation in Missouri. MCCA has three goals:

- **Unite** college students across Missouri who care about conservation.
- Members are **educated** on key conservation issues in Missouri through email, social media and the MCCA website.
- Members **engage** and have their voice heard by participating in MCCA's advocacy efforts, including utilizing CFM's Legislative Action Center: [www.confedmo.org/lac](http://www.confedmo.org/lac)

MCCA is a program run by CFM with aid from college students around the state. MCCA members gather at the yearly Conservation Day at the Capitol event in April. For more information about how to get involved, please email the directors at [moconservationleadership@gmail.com](mailto:moconservationleadership@gmail.com)

Membership is free and open to all Missouri college students, sign up here: [www.confedmo.org/mcca](http://www.confedmo.org/mcca)





## MU AFS Chapter Report - Fall 2017

*Prepared by: Cheyenne Stratton*



F.A.S.S. had a busy spring semester. Our biggest accomplishment was getting our fish tank up and running. We now have a 50-gallon aquarium in the hallway of the School of Natural Resources, which is a great form of advertisement for us! A group of students seined a local creek for fish to add to the aquarium. Our goal was to have an aquarium representing local stream biota, as a way to educate other University staff and students. We have had a nice variety of fish in the aquarium including longear sunfish, orangethroat darters, northern hog suckers, slender madtoms and many other species from Missouri. Our spring fundraiser included a build-your-own ice cream sundae bar and we raffled off a Bass Pro gift card and a tackle box full of goodies. Earlier in the semester a group of our members attended the Missouri Natural Resources Conference, which we found very beneficial to our future as fisheries professionals. Since most of our members are interested in attending graduate school, we hosted a meeting with Dr. Craig Paukert, Missouri Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Research Unit, as a guest speaker to talk about "Graduate school and what you need to know." This was a very beneficial and informative gathering. To gear up for the new academic year we held elections for a new executive board and began discussing plans and recruitment strategies to increase our membership. The new semester is off to a great start with the new board and an increasing student interest with FASS.



FASS members attending the Missouri Natural Resources Conference (Left to right: Bill Schriener, Cheyenne Stratton, Sarah Daubendiek, and Jordan Holtswarth)



FASS members picking through a seine haul to collect fish for our Native Fish Aquarium. (Left to right: John Brant, Bill Schriener, Cheyenne Stratton, Michael Moore)

# Awards - Fall 2017



Cheyenne Stratton (MU) receiving the newly named "Joe G. Dillard Outstanding Undergraduate Scholarship" with Joe Dillard and Jen Girondo



Tyler Ham (SEMO) receiving the Student Achievement Award with Jen Girondo



Greg Pitchford handing the gavel over to incoming MoAFS President Tom Priesendorf

## Awards - Fall 2017 Continued



The A. Stephen Weithman Jr. (Long-term Leadership) Award was presented to Sherry Fischer by MOAFS President Greg Pitchford at the MNRC Awards Social.

**Sherry Fischer** has served MDC's Fisheries Division as a Stream Team Biologist, Streams Services Program Supervisor, and currently as the Stream and Watershed Chief. A Lifetime member of the Missouri Chapter of the American Fisheries Society, she served as Secretary from 2005 through 2007. She has been involved with numerous committees including; MOAFS Rivers and Streams Committee, Workforce Diversity Committee, and Fishers and Farmers Partnership for the Upper Mississippi River Basin.

Outstanding leadership comes more from personal attitude, work ethic and the true desire to accomplish more, rather than just assigning tasks to others. Leadership means "inspiring" others to strive for their very best by setting an example for others to follow. Sherry does these things everyday both personally and professionally.

Sherry demonstrated all of these attributes throughout her life and into her career. She knew at a very early age what she wanted to do and set out to do it. As a freshman in college, she learned of an opportunity for a job at the Missouri Department of Conservation's Research Center conducting a phone survey. After she got her foot in the door she never looked back and never left, taking on temporary jobs through college until graduating. During this time she worked for and around some of the greats. Some of her favorites were Dr. Bill Pfeieger, Tom Russell and Stan Michaelson.

After graduation she was offered a job with the Central Region Fisheries Management Section as a Fisheries Biologist where she honed her management skills in both lake and stream management and set her sights on a new opportunity that was being created, the Stream Team Program. As this new program began to grow, Sherry grew with it, introducing the program to citizens in the Central Region. When a job opportunity became available in the young program, she leaped at it and became the first Stream Team Biologist, setting the bar high for those who followed. The Missouri Stream Team Program, the number one stream program in the US and possibly the world, would not be the successful program that it is without the creativity, love and passion Sherry threw at her work each and every day.

In 2010 she took over the Stream Unit to address the issues facing Missouri's stream resources. Under her current leadership, these issues are being addressed at state and national levels. Ecological flow is being incorporated in how the Missouri Department of Conservation is conducting business and discussions with state and federal partners are occurring to see these issues addressed in the revision of the water plan in Missouri. Priority Watersheds are front and center in Missouri and across the nation and the Stream Unit is leading this push. The Stream Team Program continues to grow and adapt to changing needs of volunteers. In her spare time she oversees the Missouri Conservation Heritage Foundation's Stream Stewardship Trust Fund, a stream in lieu fee mitigation program. Working with four regulatory agencies and six Corps Districts - it keeps her busy.

For all of her efforts and accomplishments, Sherry Fischer is certainly deserving of this award.

## Awards - Fall 2017 Continued



The John L. Funk Award of Excellence was presented to Kevin Richards by MOAFS President Greg Pitchford at the MNRC Awards Social.

**Kevin Richards** received a BS from Southern Illinois University and a MS from Colorado State University. Thereafter, Kevin was hired by MDC, serving almost 30 years. At MDC, Kevin served as Fisheries Management Biologist, Fisheries District and Regional Supervisor and Fisheries Division's Field Operations Chief. He was instrumental in efforts to introduce, enhance and manage Missouri's muskellunge fishery, to implement new and better regulations for reservoir crappie, black bass and paddlefish populations, to improve smallmouth bass populations in streams, to recognize and address issues facing aquatic species of conservation concern and to modernize and expand Missouri's coldwater hatcheries. Kevin consistently demonstrated innovation, creativity and quality leadership.

Throughout his career, Kevin has served as an advocate for aquatic resources at both the state and national level. Representing both MDC and the American Fisheries Society, he met with congressional leaders and staffers to help ensure preservation of the Endangered Species Act in the 1990s, worked with anglers and NGOs to enhance communication to better manage Missouri's fisheries and was instrumental in efforts to enhance communication among biologists from across North America working to manage esocid fishes.

Kevin retired in 2007, but he has remained active in fisheries. Much of his time and interests are focused on the management of musky fisheries throughout North America. He served for more than six years as the editor of Muskie Magazine, was a technical presenter, summarizing data for more than 370,000 angler-reported musky caught and released across North America, and a keynote speaker at the 2016 Hugh C. Becker Muskie Symposium. Kevin is still a regular contributor to Muskies Magazine, sharing information on musky management, climate change, water quality concerns, etc. with the more than 6,000 members of Muskie, Inc. His most recent contribution is an extended article discussing threats to the St. Lawrence River system and its musky fishery.

He is recognized as a knowledgeable and reasonable voice on these often contentious issues - a great ambassador for the best of the Muskie world. Kevin is also an active voice on climate change, invasive species issues and other environmental issues and has most recently served in a volunteer capacity on a citizen panel working to address invasive crayfish in Missouri. He has been recognized by his peers, receiving many awards and, most recently, was inducted into the Muskies, Inc. Hall of Fame.

Leader, friend, mentor, scientist and angler are just some of the words that can be used to describe Kevin Richards.

## Awards - Fall 2017 Continued



On behalf of Missouri River Relief, Jeff Barrow, receiving the Lee Redmond Citizen Award at the MNRC Awards Banquet.

**Missouri River Relief** is made up of staff that coordinates both community service activities which are focused on river clean-up efforts, as well as educational programming that serves to engage communities and volunteers with science-based information about the ecological importance of the Missouri River and the surrounding watershed. We invite Missouri River Relief's director, Jeff Barrow, to receive this award on their behalf.

Missouri River Relief has had a tremendous impact in conducting education and community service that focuses on the conservation of Missouri River ecosystem that benefits all the citizens in the state. The organization has sponsored over 90 community service and educational events during 2015, each of which has focused on a variety of conservation themes that included river clean-ups, film festivals and river excursions for volunteers. Other examples included sponsoring educational events such as the "Big Muddy Speaker Series" that is conducted in St. Louis, Kansas City and Rocheport, as well as working with youth in the development of 4-H programs and a "Big River Experience" that is conducted at the Summers@Mizzou program.

Each of these programs has resulted in a variety of impressive impacts. For example, river clean-up activities coordinated with 19 local communities, removed over 41 tons of trash from the river in 2015. During 2015 they conducted 13 events geared to youth audiences, with over 1,200 school groups and 4-H youth participating. These events are conducted in collaboration with local communities. Missouri River Education is an important theme. These educational programs provide a wide variety of opportunities for participants to engage with the Missouri River.

Picture Caption: The Missouri River Relief crew after the 2017 St. Charles Missouri River Clean-up. photo by "Cacklin" John Jansen.

For more information about the Missouri River Relief, visit:

<http://www.riverrelief.org/>



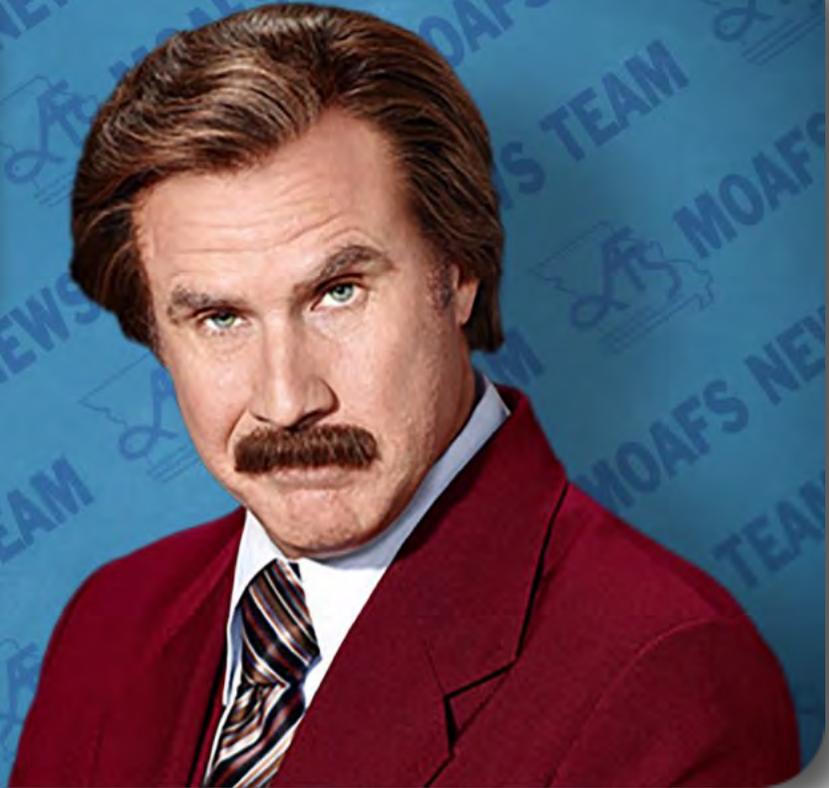
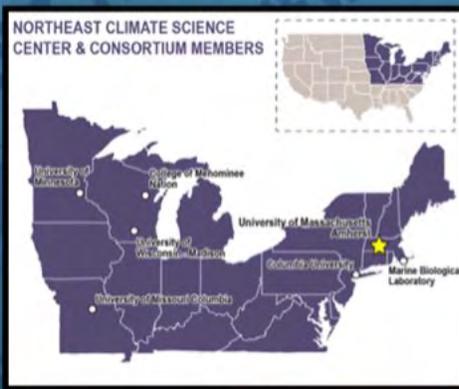
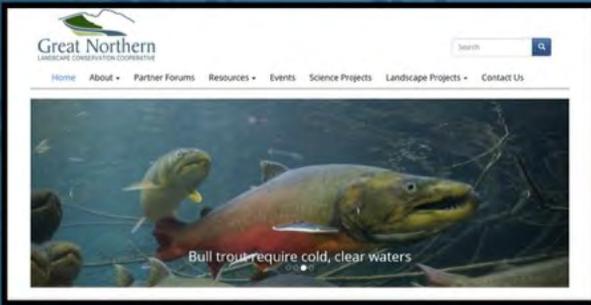


## Awards - Fall 2017 Continued

### Letters of Recognition - Announced/Presented at the MOAFS Business Meeting

- Vince and Rebecca Travnichek were recognized for Vince's role as Chair of the 146th AFS Annual Meeting in Kansas City and for Rebecca's work in her assistance with coordination of the meeting, which hosted over 1,200 in attendance.
- Kara Tvedt and Kenda Flores were recognized for their work in coordinating outreach and educational efforts designed to keep the invasive plant Hydrilla at a manageable level in southwest Missouri.
- The Electrofishing Equipment and Safety Committee (Jake Allman, Glenda Branson, Zach Ford [co-chair], Brian McKeage, Rich Meade, Phil Pitts, Kevin Sullivan, Andy Turner, Kyle Winders, and Dave Woods [co-chair]) was recognized for its work in updating MDC's Electrofishing Equipment and Safety Guidelines Manual. This manual, originally written in 1997, reflects advances in safety and will result in standardization of MDC's electrofishing equipment.
- The Smallmouth Bass and Rock Bass/Goggle-Eye Work Group (John Ackerson, Jen Girondo, Craig Fuller, Chris Williamson, Kevin Meneau, Mary Scott, Nick Girondo, Dave Woods, Rick Horton, Mike Reed, Paul Cieslewicz, Chris Kennedy, AJ Pratt, Lynn Schrader, Andy Austin, Brian Todd, Bruce Drecktrah, and Michele Baumer) was recognized for its work in revising Smallmouth Bass and Rock Bass/Goggle-Eye fishing regulations to provide sustainable and quality populations for these sport fishes in Ozark streams.
- AJ Pratt, Nathan Recktenwald, and Kenda Flores were recognized for their work in educating professional anglers on the effects of invasive species as they travel from lake to lake to compete. They worked with the Bass Anglers Sportsman's Society (BASS) to provide a conservation message and to power wash boats during a televised fishing tournament.

# BREAKING NEWS



*Prepared by: Hope Dodd*

*On September 21st, Department of Interior Secretary, Ryan Zinke, visited Wilson's Creek National Battlefield, Republic, Missouri . The Secretary (on the right), along with Congressman Billy Long (center), took a tour of the park and discussed ongoing restoration of the park with National Park Service staff.*

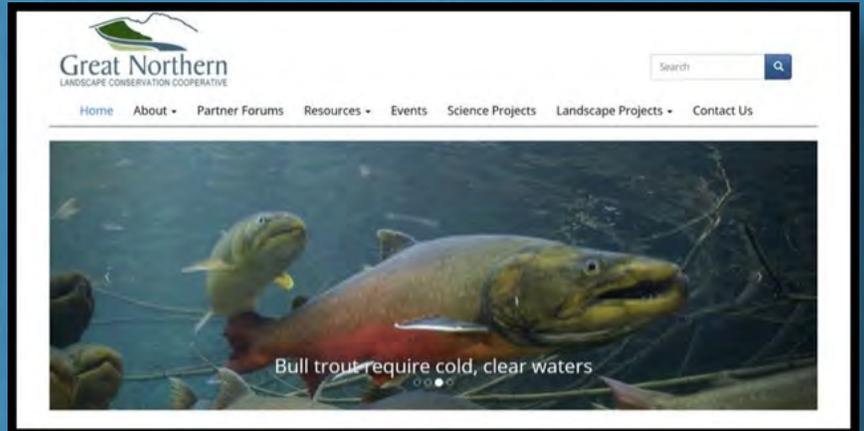


# BREAKING NEWS (Cont.)

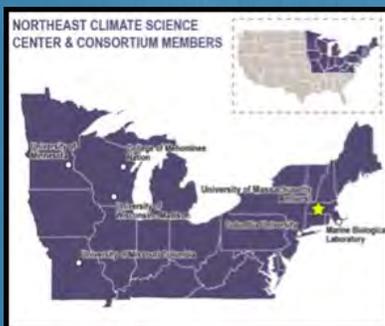
## *Putting aquatic species on the map--The eDNAtlas and Archive for aquatic taxa in Western North America*

More information on the project can be found at: [https://www.fs.fed.us/rm/boise/AWAE/projects/BullTrout\\_eDNA.html](https://www.fs.fed.us/rm/boise/AWAE/projects/BullTrout_eDNA.html)

Slides from the webinar can be viewed at: <http://greatnorthernlcc.org/document/webinar-slides-putting-aquatic-species-map-ednatlas-and-archive-aquatic-taxa-western-north>



The Great Northern Landscape Conservation Cooperative hosted a webinar in April on eDNA sampling technology. Mike Young and Dan Isaak from the Rocky Mountain Research Station of the US Forest Service, shared their first year results from an eDNA inventory of bull trout throughout the northwestern U.S. This study involves many partner agencies. As eDNA sampling expands to other species and geographic areas, coordination among agencies is needed to minimize redundancy and maximize data sharing. This Aquatic eDNAtlas project will provide an open-access database that encompasses eDNA samples collected throughout western North America and 12 western states. First year results of the study are accessible on a web portal and the database will be available in late 2017.



The Northeast Refugia Research Coalition (NE RRC) was formed in May 2017 with the goal of bringing natural resource managers and scientists together to use climate change refugia management for conserving species that are impacted by climate change. This group is made up of many partners including: US Forest Service Pacific Southwest Research Station, National Park Service, USGS, University of California-Berkeley, Missouri State University, University of Montana, University of Washington, and SW CSC.

The first step for the NE RRC was to develop a preliminary short list of species and ecosystems to focus northeast refugia management and mapping.

- Cold water streams/brook trout
- Glacial lakes/walleye, cisco
- Vernal pools/salamanders
- Spruce-fir/moose, Bicknell's thrush, Canada lynx, marten, snowshoe hare
- Sugar maple/maple syrup
- Coastal sand plains

The next step is to get experts on these particular species or ecosystems together to discuss existing information and data gaps, prioritization, and potential management plans to assist in refugia identification and mapping.

More information on this project can be found at: <https://necsc.umass.edu/projects/using-decision-science-inform-management-focus-climate-change-refugia>

## Upcoming Conferences and Meetings

### 2018

Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference, Hilton Milwaukee City Center, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, 1/28/2018-1/31/2018

Missouri Natural Resources Conference, Tan-Tar-A Resort, Osage Beach, Missouri, 1/31/2018-2/2/2018

Southern Division of the American Fisheries Society, San Juan, Puerto Rico, 3/7/2018-3/11/2018

Freshwater Mollusk Conservation Society- Freshwater Mollusk Health and Disease Assessment, La Crosse, Wisconsin, 3/12/2018-3/15/2018

Rivers and Streams Technical Committee Meeting, Rock Island Illinois, Late March or Early April TBD, 2018

Society of Freshwater Science, Detroit, Michigan, 5/20/2018-5/24/2018

Association for the Sciences of Limnology and Oceanography Summer Meeting, Victoria Conference Center, Victoria, British Columbia, 6/10/2018-6/15/2018

Joint Meeting of the Centrarchid, Esocid, and Walleye Technical Committees, Spirit Lake, Iowa, 7/24/2018-7/26/2018

Ecological Society of America, Ernest N. Morial Convention Center, New Orleans, Louisiana, 8/5/2018-8/10/2018

American Fisheries Society, Atlantic City, New Jersey, 8/19/2018-8/23/2018

Organization of Fish and Wildlife Information Managers, Hood River, Oregon, 11/4/2018-11/8/2018

Entomological Society of America, Vancouver, British Columbia, 11/11/2018-11/14/2018

### 2019

Southern Division of AFS, Galveston, Texas, 1/24/2019-1/27/2019

Ecological Society of America, Kentucky International Convention Center, Louisville, Kentucky, 8/11/2019-8/16/2019

American Fisheries Society, Reno, Nevada, 9/29/2019-10/3/2019

### 2020

American Fisheries Society, Columbus, Ohio, 8/30/2020-9/3/2020



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