

2-1-1990

News Notes

Southeastern Fishes Council

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Recommended Citation

Southeastern Fishes Council (1990) "News Notes," *Southeastern Fishes Council Proceedings*: No. 21.

<https://doi.org/10.7290/sfcp214se6>

Available at: <https://trace.tennessee.edu/sfcproceedings/vol1/iss21/6>

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News Notes

fishes of the Black Warrior River System and the Alabama tributaries of the Tombigbee River system. The Geological Survey of Alabama would like to announce two new faunal publications in Alabama: "Fishes of the Lower Tombigbee River in Alabama and Mississippi" by Mettee et al. and "Aquatic Invertebrates in the Warrior Coal Basin of Alabama" by Harris, et al.

David Heins and John Baker reported that their work with the life histories of *Noturus hildebrandi*, *Etheostoma lynceum*, and *E. caeruleum* continue. John is also working with spawning site selection in *Cyprinella venusta*, with respect to stream flow in the Pearl and Sabine rivers. David is also working with spawning behavior with *C. venusta* from the Escatawpa River.

Steve Bortone reports that a recent survey of the Oklawaha darter indicates that populations appear to be stable, even in some creeks receiving spray-field effluent.

Bob Cashner reports that he, Sam Rogers, and Jim Grady are working on the biochemical systematics of the *Fundulus* subgenus *Zygionectes*, particularly the *F. notti* species complex. Mark Warren is completing a two-year study on the distribution of fishes in the Buffalo River, Mississippi. Phil Denette is studying fish community stability in the Little Buffalo River.

Malcolm Pierson reports that he, Mike Howell, Bob Stiles, John Ramsey, Scott Mettee, Patrick O'Neil, and Royal Suttikus are working on the "Fishes of the Cahaba River System in Alabama." Malcolm also reports that aquatic biologists are sampling fishes and macroinvertebrates from the lower Tallapoosa River below Thurlow Dam.

Mel Warren reports that as part of a wider geographic variation study of *Lepomis punctatus* the nominal Coosa River undescribed subspecies discussed by Bailey (1938) is apparently not worthy of recognition.

John Ramsey reports that he is continuing to work on the shoal bass (*Micropterus* sp., cf. *punctulatus*) and Cahaba shiner (*Notropis* sp., cf. *volucellus*) descriptions. He and John Selden Burke have been examining the present and historic distribution and conservation status of the Alabama sturgeon (*Scaphirhynchus* sp., cf. *platyrhynchus*). John and Thomas Brantly are also involved with paddlefish movements in the upper Alabama River. James Orr and John Ramsey are also examining reproduction and ecological limitation of a distributionally marginal population of *Etheostoma jordani*. Jim Williams is nearing completion of the description of the Alabama sturgeon.

David Etnier reports that the description and systematic relationships of the undescribed Boulder darter is nearly completed. Mary Jane Larkin is examining systematics of *Etheostoma nigrum* from the south-central portion of the range.

Steve Ross reports that he and Bill Brenneman have completed their third year on the "Inland Fishes of Mississippi" project. Presently, they have about 40,000 species lots from Mississippi. This project has been funded for an additional two years for field work and color photography of fishes. Steve, Dave Wilkins, and Scott Peyton recently started a survey of the fishes of the Pascagoula, Chickasawhay, and Leaf rivers. Mark Peterson has completed his study of lower Old Fort Bayou, emphasizing the costs and benefits of freshwater fishes moving into low salinity water. Bill Brenneman is be-

ginning field work with "Comparative ontogenetic life history attributes of upper and lower reach stream fishes and the consequences of fish assemblage structure."

Bernard Kuhajda and I are studying the life histories of *Notropis chrosomus* and *Noturus funebris*. Mark Ferguson is studying life history aspects of the Alabama shiner (*Cyprinella callistia*). Herb Boschung is actively working on his manuscript on Alabama Fishes.

R. Mayden

REGION V – Southwest

R. D. Suttikus reports that the Red River Lock & Dam #2 at rm 87 below Alexandria, LA has been closed and backed up to above rm 112. He reports some current but the river is channelized with an alga bloom and stagnant conditions at Alexandria. It is clear, however, above and below the pool. *Notropis hubbsi* was collected in a cut-off bend in backwater but with an open lower end. Also taken were shad, *Menidia*, a white bass x striped bass hybrid and a very dead *Ptenopomodon*. Also, at Fort Jackson while collecting in the Mississippi River at rm 20 (above head of passes) he obtained the expected red fish, speckled trout and black drum in the main channel but also unexpectedly, due to low water conditions, spots, silver perch, mojarra and hardheads.

Frank Pezold reports from Monroe, LA that the Corps of Engineers is researching plans to further dredge and channelize the Ouachita River after an eight year hiatus. This will become part of the proposed Ouachita – Black River Navigation Project. Frank also reports that Neil Douglas' student Madelen Carter is investigating chromosomal variation between members of the *Fundulus notti* species complex. Another student, Todd Slack is investigating the impact of summer surface water withdrawal for irrigation in four NE Louisiana streams with assistance from the Corps of Engineers. Mike Jones, a student of Frank Pezold, will conduct an electrophoretic study on *Lepomis marginatus* and *L. megalotis* populations west of the Mobile Bay drainages. Neil Douglas is working with the Corps in comparing "improved" (i.e. rip-rap stabilization) versus "unimproved" channelized stream tributaries to the Tombigbee River, as to fish faunal changes.

R. Cashner

NEWS NOTES

NOTICE

In my paper "Atlas of Fishes of the Upper Tombigbee River Drainage, Alabama-Mississippi," SFC PROCEEDINGS No. 19, July, 1989, I inadvertently failed to acknowledge Dr. Royal D. Suttikus, Tulane University, and Dr. William Fink and Douglas Nelson, University of Michigan Museum of Zoology for their contributions of data. I apologize to Royal, Bill and Doug for my careless oversight. I appreciate the editor of

SFC *PROCEEDINGS* for giving me the opportunity to apprise the membership of the facts.

Herbert Boschung
U of A

Conservation Awards – The Chevron Conservation Awards are open to any citizen volunteer, professional or organization (including public agencies) based on significant results for a conservation project which protects or enhances an area's natural resources. Inquires should be directed to Chevron Conservation Awards, P.O. Box 7753, San Francisco, CA 94120-7753 or (415) 894-2457. This year's winners from the southeast are:

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA – American Forestry Association, Washington, the oldest citizen conservation organization in the U.S., promotes the wise use and management of forest resources. Its "Global ReLeaf" project helps public understanding of global warming.

GEORGIA – Dr. Eugene Odom, Athens, is known world wide as the "father of modern ecology" and authored *Fundamentals of Ecology* that pioneered a holistic approach to ecology. He co-founded the Institute of Ecology at the University of Georgia.

NORTH CAROLINA – Eddie C. Bridges, Greensboro, for his ingenious idea to sell lifetime fishing and hunting licenses and for lobbying for the ratification of the North Carolina Wildlife Endowment Fund supported by those fees to be used for the support of conservation programs in the state.

TEXAS – Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, Austin, for in 1988, successfully negotiating the acquisition of the 336-square-mile 215,000 – acre Big Bend Ranch in West Texas, the state's largest parkland acquisition in history.

Congressional Directory: Environment – a new publication that outlines how environmental issues are handled in Congress as to whom are the legislators, committees and staffers that deal with this legislation. Cost is \$87.50 + \$4.50 handling from Environmental Communications, 6410 Rockledge Dr., Suite 203, Bethesda, MD 20817.

Red Shiner warning – Past SFC Chairman Bob Jenkins sent a letter of warning to the editor of T.F.H. Publications regarding the release of *Cyprinella lutrensis* outside its native range. This has obviously already been done but aquarist have begun to take an interest in this species under the appellations "Asian fire barb", "rainbow dace" and "redhorse minnow". Bob's intent was to make known the appropriate common name, introduce the recent taxonomy, welcome new knowledge as to the spawning of the red shiner but primarily to enlighten as to the aggressive nature of this species and the damage done outside its native range. Take home lesson: "Keep the red shiner in aquaria!"

Editorial Policy Statement – It has been my practice to avoid anonymity in the peer reviewing process. I have chosen that over, as I see it, the only viable alternative of the double-

blind review where the author becomes anonymous to the reviewers also. I feel the former keeps things in the open and that is desirable among colleagues. Consequently, all authors are privy to the reviewers and vice versa. This should enhance direct communication within the society. I wish to thank the following reviewers for Nos. 17, 18, and 20: Noel Burkhead, Brooks Burr, Bob Cashner, Neil Douglas, Carter Gilbert, Jim Grady, Dave Heins, Bob Jenkins, Frank Pezold, Royal Suttkus, Jamie Thomerson, and Jim Williams.

Cahaba River Fishes – A report on the fishes of the Cahaba River System in Alabama by J. Malcolm Pierson, W. Mike Howel, Robert A. Stiles, Maurice F. Mette, Patrick E. O'Neil, Royal D. Suttkus and John S. Ramsey has been published as Bulletin 134 by the Geological Survey of Alabama. Copies are available from the Publication Sales Office, P.O. Box 0, Tuscaloosa, AL 35486-9780.

PROCEEDINGS back issues – All back issues are in stock except Volume 2, nos. 1 & 2. We have especially large numbers of Volumes 3 and 4 (all numbers). There will be a charge of \$1.00 per number for those available except for number 19 which is \$7.50. Orders may be placed with the editor.

UAIC – The University of Alabama Ichthyological Collection is requesting reprints and other forms of publication that were based on material in the museum. They will utilize this information for a collection improvement grant request. They are also creating an ichthyological reprint library and would appreciate any publications for that purpose also.

Fishes of the Western Mobile River Basin in Alabama and Mississippi – By Maurice F. Mettee, Patrick E. O'Neil, J. Malcolm Pierson and Royal D. Suttkus, as Atlas 24 from the Geological Survey of Alabama, Biological Resources Division is now available from the Publication Sales Office, P.O. Box 0, Tuscaloosa, AL 35486-9780.

ATTENTION

SFC MEETING CHANGE

In correction of the ASIH 70th annual meeting announcement, The Southeastern Fishes Council Business Meeting will occur **Saturday, 16 June, 1 – 3 PM** in the Simmons Center. Not as published to occur on Monday from Noon – 1:30 P.M.