

8-1-1976

News Notes

Southeastern Fishes Council

Follow this and additional works at: <https://trace.tennessee.edu/sfcproceedings>



Part of the [Marine Biology Commons](#)

Recommended Citation

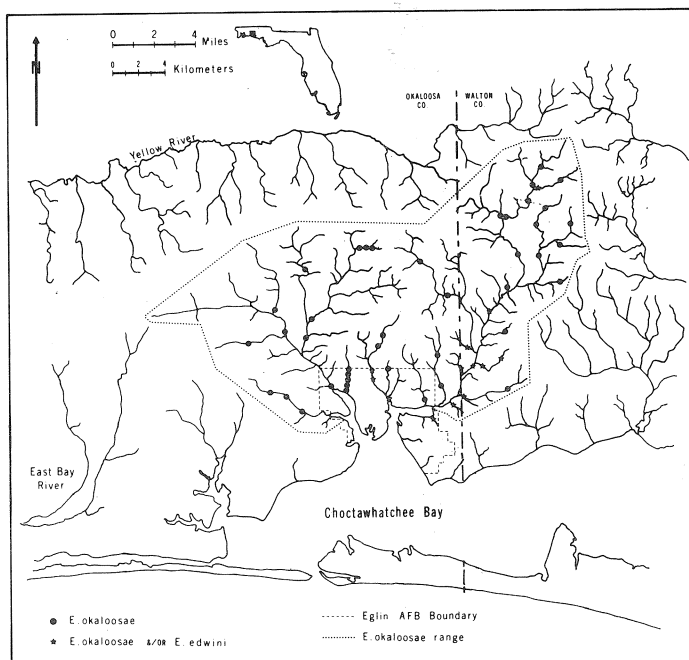
Southeastern Fishes Council (1976) "News Notes," *Southeastern Fishes Council Proceedings*: No. 2.

<https://doi.org/10.7290/sfcp02ohhe>

Available at: <https://trace.tennessee.edu/sfcproceedings/vol1/iss2/3>

This article is brought to you freely and openly by Volunteer, Open-access, Library-hosted Journals (VOL Journals), published in partnership with The University of Tennessee (UT) University Libraries. This article has been accepted for inclusion in Southeastern Fishes Council Proceedings by an authorized editor. For more information, please visit <https://trace.tennessee.edu/sfcproceedings>.

News Notes



preceded by several months of hearings and testimony on the possible adverse effects of habitat disruption on the populations of the Okaloosa darter.

Another current highway improvement project involves expansion of the two-lane facilities of Florida Highway 85 north across Juniper (Ten-mile) Creek to a double two-lane road. Both this project and the evacuation project involve habitat destruction. These sites (habitat recovery and darter populations) will be monitored regularly by Crittenden and Mettee pending second-year funding of their studies.

Bulletin: Snail Darter Decision

On 26 July 1976 the Sixth Circuit Court of Appeals issued an order halting construction on the Tellico Dam. The injunction was lifted on 4 August in a revised ruling "... the evidence is now clear that the only conduct which would result in destruction of the fish is closure of the dam." Additional hearings will be held in October.

Membership Climbs to 123

The membership of SFC has almost doubled since the last issue of Proceedings. New members and their addresses will be included in this next issue.

News Notes . . .

Roanoke Fauna Supported

The Sunday edition of the Roanoke Times (18 April 1976), Virginia, published a fine feature article on diversity and endemism of the fish fauna of the upper Roanoke River drainage. The article was instigated when Bob Jenkins, Roanoke College, appeared at a Salem City Council meeting the previous week to inform Council that protection of the warm water fauna should be assured. Salem has been planning a multi dam project for the South Fork Roanoke system, which is perhaps the best stronghold of the upper Roanoke fauna, and which harbors good populations of two species proposed for threatened status nationally: orange-fin madtom, *Noturus gilberti*; Roanoke logperch, *Percina rex*.

Snail Darter Print

A limited edition collectors print of *Percina tanasi* provides undivided funds for the legal defense of the snail darter against the accelerated construction efforts of TVA and for the preservation of a unique and beautiful riverine ecosystem. The 8" x 10" print, limited to 2000 copies, is by Delores Roberson, a noted wildlife artist, whose paintings have appeared in Stupka's *Birds of the Smoky Mountains*. The project is sponsored by the Tennessee Endangered Species Committee. Copies are \$10. Help a good cause by sending your subscription to P.O. Box 8590, U.T. Station, Knoxville, TN 37916.

Snail Darter Case Appealed

Following a full hearing in regards to the status of the snail darter, TVA, and the Endangered Species Act in Knoxville on 28, 29 April, the court ruled in favor of the defendants, TVA. The decision has been appealed to the U. S. Court of Appeals in Cincinnati. Meanwhile, work continues on the Tellico Dam on the Little Tennessee

River. Testifying for the plaintiffs were Dave Etnier, John Ramsey, Wayne Starnes, and Jim Williams. In addition, depositions were made by Herb Boschung and Royal Suttkus.

Widespread Opposition Voiced To Tombigbee Work

The Mobile District of the Corps of Engineers held a public hearing in Demopolis, Alabama, on 29 June over their update plans for the lower Tombigbee River. New freight estimates for the Tenn-Tom Waterway will necessitate down stream "improvements": new locks, 16 cutoffs and a general widening of the lower river. The proposals were met with widespread opposition from environmentalist groups, land owners, railroads and black activists.

Membership Renewals

At the April 1976 meeting in New Orleans it was decided that renewal of membership would be effective on May 15; however, members joining since February 1976 are considered paid through 15 May 1977.

Committees

Committee assignments for the coming year are:
Nominating Committee: Mike Howell, Bob Jenkins, Ralph Yerger.
Resolutions Committee: Bob Cashner, Don Scott, Wayne Starnes.
Publicity Committee: Ray Bouchard, Bob Cashner.
Arrangements Committee: Carter Gilbert.
Special Committee on Area Designation: Ray Bouchard, John Cooper, Bob Kuehne.

Southeastern Fishes Council
PROCEEDINGS
DRAWER Z MISSISSIPPI STATE, MS. 39762

DEDICATED TO THE PRESERVATION OF SOUTHEASTERN FISHES

Judge Rules Against Corps

On 14 April, Judge James H. Hancock ruled against the Corps of Engineers in a suit filed by the Attorney General of the State of Alabama against the channelization of the Luxapalila Creek in Alabama and Mississippi. The court ruled "that where it is reasonably possible to quantify environmental amenities, NEPA requires not only that such amenities be quantified but that they be included in the cost/benefit analysis." It was noted that "significant environmental amenities" were excluded and there were "substantial inaccuracies in information regarding recreational losses" with the proposed channelization plan.

Tulane University Museum of Natural History

The vertebrate systematics research collections and facilities at Belle Chasse have been designated as the Tulane University Museum of Natural History. One building is being renovated to house the mammal, bird, reptile and amphibian collections, with the associated environmental plant collections that were obtained during the mammal and bird field work. The extensive fish collections and aquatic plant collections will remain in the building they now occupy.

The Museum is under the direction of Dr. Royal D. Suttkus, who in 26 years on the Tulane faculty has built up one of the country's three largest fish research collections.

Chairman's Message

The chairman would like to express his appreciation for the fine cooperation and total support given by the members at the meeting in New Orleans on April 21. The following endangered species reports were given: 1. Snail darter, *Percina tanasi*, Dave Etnier. 2. Okaloosa darter, *Etheostoma okaloosae*, Scott Metee. 3. Watercress darter, *Etheostoma nuchale*, Mike Howell.

There were three special committees reports. Carter Gilbert gave a report on the progress on the compilation of type holdings in the southeast. Neal Douglas gave a report on the status and use of systematic fish collections by southeastern State Game and Fish agencies. Jim Barkaloo gave a report on the location, size, nature (freshwater or marine), and usage of federal collections in the Southeast. The intent is to reproduce the various reports when each is completed.

To all these speakers and to the 63 members and guests in attendance, I give my hearty thanks.—Royal D. Suttkus

PROCEEDINGS is a publication of the Southeastern Fishes Council, Inc. and is published in Mississippi State Miss. Officers are: R. D. Suttkus, Chairman; D. A. Etnier, Chairman-elect; H. T. Boschung, Secretary-Treasurer. Editor for PROCEEDINGS is G. H. Clemmer, Drawer Z, Mississippi State, Miss. 39762. Phone (601) 325-5722.