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Business Meeting Minutes

Southeastern Fishes Council

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Business Meeting Minutes

personnel. A moderate backlog of material from the Missouri River drainage, Kansas; the Green and Cumberland river drainages, Kentucky; and a number of drainages of eastern Kentucky remain to be sorted and catalogued.

SUMMARY

Although the SIUC collection is small relative to those of institutional museums, we are pleased with the extent of use of the collections by colleagues, with the interest that former graduate and ichthyology students have shown in adding to the collection, and with the support of the Department of Zoology in providing space, supplies, and student workers. In the future we hope to computerize the collection records, increase the size of the specimen preparation area, incorporate fire protection, and decrease light exposure to the storage shelves. A 38-page list of all fishes in the collection, with numbers of lots, specimens, and general location (by state or country) indicated, is available from BMB. We encourage loans, exchanges, and visits; please address queries to BMB.

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Present Address (MLW): USDA Forest Service, Southern Experiment Station, Forest Hydrology Laboratory, Oxford MS 38655

MINUTES

Business Meeting 18th Annual Meeting Southeastern Fishes Council

The Southeastern Fishes Council met 9 April 1992 in the Wilson Room of the Paul W. Bryant Conference Center on the campus of the University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa. The meeting was called to order at 5:30 PM local time.

Committee Reports

Secretary's Report:

Minutes of the 1991 Business Meeting appeared in Issue 25 of the PROCEEDINGS. They were approved with corrections.

Treasurer's Report:

Checking account established at the Tulane University Employee's Credit Union on 24 February 1992.

Balance brought forward from previous Treasurer	\$1,099.38
Dues and other contributions received (through 4/2/92)	\$1,070.00
Expenses (through 4/2/92)	
PROCEEDINGS	\$ 392.10
Mailing Labels	\$ 53.85
Buttons	\$ 265.96
Check fee	<u>\$ 12.35</u>
	\$ 742.26

Checking Balance (4/2/92) \$1,427.12

Paine Webber Cash Fund (4/2/92) \$2,167.92

TOTAL ASSETS (4/2/92) \$3,595.04

Editor's Report:

Steve Stevenson sent regrets that a conflict with his teaching schedule, brought about by the change in the date of the Business Meeting, prevented him from attending and delivering his report in person. The following report was read on his behalf. Apologies for the close call on publication of Issue no. 25 (March 1992). At the time of the meeting, there were four manuscripts in various stages of review: two research articles, one technical report, and one museum review. George Sedberry of the Marine Resources Research Institute, Charleston SC has expressed a willingness to serve as "Desk-top Editor" for the PROCEEDINGS. Having this help would save approximately \$20 per page in setup charges (more of tables). We would then have only the cost of printing to contend with. [Steve] would be willing to stay on as Managing Editor, overseeing reviews of manuscripts and distribution of the PROCEEDINGS once in print. At the very least, if asked to step down as Editor, [he] would see the four manuscripts presently in preparation through to publication.

Committee Reports:

PROCEEDINGS Committee: Prior to reporting on responses to the questionnaire he mailed to current SFC members, Herb Boschung pointed out his committee, charged by past-Chairman Snelson to consider improvements to the PROCEEDINGS, was improperly formed. The BYLAWS [Article III section 23] state that the Editor and five assistants of his choice shall compose the Proceedings Committee. He accepted responsibility for problems that arose as a result of the survey and apologized for any ill feelings that might have resulted, reserving a special apology for the Editor, Michael Stevenson. He added that the Committee would not make

recommendations, but would merely forward the survey results to the Editor to be used in any way the Editor saw fit, and that the committee would then be dissolved. He mentioned that there were 81 respondents to the survey and summarized the responses item by item.

Resolution Committee: Dave Etnier read the following resolution on the Cahaba River:

Whereas the Southeastern Fishes Council is dedicated to the preservation of southeastern fishes, and

Whereas the Cahaba River supports one of the largest freshwater fish faunas in North America for its size and an extraordinary number of habitats for this unique fish life, and

Whereas there are impending threats to this unique river and its constituent fish fauna regarding uncontrolled urban runoff, inadequate standards for industrial discharge, existing levels of heavy metals that are too high, and an extraordinarily high percentage of waste water discharge for the size of the river,

Therefore be it resolved that the Southeastern Fishes Council urges the Alabama Department of Environmental Management and the State of Alabama to move to establish regulations for the Cahaba River and other "Outstanding Alabama Waters" that are adequate to prevent any significant further lowering of water quality, and that will begin to restore the water quality of these waterways.

The resolution, which was authored by Rick Mayden, had been acted upon prior to the meeting. Four other resolutions dealing with proposed landfills on the Conasauga and Etowah Rivers, woodchipping in the Tennessee River drainage, and a proposed impoundment on the Pea River in Alabama were mentioned but not read. They were to be acted upon sometime during 1992.

Old Business:

It was reported that no action had been taken of the issue of tax status since the last meeting. As indicated in Werner Wieland's lengthy report on the matter in the Minutes of the previous Business Meeting [Proceedings Issue no. 25], the only action that was required was filing of a new Taxpayer Identification Number (TIN). Herb Boschung moved that the CPA that investigated the matter for Werner Wieland also look into the matter of a new TIN. In the discussion that followed it was pointed out that a new TIN would not settle the issue of tax deductible contributions to the SFC. It was decided that SFC should continue to pursue tax exempt status.

New Business:

It was announced that Mark Ferguson did the drawing of the pygmy sculpin for the 1992 button.

Chairman Bauer asked that if there were any amendments to the constitution please let him know.

Scott Mettee called attention to a flyer that had been distributed to members of the Mobile Chamber of Commerce affiliated with the maritime industry or affected in any way by water-related transportation, alerting them of the US Fish and Wildlife Service's proposed listing of the Alabama sturgeon

and the problems this might cause for dredging on the Alabama and Tombigbee Rivers, electric power generation at Mobile's Barry Steam Plant, and minimum flow standards on the rivers. The flyer encouraged anyone potentially affected by the situation to write the Alabama Department of Economic and Community Affairs requesting a study of the economic impact of such a listing, which would then be used to help block listing of the sturgeon.

Regional Reports:

Chairman Bauer commented that we have not been getting reports from the Northwest Region. Herb Boschung suggested that John Harris or Bill Matthews be contacted and asked to take over reporting for the region. Bob Cashner sent regrets that his involvement in a search for a new Dean at the University of New Orleans prevented him from preparing a report. Reports were read as follows:

Fritz Rohde -	Northeast
Noel Burkhead -	Southeast
Dave Etnier -	North-Central
Bernie Kuhajda -	South-Central

After accepting a motion to adjourn, Chairmen Bauer closed the meeting at 6:35 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Hank Bart, Jr., Secretary/Treasurer

REGIONAL SFC REPORTS

REGION I - Northeast

Two state books have been published. *Delaware's Freshwater and Brackish Water Fishes* by Maynard S. Raasch and Vaughn L. Atlemus, Sr. can be obtained for \$12 from Claude E. Phillips Herbarium, Delaware State College, Dover, Delaware 19901. *The Freshwater Fishes of North Carolina* by Ed Menhinick can be obtained from him at UNCC for \$37.50. We're still waiting for the appearance of Jenkins and Burkhead's tome.

There was a major fish kill on a tributary creek and in the South Fork of the Roanoke River, habitat for *Percina rex* caused by a spill of liquid manure. Instead of a fine, the violator agreed to a conservation easement. *Percina rex* is still present in the Roanoke at Salem. Bob Jenkins and students collected two adults (which were released) in March.

Paul Angermeir and Mel Warren have been working on recovery plans for Virginia state endangered species - Tennessee dace, blackbanded sunfish, sharphead darter, variegated darter, and duskytail darter. There is no field work involved, just assimilation of data and recommendations. The official list of Virginia threatened and endangered species (excluding federal species) was recently recognized. It includes five endangered and ten threatened species. Paul

recently collected *Etheostoma cinereum* in the Clinch River in Virginia.

Gene Maurakis and Bill Woolcott have a two part video on Phylogenetic Systematics available with an instructor's manual.

The North Carolina list of endangered fishes was officially approved in November 1991. It includes 9 endangered, 11 threatened, and 30 special concern fishes. I will be doing survey work on five of these fishes endemic to the upper Dan River in 1992.

F. Rohde

REGION II - Southeast

Conservation Notes

Georgia.--An apparently undescribed redhorse sucker, the "bighead" redhorse, a *Moxostoma carinatum*-like species on the Atlantic slope, was, until recently, only known from two specimens: one from the Pee Dee in North Carolina (1985) and one from the Savannah River, Georgia/South Carolina, in 1980. Bud Freeman, University of Georgia, and Jimmy Evans, Georgia DNR, recently discovered a viable population in the Oconee River, Georgia. The National Fisheries Research Center-Gainesville (NFRC-G) is initiating a survey to document the distribution of this sucker to see if it merits federal conservation protection. Bob Jenkins, Roanoke College, has been enlisted to critically examine the putative specific status of this enigmatic sucker.

Conservation status surveys by the NFRC-G of two undescribed darters, the Cherokee darter, *Etheostoma (Ulocentra)* sp., and the Etowah darter, *E. (Nothonotus)* sp., both endemic to the Etowah River system, will be completed in summer 1992. Bruce Bauer, Breedlove, Dennis, & Associates, and Dave Etnier, University of Tennessee, will describe the Cherokee darter, and Rob Wood, University of Alabama, will describe the Etowah darter as part of his dissertation research. Preliminary analysis of distribution patterns and abundance suggests the Cherokee darter may merit listing as threatened and the Etowah darter as endangered. The Etowah River exhibits chronic degradation from a host of anthropogenic activities; perhaps seven species of fishes have been extirpated from the system, and possibly 35 species of freshwater mussels.

Noteworthy is the recent updating of the Georgia state list of fishes meriting state conservation protection from two species to a realistic 55 species. The efforts of Bud Freeman were pivotal in the formulation of the new list. State DNR officials met with a group of regional ichthyologists (Hank Bart, Tulane University; Noel Burkhead and Steve Walsh, NFRC-G; Dave Etnier, Bud and Mary Freeman, and Carter Gilbert, Florida Museum of Natural History) in November 1991 to develop a list of proposed species.

Florida.--The updated FCREPA (Florida Committee on Rare