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Regional SFC Reports

Southeastern Fishes Council

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Regional SFC Reports

opinion of the Copeia Referees that Natural History papers do not belong in Copeia and should therefore go to regional journals? There currently appears to be a discrepancy between the actions of the Referees and the philosophy of the editor.

Steve Ross noted that Bob Johnson would like to meet with "us" in New York in June.

A general willingness was expressed to discuss the matter of the national ASIH meeting in Albany, NY. However, there was also general agreement to further explore the possibility of publication of a new journal.

Bob Cashner then called for a close to the discussion, to be resumed at a later date.

4. Regional Reports

Only two regional reports were presented and these will be published in the next issue of the PROCEEDINGS. The meeting was adjourned at approximately 6:30 p.m.

REGIONAL SFC REPORTS

ALABAMA

Mike Howell reported that population surveys have been conducted on the watercress darter (*Etheostoma nuchale*) at three spring sites. All populations are doing well except the Glenn Spring population. There are plans to transplant individuals from Roebuck Springs to three other springs in the Birmingham area.

Scott Mettee reported that the underscribed pygmy sunfish (*Elassoma* sp.) has been reintroduced into Pryor Spring (1984) and this population was sampled in 1985 and 1986-individuals were found on both occasions, indicating successful reproduction. Tom Jandebeur and John Pulliman have scouted for other suitable transplants sites in the Tennessee River drainage.

Bob Stiles and his student James Oliver have studied the reproductive cycles of the underscribed Cahaba shiner and *Notropis volucellus* and have determined that they are different. He is concerned about recent logging operations and the resulting silt load being introduced into the Cahaba River in the Piper

bridge area - a stronghold for the Cahaba shiner.

Steve Krotzer and myself are finishing a distribution study of the blue shiner (*Nortopis caeruleus*) in Alabama. Unfortunately, no new populations have been found. Blue shiners have been recently collected in Litter River (Cherokee Co.) Choccolocco Creek (Calhoun Co.), and Weogufka Creek (Coosa Co.) (all Coosa River tributaries). The Conasauga river in northwest Georgia and southern Tennessee continues to support the largest population of blue shiners.

Recent collections in the Cahaba River below Centreville reveal that populations of *Noturus munitus*, *Ammocrypta asprella* and *Percina lenticula* continue to exist in small to moderate numbers.

M. Pierson

NORTH CAROLINA

On 8 April 1987 the Waccamaw siverside, *Menidia extensa*, was listed as a federally-threatened species and Lake Waccamaw was designated as critical habitat. The Cape Fear shiner, *Notropis mekistocholas*, is still being considered. A decision should be reached in the next several months.

The species faces a number of potential problems - coal mining, new plants, water diversion, and bridge building.

The nongame section of the Wildlife Resources Commission has formed a study group to prepare nongame legislation. Additionally, John Alderman of the section has started work and the spotfin chub, *Hybopsis monacha*, in the Little Tennessee. He made two collections last fall - 35 individuals/hr and 47/hrs 15 min. More work is planned this year.

The presence of the shortnose sturgeon, *Acipenser brevirostrum*, was confirmed from the Cape Fear River drainage. The fish has been deposited in the N.C. State Museum. According to a reliable source, the species is fairly abundant in the lower Cape Fear system.

F. Rohde and S. Ross propose to conduct status surveys on the two Sandhill endemics, *Semotilus lumbee* and *Etheostoma mariae*, this fall. E. Menhinick's manuscript on the NC freshwater fishes is currently undergoing review.

SOUTH CAROLINA

Very little appears to be happening. The P. Coleman-R. Moore checklist on the freshwater fishes is still in the works. Clemson University is conducting work on those exotics-herrings and striped bass. On the coast T. Smith is doing some telemetry work on shortnose sturgeon telemetry work on shortnose sturgeon.

F. Rohde