

No. 8	Southern Division	Mike Allen
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TO: John Boreman, President
FROM: Mike Allen, President SDAFS
DATE: August 8, 2013

I. Motion Report

- A. Recommended Motion: NA
- B. Minority View: Not applicable
- C. Background for Motion: Not applicable

II. Activity Report

A. Summary of Outcomes and accomplishments organized by Focus Area in Strategic Plan.

Below you will find the summary of outcomes and accomplishments in the requested form. The tasks outlined for the SDAFS for 2012-2013 President Brian Murphy and current President Mike Allen were as follows:

- 1) Puerto Rico has become a new chapter of SDAFS
- 2) Implemented new SDAFS website
- 3) Continued work for web-based communication for SDAFS subunits, particularly the Technical Committees
- 4) Planning and committed funding of 2014 SDAFS meeting to be held in Mazatlan, Mexico.
- 5) Planning of Black Bass Symposium held at SDAFS meeting in Nashville, Feb 7, 2013.

The progress on these tasks is as follows:

- 1) Over the past year the SDAFS officers have worked with representatives from Puerto Rico to form a new chapter of the Southern Division. A dedicated contingent of fisheries professionals there has been working for several years to get an AFS chapter established, and their hard work recently came to fruition when the AFS Governing Board unanimously approved their petition. A contingent from the ***Puerto Rico Chapter of the American Fisheries Society*** attended the 2013 SDAFS Annual Meeting in Nashville, and will participated in the SDAFS EXCOM for the first time.

- 2) We have worked over the past year to revamp the SDAFS website. Gloria Schoenholtz, of Virginia Tech, has worked hard to revise/update our Southern Division webpages. Jared Flowers at NCSU has been ably covering updates on the old site while Gloria worked on the new one. She redesigned everything in WordPress, which is much easier to use, and we are working on plans to help Division subunits convert to WordPress and get free hosting on our server. As part of this effort I have proposed some budget items to pay for the work done so far, and an annual retainer for a professional webmaster who would provide the Division with timely upkeep and information for the web site. This is a critical part of our communication within SDAFS and beyond, and many thanks to Gloria and Jared for their work on this over the past year.
- 3) I have spent considerable time investigating options for enhanced web-based communications for SDAFS subunits, particularly the Technical Committees. Various options were researched and tested, resulting in a proposal that should enable the Division and its committees and working groups to communicate, collaborate, and conduct business remotely. These tools should remove barriers for participation, especially in light of strict travel restrictions facing our members. Final recommendations were presented at the SDAFS meeting in Nashville.
- 4) I worked with Western Division Past President Dave Ward to involve the SDAFS with their 2014 meeting to be held in Mazatlan, Mexico. The Florida Chapter committed funding to help support, and I plan to propose that SDAFS contribute to sending a representative to this meeting.
- 5) I worked with the Black Bass Conservation Ad Hoc committee in planning the Black Bass Symposium that was held at the SDAFS meeting in Nashville, Feb 7-10 2013.

Goal 1: Global Fisheries Leadership

Objective 1.1 Promote fisheries conservation throughout North America and the world, at all levels of government and society, and among all levels of AFS by supporting sound science and networking opportunities.

- a. Our SDAFS annual meeting had 5 workshops, 16 technical sessions, 47 posters and 173 oral presentations addressing fisheries conservation and management. Next years' meeting in Charleston, South Carolina promises to be excellent as well, with at least five continuing education workshops and over ten symposia. – **Accomplished, Ongoing**

Goal 2: Education/Continuing Education

Objective 2.3. Provide a wide array of continuing education opportunities using innovative methods to reach the widest possible audience of fisheries professionals

- b. Organized a Student Leaders Workshop at Lunch on Sunday, February 10, 2013 at the Nashville Sheraton. This lunch included discussion of the Student Colloquium moving forward – **Accomplished, Ongoing**

Goal 3: Value of Membership

Objective 3.4. Develop innovative and cost effective methods to make fisheries science and management information readily available to AFS members and all levels of government entities worldwide.

1. Developed free registration for one officer of each student subunit for the meeting in Nashville - **Accomplished**
2. Developed \$35 rebate on registration for the Nashville meeting for undergraduate students who are members of AFS – **Accomplished**
3. Will have reduced registration for students at the 2014 SDAFS meeting in Charleston – **Ongoing**

Objective 3.5. Practice good governance and organizational management

1. 2013 SDAFS Meeting in Nashville, Tennessee was a huge success.
 - a. Black Bass Conservation Ad Hoc Committee was instrumental in planning the Black Bass Symposium held in Nashville, Feb 7-10, 2013 - **Accomplished**
 - b. Successful Excom meeting held in Nashville, Feb 7-10, 2013 - **Accomplished**