

<b>No. 27</b>	<b>Introduced Fish Section</b>	<b>Scott A. Bonar</b>
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TO: **John Boreman**, President  
FROM: Scott A. Bonar, President, Introduced Fish Section  
DATE: August 8, 2013

I. **Motion Report**

We make a motion to have the following amendment to the IFS bylaws approved by the Governing Board:

Section IV. Officers

1. The officers of the SECTION shall be the President, President-Elect, Past President and the Secretary-Treasurer. The Secretary-Treasurer position may be split between two individuals at the discretion of the Executive Committee.

Section V. Duties of Officers

3. Secretary-Treasurer shall be responsible for all of the following, but if split between two individuals, (a) is the responsibility of the Secretary, (b) through (d) are the responsibility of the Treasurer, and (e) and (f) are responsibilities of both Officers:

- (a) Maintain a current list of the membership;
- (b) Receive all funds;
- (c) Pay all bills;
- (d) Keep an itemized account of all receipts and disbursements;
- (e) Present a semi-annual report to the membership; and
- (f) Submit a report (minutes of the annual business meeting, treasurer's report and membership status) to the Executive Director of the Society within 30 days after the annual meeting of the SECTION is held and at other times as requested by the Executive Committee of the Society.

II. **Activity Report**

(A) Summary of Outcomes and Accomplishments Organized by Focus Area in Strategic Plan.

**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 (see also Objective 3.4)**

**Strategy 1. Continue to host and sponsor excellent conferences and meetings at local, regional, and international levels of AFS to provide the platform for managers and scientists to exchange ideas.**

*Symposium: Culture, Biology, and Management Of Asian Carps In North America.*-- The Introduced Fish Section, in conjunction with the Fish Culture Section is hosting the symposium entitled *Culture, Biology, and Management Of Asian Carps In North America* at the upcoming annual meeting in Little Rock, Arkansas. Session organizers Duane Chapman of the IFS and Jesse Trushenski of the Fish Culture Section provide the following description of the symposium: Extreme population growth of bighead and silver carps in the large rivers and connected waters of the central United States, and the threat that they may invade the Laurentian Great Lakes, have caused great public concern and spurred enormous efforts in research and management of these species. Grass carps and black carp are also Asian carps with worldwide aquaculture use and have similar importation history and reproductive strategies. There is great concern that these fishes may have similar undesirable ecological effects and pose similar risks. Research on these fishes is rapidly increasing our understanding of Asian carp biology. Management tactics and strategies, informed by new understanding, are in use that have never before been used in the control of invasive species. At the same time, the worldwide benefits of these fishes as food fish and biological controls cannot be denied, and Asian carps remain important to both fisheries and aquaculture.

This symposium is designed as a forum for those working for the control of Asian carps, and also for those working to achieve and retain benefits from these species, both in the wild and in aquaculture. The session will include different perspectives of the Triploid Grass Carp Certification Program, a new risk assessment of grass carp in the Great Lakes, discuss the effectiveness of current management of wild Asian carps by harvest, and marketing strategies to enhance harvest. The symposium will also include a description of the unique cohesive interagency management strategy that has evolved to combat the environmental problems, and new research on the biology and effects of these fishes.

*HAMAR (Hatchery-origin Animals in Management of Aquatic Resources).*-- For decades, the American Fisheries Society (AFS) has worked with leading aquatic resource scientists and natural resource managers to describe effective roles of

cultured fishes in aquatic resource management. Approximately every 10 years, a cross section of North American resource managers and representatives from AFS Sections and Divisions come together to address and reconcile contentious management issues regarding the uses of hatchery origin fish. Most Recently, this group met under the banner of “Propagated Fishes in Resource Management” (PFIRM), and produced *Considerations for the Use of Propagated Fishes in Resource Management*. These guidelines were the first comprehensive publication that tied science based information with political realities of management, and provided the aquatic resources community and decision makers with a set of consensus guiding principles for the use of hatchery origin fish. Science based fisheries management findings continue provide new information to strengthen the decision making of natural resource agencies, and new challenges continue to emerge. Now the next cycle of this process, titled “Hatchery origin Animals in Management of Aquatic Resources” (HAMAR) is underway. A symposium will occur at the meeting in Little Rock to serve as a fact finding session, targeting all current issues of concern related to the use of hatchery origin fish and shellfish. Following the symposium, the HAMAR steering committee will distill the content of the symposium into a series of point/counterpoint summaries, collect additional information or perspectives as needed, and, via a facilitated workshop or similar process, oversee the development of the next set of guiding principles for the use of hatchery origin fish and shellfish in resource management. Thank you to Jeffrey Hill, Past President of IFS, who serves as the section’s representative on the HAMAR steering committee.

A letter was drafted by the IFS to send to U.S. Representative Louise Slaughter concerning HR 996 “Invasive Fish and Wildlife Prevention Act” on behalf of the American Fisheries Society (AFS). This letter neither endorsed nor opposed HR 996, but highlighted concepts that IFS and other introduced fish species biologists and managers considered important for improving invasive species management as well as some aspects of concern. At the request of IFS President Scott Bonar, work on the letter was led by Jeffrey Hill, IFS Past-President, who consulted with a variety of other biologists and managers with expertise on the issue to draft the letter. The letter was then sent to AFS President John Boreman and the executive committee to present to Congress.

### **Goal 3: Value of Membership**

**AFS will serve its members and fisheries, aquaculture, and aquatic science constituencies to fulfill the mission of the Society.**

**Objective 3.1. Determine and respond to the needs and opinions of AFS members.**

**Strategy 4. Provide a web-based forum for members to communicate with each other and the AFS leadership.**

The section maintains a website and list serve. Thank you to Emily Haug who serves as the section's web developer. The section has been successful in maintaining 200+ members, but only half are on the list serve. Half the people on the list serve are not members. Goal is to have 100% of membership on the list serve, and 75% of the list serve people as members.

To enable us to better share information with the section, and to better meet the increased technological responsibilities of the section, we are now working on splitting the treasurer and secretary position into two. A vote by the membership is now underway, and will be concluded by the time of the Little Rock Annual Meeting.

**Strategy 11. Encourage recognition of volunteer contributions to the success of the Society at all levels through awards and other mechanisms**

*Establishment of Introduced Fish Section award.* The section has approved a special recognition award for different categories related to excellence in outreach, journalism, and research. The names of two nominees were submitted, and the process of recognition of the nominees is now underway. In addition, a third individual, Scott Smith of the USGS, Seattle, Washington, is also being recognized for his career-long work on the management of invasive species and work with legislatures to establish regulations preventing the spread of unwanted exotics.

*Student Travel Award.* The IFS supports a student travel award for those who are involved in research related to introduced fishes. Congratulations to Emily Cornwell from Cornell University who was last year's award winner. Thanks to the Student Travel Award committee consisting of Stan Cowton, Mark Pegg and Larry Connor. Final student travel awards are now being decided by the committee for the 2013 Little Rock AFS Meeting.

(B) Recommendations or Suggestions for Future Consideration. Briefly include any suggestions you have for other individuals or units within AFS to respond to your unit's activities, to provide additional information that your unit needs, to consider future activities that AFS might engage in, or to challenge other units to take on certain initiatives.

No recommendations at this time.

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