

No. 71	Society for Conservation Biology Liaison	Paul Angermeier
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AFS-SCB Liaison Jan 2013 Activity Report

TO: **John Boreman**, President
FROM: Paul Angermeier, AFS-SCB Liaison
DATE: 10 Aug 2013

Activity Report

Activities since the last report (Jan 2013) by the AFS-SCB Liaison focused on establishing and building collaboration between AFS and SCB in the context of their shared goals of conserving aquatic biota.

(A) Summary of Outcomes and Accomplishments Organized by Focus Area in Strategic Plan. The activities described below contribute to AFS strategic plan Goals 1 (Global Fisheries Leadership) and 2 (Education/Continuing Education).

Anna George and I have continued to explore interest among AFS and/or SCB colleagues in forming a liaison “workgroup” to build collaborative capacity to do aquatic conservation. We have identified five additional colleagues (Hayden Mattingly, Laurie Fowler, Michael Marchetti, Ted Grantham, and Chris Myrick) who collectively give us a broad range of topical and geographic expertise.

The group has had two conference calls and has developed a short list of tasks that we may want to take on as initial projects. These tasks are listed below.

1. Develop freshwater literacy standards as education or outreach tools. This task is emerging as our most likely candidate for our first project. We plan to model these standards after those for climate and ocean literacy and develop them at a funded workshop attended by selected experts. We are drafting lists of potential workshop participants and sponsors.
2. Write op-ed pieces on fish conservation to be distributed broadly, with region-specific content.
3. Develop a web-based communication tool that links AFS and SCB actions, documents, and policies germane to freshwater conservation.

4. More fully engage AFS and SCB student chapters at universities that have them both.
For example, we could encourage chapters to collaboratively develop short-term projects, then present their findings at an AFS or SCB meeting. We might even set up a competition and try to get a parent society to support sending the top project's groups to the national AFS or SCB meeting to present their work there.

Now that we are planning some actual work, we are also drafting a mission statement.

(B) Recommendations or Suggestions for Future Consideration.

I recommend continuing support for this liaison to forge stronger ties with SCB and initiate additional efforts germane to aquatic conservation. As the efforts of the nascent AFS-SCB workgroup take form, we will approach other relevant AFS units for their feedback on how to make those efforts most effective.