



**New York Chapter  
American Fisheries  
Society – Newsletter**

**Winter 2008**

New York Chapter Officers  
2008-2009  
President: Fred Henson  
President-elect: Randy Jackson  
Past President: Emily Zollweg  
Secretary-Treasurer: Scott Jones

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# AFS – New York Chapter Newsletter – Winter 2008

## Editors' Note

Welcome to the Winter 2008 newsletter! Please enjoy, and feel free to write to me with suggestions for future newsletters! If you would care to submit something for the Spring newsletter, please email it to me at [eczollwe@gw.dec.state.ny.us](mailto:eczollwe@gw.dec.state.ny.us) by April 1, 2009. Reports, happenings, upcoming events, pictures and fishtales are all welcome!

Emily Zollweg

Editor [eczollwe@gw.dec.state.ny.us](mailto:eczollwe@gw.dec.state.ny.us)

## President's Corner

Well, hard times are upon us in earnest. Our profession is not immune from the wider economy and many of you have well-founded concerns about your career in the coming year. However, rather than dwell on events that are well beyond your control, I would ask you to consider the following premise: The insights, skills, and advocacy of fisheries professionals and other citizens with a rigorous ecological education are about to become even more critical. I say this because the temptation to discount the interests of future generations is never greater than in times of panic. We are part of a civilization that professes to love its children even as it burdens them with financial debts in an attempt to prop up its unsustainable economic arrangements. What sort of environmental debts would such a civilization hesitate to pass on to its heirs? How secure are our past professional achievements? It seems to me that vigilance is in order because the most compelling measure of our achievements as a profession is what is still swimming when we are dead and gone.

You have come to rely on the American Fisheries Society and on this chapter to provide opportunities for continuing education and professional development; to provide you with the tools to make your vigilance effective. I can assure you that, as other such opportunities have dwindled, your fellow members are doing their level best to maximize the value we create together as a society. In particular, I would like to commend our workshop chair, Chris Van Maaren, for his heroic efforts to make the fish genetics workshop available to as many members as possible at a time when many of us are facing dramatic fiscal constraints. In support of his efforts, the executive committee voted unanimously to pay for the expenses of the instructors out of the chapter's cash reserves and waive the registration fee. Meanwhile, with the cooperation of the NYSDEC, Chris has arranged to make the workshop available by videoconference. Please read the revised workshop announcement in this newsletter for the latest details.

Finally, I encourage you to attend our annual meeting in February. In addition to an exciting plenary session and all of the usual attractions, we will be able to network with our peers from the Pennsylvania Chapter. The meeting will take place at one of our old standby locations – the Owego Treadway. I think you'll be pleased to see that the registration fees and room rates are very reasonable, particularly if you split a room with a colleague. What better way to catch up with a valued colleague while saving money than to split a hotel room or set up a carpool to the meeting. I hope that during our business meeting we can dedicate some time to a discussion of how the chapter can best deploy its available resources to help the membership maintain its professionalism through the current economic downturn. I am confident that, together, we can adapt in a way that is both creative and responsible. Thank you for the opportunity to have served as your president.

Fred Henson

President [fhenson@gw.dec.state.ny.us](mailto:fhenson@gw.dec.state.ny.us)

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## Chapter News

### Website

Our URL address is: <http://www.newyorkafs.org/> Newsletters are posted to the website (<http://www.newyorkafs.org/newsletters.htm>) and archived with previous editions. Scott Jones and I have worked to add all NYCAFS members for whom we have email addresses to the newsletter email notification list. This list is used for the notification of posting of new newsletters and important announcements from the executive committee. If you are not on this list, please email me at [snyderw@morrisville.edu](mailto:snyderw@morrisville.edu). Our goal is to have only electronic distribution, resulting in significant savings to our chapter. As always, if you are having any difficulty with the website or in downloading the newsletters, drop me a line at [snyderw@morrisville.edu](mailto:snyderw@morrisville.edu).

Bill Snyder

### New Members

**Free Fish CD and Book!** Annual chapter dues are only \$10 (\$5 for students). The first 50 new chapter members (not a member for at least 5 preceding years) receive a free copy of the NYCAFS's CD *Historic Distribution of Inland Fishes of NYS: Map Series by E. C. Raney*, which provides the New York distribution of 131 freshwater fish species. In addition, the first 20 members of the Chapter who become new members in the parent organization American Fisheries Society in 2008 will receive a free copy of the *Guidelines for the Use of Fishes in Research*.

Scott Jones, Sec./Treas.

New York Chapter American Fisheries Society

C/O Devine Tarbell & Associates, 290 Elwood Davis Rd., Liverpool, NY 13088

Phone: 607-533-8801; Fax: 607-533-8804 Email: [Scott.Jones@DevineTarbell.com](mailto:Scott.Jones@DevineTarbell.com)

### Announcements

- "Do Not Spread Invasive Aquatic Species" is now on the web! This is a summary with extra pictures of the DPAE approved brochure titled "Anglers and Boaters: Stop the Spread of Aquatic Invasive Species and Fish Diseases in New York State." A link to the PDF version of that brochure is in the right hand column of the web page. This page describes how to inspect, dry, and disinfect boating and fishing equipment in order to prevent the spread of aquatic invasive species and fish diseases. Please use this as a reference.

The page address is: <http://www.dec.ny.gov/animals/48221.html>

- The DEC web site now has a guide to the new baitfish regulations. The guide should be useful for DEC staff and the public. To find the baitfish guide go to the web page listed below and look in the "Related Links" box on the right.

<http://www.dec.ny.gov/outdoor/fishing.html>

- Great Lakes Research Consortium: The GLRC will be offering small planning grants to assist in developing strong research proposals to task groups. More details are coming soon on our website at [www.esf.edu/GLRC/research](http://www.esf.edu/GLRC/research). However if you are interested in joining, or proposing a research task group, please contact us at [glrc@esf.edu](mailto:glrc@esf.edu) or at 315-470-6720.

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- Seminar Series: We have more than 40 proposed seminars this year and almost half are scheduled. Take a look at available and scheduled seminars at [www.esf.edu/glrc/SeminarPages/CurrentSem.htm](http://www.esf.edu/glrc/SeminarPages/CurrentSem.htm)
- US Fish and Wildlife and partners produced a free online downloadable video aimed at the hunting/fishing community you may show and distribute as you wish. The new free video is specifically to encourage them to reduce the spread of invasive species.

"DEFENDING FAVORITE PLACES - How Hunters and Anglers Can Stop the Spread of Invasive Species"

<http://www.fs.fed.us/invasivespecies/prevention/defending.shtml>

- Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Point (HACCP) - tools for preventing accidental introductions of invasive species can be found at You can find "all you need to know" at our HACCP website: [www.HACCP-NRM.org](http://www.HACCP-NRM.org)

- Grant opportunity:

The Long Island Sound Study (LISS) in partnership with the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, is pleased to announce a Request for Proposals for approximately \$1 million under the 2009 Long Island Sound Futures Fund (Sound Futures Fund) pending the availability of federal funding. Go to <http://www.nfwf.org/lisff> to view the request for proposals. The purpose of the Sound Futures Fund is to support projects that restore and protect the health and living resources of Long Island Sound. Proposals are due 03/13/2009 .

The National Fish and Wildlife Foundation is hosting a webcast on Tuesday, January 6, 2009, 1pm to 2:30pm. This webinar will show applicants how to navigate EasyGrants, NFWF's new online application system. Participants will learn how to register in the system and apply for a grant. This webinar will not address questions about applicant eligibility and what types of projects might receive funding. The webinar is focused solely on navigating through EasyGrants.

The workshop is intended to provide an in-depth introduction to the new online application system. Past applicants as well as new applicants should plan to listen in and view changes. Reserve your Webinar seat now at: <https://www1.gotomeeting.com/register/250863281>

- Spiny water flea (*Bythotrephes cederstroemi*), has invaded Great Sacandaga Lake (GSL) and is NY's first confirmed inland outside the Great Lakes. GSL connects with the Hudson River via a canal, posing the threat of a much wider distribution.
- The Great Lakes Research Consortium is organizing a student poster session at Great Lakes Day in Albany and is hosting a competition for students to present posters at the session. Great Lakes Day is organized to inform our state legislators on the importance of Great Lakes advocacy and research.

Students attending the event will have the opportunity to meet other Great Lakes researchers, policy makers and advocates. We hope to accept up to fifteen posters for this event.

Each student will receive a \$100 award and up to \$150 in travel support to attend the session.

Posters will be evaluated on the following criteria: relevance to Great Lakes research and/or policy, affiliation with a GLRC member campus, and quality of research project.

Abstracts are due no later than February 1, 2008.



## GREAT LAKES GOES TO ALBANY!

### Poster Competition

GLRC Poster Session @ Great Lakes Day in Albany

April 28, 2009 9am-5pm

## Call For Abstracts

The [Great Lakes Research Consortium](#) is organizing a student poster session at Great Lakes Day in Albany and is hosting a competition for students to present posters at the session. Great Lakes Day is organized to inform our state legislators on the importance of Great Lakes advocacy and research.

Students attending the event will have the opportunity to meet other Great Lakes researchers, policy makers and advocates. We hope to accept up to fifteen posters for this event.

Each student will receive a \$100 award and up to \$150 in travel support to attend the session.

Posters will be evaluated on the following criteria: relevance to Great Lakes research and/or policy, affiliation with a GLRC member campus, and quality of research project.



Included in your submission must be:

- Poster Title
- Authors (student, advisor and any other contributors)
- Institution
- Student's mailing address
- Student's Email, Phone
- Abstract must be 250 words or less
- Signed letter of support from student's major professor

⇒ Abstracts are due no later than **February 1, 2008**.

⇒ Review of posters and acceptance into the poster session will conclude no later than **February 28th**.

⇒ Students will then be required to submit materials for the poster no later than **March 16th**.

#### Send abstracts to:

Email: [glrc@esf.edu](mailto:glrc@esf.edu). For more information call Khris Dodson at (315) 470-6720 or visit

Website: [www.esf.edu/glrc](http://www.esf.edu/glrc)

Upon acceptance of your poster, the GLRC will work with successful students to have a professional layout and design the poster. The student will need to submit necessary text and images to the GLRC. The GLRC will have the poster printed and delivered to the poster session in Albany. The student is required to attend the event on April 28th. Advisors are also encouraged to attend.

*Research, Education and Outreach on behalf of our Great Lakes*

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American Fisheries Society  
New York & Pennsylvania Chapters  
Annual Meeting  
February 4<sup>th</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup>, 2009  
Owego, NY

## Final Call for Papers - Energy and Fisheries

“Energy and Fisheries” is a broad yet exciting topic which gives us an opportunity to explore many new and innovative technologies. This year’s plenary session offers a variety of experienced government and private sector speakers from Pennsylvania and New York. The following issues are among the many topics to be explored this year:

- The potential effects of global energy usage on fish growth
- Fish passage and impingement issues at power plants as well as the technologies used in New York and Pennsylvania waters
- The tidal and wave energy technologies that are available though not widely used,
- The water resource issues surrounding the increased interest in tapping into the natural gas reserves located in the Marcellus Shale formation.

These and many more issues surround “Energy and Fisheries”. Please bring your energy to the meeting and join us in the exploration of this important topic. We look forward to hearing your ideas, experiences and concerns.

We are also excited to announce our keynote speaker Dr. Charles Hall, a highly sought international speaker. Dr. Hall is a Systems Ecologist and Professor at SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry and is best known for his development of the concept of EROI (energy return on investment.) EROI is an examination of how organisms, including humans, invest energy into obtaining additional energy to improve their biotic or social fitness. Dr Hall’s most recent book deals with how to make development work. It provides insights on how to restructure our economic system to better value environmental services and face the unavoidable increase in the price of oil.

If you would like to speak on this or another topic or wish to present a poster please contact Casey Michasiow at 518-402-8898 or [camichas@gw.dec.state.ny.us](mailto:camichas@gw.dec.state.ny.us).

Oral presentations are limited to 20 minutes (15 minutes for presentation plus 5 minutes for speaker introduction and questions). All oral presenters are expected to deliver PowerPoint presentations. There are still slots open for the contributed paper and poster sessions.

Abstracts for oral presentations and posters must be received by January 7<sup>th</sup>, 2009.

When submitting your abstract:

- Use a brief but descriptive title, avoiding acronyms or scientific names in the title unless the common name is not widely known;
- List all authors, their affiliations, addresses, telephone numbers, and e-mail addresses;
- Provide a summary of your findings and restrict your abstract to 200 words;
- Email your submission in Microsoft Word 2003 format.

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## Meeting Venue

This year's meeting will be here before you know it! The event will be held February 4-6, 2009, at the Owego Treadway Inn and Conference Center at 1100 State Route 17C in Owego, NY. Information and driving directions may be found at [www.owegotreadway.com](http://www.owegotreadway.com). Guest rooms will be available at the special AFS rate of \$87/night so reserve by January 10, 2009. When making a reservation please use the code "AFS". Call 607-687-4500 to reserve your room.

## Meeting Registration Fees

	Full Registration	One Day Registration
<b>Member</b>	\$90	\$50
<b>Non-Member</b>	\$110	\$75
<b>Student Member</b>	\$45	\$30
<b>Student Non-Member</b>	\$65	\$45

Registration fees include a small social on Wednesday night, a mid-morning and mid-afternoon breaks on Thursday (including snacks and beverages), breakfast, lunch, dinner and social on Thursday and breakfast Friday.

## Publications

### New! AFS Gift Certificates

**AFS Bookstore Gift Certificates** are now available in denominations of \$25.00, \$50.00 and \$100.00 for all on-line purchases through the AFS Bookstore. Follow below link for more information

<http://www.afsbooks.org/gice.html>

### AFS End-of-Year Book Sale– Online Bookstore only

**AFS is offering over 50 books at drastically reduced prices.** From now until January 15, 2009, take advantage of our End-of-Year Book Sale and save on selected titles.

Complete your science library at dramatically reduced prices - all sale publications are \$20.00 or less!

[http://www.fisheries.org/afs/docs/pub\\_sale.pdf](http://www.fisheries.org/afs/docs/pub_sale.pdf)

### AFS Best Sellers List

Follow below link to check out our new Best Sellers list.

<http://www.afsbooks.org/bestsellers.html>

Workshop

## Genetics for Fisheries Professionals: Tools and Decisions

**Date:** February 4, 2009 Course runs from 8:00 am to 4:00 pm

**Location:** Cortland DEC Office, Fisher Road, Cortland

**Note:** This will be broadcast to numerous DEC offices for video conference

**Cost:** Free

**Instructors:**

**Dr. Chris Wilson:** Aquatic Biodiversity and Conservation Unit, Ontario Ministry  
Of Natural Resources

**Meredith Bartron:** Branch Chief, Population Ecology & Geneticist  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Northeast Fishery Center

Description: This course is designed to help those of us without an extensive educational background in genetics, understand how genetics is impacting the field of fisheries. Subjects to be covered include:

- Understanding the basics of conservation genetics: i.e. gene flow, phylogeography, population structure, etc.
- The utility of the various techniques of genetic analysis: i.e. microsatellite, protein electrophoresis, polymerase chain reaction, etc.
- How to interpret the results from the various genetic analyses: i.e. sequence differences, genetic distances, individual assignment tests, mixed-stock analyses
- Additional topics yet to be outlined

Registration: The workshop cost is free.

To Register Contact:

Scott A. Jones  
Secretary/Treasurer  
c/o Devine Tarbell & Associates  
1304 Buckley Road, Suite 202  
http://www.newyorkafs.org/meet.html  
Syracuse, NY 13212

**Email:** [scott.jones@devinetarbell.com](mailto:scott.jones@devinetarbell.com)

t - (315) 451-2325 ext. 303 f - (315) 451-2429 c - (315) 317-6680

Site Details:

see website:



**Student Subunit**

**New Opportunities for chapter leadership**

By Fred Henson

We currently have two newly vacant positions in the chapter's executive committee. Both functions were ably performed by Mark Arrigo for the past several years and his successors, in both responsibilities, will benefit from his diligent work. Both positions are important to the functioning of the chapter under the bylaws. Please read the following descriptions and contact Fred Henson[315-337-0910] or Emily Zollweg [518-623-1264] if you are interested. Also, please take the time to thank Mark for his service to the chapter.

**Student Subunit Committee Chair**

The subunit chair is responsible for assisting college and university students in the formation of new student subunits and for representing the interests of student subunits to the executive committee. The chair is also reports regularly on the activities of the student subunits to the executive committee and to the membership at large via the newsletter. The revised bylaws to be voted upon at our annual business meeting should make these responsibilities easier than they have been in the past. While I am confident that the interests of fisheries students are a priority for the executive committee as a whole, I am equally confident that we won't be able to do justice to the interests of our students until this position is filled.

**Audit Committee Chair**

The audit committee chair is responsible for reviewing the chapter's financial reports prior to the annual business meeting and reporting to the membership on the status of our accounts. This task is not particularly glamorous but it is essential to maintaining transparency, good governance, and the confidence of the membership. We are fortunate to have a trustworthy treasurer untainted by any prior associations with Wall Street but that doesn't mean that we can cut corners. If you are detail-oriented and curious where the money goes, this is the job for you. The other principal advantage of this job is that the responsibility is well-defined, limited, and seasonal; a good place to start if you've been considering greater involvement with the chapter.

**National AFS**

From Gus Rassam on the news group:

OBAMA FULFILLS PLEDGE, NAMES SCIENCE ADVISOR

During the campaign, then candidate Obama pledged to make the appointment of a presidential science advisor a priority if elected president. On 20 December, President-elect Obama officially fulfilled his pledge when he publically announced that Dr. John Holdren had been selected to serve as Assistant to the President for Science and Technology and Director of the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy.

The announcement was the focus of Obama's weekly 'radio' address (available at: [http://change.gov/newsroom/entry/the\\_search\\_for\\_knowledge\\_truth\\_and\\_a...r\\_understanding\\_of\\_the\\_world\\_aro/](http://change.gov/newsroom/entry/the_search_for_knowledge_truth_and_a...r_understanding_of_the_world_aro/)). The announcement also included the announcement that Dr. Jane Lubchenco would head the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, and the selection

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of Dr. Harold Varmus and Dr. Eric Lander as co-chairs of the President's Council of Advisors on Science and Technology; a post they will co-char with Holdren.

Obama said, "The truth is that promoting science isn't just about providing resources-it's about protecting free and open inquiry," President-elect Obama said. "It's about ensuring that facts and evidence are never twisted or obscured by politics or ideology. It's about listening to what our scientists have to say, even when it's inconvenient-especially when it's inconvenient. Because the highest purpose of science is the search for knowledge, truth and a greater understanding of the world around us. That will be my goal as President of the United States-and I could not have a better team to guide me in this work."

"John is a professor and Director of the Program on Science, Technology, and Public Policy at Harvard's Kennedy School of Government, as well as President and Director of the Woods Hole Research Center. A physicist renowned for his work on climate and energy, he's received numerous honors and awards for his contributions and has been one of the most passionate and persistent voices of our time about the growing threat of climate change. I look forward to his wise counsel in the years ahead." Said Obama.

### OBAMA SELECTS MARINE BIOLOGIST FOR TOP SPOT AT NOAA

President-elect Obama has selected Dr. Jane Lubchenco to head the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA). In 2004 Lubchenco received the American Institute of Biological Sciences (AIBS) Distinguished Scientist Award, which has been presented annually since 1972 to individuals who have made significant contributions in biological science, with a focus on the fields of integrative and organismal biology. Dr. Lubchenco's research interests cover a broad range of disciplines, including marine biology, biodiversity, climate change, and environmental sustainability. Lubchenco is an innovative marine scientist and has been a prominent advocate for marine conservation research. Moreover, she has also been a powerful and articulate voice over the years for the role of science in serving humanity and the environment.

Dr. Lubchenco is the Wayne and Gladys Valley Professor of Marine Biology and Distinguished Professor of Zoology at Oregon State University. She is one of the nation's leading marine biologists and a prominent conservationist and has spent most of her career encouraging more scientists to get engaged in public policy issues. Some of her public policy efforts include the establishment of the Aldo Leopold Leadership Program, which teaches academic environmental scientists how to be effective leaders and communicators, and the Communication Partnership for Science and the Sea (COMPASS), a collaboration between academic scientists and media specialists that communicates marine conservation science matters to policy makers, media, managers, and the public.

NOAA's mission is to enrich life through science, by providing planners and policy makers with cutting-edge scientific information and enabling them to forecast weather, monitor climate, manage fisheries, restore coasts, and support marine commerce. In recent years, NOAA has experienced some turbulent times. Agency scientists have reported feeling political pressure to remain silent when scientific findings could be viewed as inconvenient to the Bush Administration's political priorities. Additionally, the agency has been scrutinized for cost overruns on a major environmental satellite program. All this while the agency must also oversee marine biodiversity conservation programs and manage the commercial fisheries, among many other research and resource management functions. NOAA's budget of roughly \$4 billion represents approximately half the budget of its parent organization, the Department of Commerce.

### BUSH ADMINISTRATION FINALIZES ESA RULE CHANGE

On 11 December 2008, Secretary of the Interior Dirk Kempthorne announced that the Bush Administration would issue a final rule making changes to the implementation of section 7 of the Endangered Species Act (ESA). The final rule changes, proposed on 15 August 2008, were published in the 16 December 2008 Federal Register and will take effect on 15 January 2009.

Announcing the rule changes, Kempthorne said, "I am confident that we have taken a common sense approach, developed over months of work, to adopt needed and legally appropriate changes to our existing regulations." Some members of Congress and the scientific and environmental

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communities have expressed concern over how quickly the Administration reviewed approximately 235,000 comments received during the 60-day public comment period, which closed in October.

The final rule seeks to "clarify[y] several definitions, provides assistance as to when consultation under section 7 is necessary, and establishes time frames for the informal consultation process."

Some congressional Democrats and environmental groups have strongly opposed the rule changes, asserting that they will reduce the number of consultations between the federal agencies and the scientists at the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and National Marine Fisheries Service. The rule changes also include language to prevent the regulation of greenhouse gas emissions under the ESA, even if they threaten the survival of listed species (e.g., polar bear). In his announcement of the final rule, Kempthorne said, "If science can not draw a direct causal link between an action and an effect on a listed species, as is currently the case for global processes like climate change, then consultation under the ESA is not necessary."

Representative Markey (D-MA) stated at a hearing of the Select Committee on Energy Independence and Global Warming, "the Department of Interior is seeking to gut the Endangered Species Act by removing scientific input, weakening protections for iconic species like the polar bear and preventing consideration of the impacts of global warming. The Administration is seeking to make these sweeping changes to the ESA while minimizing public input and review." As the final rule will go into effect more than 30 days before Bush leaves office, President-elect Obama and members of Congress will have to work through normal rule-making processes to reverse the Bush Administration decision.

The Center for Biological Diversity has already filed a legal complaint at a federal court in San Francisco concerning the rule.

The final rule is available online at: [http://www.doi.gov/initiatives/ESA\\_Section7FR.pdf](http://www.doi.gov/initiatives/ESA_Section7FR.pdf)

**AFS Information on the Web** <http://www.fisheries.org>

AFS has a mailing list for postings regarding fish, announcements, job opportunities and requests for information. You can subscribe to receive these in normal email mode or in digest mode. To subscribe, e-mail to: [daemon@fisheries.org](mailto:daemon@fisheries.org) and enter SUBSCRIBE AFS in the body of the e-mail.

AFS 08- Constitution and rules amendments-- These proposed changes will be voted on at the AFS Annual Meeting in Ottawa, Canada, August, 19 2008. Comments can be submitted to the Constitutional Consultant, Gwen White, [gwhite@dnr.in.gov](mailto:gwhite@dnr.in.gov). Please use the following link for 2008 AFS Constitution and Rule Amendments:

<http://www.fisheries.org/test/aboutus/proposedconstitution.pdf>

### Upcoming Events

**65th Annual Northeast Fish and Wildlife Conference:** April 26-29, Lancaster, PA. Meeting information: [www.neafwa.org](http://www.neafwa.org)

**NY Chapter AFS –Genetics Workshop;** Feb 4, 2009, Binghamton, NY. To register, contact Scott Jones: [Scott.Jones@DevineTarbell.com](mailto:Scott.Jones@DevineTarbell.com) or 315-451-2325 ext 202

['09, Nashville, TN-Aug 30-Sept 3](#)

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## Jobs

AFS Job Center Online: <http://www.fisheries.org/jobs.shtml> <http://www.fisheries.org/jobs.shtml>

## Fun Stuff

Actually, probably not so fun....

New tapeworm found in Great Lakes fish

[http://www.mlive.com/chronicle/news/index.ssf/2008/12/new\\_tapeworm\\_found\\_in\\_great\\_la.html](http://www.mlive.com/chronicle/news/index.ssf/2008/12/new_tapeworm_found_in_great_la.html)

12/22/08 by Jeff Alexander | Muskegon Chronicle

An outbreak of tapeworms in Lake Huron walleye has Michigan officials urging people to avoid eating sushi made with freshwater fish caught in the Great Lakes region.

The warning came as a Canadian researcher reported the first documented case of Asian fish tapeworms in Great Lakes fish.

David Marcogliese, a research scientist at Environment Canada's research station in Montreal, reported the discovery of Asian tapeworms in Lake Huron walleye in the most recent issue of the Journal of Great Lakes Research.

The foreign tapeworm, the 186th invasive species documented in the Great Lakes, likely was imported to the region with infected bait fish, Marcogliese said in the article.

"This parasite is known to cause weight loss, anemia and mortality in young fishes," Marcogliese said. Numerous anglers began reporting finding tapeworms in walleye caught in Lake Huron and Saginaw Bay, according to a Michigan Department of Natural Resources memo. Fish from some inland Michigan lakes also were infected with tapeworms, according to the DNR memo.

Some species of tapeworms are native to the Great Lakes fish. The discovery and proliferation of Asian fish tapeworms is a recent phenomenon that could harm walleye and other fish species, according to DNR officials and Marcogliese's research.

Researchers indicated the Asian fish tapeworm, one of the world's most pernicious invaders, will likely spread across the Great Lakes region. The tapeworm can grow to one-foot-long in large fish, such as carp, Marcogliese said.

DNR officials said it is safe to eat fish that have tapeworms, provided the fish are thoroughly cooked, smoked or pickled using normal food preparation techniques.

"We do not recommend making sushi from any species of freshwater fish as the risk to humans is not known," according to the DNR memo. "It is a very bad idea to eat any freshwater fish raw or poorly cooked as fish parasites use fish-eating mammals and birds as hosts and it is not known if humans can also be hosts."

Tapeworms are ubiquitous in waters where fish live, but the incidence of the parasites infecting fish has surged in the past two years, according to DNR officials. State officials said the problem may be due to changes at the base of the Great Lakes food chain caused by zebra and quagga mussels, two other invasive species.

Asian fish tapeworms were carried into the U.S. in the 1960s by federal officials who imported Asian carp to control algae in Arkansas fish ponds. The invader has since spread to lakes and rivers across much of North America, according to federal records.

The invasive tapeworms enter the fish food chain when zooplankton ingest the creatures and become hosts for the parasite. The tapeworms move up the food chain as zooplankton are eaten by small fish; the pests mature and produce eggs once in the intestinal tracts of walleye and other fish species.

Fish excrete tapeworm eggs in their feces. The eggs settle on lake bottoms, where zooplankton eat them and give rise to a new generation of the pests.

The mere sight of tapeworms can tarnish a fishing trip -- the creatures are known to slither out of the mouths and gills of dead fish.

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To avoid finding a tapeworm in your fish cooler, DNR officials recommend gutting fish immediately after catching them and disposing of the entrails after returning to land. It is illegal to discard fish guts in Michigan waters.

[www.sci.sdsu.edu](http://www.sci.sdsu.edu)

Asian tapeworms are showing up in Lake Huron walleye, prompting a call to avoid sushi from Great Lakes fish. Officials said it is safe to eat fish that have tapeworms, provided the fish are thoroughly cooked, smoked or pickled using normal food preparation techniques.

[www.sci.sdsu.edu](http://www.sci.sdsu.edu)

The Asian tapeworm *Bothriocephalus acheilognathi*.

### **President-Elect Candidates**

#### **Mark Malchoff**

Since 1999 I have worked as an Aquatic Resource Specialist with the Lake Champlain Sea Grant's SUNY Plattsburgh office. I deal primarily with outreach/extension aspects of aquatic invasive species and fisheries issues in the Lake Champlain Basin of New York and Vermont. Recently I have been developing educational activities to improve fish passage in small watersheds. I have also co-authored of a brief analysis of *Invasive Species Barrier Options for the Champlain Canal*, and served as a co-author of the *Adirondack Park Aquatic Nuisance Species Management Plan*. From 1988 to 1999, I worked as a Marine Fisheries Specialist for New York Sea Grant/Cornell Cooperative Extension where I conducted research and Extension programs in support of the charter and party-boat fishery from Montauk to Brooklyn. From 1985 to 1988 I served as a Community Issues/Natural Resources Extension Agent in Warrensburg, NY. I earned a M.S. degree in Environmental Studies from Bard College, and B.S. in Natural Resources from Cornell. I have been a member of AFS (most years ☺) and attended NYCAFS meetings since the early 80's. My current organizations/committees include: Lake Champlain Basin Program Technical Advisory Committee, Lake Champlain Fisheries Technical Committee, AFS, and membership on the Four-tier List Team which provides guidance to the New York Invasive Species Council's Advisory Committee.

I am hopeful that a previous stint as chapter Program Chair back in the '90's will provide some insight into current chapter ExComm functions and needs. Career shifts have provided me with an opportunity to work on and learn about Great Lakes, marine and inland lake ecosystems. If elected, I will seek out opportunities to advance our mission of improving the conservation and sustainability of fishery resources in all of these settings. I am especially interested in research and management efforts to protect fishery resources that will face increasing stress in the form of climate change, new invasive species, and energy development.

#### **Matthew J. Sanderson**

My interest in fish began when I was young, where I grew up on the Niagara River in Tonawanda, and later, Grand Island, NY. I was able to witness both the impacts of pollution, and the post clean-up restoration of this magnificent river. This inspired me to obtain a MA degree in Ecology (1981) and BS degree in Biology with a minor in Environmental Science (1979) from the State University College at Geneseo, New York. I am now a Senior Aquatic Biologist with the Region 8 Fisheries Unit of the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation in Avon, New York. I began my career with the DEC in 1988 at the New York City regional office as a regional Habitat Protection Biologist. In 1989, I

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transferred to Avon to become Region 8's Habitat Protection Biologist and then moved over to the Fisheries Unit in 1998. I am responsible for fisheries management activities in Monroe, Wayne, and Orleans counties. Resources include Lake Ontario and its embayments and tributaries, Conesus Lake (one of the western finger lakes), and two blue ribbon trout streams. I provided fisheries oversight of three major rainbow trout stream restoration projects under the Clean Air-Clean Water Bond Act. On a region-wide level, I coordinate with other Department programs to provide fisheries input into aquatic vegetation management programs. From July, 1986 to July, 1988, I worked for the Natural Resources Group of the New York City Department of Parks & Recreation, where I coordinated wetland restoration grant applications, devised a park water body analysis and management program, and conducted limnological studies of several park lakes, which resulted in management and restoration recommendations. I first became an AFS member in 1987 and in 1988, I attended the AFS Annual meeting in Toronto, Ontario, CA. After a decade-long absence, I re-joined in 1998 and have attended nearly all of the annual NY Chapter meetings, many workshops, as well as the 2006 AFS Annual meeting in Lake Placid. Among many others, I made oral presentations at the 1989 and 2001 Northeast Fish and Wildlife Conferences in Ellenville and Saratoga, the 2006 AFS Annual meeting, and the 2008 NY Chapter meeting. I served on the AV committee for both the 2001 Northeast Fish and Wildlife Conference in Saratoga and the 2006 AFS Annual meeting. I enjoy fishing, particularly for smallmouth bass and salmonids in Lake Ontario, walleye in Conesus and Chautauqua Lakes, and perch through the ice wherever they're being caught nearby. I also like to watch my daughters at their athletic competitions, sail, golf, hunt, camp, and play ice hockey. I am honored to be considered as a candidate for President of the AFS New York Chapter.



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### **New York Chapter of the AFS 2008-2009 Officers and Executive Committee**

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