



### Chapter Officers

President: Kyle Winders

President Elect: Jacob Westhoff

Secretary: Ben Havens

Treasurer: Joe McMullen

Past President: Eric Rahm

### Committee Chairs

Anglers with Disabilities: Mary Scott

Awards: Eric Rahm

Chapter Historians:

Joe G. Dillard (Emeritus)

Vince Travnichek

Continuing Education: Brad Farwell

Finance: Eric Rahm

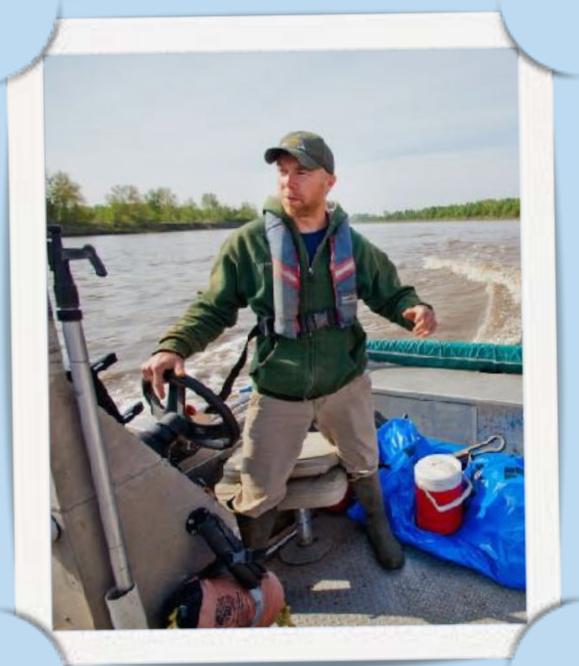
Information Technology/Website:

Kat Lackman

Alex Prentice

Legislative and Environmental  
Concerns: Emily Tracy-Smith

## Message From the President



My term as president is winding down and I would like to take a minute to thank you for all the work that you do professionally and personally to make MOAFS productive. As you will read in this newsletter, our various committees have been busy working to improve and protect the aquatic resources of Missouri. Many aquatic professionals have contributed to the success of MOAFS over the years and our members this year certainly did their part to keep the organization moving forward during 2021. I am glad to have had the opportunity to serve in the role of president and am grateful to have had such a great group of dedicated individuals to work with.

Membership: Jenna Stiek

MNRC Steering: Blake Stephens

Newsletter:

Emily Tracy-Smith

Hope Dodd

Nick Sievert

Dan Metcalf

Publicity: Trish Yasger

Rivers and Streams:

Chair: Tom Boersig

Secretary:

Student Support: Jennifer Girondo

### Student Subunits

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Missouri State University -  
Springfield: Alexandria Beezel

University of Central Missouri -  
Warrensburg: Austin Mueller

University of Missouri - Columbia:  
Ashley Hrdina

Southeast Missouri State University  
- Cape Girardeau: Joey Root

Please remember that the MOAFS student sub-units are always looking for ways to interact with professionals. Reach out to your local student sub-units and see how you can work with them. It could be a day in the field with students or even a presentation and question and answer session; the student sub-units will greatly appreciate the interaction. If you need contact information for the sub-units contact Jen Girondo.

On behalf of the rest of the Executive Committee and all the Committee Chairs, I want to thank each of you again for what you have accomplished this year and want to encourage you to continue your hard work and dedication to MOAFS and the aquatic resources of Missouri.

Thanks,

Kyle Winders

Thanks,  
Kyle Winders



# Membership Committee Report

Prepared by: Jenna Stiek

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[Membership Contact Update \(moafs.org\)](https://moafs.org)

[jenna.stiek@mdc.mo.gov](mailto:jenna.stiek@mdc.mo.gov)



Hello MOAFS members both old and new! I wanted to take a minute to introduce myself as the new Membership Chair. My name is Jenna Stiek, and I recently became a life member of MOAFS. I work for the Missouri Department of Conservation and in my free time you will find me on a stream. I enjoy fishing and relaxing on a gravel bar. I look forward to working with everyone while I serve MOAFS.

Please remember to update your membership information Membership Contact Update ([moafs.org](https://moafs.org)), so we can ensure sure your information is correct. Your MOAFS membership warrants your ability to vote in MOAFS elections, run for an office, serve on a committee, and receive delivery of our emails.

Please contact me with any questions about MOAFS membership at [jenna.stiek@mdc.mo.gov](mailto:jenna.stiek@mdc.mo.gov) or 573-815-7000 ext. 2886

# Rivers & Streams Committee Report

Prepared by: **Tom Boersig**



Hey folks,

It's been another wild year navigating global pandemic. Despite the obstacles, I'm constantly impressed with members' willingness to make time and be active working to protect our state's unique aquatic resources.

One of my priorities as Rivers and Streams chair has been plugging MOAFS, our professional and technical expertise, into existing citizen groups. There's a ton of conservation-oriented groups doing invaluable work across this state, and I believe acting as a resource for these groups plays to MOAFS' strengths as an organization. Rivers and Streams Committee was represented at the Conservation Federation of Missouri's Annual Convention in March, participating in a number of conversations regarding aquatic issues. One hot topic was modification of MDC's regulations which would allow use of common and grass carp as live bait. Bait-bucket introductions are a recurring issue in Missouri streams, and the event provided a great opportunity for some public outreach and education. Conservation Federation membership also drafted a resolution encouraging private landholders to pursue levee setbacks on the mainstem Missouri River, reducing flood risk and providing invaluable fish and wildlife habitat.

In May, Stream Teams United hosted Clean Water Day at the Capitol. A number of legislators and groups turned out despite the inclement weather, including the Missouri Rural Water Association, Lincoln University's Aquaculture program, James River Basin Partnership, and the Missouri Cave and Karst Conservancy. The event offered a great opportunity to interact with stakeholders across the state to come together- special thanks to MOAFS member Mary Culler for putting the event together, and MOAFS members John Brant and Emily Tracy-Smith for assisting with our booth.

Rivers and Streams Committee continues to find ways to be involved with the Mississippi River Restoration and Resilience Initiative (MRRRI). Modeled after similar initiatives in the Great Lakes Region, the MRRRI would protect and enhance aquatic habitat, water quality and drinking water, and maintain and expand recreational opportunities along the river. You can find out more about the MRRRI, as well as view draft language of the MRRRI bill, by visiting the Conservation Federation of Missouri's website at [www.confedmo.org/mrrri](http://www.confedmo.org/mrrri).

MOAFS is hosting the Missouri Natural Resources Conference February 1-3 of 2022, and Rivers and Streams Committee will be sponsoring one of the conference sessions. If you'd like to be involved in that effort as the meeting approaches, let me know- we could definitely use the help.

## Rivers & Streams Committee Report (Continued)

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Finally- communication hasn't always been easy in the age of global pandemic. Frankly, as a committee, we need to get back to having regular officer elections. In that spirit, we'll be taking nominations for Rivers and Streams Committee Chairperson, as well as Secretary, through December 31<sup>st</sup> 2021. Voting will be open for all Rivers and Streams members, with new officers announced at the MOAFS annual business meeting in February 2022.

And as always, the Rivers and Streams Committee is open to any MOAFS members with an interest the state's flowing aquatic resources. If you have any questions, or would like to be added to the Rivers and Streams email list, feel free to contact me at [Thomas.Boersig@mdc.mo.gov](mailto:Thomas.Boersig@mdc.mo.gov).



"MOAFS booth at Clean Water Day at the Capitol, May 4, 2021, pictured L to R: Tom Boersig, John Brant and Emily Tracy-Smith"

# Treasury Report

Prepared by: Joe McMullen



General funds continue to grow slowly with no major changes during 2021. However, in early 2021 an updated SSTF Investment Management Plan was approved and is currently being carried out as outlined. Four Certificate of Deposits (CDs) with a combined value of \$52,022.12 were closed and those funds were transferred to the Money Market Account. In May 2021, an additional \$36,000 worth of Vanguard shares (\$27,000 VTSAX & \$9,000 VTIX) were purchased with a goal of maintaining a Money Market to Vanguard ratio of 35:65%. The original investment in Vanguard shares of \$45,000 in 2015, combined with the more recent investment of \$36,000 brings the total investment amount to \$81,000; the current value of those shares is \$81,847.21. During 2021, \$5,496.03 worth of shares have been sold and deposited into the Money Market account according to the updated profit taking strategy.

Currently the Money Market to Vanguard ratio is slightly skewed toward the Money Market account (38:62%) so no further profits will be taken from the sale of Vanguard shares until they represent more than 65% of SSTF funds. Feel free to contact me at your convenience if you have questions or concerns (314-606-5260 or [treasurermoafs@gmail.com](mailto:treasurermoafs@gmail.com)). My term as Treasurer will be ending at our February meeting; if you are interested in running for Treasurer please contact Eric Rahm or myself.

Account	Current Balance*
<b>General Funds</b>	<b>\$ 24,457.07</b>
MOAFS Operational Share	\$ 21,128.38
MOAFS Operational Checking	\$ 3,230.23
MOAFS Special Projects Checking	\$ 98.46
<b>Student Support Funds</b>	<b>\$ 131,916.86</b>
SSTF Money Market (Buffer Fund)	\$ 50,008.21
SSTF Checking	\$ 61.44
SSTF CD 1479	\$0 Closed 2/2/2021
SSTF CD 2720	\$0 Closed 2/2/2021
SSTF CD 2397	\$0 Closed 2/2/2021
SSTF CD 3745	\$0 Closed 2/2/2021
<b>Cumulative CD Value</b>	<b>\$ 0.00</b>
Stock market Index Fund	\$ 62,389.55
International Stock Index Fund	\$ 19,457.66
<b>Total Stock Market Funds</b>	<b>\$ 81,847.21</b>

# Finance Report

Contact: Eric Rahm



Raising additional funds to support the mission of MOAFS is an essential and often enjoyable activity. It is important that we as a society continue to fund student support activities, educational events, disabled angler engagement, and the many other great things our organization values. To this end, we challenge all members to consider ways they can help

fundraise. One of the easiest ways to help is to consider donations for the auction and raffle events at MNRC. For instance, perhaps you have artistic talent and can donate an item for auction such as a nicely framed photograph, a drawing or painting, or a wood carving. Maybe you, or someone you know, is willing to host guided hunting or fishing trip. Perhaps you love tying flies but have more than you can use, and so you could package some up for a donation. If you have ideas, please feel free to contact the Finance Committee or Eric Rahm and we can discuss options.

We are currently exploring a unique potential fundraiser and education activity. Bob Hrabik and MDC have given MOAFS permission to use the wonderful fish photographs that will appear in the upcoming revision of *Fishes of Missouri*. Thanks to several talented undergraduates at the Mizzou Student Subunit, we have already drafted a series of posters covering the entire diversity of fishes in Missouri. We hope to print these posters and sell them as not only a fundraiser, but also an opportunity to showcase the many beautiful and often under-appreciated fish found in Missouri's waters. To help us better gauge the interest in these posters, please take the short survey linked [here](#). Thank you!



# Historian Report

Prepared by: Joe Dillard

## History

I got the short straw again, and am privileged to prepare this report. Why not, I have been doing it since 1992 (just shy of 30 years). Vince Travnichek is our current chair and I am the MOAFS Historian Emeritus.



As you know, or should know, our history is well preserved. All of our records are stored in the State Historical Society of Missouri archives located in Columbia, Missouri (800) 747-6366. A lot of that history is captured in the publication *Still Hooked: Our First 50 Years, 1964-2014*, authored by Amanda Rosenberger, Emily Tracy Smith, and Joe Dillard. Copies are still available from Joe at 3535 West Arbor Way Columbia MO 6520.

The formal acknowledgement of our records by SHSMO reads the following: Missouri Chapter of the American Fisheries Society Records, 1963-2020 (CA6574) 9.5 cubic feet, 6 computer discs, 1 video cassette, 1 oversize item. Records of the organization include correspondence, minutes, conference materials, newsletters, reports, manuals, and miscellaneous material. The following link is a useful Finding Aid: [shsmo.org](http://shsmo.org)

# Historian Report

One item that I wanted to include in that book (and store in SHSMO) was a copy of our original Charter from the American Fisheries Society to become the Missouri Chapter of the American Fisheries Society dated March 10, 1964. It hung in the entry way at the Fish and Wildlife Research Center (later to become the Resource Science Center) at 1110 South College Avenue in Columbia, Missouri from 1970-2012.

I sort of lost track of it when the Resource Science Unit moved to the Central Regional Office and Conservation Research Center (CROCRC). I looked high and low and in between in my archives and archive annex to no avail. I even went back to the old building to make sure it hadn't gotten left behind. I queried multiple employees at the CROCRC and even the Central Office of MDC. Nothing.

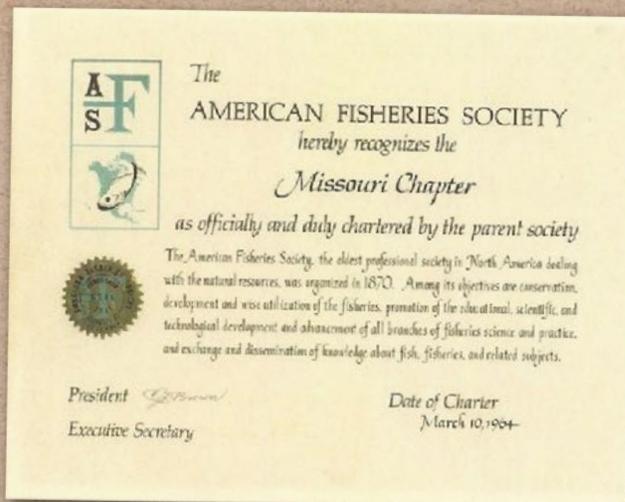
Then, after *Still Hooked* was printed, I found it atop a file cabinet in the very same room where I had spent multiple hours/days/weeks working on the *Still Hooked* manuscript. (Long story short, I had an insert printed (see below) that all of you that bought the book can have free of charge to put in your copy. Good Grief.



PROFESSOR HUXLEY, LL.D., F.R.S., L.S.D.,  
PROFESSOR OF NATURAL HISTORY, NATURALIST, INSPECTOR OF  
FISHERIES, ETC.

"There is more in heaven and earth, O ratio, than is dreamt of in  
your philosophy" — (no perhaps to find it in the rivers).

# Historian Report



1964 – Addendum. Charter recognizing the Missouri Chapter as officially and duly chartered by the American Fisheries Society. Signed by President C.J.D. Brown and Executive Secretary Robert F. Hutton. Image provided by The State Historical Society of Missouri from the Missouri Chapter of the American Fisheries Society Records; (CA6574).

Speaking of records, with advent of the digital age, they are a lot harder to come by. In our early years, there was a plethora of memos, letters, resolutions, and other hard copy records that were easy to collect and preserve. Not so with digital ones that don't get converted to hard copy.

About the only ones left are the meeting minutes and a copy of our newsletter that is printed off of the Internet. Pretty thin soup.

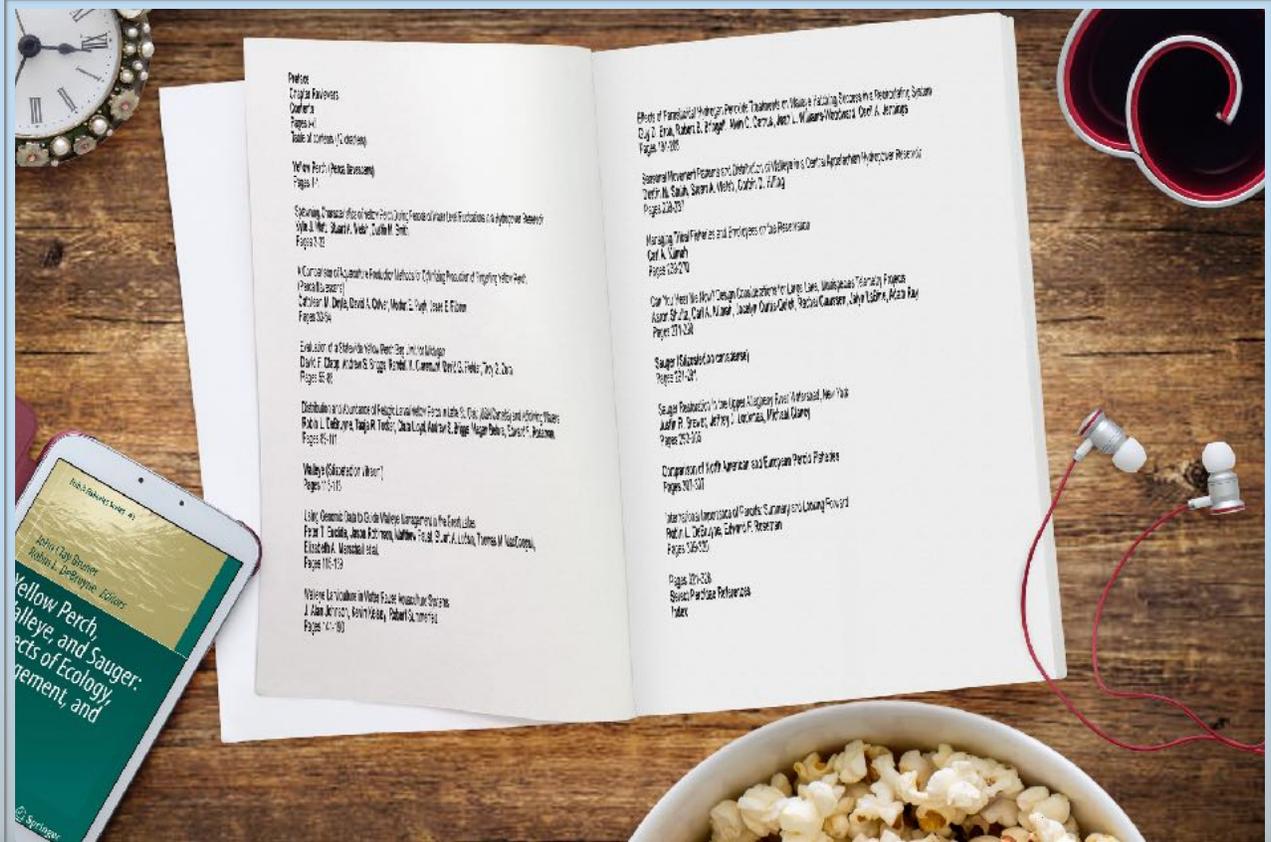
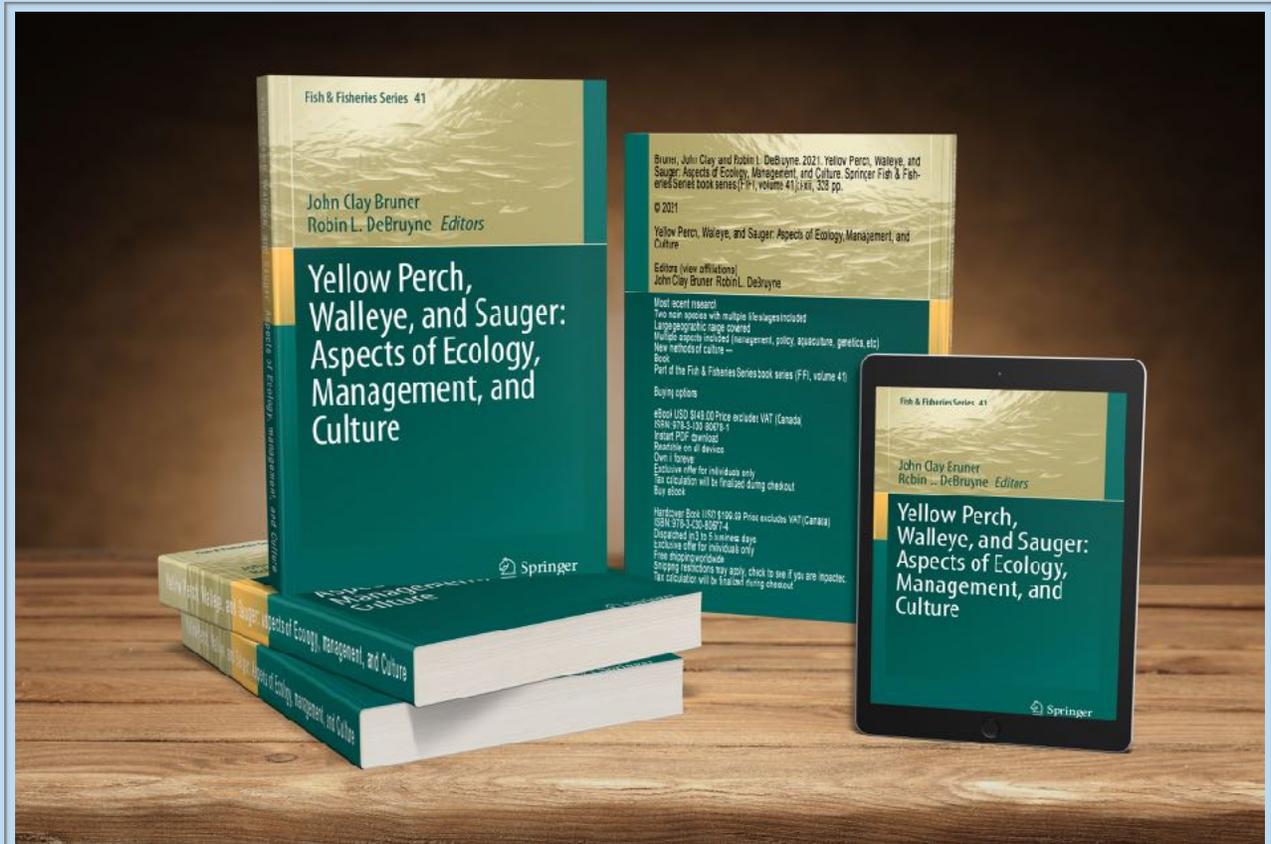
I am happy to have served you all as Historian for all of these years, and continue to collect what records I can and transfer them to SHSMO each year.

May MOAFS continue and history never end.

Joe G. Dillard  
Historian Emeritus



# HOT OFF THE PRESS!!



# Angler's with Disabilities

Prepared by: **Mary Scott**

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The Missouri Chapter of AFS (MOAFS) along with Choices for People, the Lions Club of Rolla, the Conservation Federation of Missouri (CFM), and the Missouri Department of Conservation (MDC) sponsored the 20th Annual Disable Fishing Event: "A Day at the ole fishing hole" at the Rolla Lions Club Park on September 18, 2021.

Approximately fifty disabled anglers enjoyed a day of fishing at the lake Event organizers, Mary Scott (MDC and MOAFS) and Bob Pellegrin (Choices for People) made sure everyone had a fun fishing adventure. Donations from organizers included worms, food, beverages, snacks, and a T-shirt. MOAFS supplied the fish, CFM grant money enabled us to purchase and design T-shirts and MDC supplied the fishing gear. Several fish were caught and everyone had a fantastic time! Thank you to all who came to help out, you're very much appreciated!





## UCM AFS Chapter Report

*Prepared by: Austin Mueller*

Despite the global pandemic, UCM AFS has provided more opportunities to get our members outside and involved and to get more hands-on fisheries experiences within the local area as well as providing outreach and educational opportunities to the general public. This year, several of our members presented at the virtual Missouri Natural Resources Conference. Additionally, we continued with last year's effort to take members out to a local stream in town to teach some fish sampling techniques including seine netting and fish ID. During the fall semester, we teamed up with UCM TWS to run our own little "bioblitz" between members of our organizations at Knob Noster State Park. Birding, mammal trapping, and fish sampling were among activities enjoyed. We also participated in UCM events that we have not done in years past such as Get the Red Out and Welcome Week. These events provide opportunities to recruit new members to our organization and/or educate people about the importance of healthy fisheries to fellow Missourians. Additionally, our president, Austin Mueller, was interviewed for the Warrensburg Star-Journal to talk about and promote AFS. Finally, with the return of the UCM Homecoming parade and UCM's 150th year celebration, we entered our own AFS "float". We may have been the only float that actually floats! And UCM set a Guinness World Record for most Mules used in a parade!





# Missouri State

U N I V E R S I T Y



## MSU AFS Chapter Report

*Prepared by: Aaron Mueller*

The Missouri State University Subunit is excited to get our year started. This semester we will be holding a kayak float trip that will double as a stream cleanup on the James River near Springfield, MO. We will also be taking our subunit out boat electrofishing for all members to gain invaluable experience working with the equipment and working with the fish as well. Of course, our main event is attending opening day of trout fishing in the spring at Bennet Springs, this is always a hit and is a perfect example of stakeholders using the resource. Being able to provide a place where we can foster the future of our discipline is very important to us, so we make sure to provide ample opportunities for professional growth. Whether that be helping students apply for internships, graduate assistantships, or even careers. We are looking forward to attending the National AFS meeting in Baltimore, MD this year and will be sending five members from our subunit to speak about a variety of topics. We hope everyone has a great year!





## MU AFS Chapter Report

*Prepared by: Ashley Hrdina*

The MU Chapter of AFS has high hopes for this year. In this year so far, we have completed our fall biomonitoring event as Stream Team #442 at Grindstone Creek in urban Columbia in conjunction with MDC's Stream Team program. We found that there was a rating of fair in the stream at the time of that monitoring. We are happy to share that we have had a massive jump in membership this year! We hope that we can continue to connect more students with professionals to help students get a jump start in the field of fisheries. Our plans for the rest of the semester include holding a fundraiser on campus with the help of MU's own Dr. Morgan providing Asian carp. Next spring, we plan to bring students to the Missouri Natural Resources Conference including multiple members presenting posters of their research. We also plan to do our spring biomonitoring event and a float trip to celebrate the end of the year. Our newly elected officers this year are Ashley Hrdina (President), Kendall Ivey (Vice President), Emilie Gephart (Secretary), Bailey O'Brian (Treasurer), and Payton Barry (Student Council Representative). We would like to thank all of them in addition to our faculty advisor Craig Paukert for all of their hard work in supporting our chapter!



# Awards 2021

Prepared by: Dan Metcalf

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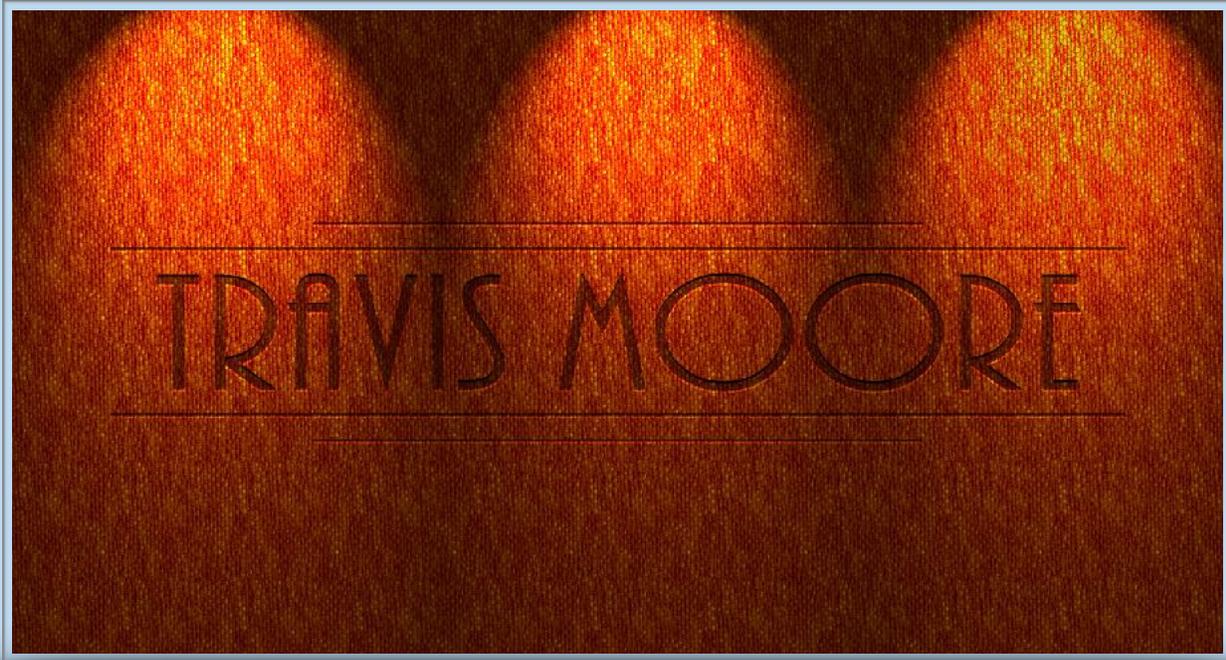


**John L. Funk Award of Excellence:** This award is presented to a Chapter member who makes a substantial or long-term contribution to the field of aquatic resource conservation. Non-members may receive this award, but their contributions must be outstanding.

This year's recipient of the **John L. Funk Award of Excellence** is Mike Kruse. Mike Kruse has been a long-time and well respected advocate of Missouri's aquatic resources. In 1983 Mike received a bachelor's degree in Fisheries and Wildlife from the University of Missouri and in 1985 a Master's degree in Environmental and Forest Biology from the State University of New York College. He then spent a short stint as a biologist for the University of Wisconsin Center for Lake Superior Environmental Studies before joining the Missouri Department of Conservation as a Fisheries Management Specialist in 1986. Mike retired from MDC in 2013 after a successful and productive 27 year career. During his career Mike was a Fisheries Management Biologist, Resource Scientist, Fisheries Program Supervisor, Fisheries Administrative Manager, Resource Science Center Chief, and Resource Science Division Chief. Following his MDC career Mike continued his support for the conservation of Missouri's aquatic resources as an instructor at the University of Missouri. He taught Fisheries Management and Ichthyology and designed a Fisheries Techniques course. During this time, he has also focused on being an advisor for undergraduate students as they navigate their path to a career in conservation. Mike has also Served as President for the Mid Missouri Chapter of Trout Unlimited, an advocate for cooperation between Trout unlimited and the Missouri Department of Conservation, Received the 2009 Conservation Federation of Missouri "Water Conservationist" Award, Served as President and Secretary for the Missouri Chapter of the American Fisheries Society, Chaired the Southern Division AFS Trout Committee, Chaired the development of the Missouri Trout Management Plan, Created Mike's Mohair Leech, a popular fly for trout fishing, has caught trout in 28 states, Canada, England, Italy, and New Zealand. Throughout Mike's extensive time as an advocate for aquatic resources he has always served as a well informed, practical, voice of reason. Missouri's aquatic resources are lucky to have Mike serve their interests and the Missouri Chapter of the American Fisheries Society is proud to present Mike with this year's John L. Funk Award of Excellence.

# Awards 2021

Prepared by: **Dan Metcalf**



A. **Stephen Weithman, Jr. Leadership Award:** This award is presented to a member who provides exemplary leadership in the Chapter. Only members may be considered for this award.

This year's recipient of the **Weithman Leadership Award** is **Travis Moore**. Travis Moore received a Bachelor of Science in Fisheries and Wildlife from the University of Missouri in 1991 and is a 29-year veteran of the Missouri Department of Conservation, and he currently serves as a Fisheries Management Biologist out of Hannibal. Throughout his career Travis has served as a leader, mentor, and dedicated member of MOAFS. His leadership accomplishments include MDC's Lake Sturgeon Recovery Team Lead, Northeast Team Leader for MDC's Discover Nature - Fishing Program, Ebonyshell Mussel Recovery Team Leader, Dean and instructor for MDC's ITC program, Chair of the UMRCC Fisheries Committee and Mussel Committee, 5-time mentor for the internship program of the National Great River Research and Education Center, Advisor for the Conservation Federation of Missouri's Conservation Leadership Corps., Collaborated with the University of Missouri, Western Illinois University, and Perdue University to assist graduate students and develop research projects, Mentored over 20 students as hourly employees with MDC, and President and Scholarship Chair of the University of Missouri School of Natural Resources Alumni Board. He also served as Missouri State Board member for the National Wild Turkey Federation, Northeast Missouri District Director, Northeast Missouri Chapter President, Secretary, Treasurer, JAKES Chair, and Banquet Committee Chair. Travis has also been a very active and valuable members of the Missouri Chapter of the American Fisheries Society. His contributions include Serving as President, Awards Chair, Finance Chair, Student Support Chair, Resolutions Chair, and as a member of the Disabled Angler Committee. He served as the arrangements chair for the 146th Annual Conference of AFS in Kansas City, Student activities chair for the 130th AFS Annual Conference in St. Louis, Arrangements Chair for the UMRCC annual meetings in 2006, 2011, and 2015, Student Activities Chair for the 2003 Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference, Student Activities Chair for the 2005 Southeastern Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies Conference, Hospitality Chair for the 2014 Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference, and Host of the National Association of Paddlefish and Sturgeon meeting in 2018. He started the Student Job Fair at MNRC in 1998 and served as Chair for Exhibits and Posters for 2002 MNRC. Travis' passion to conserve and manage the natural resources of Missouri, his dedication to paying it forward to conservationists of today and tomorrow, and his service to AFS make him a well deserving recipient of the MO-AFS Stephen Weithman, Leadership Award.

# Awards 2021

Prepared by: Dan Metcalf

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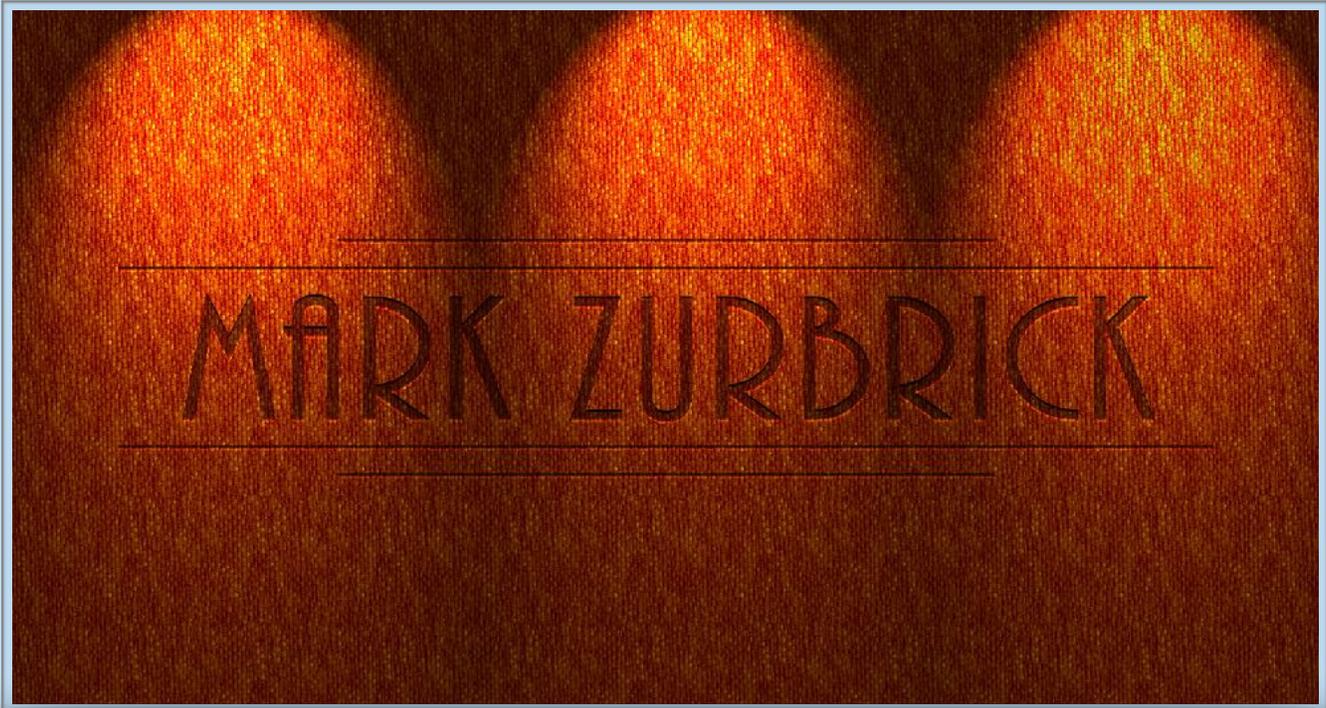
**Lee Redmond Citizen's Award:** This award is presented to a person or persons not directly employed in the aquatic field and who make a substantial or long-term contribution to the field of aquatic resource conservation.

This year's recipient of the **Lee Redmond Citizen's award** is **Ron Moffet**. Ron Moffet is a native to northeast Oklahoma and spent a career working for Boeing in Tulsa. He was a technician on the space shuttle program and was responsible for working on the door for the shuttle. Ron retired from Boeing and started working the night shift at Roaring River hatchery part time on the weekends around 1998. When he finally retired fully in early 2000 he began to be an avid volunteer for the hatchery. Over the last 20 years Ron has donated countless hours to Roaring River Hatchery. Ron has volunteered with every kids fishing day teaching fish cleaning and cooking. He has assisted with veterans free fishing, the Wonders of Wildlife weekend, and also assisted the hatchery with the award winning First Hole program. This program provides bait, tackle and fishing education to various groups averaging over 4,000 participants a year. Ron has assisted with this program by teaching fishing and fixing rods and reels. Roaring River has over 200 loaner fishing rods and Ron will show up and work on these rods and reels many times per year to make sure the line and reels are ready to go for the next group or kids fishing days. Ron always shows up for kids fishing days and will spend the week before assisting the hatchery with handing out brochures, fixing rods and helping answer questions for the thousands of people that show up. Ron has volunteered thousands of hours of his time to assist in the education of thousands of children and adults and we certainly could sure use a lot more people like Ron in the world, willing to give of themselves to help others. MOAFS is proud to recognize Ron's efforts with this year's Lee Redmond's Citizen Award.

# Awards 2021

Prepared by: Dan Metcalf

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**Letters of Recognition:** Letters of recognition are presented to either members or non-members to acknowledge one-time or short-term contributions not covered by the other awards.

The Missouri Chapter of the American Fisheries would like to present a **Letter of Recognition** to **Mark Zurbrick**. Mark Zurbrick has been a long time and dedicated member of the Missouri Chapter of the American Fisheries Society. In recent years Mark has been instrumental in developing and revising an investment strategy for the Student Support Trust Fund. Through this process he has provided in-depth market analysis, detailed investment options, and outlined a comprehensive investment strategy to provide long-term financial security for our student support activities. As a result of Mark's thorough and detailed work MOAFS has been able to both increase its student support activities and secure funding for these activities for many years in the future. MOAFS is grateful for Mark's efforts and would like to provide this letter of recognition for his significant contribution to our ability to support the next generation of aquatic professionals in Missouri.

# Awards 2021

Prepared by: Dan Metcalf

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**Letters of Recognition:** Letters of recognition are presented to either members or non-members to acknowledge one-time or short-term contributions not covered by the other awards.

The Missouri Chapter of the American Fisheries would like to present a **Letter of Recognition** to **Mary Scott**. In 1993 Mary joined the Missouri Department of Conservation and has had a 27-year career with the Department and service with the Missouri Chapter of the American Fisheries Society (MOAFS). In 2000 Mary was promoted to Fisheries Management Biologist and took on the task of organizing and conducting the Kids Fishing Clinics for the Ozark Region. During her career, Mary has provided fishing lessons and fishing events for thousands of children and families. As the Chair of the MOAFS Disabled Angler Committee, Mary has organized the annual disabled fishing event, 'A Day at the 'Ol Fishing Hole" with the Rolla Lions Club, Choices for People, the Missouri Department of Conservation, and the Wheelin' Sportsmen for 18 years. Mary's other long running disabled angler event "A day at the Trout Park" has been held each Spring at Maramec Spring Park for the past 9 years. Along with these two annual events for anglers with disabilities Mary is always willing to bring the support of the Disabled Angler Committee to other fishing events around the state throughout the year. The Choices for People Center provided the following support for Mary's efforts: We are pleased to have partnered with MOAFS for more than twenty years providing an opportunity to disabled individuals to enjoy the outdoors with two fishing events a year held in the Rolla area. This event has become an important part of the disabled community and consistently serves around 150 individuals in our area. The community integration these events provide have become a very important part of their lives. I hope we can continue to partner to bring this event to our clients. The Missouri Chapter of the American Fisheries Society is proud to present Mary Scott with this Letter of Recognition for her dedication in providing fishing opportunities to thousands of children, families, and the disabled.

# Student Awards 2021

## Outstanding Presentations - MNRC

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### Michael Moore - Platform

**Title: Environmental Correlates of Seasonal Movement and Migrations of Lake Sturgeon in the Osage and Gasconade rivers.**

Bio: Michael Moore is a native of Columbia, MO. Currently he is in the final year of his PhD with the Missouri Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Research Unit studying Lake Sturgeon habitat selection and movement in the Osage River. This information will be used in MDC's efforts to restore Lake Sturgeon populations to the state's large rivers.



### Kiah Wright -Poster

**Title: A Novel Method to Assess Substrate Compaction in Lotic Systems.**

Bio: Kiah is a senior at the University of Missouri majoring in Fisheries & Wildlife Science with a minor in Biology. Even as a child, Kiah had a strong interest in conservation and aquatic sciences, which eventually led her to pursue an education in fisheries. She has worked with the Missouri Department of Conservation since 2019 as a Resource Science Aide, assisting in the monitoring of Niangua Darter and Longnose Darter populations in the Ozarks. Kiah has also worked as a laboratory and field technician for the MU Limnology Laboratory, where she helps collect and analyze water quality data, and for the Missouri Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Research Unit, where she is assisting in a literature review to evaluate river and stream restoration success. After graduation, Kiah hopes to go to graduate school and pursue a career in fisheries research. In her free time, Kiah enjoys fly-fishing, cooking and spending time outdoors with her family.

# Student Awards 2021

## Joe G. Dillard Outstanding Undergraduate Scholarship

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Award Background: The Future Professional's Scholarship seeks to support talented and promising aquatic natural resources professionals during their undergraduate studies in Missouri, with preferences given to students involved in AFS, with financial need, and high potential to impact the aquatics field. Applicants must be Missouri students who are, or plan to be, enrolled as an undergraduate student at a Missouri college or university pursuing a degree in the aquatics resource management field (ex: natural resources management, fisheries science, biology, wildlife conservation, environmental science, or a related field). Funding is provided through student-support-specific fund-raisers led by the Chapter.

### **Bailey O'Brian**

# Student Awards 2021

## Student Achievement Award

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**Award Background:** The Student Achievement Award recognizes excellence in academic achievement and extra-curricular involvement by Missouri students. Applicants must be Missouri students who are or plan to be enrolled as an undergraduate or graduate student at a Missouri college or university pursuing a degree in the aquatics resource management field (ex: natural resources management, fisheries science, biology, or a related field). Funding is provided through the earnings of the MOAFS Student Support Trust Fund.

### **Kiah Wright**

**Bio:** Kiah is a senior at the University of Missouri majoring in Fisheries & Wildlife Science with a minor in Biology. Even as a child, Kiah had a strong interest in conservation and aquatic sciences, which eventually led her to pursue an education in fisheries. She has worked with the Missouri Department of Conservation since 2019 as a Resource Science Aide, assisting in the monitoring of Niangua Darter and Longnose Darter populations in the Ozarks. Kiah has also worked as a laboratory and field technician for the MU Limnology Laboratory, where she helps collect and analyze water quality data, and for the Missouri Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Research Unit, where she is assisting in a literature review to evaluate river and stream restoration success. After graduation, Kiah hopes to go to graduate school and pursue a career in fisheries research. In her free time, Kiah enjoys fly-fishing, cooking and spending time outdoors with her family.

# Information Technology Report

Prepared by: Kat Lackman & Alex Prentice

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```
include <stdio.h>
t main() {
    printf("Hello\n");
    return 0; <enter.matrix>
```

Our constant contact system continues to be a successful way for us to stay in touch with our membership. We have a total of 467 active contacts within Constant Contact. Thus far in 2021 we have sent out 22 email campaigns that comprised 8,775 emails with an open rate of 27% (2,224).

# BREAKING NEWS



## MISSOURI NATURAL RESOURCES CONFERENCE



### 2022 MNRC Steering Committee Report - Prepared by Blake Stephens

Overall – Come join us on February 1-3<sup>rd</sup>, 2022 at Margaritaville Resort in Osage Beach for the Missouri Natural Resources Conference hosted by the Missouri Chapter of the American Fisheries Society. This year's conference theme is "Contagious Conservation". The event is welcome to all natural resource professionals and students and is co-sponsored by the Missouri Chapter of the Society of American Foresters, Missouri Chapter of the Wildlife Society and the Show-Me Chapter of the Soil and Water Society.

Registration – Early bird registration is set to start on November 1<sup>st</sup> and run through January 4<sup>th</sup>. It is only \$45 for students and \$85 for MOAFS society members. (After January 4<sup>th</sup>, registration increases by \$20 for society members.)

Career Expo – The career expo will be February 1, 2022 from 5:30-7:00pm and will include resume critiques, mock interviews, job postings, social networking and employer booths. The career expo is entirely free to attend (i.e., you don't have to register for the rest of the conference to attend, although we greatly encourage students to be a part of the main conference to maximize their experience). For students and professionals that are unable to attend in person, there will be a limited virtual option.

However, you can artistically get this information into the newsletter is great. The layout and aesthetics of the newsletter are always eye-catching and help draw readers in to the content. Feel free to pull any additional information you need from the conference website ([www.mnrc.org](http://www.mnrc.org)).

## Upcoming Conferences and Meetings

### Missouri Natural Resources Conference

Osage Beach, Missouri

February 1-3, 2022

<https://mnrc.org/>

### 82nd Midwest Fish & Wildlife Conference

Des Moines, Iowa

February 13-16, 2022

<https://www.midwestfw.org/>

### Joint Aquatic Sciences Meeting

Hosted by nine Aquatic Science societies including: AFS, ASLO, FMCS, NALMS, and SFS

Grand Rapids, Michigan

May 14-20, 2022

[JASM 2022 – Joint Aquatic Sciences Meeting 2022 Grand Rapids \(aquaticsocieties.org\)](http://aquaticsocieties.org)

### North American Native Fishes Association Convention

Winona, Minnesota

June 9-12, 2022

<http://www.nanfa.org/convention/2022.shtml>

### Ecological Society of America 2022 Annual Meeting

Montreal, Canada

August 14-19, 2022

<https://www.esa.org/montreal2022/>

Rotten Tomatoes rates 2021 as the worst sequel of all time. That said, the year was still full of hope and possibility. Did you take advantage of it? There is plenty of opportunity to start again. Plato said "The beginning is the most important part of the work". I wish I could tell you that next year will be better. It probably won't be. But it doesn't have to get better for you to get better. "You don't have to see the whole staircase, just take the first step"~ Marting Luther King Jr. Thank you for all you do and we hope you have a fair dinkum 2022 ya Legends!!

Emily, Hope, Nick, and Dan



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