

Missouri Chapter of the American Fisheries Society

Summary of 1982 Meeting

The Missouri Chapter held its 20th annual meeting on February 11 and 12, 1982 at the University of Missouri jointly with the Missouri Chapter of the Wildlife Society. Under the theme of Water Needs and Allocation in the Missouri River Basin, the audience heard speakers such as Carroll M. Hammon of the Missouri Basin States Association and Steve Krchma of the Missouri Attorney General's Office discuss the political and environmental challenges of water allocation from the Missouri River in the 1980's and what we as natural resource managers must do to meet these challenges.

The chapters Award of Excellence was presented to Lee Redmond, Missouri Department of Conservation, who was recognized for his many achievements in implementing fisheries management practices, and his personal dedication to enhancing Missouri's aquatic resources. The Missouri's chapter letter of Recognition went to John Morris, president of Bass Pro Shops, for his leadership and involvement in support of the Dingell-Johnson Bill. Ms. Martha Shirk was presented the First Citizen's Award for her series of Newspaper articles in the St. Louis Post-Dispatch later published as "The Draining of America" which is an account of the nation's impending water problems.

The Chapter passed resolutions supporting Meramec Park Lake deauthorization, Dingell-Johnson expansion and increased soil erosion control legislation. Resolutions were also passed which opposed changes which would weaken environmental regulation of small hydropower plants, and section 404 of the Clean Water Act.

The Missouri Chapter held its 20th annual meeting on February 11 and 12, 1982, at the University of Missouri jointly with the Missouri Chapter of the Wildlife Society. Under the theme "Water Needs and Allocation in the Missouri River Basin", the audience heard speakers from the Missouri Attorney General's Office and the Missouri Basin States Association discuss economic and political demands for and environmental consequences of diversion of the Upper Missouri River. A wide variety of papers was presented during the fisheries technical session.

The Chapter's Award of Excellence was presented to Lee Redmond, Missouri Department of Conservation, for his leadership in managing the fishery resources of Missouri. Lee was recognized for his sound concepts that have been put into use and made to work through a respected staff of management biologists. He is administratively responsible for the land acquisition program, the highly acclaimed and popular Urban Fishing Programs in St. Louis and Kansas City, and a wide variety of other aquatic management functions.

The Missouri Chapter AFS Letter of Recognition was presented to John Morris, President of Bass Pro Shops for his leadership and support of Dingell-Johnson

Expansion. Ms. Martha Shirk, a St. Louis Post Dispatch reporter, was presented the Chapter's premier award bestowed upon a person not directly employed in the aquatic field who has made a substantial contribution to the field of aquatic resource conservation. Ms. Shirk was recognized for her series of newspaper articles about the nation's impending water problems. The series of seven articles originally published from June 21 through June 28, 1981, are reprinted in a 36-page booklet entitled "The Draining of America".

During the business meeting, Jim Fry was installed as President, Charles Rabeni was elected as President-Elect, and Ron Crunkilton and Bob Legler were elected to the Secretary and Treasurer offices.

Nine resolutions were passed by the membership: (1) support for deauthorization of the Meramec Park Lake Project; (2) support for D-J Expansion; (3) support for legislation requiring coordination of states for diversion of Missouri River water; (4) opposition to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission's proposal to exempt small hydroelectric projects from federal licensing; (5) note of appreciation to Senators Danforth and Eagleton for their support in deauthorization of Meramac Park Lake; (6) support of the Resources Conservation Act to address more aggressive means to arrest soil erosion and subsequent water quality problems; (7) opposition to weakening Section 404 provisions of the Clean Water Law by the Presidential Task Force for Regulatory Relief; (8) support for national deposit legislation for nonreturnable containers; and (9) support for inland waterway user fees on the Missouri and Mississippi Rivers.

The Missouri Chapter met its previous year's goals by publishing a directory of workers in the aquatic sciences in Missouri and by holding a second (spring) meeting. We have also maintained an interest in important issues that affect fishery professionals, fish populations, and habitats in Missouri.