



Missouri Chapter AFS  
1988 Annual Report  
November 21, 1988

The Missouri Chapter has had a busy and productive year in 1988. President Steve Eder's leadership saw the chapter through several new ventures and prepared the way for more opportunities in the future.

One of the highlights of the year was the annual chapter meeting, held in conjunction with the first Missouri Forest, Fish and Wildlife Conference, January 20-22 in Columbia. Before 1988, the Chapter had met jointly with the Missouri Chapter of The Wildlife Society in a meeting that included a joint plenary session, contributed papers and several social events. The change in 1988 was the inclusion of the Missouri Chapter of the Society of American Foresters to create a new and larger gathering. The theme for the first conference was "Integrated Forest Resource Management" and featured speakers from the U.S. Forest Service, including Deputy Chief George Leonard. Over 600 professionals attended the meeting and were pleased enough to approve establishing the meeting as an annual event. The three societies have agreed upon a joint conference planning organization which should help to improve the service the meetings provide to resource professionals. The greatest benefit cited by most of those attending the first meeting was in bringing resource management professionals together, reinforcing the common interests of all concerned about renewable resources. The Missouri Chapter of AFS was responsible for the program and arrangements for the 1988 Conference.

AFS President Stan Moberly added to the value of the annual meeting by addressing the chapter business meeting and by collaring enough individuals in the hallways and coffee shops to infuse his enthusiasm into the lifeblood of the Chapter.

As a way of enhancing Society visibility and developing the Chapter's treasury, we sold T-shirts and ball caps decorated with the Chapter logo. We also contracted with one of Missouri's many fine wildlife artists, Al Agnew, to produce stationery cards which feature fish on the cover. The first production, showcasing a smallmouth bass and a banded sculpin is available in lots of ten from the Chapter president for \$4.00.

The Chapter began a service project to obtain special fishing equipment for disabled Missourians who want to fish but cannot afford or find the necessary equipment. To date, the funds we have raised for this venture are modest, but we have been able to get some tackle out to some people who are now hooked on fishing. In other efforts, we donated a Missouri Ozarks turkey hunt (courtesy Ken Perry) and a Missouri quail hunt (courtesy Fred Vasey) to raise proceeds for the Skinner Fund. We also donated \$150 to the Parent Society to aid with the federal fisheries management initiative.

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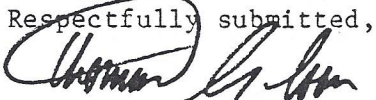
Chapter members helped to facilitate a special citizens workshop on stream resource issues in February. Over 500 people attended the workshop in Jefferson City, which is about 300-400 more than were expected. Workshop topics included streambank protection, river use conflicts, fish habitat improvement and others.

The Chapter established a Rivers and Streams Committee, chaired by Bill Turner, to provide input and direction for stream management in Missouri and to contribute to the North Central Division Rivers and Streams Technical Committee.

The Chapter served as an advocate on state resource issues such as control of ATV use in stream channels, implementation of stream enhancing aspects of the 1985 Farm Bill and the Mark Twain National Forest's management plan, protection of fishery resources downstream of the H.S. Truman Dam and mining on the Mark Twain National Forest.

It is a pleasure to serve the fine fishery professionals of Missouri. Two of our members received national honors this year: Spencer Turner was named Professional Conservationist of the Year by Trout Unlimited and John "Slim" Funk was awarded the Golden Membership Certificate for 50 years of membership and service to the AFS. New officers began serving in September: President Tom Coon, President-Elect Steve Weithman, Secretary Dave Neuswanger and Treasurer Mahalia Boyd.

Respectfully submitted,



Thomas G. Coon  
President