



THE TELEGRAM

Wisconsin Chapter American Fisheries Society Newsletter

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President's Message

Hi, One and All,

As I sit in the great ballroom at the Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference in Omaha, Nebraska, I can't help but wonder what this scene will look like next year when we are co-hosting the 68th Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference in Madison. I urge all our members to write the dates

December 9-12, 2007 in your new calendars and help make this event a great success by participating in what plans to be a great meeting. You can locate up to date information for the conference by visiting the conference website at <http://midwest.ncd-afs.org/>. During 2007 you may get frequent emails from the committees that are organizing the conference and need your help as a volunteer, I know that you are all willing and we appreciate your support for our Chapter at this event. On a new subject Martye Griffin has been doing a great job at keeping the website updated and has been keeping the newsletter on schedule. Visit our website often to check on updates we are located at <http://www.fisheries.org/wiafs/>. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of you for your support as I come to the end of my term as president and hope that you will show your continued support to our incoming president Tom Slawski. I look forward to seeing you all in Milwaukee January 9-11, 2007 where I expect us to have a fantastic turn out. The program has many excellent presentations and Tom has worked hard at putting together a couple of social events that will surely go down in Chapter history.

Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays to all!

*Justine Hasz
The Prime Minister*

P.S. Yes I did shoot another buck, yes it is bigger than the one I shot last year, and yes Darryl shot a buck too but it was smaller!



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Editor's Note

Greetings Members,

Once again we find ourselves at the end of an exiting year, and another one right around the corner. First off I want to express a heartfelt 'Thanks' to all members who took time out of their busy schedules to contribute ideas for newsletter and website articles. We actually had enough information to fill (yet again) three newsletters with exciting and cutting edge information. I have no doubt that once again The Teleogram will be in the running for the 'Best Newsletter' award in the North Central Division. And if there was a national newsletter award, I am sure we would compete highly there as well. All in all, this has been a great year for the Communications

Committee. We have successfully started our task of streamlining the way that members are able to communicate with each other and also the way we communicate with professionals outside of our membership. This year we have revised the website, added multiple ways to get in touch with members, including a new web board. But we still have a long way to go. We are still working on ways to streamline comments from membership on Executive Committee actions as well as allowing members to participate in activities remotely (i.e. voting online for resolutions, Chapter President, etc.). Please let us know if you have any ideas, or would like to see the Communications Committee move in a certain direction. Remember, we are here to serve the membership and we will work hard to satisfy your needs.

Have a great holiday season and Happy New Year!

Martye

Announcements

Election Season!

John Kubisiak is running unopposed for President Elect and Pat Schmalz is running unopposed for Secretary/Treasurer. Below are their respective biographies. Please note that even though these two candidates are running unopposed members can nominate potential candidates at the annual meeting before the voting takes place.

Office of Secretary/Treasurer Candidate

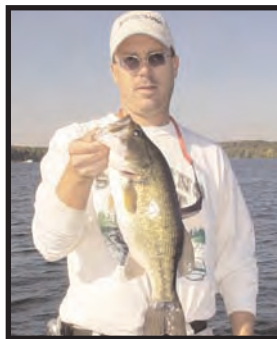
Patrick Schmalz

I am honored to be nominated to serve the Wisconsin Chapter of the American Fisheries Society as the Secretary-Treasurer for a second term. I have been active at all levels of the American Fisheries Society since my student days, and have carried that into my professional career. Professional service is a vitally important aspect of a fisheries career.

I am currently the Treaty Fisheries Coordinator in the Bureau of Fisheries Management and Habitat Protection for the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR), and have been since August 2004. I am located in the central office in Madison. From November 2001 until August 2004, I was the Warmwater Lakes and Regulations Coordinator for WDNR. From December 2000 – November 2001 I was a project fisheries biologist working as a treaty data analyst. From September 1999 – December 2000 I worked as a research assistant at Michigan Technological University in Houghton, Michigan.

I have been a member of the American Fisheries Society since 1995. I served as a member of the AFS 2004 Annual Meeting Planning Committee. I have attended four national AFS meetings. I have been a member of the Fisheries Management Section since 2001, and was a member of the Fisheries Administrators Section, American Fisheries Society in 2001. I served as the Wisconsin AFS chapter's representative to the North Central Division-AFS Centrarchid Technical Committee during 2003-2005. In addition I have participated in the North Central Division-AFS Walleye Technical Committee. I served as president of the UW-Stevens Point student sub-unit during 1996-1997, where I was also a member of the Wisconsin Chapter Executive Committee. I served as vice-president of the UW-Stevens Point sub-unit during 1995-1996.

I received a M.S. in Natural Resources – Fisheries from the University of Wisconsin at Stevens Point in 1999. My thesis research focused on lake trout movement in Lake Michigan. I received a B.S. in Water Resources – Fisheries and Biology from the University of Wisconsin at Stevens Point in 1997.



Announcements *(continued)*

Office of President-elect Candidate

John Kubisiak

I am honored to be nominated for Wisconsin Chapter President. For those of you who don't know me, I am a DNR Fisheries Biologist stationed at Rhineland, responsible for the waters in Oneida County, Wisconsin. I received a B.S. in Limnology with a minor in Chemistry from University of Wisconsin Stevens Point (1991) and an M.S. in Fisheries from the University of Missouri Columbia (1997). For my M.S. research I compared small fish assemblages among Missouri River floodplain ponds and found that connectivity to the Missouri River was a significant determinant of fish abundance, biomass, and species composition.

I have been a member of the AFS parent society since 1994, and have also been active in several state and student chapters. While in graduate school, I was a student representative on the Missouri Chapter Executive Committee, and was active in the Rivers and Streams Committee. Most recently, I coordinated registration for the 2004 AFS annual meeting in Madison and I have served as a peer reviewer for several scientific journals, including *North American Journal of Fisheries and Aquatic Sciences*. I also keep current with the North Central Division walleye and esocid technical committees.

My life seems to revolve around fish, but other interests include spending time with my family, hunting, trapping, and biking. I indulge my interest in chemistry by brewing beer and hand-loading ammunition.

I bring a diverse work background to the table. I have worked with west coast salmon fisheries, fish drug chemistry, large floodplain rivers, the Great Lakes, northern Wisconsin inland fisheries, and fisheries data analysis. Although fisheries in Large Rivers and Great Lakes might seem worlds apart, the issues are not all that different, and they share common principles grounded in sound fisheries science.



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Similar to the diverse fisheries we collectively study and manage, I believe that the diverse fisheries professionals in Wisconsin share many common issues and needs and AFS can fill an important role in all of our professional lives. The Wisconsin chapter leadership has done a great job of maintaining an active and invigorated chapter, and I believe we are headed in the right direction. We recently established a new student sub-unit at Northland College, we are in an excellent financial status, and our two student scholarship funds are self-sustaining with an annual award of around \$1400.

If elected, my vision for the Chapter is to invest in professional development, along with increased involvement of students and new members. I also see AFS as a platform to elevate public awareness of who we are and what we do as fisheries professionals. I would like to invest in both student scholarships to achieve awards of at least \$2,000 per year. I would also like to reach a larger number of technical and hatchery staff by tailoring some of our continuing education offerings to their interests.

Thank you for your consideration and support.

Fishing Tournament Rules Revised

A proposed rules package for fishing tournaments held in Wisconsin has been revised to address concerns raised by members of the Natural Resources Board, including costs, the spread of aquatic invasive species and tournament-related fish mortality. The revised rules package would also require tournament organizers to have a plan, approved by the DNR, to prevent the spread of aquatic invasive species, such as zebra mussels and Eurasian milfoil. "If the plan is not approved, they would not be able to conduct the tournament," said Patrick Schmalz. The new rules package would also reduce the amount of tournament fishing activity allowed on small lakes. More information and the [complete article](#).

[Editors Note: CONGRATULATIONS to Pat who was recently awarded 'special recognition' by the DNR Fisheries Management Board with for his outstanding efforts and diligent work related to revising the fisheries tournament rules for the state.]

Announcements *(continued)*



Meeting Announcement and Paper Titles

Fisheries: Biology and Beyond *36th Annual Meeting*

Milwaukee, Wisconsin -where Great Lakes and inland fisheries converge- is the venue for the 36th Annual Meeting of the Wisconsin Chapter of the American Fisheries Society to be held January 9-11, 2007.

This conference explores the relationship between fisheries, management, and people, recognizing that each affects, and has an effect on, the other. An array of relevant topics will be explored in depth with this complexity in mind. The conference will have something for everyone – from specialized fisheries scientists and professionals to researchers to managers and budding Young-of-Year students. Experts in their respective fields will gather to share their knowledge, network, as well as learn.

This conference will continue to offer an opportunity to learn about cutting edge biological, genetic, and ecological research and management currently going on throughout the State of Wisconsin. This conference will also feature social aspects of fisheries management such as: perception and impact of bag limits and signage regulations on fisheries (Do they work?), tournament fishing issues, successful private-public partnerships that lead to protection and enhancement of fisheries, relationship between fisheries and economies of local communities, and more...

Join us at downtown Milwaukee's high-class Hyatt Regency, in the heart of downtown Milwaukee. Reservations for the conference should be made no later than Dec. 11, 2006, to take advantage of the special conference rate at the Hyatt Regency

(Hotel Reservation Department phone (414)276-1234, (800)233-1234, or on <http://www.hyatt.com> code "G-ASEW"). It is important to note that the Hyatt will not be able to guarantee the room state per diem rates beyond Dec. 11

As always for the annual meeting there is no pre-registration. Registration for the meeting is done is on-site during the first night social usually between 6:00 - 8:00 p.m. You can also register beginning at 8:00 a.m. on the second day. Registration prices are \$70 for regular members and \$35 for student members.

For more information contact Tom Slawski at tslawski@sewrpc.org or (262)547-6721.

To view tentative agenda and paper titles please visit http://www.fisheries.org/wiafs/pdf/paper_titles07.pdf

What is the Largest Bony Fish?

If you are like many of us, you probably waited until the last minute to renew your AFS Membership for 2007. When you renew, please consider this invitation. The Education Section of the American Fisheries Society invites you to join our Section. Education Section activities, including preparation and revision of textbooks, support of student travel to meetings, and compilation of brochures on academic programs and fisheries career opportunities. One focus of the section is undergraduate and graduate education. However, the Education Section also supports lifelong learning of all fisheries professionals. We encourage all fisheries professionals to expand their minds through the pursuit of new knowledge. To that end, we are sponsoring a "Largest Fish" contest.

What is the largest bony fish known to science? If you think you know the answer, email your response to Steve Lochmann at slochmann@uaex.edu. The Section will provide a small incentive to some lucky individual, randomly chosen from among the respondents with the correct answer. Take some time, explore the possibilities, and see what there is to learn about really big fish. You must be a member of the Education Section to be eligible for the "small incentive."

Communicating Science



Update: Shoreland Protection Rules

In the **Fall 2006 issue** of *The Teleogram* it was reported that DNR staff

finished reviewing the 12,000 citizen comments received during and after public hearings held last summer and recently reconvened the citizen advisory committee that had helped design the original proposal and had been meeting since the rewrite effort began over three years ago. The advisory committee heard summaries of the public comments on the original proposal to update Chapter NR 115 of the Wisconsin Administrative Code.

Since then focus groups have been busy working on recommendations for changes to the shoreland zoning law that will help decrease the amount of pollution running into Wisconsin waters. Their suggestions will be considered as part of proposed changes to Wisconsin's Shoreland Management Program (NR 115). The focus group recommendations shift how the state seeks to prevent polluted runoff from entering lakes and rivers. Instead of basing regulations on how, when, and where a structure was built near the water, as is currently the case, the recommendations call for regulating structures based on their potential to harm water quality, habitat, and impact natural scenic beauty, given their size and the amount of paved areas. The rules would only apply when permits are sought for construction or additions. For more information on this topic, please [read the complete summary](#) or [visit the shoreland zoning website](#).



Did You Know?

The USGS Fisheries: Aquatic and Endangered Resources Program (FAER) focuses on the study of fishes, fisheries, fish dis-

eases and parasites, aquatic organisms and their water based and water-dependent habitats. Endangered species and those that are imperiled receive special research interest. The Program's

research on the diversity, natural history, health, and habitat requirements of fish and other aquatic organisms is carried out to support the management, conservation and restoration of our Nations aquatic resources. The **Fisheries and Aquatic Bulletin** (FAB) is published four times per year by the FAER program and specifically focuses on several research areas, including:

- aquatic organism health,
- aquatic species at risk,
- diversity, species interactions, and life history strategies,
- aquatic species and habitats,
- restoration science, and
- research support and technical assistance.

Most Recent FAB Issue

Stream Segments Designated as Outstanding Resource Waters

Odds just improved that Wisconsin residents and visitors will continue to enjoy for generations the same clean water, outstanding recreation, and valuable fisheries they now treasure on 44 pristine northern stream segments. The stream segments have been officially added to Wisconsin's list of top quality waters, earning them additional legal protections to prevent degradation of their water quality and habitat and to assure they have the groundwater needed to feed them year-round.

These designations act to preserve water quality by triggering additional levels of protection from wastewater pollution, primarily from new sources of wastewater to be discharged directly to the waters. As the result of separate 2004 laws, the designations also trigger environmental reviews for new applications for high capacity groundwater wells proposed within 1,200 feet, and for proposed alterations to shorelines of designated waters.

A full listing of the 44 stream segments recently designated as outstanding or exceptional resource waters, and more information on the increased legal protections these waters now receive, is available on the [Outstanding Resource Waters page of the DNR Web site](#).

More information and the [Complete Article](#).

Communicating Science *(continued)*



DNR Will Trap, Pull Nuisance Fish from Lake Wingra

Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources fishery experts are formulating plans to pull thousands of carp out of Lake Wingra next spring by funneling the undesirable species into the lagoon during spawning season, then using a seine net to drag ton after ton of carp out of the water.

"Our goal is to get them out of the lake," said DNR lakes researcher Dick Lathrop.

Carp are the main culprits behind the murky waters of Lake Wingra. The fish stir sediments as they bottom-feed, which makes it difficult for native plants to get sunlight, and also allows invasive plants such as Eurasian water milfoil to thrive. Lathrop's been working with DNR fisheries manager Kurt Welke on ways to improve water quality and fish habitat in the small lake on Madison's near west side. [**Editor's Note: see Fall 2006 issue of The Telegram**]

Welke used a tracking system the past year to gauge where carp were going in the lake, and discovered they liked to gather in the Vilas Park lagoon to spawn in spring, but then dispersed throughout the lake the rest of the year.

"If a large number of carp go to the lagoon to spawn, we can set up a fish weir to let the carp go into the lagoon, but they won't be able to find their way out."

In addition to setting up this weir -- essentially a one-way funnel made with netting -- the plan also calls for a separate net blockade halfway across the lagoon so carp can't get to the inner lagoon. The blockade will make it easier for the fish handlers to take the carp out of the west end of the lagoon instead of trying to corral them from the full lagoon.

More information and the [complete article](#).

New and Improved Invasives Interface

The Global Invasive Species Database (**GISD**) was developed as part of the global initiative on invasive species. It is the world's premier source of free, authoritative information about introduced species that threaten native biodiversity and livelihoods now has improved content and functions. The aim of the database is to increase awareness about invasive alien species and to facilitate effective prevention and management activities. It is managed by the Invasive Species Specialist Group (**ISSG**) of the Species Survival Commission of the IUCN-World Conservation Union. The Global Invasive Species Database focuses on invasive alien species that threaten native biodiversity and covers all taxonomic groups from micro-organisms to animals and plants in all ecosystems. Species information is either supplied by or reviewed by expert contributors from around the world.

Don't Forget!!!

For more information on upcoming fisheries related conferences and Seminars visit the [Chapter Website](#) (any page along the left side).

Need to Renew Your Membership?

E-mail Tim Simonson at Tim.Simonson@wi.gov or you can send in the renewal form located on the last page of this newsletter.



Communicating Science *(continued)*

AFS 2006 AFS National Meeting

The AFS 136th Annual Meeting was recently held on Lake Placid, NY. It was very well attended with the final attendance figure of 1,980 (Is there a better number for a meeting in Lake Placid?). This officially makes the 2006 Meeting the second largest in AFS history. The Wisconsin Chapter was well represented at the meeting and judging from the stories, a good time was had by all. To catch a glimpse of what went on in Lake Placid we have included some photos of our members. In addition, the AFS 2006 Organizing Committee has put together a [photo show](#).

Enjoy!



Upcoming Events



2007 Wisconsin Chapter AFS Annual Meeting

Mark your calendars. The 36th Annual meeting will be held January 9-11, 2007 at the Hyatt Regency in Milwaukee. Rumor has it the legendary social night will incorporate the spoils of local brewing establishments, and of course smoked chubs!



2007 Midwest Fish & Wildlife Conference

The Chapter will participate in hosting the **68th Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference**, December 9-12, 2007, in Madison. Chapter members are encouraged to participate in meeting planning. Please contact Joe Hennessy if you are interested in participating as a member of the event planning committee. With enthusiastic participation from Chapter members, this event can serve as a significant fundraiser to support Chapter activities.

Tech and Science

Viral Hemorrhagic Septicemia Threatens!

By Tom Slawski

Viral hemorrhagic septicemia (VHS) virus is an extremely serious pathogen of fresh and saltwater fish, and is causing an emerging disease in the Great Lakes region of the United States and Canada. VHS has been found specifically in the waters of Lake Huron, Lake St. Clair, Lake Erie, Lake Ontario, and the St. Lawrence River. Due to its high mortality and severe economic consequences, VHS is classified as a reportable disease by the World Organization for Animal Health (OIE) and has stimulated a [Federal Order to prevent the spread of VHS](#) into aquaculture facilities by the Secretary of Agriculture.

In the past, VHS was thought to be a concern only for trout and a few other freshwater fish farmed for commercial aquaculture in Europe. However, the recent outbreak in the Great Lakes region appears to be a new strain of the virus. This new strain is responsible for die-offs in a number of commercially important warmwater fish species.



How VHS was transferred to the Great Lakes or how long it has been in the ecosystem is not known. The disease transmits easily between fish of all ages. Mortality is high. Some fish show no external signs while others show signs that include bulging eyes, bloated abdomens, inactive or overactive behavior, and hemorrhaging in the eyes, skin, gills, and at the base of the fins. Infected fish may also have lesions that look like those caused by other fish diseases. Therefore, testing is necessary to determine whether the fish is infected.

If the spread of this disease follows the pattern established by other aquatic invasives, we can expect that VHS will become an issue of concern in our inland lakes. The Wisconsin Chapter AFS is working to secure a keynote speaker for the upcoming [annual meeting in January 2007](#) who can address this important emerging issue affecting our fisheries.

[More information on VHS](#)



Global Warming Increases Species Extinctions Worldwide

Global warming has already caused extinctions in the most sensitive habitats and will continue to cause more species to go extinct over the next 50 to 100 years, confirms a recently published meta-study on global warming impacts on biological diversity appearing in *Annual Review of Ecology, Evolution, and Systematics* ([Vol. 37, Pp 637-669](#)).

“This is absolutely the most comprehensive synthesis of the impact of climate change on species to date,” said Dr. Camille Parmesan a University of Texas at Austin biologist. Parmesan reviewed over 800 scientific studies on the effects of human-induced climate change on thousands of species and was also able to show that species are not evolving fast enough to prevent extinction.

Previously published predictions, including those co-authored by Parmesan in a [2001 Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change report](#), were that species restricted to cold climate habitats like the Earth’s poles or mountain tops and with narrow temperature tolerances (for example, tropical corals) would be most affected by global warming. Less than a decade later, those very predictions have been borne out. The most sensitive species are going extinct and/or shifting their ranges geographically as their original habitats become inhospitable. The studies reviewed by Parmesan reveal that this trend will continue.

More information and the [complete article](#).



Tech and Science *(continued)*



Synthetic Fragrances Perfume Lake Sediments

The scent of perfume behind the ears has timeless allure, but perfume raises scientific eyebrows when it persists in the environment. Research published in a recent issue of *Environmental Science and Technology* (Vol 40,

Iss. 18, Pp 5629-5635) documents,

for the first time, a historical profile of synthetic-fragrance concentrations in lake sediments. The results show a dramatic rise in environmental exposure over the past 15 years - a potential concern if these persistent contaminants turn out to have biological effects.

U.S. manufacturers used 6500 tons of synthetic musks in 2000, the last year for which data are available. The U.S. EPA lists HHCB (Galaxolide), the most common fragrance compound, as a **high-production-volume chemical**; >1 million lb/year are imported or produced. In addition, synthetic fragrances persist in the environment, accumulate in animals, and have an affinity for fat—all traits of persistent organic pollutants. These properties, combined with the sheer volume used, worry researchers, who have begun to track the environmental fate and biological impacts of synthetic fragrances

More information and the [complete article](#).

Further reading on this topic: [Environmental Science and Technology Vol 38, Pp 367-372](#)



Macho Moms

Known largely as a component of rocket fuel, perchlorate is a pollutant that often

turns up in soil and water. In dozens of studies, it has perturbed thyroid-hormone concentrations, which can affect growth and neurological development. Data from fish now indicate that perchlorate can also disrupt sexual development and masculinize fish. Some of the changes were so

dramatic that scientists initially mistook female fish for males. Several females displayed male-courtship behavior and produced sperm.

In a recent study appearing in *Environmental Toxicology and Chemistry* (No. 25, pp. 2087–2096), the first sign of something amiss: Among perchlorate-exposed three-spine stickle backs, many would-be dads lacked the electric-blue and red coloration that normally signals readiness to spawn. Most of these fish didn't exhibit typical reproductive behaviors, such as nest building, and many ignored prospective mates. Among clean-water males, 80 percent spawned. As the perchlorate concentration climbed from 30 to 100 ppm, successful spawning fell from 50 percent to zero. Eventually, the bellies of three apparent males began swelling with eggs. They proved to be hermaphroditic females, bearing both fertile eggs and fertile sperm.

More information and the [complete article](#).

[Further reading on this topic](#)

Notes

CONGRATULATIONS!

Rachel Koehler (UW Stevens-Point) has been named Wisconsin's 2006 recipient of the AFS North Central Division Joan Duffy Student Travel Award. She will receive \$200 to go towards travel related expenses as she attends the 2006 Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference in Nebraska. [More about the award.](#)

New Chapter Snail Mail Address

American Fisheries Society, Wisconsin Chapter
PO Box 1846 Madison, WI 53701

New Way to Contact Members!

Not into e-mail? Like to have more dynamic discussions? The Communications Committee has set up a discussion board. To start a topic, or respond to others visit <http://wiafs.hyperboards.com/>.

Resolutions Anyone?

Resolutions are being solicited to be presented at the January 2007 annual meeting. If you have a resolution please send it to Glenn Miller at glenn_miller@fws.gov no later than December 15 so that they can be put into final form and published in time for the annual meeting. Thank you.

Book Excerpt

The End of the Line: How Overfishing Is Changing the World and What We Eat

By Charles Clover

Gourmands and health-conscious consumers alike have fallen for fish; last year per capita consumption in the United States hit an all-time high. Packed with nutrients and naturally low in fat, fish is the last animal we can still eat in good conscience. Or can we?

In this vivid, eye-opening book—first published in the UK to wide acclaim and now extensively revised for an American audience—environmental journalist Charles Clover argues that our passion for fish is unsustainable. Seventy-five percent of the world's fish stocks are now fully exploited or over-fished; the most popular varieties risk extinction within the next few decades.

Clover trawls the globe for answers, from Tokyo's sumptuous fish market to the heart of New England's fishing industry. He joins hardy sailors on high-tech boats, interviews top chefs whose menu selections can influence the fate of entire species, and examines the ineffective organizations charged with regulating the world's fisheries. Along the way he argues that governments as well as consumers can take steps to reverse this disturbing trend before it's too late. The price of a mouthwatering fillet of Chilean sea bass may seem outrageous, but *The End of the Line* shows its real cost to the ecosystem is far greater.



Excerpt:

Eating fish is fashionable, and seafood is consumed with far less conscience than meat.

Even many “vegetarians” see no irony in eating fish. It has become a kind of dietary talisman for Western consumers. Nutritionists tell us that fish is

good for us—the best source of low-fat protein and vitamins—and that the omega-3 fatty acids in oily fish aid in optimal brain function, reduce the danger of heart attacks and strokes, and delay the onset of arthritis and osteoporosis. Studies even indicate that consuming fish slows down the aging process and can help us lose weight because a fishy diet switches off our hunger hormone, making us feel satisfied on smaller amounts of more nutritious food. Models, Hollywood actresses, and socialites don't even need to smoke to stay skinny; they can be satisfied on birdlike portions. All they have to do is eat fish.

Unfortunately, our love affair with fish is unsustainable. The evidence for this is before our eyes. We have seen what industrial technology did to the great whales, the hunting of which is now subject to a worldwide, but not total, ban. I believe we are crossing another watershed in public thinking—namely, what industrial techniques, unchecked market forces, and lack of conscience are doing to inhabitants of the sea. On land a watershed was reached in farming when sprays, fertilizers, food additives, and factory-farming techniques used in the raising of crops and animals led to the collapse of farmers' reputations as custodians of the countryside and guardians of the quality of food we eat. The farmers' image is only slowly being rebuilt, amid much suspicion. Fish were once seen as a renewable resource, creatures that would replenish their stocks forever for our benefit. But around the world there is evidence that numerous populations of fish, such as the northern cod, the North Sea skate, the marbled rock cod of Antarctica, and to a great extent the bluefin tuna, have been fished out, like the great whales before them, and are not recovering. Reassurance from official sources on both sides of the Atlantic that the seas are being “managed” scientifically is increasingly muted and, where it is given at all, hard to believe. Enforcement of the rules that are meant to prevail in the oceans has proved wanting almost everywhere. Even in some of the best-governed democracies, experts admit that overfishing is out of control.

For more excerpts, visit the [publisher's website](#).

Conferences and Seminars

2007 Wisconsin Lakes Convention

The Wisconsin Lakes Convention will be held on April 26-28, 2007. The Wisconsin Lakes Partnership is searching for lake organization members and leaders, resource professionals, researchers, students, teachers, business leaders and others to submit proposals for educational presentations, field trips and hands-on workshops for the 29th annual Wisconsin Lakes Convention. The event, held at the KI Convention Center in Green Bay, will center on the theme of *Agents of Change. We make a difference.* Our lakes need citizens to step forward as agents of change as pollution, global warming, invasive species and other tribulations take their toll. The convention will focus on ways citizens can be a force for positive changes that will result in clean, healthy lakes.

4th North American Reservoir Symposium

The Reservoir Committee of the American Fisheries Society's Southern Division invites abstracts for contributed oral and poster presentations for the 4th North American Reservoir Symposium: *Balancing Fisheries Management and Water Uses for Impounded River Systems.* The symposium will be held June 6-9, 2007 in Atlanta, Georgia and will address the challenges of managing reservoir fisheries in the context of competing water uses.

Additional information about the meeting can be found at the [Southern Division AFS website](#).



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