

DEADLINE EXTENSION-January 26, 2007

Last Call for Papers

2007 Annual Meeting

Texas Chapter American Fisheries Society

All aquatic resources professionals, educators, students, and industry personnel are invited to submit abstracts for the technical and poster sessions of the 2007 TCAFS Annual Meeting at the Cherotel (www.cherotel.com) in Lake Jackson, Texas, March 2-4, 2007. A special session will be held on "Restoration, Creation and Recovery of Wetlands". Those interested in presenting at the special session should indicate so on the abstract. **The new and FINAL deadline for submission of abstracts is Friday, January 26, 2007.** Please send abstract(s) by email attachment in Microsoft Word format to Craig Bonds.

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Abstracts must follow the format below (also see example abstract):

Title: Brief but descriptive

Authors: List all authors, their mailing addresses, telephone numbers, and email addresses. Underline speaker's name. For student speakers, please provide (U) for undergraduate or (G) for graduate status following your name.

Abstract: Informative yet not more than 200 words and double-spaced.

Presentation: Indicate Oral, Preferably Oral (but will accept poster presentation), or Poster Presentation. If oral presentation, indicate whether submitting for the general or special session. Please include dimensions (e.g., 3' x 5') of poster to ensure sufficient space for all presenters.

Visual Aid: All presentations must be in Microsoft PowerPoint form.

Note: Oral presentations are limited to 15 minutes; the recommended format is a 12-minute presentation followed by a 3-minute question-and-answer period. An LCD projector and PC for PowerPoint presentations will be provided.

Example Abstract:

Reducing Predation on Stocked Largemouth Bass Fingerlings

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Habituating stocked fish to predator-rich environments before release can be feasible and a cost-effective way to improve stocking efficiency. We first investigated the effects of habituation in laboratory tanks. Survival of fingerling largemouth bass *Micropterus salmoides* increased from 26% to 46% ($P < 0.004$) when fish were habituated in a predator-free enclosure for at least 15 minutes prior to their release, suggesting that fingerling largemouth bass adapted quickly to their new environments. We then conducted similar experiments in larger research ponds to insure applicability before implementing such strategies at reservoir stockings. Our pond experiment used a factorial design in which two periods of habituation (0 or 60 minutes) were crossed with two habitat types (absent or complex). Survival of stocked fingerling largemouth bass ranged from 4% to 22% after 24 h. Fish stocked into complex habitat survived equally well with or without habituation. Fish stocked into habitat had a 49% increase in relative survival when compared to fish stocked into areas without habitat and without habituation ($P < 0.001$). Fish stocked into areas without habitat that were habituated for 60 minutes survived as well as those stocked into complex habitat ($P = 0.23$). These results suggest habituation may be an effective option to reduce predation when habitat is scarce.

Presentation type: Oral – General Session