



The Newsletter of
the Texas Chapter of
the American
Fisheries Society



Volume 25 (4)

Winter Issue

November 1999

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

by Paul Hammerschmidt

Almost a year has passed since our meeting in Corpus Christi. As is always the case, sometimes this last year seems like a lifetime has gone by, and sometimes it feels like it happened only yesterday. Regardless, it has been a privilege and an honor to serve the TCAFS membership.

Now it's countdown time for ArkLaTex 2000. Charlie Munger has worked very hard coordinating with our friends in Arkansas and Louisiana. He is finalizing details of the upcoming joint meeting to be held in Bossier City, Louisiana. This is going to be a great meeting. I am looking forward to meeting with our colleagues to the East.

In order to facilitate registration, please take advantage of the pre-registration form enclosed.

In addition, I encourage you to consider making a presentation during the technical session. The technical session is the meat of our annual get-together. It's a tremendous opportunity to present and exchange ideas about your work and research. Remember to submit your abstract to Gordon Linam, time is short. See Gordon's article or call him for details and deadlines.

Hope to see you in Bossier City.

Take care, and be safe.

ArkLaTex 2000

by Charlie Munger

ArkLaTex 2000 will be an exciting meeting full of quality presentations that you won't want to miss. Our panel discussion will be on vegetation control and its impact or relationship to fisheries management. We also have some high quality continuing education sessions planned that will be taught by experts in the field. You will also have the opportunity to hear and meet the new Executive Director of AFS, Gus Rassam. He will be a featured speaker at one of our sessions. Read through the following paragraphs to learn more about these sessions and make plans to attend this meeting. It will be one you don't want to miss.

Panel Discussion: Vegetation Control and Fisheries Management

Debbie Magin

Guadalupe/Blanco River Authority

She will be presenting an overview of a quasi-governmental entity's experience with efforts to control aquatic vegetation in hydroelectric impoundments, irrigation canals and cooling water reservoirs/park lakes. She will also discuss the river authority's policy and directive that have been put into place in response to the public's reaction to herbicides and aquatic vegetation control.



Mike Freeze
Keo Fish Farm

Mr. Freeze sent the following synopsis of his presentation. "Sterile triploid grass carp are a fisheries management tool that when properly used can accomplish specific objectives associated with the reduction of aquatic macrophytes. The use of a biological control for aquatic vegetation is ecologically more desirable and economically more cost effective. Certain physical constraints may limit the application of triploid grass carp, but where prudent they have proven to be an effective management tool in large as well as small bodies of water."

Sam Pittman
SePRO Corporation

Mr. Pittman will discuss the need for aquatic vegetation control in situations where the water body is no longer usable for its intended function due to being clogged with vegetation. Examples are airstrips for pontoon planes and recreational ski lakes. Too many weeds in reservoirs used for drinking water and generation plant cooling can cause foul smelling water and clog cooling tower screens. Weeds can be selectively controlled so as not to harm recreational and commercial fish. When weeds are properly managed, anglers and other boaters are allowed to enjoy a healthy water body and all water users benefit.

David Stewart
President, Sensible Management of Aquatic Resources Team

SMART is a coalition of fishing organizations encompassing most major groups and is intended to serve together to help change legislation, raise funding for the purchase of a mechanical harvester, and create an educational video to further advance the knowledge of the public on the subject of fish habitat and clean water. Sound management of fisheries resources should begin, and end, with a quest for cleaner water and protected habitat. While all chemical use for vegetation control cannot be halted completely, some compromise must be reached to reduce the use of herbicides and increase the use of environmentally sound controls. Reduction of, not additions to, the list of non-point source pollutants found in and around fresh water ecosystems is what is needed to accomplish this goal.

Continuing Education Sessions:
2-4 PM Sunday, January 23rd

Hydroacoustics for Fisheries Assessment
Bruce Ransom with Hydroacoustic Technology, Inc.
Hydroacoustic Technology, Inc. (HTI) is a fisheries consulting firm that has specialized in hydroacoustic evaluation of fish populations for over 11 years. Bruce

Ransom is a Senior Fisheries Biologist with HTI and cofounder of the company. He has 17 years of experience using hydroacoustics and has published over 70 technical papers on the subject. He will be covering mobile and fixed location survey techniques, basic theory, logistics, and data collection and processing. He will be explaining the different types of equipment available and the types of results you can expect from each. This is a 2-day course that will be packed into one hour, so he will be covering a lot of information very quickly.

Interpreting Electrophoresis Data
Loraine Fries, TPWD, A.E. Wood State Fish Hatchery Genetics Lab

This workshop is intended to answer questions posed by TPWD Inland Fisheries Management Biologists, though anyone is welcome to attend. Items to be covered include the TPWD largemouth bass sampling program, things that can affect the data, how gels can be interpreted, what the various interpretations mean, and how biologists can use the data to learn more. Also covered will be how genetically marked stocks can be used to monitor stocking success using real life examples from channel catfish and walleye and information on newer techniques like microsatellite DNA analysis. There should be ample time for questions and answers.

Exotic Species Issues
Bob Pittman, USFWS, Tishomingo NWR, OK

This workshop will cover current information concerning exotic species in the United States and expected impacts. It will also cover plans for managing and preventing exotic species invasions and laws relating to exotics.

ArkLaTex 2000

January 23-25, 2000

Proposed Agenda

Registration will be from Noon to 5:00pm on Sunday and 8:00am to 5:00pm on Tuesday.

Sunday, January 23

- 2:00-4:00** Continuing Education:
- 1) Fish Sampling with Hydroacoustics
Bruce Ransom, HTI
 - 2) Interpretation of Electrophoresis Data
Loraine Fries, TPWD
 - 3) Exotic Species Issues
Bob Pittman, USFWS

7:00-9:00 Student/Professional Mixer



Monday, January 24

8:00-10:00 Plenary Session/Panel Discussion
"Vegetation Control and Fisheries Management"
Jerry Dean – Honeyhole/S.M.A.R.T.,
Sam Pittman – SePRO
Mike Freeze – Keo Fish Farms
Debbie Magin – Guadalupe/Blanco River
Authority

10:00-10:30 Break

10:30-Noon Concurrent Technical Sessions

Noon-1:00 Lunch on your own

1:00-2:30 Concurrent Technical Sessions

2:30-3:00 Break

3:00-5:00 Concurrent Technical Sessions

6:00-7:00 Social

7:00-10:00 Banquet (Keynote speaker, Auction, Raffle)

Tuesday, January 25

8:00-10:00 Concurrent Technical Sessions

10:00-10:30 Break

10:30-Noon Chapter Business Meetings

Motel Registration

Bossier City Holiday Inn

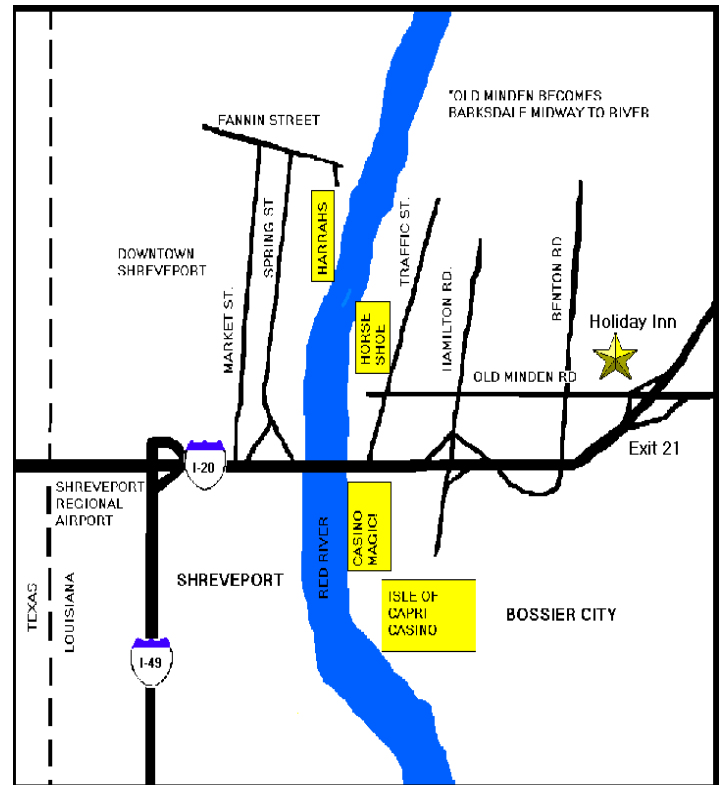
We have reserved a block of 125 rooms for January 23 and 24. The cutoff date for the guaranteed room rate is January 3, 2000. The room rate is \$65 per room, regardless of single, double, triple or quad. The room rate does not include the 11% tax or the breakfast buffet. Individuals are responsible for their own reservations and payment. The phone number for the Holiday Inn is (318) 742-9700.

Ask for "AFS 2000" when registering.

Holiday Inn 2015 Old Minden Road, Bossier City, LA 71111 (318) 742-9700

I-20, Exit 21

[Old Minden Road, west of I-20]



Notice to ArkLaTex 2000 Presenters

As usual the typical array of audiovisual equipment (except for an overhead projector) will be available to those giving presentations at this years meeting. For those of you who will be using PowerPoint to give your presentations, please provide a disk containing your presentation to the individual at the check-in desk responsible for loading the presentations on to a CD.

ArkLaTex 2000 Registration Form

Bossier City, Louisiana, January 23-25, 2000

Registration includes access to all **technical sessions**, the **continuing education workshops**, the **Student/Professional Mixer**, and the **Banquet**. **Early registrants will receive a raffle ticket** for a special early bird raffle item. The deadline for early registration is January 3, 2000. Please fill out one form per person.

Name		Date	
Street Address		City	
State		Zip Code	
Work Phone		Email address	

AFS Chapter Affiliation		Student – will work for free lodging (first come basis)	
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	Cost/person	Total Cost
Regular Member Registration – Received before 01/03/00	\$25	
Received after 01/03/00	\$30	
Student Registration* / Spouse – Received before 01/03/00	\$15	
Received after 01/03/00	\$20	
Chapter Dues (TX = \$8/\$5, AR = \$10/\$5, LA = \$10/\$7) Dues Indicated are Regular Member/Student*		
Total Registration		

***Student registration and membership is for full-time, currently registered students only.**

Continuing Education: Please check the box indicating the time and course you wish to attend. This will facilitate planning for seating and handouts.

Course	2:00 PM	3:00 PM
Fish Sampling with Hydroacoustics		
Interpretation of Electrophoresis Data		
Exotic Species Issues		

Mail completed registration (1 form per person) and payment to:

Debbie Wade, TX Chapter AFS Treasurer, 5550 FM 2495, Athens, TX 75751



Fisheries Workers Awards Nominations Needed

Alright - Time is here! MAKE THAT TCAFS OUTSTANDING FISHERIES WORKER AWARD NOMINATION RIGHT NOW!!! Awards nominations deadline for the 2000 Annual Meeting is **DECEMBER 10, 1999**. You know there are Outstanding Fisheries Workers in our midst in the Texas Chapter American Fisheries Society. You know they are right there in your office and are working in your field of interest. You know who they are and have thought numerous times how you ought to nominate them for a Texas Chapter Award. You have even thought how some recognition of your efforts would be nice. Well, you need to identify those persons who have some reason for recognition and start the process. It takes only a little effort to write out your explanation of criteria for why this person should be awarded, but it is worth the effort! Let's face it, with the annual meeting of the Texas Chapter American Fisheries Society coming up in January, it's the perfect time to think about giving the gift that keeps on giving: a nomination for one of the Chapter's awards.

Each year nominations are solicited for Outstanding Fisheries Worker of the Year in six (6) categories: Administration, Culture, Education, Management, Research, and Technical Support. One award may be made per category. The nominee must be a member in good standing of the Chapter. The award is based on fisheries-related work accomplished in Texas and can span more than one year. Criteria for the awards follow the "nomination form" below. Please, be thorough in your description of qualifications!

Additionally, an award for Special Recognition in Fisheries Work can be made, when warranted. This award can recognize the efforts of individuals who do not belong to the Chapter, or whose efforts do not readily fall within one of the formal categories above. Criteria for the awards follow the "nomination form" below. Please, be thorough in your description of qualifications!

How do you nominate someone? Simple, just complete the following "form" and email or fax it to: John A Prentice (jprentic@kfc.com)!! Fax Number = 830-866-3549; or mail it to HC7, Box 62, Ingram, TX 78025. **BUT YOU HAVE TO START THE PROCESS!!** The deadline for submission of nominations is December 10, 1999.

NOMINATION FORM-----

Nominator:

Nominate:

Address:

Award: Outstanding Fisheries Worker ___ Special Recognition___

Category: Administration ___ Culture ___ Education ___
Management ___ Research___ Technical Support___

Accomplishments (List criteria-specific accomplishments):

Other Accomplishments:

END FORM-----



AWARD CRITERIA

Administration

- 1) Development of innovative management programs, research activities, or facilities that significantly affect fisheries management and conservation on a regional or statewide level.
- 2) Leadership in implementation of regulations or management programs that address regional or statewide fisheries issues.
- 3) Development of new sources of funding for fisheries programs.
- 4) Leadership in the development of public outreach or recognition/award programs.
- 5) Significant and effective promotion of fisheries management and conservation activities on a regional or statewide level.

Culture

- 1) Development of techniques that produce fish more safely, more efficiently, or more economically.
- 2) Development of methods that produce species not formerly cultured.
- 3) Development of procedures that produce more fish.
- 4) Participation in the development of equipment that benefited fish culture.
- 5) Promotion of fish culture.
- 6) Participation in the production of a record number of fish (may be station- or species-specific).

Education

- 1) Development of an innovative approach to fisheries education as illustrated through development of a new or revised course or curriculum.
- 2) Publication of a journal article, extension publication, book, or book chapter that contributed significantly to fisheries education.
- 3) Contribution of notable service in public education programs.
- 4) Development of educational media (software, videotape, slide-tape, etc.) that contributed significantly to fisheries education.
- 5) Outstanding contributions to the profession through service as an officer or other leader of an educational organization ((e.g., the Education Section of the American Fisheries Society).

Management

- 1) Development of management plans or strategies or implementation of management practices (reservoir or pond management plans, pre-impoundment work, habitat work,

- development of urban fisheries). This would include private water work.
- 2) Education of the public in areas of fishing or fisheries management (conducting fishing clinics, educational programs, contact with various media, development of brochures, newsletters, bulletin boards, fliers, popular articles, etc.).
- 3) Coordination with different agencies (cities, counties, or federal government) or reservoir controlling authorities to develop or implement management strategies.
- 4) Participation in professional scientific organizations in the fisheries field to include offices held, committees served on, or other activities accomplished for the organization.

Research

- 1) Research contribution should add to the understanding of a biological problem or to solving a resource problem.
- 2) Research contribution can be basic, applied, or a combination.
- 3) Research contribution should have been disseminated, in order of importance, in a peer-reviewed journal, non-peer reviewed publication, or an oral presentation.
- 4) Participation in professional and public organizations in the fisheries research field that comment on, advise, or review research activities.
- 5) In order of importance, the nominee's role in a research project should be directing the project or program, establishing the project or program, analyzing data, or conceiving the project or program.

Technical Support

- 1) Development of new or improved design and/or construction of equipment used in field sampling, culture, lab analyses, etc.
- 2) Participation in some outstanding or unique management, research or culture activities which aided the fisheries profession.
- 3) Participation in education programs for fisheries workers or the public.
- 4) Accomplishments resulting in new or improved techniques or efficiency.

Remember – Everything about this award and recognition program starts with YOU nominating someone! Deadline for nominations is December 10, 1999.



SECRETARY/TREASURERS REPORT

By Deborah Wade

NOVEMBER EXCOM MINUTES

November 9, 1999, TPWD Waco Regional Office

Attendance: Paul Hammerschmidt, Gordon Linam, Bobby Miller, Kevin Pope, John Moczygemba, Charlie Munger, Brian Van Zee, Deborah Wade **Treasurers Report:** The TCAFS currently has \$9,489 in its checking account and \$29,349 in mutual funds for a total value of \$38,838.00. Since the last EXCOM meeting, total chapter expenses have been \$1,000.10 for newsletter printing and mailing and reimbursement for, shipping proceedings to those chapter members who were not in attendance at the annual meeting in January, and a raffle donation for the Parent Society meeting. Total income for this period was \$1,894.15 coming from our investments, WHAT scholarship donation, and new memberships.

ArkLaTex 2000 meeting:

Charlie Munger reported that plans are progressing well for the annual meeting. There are still some minor equipment needs that must be addressed prior to the meeting. Charlie will be contacting individuals regarding their support in obtaining any equipment that is still needed.

Newsletter:

The third issue of the newsletter was sent out in August, 175 copies were mailed and 157 were sent electronically. The mailed issues were printed, folded, stapled and stamped at Kinko's for a total cost of \$172.95, approximately \$0.99 a copy.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Publicity/Exhibits - Contacts are being made to solicit donations for the annual raffle and auction. If you know of anyone who would be interested in making a donation to the fundraiser contact Bobby Miller.

Nominating - Mail out ballots will be sent to all members for the election in January. John Moczygemba is still

accepting nominations for the Office of President Elect.

Membership - Three students have contacted Kevin about free rooms for the upcoming meeting.

Continuing Education - The Continuing Education Workshops for the annual meeting are confirmed.

Issues - Steps are currently being taken to improve communication within TPWD on the aquatic vegetation control measures on the Rio Grande. A second issue of concern remains mollusk harvest on the Coast.

Endowments - W.H.A.T. once again donated a \$1,000.00 to be utilized in the distribution of scholarships at the annual meeting in January.

Editorial Committee - Editors completed review on the second of two manuscripts submitted for publication in the next Proceedings (volume 21) and are in the process of beginning publication of the material. Due to delays in both the Arkansas and Louisiana newsletters the call for papers for the annual meeting has been extended until November 30th. The long awaited Texas Farm Pond Management document was retyped with the help of Kevin Pope's secretary, and Fred Janssen is inserting photographs into the document. It should be ready for release soon. It will be on the TCAFS Web site as soon as possible.

Pond Management Committee - The major point to report is that the Farm Pond Management publication is almost complete.

Exotic Species - Exotic plants are getting a lot of attention at the moment, specifically giant salvinia, hydrilla, and water hyacinth. Several aquatic nurseries were under the impression that it was legal to possess and in some instances sell prohibited aquatic plants. However, it is a class B misdemeanor and all of the nurseries have been so informed (Joedy Gray has a complete list of the plants that are illegal if anyone is interested). 250 pounds of water spinach seeds, which were targeted for propagation, was confiscated and TPWD law enforcement were contacted. While investigating a new disease, which affects farm raised tilapia, it was discovered that live fish



were being transported illegally across state lines. The problem has been corrected. An artificial reef (oil drilling platform) has been invaded by a pacific tunicate, a primitive chordate, which is out competing native organisms. It's suspected that the tunicates were transported here in ship ballast water. For now it appears to be localized on a single reef/platform.

Fishery Workers Directory - There have been five or six entries in the directory since the last meeting. It may be possible to link the directory to the TCAFS Homepage to increase access, if there is interest in maintaining this database.

Awards - A request for implementing a new award was presented to the EXCOM by the Awards Committee, Outstanding fisheries Student of the Texas Chapter AFS. The requirements for this award were discussed and approved by the EXCOM.

OLD BUSINESS

All old business was covered in the committee reports or discussion pertaining to the individual committees.

NEW BUSINESS

No new business

Motion to adjourn was made (Charlie Munger) and seconded (Brian Van Zee), the next EXCOM meeting will be held during the TCAFS meeting in January.



Be Sure to Bring Plenty of \$\$\$ for this years Raffle & Auction!

Texas Chapter of the American Fisheries Society Scholarship Program

The endowments committee of the Texas Chapter of the American Fisheries Society is seeking deserving students enrolled in fisheries related curricula that are interested in applying for scholarships. The scholarship program began in 1989 with one \$150 scholarship. In 1999, four \$500 scholarships were awarded. The only requirements of the applicants are that they are members of the Texas Chapter of the American Fisheries Society and that they are enrolled in a university where they are pursuing a degree in fisheries related curricula.

This year, the TCAFS is allowing all qualified students who are interested to apply. **The deadline for applying is December 15, 1999.** You can obtain an application from:

Michael Brice
Texas Parks and Wildlife
3802 East End Blvd South
Marshall, Texas 75672
903-938-1007
903-938-8652 FAX
tpwdif3a@prysm.net

A copy of the application can also be accessed from the TCAFS homepage.

STUDENT ROOMS AVAILABLE

Students enrolled in a Fisheries related curriculum are eligible to receive free housing at the TCAFS Annual meeting. However, only two rooms are available (max of 8 students) and any students that stay in the free rooms will be expected to work and help out with the meeting. For information contact Dr. Kevin Pope at (806) 742-2843 or kpope@ttu.edu.

Season's Greetings

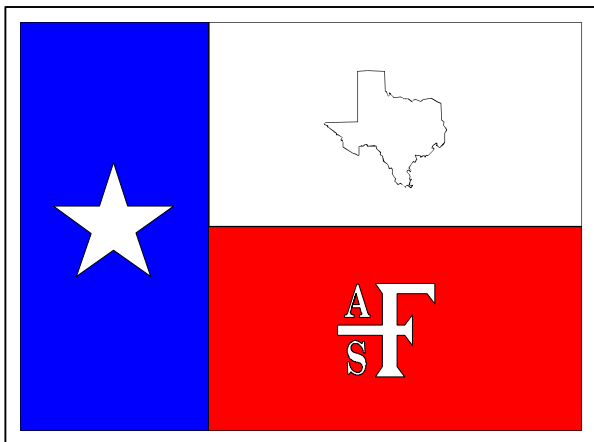
PUT YOUR VOTE ON THE LINE

by John Moczygamba

First I would like to thank committee members, Jay Rooker (TAMU, Galveston) and Joe Kraai (TPWD, San Angelo) for their help. They will also be at the Annual Meeting to assist those who decide to cast their vote there.

This year we are voting for the office of president-elect in the year 2000. The candidates are Todd Engeling (TPWD, A.E. Wood Fish Hatchery, San Marcos) and Gordon Linam (TPWD, Resource Protection, San Marcos). It will be hard to make a choice.

We have changed the mail-in voting procedures this year to give more members a chance to vote. It should be easier and there will be an extra incentive to increase the participation of those who cannot make the meeting. On December 1st we will mail out a letter with the nominees' resume and their vision for the Texas Chapter in the future. A pre-paid post card mail-in ballot will be included so you can vote even if you cannot make it to the meeting. This will also give you a chance to vote before you come to the meeting. Make use of the stamp and mail it in. Everyone who mails in his or her ballot will be eligible to win a GREAT prize, which will be drawn at the annual meeting. However, you don't have to be present to win. If you come to the meeting and have not voted yet, there will be a voting table at the registration desk. Just pick up a ballot, fill it out, and put it in the ballot box before 10:30 am Tuesday, January 25th. The results will be announced at the business meeting on Tuesday, January 25th. To be an eligible voter you must be a registered member, so make sure your dues are paid up.



JOIN THE TEXAS CHAPTER

If you are interested in joining or renewing your membership to the Texas Chapter of the American Fisheries Society, you can get membership materials at our web site <http://www.sdafs.org/tcafs/default.htm> or contact **Dr. Kevin Pope, Box 42125, Texas Tech University, Lubbock, TX 79409-2125, (806) 742-2843, kpope@ttu.edu** or the newsletter editor to obtain application information.

**Next Newsletter submission deadline:
March 8, 2000Spring Issue**

Submissions are encouraged. Submit a hard copy or a .TXT file by mail or email to the editor at **tpw1a@arn.net**

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

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PRESIDENT-ELECT Charlie Munger
PAST-PRESIDENT John Prentice
SECRETARY-TREASURER..... Deborah Wade

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ENDOWMENTS Mike Brice
ISSUES Randy Blankinship
MEMBERSHIP Kevin Pope
CONTINUING EDUCATION Bruce Hysmith
NOMINATING John Moczygamba
POND MANAGEMENT Malcolm Johnson
PUBLICITY/EXHIBITS Bobby Miller
STUDENT OUTREACH Tom Arsuffi
TCAFS WEB/HOME PAGE Fred Janssen

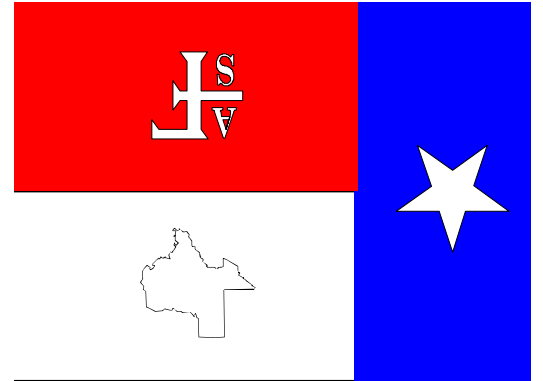
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FISHERIES WORKER DIRECTORY Dale Shively
URBAN FISHING Ray Whitney
STOCKS-AT-RISK Bob Edwards

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