



American Fisheries Society

Southern Division

March 2, 1979

Alabama	Mississippi
Arkansas	N. Carolina
Florida	Oklahoma
Georgia	S. Carolina
Kentucky	Tennessee
Louisiana	Texas
Maryland	Virginia
West Indian Islands	

MEMO TO: Trout Committee members

Dan Catchings - AL
Bob Wollitz - VA
Don Phares - WV
Randy Geddings - SC
Bob Baker - AR
Russ England - GA

Doug Peterson - TN
Kerry Prather - KY
Monte Seehorn - USFS
John Boaze - US F&WS
Tom Harshbarger - USFS

FROM: Bill Bonner, Chairman

SUBJECT: Trout Committee business

As of 3/1/79, ten of the eleven persons asked to serve on the Trout Committee by President Janice Hughes have replied in the affirmative. Hopefully, the one procrastinator will reply shortly.

A meeting of the Trout Committee was held November 5, 1978 in Asheville, North Carolina in connection with the Brook Trout Symposium held there. Members and interested persons present were: Bill Bonner, Doug Peterson, Bob Wollitz, Monte Seehorn, Bud Ratledge, Don Archer, Frank Richardson, Tom Harshbarger, and John Boeze. A discussion was held on Committee projects---to wit, we need more information on unsuccessful trout introductions (it seems that we have a tendency to remember the successes and to forget the failures); and we need to collect another years' data on our wild vs. domestic rainbow and brown stocking in those streams where you have had significant survival. Also, we discussed whether or not to expand the project by stocking larger fish in a "put-grow-and take" situation. North Carolina is developing a wild brown trout strain and may be able to share fish with interested states. We will discuss this further at our spring meeting which probably will be held in May at Crossnore, North Carolina. I will let you know the exact time and place later.

Following the foregoing discussion, Frank Richardson asked for the floor and informed those present that the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is on a budget-cutting binge, and that the production of "catchable" trout for "put and take" programs may be cut back drastically. Number one priority on the hit list will be fish going to state-owned or managed lands. In addition, a re-evaluation of all old federal-state agreements on stocking policy will be made (e.g., cooperative federal-state stocking efforts on U.S. Forest Service and private land). Finally, Frank told the shell-shocked troops that an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)---on appropriate federal forms, of course---may be required on all stocking where threatened or endangered species might be affected.

Hope to see you all at our spring meeting!