

M E M O R A N D U M

TO: Trout Committee Members

FROM: Kerry W. Prather, Chairman

SUBJECT: Minutes of Trout Committee Meeting
May 14-16, 1984

DATE: June 8, 1984

The first meeting of the Trout Committee in 1984 was held at Cumberland Lake State Resort Park near Jamestown, Kentucky, and was hosted by Kerry Prather. Attached is a copy of the list of attendees and a list of members.

After self-introduction of attendees, each member was given the opportunity to report on trout-related activities in his state over the past year.

North Carolina: Bill Bonner reported on size limit evaluations, as well as consideration of slot limits and minimum size limits; he also reported on the take-over of Pisgah National Fish Hatchery by the state.

Tennessee: Price Wilkins substituted for Doug Peterson and reported that they had 76 miles of brook trout streams; he gave an update on the eradication of rainbow trout from brook trout streams, by using shockers, rotenone and cresol. A brief discussion on the use of primer cord was given; he stated they were evaluating strains of rainbow trout in their reservoirs; he also mentioned that they probably had the last of the Ohrid trout in the nation at Wautauga Reservoir.

Smokey Mountains: John Boaze reported that there were no differences in trout populations in streams with or without regulations; he reported that he was assisting in designing a trout hatchery on the Cherokee Reservation, and that Cherokee Trout Farms had experienced fish kills due to acid water levels - probably from acid rain.

Arkansas: Mark Oliver reported his state had a six-fish trout-limit which no size limit; stocking of cut-throat trout via Vibert egg boxes; rainbow trout mark-recapture studies using reward tags, with 40-45% tag return.

TVA: Ron Pasch, substituting for Al Brown reported they had applied for funds for acid rain studies; he also reported on weirs utilized for flow management in tailwaters.

South Carolina: Randy Geddins reported on trout stocking methods utilized in his state.

Georgia Cooperative Fishery Unit: Mark Hudy gave a report on his experiments with AC electricity effects on trout. He reported lower voltage (350) and colder water seem to cause more harm. Rainbows experienced higher mortality, with brookies experiencing more abnormalities such as broken spines.

Missouri: Spencer Turner gave a report on his state's stocking history and harvest, voluntary release of brown trout, and possible establishment of a trophy brown trout fishery by establishing a 20 inch size limit.

Virginia: Larry Mohn reported on the completed statewide trout inventory in 1980, and said they planned to do it every 5 years; these findings caused changes in their regulations

Kentucky: Kerry Prather reported on additions and deletions in the trout stream list over the past year; update on brook trout streams and establishment of wild trout streams; progress report on brown trout fisheries in streams and tailwaters; initiation of statewide trout stream inventory and tailwater studies; progress report on the two-story fisheries in reservoirs.

U.S. Forest Service: Monte Seehorn suggested using federal reverted funds for conducting electrophoretic work on rainbow trout strain determination; the committee then voted to receive a proposal from Mark Hudy for this study. Bill Bonner, Price Wilkins and Monte Seehorn were selected as a subcommittee to review the letter of proposal. Monte gave an update on stream improvement activities and various stocking methods; he mentioned initiating a project on fish habitat relationships where modeling of land-forms and geology tell fish species and poundages. Discussion was heard on pros and cons of the USFS Land Management Plan document. Monte asked for a list of trout regulations from each state and why they were such - to be presented at the Trout Symposium this fall - he needs these by mid-July. Roger Schultz discussed the status of fish hatcheries and all the possibilities of their future.

In old business, it was decided that Monte Seehorn would go see Rich Fatora and secure the brown trout stocking experiment data. Larry Mohm (VA) said he could provide the domestic fish for the '84 experiment. Bill Bonner (NC) reported he may not be able to participate or supply the half-wild trout, possibly ending the experiment. Bill was to check with his main office for further info on this. John Boaze suggested stocking a 17-acre lake in VA with half-wild and domestic brown trout. Boaze asked members to go through the Brook Trout Bibliography and mark the most important to be included in the annotated publication. Discussion was conducted on whether to update the first bibliography since an annotated form was planned; the committee voted not to update the first publication and to go ahead with the annotated form. Don Estes asked for an additional \$1,500 for work on the annotated bibliography. Larry Mohm was to check with Trout Unlimited about securing funds for this. He was to contact Don Estes within two weeks.

In new business, Mark Obara and Don Estes gave a report on the Tennessee Aquatic Database System (TABS). The system should be running within a month. Info was given on map scale and the river-reach system.

Don Estes suggested holding a trout workshop at Graves Mountain Lodge in VA next year. Members should give a paper on their state's activities. A subcommittee was selected - Don Estes, Larry Mohm, and Randy Geddings - to send letters to members requesting topics and to make arrangements for the workshop in conjunction with the 1985 spring trout committee meeting. The meeting is to be one day prior to the two-day workshop, to be sometime around the second week of May.

Larry Mohm was appointed Chairman of the Trout Committee for 1985.

The meeting was then adjourned.