

Trout Committee

1) Purpose

The purpose of the Trout Committee is to improve management of trout resources and coldwater stream communities in the Southeast by providing a forum for the exchange of ideas and information among managers and researchers.

2) Goals

- a) To meet at least annually for the purpose of discussing ongoing projects and problems associated with trout and/or coldwater management.
- b) To sponsor periodic workshops and symposia in order to publicize new research findings and management techniques that are applicable to the region's trout and/or coldwater stream resources.
- c) To provide published information for use by aquatic resource researchers and managers.
- d) To develop regional policy or position statements for guidance to Southeastern aquatic resource management agencies.
- e) To coordinate and conduct region-wide research to address significant trout and coldwater stream management questions.
- f) To solicit and guide research by outside agencies and institutions in order to solve regional trout and coldwater resource problems.
- g) To take advantage of opportunities to educate the public on protection and management of trout and coldwater stream communities in the Southeast.

3) Membership

- a) Membership is open to all members of the Southern Division, American Fisheries Society (SDAFS) and only requires appointment by the SDAFS President following consultation with the Committee Chair. Each state fisheries management agency, the U.S. Forest Service, the U.S. Park Service, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and the Tennessee Valley Authority have traditionally been asked by the SDAFS President to recommend an agency representative to the Committee. Participation by university staff and the private sector is also encouraged. Membership confers the right to vote.

4) Quorum

- a) **A quorum consists of a minimum of ten (10) voting members.** All decisions must have a simple majority to pass. Quorums can be met through the use of designees, proxy votes, and absentee ballots.

5) Meeting Place and Agenda

- a) The Trout Committee will have one meeting per year. If that meeting is not in conjunction with the mid-year SDAFS meeting, then a separate informal meeting will be held in conjunction with the mid-year SDAFS meeting to provide the opportunity to interact with other committees, committee members, and SDAFS officers. Other business meetings will be scheduled as necessary to conduct business of the Committee.

- b) The Trout Committee business meeting agenda will include the introduction of members and guests, changes to the agenda, approval of previous meeting's minutes, resolution of old business, and introduction of new business. Following the formal business meeting, an informal roundtable discussion of current and planned research and management activities by member agencies can be conducted.
- 6) Officers and Responsibilities
- a) Chairperson
 - i) The Committee will normally recommend the Chairperson-Elect, upon completion of his/her one-year term, to the SDAFS President for appointment as the new Chairperson. The term of office is one year. Duties include:
 - ii) Responsible for maintaining, updating, and circulating the current SDAFS Trout Committee member list each year and notifying the Trout Committee of any new representative being recommended to the SDAFS President.
 - iii) Works with SDAFS President to set Committee membership each year.
 - iv) Sets objectives for the term that are compatible with Committee's established purpose and goals.
 - v) Organizes meetings by working with Committee members and SDAFS President to determine meeting dates and locations. The Chairperson develops meeting agendas and provides Committee members with meeting dates, locations, and agendas in advance of meetings.
 - vi) Conducts meetings using Robert's Rules of Order as a guideline for doing business. Distributes copies of meeting minutes to Committee members and SDAFS President within 45 days of business meeting.
 - vii) Reports Committee activities to SDAFS Executive Committee and to those assembled for the annual SDAFS business meeting.
 - viii) Appoints subcommittees as needed to research and resolve selected issues at hand. Oversees the issue resolution process of each subcommittee and reports the findings to the Committee.
 - ix) Assumes the duties of both Chair-Elect and Secretary/Treasurer in the event that both positions are vacated before expiration of the term.
 - b) Chair-Elect/Secretary
 - i) The Chair-Elect/Secretary is elected by a majority vote of the membership to a one year term of office. Duties include:
 - ii) Substitutes for the Chairperson in that officer's absence and assumes the office of Chairperson if that position is vacated before expiration of the term.
 - iii) May be requested by the Chairperson to lead one or more special committees. Ensures completion of the subcommittee charge in a timely manner.
 - iv) Produces minutes for each meeting and forwards to the Chairperson within 30 days.
 - v) Provided news items to the Chairperson.
 - vi) Assists the Chairperson as needed to ensure the smooth and efficient operation of Committee activities. Takes a lead role in planning and organization of special workshops and symposia.

- vii) Assumes the duties of Secretary/Treasurer if that position is vacated before expiration of the term.
- c) Treasurer
 - i) The Treasurer is elected by a majority of the membership to a three-year term of office. Duties include:
 - ii) Substitutes for the Chair-Elect/Secretary in that officer's absence.
 - iii) Responsible for all financial transactions of the Committee, including balancing of checking account and sale of Committee publications. Reports on financial status of Committee at each meeting.
- 7) Current Objectives
 - a) Increase communication among the membership and facilitate the distribution of recently published studies.
 - b) Provide moderators and speakers for the technical sessions at the SDAFS mid-year meeting.
 - c) Increase interaction with SDAFS EXCOM and other technical committees.
 - d) Provide input on new proposals for trout research and management presented by non-Committee members at the SDAFS mid-year meeting.
 - e) Promote efforts to resolve critical trout management issues. Continue efforts to resolve the taxonomic status of southern Appalachian brook trout.
 - f) Promote the continued active participation within the Committee by scheduling meetings around the travel constraints faced by many Committee members.
 - g) Improve awareness of the committee's value among SDAFS agency administrators.
- 8) Recent Committee Activities
 - 2004 Committee position paper regarding Southern Appalachian brook trout management. Accepted for publication in Fisheries (In Press).
 - 2002 Committee position statement regarding Southern Appalachian brook trout management.
 - 2000 Workshop: East Coast Trout Management and Culture Workshop III, Frostburg, Maryland. Proceedings published.
 - 1999 Letter to editor published in Fisheries (July 1999) in response to feature electrofishing article.
 - 1999 Sponsored a special technical session on trout biology and management at the SDAFS mid-year meeting, Chattanooga, TN.
 - 1998 Workshop: 11th International Trout Stream Habitat Improvement Workshop, Fayetteville, AR.
 - 1998 Resolutions passed to request improved water quality below U.S. Army Corps of Engineers projects in Arkansas and Tennessee.
 - 1998 Established Trout Committee list server at Virginia Tech. University.
 - 1995 Workshop: East Coast Trout Management and Culture Workshop II, State College, PA. Proceedings published.
 - 1994 Workshop: Trout Management in Southern Tailwaters: Management Techniques in Southern Trout Streams.

- 1992 Workshop: East Coast Trout Management and Culture Workshop; joint sponsorship with Northeast Division, AFS. Proceedings published.
- 1992 *Resolution on Forest Management Practices.
- 1992 *Published standardized trout stream sampling procedures document.
- 1991 *Workshop: Trout and Timber Management (presentations summarized and distributed).
- 1990 *Workshop: Reservoir and Tailwater Trout Management.
- 1989 *Workshop: The Watershed Approach to Trout Management.
- 1988 *Workshop: Brown Trout Biology and Management Proceedings published.
- 1987 *Workshop: Creel Census and Survey Techniques.
- 1987 *Trout Strain Summary (distributed to membership).
- 1986 *Workshop: Tailwater Trout Management
- 1986 * Annotated Bibliography of Brook Trout Management published.
- 1985 * Workshop: Brook Trout Management. Abstracts published.

9) Current Committee Activities

- a) The Committee's Southern Appalachian Brook Trout position paper is currently undergoing review by Fisheries.
- b) Provide technical support for the development of Microfish 4.0 software.
- c) Provide support for the East Coast Trout Management and Culture Workshop.

For further information about the operations and functions of the Trout Committee, contact the following individuals who have recently served as Chairperson:

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