

BioLink



The Official Newsletter of the Atlantic Society of Fish & Wildlife Biologists

January 2005

Annual Meeting a Success

he 41st annual meeting of the Atlantic Society of Fish and Wildlife Biologists was held in Stanley Bridge, P.E.I. on October 25-27, 2004. Biologists from around the region were treated to an excellent slate of presentations on a

variety of topics. There were 26 presentations, including 8 from students. Lucie Lavoie from Université de Moncton won the ASFWB award for best student presentation for her talk entitled "Relationship between terrestrial surrounding



water quality and amphibians in vernal pools of Northwestern New Brunswick."

Two awards were presented at the AGM. Don Dodds from Nova Scotia was named to the Wall of Honour and Randy Dibblee from P.E.I. was presented with the 2004 Merit Award. Biographies of both of these biologists are included in this edition of the newsletter.

Once again, a silent auction was held to raise money for the ASFWB scholarship fund, with a total of \$\$ raised. For a complete list of presentations from the 2004 meeting and their associated abstracts, please visit our website. Also, watch the website for updates on next year's meeting to be held in New Brunswick.

CWS Workshop Report Shows Severe Eelgrass Declines...

elgrass is a keystone sea grass species in the food webs of intertidal and subtidal zones of sheltered Atlantic estuaries. Many marine species, including lobster, hake and cod rely on

eelgrass for food and as habitat for shelter. Waterfowl, such as wintering Canada geese and migrating Atlantic brant and goldeneye often feed primarily on eelgrass.

Representatives from universities, community groups, provincial agencies and tree federal departments (Fisheries and Oceans Canada, natural Resources Canada and Environment Canada) from the five eastern provincies participated in a workshop on eelgrass declines in Sackville, N.B. in December 2003.

Workshop proceedings have just been released in CWS Technical Report 412, "Status and Conservation of Eelgrass (Zostera marina) in Eastern Canada."

Results presented by researchers from different study areas provide consistent evidence of a widespread, rapid, and ongoing decline in eelgrass distribution and abundance in the Maritime provinces. Causes may be geographically specific and may reflect synergistic interactions among factors such as eutrophication, significant disturbance by the invasive green crab (Carcinus maenas) and broad-scale environmental changes.

The working group confirmed that the ecosystem level importance of eelgrass is being compromised by severe and continuing declines in the Maritimes. Increased integrated efforts are now required to build the collective knowledge necessary to conserve eelgrass in Eastern Canada.

If you would like to stay informed of activities related to eelgrass in Eastern Canada, please visit the Bay of Fundy Ecosystem Partnership Eelgrass Working Group web site:

http://www.bofep.org/working.htm#Eelgrass. New members are encouraged. Copies of the workshop proceedings are available on the Web Site as a .pdf file.

Submitted by Al Hanson, CWS Sackville



Nova Scotia - Inland Fisheries Report

The fall has arrived and our field season has come to an end. Our Division accomplished another very successful array of research projects throughout Nova Scotia, some of which were continued from last season and others were new research initiatives.

At the beginning of the season our division examined the sea trout populations in River Denys,



Middle River, and Lake O'Law Brook in Cape Breton. This project assessed sea run populations on these systems through a mark and recapture

project. Fish were live trapped with fyke nets and data collected on age and length. This project methodology worked very well, and provided valuable information on sea run brook trout populations in these three systems. At total of 2,650 fish were marked (adipose fin clipped), 2,100 were captured and 77 were recaptured. On average 7% of the population was greater than 25 cm and 3% was greater than 30 cm. The information gained will also be applicable to mainland rivers.

We continued with our electrofishing project throughout the province. The purpose of the electrofishing project was to test the assumptions made through the water temperature classification system (MacMillan et al. 2002, unpublished) that was developed by our division. The Nova Scotia Water Temperature Monitoring project involved the classification of 322 sites on 34 river systems throughout the province into cool, intermediate, and warm thermal categories based on mean summer temperature. There are 104 cool water sites (<16.5°C), 97 intermediate water sites (16.5-19°C) and 121 warm water sites (>19°C). The Nova Scotia stream classification system was based on the assumption that cool water sites are more important to Atlantic salmon and brook trout populations during warm low flow conditions in the summer. Our division electrofished 77 stream sites that were previously assessed through the temperature monitoring project and collected salmonid population and habitat data. Results of the

project indicated that brook trout population density was strongly related to water temperature. Approximately, 48 times more trout found in the cool water sites compared to the warm water sites. The distribution of Atlantic salmon did not seem to be strongly related to the thermal nature of streams in our study. Salmon numbers may reflect absence or low numbers of adults returning to spawn rather than freshwater conditions.

The study also examines the impact a potential increase in water temperature could have on the number of cold water sites for trout in the province. Increased water temperature is a possibility in the future and an increase of 2°C in the average summer temperature could result in a 50 % loss in trout habitat, which also reflects a 50% gain in the number of warm water sites. The study indicated that a higher percentage of competitor species (white and yellow perch, white sucker, brown bullhead) were found in the warm thermal category. If conditions continue to warm, competitors of trout will benefit.

Our division worked again this summer with Queen's University on the Nova Scotia Paleolimnology project. This project studies a lake's history using information archived in lake sediments. This research is designed to investigate water quality in Nova Scotia using paleoecological indicators. Such indicators of water quality are diatoms and chironomids. This research method allows us to see what long term (150 years) changes have occurred in trout habitat. A total of 35 lakes have been sampled from 2003-2004, and 14 more will be sampled in the 2005 field season.

We continued to work with the Mulgrave and Area Lakes Enhancement Association on the Bottom Draw Facility at Goose Harbour Lake in Guysborough County. The project involves using a siphon to create a bottom draw to release cool water to the St. Francis Harbour River. The bottom draw taps into the cool water in the hypolimnion (bottom layer) of the lake and carries it over the dam; feeding the original stream channel with a cool constant flow of water, approximately 3 million gals/day. This research project did have a positive impact on the water in St. Francis Harbour River with approximately 15 times more flow after bottom draw was operational. A project like this has begun to address a habitat need for brook trout and Atlantic salmon. This research initiative represents a new enhancement strategy and may have applications in other areas where impoundments are present.

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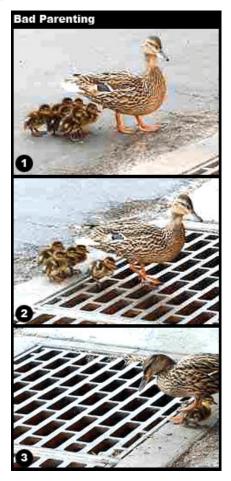
A smallmouth bass project was conducted in Cape Breton that confirmed the presence of this nonindigenous species in low numbers in Lake Ainslie, Inverness County. Smallmouth bass were illegally introduced to Lake Ainslie in 2003 but have thus far have not established a spawning population. Habitat analysis has indicated that spawning structure and substrate constitutes less than 4% of available shoreline but may not be a limiting factor to successful colonization based on observations in established bass populations elsewhere. An important consideration to whether smallmouth bass become established in a particular water body may be this species' thermal requirements. If spawning occurs, young of the year smallmouth bass (0+ juveniles) need to accumulate enough fat reserves in their first growing season to survive the winter, or the starvation period. This "geothermal exclusion" of smallmouth bass from certain geographic areas of the province may explain the inability of some introductions to become established.

Other smallmouth bass projects in Nova Scotia include: (1) monitoring the distribution of this species provincially and within watersheds, (2) sportfishing tournament monitoring, (3) development of a juvenile density index as a predictive tool for assessing year class strength and recruitment to the fishery, (4) assessing the consequences of illegal introductions to native fauna, ex. speckled trout and the endangered Atlantic whitefish, and (5) regulatory assessment as it relates to "Trophy" and "High Harvest" smallmouth bass fisheries.

An acid rain mitigation committee was formed to look at recommendations put forth in the Hindar Report 2000. The committee contains members from Nova Scotia Salmon Association, Atlantic Salmon Federation, Nova Scotia Power, Nova Scotia Department of Agriculture and Fisheries, Trout Nova Scotia, Department of Fisheries Oceans, and Environment Canada. Inland Fisheries were invited to join the committee, as a technical member while the NSSA will be the lead organization. West River, Sheet Harbour was chosen as the pilot river and the method of mitigation will be lime dosing over a tenyear period. Bio monitoring of the system began in 2004, including water sampling, temperature profiles, and collection of baseline data on fish and invertebrates populations. Inland Fisheries took the lead role in temperature, fish and invertebrate sampling. Dr. Trefor Reynoldson from Acadia University will lead the data analysis of the invertebrate sampling and partner in funding with Atlantic Salmon Federation for potential graduate

studies. We would like to thank all the volunteers who were involved in the research projects conducted by our staff and hope that their valuable support continues in the future. For further information on the research projects, please call our office in Pictou (485-5056).

Submitted by Tara Crandlemere, N.S. Dept. Agriculture & Fisheries, Inland Fisheries Division



New President at Bird Studies Canada

r. George Finney, former Regional Director of the Canadian Wildlife Service Environmental Conservation Branch - Atlantic Region, recently assumed his new position as president of Bird Studies Canada. Bird Studies Canada is a not for profit organization stationed at the Long Point Bird Observatory in Port Rowan, Ontario. It is dedicated to the conservation of birds through the development of citizen based scientific programs and has small offices in all regions of the country.

Dr. Finney acquired his Doctorate from Queen's University in 1975. His thesis topic was

population ecology of Snow geese and most of his fieldwork was done in the far north of Canada. He joined the Canadian Wildlife Service (CWS) in 1977 and continued work as a researcher for several years. In 1980, Dr. Finney began gradually assuming management responsibilities at CWS. In 1985, he came to Sackville, N.B,. as the Regional Director of CWS Atlantic Region. In 1994, following restructuring of Environment Canada, Dr. Finney became the Regional Director of the Environmental Conservation Branch - Atlantic Region. His responsibilities included regional Environment Canada programs related to natural resource conservation, water conservation and management, migratory bird conservation, Species at Risk and protected areas, ecosystem science and laboratory analyses. George also received the Prime Minister's Outstanding Achievement Award in recognition of his outstanding contribution to the Public Service of Canada, which was presented at Government House, Ottawa, in 1999. George's bilingual capability, as well as his skill in building partnerships and securing funds, will serve Bird Studies Canada well.

Bird Studies Canada

ASFWB Merit Award Winner 2004 - Randy Dibblee

In 1968, after graduating from St. Dunstan's University, Randy Dibblee began his career in Wildlife Management with the study of muskrats in Prince Edward Island. It was muskrat love at first sight and he received his Masters Degree from Acadia University in 1971. He had already begun work with the fledgling Fish and Wildlife Division of the PEI Provincial Government and he soon assumed the duties of Waterfowl and Furbearer Biologist, a job he retains to this day.

One of Randy's first tasks as a waterfowl and furbearer biologist was to collect data on which to

base logical waterfowl hunting and fur trapping season dates and bag limits. Thus began his path collecting data and designing regulations to conserve harvested wildlife. Randy has over the years cooperated with other



agencies in collecting these data and has established a mutually beneficial long term relationship with Canadian Wildlife Service along the way. He has accumulated data on waterfowl breeding pair and broods, November goose numbers, winter waterfowl numbers, and counts of woodcock on the singing grounds, active beaver dams, cormorant colonies and great blue herons. He has been very successful in maintaining these programs through fat and lean years, thereby establishing some of the better long term data bases on wildlife in Atlantic Canada. Randy also found other ways to collect data, such as using game surveys; he instituted a rigorous system of counting furs leaving the Province, then corresponded with Statistics Canada saying his records were far superior to theirs. They agreed.

Randy takes a lot of interest in habitat and spent many years of his working life in improving waterfowl and furbearer habitat, establishing good relations with Ducks Unlimited Canada, and later implementing programs of the North American Waterfowl Management Plan. One of the projects that captured his attention was the preparation of an atlas of wetlands on PEI. First accomplished in hard copy and led by the Canadian Wildlife Service, Randy has since transformed the Atlas into a digital product on which regulations are based, and it is readily available to community planners, regulators and biologists, and on-line to the general public. Randy followed up by writing one of the toughest Wetland Policies in Canada, and he is working to see that it is enforced.

When the computer reached the desk of every government employee, Randy began a new life as a computer "techie". Besides his involvement with GIS and his work on government committees to come up with a sane plan for conformity and use, Randy enthusiastically entered all his wildlife population data into spreadsheets and began generating coloured graphs to back up his arguments and convince politicians of the right course of action. It paid to have real data and it demonstrated the value of collecting more of it.

Randy divides wildlife management into the management of populations, habitats and people. He takes great pleasure in responding to the hunters and trappers of PEI and loves to address their concerns about red foxes, coyotes, mink, muskrats and beaver. On the people front, he has worked to retain the fur market in the face of anti- harvest lobbies, demanded training for young hunters and trappers and worked to get programs in place, led livestock farmers into

practical modes of dealing with coyotes, and dealt with incoming queries from the general public on a daily basis. He regularly attends the Annual Meeting of the Atlantic Society of Fish and Wildlife Biologists and feels it as a place where young and old biologists can mingle and discuss ideas. He is also ready to share his talents of guitar maestro and singsong leader at each rally, keeping those old biologist tunes alive!

Randy Dibblee has had a long career and he could be coasting after 30+ years at the desk, but he still enjoys his daily work as a wildlife biologist. He doesn't get distracted by mundane things, likes to keep problems simple and look for simple solutions, and avoids office politics as much as possible. He takes seriously the idea that government is there to serve the interests of the people, but refuses to take himself too seriously. Limited resources have never kept Randy from getting to the field, collecting data, trying to present the truth of a situation as he sees it, coming up with good solutions and seeing them implemented. He is a good role model for any biologist.

Submitted by Rosemary Curley, PEI Dept. Environment, Energy & Forestry, Conservation & Management Divisiion

New ASFWB Scholarship Fund Planned

he Atlantic Society of Fish and Wildlife Biologists has concluded fundraising for the David J Cartwright Memorial Scholarship at UNB (the fund stood at \$20,002.80 on April 30, 2004), and plans are underway to start a second wildlife scholarship at another university in Atlantic Canada. A committee consisting of Rosemary Curley, Tony Duke and Jason LeBlanc has been struck to shepherd the process. Past committees of Daryl Guignion, Gerry Redmond and others have looked at what is involved in setting up scholarships at various universities. However, the topic of which should receive the largesse of the Society is a sensitive one that has remained unresolved after several Annual General Meeting discussions. A secret vote by the members has been selected as the best way to decide where the scholarship should be located.

This winter the committee will prepare a ballot with a number of questions, including which university should host the scholarship, whether it should be a graduate or undergraduate scholarship, and how it should be named. The final ballot and methodology for the secret vote will be approved by the society Executive. (It should maintain

confidentiality of individual members.) The ballots will be unveiled and available for use at the ASFWB Spring Seminar in April, 2005. The remaining paid up members will be contacted by mail with a July 1st,2005 deadline set for tabulating the results. The committee will bring a recommendation based on the vote forward to the fall AGM in New Brunswick for affirmation by the meeting. Supporting information on the requirements of the top vote-getting University and runner-up will also be presented.

Most universities want an initial start-up contribution in the vicinity of \$5000.00 to establish a scholarship or bursary fund. The Society is currently holding an amount which is close to that goal. Depending on how fast dollars accumulate, awards may be made from the new fund as early as 2006 or 2007. Atlantic Society of Fish and Wildlife Biologists

Don Dodds - 2003 Wall of Honour Recipient

on Dodds was born and raised in the New York area. Upon completion of a B.Sc. in Science Education at Cornell University in 1953, Don came north to Newfoundland where he worked in various capacities as a wildlife biologist until 1960. During this period Don also served as a Teaching Associate and Research Associate at Cornell University. Don completed a M.Sc. at Cornell Univ. in 1955, on "A Contribution to the Ecology of the Moose in Newfoundland," and in 1960 he completed his Ph.D. at Cornell Univ. on "The Economics, Biology and Management of Snowshoe Hare in Newfoundland."

Now "Dr." Don Dodds, he worked as a Big Game Biologist and then Assistant Director, with the Wildlife Division of Nova Scotia Department of Lands & Forests form 1960 to 1964, and as a "Visiting Professor" at Acadia Univ. in Wolfville, Nova Scotia. In 1964 Don held the position of Director of the Wildlife Division, in an acting capacity. During this time Don played a key role in advancing the structure of the Wildlife Division and moving it's office from Halifax to Kentville where it has been located since that time.

Dr. Dodds has a long and strong association with Acadia Univ. and during 1964 - 1987, held the titles of Associate Professor, Professor of Biology and Dean of Science. Don was instrumental in establishing Acadia University's wildlife program who's graduates have filled many key positions in

wildlife management agencies throughout Canada and the United States. During his time at Acadia Univ. he supervised thirty Masters of Science students as well as several honors studies. His time at Acadia Univ. was interrupted in 1966 when he and his wife Perl, spent a year in Zambia, Africa, where Don worked on wildlife and land use issues.

Primarily in the Atlantic region, Don has conducted numerous research projects through his association with Acadia Univ. Subject of his research has included a broad range, from reproduction in snowshoe hare, wildlife-forest relationships, brainworm in moose and deer, food habits of red fox, to feeding and growth of a captive moose calf. Additional to research projects, teaching university courses, sitting on numerous committees and boards, Don has managed a consultant business and taken on contracts again addressing a broad range of issues, including: wildlife and tourism issues in Ethiopia; wildlife policy, organization and legislation in Trinidad; impact studies throughout the Atlantic region and many other projects locally and around the world. Don has 42 publications to his credit in addition to numerous government, corporate and NGO reports, and a long list of non-professional publications.

Not only has Dr. Dodds been an accomplished teacher in the wildlife ecology field, a researcher, a consultant and a prolific writer, but he has also been an active and valued member of numerous local, Canadian and international wildlife related organizations, societies, committees and advisory boards. Don was a founding member and president of the Atlantic Section of the Canadian Society of Wildlife and Fisheries Biologists. He was also one of the original members of the Atlantic Society of Fish and Wildlife Biologists when ASFWB was first formed.

Don's energies seem endless when one looks at his professional achievements and contributions to wildlife related organizations. However, he has also contributed his time and talents to the greater community as an active member and filling numerous executive positions and or on the board of directors for many organizations such as OXFAM of Canada, Home and School, Lions International, Fundy Mental Health Clinic, local wildlife associations and the United Church of Canada.

A look at Don's dossier would be a humbling experience for most anyone. How can one person have accomplished and contribute so much? Thousands of people have learned from Don as formal

students. Others have learned and benefitted by working with him professionally, or in community organizations.

As members of the Atlantic Society of Fish and Wildlife Biologists, we can all look up to Dr. Don Dodds as a true mentor in the field of wildlife ecology.

Submitted by Tony Nette

Foxes, Coyotes, andCows?

eosporosis, caused by the protozoan parasite *Neospora caninum*, is a frequent cause of abortion in cows worldwide. In the Maritime Provinces, previous work has reported a *N. caninum* prevalence of 20.3% in dairy farms. Neosporosis causes a large economic damage to farmers on PEI. The purpose of this research project is to find out if coyotes or foxes are able to transmit *N. caninum*. This research is part of a Masters project of Wendela Wapenaar from the Atlantic Veterinary College, University of Prince Edward Island.

Present state of Knowledge

The transmission of the parasite occurs from cow to calf through the placenta with great efficiency, sustaining the infection within cattle herds for many generations. However, transmission by direct contact (i.e. ingestion of infective stages) is another source of infection.

It was shown that the dog is a definitive host for *N. caninum*, and oocysts shed in the feces of infected dogs may play an important role in the transmission of the parasite and the introduction of the infection into previously non-infected herds. Similarly, a study reported that dogs shed oocysts of *N. caninum* after the ingestion of bovine placenta suggesting a mode of transmission from cattle to dogs. This path of infection might also occur in wild canids and it will be particularly important for cow-calf operations where cows are calving in the fields.

The role of wild canids, such as foxes and coyotes, in the epidemiology of *N. caninum* infections is not well understood. Recently, coyotes have also been identified as definitive host of this parasite and therefore they should be considered as an important source of infection. In Prince Edward Island, the coyote population has increased rapidly and they currently occupy habitat throughout the Island. Although the main conflict with coyotes has been associated with the killing of farm animals, the transmission of diseases to domestic livestock should

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also be addressed. Carcass dumps increase coyote densities, as a result increasing the probability of transmission of this disease.

On the other hand, foxes have been reported to be a natural intermediate host (i.e. they do not shed the infective stages of the parasite) of *N. caninum*. However, the latent infection status in foxes might have an important role in the transmission and epidemiology of this disease. Transmission from the mother to the litter has been reported in foxes. Similarly, other wild animals, such as raccoons and white-tailed deer have shown serological titers against *N. caninum* supporting the theory of the existence of a sylvatic cycle for this parasite, which might help to maintain this parasite in the environment and be a source of infection among wild animals.

The objective of this research is to understand the epidemiology of *N. caninum* in PEI and to characterize ecological areas of potential risk of neosporosis in wild canids. As a consequence, if a significant association between any of these factors and *N. caninum* is identified, the project will help to develop a better control/monitoring program in those areas of increased risk.

Research plan

Two senior veterinary students from The Netherlands came to PEI for a 3 month-research externship and they are helping me collect and process the samples. Fox and coyote carcasses are being sampled until the beginning of February 2005. As of December, 2004 we have collected 220 foxes and 80 coyotes. We collect serum, fecal sample, uterus and the lower canines from every animal. We work together with trappers and hunters that we approached for their help in this study. They trap and hunt foxes and coyotes mainly for the pelt. After they skin the animal, we can use the carcass for sample collection. Our goal is to collect a minimum of 200 foxes and 200 coyotes. All serum samples are tested for N. caninum antibodies that will show if these foxes and coyotes have been exposed to N. caninum. All fecal samples are analyzed for N. caninum oocysts and other parasites by a fecal flotation technique. The age of the foxes/coyotes will be determined by cementum analysis of the lower canines. Uteri from female foxes and coyotes are collected and placental scars are counted to assess reproductive rate. The geographical locations of all dairy farms will be recorded on a digital map. In addition, the locations where foxes/coyotes are shot/found also is recorded. Land

use maps will be used to characterize those areas (i.e. proportion of forest, distance from rivers, etc.). Since we are in the middle of our sample collection we do not have results yet. I hope to share interesting results with you in the near future. If you have any comments or questions, please write me an e-mail or phone me at the number given below.

For more information or any questions:
Wendela Wapenaar, DVM
Dept. Health Management / Farm Service
Atlantic Veterinary College
phone:1-902-5660437email: wwwapenaar@upei.ca

ASFWB Website

Check out the ASFWB website at: http://www.chebucto.ns.ca/Environment/ASFWB/

Cartwright Memorial Scholarship Recipient...

ear Atlantic Society of Fish and Wildlife Biologists, I am the recipient of the David J. Cartwright Memorial Scholarship and I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your contribution to the University of New Brunswick and to tell you that it was greatly appreciated.

I am in fifth year, enrolled in Bachelor of Science in Forestry with a minor in Wildlife. I really enjoy my degree as I have always been interested in nature and wildlife. For the past two summers, I have been researching wood turtles at CFB Gagetown with UNB Master of Science in Forestry student, Vanessa Roy. I assisted her with data collection and we also collected data for my senior thesis on diurnal and nocturnal movement of wood turtles with Dr. Graham Forbes (no relation!).

ASFWB EXECUTIVE 2004

Andrew Boyne, President Andrew.Boyne@EC.GC.CA
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Once again, I would like to thank everyone at the Atlantic Society of Fish and Wildlife Biologists for the David J. Cartwright Memorial Scholarship. I greatly appreciated it, and it was a significant contribution off of my tuition costs.

Sincerely,

Glen Forbes November 8, 2004

Become a Member of the ASFWB

embership to the Atlantic Society of Fish and Wildlife Biologists is open to residents of New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island and Newfoundland and Labrador. Regular (\$15) and student (\$5) memberships are available.

To become a member, contact Andrew MacFarlane at: Andrew.Macfarlane@EC.GC.CA

We are always seeking input and articles for the Biolink Newsletter. Please forward any articles, papers, photos, or any note of interest to me, Rosie MacFarlane at: remacfarlane@gov.pe.ca
A special thank you to everyone who submitted articles to this edition!

ATLANTIC SOCIETY OF FISH AND WILDLIFE BIOLOGISTS

Financial Statement: 01 March 2004 to 30 September 2004

Balance Forward from 29 February 2004 3,156.58

REVENUE FROM SPRING SEMINAR

Memberships \$590.00 **\$3,746.58**

OTHER REVENUE FOR PERIOD

AGM (2003 payment) \$2,265.67

(cash box)

\$5.00 **\$6,017.25**

EXPENDITURES FOR PERIOD

Catering Service and Facility Rental (Spring Seminar) \$988.14

Newsletter mail out \$411.74 **\$4617.37**

Overall Balance as of 30 September 2004 \$4,617.37

ASFWB Spring Seminar 2004

On Thursday, April 22, 2004 the annual Spring Seminar was held at Mount Allison University, Sackville, NB. It was a success with over 40 people in attendance. The topic was "An Overview of Provincial and Federal Endangered Species Legislation and Programs". The following talks were presented.

	Overview of the federal Species at Risk Act
	(SARA) - Marc Bernier
	Programs under the PEI Wildlife Conservation
	Act - Rosemary Curley
	Programs under the NS Endangered Species
	Act - Sherman Boates/ Mark Elderkin
	Programs under the NB Endangered Species
	Act - Pascal Giasson/ Dwayne Sabine

The topic for the 2005 Spring Seminar has not been confirmed. If you have suggestions please forward them to Andrew Boyne or another member of the executive.